

ST. PAUL'S

SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY

St. Paul's News

Winter 2022

It's all about...

Relationships.

Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees

Mr. David Reeves, *Chair*

Ms. Julie Hills,
*Vice Chairperson/Governance
Committee Chair*

Mr. Doug Anderson, *Treasurer*

Mr. Robert Sherbondy,
Secretary/Audit Committee Chair

Rev. Dr. Verna Call,
Compliance Committee Chair

Mr. Larry Redfoot,
Property Committee Chair

Mr. Gordon Fraser,
Development Committee Chair

Mr. Jeffrey Wallace,
Finance Committee Chair

Mr. David Hummel,
Program & Marketing Committee Chair

Mr. Donny Yankle,
Villas Administrator

Mr. Chris Wright, *President and CEO*

Board of Trustees

Rev. David Ackerman

Mrs. Carol Bass

Dr. Mary Ellen Bayuk

Mr. Jeff Blair

Dr. Victor Colaiaco

Mr. Mario Marini

Rev. Brenda Martin

Atty. Ron McCall

Mrs. Gerry McElree

Mr. John Moore

Mr. Laddie Ohl

Mr. Kevin Orsinger

Mr. Glenn Riley

Rev. Glenn Sadler

Mr. Bretton Walberg

Mr. Jack Walter

Mr. Rod Wilt

Atty. Terry Wheeler

Board Members Emeritus

Mr. Joseph Despoy Jr.

Rev. Dr. Paul Westcoat Jr.

Mr. Roy Wilt

St. Paul's News

Published by St. Paul's, a nonprofit senior living community dedicated to serving the needs of older adults, located at 339 East Jamestown Road, Greenville, PA 16125. 724-588-7610. www.stpauls1867.org. Contributing staff: Jennie Kather, Dawn Hartman, Teresa Findley & Tammy Lininger

A Message from Chris Wright

Greetings St. Paul's Family:

Life at St. Paul's in 2022 has been more what we were used to pre-pandemic with a full calendar of life-enriching activities and social gatherings; in-person church services; and the return of popular community events like the Car Cruise-In and Staff Recognition Awards. I am so grateful to have news and events to share in our second edition of St. Paul's News in 2022 that have nothing to do with COVID-19!



One thing we believe we do exceptionally well at St. Paul's is to provide an environment that fosters and encourages the development of meaningful relationships – team member to team member, as well as between residents, staff and volunteers.

The past two years have only confirmed how important meaningful relationships are in our lives on a daily basis, when celebrating successes and when going through difficult experiences. They provide us with the fuel we need to keep going, the faith we need to stay positive and the joy that makes life worth living. This edition highlights just a few of those special relationships that have impacted St. Paul's this year. We are grateful for each one of these that has made such a positive difference in our community and our residents' lives!

Which brings me to one more relationship I'd like to talk about – St. Paul's and you! If you are a brand-new resident, family member or supporter, welcome and thank you so much for choosing St. Paul's! Please know that we will always strive to provide the very best care and services and be a responsible steward of your financial resources.

If you have had a relationship with St. Paul's for a little while or too many years to count, THANK YOU SO MUCH for continuing to choose us – whether for yours or a loved one's loving care, a fulfilling career, or a personal mission to support! We couldn't do what we do every day without each one of you!

From all of us at St. Paul's, we wish you a wonderful holiday season and a joyful 2023 that is full of meaningful and rewarding relationships!

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Chris Wright".

Chris Wright
President & CEO

A Church's Legacy Continues at St. Paul's

On June 28, 2015, the last worship service was held in the Birmingham United Church of Christ in Pittsburgh, capping 169 years of serving the community and its members.

Due to declining membership, the congregation had made the difficult decision to close.

After the sale of the church, they planned to distribute the assets to St. Paul's and other nonprofit organizations that they had supported over their years of ministry. In that way the legacy of the church and its members would continue for many years to come.

However issues with the sale, followed by a pandemic lockdown resulted in it taking six years to finalize the sale and receive the necessary clearances to distribute the church's assets.

