

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

July 2017 Newsletter Volume 11, Issue 7



Special Dedication Ceremony Held for New Passavant Community Gardens

Rev. Kurt Kusserow, Bishop of the Southwestern PA Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, blessing the gardens.



The blue skies and sunshine were the perfect backdrop for the many residents, friends, supporters and staff at Passavant Community who attended the garden dedication on June 9th.

Groundbreaking for the gardens began a year ago, and the property has since been transformed into an oasis for those who live on campus and their families. Thanks to the generous donations of many, everyone can now enjoy the walkways through two separate gardens on the south and north sides of the Abundant Life Center.

The Alice Osbourne Garden on the south side features a large and small pergola, a gazebo, water fountains and a Koi pond. In addition to the relaxation spaces, on the north side, all can enjoy the bocce ball court, horseshoe pit and shuffleboard in the Albert Bittcher Family Garden.

Jane Bittcher, president of the Lutheran SeniorLife Foundation, thanked everyone for their support of the project. A special thank you was given to John Harmon, Ken Spruill and Kate Byrne of the George H. Campbell, Lillian S. Campbell and Mary S. Campbell Foundation for the generous donation that jump-started the campaign.

(Cont. on P. 4)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

AT PASSAVANT PUBLIC WELCOME

History of Butler County

Presentation by Steve Cicero

Thursday, July 6

2:30 – 4:00 PM

Scholl Conference Center

Abundant Life Center

Memory Support Group

Presentation by an Elder Care Attorney

Wednesday, July 26th

6:30 - 7:30 PM

Seaman Chapel

Abundant Life Center

For more information see page 2

Gospel Concert

Presented by Dan Schall

Monday, July 31

2:30 PM

Scholl Conference Center

Abundant Life Center



Bits & Pieces

Memory Support Group

At the Passavant Memory Support Group, led by trained facilitators, participants can expect to find a safe place to develop a support system; exchange practical information on caregiving challenges and possible solutions; talk through issues and ways of coping; share feelings, needs and concerns; and learn about community resources.

The group meets monthly on the fourth Wednesday evening of the month and is open to the public. Meetings are held at Lutheran SeniorLife Passavant Community's Chapel located on the second floor of the Abundant Life Center at 105 Burgess Drive in Zelienople. For more information call Lesley McGregor at 724.452.3611.

TB Testing Quarterly Reminder

Passavant Community, since it is located in Butler County, is classified as low risk area for transmission of tuberculosis (TB). Therefore, after baseline testing for TB infection, additional TB testing is not necessary unless there is a suspected exposure to a documented case of active TB.

However, repeat testing will be required if an employee, resident or volunteer travels outside of the Continental United States or Canada. Please alert your manager if you are planning to travel out of the United States or Canada. Volunteers would report this to the Community Outreach Office.

When you return from your travel, you will be required to complete a TB screening form that addresses the presence or absence of hallmark TB symptoms and after three (3) months, you will be required to get a one-step TB test. (There is a 3 month time period before a TB test indicates reaction.)

Rules of the Road: Escorting Reminders

It's that time of the year again when volunteers are doing a lot of escorting as they help residents, especially those in wheelchairs, get outdoors.

Here are some reminders as you escort those in wheelchairs:

- Always be sure that foot rests are on the wheelchair and that the residents' feet are properly positioned in them before pushing the wheelchair.
- Always report faulty or missing foot rests to the nurse on the household.

(Cont. P.4)

MAKING A DIFFERENCE:

A Perfect Serve



Sabrina Dunlap (left) pictured with Rehab Director, Mary Pat Sherman (right) in front of Rehab's therapy ramp.

Thank you to Sabrina Dunlap and the Seneca Valley Girls' Tennis Team for their donation of used tennis balls to Passavant's Rehab Department. When attached to the legs of our residents' walkers, they will help reduce friction so that the walkers slide more easily over carpeted surfaces, keeping our residents safe and independent!

This connection happened when Sabrina, a Summer Teen with Passavant in 2016 and 2017, asked if Passavant could use tennis balls for this purpose as she saw a need here and an opportunity to recycle the balls used by the tennis team.

