

Heartline

A Publication of Kevin Guest House... "The little house with a big heart" | Spring & Summer 2011



Marie and Tony Leone

In this issue of Heartline, we are featuring a story about I. Marie Leone, a former guest of KGH. Marie has kept us updated on her life since her stay with us. Below is an excerpt from one of her recent letters.

Dear Wayne and Staff,

I wanted to send you a note to let you know I'm still kickin'...not high, just kickin'! As you know, on April 6, 2009, my husband, Tony, lost his courageous battle of over seven and one-half years with leukemia, part of the time you were generously and lovingly taking care of me. I will never forget your wonderful compassion and caring during my stay. Thank you, thank you. I know I speak for many others who've been in your care.

I do believe that my time spent at Kevin Guest House was a real turning point in my life. I decided, as a direct result of your kindness, to devote the rest of my journey to helping others in whatever way I can. As you know, I've been back to Roswell Park Cancer Institute several times to help friends find their way around the hospital, visit with their doctors if they like, as well as bring small gifts to the children in the pediatric wing. I also donate platelets or blood whenever I am able. Although it was difficult the first time, I overcame my fear by focusing on being there to help and support my friends who needed care at Roswell, remembering what you'd done for me.

I have enclosed a donation to assist all of you in offering the best lodging, food, comfort, and nurturing love you always give willingly to everyone you serve. The donation is made in memory of my dear Tony and my oldest brother, Robert, who passed away one year and two days after Tony....also with leukemia.

I'm trying to keep busy everyday with my new volunteer work. I am First Vice President of the Westfield Memorial Hospital Auxiliary Board of Directors and coordinated our Walk for Wellness last September. I also volunteer at our local Moose lodge and I am involved in my new local church family. I am working on the 50th class reunion for my class of 1961. On Fridays, I volunteer to serve at our local Soup Kitchen.

In recent months I have faced several personal health issues. I had surgery for a hiatal hernia and in follow up tests the next day it showed that one of my aortas was 95% blocked, causing a massive heart attack. I had another surgery to insert two stents in the aorta. My cardiologist later told me that if I hadn't been in the hospital at that time, I would not have made it. I'm feeling stronger everyday, knowing the Lord is with me.

I think of all of you often, remembering the wonderful care you gave me and others when we needed it most. A BIG thank you, thank you, thank you from me and my family for your continued friendship, prayers and compassion so generously given. I hope to be well enough to stop for a visit this summer. I look forward to seeing you again as our friendship endures and grows.

Much love to all of you in your continuing efforts in making a safe, friendly, comfortable place for all your new friends as well as all the old ones.

Kevin Guest House provides caring, affordable and safe accommodations to individuals seeking care at area medical facilities, and to their loved ones at a time of need.

Heartline is a publication of:
Kevin Guest House
782 Ellicott Street
Buffalo, NY 14203
t: (716) 882-1818
f: (716) 882-1291
www.kevinguesthouse.org

Our newsletter is produced as part of our ongoing community awareness campaign.

Design and layout:
Brent Zimmerman
(brent@bzyne.com)

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Dear Friends,

As our recent appeal expressed, spring is a time of renewal, rebirth and wonder. I admit, I agree. Although these past few months the staff, volunteers and I have been touched by much sadness and loss as we said good bye to one of our dedicated volunteers after her battle with cancer. And other losses, equally as sad, but sharing their stories is not the intention of this writing...

So, for us there has been much reflection this spring season and the realization that life is fragile, even for those of us that consider ourselves strong, healthy and vibrant. I hear this not only in my voice but in the voice of hundreds of people, neighbors and friends that we serve. Young and old, man, woman, short, tall...the list of unique traits in each of us go on. Yet, at many times we all find similarities, likenesses in one another and in that we find our comfort, and our peace.

In the springtime as our gardens grow and our guests find themselves walking in our Healing Garden or sitting in our gazebo, there is a sense of renewal, rebirth and wonder. Not only that the eye can see in the opening of the tulips or the splashing of the birds in our Fountain of Peace, but within themselves, as they see their love for their ill family member, husband, wife, or child, grow more than they thought was ever possible.

Within this concrete medical campus with hopes of treating and curing patients, of making life last a little longer we are here to help support you and your family. We offer a listening ear, a strong shoulder, an open heart and at times a dinner to share with our volunteer cooks. The experience of this kindness, and as some tell us their renewed sense that people are good, provides immense comfort, compassion and companionship of knowing you are not alone during your trying time.