In February 2022 two former members of Birmingham United Church of Christ Martha Wiedenheft and Jeffrey Bloum were finally able to visit St. Paul's to deliver their gift of more than \$127,000.

"We received a letter at the end of 2021 from an attorney's office saying this gift would be coming—we assumed in the mail," said Director of Strategic Giving Dawn Hartman. "So it was wonderful to actually get to meet two former members of the church and get to thank them in person. We enjoyed learning about the history of their church and talking to them about St. Paul's."

As a result of that discussion, St. Paul's made the decision to divide the generous gift between the Keeping the Promise Fund and the Jones Life Enrichment Fund—to help both current and future residents at St. Paul's.

"The Keeping the Promise Fund is our long-term investment fund which will support benevolent care for future residents who exhaust their financial resources," said Hartman.

On the other hand, the Jones Life Enrichment Fund benefits residents who are living at St. Paul's right now by helping to provide meaningful and life enriching activities, such as certified music therapy.

These two funds were well-aligned with Birmingham UCC's history of loving service.

That history began in the mid-1800s amongst a sizable population of German residents living



St. Paul's Director of Strategic Giving Dawn Hartman and President and CEO Chris Wright receive the gift from Martha Wiedenheft and Jeffrey Bloum on behalf of Birmingham United Church of Christ.

on the south side of Pittsburgh in the borough of Birmingham. At that time, the closest German-speaking Evangelical Church was in downtown Pittsburgh.

Desiring to have a church in their own neighborhood with a German school for their children, the residents of Birmingham decided to start their own. The church convened for the first time in January 1846 as the German United Evangelical Church of Birmingham.

By the end of the century, the church was one of the largest in Pittsburgh with 1,500 families attending.

At the same time that St. Paul's Orphans' Home was expanding on its new campus in Greenville in the early 1900s, the Birmingham Church was going through changes of its own.

The German daily school closed, and the church began offering worship services in English for the first time. In order to better position itself for the future, the congregation voted to become affiliated with the General Council of Congregational Churches, which would later become the United Church of Christ.

St. Paul's itself was formed by and is still historically affiliated with the United Church of Christ—one of the reasons that Birmingham UCC chose St. Paul's as a beneficiary of its assets.

"Although we were very sorry to hear of a UCC church closing, we will forever be grateful that they chose St. Paul's to continue their legacy," said Hartman.



The former Birmingham United Church of Christ building on Carrick Avenue in Pittsburgh.

Transitions in Leadership:

Throughout the history of our organization, we seem to have always been blessed with the luxury of time – time to evaluate and thoughtfully plan for the future. This blessing has given us the ability to create team member transition plans that promote stability, growth and support both those onboarding into positions and those moving into retirement or other roles within the organization.

We are excited to announce some transitions in leadership in The Villas and the great news is that

Next, Tammy Lininger, Administrator of The Villas is transitioning to a revised role and will be sharing an office with Rita Clemente, Vice President for Community Relations in The Keifer Building until Rita's retirement in May 2023. With that, Tammy will be getting back to her St. Paul's roots and re-familiarizing herself with St. Paul's current independent living, marketing and home- and community-based service models so that she may be effective at providing guidance to the team at The Keifer Building. Part of Tammy's new role as the Vice



Teresa Heckman



Tammy Lininger



Donny Yankle

these folks are adjusting positions, not leaving our organization.

Teresa Heckman, RN, was recently appointed Director of Nursing. Teresa has a long tenure with St. Paul's with 24 years of service. Throughout this time, she has demonstrated sound and effective leadership skills. She has served in multiple roles including Shift Supervisor, Neighborhood Manager, RN Educator, and Assistant Director of Nursing. She also has worked as the interim Director of Nursing on various occasions as needed and we are excited to now have Teresa in this role in a full-time capacity.

President for Senior Living Services will be to provide support to Melissa Villard, Jennie Kather, and Michelle O'Malley, as needed.

