

Helping change Lives Heart *by* Heart

2020
FALL/WINTER

THE SPIRIT OF THE SEASON



Pictured on the porch (l to r), is Quantrice, Jeff, Danielle, Mattie, Tayborie, and Jennifer sporting their tie-dye fall t-shirts.

“Halloween and the holiday season is a big deal to the folks who live at Bello Machre’s Crest Lane home,” explains Jennifer Jollies, Family Living Director. “We normally have a party with the other Bello Machre homes. This year, since we aren’t having the party, we decided to make our decorations extra special. Everyone is thrilled with our spooky home.”

The residents of the Crest Lane home in Carroll County love all the festivities surrounding Halloween. Mattie loves to pretend she’s scared of the spider decorations around the home. During a recent trip to a haunted corn maze, Tayborie and Jeff enjoyed all the jump scares.

Everyone in the home picked a spooky design and carved their personal pumpkins. They also tie-dyed t-shirts and made candy shoots so they can safely pass out candy to trick-or-treaters.



“Everyone in the home is happy that we found ways to make this Halloween so fun. We are so excited for all the holidays to come!”

– Jennifer Jollies

FEATURES

President’s Message	2
Programs & Services	3
Community Living	4
Golf Tournament	6
Upcoming Events	8

MISSION

To provide a lifetime commitment of *loving care, opportunity, and guidance* for people with developmental disabilities in Maryland.



I hope that you and your loved ones are staying safe and healthy.

In one of my recent outings with my wife, I drove by a vast piece of property with 100-year-old abandoned buildings scattered throughout the landscape. It was one of Maryland's state institutions that has been closed for years.



Dr. Robert T. Ireland

I'm all too familiar with what life was like in those buildings. Think of this — multi-story concrete buildings housing more than 3,000 residents...dormitories with cold floors and rows and rows of beds...cafeterias and day rec rooms jammed with hundreds of people...large latrine facilities with absolutely no privacy...meaningless days and endless nights.

Looking at the shuttered old buildings, I was also reminded of how far we've come.

When Bello Machre opened in 1972, we had a different vision of how people with intellectual and developmental disabilities should live. We wanted people to live meaningful lives full of love and laughter.

Today, three or four people live in each one of our 50 beautiful, wheelchair-accessible homes, sharing their lives with a compassionate live-in caregiver. Others now receive services in their own homes. Our folks also find employment or meaningful volunteer work in the community. Today and every day, people are living life to its fullest!

Your support has helped to make this amazing transformation happen for people with developmental disabilities. Your generosity continues to help us provide endless opportunities.

On behalf of those we serve and support – thank you for being a part of the Bello Machre family.

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Please join our email list to receive information electronically as we continue to diversify our communications and spread the word about our great work!

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PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Bello Machre means *Home of My Heart* in Gaelic.

We provide a lifetime commitment of loving care, opportunity, and guidance for people with developmental disabilities in Maryland. The people we support will live in one of our 50 safe, beautiful homes or receive personalized care in their own home by trained and compassionate caregivers. Each person served by Bello Machre will have the opportunity to experience a meaningful day based on their needs and desires.

The Jesse and Hertha Adams Ray of Hope

Program — We provide assistance to help meet the needs of individuals and families: from specialized summer camp to physical therapy and adaptive equipment expenses — Bello Machre will help families with whatever challenges they may face. Our Respite Care services provide support during family hospitalizations, emergencies, and vacations — 24-hours a day, seven days a week.

Family and Individual Support Services

— We understand the daily challenges faced by many families. Together we develop a plan identifying needs and finding resources. Whether planning for a child just entering pre-school or needing in-home care for a family member who is aging, our dedicated and trained team helps every step of the way. The program also provides personal assistance including, but not limited to, helping families care for their children, providing transportation, purchasing and administering medication, initiating and navigating state funding, and buying medical accessories and equipment. Bello Machre also helps families through the application process — providing education about the ins-and-outs of the system. Our support services team provides case management including referral services, resource coordination, and advocacy.

Residential Services — We care for people in homes where they feel safe and loved. A live-in caregiver guides and helps those we serve so they can grow and develop and live life to its fullest. As those we serve continue to age and develop more complex medical needs, their homes will be available for a lifetime of care.

Meaningful Day Services — We provide vocational and community-based adult day services, supported employment, and/or recreational, educational, and social opportunities for people with developmental disabilities. Our focus is to enrich the lives of those we support through activities within the community that promote the individual's personal and/or professional growth. This may include supported employment, job development and training, career development resources, community-based day services, and skills training and communication resources.

Share Your Life — Contact us today to find out how you can develop a meaningful connection and have a direct impact on the people we serve.

Bello Machre, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization registered with the Maryland Secretary of State. It serves children and adults with developmental disabilities without regard to race, religion, gender, or national origin.

Visit www.BelloMachre.org for more information

So much is happening around Bello Machre!

The Bello Machre family continues to stay engaged with fun activities and outings. Our staff, volunteers, and the people we support are finding new and creative ways of connecting and sharing the love.



Mystery Reader Book Club

Every week, volunteers and the folks in our homes gather on a Zoom call (shown above) to discover a new book together. Randy, who lives in our Sage home, calls this his Book Club. He shares, “I love the book club. It’s fun to follow along with the different stories. I love when we read *The Lightning Thief*.” Robert, Randy’s twin brother, also attends book club. He adds, “We recently read a book about Halloween. It made us all laugh out loud.”



Randy and Robert holding *The Lightning Thief*

Crafting Fun Friendships

“Anna Marie and I are always finding creative ways of having fun,” notes Birgit, one of Bello Machre’s loving staff members. “We have so many things we love to do together. Not too long ago, we were crafting together and made a mobile to hang above Anna Marie’s bed.

