

# Huge Yard Sale Fundraiser

Our 2nd annual Friendship House Yard Sale will take place on Saturday, June 15th here at 390 Lincoln St.. Once again all proceeds will benefit Friendship House and men in recovery here. We are currently accepting all donations of any kind of items that are in good, usable condition. When doing your spring cleaning, we would appreciate you keeping this fundraiser in mind. Attics, basements and garages are often full of "treasures" that have not been seen or used for years and are taking up space. Thank you to everyone who donated items and your time last year, we were able to raise almost \$1000.00 on the day of our yard sale! **This year, a generous donor who wishes to remain anonymous has pledged to match every dollar brought in, up to \$1000.00!** That means any items donat-

ed this year are twice as valuable! Donations can be dropped off anytime between now and June 15th at Friendship House, you can also call the office @ 767-7403 or e-mail [friend1@maine.rr.com](mailto:friend1@maine.rr.com) to make arrangements for a pickup if you are unable to deliver them. We would love to have you plan to come to the yard sale and once again, your purchases will be doubled this year by the matching dollars! For planning purposes, no on street parking is allowed on Lincoln St, but we have lots of room in our rear parking lot. If you drive in the entrance of Forest City Cemetery that is closest to Friendship House, 2 right hand turns land you in our rear lot, just yards from all of the items. As with last year, residents will be participating and helping to direct traffic. We hope to see you there!



## the house news

Spring 2013



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## Bakers Needed

Our next fundraiser is a bake sale to be held on Saturday, May 25th at WalMart in Scarborough from 9 AM- 2 PM. If you enjoy baking, have a specialty item that you make or just enjoy sweets and pastries, this is a great opportunity to help us raise funds for our yearly operational expenses here at Friendship House. Pies, cookies, brownies, cakes, turnovers, fruit filled desserts are only some of the possibilities that Memorial Day weekend shoppers will find appealing. All proceeds go

to support the house and men in recovery here. Thank you to those who have already committed to baking items and we hope many more of you will be willing and able to help us with this fundraiser. It would be very helpful if items could be dropped off at Friendship House the day before our event! If you are able to participate, by baking items, please let us know by e-mailing [friend1@maine.rr.com](mailto:friend1@maine.rr.com) or contact Herb @ 767-7403. Looking forward to a nice day on May 25th.

## Great Night at the Banquet/ Silent Auction

Thank you to all of you who came out and joined in the great evening we had on Friday, March 29th @ Season's Event and Conference Center, supporting our banquet/silent auction. Our night began with registration and open bidding on a wide array of items including jewelry, travel and cruise items, sports tickets and memorabilia, stunning artwork, photography sessions, hotel vouchers, decadent pastry platters, beauty baskets, a wide variety of gift certificates and many more great items! Words from our Director, Herb Blake and President of our Board of Directors Jason Castle, as well as testimonials from 2 of our residents, were sandwiched around a great buffet meal including chicken marsala, shrimp and scal-

lop linguine, baked ziti and Italian mascarpone cake. Also, a big thank you to Mr. Matt Mailo, who blessed us musically, singing and playing guitar during our evening together. Of course, there were several more time periods for open bidding with lots of great conversation and laughter. When the final bidding ended and items distributed to the winning bidders, almost \$4000.00 was raised in support of Friendship House and men in recovery! I would like to invite you to join us and take part in next year's banquet/auction, already scheduled for Friday, March 28th @ the DoubleTree by Hilton (across from the Maine Mall). The menu being planned is surf and turf, so don't miss out on this great evening next year!



# THE DIRECTOR'S TAKE



clean, sober environment where hope, friendship, guidance and accountability are extended to men in recovery". We remind our residents that God at times revealed Himself to men in the midst of the storms of life. Job 38:1 says, "The Lord answered Job out of the storm". In the account recorded in Luke 8:22-25, Jesus "rebuked the wind and the raging waters, the storm subsided and all was calm." It is difficult to see when we are in the midst of the storm (especially when our actions have brought it on) that God offers peace, blessing and healing to those who will call on Him. Psalm 107:28-30 says, "Then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble, and He brought them out of their distress. He stilled the storm to a whisper; the waves of the sea were hushed. They were glad when it grew calm, and He guided them to their desired haven." It is a great blessing to see lives transformed as they listen for His voice! I never want to miss an opportunity to say "Thank you" to all of you who are a large part of the great things happening in lives here. Your support through your prayers, donations, service to our house and support of our fundraisers is invaluable and greatly appreciated! One last thought, we encourage men here not to live in the past, advice we all should take to heart. I'll leave you with a thought excerpted from Reader's Digest, May 1990: "Both the hummingbird and the vulture fly over our nation's deserts. All that the vultures see is rotting meat, because that is what they look for. They thrive on that diet. But hummingbirds ignore the smelly flesh of dead animals. Instead, they look for the colorful blossoms of desert plants. The vultures live on what WAS. They live on the past. They fill themselves with what is dead and gone. But hummingbirds live on what IS. They seek new life. They fill themselves with freshness and life. Each bird finds what it is looking for. WE ALL DO!