Melissa began her career at St. Paul's in 2014 as part-time receptionist at The Keifer Building and for Without Walls. She then moved into the role of Lifestyle Specialist at The Colony where she welcomed new residents and assisted with home preparation and transitions into their new homes in our independent living neighborhood. In 2017, she was named Assistant Director of Colony Living and has recently been promoted to Director of Independent Living.

Same Faces, New Places

Jennie has been the Marketing Specialist at St. Paul's since 2016. In that role she assisted with all marketing, public relations and communication functions. Her responsibilities include: newsletter creation, design and layout; photography; website development and maintenance; advertising; social media/digital marketing efforts among other tasks. She was recently promoted to Director of Marketing where she will lead all of the marketing and communication efforts for St. Paul's.

Michelle began her tenure at St. Paul's in 2012 with the creation of the Without Walls Home-Based Services Department. She worked as a Companion and a Care Partner caring for clients in the Greenville community before she transitioned into the role of Community Outreach Specialist. In 2019, she took on the role of Client and Staff Development Coordinator and was recently promoted to Administrator of Home-Based Services.

Michelle will work closely with Tammy on one of our priorities to develop a strategic growth plan for the Home-based services program which is a much-needed service for our community. In addition, Tammy will continue to oversee our Volunteer Services and Spiritual Services Departments.

Donny Yankle will be taking over the role of Administrator for The Villas. A graduate of Youngstown State University with a degree in Long-Term Care Administration, Donny completed his Administrator in Training program with St. Paul's in 2017. Upon completion of his training, Donny served St. Paul's as a

Human Resource Specialist and as the Administrator of The Ridgewood. He left St. Paul's to operate a memory-support assisted living facility in Ohio for two years and came back to St. Paul's in January 2022 as the Director of Administrative Services supporting Tammy and our personal care administrators as needed. Tammy will continue to spend time serving as a resource to Donny and The Villas team through this transition period.

"It is a bittersweet transition to close such a significant chapter after serving 25 years as The Villas administrator," Tammy said. "I do so with great respect for Donny and Teresa at the helm. They made my

decision very easy as I know they bring high standards and exemplary leadership qualities to their new roles. I have deep gratitude for the entire team and residents at The Villas for the wonderful privilege of serving with them all these years. I am always so impressed with the love and compassion they infuse into their daily work."

On her new role, Tammy commented, "I look forward

with great excitement and anticipation for the future as I join the wonderful team at The Keifer Building. These ladies have done and continue to do a phenomenal job in their respective roles. They are driven with high expectations and a true commitment to excellence and customer service—I am honored for the opportunity to work alongside them. I have deep admiration for my colleagues and I consider myself richly blessed!"

Please join us in congratulating all of these talented individuals on their new roles at St. Paul's!



From left: Melissa Villard, Michelle O'Malley and Jennie Kather

Respectful Relationships:

An African proverb says, "When an elderly person dies, a library burns to the ground." Our residents all have very rich histories and have lived full lives before joining the St. Paul's family. We encourage our team members to share when they hear a particularly interesting story.

Personal care attendants and nurse aides spend the most one-on-one time with our residents. They learn their habits, histories, likes and dislikes.

Often-times we hear PCAs and CNAs say they consider making time to visit with and listen to their residents one of the most important parts of their job. They understand that their stories are important and we can learn so much from our residents.

We're very thankful that Robin Bratek, PCA at The Heritage shared this story with us.

"I love to hear her stories," Robin said of Shirley Clark, who has been a resident at The Heritage for one year. "And she has a lot of them!"

Robin took notice that Shirley keeps a shopping bag in her room and saves all her yogurt cups, med cups, water cups and anything else that is able to be recycled. "I've even noticed other residents, after they've taken their meds, sliding their cups over to Shirley in the dining room," Robin reported.

"Even I have been getting into the act and will save all the med cups and water cups that we use throughout my shift to help her fill her bag," Robin said.

"Not only is she concerned for the planet, but she has led an incredible life," Robin said.

Shirley has lived all over the country "from New Hampshire to Oregon!" she said. And along the way she made sure that she and her family visited as many National Parks as they could. Her family says she's visited nearly 40 different parks, Shirley simply says she's visited, "too many to count."

