

Volunteer: Lend an Ear



Summer, August 1, 2009

Hey, Did You Know?

For the health and safety of our residents here are some very important guidelines regarding volunteers that you should be following.

Volunteers should not be giving residents anything to eat or drink without a professional staff person's permission each time.

Volunteers should not be assisting residents with the bathroom, and should not be assisting them in or out of their wheelchairs.

Volunteers should never bring anyone off the Reflections unit ICD without a staff person accompanying you and the resident at all times.

Volunteers are not permitted to bring residents off the Veterans Home property, or out in their cars.

If you see a resident fall, don't lift the resident, quickly go get staff to assist the resident.

Volunteers should always wear their photo ID badges when in the building.

It is your responsibility to know these guidelines and follow them. On occasion new staff may not be aware of these, so you may have to let them know. You can always refer staff with questions to the Volunteer Services office for more information.

Congratulations to Two Special Volunteers



Pictured Are: Susan Helmus, Diane Reisz, Ann Melvin and Jonathan Spier



Pictured Are: Susan Helmus, Lon Werner and Jonathan Spier

Alonzo (Lon) Werner- was recognized at our Volunteer Recognition Event for contributing the most amount of hours for a volunteer, in the history of the Veterans Home. He is very close to 7,000 hours.

Ann Melvin recently was awarded with the U.S. President's Call to Service Award for performing more than 100 hours last year, and a total in excess of 4,000 hours.

Cream of Volunteer Soup



Primary Ingredients:

Time, talent, energy, discipline, persistence, joy, humor, love, generosity, good will, natural color, flavor and preservatives.

Directions for Use:

In a pleasant atmosphere, mix volunteer skills with the task at hand. Sprinkle liberally with time. Add responsibility to taste.

For Extra Richness:

Pour in plenty of appreciation. Stir until smooth.

Recipe may be doubled or tripled as needed.

Happy Birthday Volunteer!

August

Gloria Pisano
Margaret Jackson
Judith Friedlander
Kelly Palma
Patricia Atkinson
Michael Ingoglia
Luba Boyko
Yinglin Gao
Carol Newton-Addressi
Neena Mathews
Robert Bove
ShuYing Ng
Leigh Anne Garstka
Nikos Antoniou
Lisa Thekkel
Joseph Evak
Nancy Russo
Ronald Kelson
Pat Scorzelli
Robert Mayrose
Prashant Kota
Roxana Socol
Marrienne Mullarkey

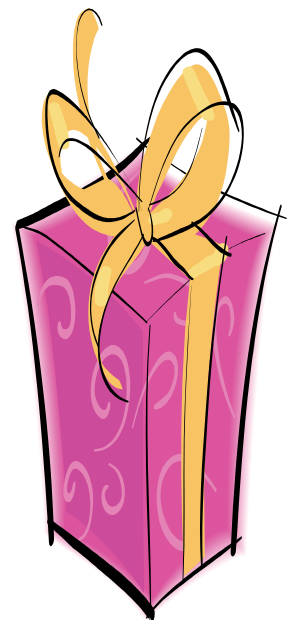
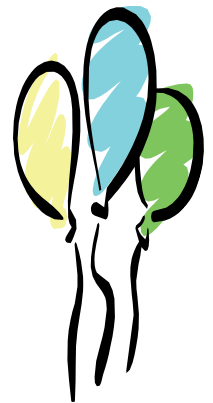
September

Robert Lewis
Harold Paulson
James Tinney
Karl Freund
Kareen Champagne
Roberta Podell
Shafkat Hossain
Gilda Johnson
Audrey Sturges
Jack Zhou
Reema Sultan
Annette Piotrowski
Vivian Piccone-Jung
Jennifer Fogarty
James Schmied
Shonto Olander
Joseph Bova
James Rhoads
Mary Gunn
Madeline Gestone
Arthur Wobig

October

Janet Argentieri

Alonzo Werner
Munmun Aziz
Sal Bertolone
Rosemarie Setteducate
Ruth Reuss
Victoria Tung
Rebecca Au
Katie Schnebel
Alexis Cahill
Thomas Mikucki
Frieda Dixon
Kathleen Daniels
Joan Carl
Zhao Chen
Hyein Chung
Arnold Michels
Angela Basso
Kara Sanimarco
Ira Spiegelglass
Edward Borowski
Richard Meehan
Ashumi Dharia
Peter Esposito
Henry McKenna
Frank Goett
James Rafferty



Susan's Corner

Dear Volunteers,

We hope everyone is enjoying their summer months. Especially now that we are finally having nice weather.

