

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

February 2017 Newsletter Volume 11, Issue 2

Lutheran
SeniorLife
Passavant
Community

SALAMA!



Residents and staff were greeted by this cheery Malagasy “hello” from Intern Sthela (pronounced Stella) Gun Holly Hanitrinarina during her presentations at Passavant about her Madagascar homeland.

Sthela is a student of Luther College, a Lutheran affiliated college located in Iowa, and is majoring in Social Work and Women’s and Gender Studies. Since a one month internship is required as part of her studies, Sthela became interested in Passavant Community as a site for the internship through a chance meeting with Passavant’s Executive Director, Laura Roy.

In an interesting twist, while Sthela has come to Passavant to learn more about social studies and elder care, staff and residents found that they were also learning from her during their day to day interaction with her as well as from her presentations held on campus.

Sthela came to Passavant with an already impressive resume which included a Bachelor Degree in Intercultural Communication, position as an organizer for the Gender Justice Community Organization for the Malagasy Lutheran Church, and keynote speaker for Women’s Theological Conference in Madagascar.

While she states that her objective is “to create gender justice and equality within the Malagasy communities through education and campaigning,” her passion comes to life whenever she has a chance to share about the people of Madagascar.

During presentations to the Passavant community, Sthela wore her traditional tribal dress or *lamba* of her tribe and also accompanied her singing on the *valiha*, a stringed instrument indigenous to Madagascar. She also shared a video presentation of the beautiful island while explaining its culture, struggles, natural resources, trade and people.

Sthela returned to Luther College at the end of January, but we hope to have her return for any future collegiate educational requirements. Until then we say “*Veloma*” (Goodbye)!

Thank you, Sthela, for being part of our community.



VOLUNTEERS: HEALTH ALERT

- **If you are ill, please stay home.**
- **Contact your assigned staff or program manager if you cannot come in.**
- **Please practice strict hand washing and sanitizing.**
- **Cover your cough with a tissue, your sleeve or elbow not your hands.**
- **Check with Passavant receptionist or your assigned team manager for any restriction updates before coming in.**

Restrictions: If a case of flu is reported in the Passavant Community, restrictions are put in place to stop the spread of flu or flu-like symptoms. Visitors may be restricted from coming into the building or residents may be restricted from leaving their rooms or a particular living area in order to protect themselves from infection or from infecting others.

If Passavant implements any restrictions, the Outreach Office will send an email alert to Community Volunteers as soon as it is made aware of the restriction.



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Education Corner



Personal Care Volunteers: Annual Training Time!

Personal Care volunteers who serve five times a month or more are required to receive annual in-service training on specific topics each year to meet Department of Human Services, formerly the Department of Public Welfare, requirements. This training will be sent to those volunteers who need to complete this training as a paper in-service by mail or email in February.

Please note: While some Personal Care volunteers serve once a week, we find that due to the way several months fall, that could lead to service 5 times that month and so these volunteers must be included in the annual training to prevent a possible deficiency if we are audited.



Important Reminder: HIPAA Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act

Volunteers cannot disclose any health or personal information regarding a Passavant Community resident to those off campus or those on campus not involved in their care. A fine can be incurred if this occurs.

Health information may be things such as sharing that a resident is declining in their abilities, walks with a walker, has lo-vision or has a specific ailment. Personal information examples would be name and location or area where the resident is living such as Nursing or Personal Care.

Any printed or e-mail information regarding a resident is also covered by HIPAA and must be destroyed or shredded.

Just remember, like Vegas, when it comes to resident information, what you see and hear here, stays here!

Reflective Pastoral Training and Care Course

This course, developed by The Lazarus Center of Ambridge PA, is once again begin offered at Passavant Community under the leadership of Lutheran Seniorlife's Visiting Nurses Association.

Especially suited for those volunteers in Care Friends or Compassionate Friends, the class is available to any volunteers or anyone in the general public who would like to develop their visitation or pastoral skills.

The series of classes will be offered on Tuesdays from 10:00 am - 12 noon for seven weeks from March 14 through April 25. Fee is \$25.

For details please contact Rev. Valerie Schubert at 724.282.6806 or Valerie.Schubert@lutheranseniorlife.org.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE:

It must be Thursday...

Thursday mornings are especially busy in volunteer services as Passavant volunteers open shops, escort residents to Catholic Services and beauty shop appointments, provide musical entertainment, support offices such as Social Services and build relationships through visits.

It's amazing to think that these services would not be available without the support of all these folks.

Here's a few of our Thursday morning volunteers in action:



Pictured Above: Lynda Altsman: Gift Shop; Paul Whitehouse: Catholic Services; Carol Flinn: Social Services; Barb Allen: Gently Used Shop; Ron Horanski: Nursing

Thanks everyone for "Making a Difference"

FACES AND PLACES

Welcome Community Volunteers

Beth and Michael Fabus, sons Calvin and Levi – Nursing Bingo

Maria Kitay – Care Friends

Melinda Stevens – Gift Shop

Frances “Polly” McConahy – Catholic Services

Assignment Updates

These volunteers have recently added or changed assignments. We thankfully recognize their commitment to providing continuing service to Passavant Community.

Peggy Giancola – Assisting in Maintenance Office

Sandy Mullins – Assisting in Maintenance Office

Happy Anniversary

We recognize these community volunteers who are celebrating an anniversary in February as a volunteer here at Lutheran SeniorLife Passavant Community.