It is safe to say, one who spends time outdoors enjoying nature tends to have greater appreciation for the conservation of our environment.

Not only has Shirley visted and hiked through Yosemite National Park in California, she also worked as a nurse in their 16-bed hospital where she treated some notable patients. "We dealt with a lot of broken bones and frostbite," Shirley said.

Ansel Adams, American landscape photographer and environmentalist known for his black-and-white images of the American West, was one of Shirley's patients treated for a compound fracture in his ankle.

She also treated the first American to reach the summit of Mt. Everest, Jim Whittaker, for frostbite at

that hospital in Yosemite. Whittaker also was the first full-time employee (who later became CEO in the 1960s) of Recreational Equipment Incorporated (REI), a wildly successful consumer co-op that sells outdoor gear and apparel.

Shirley recalled another memorable and noteworthy experience when she was hiking with a friend through Zion National Park's Narrows Canyon in Utah. Her friend had simply reached her limit and could not continue the hike. The only option was for Shirley to sit with her friend for hours as the two of them waited



Robin Bratek (left) sorts plastic med cups and water cups while Shirley Clark gets a stack of newspapers ready to be recycled. When Shirley's family visits, they take the recycling to the appropriate drop off centers for her.

for a helicopter to rescue them. The helicopter came from Grand Canyon National Park—nearly 200 miles from where they were waiting. That was the first air-lift rescue out of Zion National Park.

Flash floods are common in Narrows Canyon and revealing that fact led Shirley to share another run-in with Mother Nature when she was evacuated to higher ground to avoid a tsunami that was coming while she was visiting Hawaii.

Even after reminiscing about so many examples of how enjoying Mother Nature's gifts can be dangerous, Shirley doesn't necessarily disagree. She gave a slow,

With Our Earth & Each Other

thoughtful nod of her head and smiled, “She’s hard to cope with sometimes.” Which is one more reason we all should be good to her!

For 75 of her 94 years, Shirley has been a member of the Sierra Club. The Sierra Club’s stated mission is “To explore, enjoy, and protect the wild places of the earth; To practice and promote the responsible use of the earth’s ecosystems and resources; To educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environment; and to use all lawful means to carry out these objectives.”



For nearly all of her life, it has been an essential part of Shirley’s character to stay true to that mission. So much so that when we asked how long she’s been recycling, she said with a big smile, “Since I was born!”

Shirley has memories growing up near the Ohio River in Monaca, Pa., where she and her siblings would pick up glass from an open dump. “We’d put it in our little red wagon and take it to the glass factory,” she said.

“Our local fire department collected newspapers, so we saved them,” she said, “and I still do.” Shirley even saves slightly soiled placemats from the dining room and adds those to her paper stack.

When her family visits, they take the stacks of newspapers she’s collected and deliver them to a local farmer who shreds them and uses them for cow bedding.

“It’s important that we care for Mother Earth. There is a limited amount of space and resources here—we need to re-use as much as we can and be good stewards of the resources that she has.” said Shirley.

Her efforts go full-circle. Any money that Shirley has collected from recycling through the years gets donated to other important causes she supports, like Save the Redwoods League (www.savetheredwoods.org), the National Wildlife Federation (www.nwf.org), and the Nature Conservancy (www.nature.org/en-us), to name just a few.

Shirley worked as a labor and delivery nurse as she traveled across the country. It makes sense after finding out about Shirley’s passion in caring for the Earth that she would have the patience, skill, knowledge and desire to care for newborns and new parents during one of the most critical times in their lives.

Shirley simply has a passion for caring and has always taken the steps necessary to give care where she can—to her patients and to her Mother Earth.

Robin summed it nicely by saying, “Shirley is an amazing lady who I respect and admire!” We can all agree with that!

Thank you, Shirley for your noble efforts in your career and to protect our Earth. And thank you Robin for listening to Shirley’s stories and sharing them with a wider audience. We can all benefit from a respectful relationship with nature and each other.



