



The Clarion

Newsletter of the Brothers of Christian Instruction

Governor Presides at Vinton Hall Dedication on Notre Dame Campus



Gov. John Baldacci examines a room with resident Ken Emerton

Alfred, ME. At the first open house since its completion last year, Governor John Baldacci of Maine presided at the Vinton Hall dedication on Oct. 14, 2009. It is the first shelter powered exclusively with green technologies in Maine.

At the dedication ceremony, Baldacci praised “projects like the eight-unit apartment building designed for the chronically homeless making economic sense... and as real forward thinking.”

He also noted Vinton’s achievements: “It is fitting that this facility is named for him. It is a testament to the wonderful level of

support to the homeless in York County.” David Vinton was one of the first clients of the old York County Alcoholism Shelter in 1979 and moved from client to employee, working with the homeless until his death three years ago. “His spirit carries on,” said Don Gean, York County Shelter Programs Director.

One of the Vinton Hall residents, Ken Emerton, was only too pleased to show his new apartment on the first floor to the Governor. It is a bright, sunlit studio apartment or “bedsit.” With dried chives and peppers and flowers and plants framing the windows, Emerton also crafted

bookshelves and a television stand from old barn boards on the property. There is a bright rug on the floor. To him “It is home.”

“I’m impressed to see what you’ve done to make it your own,” Baldacci said on a tour of the building. The 5,500 square foot-structure is the first “green” home for chronically homeless people in Maine. The building incorporates solar and photovoltaic energy, wood heat, radiant floor heating and other green technologies.

Five Notre Dame Brothers attended the dedication: Henri Bernier, David Denicourt, Marcel Crete and Albert Heinrich.

York County Shelters Event

Below

**Governor greets Br. J. Lacasse,
16-year YCS board member.**