And for many of you a rebirth of knowledge for realizing just how strong you are, how strong you are whether you find it within yourself or within our home, you find the courage to move forward, because truly, time moves on, from season to season and we move on with it.

From all of us at Kevin Guest House, enjoy your spring time, filled with renewal, rebirth and wonder.

*Sincerely,
Wayne*

Kevin Guest House has been lucky enough to receive an invitation to staff one of the tickets booth at the annual Taste of Buffalo to be held on Saturday and Sunday, July 9 and 10. The Taste of Buffalo is the largest two-day outdoor food festival in the United States. It is sponsored by our partners at Tops Friendly Markets.



This is a very large undertaking for Kevin Guest House as we need to recruit about 80 volunteers to help staff our station on both days. The ticket booth we are assigned to staff will be located in Niagara Circle by City Hall. Volunteers will work in teams of two—one accepting money, one distributing food tickets. Each shift is about 5 hours long. The hours of the festival are Saturday 11 am to 9 pm and Sunday 11 am to 7 pm. The Saturday shifts are just about filled but we need about 40 volunteers for Sunday. Each volunteer will receive a free Taste of Buffalo tee shirt! Volunteers must be 18 years or older. Volunteering at the Taste of Buffalo for KGH is a great way to fulfill community service projects.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Cathy Allen at 716.882.1818 or at cathy@kevinguesthouse.org.

To the family & those seeking medical care in the Buffalo area—Kevin Guest House provides
caring, affordable and safe accommodations



KGH Board Member, Mike LaMancuso (center), accept a check from the Pinstripers.



The pinstripe artists pose for a photo during the Calvalcade of Cars.

Pinstripe Artists Raise Funds for KGH

The 9th Annual Pinstripers Charity Panel Jam was held at the Calvalcade of Cars Show at the WNY Event Center in early March.

What is a panel jam? Fifteen pinstripers and sign painters converge on the car show and literally apply the art of hand pinstripping to anything patrons can carry through the door. Everything from laptop computers to die cast model cars are embellished with pinstripping, gold leaf and lettering—all at the customer's choice! Donations are made for the artwork and several live auctions were held of pinstriped art.

Kevin Guest House was lucky enough to receive almost \$7,000 from the event! We were selected because one of our former guests, Richie Segnit, became friendly with a group of pinstripe artists during his stay with us a year ago.

Besides the donation of time by the pinstripers and by the event's coordinator, Paul Straus, donations to the event by Don Davis Honda, Certo Brothers Distributors and Collision Pro, helped increase the amount received by KGH.

Thank you one and all!

Visit Kevin Guest House on Facebook!



6th ANNUAL KEVIN GUEST HOUSE OKTOBERFEST

RAIN OR SHINE

Mark your calendars for this year's Oktoberfest, Friday, September 23 at the Hatch, Erie Basin Marina, Buffalo.

The festivities will be from 5 pm-10 pm, and will feature live music by The Frankfurters, the best of the "wurst", authentic German food and beverages, contests, raffles and more!

Contact: Cathy Allen
 Phone: 716-882-1818
 Fax: 716-882-1291
 Email: cathy@kevinguesthouse.org

< A couple enjoy the music of The Frankfurters at the 5th annual KGH Oktoberfest.

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Kevin Guest House
782 Ellicott Street
Buffalo, NY 14203



Carrie Boye

WELCOME CARRIE BOYE!

Carrie Boye, President, Executive Creative Director, and co-owner of Allstar Advertising, has been elected to serve a three-year term on the Board of Directors of Kevin Guest House.

Carrie brings a wealth of experience in advertising, design, marketing, and entrepreneurial leadership. She has worked in a variety of capacities at area companies and organizations as well as offering her services on a freelance basis.

Carrie graduated from the State University of New York at Buffalo with a Bachelor of Fine Arts and Liberal Arts.

Carrie and her brother have owned and operated Allstar Advertising since 1994. She enjoys photography, painting, swimming, music, theatre, travel, running, reading and lots more.

Welcome Carrie!

help support Kevin Guest House's mission by making a donation at:
www.kevinguesthouse.org



Patrick Kane takes a moment to sign a poster for Dace Sherman from the Amherst Bee who attended the dinner portion of our annual golf outing.

