



CRIS AIR WAVES



CRIS

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Audio Access for the Blind or Print-Challenged

Fall/Winter 2017

Donors Bring CRIS To St. Francis Hospital

Donors are making it possible for CRIS Radio and Saint Francis Hospital to offer the hospital's patients a new way to pass their time while receiving medical treatment. Patients may now listen to CRIS in English or Spanish through each patient room TV.

St. Francis Hospital is the first acute care hospital in Connecticut to provide its adult patients with CRIS audio service.

Key funders of CRIS' hospital project include John G. Martin and Maximilian E. & Marion O. Hoffman foundations. The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving supports CRIS' Spanish-language programming.



Photo/Steve Laschever

Celebrating the partnership between CRIS Radio and Saint Francis Hospital, from left, are: Diane Weaver Dunne, executive director, CRIS; John Rodis, president, St. Francis Hospital; Paul Young, chairman, CRIS Board of Directors; and Carl Schiessl, director of regulatory advocacy, Connecticut Hospital Association.

YOUR GENEROSITY SUPPORTS:

- ◆ CRIS Radio
- ◆ CRISKids for Schools
- ◆ CRISAccess (Museums)
- ◆ CRIS Streaming (Hospitals)
- ◆ CRIS On Demand
- ◆ CRIS Telephone Reader

Thanks to you, our recurring donors, CRIS broadcasts 24/7! It's even easier now to become a recurring donor with PayPal available online at www.crisradio.org.

"Talking" Art, Thanks to Grant Award

Thanks to the American Savings Foundation, CRIS Radio recently partnered with the New Britain Museum of American Art, where museum visitors can now access audio versions of exhibit signs and listen to other information, such as audio descriptions of selected masterpieces through their smart-phones and QR Codes.

Pictured, from left, are: Luc Ouellette, docent, NBMAA; Michelle Hargraves, deputy director, NBMAA; Jeffrey Mainville, senior manager, visitor experience, NBMAA; Gail Lebert, secretary, CRIS Board of Directors; and Paul Young, chairman, CRIS Board of Directors.



Photo/Steve Laschever

Golfers Tee It Up For CRIS Radio

More than 100 golfers came out in support of CRIS Radio in October at Tunxis Golf Club in Farmington.

Credited for the big turnout was title sponsor New Country Motor Cars' Vice President Tim Parker, who personally solicited golfers to participate in the annual tournament.

Parker told the crowd attending the event that New Country Motor Cars supports CRIS Radio because it provides a unique and important service for people who are blind.

"By getting involved with this event you are improving the lives of people who live in our community, our neighbors, our friends," he said.

In addition to the commitment of New Country Motor Cars, Scot Haney, WFSB meteorologist, also was praised for making the event a success. Haney serves as emcee and auctioneer, along with the assistance of his WFSB colleague Eric Parker.

With a score of 13 under par, Nutmeg State Financial Credit Union's foursome, Bob Bruhn, Corey Laurito, Mike Shirling, and Dan Dimenna.



Photo/Steve Laschever

Pictured with the CRIS Golf Classic trophy, from left, are: Paul Young, chairman, CRIS Board of Directors; Corey Laurito, of Nutmeg State F.C.U.; Dan Dimenna, Nutmeg State; Bob Bruhn, Nutmeg State; Scot Haney, WFSB meteorologist; and Eric Parker, WFSB news anchor.

CRIS Volunteers Honored at Governor's Mansion



Photo/Steve Laschever

CRIS Radio volunteers pictured in the atrium at the Governor's Mansion in Hartford during a reception to honor their dedication.

CRIS Radio volunteers were recently honored for their long-standing service at a reception held at the Governor's Mansion in Hartford.

Joanne Nesti of Haddam was honored for 35 years of service; Robert McAllister of Windsor and Laura Nadeau of Glastonbury, for 25 years.

Counting 20 years of volunteer service include: Steve Craft of Tolland; Margaret Lawlor of East Granby; Christine Mabey of Wethersfield; and J. Kendall Murphy of Milford.