Blessings, Herb

I have heard the quotation "spring is in the air" many times each year throughout my life. When winter seems long and stormy, we often use quotes like these to encourage ourselves that better days are ahead (at least in terms of weather)! Even if you are not a fan of snow or cold weather, you would probably acknowledge the reality that weathering the sometimes harsh conditions of the winter months makes Springtime appear that much sweeter. New life boldly appears as trees bud, flowers bloom and the landscape seems to brighten. Our mission at Friendship House is to see this same process of new life paralleled in the lives of men dealing with substance abuse! Our residents come here under the weight of the devastating effects of alcohol and/or drug abuse. These include homelessness (many coming from shelters, detox facilities, jail/prison or other institutions), physical and emotional distress stemming from their substance abuse (often leading to despair and suicidal thoughts), as well as having lost almost everything (often including family, relationships, jobs and self-worth). Our mission statement explains how we set out to see this process of healing take place: "Our mission is to express the love of God through Jesus Christ, by providing a safe,

## New Website Up and Running

While some parts are still being tweaked and are under construction, much of our new website is up and running! Go to [www.Friendshiphouses.org](http://www.Friendshiphouses.org) and check it out. Our newsletter is now on the site, online applications for residency are available, we have a resources page that will be expanded, a link to our Facebook page, testimonials from former residents and much more. We also have a link to donate online, now. If you would like to

donate this way, simply click the donate button at the top right of the home page and follow the prompting to set up your secure PayPal account, if you do not currently have one. In the coming months on our new website, look for some new features that are still under construction, including: an updated FAQ (frequently asked questions) page, bios on our staff and Board of Directors, upcoming fundraising events, pictures, stories and more!



# ABOUT LOUISE

(An article with facts, quotes and stories about Friendship House's founder Louise Montgomery)

- Louise was raised in New Jersey and summered in Maine.
- She met her husband, Claude, while playing croquet on Peaks Island when she was 3.
- They waited until their late 20's before they were married.
- While Claude was studying art abroad, they traveled extensively.
- An original painting of Louise, done by her husband, still hangs in the Montgomery Room @ Friendship House.



## Addition to our Board of Directors

It is my pleasure to announce that Dan West is the newest addition to our Board of Directors. He was unanimously voted in at our February 19th meeting and began serving in this capacity immediately. He has been serving Friendship House since last September, doing his senior year internship here as he finishes his degree, studying Sociology with a concentration in Social Work. I would also like to congratulate Dan on being accepted into the University of New England Masters Program where he will be pursuing his Masters Degree in social work (MSW). Dan and his wife Caroline live in Raymond, they have 7 children between them and they eventually plan to open their own private practice, helping others deal with addiction and substance abuse issues. Dan is a retiree of the Maine Army National Guard. He retired from the military as a SFC (Sergeant First Class) in 2004 after serving 20 years on active duty. He is an active member of his town, currently serving on the Planning Board. Dan has helped our residents in many ways over this past year, assisting them in preparing resumes, finding employment and establishing goals and objectives to reach them. He brings a wealth of experience and a heart to serve men in recovery and we are thrilled to have him come on board to help carry the mission and vision of Friendship House into the future plans God has for us!

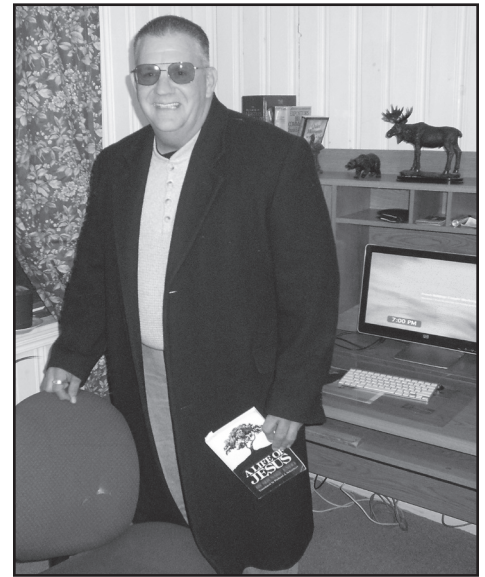
## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- Thank you to **St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church Youth Group** and volunteers, who prepared and joined us for our evening meal on March 22nd, we enjoyed our time sharing together during and after the meal
- Thank you to **Mike Mercier** and **Zach Mercier** for your time, labor and effort in tearing up the existing concrete floor and repacking it with 1" crushed stone, installing rebar (also donated items) and preparing the foundation floor to be poured, before the construction of our new shed begins
- Thank you to **Boots Turner** for reinforcing our existing foundation for the shed floor with hydraulic cement and tying the rebar
- Thank you to the following churches/individuals for making and bringing delicious meals:  
**Robin Goodwin, Emmaus Lutheran Church, Holy Martyr's Parish, First Parish UCC Yarmouth, St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, Trinity Lutheran Church and Congregation Bet Ha'am in South Portland**
- Thank you to all of our table sponsors for our banquet/auction:  
**Mr. and Mrs. Ralph and Cheryl Blumenthal, Mr. and Mrs. Ron and Polly Nevers, Mr. and Mrs. Dave and Pam Quigley, Mr. and Mrs. Herb Sr. and Doreen Blake, Medical Billing Solutions (Mr. and Mrs. Herb and Cindy Blake), Covenant Family Fellowship in Gray and First Congregational Church in Scarborough**
- Thank you to all of the following businesses, organizations and individuals who donated items and/or services to our banquet/auction:  
**Portland Sea Dogs, Maine Red Claws, Boston Red Sox, Mollie Nevers Photography, Casco Bay Lines, The Downeaster, Hairworks in Saco, The Mobile Mechanic (Damion Joyce), The Egg & I Restaurant, DoubleTree by Hilton, Christin Nevers Photography, Pine State Services, Howard Johnson's, Prompto Oil Change, Donnie Nevers, Sharon Ouimette, Angela Hazel, Herb & Cindy Blake, Dave and Pam Quigley, Bethany Nevers (Jewelry by Bethany), Herb and Doreen Blake Sr., Dawn Gilbert, Linda Tripp, Helen Nevers (Helen's Heavenly Creations), Jack Adamo, Dan and Caroline West, Dave Smallwood, Vicki Hopkins**