Come Golf with Kevyn Adams, Scotty Bowman, Harry Neale, Kevin O'Connell, and More on July 25th!

Please mark your calendar to join us at the 15th Annual Kevin Guest House Celebrity Golf Classic hosted by Kevyn Adams of the Buffalo Sabres Coaching Staff. Kevyn's special guests will include Scotty Bowman, Harry Neale, Kevin O'Connell along with other top NHL players media personalities. *All proceeds from the tourney will benefit Kevin Guest House, the nation's FIRST hospital hospitality house.*

The golf tournament will be held on Monday, July 25 at Glen Oak Golf Course in East Amherst. Registration will begin at 10:30 am followed by lunch and a shotgun start at noon. The tournament format is a four person scramble.

Golf spots are \$175 each or \$650 per foursome. Several sponsorship opportunities are available as well.

Last year the golf tourney raised over \$44,000 for Kevin Guest House.

For more information, contact Cathy Allen at 882-1818 or at cathy@kevinguesthouse.org.

Improvements to Kevin Guest House }

The extensive work on one of our homes has been completed. The large Blue Brick building had its entire roof replaced along with the installation of new gutters and the repair and application of aluminum flashing on the roof dormers.

The work was made possible by a grant from the East Hill Foundation and was completed by Stockmohr. The project began last fall and was completed early this spring.

Thank you East Hill Foundation for your continued and generous support of Kevin Guest House.

Thanks to a grant from former Senator William T. Stachowski that was approved in 2009 with funds provided through New York State Department of Health, Kevin Guest House now has an emergency generator installed on our campus. Although the process of obtaining funds, ordering the generator and the eventual installation was a year long process, it is now fully operational. The generator will provide back up power in case of a power outage in the area that affects our buildings. The installation of the generator will ensure that our guests are comfortable and safe during emergencies. Prior to the installation, if power was lost some guests had to be transferred to other lodging facilities or sent to the hospital.

The Caterpillar generator was installed by Frey Electric Construction Company and by Caterpillar of Batavia. For more than 20 years, Caterpillar 3500 series engines have delivered reliable power for Caterpillar machinery used in demanding applications worldwide. In addition, 3500 series engines have continuously satisfied difficult requirements for global customers in a wide range of industrial applications, including the oil and gas, marine and electric power industries.

Pictures from top to bottom:

Before repairs were made to dormers

A worker cuts the flashing for the dormers

The cement pad for the generator is completed

The new generator gets fine tuned





A great time was had by all!

Kevin Guest House held its first ever Blues & Brews event in mid March and it was a resounding success. The event raised more than \$23,000 for KGH and our mission.

Over 400 attendees enjoyed live blues music by Chicago Jack and His Blues Band featuring Jack Civileto, April Mazzone, Lynne Fredericks, JJ Moscato, Mike Phelps, and others. Guests also were treated to beer from Flying Bison Brewery, Tops Friendly Markets and Certo Brothers Distributing, wine compliments of Spiel the Wine, LLC, a fantastic dinner from Kentucky Greg's BBQ, and scrumptious desserts compliments of Tops Friendly Markets. The Ellicott Square Building was an ideal location for this event and folks marveled at the architecture and beauty of the building.

Watch for details on next year's Blues & Brews!



Chicago Jack and his Blues Band



The Best Buy Volunteers were awesome!

1ST BLUES & BREWS A RESOUNDING SUCCESS

SPONSORS

Al and Barb Ryer • Bethany Hills and Jack Trachtenberg • Clough Harbour & Associates • Dore Landscape Associates • Jeff Karabanowski • Kevin and Karen Durawa • Patrick Mathews Phillips Lytle LLP • ReatlyUSA • S & T Enterprises of WNY • The Jacquie Hirsch for A.L.L. Foundation • Tops Friendly Markets • Toshiba • Tri-Delta Resources Corp. • Turner Construction Upstate Pharmacy Ltd.