Marking 15 years of service are: Barbara Ekman of Orange and Walter Galuszka of West Hartford. Also celebrating a special anniversary of 10 years are: Doris Battle of Bloomfield; Susan Carey of Hartford; Scott Chamberlain of Winsted; Christine D'Allesandro of Meriden; Jason Ellsworth of East Windsor; Elizabeth Finemore of Plainfield; Richard Hurley of Simsbury; Ann-Lynn Kettles of Hartford; Rob Lunde

of Springfield, Mass.; Robert Massa of Wethersfield; Andrew Norton of Colchester; and Bill Walton of Wethersfield. The estimated annual value of the services provided by CRIS volunteers is \$422,000.

Special Recognitions ...

*Remembering
friends
&
family*

Your donations made in memory or in honor of friends or family support CRIS services for thousands of adults and students who are blind or print-challenged, helping them access the same print materials enjoyed by their friends, family, colleagues and classmates. As of January 2017 through year-to-date, the following people were honored or remembered:

- Ralph Adams
- Lowell Cherry Sr.
- Diane Duhaime
- Norma Dunn
- Cecelia Falotica
- Barbara Flynn
- Ray and Arline Frankowski
- Vincent Galanti Sr.
- Carol Gillispie
- Irving Goldberg
- Ellen Grossi
- Bill Hamilton
- David Long
- Tim Parker
- Brian Winters

Fairfield County Community, Schnurmacher and Goodnow Foundations Fund New Norwalk Studio

City and state officials joined CRIS Radio staff and volunteers to celebrate the opening of a regional studio this summer in Norwalk.

The Norwalk studio is located in Gate Lodge at Mathews Park. It will be the fifth regional studio for CRIS Radio, in which articles published in local newspapers and the New York Times Metro Edition will be recorded and streamed over Internet-connected devices.

State Sen. Bob Duff (D-Norwalk) applauded the opening of the CRIS Radio's Norwalk Studio. "It is exciting and wonderful news that CRIS Radio is opening its fifth regional studio right here in Norwalk," Duff said. "The services and programming produced by CRIS Radio's volunteers provide listeners with a direct link to current events, breaking news and community happenings."

"Adding service in lower Fairfield County is an important milestone for CRIS Radio," said Paul A. Young, chairman of CRIS Radio's Board of Directors. Young said the organization is very grateful to the City of Norwalk for providing space at Gate Lodge as well to the Goodnow, Fairfield County Community, and Schnurmacher foundations for funding the equipment for the new broadcast facility. CRIS Radio also broadcasts from Danbury, Trumbull, Norwich, and West Haven.



Photo/Steve Laschever

Celebrating the opening of the Norwalk studio, from left, are: Andrew Norton, legislative liaison, Dept. of Rehabilitation Services and member of the CRIS Board of Directors; Diane Weaver Dunne, CRIS Executive Director; State Sen. Bob Duff; Norwalk Mayor Harry Rilling; David Westmoreland, Norwalk Historical Commission; and Paul Young, chairman, CRIS Board of Directors.

Windsor Lions Club Sponsors CRISAccess

Thanks to the Windsor Lions Club, museum visitors with visual or other print disabilities, such as dyslexia, are able to listen to exhibit signs displayed at the Connecticut Valley Agricultural Museum at Northwest Park in Windsor.

CRISAccess links smartphones with Quick Response Code (QR) Applications to audio versions of museum signage and descriptions of the exhibits.

At a reception held at the museum in October celebrating the club's project, Jason Ellsworth, a CRIS Radio listener and a long-time volunteer, praised the Windsor Lions Club's initiative responsible for the CRISAccess installation at the museum.

Donations raised by the Windsor Lions Club funded the 17-exhibit installation at the museum.

Jason said that improving access to museums, such as the exhibits at the agricultural museum, offers people who are blind or unable to read due to other disabilities, an opportunity to enjoy the rich information on display.



At the Connecticut Valley Agricultural Museum, from left, are Scott Baecker, CRIS operations director; Jason Ellsworth, CRIS volunteer; and Jim Daniels, president of the Windsor Lions Club.

Save the Dates

8th Annual Dining & Dancing
in the Dark
Sat., April 28, 2018
Bond Ballroom * Hartford

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21st Annual CRIS Radio Golf
Classic
Wed., Oct. 3, 2018
Tunxis Golf Club * Farmington

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