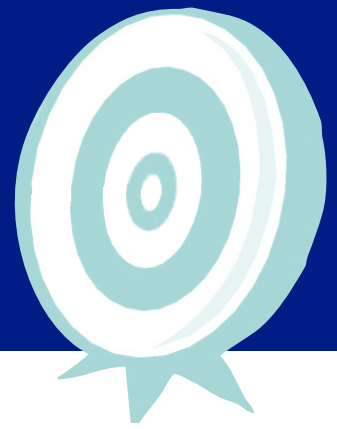


On target

THE NEWS OF
ST. VINCENT'S
SPECIAL NEEDS SERVICES



JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2017

Congratulations Deacon April!

This past fall, Chaplain April Alford-Harkey was ordained as a Deacon in the Episcopal church. The office of deacon is both an honor and a blessing. In April's own words she states, "Deacons work for social justice and encourage others to serve people of all walks of life. For me, it is an active form of love."

In addition to undertaking greater responsibilities in her church, St. Monica's Episcopal Church in Hartford, April will continue the good work she has always provided to residents, students, participants and associates at St. Vincent's. Please join us in congratulating April on this wonderful accomplishment.



Value Award Recipients

A Values Recognition Award is a special commendation that celebrates an employee, department, or team for doing a very special act of kindness. Listed below are the two outstanding individuals who were recognized at the most recent St. Vincent's award ceremony.



Melissa Wolf received recognition for her dedication and enthusiasm for treating our students with multiple developmental disabilities. Melissa shows up to work each day with a smile, full of energy and desire to make it the best day for everyone she comes in contact with. In addition to working her regular hours as a physical therapist in our school program, Melissa goes above and beyond to support our families with help in their homes. She uses her professional skills to make recommendations on adaptive equipment to best suit their children's needs. It is associates such as Melissa that truly put the "Special" in our name!



Linda Wang was awarded recognition for her generosity of spirit in purchasing Christmas gifts for the 120 adults in our program. Each year, we have adults that may not have a gift to open on Christmas morning and so we reach out to organizations, businesses and individuals in the community for support. This year, we put together a list of approximately 50 items needed for our adults. Linda did not buy one or even two items but every single item on that list! We are so grateful to Linda for her generosity and for providing joy to those individuals on Christmas morning.

Walter Camp Football Players Take Time to Visit Our Students

We have been extremely fortunate to have the Walter Camp All Americans visit our school each year. The tradition began 19 years ago and still continues to delight students as these gentle giants enter each classroom to autograph footballs and pose for photos.

Students and staff prepare for the visit early in January by creating

welcome posters that hang at the entrance to each classroom and wear their favorite team jerseys.

The visits are planned each year by the Walter Camp Foundation to ground the young athletes, a few of whom may be destined to become big name professional players, and bring into focus the needs of others.



NFL Alumni Donate New Smartboard



So grateful to the NFL Alumni CT Chapter who showed up with pillow pets for the students and a donation to purchase a new SmartBoard for the school. We are extremely grateful for your support.

Sikorsky Golf Tournament ... Supporting SVSNS for 11 Years!

Following a long-standing tradition, Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation will once again donate the proceeds from their annual golf tournament to Special Needs.

Eleven years ago, Michael Piatak, employee of Sikorsky and brother to Susan Piatak, a former adult day participant, nominated SVSNS as a beneficiary. Even though Susan is no longer with us, the relationship between Sikorsky employees and SVSNS has grown. To date, the Sikorsky tournament has donated \$300,000 toward our school and adult day program.



Making a Difference in 2016

The individuals, foundations and businesses listed below made a huge impact in the quality of care we are able to provide by making a significant donation in 2016. On behalf of all of us at St. Vincent's Special Needs, and the wonderful people we serve, THANK YOU for your generosity and your support.

Up to \$500

Gary L. Albert, Sr.
Mary Lou Auger
Christine A. Babon
Kimberly Bal
Sabitree Balkaran-Kellum
Thomas Bardroff
Chris & Nancy Barone
Steven Berzon
Carolyn Bonvicini
Jonathan Bosman
John Brockett
Peter Bruno
Stephen Burke
Steve Cahill
Nathalie Calle
Tricia Cleary
Lisa Nicole Cofie-Squire
Tanner Congleton
John Coniglio
Gary Costello
Suzanne Cushing
Bruce Davidson
Vincent DiPalermo
Lindsay Dougherty
Susan Dow
Alex Dreissen
Jeffrey Dyas
Robert Dzurenda
Terence Farrell
Peter Fazekas
Katherine Ferreira
First Baptist Church
Nick & Lisa Framularo
Tiago Freitas
William Furrier
David Galla
Tom & Sandy Galla
Eunice Giaquinto
Jose Gomez
Jie Gong
Edward Guerra