## MOMENT WITH THE MANAGEMENT

Hello Friends.....

We are all gearing up for spring here at Friendship House. There are a number of projects going on now that we need to have done. We are also doing work around the grounds such as fence repairs and fixing steps that have weakened. We are also doing a lot of painting. We cut and split lots and lots of wood. Friendship House has a great need for power tools. Skill saws, table saws, drills, yard tools and painting tools. We would also welcome wood and plywood for repairs. This has turned out to be a great way to help give some residents a chance to give back and it also helps them ease out of the negative thoughts that can come along and torment you. We are very grateful to all of you for all of the donations, no matter what that may be. If the Lord puts it on your heart, we sure would be grateful! We thank all of you who have been so faithful and we



wish you a wonderful and safe spring.  
 Bob Joyce, House Manager

## 2nd Annual "Montgomery Classic" Golf Scramble Fundraiser

It is not too early to begin planning to attend and play in Friendship House's 2nd Annual "Montgomery Classic". This year's event is once again being held at beautiful Nonesuch River Golf Club in Scarborough on Friday, September 13th. After the long summer (I'm being optimistic), you deserve to take a day off work and come join us for a great day of golf, excellent cookout and fun with friends. Once again, there will be prizes for the winning team, individual contests (longest drive and closest to the pin) and stay tuned for an announcement in our Summer Newsletter about this year's opportunity for individual golfers to win thousands! No one was able to cash in on last year's 10,000 hole in one contest or the \$1000.00 prize for being within 6" of the hole on your tee shot, but maybe this year! The winning team members' names will once again be inscribed on the prestigious Montgomery Trophy, which will be on display at our event. We would like to invite you to join us in September to help us raise much needed funds in the fight against substance abuse in Greater Portland! Once again, all proceeds go to help men in recov-

ery at Friendship House. The cost is \$400.00 for a foursome (\$100.00 for an individual), which includes 18 holes with cart, a gift bag for each golfer, great cookout lunch and the opportunity for many more prizes. We are also looking for more sponsors. If you, your business, church or organization could help us with a \$500.00 hole sponsorship, that would be a great catalyst in helping us reach our goal of raising \$10,000.00 through this event! As with last year, all sponsors are recognized with on course signage, in our day of event brochure and in our quarterly newsletter. Please consider joining us on September 13th





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### *INSIDE: The latest news and changes at Friendship House*

Friendship House began in 1985 when founder, Louise Montgomery, felt the Lord directing her to open a home for the homeless.

Friendship House, Inc. is a non-profit organization, governed by members of a volunteer Board of Directors who are committed to helping men in need by providing shelter and a warm family atmosphere for them in which to grow physically, emotionally and spiritually.



## AS BILL SEES IT

*Bill Wilson was one of the co-founders of Alcoholics Anonymous (AA). The articles selected are from his book, "The AA Way Of Life" published in 1967.*

"In self-appraisal, what comes to us alone may be garbled by our own rationalization and wishful thinking. The benefit of talking to another person is that we can get his direct comment and counsel on our situation."

## FRIENDSHIP HOUSE

### OUR MISSION

*To express the love of God through Christ to the poor and disadvantaged, by providing a safe home where hope and healing are extended to those who are broken spiritually, emotionally or physically.*

### Board of Directors

Jason Castle - President  
Dave Quigley - Vice President  
Ralph Blumenthal  
Dave Smallwood  
Dan West

### Ex Officio

Sydney St. Felix Thaxter

### Advisory Board

Robert M. Hayes  
Jane Boyer  
Nancy Savage  
Frank Parker

### House Manager

Bob Joyce

### Executive Director

Herb Blake