Patricia Keller	11 years	Gift Shop
Martha Henry	7 years	Marketing Office
Claudia Porter and daughter Becky	7 years	Newhaven Court Activities
Donna Brewer	4 years	Gently Used Shop
James Reda	4 years	Front Door Delivery
Sandy Zaremski	4 years	Eagle Eye
Meg Lope	3 years	Care Friend
Gail Boyea	2 years	Newhaven Court
Martha and David Florie	2 years	Catholic Services
Claudia Benson	1 year	Nursing: Baking
Pam North	1 year	Gift Shop

*Whether you serve throughout the years,
for a special project or for a season;
your time with us is valuable.*

PLACES TO SERVE

This month, nursing activities are featured. There are a variety of openings available reflecting the variety of interests our residents expressed on a recent survey of their likes and interests.

Manicurist – Pamper our ladies with polish and light lotion massage. Cutting of nails not required.

Come and Listen – Read stories to residents either one-on-one or in a small group.

Pianist/Organist/Instrumentalists - Provide music on organ or piano for residents who just enjoy listening to music in their household.

One-on-One Visits - Visitors for residents are always welcome. Visit, play games, do puzzles, escort to destinations in the Abundant Life Center or outside during nice weather. Visit at times best for volunteer and resident; befriend one or more residents, prefer weekly visits.

Small Group Activity Leader - Lead activities such as board games, baking, jewelry making, discussion groups, reminisce groups, book groups, or active games such as Wii bowling, balloon toss - or noddle ball. Days and times are flexible. Pick an interest or help with a variety.

Hymn Sing/ Sing-along Accompanist (Piano or Organ) - Accompany residents as they sing from song sheets. Music provided. Days and times flexible.

Poetry Group – Lead a small group of residents with reading and discussing poetry. Staff will assist with materials. Weekly or once or twice a month.

Chapel Escort- Assist residents to and from their Sunday morning worship service. Shifts are 9:45-10:30 am or 11:30-12:30 or 9:45-12:30.

First Floor Household Volunteer – Refill pitchers with fresh ice water in each resident’s room while providing social interaction; restock linen closet on first floor nursing. Can be done late morning or early afternoon; days flexible.

For most positions, unless otherwise noted, Monday – Friday between the hours of 10:00 – 11:00 am or 1:00 – 4:00 pm is best.

**“Our best referrals are word of mouth.
If you have enjoyed your volunteer experience,
please tell a friend.”**

“Giving” Activities

Looking for another way to serve? Consider donating some of the items listed below or sharing these needs with your church or service group.

Bingo Prizes

Residents always enjoy playing their weekly bingo game on their own household and so the need for prizes is ongoing.

Body lotions, hand creams, body wash, boxes of soft tissues, men’s aftershave, women’s cologne.

Snacks: small bags of chips or cheese curls (no popcorn), small packaged cookies, small bags of sugar free candies, Little Debbie snack cakes, individually wrapped chocolate bars or small boxes of chocolates, small stuffed animals, clip earrings, necklaces (preferably those that slip on), large print word search books, nice hand soaps.

Craft Supplies

First floor nursing residents are heavily into arts and crafts. Have you visited their art gallery in the common area between their two households?

Paints!!, craft glue, colored tissue paper, craft paper or foam sheets, sequins, wood craft sticks, glitter glue, pompoms, chenille stems (pipe cleaners), feathers, jingle bells, buttons, felt or foam stickers, assorted wood shapes to paint, foam or paint brushes, ribbon, etc.

Admissions Bag Items (for male for female)

Residents on second floor short term stay are always coming and going so this is also an ongoing need.

Body soaps, lotions, deodorants, toothpaste, toothbrushes, combs, brushes, shampoos, conditioners

Some Special Requests

Plastic Mugs with handles; bed comforters; hand lotions

If you would like to participate in this “giving” activity, please drop off supplies in the Outreach Office. On weekends or after office hours, items can be dropped off at the receptionist desk marked to the attention of the Outreach Office.

Thanks!

Mission Statement

ABUNDANT LIFE®

“I came that they may have life, and have it more abundantly.” John 10:10b

“These are the words that guide our ministry of care for our seniors. Regardless of their level of independence, abilities, health or financial circumstances, we strive to help all seniors enjoy the richness and fullness of life. A vital element in carrying out this mission of Abundant Life® is the volunteer from the outside community who comes to serve our elders.”

Whether you volunteer on special occasions, seasonally or on a weekly basis you are making a difference in the lives of others! Thank you for being a part of this mission.

Contact information:

Community Outreach Coordinator
Lutheran Seniorlife Passavant Community
401 South Main Street
Box 390
Zelienople, PA. 16063-1597
724-453-5414
dcawthorne@lutheranseniorlife.org



Passavant Community is rated as a 4-star certified nursing home by the Federal Government’s Center for Medicare and Medicaid Studies (CMS).

Applications can be obtained by contacting the Community Outreach Office at 724.453.5414 or by visiting www.lutheranseniorlife.org. On our website, select the “Volunteer” tab on the top of the page, then follow the How to Apply directions.

The purpose of the Community Volunteer Newsletter is to provide information, appreciation and education to the Community (off campus) Volunteer and is the creation of the Community Outreach Office Coordinator, Donna Cawthorne and Community Volunteer, Blanche Lozar.