Joining Generations

A long-time and notable relationship St. Paul's celebrates is that with our neighbor down the road, Thiel College. For more than two decades our communities have collaborated through our Joining Generations partnership where we strive to bridge the gap between younger and older adults.

The idea of an intergenerational partnership between Thiel College and St. Paul Homes was that of Dr. James Shaffer, professor of Sociology at Thiel College.

In 2003, while visiting his mother, then a resident in the Health Center, Dr. Shaffer delivered the written proposal to Tammy Lininger, Administrator. In it, Shaffer wrote "The population of the United States is rapidly graying. Soon this will become very evident to everyone when the Baby Boomers, who were born during the years of 1946-64, start to reach retirement age." Dr. Shaffer's vision was to pattern the program after an existing partnership between Ithaca College and Longview Retirement community in New York.

At that time, St. Paul's was undergoing a \$30+ million construction campaign that resulted in The Villas and the remodeled Health Center we now refer to as The Heritage. That project was completed in April 2005 and in the fall of that year a CORE group of representatives from both organizations began meeting to discuss a more formal arrangement between the two institutions for what was appropriately named the "Joining Generations" program.

This committee focused primarily on three avenues: (1) independent study projects or experiential learning integrated into course curriculum; (2) internships for credit and (3) community service projects. Through these three initiatives, it was envisioned that the college could offer a certificate in gerontological studies and grow enrollment.

In May of 2007, a group of representatives from both organizations had the distinct pleasure to travel to Ithaca College for a site visit and tour of Longview. A memorable and productive trip, the group came home with a list of "21 Great Ideas" for further consideration.

Another significant development in the perpetuation of the partnership was the generous support of Mary Alice Dean, a supporter of Thiel College and resident at St. Paul's in 2008. The establishment of the Mary Alice Dean Fund created an endowment to offset expenses associated with the program and create opportunities that required financial backing.

Fast forward to 2022. Although the pandemic slowed things down, the CORE committee continues to

stay focused on its mission meeting every 6-8 weeks. While several of the participants on this committee have changed, original committee members still participating include: Dr. Nancy Antonino, Lecturer of Communication Sciences & Disorders at Thiel; Rita Clemente, Vice President for Community Relations; Mimi Dreher, Director of Life Enrichment and Tammy Lininger. Dr. Shaffer, now retired, lives with his wife in The Colony at St. Paul's and revels in the accomplishments achieved through his vision and creativity.

There have been many successes in the continued focal areas of internship, academic opportunities (aka course curriculum) and student service. St. Paul's continues to present annually at a faculty meeting and student government association meeting to promote the program and generate interest and ideas in other intergenerational opportunities.

Each year, a list of accomplishments is documented. Highlights include: multiple class visits, tours and internships across several different majors/ departments; a vast variety of student service projects; research projects; work with international students; collaborative projects documenting history and life stories; offering a speaker's bureau or opportunities for residents to audit classes. Academic opportunities for students such as participating in ethics committee meetings, developing activities for residents through small group process, completing personal taxes, conducting maintain your brain exercises and meal assistance training also have been conducted.

The annual Snowflake Ball for Thiel students and St. Paul's residents has been put on hold for the last couple of years but we hope to bring it back in the near future. Meanwhile, we began what we hope is a new tradition with the "Bleacher Buddies" Program that kicked-off in the fall. The first "Bleacher Buddies" event took place on Saturday, Oct. 22.

Fourteen residents were paired with student members of the National Student Speech Language Hearing Association (NSSLHA) and enjoyed a tailgate and football game at Thiel's Alumni Stadium. (See photos on opposite page.) It was a beautiful, warm autumn day and Thiel College rolled out the red carpet for our residents!

As each year goes by, the Joining Generations committee continues to come up with new, exciting ways for our campuses to connect. We look forward to many more years of meaningful mingling of our residents and Thiel's students.

An Intercampus Relationship



Seated (right) Richard Friesen and Dr. Susan Traverso, Thiel College President. Standing (right) Mimi Dreher and Richard's Bleacher Buddy.