One of her favorite activities is going on walks. She giggles when she feels the wind in her face.

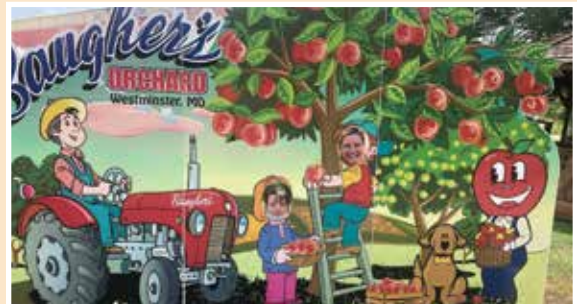
For Anna Marie, we can never go fast enough!”



Anna Marie and Birgit

Fun Fall Activities

“The ladies from our Westview home love everything about fall,” shares Betty Ann, one of Bello Machre’s incredible staff members. “Earlier this season, we visited Baugher’s Farm to get a cool drink and see the apple trees. We also took some goofy photos! Another weekend, we visited the New Windsor Homestead farm. Our day was filled with fun activities — from pumpkin picking, to playing basketball and riding bikes. Even when we are not out and about, the ladies have fun watching football together with family and friends. Keeping our days full always puts everyone in an upbeat mood!”



Katherine’s mom (above) came to cheer on the Ravens with her daughter.



ED IS AN ARTIST WITH HEART



“Ed is one of the most creative, kind, and wholesome souls I know,” exclaims Jordan, Family Living Director of Bello Machre’s Millersville home. “He is passionate about his art and takes a lot of pride in his hard work. He is a true artist!”

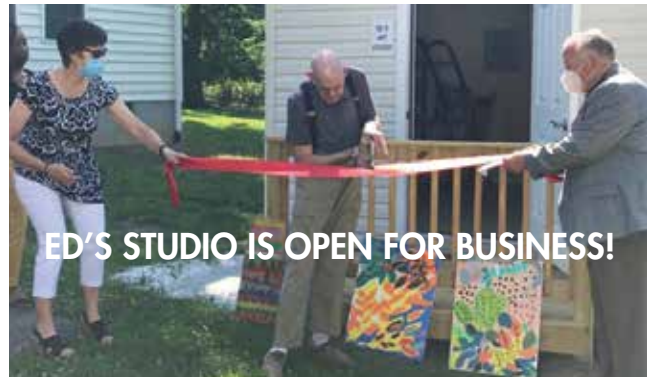
Ed grew up in Baltimore City and attended his local public elementary school. At the age of 21, when Ed’s mother could no longer care for him, he was placed in an institution for people with developmental and intellectual disabilities. At that time, state institutions were the only choice for parents. Over the next 20 years, Ed was shuffled between four different institutional settings before finding his forever home at Bello Machre. In 1999, Ed came to live at Bello Machre’s Founder’s home.

Ed’s kind heart and enthusiasm for creating art have made him one of our most famous residents. For many years Ed has exhibited at *Artists Without Limits* — a program that showcases the artwork of people with disabilities who live in Anne Arundel County. With the help of Stephanie Walder (photo right-shown in red), one of Bello Machre’s wonderful volunteers, Ed held multiple art shows at Bello Machre where he exhibited and sold his artwork.

Ed uses the money he makes from selling his artwork to buy more supplies for future creations. In addition to his

canvas paintings, Ed has worked in other art mediums making clay and wood sculptures.

This summer, Bello Machre helped make one of Ed’s lifelong dreams happen by opening his own art studio at his community home. Ed’s Bello Machre family gathered to celebrate with him at a ribbon-cutting ceremony.



ED’S STUDIO IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS!



Stephanie, who volunteers with Ed, helps him autograph a piece of art.

Ed was thrilled to show off his art to others and it didn’t take long for him to spark a conversation with each person . . . especially as he tried to sell some of his work. *His delight was evident, and he spent most of the gathering showing off his latest creations. The art studio opening was truly Ed’s dream come true!* 🌟



GENEROSITY RAISES \$95,000!

As the sun shone over Queenstown, we all celebrated Bello Machre's 36th Annual Golf Tournament. The extraordinary generosity of our family of supporters made this year another resounding success! Donning masks and frequently using hand sanitizer, our golfers kept the tradition of a wonderful day of golf and giving. Our famous Sausage Stop at the 9th hole continued to be a hit with our golfers and our volunteers served over 300 sausages. Thanks to everyone who made our 36th annual tournament a safe success! 🌻

We look forward to seeing you for our 37th Annual Golf Tournament on **U āÇ«āÇ\ x~Käk äø kái ~"ö~s 3/6" ñ**





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'Tis the Season to Volunteer...and



Safe and Friendly Ways of Giving:

- Decorate the outside of a Bello Machre home for Thanksgiving or the holidays!
- Rake leaves, weed, and mulch flower beds to prepare the yards of our homes for the winter season.
- Donate Thanksgiving dinner baskets — including a grocery store gift card to help with the purchase of the turkey.
- Create holiday, birthday, or spirit cards to share with the people we support.
- Read a favorite story (virtually) to bring fun and entertainment to the people we serve.
- Sign up to help send out one of our mailings (limited capacity for social distancing).



CONTACT US TODAY: Email Lindsey.Norris@bellomachre.org or call us at 443-702-3000 to schedule a donation or to volunteer!

Please be on the lookout for our **Volunteer Newsletter.**

It includes additional details of how you can help to brighten the holidays for those we support.



Thank you to Peyton, Laine, and Reagan from Broadneck High School for helping rake leaves!

upcoming events



Bello Machre's

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Help is a Phone Call Away!

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