Gisele Guillette
Anisha Gupta
Hadley's Point Camp
Mary Hall
Hampford Research, Inc.
Marie Hatcher
Mallory Hoffman
Thomas Holden
Susan Horton
Stephanie Huang
Richard Huey
IBM Employee Services
Hilal Ilarslan
Miss Nadia Jawaid
Christopher Jordan
Matthew Kearney
Thomas Kelly
Thomas Kiely
William Kirk
Carolyn Kopsick
Ann Kyle
Eric Lausch
Jianming Lee
Gabriela Leon
Helen Lieto
Michael Lombardo
Vincent Lupone
Michael B. Mahinka
David Martin
Anthony Masciarelli
MassMutual Matching
Gift Center
Gregory McKenna
Kathleen Melo
Dolores Miele
Grant Miller
Joan Moschitta
Jennifer Murphy
Patrick Murphy
Paul Nagowski
Newtown Family Services.
Elizabeth Nugent
Marietta O'Connor

Edward O'Loughlin
Priscilla Ortega
Robert Petrausch
Robert & Kathy Piro
Prasad Polur
Daniel Ponte
Albert Post
Gary Prushko
Michael Raflowitz
Jenina Rentas
Matthew Rienzo
Ian Rosenblatt
Barbara Scheaffer
Vittorio Seccareccia
Marty & Lisa Shapiro
Craig Sherwonit
Michael Shypski
Edward Siebert
Silicon Valley
Community Found.
Robert Sims
Mary Jane Sinnott
Evan Smith
Senator Brian Solt
Robert Stanhope
Kenny Stauber
Richard Steele
James Steidlmayer
Karen Steiner
Richard Suhie
Michael Tacinelli
Alfonso Valecillos
Valley United Way, Inc.
Stella Vendetti
Louis Vitale
Vitec Videocom
Joseph Voet
Mary Katherine Waldron
Alan West
Lauren Wilhelm
Richard Wilhelm
Eric Winkel
Ryan Yeager

\$500 – \$1,000

Foundation For Life, Inc.
GE Foundation
John Kirmayer
Bob & Phyllis Pirozzoli
Stephen Roach
Bruce & Pam Silverstone
Unilever U.S. Foundation
Welch Family Trust
Stephen Wright

\$1,000 – \$5,000

Mark Bates
Delaney Memorial
Foundation
Jeffrey & Laura Schutz
Ethel and Jennie Mallet
Charitable Trust
Charles & Marion Strauss
Joseph L. Sneyers

\$5,000 – \$20,000

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Andel
Eleanor Feroletto
John Flaherty
Elizabeth Pfriem
Constance O. Putnam
Foundation
Dimatteo Family Found.
NFL Alumni
Mr. & Mrs. David Weiss

\$20,000 – \$50,000

Dressler Foundation
Sikorsky Golf Tournament

Although not listed here, we acknowledge and thank the sponsors and individuals who supported our Golf Tournament and Last Bash fundraisers.

* * * SAVE THE DATE * * *

In recognition of the wonderful work performed by associates at SVSNS, Bob Scinto, of R.D. Scinto, is sponsoring an employee appreciation night, featuring a performance of *In The Heights* at the Downtown Cabaret, 263 Golden Hill St., Bridgeport.

FREE TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR SVSNS ASSOCIATES ONLY



From the creators of the Broadway phenomenon HAMILTON, Tony Award-winning *IN THE HEIGHTS* tells the story of a vibrant community in New York's Washington Heights neighborhood – a place where the coffee from the corner bodega is light and sweet, the windows are always open and the breeze carries the rhythm of three generations of music. It's a community on the brink of change, full of hopes, dreams and pressures.

THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2017
DOORS OPEN @ 6:30 PM * PLAY BEGINS @ 7:30 PM

You may bring your own food and beverages, including alcohol. Concession stand will be open for the purchase of ice, soft drinks, and snacks only.

More information on how to reserve your ticket to follow soon

2017 TOWN MEETINGS

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Tuesday, February 28	3:00 pm — 4:00 pm	Special Needs Trumbull
Thursday, March 2	3:15 pm — 4:15 pm	Special Needs Stratford