David Varner (left) with his Bleacher Buddy.



Rip Campbell (left) with his Bleacher Buddy.



Richard Bouvia (right) with his Bleacher Buddy.



Terri Webber (left) with her Bleacher Buddy.



Margie Rishel (right) with her Bleacher Buddy.



Mary Thompson (right) with her Bleacher Buddy.

At left: Life Enrichment team members standing from left are Mimi Dreher, Mike Allen, Dianna Mills, Bailey Mills, Stephanie Russo and Jean Guirguis. Kneeling in front are Megan Kiley, graduate assistant and coordinator of the Bleacher Buddies event and Jasmine Phillips, current Thiel student and Joining Generations liaison.

funfridays

All-campus Theme Days

Our Fun Fridays effort continued successfully through the remainder of this year and the creative Life Enrichment Team has already met and determined Fun Fridays for the first six months of 2023!

September 9 was Comfort & Care Day. We suggested team members and residents wear something comfy and cozy that day. It was also National Teddy Bear Day and what gives more comfort than a soft, cuddly teddy bear?



"Teddy Grams" were available for purchase to send a 10" teddy bear with a comforting message to a resident or team member. The bears are even dressed in a tiny St. Paul's t-shirt!

The "Teddy Gram" bears will continue to be available (\$10 each) after the first of January from Life Enrichment team members and at the reception desks in each building.

Celebrate your Pets was the theme on Aug. 26. More than 20 team members submitted photos of their fur babies and we displayed them on the television monitors around campus. Watching pictures of cute puppies and kittens offered a little stress relief in the middle of the day!

Other Fun Friday themes included:

Wear Pink for Breast Cancer Awareness (Oct. 7); First Responders Day (Oct. 28, see below); our annual Veterans Day celebration (Nov. 11); and BINGO's Birthday (Dec. 2) to name just a few. We even figured out a way to celebrate bacon—we're celebrating National Bacon Day on Dec. 30 with the theme "Don't Go Bacon My Heart!"



Thank You!



Friday, October 28 was National First Responders Day. Colony residents donated homemade cookies and Mariah Corson, Life Enrichment Specialist made trays to be delivered to our local first responder stations to say, "Thank you!" Below: Nancy Reinhardt (far left) and Aldra Ritter along with Mariah visited Hempfield Township Police Department, Life Force Ambulance Service and the Greenville Fire Station. Below far right: Aldra is pictured with some of the members of the Hempfield Volunteer Fire Department in front of the station named in memory of her late husband, Roy.



Distinguished Staff Awards



Mary Jones,
Care Partner for
Without Walls
– Staff Extra Effort Award–



Kelly Griffith,
Dining Aide
at The Villas
– Staff Dining Award –



Mimi Dreher,
Director of Life Enrichment
at The Villas
– Staff Leader Award –



Mike Allen,
Life Enrichment Coordinator
for Jones Serenity Lane
– Staff Newcomer Award –

St. Paul's recognized these four team members for exceptional service and performance during a ceremony on November 22 in the Headland Friendship Commons at The Villas. Comments on the nomination forms submitted by their co-workers consistently mentioned qualities in each that help make relationships meaningful and successful including kindness, encouragement, and compassion to name a few.

"Mary goes above and beyond and provides exceptional care to her clients."

"Kelly comes to work with a "can-do" attitude. She is always kind to her co-workers and the residents."

"Mimi encourages us to use our creativity and talents...she supports us in all of our pursuits."

"Mike is patient, compassionate, and knows each of his residents' likes and dislikes."

A total of 32 team members were nominated for the awards this year and the week before the event, photos of all nominees were shared on the television monitors across campus. Along with the photos, we asked them to offer a bit of encouragement or advice for co-workers. Not surprisingly, the answers from our nominees also included important keys to supporting and developing successful relationships.

"Communicate with your coworkers. It is the key for a good shift."

"Listen...and always be available."

"Everyone has strengths and weaknesses. Look for the strength in everyone."

"It's never wrong to be kind."