Rehab Director, Mary Pat Sherman, was more than enthusiastic about receiving them as her department has a high demand for tennis balls for walkers.

Perfect match!



FACES AND PLACES

Welcome Community Volunteer

Mary Ann Engles – Gift Shop



Welcome New Summer Teens

- Jamir Jones – Personal Care Activities and Visits
- Taya Jones – Personal Care Activities and Visits
- Reagan Lang – Newhaven Court Activities and Visits
- Riley Lang – Newhaven Court Activities and Visits
- Sophia Muller – Nursing Activities and Visits
- Logan Slade – Rehab Department Tech
- Troy Whittaker – Newhaven Court Activities and Visits
- Madison Yohn – Fitness Center Assistant

Reassignments

Special thanks to Linda Ridgley and Meg Lope who will be helping to coordinate Care Friends and thus sustain this valuable service to our residents during the interim between the retirement of Chaplain and Care Friend administrator Pastor John Hoogerbrugge and the arrival of his replacement.

Happy Anniversary

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

Barbara Vickerman	9 years	Newhaven Court Activities
Pat Slingwine	3 years	Gift Shop
Janice Ridgway	2 years	Rehab Office Assistant
LaDawn Van Kirk	1 year	Newhaven Court Pet Visits
Abby Marshall	1 year	Newhaven Court Visits

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

PLACES TO SERVE

One-on-One Visits - Visit, play games, read poetry, do puzzles, escort to destinations in the main building or outside during nice weather. Visit at times best for volunteer and resident; befriend one or more Personal Care or Nursing residents, prefer weekly visits.

Manicures - Pamper our ladies with polish and lotion, no cutting of nails required. Personal Care: Wed. 2:30 - 3:30, Fri. 10 - 11 or 2:30 - 3:30, Saturday 10 – 11; or evenings.

REFERRALS

Because we believe Passavant has a GREAT group of community volunteers, we look for people with the same dedication and caring hearts to serve our residents.

Any Community Volunteer referring a new volunteer who has availability that matches a need here at Passavant and completes orientation will have their name placed in a drawing to receive a \$25 gift card. The drawing is held once a quarter.

Volunteers are often not focused on the perks that may be offered, but we care about having a quality team of volunteers. This is our way of saying “thanks!”

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



During the month of July, if you notice that you will need a new Beverage Punch Card for the month of August, please email the Outreach Office or sign up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board in the Volunteer Office by the last week in the month of July.

Gardens *(Cont. from P.1)*

Passavant Community resident, Pr. Susie Esseck, delivered a special tribute to Laura Roy, Executive Director of Passavant Community, on behalf of a family member who once lived on campus and dedicated a special rock in her honor.

Roy recognized many of the donors, as she reflected on the beauty and peacefulness of the gardens. "As we dedicate the Bittcher Game Garden (North Garden) and the Alice Osborne (South) Garden, my prayer is that all who walk through it linger in it and will be renewed, strengthened, filled with laughter and encouraged with hope," Roy said.

Rev. Kurt Kusserow, Bishop of the Southwestern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America then blessed the gardens.

A picnic lunch was held in the gardens following the ceremony.

Rules of the Road *(Cont. from P.2)*

- Have the residents keep their hands in their laps and arms inside the arm rests of the wheelchair when transporting them.
- When going into the elevator with a wheelchair, go in backwards.
- When a resident is sitting in the wheelchair, be very observant of their positioning. If the resident is not sitting upright, ask an aide or nurse to reposition them. (Volunteers are never to lift a resident.)
- While transporting the resident, check the position of their feet at times to ensure that their feet have not moved off of the foot rests.
- If you observe a resident who self-propels become tired and is unable to continue, you **MUST** place the foot rests on the wheelchair before you begin to push the resident, **EVEN** in households.
- If you are taking any resident outdoors on a hot day, and will be sitting outside, position the resident in a shaded area.
- After returning a nursing resident to their room, please be sure their call bell is within their reach in case they have to call the nurse or aide.

Help keep our residents free from injury and please follow the rules of the road!

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.