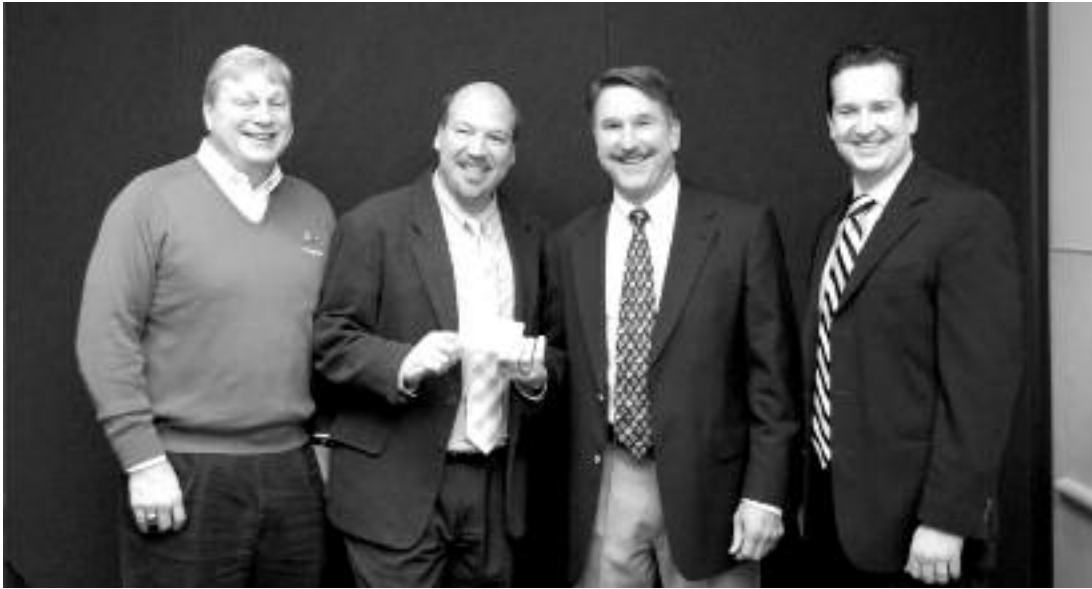
IN-KIND DONORS

Carl Paladino • Ellicott Group • Flying Bison Brewery • IKON Office Solutions • Kathleen Graim • Kentucky Greg's BBQ • Kevin LoVullo, Spiel The Wine, LLC • Magezi Mukandala • Mike Patti • Roswell Park Cancer Institute Public Safety Department • Tops Friendly Markets

VOLUNTEERS

Kevin Durawa, Committee Chair
• Carrisa Beaudoin • Tina Beiter • Best Buy Volunteer Force • Kris Ann Bolt • Amy Bolt • Joanne Cavillieri • Pat • Madonna Bonitatibus • Jeff Davis • Pat Davis • Tim Gardner • Jeff Karabanowski • Kate Kleinfelder • Trish Kleinfelder • Tom Lojewski • Rosemarie McHugh • Al Ryer • Adrienne Thompson • Lindsey Ward **THANK YOU ALL!**

THANK YOU FAMILIES OF F.A.N.A. OF WESTERN NEW YORK



Steve McGlone, Wayne M. Zimmerman, Paul Fuzak and Jeff Karabanowski

Families of F.A.N.A. of Western New York recently awarded Kevin Guest House a gift of \$2,500 to support our mission of providing comfortable, safe and affordable lodging to families of patients receiving medical care in the Buffalo New York area. The gift will allow KGH to offer lodging to families with children in need of lodging assistance.

Over thirty-two years ago, Mercedes de Martinez, the Director and Founder of F.A.N.A. (the Spanish acronym for the Foundation for the Assistance of Abandoned Children) opened her heart and home to give abandoned children a chance at a fulfilling and healthy life. After three decades of work, dedication and love, FANA today has a modern facility with up-to-date medical care, staff and equipment capable of caring for 150 children in Bogota Columbia.

F.A.N.A. is also able to offer prenatal and delivery services to any birth mother in need. Any child who is placed for adoption is cared for in a new born intensive care facility under the supervision of full-time physicians and medical personnel.

Because of F.A.N.A., over 10,000 children have found nurturing homes with fine families all over the world. In Western New York and Pennsylvania, over 300 couples and their families have had their lives enriched with the adoption of these beautiful children.

SAVE THE DATE!

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2011
19th AFFAIRE OF THE HEART
ECC City Campus Atrium

Kevin Guest House will hold its 19th Annual Affaire of the Heart on Friday, November 4th at a brand new venue – The beautiful Atrium at ECC City Campus.

The evening will include, wonderful food selections, silent and live auctions, raffles, cocktails, live music with Jack Civiletto signing Sinatra, and more!