Fitness specialist and unofficial team "cheerleader," Ron Ashbaugh opened the ceremony with encouraging words to all in attendance. "We are only able to achieve and maintain our extremely high standard through the contributions of a staff who exhibit a team-first and resident-first mentality every time they walk in the door." Developing strong interpersonal relationships is imperative to the care we give our residents and our co-workers. Ron's words remind us to keep that goal top of mind and to, "Embrace that gift, share that gift and never underestimate the influence you have on the people you encounter every day."

President and CEO Chris Wright closed the event, stating, "As difficult as these last few years have been, our team pulled together to get through the pandemic. We are grateful and blessed to work with all of these people."

Congratulations to all the winners and nominees — thank you for always demonstrating how important meaningful relationships are to our community!

Special Campus Events



Sunday, Aug. 14 was a perfectly warm and sunny day to host a **Car Cruise in The Villas parking lot** for residents and their families to enjoy. Above from left: Three generations of the Jones family – Villas resident, Bill Jones along with his son and grandson checked out the hot rods; Glenn and Arlene Sadler, residents at The Colony, drove their Model A Ford over to join in the festivities; Wendy Vaughn, Director of Volunteer Services and Life Enrichment Specialist at The Heritage takes Heritage residents Charlene McCullough and Alan Wolfe for their own cruise around the parking lot; and Dawn French, Life Enrichment Coordinator at The Ridgewood accompanies Bob Douds and Benny McDanel through the event.



Saturday, Sept. 17 the annual **Walk to End Alzheimer's** was held at Buhl Park in Hermitage, Pa. Above from left: Tammy Lininger is pictured with Karen Davis who has been a member of the St. Paul's team every year for the last 20 years!; sisters and team members Lisa Lightcap and Teresa Heckman; five members of resident Neal Lineman's family: his daughter, Robyn Weaver, son David, daughter-in-law Dolly, son-in-law Curt Weaver and Neal's wife, Mary; and Teresa Alexander and her son Joey–this was their first year on our team and Joey also got to represent St. Paul's in the flower ceremony holding a white flower. The white flower symbolizes the hope of a first survivor of Alzheimer's.



Weather was certainly in our favor for all of our outdoor events this year. Saturday, Oct. 22 we hosted a **Trunk or Treat** for our residents, employees and families. The sun was out and so were the groups of trick or treaters! Above from left: Lucinda Boylan and her three children dressed as Mario Brothers and Princess Peach; Tammy Shoaff, housekeeper at The Ridgewood with her large group of grandchildren; Denise Brown, Life Enrichment at The Villas buzzed around the event with her husband and new baby, Colton. At left: Luella Massena is surrounded by her large family who came out to enjoy the day!

Retirees return as volunteers

to continue enriching the lives of our residents



(Above left) Linda Davis & Bev Stake pose with four current residents at The Heritage, front from left: Verna Taylor, Kathy Martorelli, Joan Capone and Mary Ellen Buchanan after an event earlier this month. (Above right) Bev & Linda show their silly sides at Linda's retirement party in 2014.

Linda Davis' relationship with St. Paul's is a long and interesting one. She was employed here for nearly 30 years and at least five generations of her family also have been employed at St. Paul's. Linda started working at St. Paul's in her senior year of high school. "I was very young, although I quickly learned that I was there for the residents," Linda said.

Linda first worked as a Nurse Aide at The Health Center (1980-85), then in activities (1985-90). She took a few years off to raise her family, but soon returned as Activities Coordinator at The Ridgewood (1995). In 2009, she became Life Enrichment Specialist at The Heritage and that is the position she retired from in 2014.

In 2011, Linda was lucky enough to get a part-time assistant at The Heritage, Bev Stake. "After my husband passed away, that job was a great answer to prayer," Bev said. "Mostly I worked evening activities as a pair of extra hands."

"We just automatically clicked," Linda said. "We have a special bond. You can't say that about everyone you've worked with!" Linda and Bev worked side-by-side for several years and each agrees that they learned a lot from each other. Both women are retired, but also agree that they just can't stay away!

