

Wellbridge Welcomes Oakley The Therapy Dog As Newest Team Member

Wellbridge, a Calverton-based addiction treatment center, doubled the amount of patients it saw over the last year. Their personalized approach to care addresses the needs of patients entering treatment for the first time, as well as those who have been through rehabilitation previously and are seeking a more sustainable path to long-term recovery. Substance Use Disorder is a chronic, treatable illness and the Wellbridge approach examines the causes of a patient's substance use and treats the whole person.

Struggling with substance use can be a lonely experience for patients, who are typically away from their friends and families. That is why, in addition to a variety of evidence-based treatments, established research, patient experience, quality metrics, and outcomes, Wellbridge employs the services of one four-legged, furry volunteer. Oakley, a two year old English Labrador Retriever, is a certified therapy dog that has been the newest addition to the team. After completing an extensive training program that included time at assisted living facilities, hospitals and nursing homes, Oakley began her rounds at Wellbridge.

Each Saturday, Oakley and her owner, Wellbridge's Krystal Keillor, spend hours working with groups of patients. Over the course of several 45 minute sessions, Oakley works her way around a circle of seated patients, greeting each of them, often receiving belly rubs in return.

Keillor, who is a Certified Recovery Peer Advocate at Wellbridge, relies on her canine sidekick to be there as she provides supportive services and a recovery plan for patients. The comfort that Oakley provides is palpable for staff and patients.



"The patient response has been nothing short of incredible," said Keillor. "Patients have stated that they come to the group with anxiety, stress, and depression. When they leave a group, they feel the complete opposite expressing calmness, serenity, gratitude, hopefulness, happiness." When not working in a group setting, Oakley is at Keillor's side, supplementing therapeutic visits with her soothing presence. This is particularly important during the difficult detoxification portion of patients' stay. Withdrawal from any substance can be painful and debilitating. Moreover, many patients are missing their own pets at home while in treatment, and Oakley serves as an able stand-in.

In spite of her youth, Oakley brings advanced experience in treatment. She has been in long-term care facilities since being eight months old, previously serving at a separate treatment center in Connecticut. When she's not working, Oakley lives with Keillor and the rest of their family in Wading River, NY.

Legislator Donnelly And County Office For The Aging Announce Local Senior Advocate Schedule

Suffolk Legislator Tom Donnelly (D-Deer Park) is pleased to inform Babylon and Huntington residents about the local Suffolk County Office for the Aging Spring 2023 Senior Advocate Schedule. Senior advocates are County representatives who come out into the community and assist seniors with information gathering, completion of eligibility or recertification applications and referrals to appropriate community agencies.

"This is an excellent chance for senior citizens to get the assistance and information they need by connecting with the County's senior advocates right in their own communities," said Legislator Donnelly. "I hope all those interested in the services that the Suffolk County Office for the Aging

provides will take advantage of this opportunity."

Senior Advocates will be visiting the following locations in the Town of Babylon:

- **Deer Park Library**, 44 Lake Avenue, Deer Park: Friday, May 19, 9 – 11 am

- **North Amityville Nutrition Center**, 48-C Cedar Road, Amityville: Wednesdays, May 17 & June 21, 10 am – 1 pm

- **Rainbow Center**, 293 Buffalo Avenue, Lindenhurst: Wednesday, June 7, 8:30 – 11:00 am

- **Tanner Park Senior Nutrition**, 2 Tanner Park, Copiague: Wednesdays, May 10 & June 14, 8:30 am – 1 pm

- **Spangle Drive Center**, 4385 Spangle Drive, North Babylon: Fridays, May 26 & June 30, 12 – 3:30 pm

- **West Babylon Library**, 211 Route 109, West

Babylon: Thursday, May 25, 10 am – 12 pm

- **Wyandanch Senior Nutrition**, 28 Wyandanch Avenue, Wyandanch: Tuesday, June 6, 8:30 am – 1 pm

In Huntington, they will be visiting the following:

- **Huntington Senior Nutrition Center**, 423 Park Avenue, Huntington: Wednesday, May 17, 8:30 am – 1 pm

- **Paumanack Village 3 & 4**, 150 Duncan Elder Drive, Greenlawn: Friday, May 19, 10 am – 12 pm; residents only

- **Paumanack Village 5 & 6**, 100 Adriatic Drive, Melville: Monday, May 15, 10 am – 12 pm; residents only

Advocates assist with the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

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Getting To Know Blue Line Deli & Bagels



Blue Line Deli opened in 2020 and has since expanded its business with a location in UBS Arena. They are the official deli of the New York Islanders hockey team.

Catering is offered for all occasions, so be sure to contact them directly to inquire.

At Blue Line Deli, they're proud supporters of the local community, teaming up with the New York Islanders to support health care workers.

They believe that this is still only the beginning for them and look forward to future endeavors as they continue to give back to the community.

How To Get Your Grub: You can find them on all the online ordering apps including, Grub Hub, Uber Eats, Door Dash, etc.

Don't Miss: Some popular menu items include The Zamboni and The Hat-Trick.

The Zamboni: Served with chicken

cutlet, melted american cheese, bacon, lettuce, tomato, mayo, on a hero.

The Hat-Trick: Served with turkey, ham, roast beef, american cheese, lettuce, tomato, mayo, on a hero.

Visit Blue Line Deli & Bagels for a wide selection of specialty heroes and wraps!

LET'S EAT!

719 West Jericho Tpke
Huntington, NY 11743

Monday-Sunday:

5AM - 4PM

631-944-3222

bluelinedeli.com