The Affaire of the Heart Committee, chaired by Board member Paul Bostaph, is looking for people to host a Gift Gathering Party for the Affaire of the Heart. A Gift Gathering Party is an opportunity for people to get together, have fun, and bring a gift to be used as an auction item at the Affaire of the Heart. It can be as simple or elaborate as you like. It can be a theme party or a friendly gathering. Gift Gathering Parties have proven to be an integral part of the past success of the Affaire of the Heart and play an important role in the gathering of donations for the event.

If you would like more information about volunteering, sponsorships, tickets, or Gift Gathering Parties, please contact Cathy Allen at 716.882.1818 or at cathy@kevinguesthouse.org



KEVIN GUEST HOUSE HOSTS ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE JULY 27th

Kevin Guest House will host its Annual Open House on Wednesday, July 27 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. This celebration is held in conjunction with the National Association of Hospital Hospitality House Week. Thousands of families and patients of all ages and walks of life have found a haven within the warm home-like-environments provided by hospitality houses all over the country.

"Our Open House has been a long standing tradition in celebrating our anniversary and inviting the public to visit and get a glimpse of our service," said Wayne M. Zimmerman, Executive Director.

"This is a great chance for the community to learn about the House and our mission of offering a respite and affordable accommodations for patients, outpatients and their loved ones", continued Zimmerman.

The public is invited to attend.

2010 HALL OF ANGELS

The following organizations and individuals have been added to the Kevin Guest House Hall of Angels. The Hall of Angels recognizes donors who have contributed \$1,000 or more during a calendar year. Thank you one and all for your continued support and generosity.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT East Hill Foundation
Evans-Devereux Memorial Fund • Families of F.A.N.A. WNY, Inc.
Ferguson Electric Foundation • James M. Greco Memorial Fund
Karen S. LaPlante • Martin R. Lee • Michael and Janie Piemonte
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Services, Inc. • New York State Senate • State of New York • The
Jacquie Hirsch for A.L.L. Foundation • Thomas and Carol Galuhn
Thomas and Mary Garvey • Wendt Corporation



TIM HORTONS COFFEE SERVED AT KEVIN GUEST HOUSE

Our guests are now able to enjoy Tim Hortons Coffee every day thanks to the hard work of Kevin Guest House volunteer Rosemarie McGlone and the generosity of Tim Hortons. Rosemarie was able to contact Jon Maurer, Regional Marketing Manager for Tim Hortons USA, and he agreed to supply KGH with enough coffee for a year...and perhaps many years to come!

Rosemarie has been working diligently behind the scenes to obtain other product donations from companies like Tim Hortons to help keep our overhead costs to a minimum. Items such as paper towels, napkins, toilet tissue, cleaners, etc. are always needed and donations of bulk quantities of these items lighten the budget of Kevin Guest House. Thank you Rosemarie and Tim Hortons.

GoodSearch.com...an easy way to support KGH!

What if Kevin Guest House earned a donation every time you searched the Internet? Or how about if a percentage of every purchase you made online went to support our cause? Well, now it can!

GoodSearch.com is a new Yahoo-powered search engine that donates half its advertising revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. Use it just as you would any search engine, get quality search results from Yahoo, and watch the donations add up!

Just go to www.goodsearch.com and be sure to enter Kevin Guest House as the charity you want to support. And, be sure to spread the word!

Host a Fund Raising Event for KGH!

If you are interested in conducting a fund raiser for KGH, please contact Cathy Allen at 716-882-1818 or at cathy@kevinguesthouse.org. **Thanks for your consideration!**

IN KIND DONATIONS

Individuals

Diane Adams
 Cathy Allen
 William & Judy Althans
 Rosalind Annunziato
 Rita Blehar
 Ronna Bulera
 Mary Bullions
 Kent & Kathy Burzynski
 Diane Carr
 Joanne Cavalieri
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 Marilyn Ross
 Barbara Rummel
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 Marge Weber
 Elizabeth Zimmerman
 Wayne Zimmerman

Businesses & Organizations

Electric Dreamers 4-H Club
 Pi Beta Phi Fraternity for Women
 St. Paul's Episcopal Church
 Winchester Nites Home Bureau

MONETARY DONATIONS

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 Anthos USA, Inc.
 Baer and Associates Construction
 Consultants
 Bank of America

Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church
 Calvacade of Cars
 Columbus McKinnon Corp.
 Donald Davis Honda
 Eddies State King Restaurant
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 North Presbyterian Church
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 State of NY Unified Court System
 Western Division Credit Union

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Continued from page 9

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 Joanne Zorechak
 Barbara Zuch

THANK YOU BUREAU VERITAS



Kathy Burzynski, an evening volunteer at Kevin Guest House, accepts a donation of pot roast from Jerin Edwards of Bureau Veritas. Bureau Veritas is a worldwide company with a location in Buffalo that tests a multitude of products for safety and quality. The pot roast donation came to us as a result of a project that they were working on with a client to test and research aluminum roasting pans. After testing

the pans during the roasting process, the meat was donated to Kevin Guest House and several other area charities. The roasts were delicious and lots have been frozen for other meals to be enjoyed in the future.



Thank You

Our sincere thanks to the following Western New York businesses and individuals who continually support KGH with in kind donations. We rely on such donations to help offset costs related to fund raising events or for general operations.

Please support those companies who support Kevin Guest House.

- bZyne Creative Services
- Just Vino
- Keller Bros. & Miller Printing
- ReatlyUSA
- Schuele Paint
- TOPS Friendly Markets

please help us continue our mission...

Kitchen Pantry Items

Powder Coffee Creamer
Equal packets
Splenda packets
Sugar
Salt
Olive Oil
Crackers
Canned Soups
Jar Spaghetti Sauce
Peanut Butter
Tuna Fish
Non-Stick Cooking Spray

Cleaning Supplies

Liquid Hand Soap
Liquid Dishwasher Detergent
Clorox Anywhere Spray
Tilex Daily Shower Spray
Air Wick Solid Room Freshener
Pledge Furniture Polish
Window Cleaner
Swiffer Wet and Dry Sheets
Toilet Bowl Cleaner
All Purpose Spray Cleaner
Spic and Span Liquid Floor Cleaner
Kitchen Sponges
Dish Detergent
Handiwipes

Laundry Supplies

Liquid Detergent
Liquid Clorox II
Liquid Fabric Softener
Bleach
Dryer Sheets

Linens (please, new in package only)

Mattress Pads – Twin and Queen
Zipper Pillow Covers – Standard (hypo-allergenic)
Sheet Sets – Twin and Queen (neutrals-beige, cream, tan, and ecru)
Fleece Blankets – Twin and Queen
Towel Sets – white, beige, and tan (able to with stand bleaching)
Kitchen Towel Sets
Dish Cloths

Food Storage & Preparation

Quick Release Foil
Plastic Wrap
Parchment Paper
Freezer Storage Bags – Quart and Gallon size

Gift Cards

Wegmans
Tops
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Gas Cards

Office Supplies

Copy paper: white and colored
Scotch tape
Postage stamps

Paper Products

Toilet Paper
Paper Towels
Napkins
Dixie Cups

Miscellaneous

Postage Stamps
Under Bed Plastic Storage Boxes
Printer and Copier Paper
white and pastels
Card Stock
white, off white, beige and cream
Plain Paper Fax Machine
Commercial Grade Salt Spreader

Computer Supplies

CD-RW disks
Printer Cartridges – HP #11 - magenta, cyan and yellow;
HP #10 – black

Healing Garden

Lawn Sculptures-angels
Wind Chimes
Bird Bath-Ceramic or Copper



THANK YOU ST. AMELIA'S

(from left) Brad Willette, Kathy Waite (Youth Leader), Kayla Bradley and Brian Stoetzel spent an afternoon at Kevin Guest House volunteering as part of St. Amelia's Youth Ministry Program.

The mission of the group is to meet the spiritual, emotional and social needs of teens, in an atmosphere where they can express their feelings and experience the unconditional love of Christ!

The program helps teens to become an intricate part of the parish community, and to see the needs of the world around them. We at KGH truly appreciate your time and talents!



Kevin Guest House
 782 Ellicott Street
 Buffalo, NY 14203

Kevin Guest House is a member of the
 National Association of Hospital Hospitality Houses.

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All gifts are tax deductible as allowed by law. A copy of Kevin Guest House’s latest Annual Report filed with the NYS Charities Bureau is available upon request from Kevin Guest House or from the Office of the Attorney General, The Capitol, Albany, NY 12224-0341

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