

DDS EMPLOYEE NEWS

Governor M. Jodi Rell

Commissioner Peter H. O'Meara

Edition 29

October 23, 2008

Nathan Wise, A Man of Many Talents Retires



One of the Department of Developmental Services' (DDS) finest, Nathan Wise, a Supervising Developmental Services Worker 1 for the George Street and Rope Ferry Rd. Respite Centers in Waterford, recently retired after close to 34 years of truly exceptional State service.

A Yale alumnus, a supremely talented artist and musician, photographer, writer, and a gifted Direct Support worker, Nathan brought all of his exceptional talents and extraordinary commitment to bear in the service of DDS consumers and their families. Whether maintaining life-long relationships with individuals and their loved ones, honoring the most important moments of their lives with his presence and his talents, or assuring that all consumers in his charge receive the highest level of care, he consistently embodied the noble tenets of our DDS Mission Statement and actively demonstrated the difference between a calling and a career.

Countless consumers and family members can cite the personalized care, kindnesses, and attention, Nathan rendered them, much of which was well beyond his prescribed duties or hours as a DDS Professional. His personal advocacy to assure a consumer's need for more appropriate housing and support, his work to train private sector support staff in the care needs of individual's during their transition to a new home, and his helping an avid Bluegrass fan realize his dream of hosting his own radio show, are just a few examples of his ventures well above and beyond his duties as a Direct Support Worker. These and so very many other examples, only complimented his exceptional skills and dedication as a caregiver and as an exemplary employee of the State of Connecticut.

Hawaiian Shirt Open

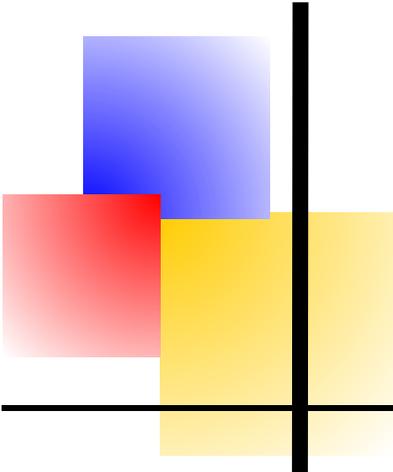
Over 100 golfers and several North Region Spirit Committee members clad in their finest Hawaiian shirts descended upon Gillette Ridge Golf Club in Bloomfield, Connecticut on Friday, August 8, 2008. It was the date for the **North Region's Annual Hawaiian Shirt Open Golf Tournament**. What initially began, over a decade ago, as a day of fun and golfing for a very small group has evolved into an annual event attended by staff from all regions of the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) as well as, Central Office personnel and friends of the department.



Left to right - Ralph Bellanceau, Shawn Grey, Toni Perkins, Todd Perkins

This year's **Hawaiian Shirt Open** was another great success, despite the thunder and lightening which stopped the tournament after nine holes of play. Regardless of this, the tournament still managed to raise \$4,200. As in years past, players looked forward to a chance to win beautiful golf prizes and theme baskets donated by North region offices and Central office. Proceeds from the day will go to the North

Region's Spirit Committee, community groups who support persons with developmental disabilities and the American Cancer Society. The American Cancer Society has been the recipient of funds for the past six years as three long time DDS staff (Gary White, Vic Puzzo, and Michael Gaudreau), who fervently advocated for persons with developmental disabilities, had their lives taken too soon by cancer. Family and friends of all three of these gentlemen played in this tournament, and the **Hawaiian Shirt Open** has become a vehicle to raise funds in their honor and memory.



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DDS

Employee Purchase Program

Important Information Regarding the Employee Purchase Program

- ◆ The DDS, as a Microsoft customer with Software Assurance (SA) Membership from the purchase of Microsoft Office 2007, is eligible to participate in the Employee Purchase Program (EPP).
- ◆ As an employee of DDS, the EPP provides you with potential savings on the purchase of Microsoft products.
- ◆ The retail products purchased through this benefit remain with the employee even after the DDS's SA coverage has expired or if the employee leaves the DDS.
- ◆ Employees place orders from Microsoft directly through a password protected 'eCommerce' site.
- ◆ Employees may acquire Microsoft licenses and other products for personal use (i.e., Office Standard 2007, retail: \$399, EPP: \$208 – a 48% Savings!)
- ◆ Eligibility to participate in EPP ends with expiration (4/20/2011) or termination of the corresponding Software Assurance coverage acquired by DDS. The expiration or termination of the EPP does not affect purchases an employee made while under the EPP.
- ◆ Microsoft may terminate the DDS's participation in EPP immediately and without notice in connection with unauthorized access to or licensing through the EPP website in connection with the DDS's program code.
- ◆ The maximum number of EPP licenses/products that each employee may acquire for any given title is three.
- ◆ End user license terms of software products acquired through EPP are between Microsoft and the individual employee.

How to purchase Microsoft products under the EPP

(Valid Until 4/20/2011)

- DO NOT USE A STATE ISSUED COMPUTER OR LAPTOP (see DDS Employee Handbook, Section II, Electronic Monitoring/Computer Usage—<http://www.ct.gov/dds/cwp/view.asp?a=2781&q=329224>)
- From your home computer log on to the web site below
- Under the section Getting Started, click on the link Visit the Employee Purchase Program Web site
- Select 'United States' for Country
- Select 'English' for Language
- Do Not Use Your Work Email—instead use your personal email address (i.e., abc123@yahoo.com)
- Enter 'State of CT' for Company
- Enter the Program Code below
- Enjoy shopping for Microsoft discounted products using your credit card

<http://www.microsoft.com/licensing/sa/benefits/epp.aspx>

Program Code: BEC35DC087

For any questions or additional information please contact the DDS Help Desk at: DDS.HelpDesk@ct.gov