I want to welcome Kumkum to our office, she will be volunteering on Tuesdays. We also have another volunteer, Carol who has been working with us on Thursdays. We have plenty of work to do, and are very grateful for these two volunteers!

The volunteer department is busier than ever with many new volunteers applying, rescheduling of our Rehab and Pharmacy departments, trying to keep up with our Resident Support Program (formerly known as "Visit A Vet"), setting up new groups to come and get involved, working to meet the needs of our biggest customer for volunteers, the Therapeutic Recreation department, planning special events and working on the Golf Outing. Besides that there

are a million other tasks, I couldn't even (and don't think I'd want to) name.

I also have been doing some trainings for staff on the changing face of volunteers (the new generations that are volunteering and what to expect when working with them).

Diane and I are looking at the tasks we do and trying to find ways to do them more efficiently. We are also looking at what we are doing that a volunteer could be doing. This is freeing us up to take care of all the other things on our To Do lists. Thank heaven for volunteers! You allow us to get to all those important things that are waiting for us.

Lending an ear,

Susan K. Helmus

Director of Volunteer Services

Susan's Life Lessons Learned While Fishing

1. Approach each task with patience and persistence.
2. Do your homework and prepare for the task at hand.
3. Have the right bait and tools to pursue your dreams.
4. Even if things don't work out the way you were hoping for, enjoy the process, the sun and ocean air.
5. Live in the moment.
6. Realize that if you reach your goals and catch a keeper, your work is not done, you still have to clean it and cook it.

Green Tip....

If you need to use a pad when volunteering to jot down which residents you are going to get, or to remind yourself something, consider making a small "pad" out of scrap paper. You can create a pad by taking paper printed on one side that you are going to throw out, and cutting it into small pieces the same size- then staple the pieces together, and you have a scratch pad to use.

The Volunteer Department has a paper cutter if you want to use it, let us know.

Welcome! New Volunteers



We're Glad You Found Us!

FOUND

Umbrella with
snow-globe handle:
See Diane

May

Jennifer Fogarty
Thomas Mikucki
Paul Olsen
Karen Faber
Joseph Brunner
Andrew Langford
Patrick Ametewee
Evan Lawrence
Cassandra Loiseau
Michael Polacsek

June

Rebecca Au
Annette Piotrowski
Megan Fenton
Michelle Schub
Shafkat Hossain

Kumkum Bhasin
Fahmida Akhter
Meredith Schraner
Irene Ralph
Daniel Hozmacher
Olivia Zalewski
Ira Spiegelglass
Zoe Speed
Harold Paulson

July

Jim D. Raleigh
Lauren Gully
Anna Capizzi
Francois Ban
Arlene Wiederman
Fredrick Volz
Jenna Kim
Haseeb Shahid

Just A Reminder

Vet Bucks are
only to be used by
Volunteers.

Residents, Family
Members and Staff
are not permitted to
use Vet Bucks.

You must show
your Volunteer ID
when using Vet
Bucks in the Café.

Celebrating You! Thank You For Your Years of Service!

May

13 Years

Anita Tangredi

11 Years

James Raleigh
Aaron Burack

8 Years

Jo Eichner

7 Years

Gilda Johnson

3 Years

James Rafferty
Theresa Bove

2 Years

Gregory Fear
Werner Reuss
Ruth Reuss
Joseph Evak
Edward Bram

1 Year

Nancy Russo
Albert Lingen

June

15 Years

Jerry Carr

13 Years

Loretta Fafard

12 Years

Andy Eichner

11 Years

Herb Frankle
Anne Frankle
Julia Hazeldon

8 Years

Gerry Mignon

4 Years

Rosemarie
Rubenbauer
Irmgard (Yummy)
Miller

3 Years

Clara Lorier
Christopher Spano
Philip Van Gostein

2 Years

Alex Reiner
Charles Hickmann

1 Year

Stephen Ventimiglia
Madeline Gestone
Stephanie Demas
Colleen Cain
Samantha Heavner
Brittney Cox
Robert Sommers

July

16 Years

Sharon Epstein

11 Years

Audrey Sturges

9 Years

James O'Donnell

7 Years

Patricia Atkinson

6 Years

John McCormick
James Gunn

5 Years

Robert Mayrose

4 Years

Victor Zhao

2 Years

Naomi Bailin
Doreen M. Freedner
Patrick Kearney
Joseph Bova
Gloria Omari

1 Year

Jack Donohue
Munmun Aziz
Victoria Tung
Anastasia Smith
Emily Tanski
Patrick Audley
Jennifer Spero
Brian Dwyer
Tara Cerreta
Robert Bove
Evan Gorin
Danielle Sachman