"Bev and I put our heads together and decided it would be fun to stay connected to The Heritage residents and (volunteered to) plan occasional programs."

Usually once a month the two schedule an activity—games, crafts, musical entertainment, etc. They both understand the level of enthusiasm it takes to work in Life Enrichment and the importance of keeping our residents active and engaged in meaningful activity and not just during "office hours," so they are typically here on the weekends, or in the evenings during summer months.

Linda and Bev are using this time to maintain their relationship with each other and also to create relationships with new residents.

"Of course, a lot of the residents we worked with are gone. And now we're making new friendships!" Bev said. "I look forward to seeing the residents – and they look forward to seeing us – a couple of them just told me that!"

"If we can take one hour out of our day to brighten up a resident's day, that's the reward," Linda said. She learned early on that she is here for the residents and after decades of being part of this community, she knows the value of these relationships. "What I loved the most was to just sit down and visit," Linda said. "I learned so many valuable lessons over the years from the residents." And there is always more to learn...so keep coming back Linda and Bev!



Linda is pictured here at age three (circa 1966) at a St. Paul's staff party. Her mother and grandmother, both staff members at the time, are also in the photo (left). "I do believe this was the entire staff at the time," Linda said. "Some of them later became residents who I took care of." Generations of Linda's family worked at St. Paul's and at one time, Linda, her mother (Phyllis Thompson), her daughter Becky, and son Tommy all were employed here at the same time!

Staff Appreciation Events

We re-vamped our traditional summer staff appreciation event and multiplied it into three special events throughout the year in conjunction with our national recognition weeks. In celebration of National Skilled Nursing Week in May we held a "Casino Royale" -themed event on the Bistro patio. We asked team members to dress in lady luck black and red, had casino games for all staff to play and a creative menu including "Show Me the Money" meatballs, "Black Jack" boneless buffalo wings, "Winner Take All" cheese ball and "Texas Hold 'Em" sheet cake! All team members got a scratch off lottery ticket to test their luck!



Above from left: Teresa Findley, Elaine Owen and Robin Knight helped serve the buffet.



Above: Debbie Yoos, accounting tries her hand at the craps table and Brian Mailliard, CFO gets ready to deal up the cards.



Above Melissa Villard (left) and Ron Ashbaugh share a high-five when Melissa gets a Black Jack!

"Joyful Moments" was the theme for National Assisted Living week in September. Team members gathered again on the Bistro patio for "Happy Meals" and Dairy Queen sundaes. What's more joyful than that? Each team member received an Eat 'n Park smiley face cookie and St. Paul's hoodie that week, too!



Above from left: Kyle Roth, Fred Arnold and Terry McDonald from the maintenance crew enjoyed their "Happy Meals" on the patio.



Robyn Weaver has a joyful moment while eating her Dairy Queen sundae!



Above from left: Brenda Hawk, Dawn French and Tina Jones walked down the hill from The Ridgewood to join in the joy!

During Active Aging Week, our Independent Living Community hosted a Fiesta! for team members to enjoy and residents from The Colony helped out by serving tacos, nachos and and other Mexican-themed treats.

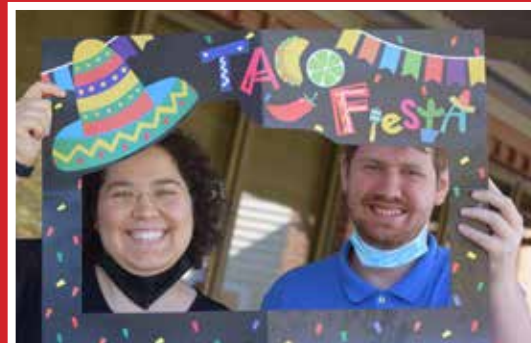
Below, Villas office mates Wendy Rodgers (left) and Ashleigh Jamison, grab a quick lunch before heading back to their desks!



Below from left: Colony residents Carol Hosmer, Nancy Hoffacker and Coralee Armstrong helped serve up the Mexican goodies.



Below, IT Specialists Erica Gulentz (left) and Paul Jewell smile for the camera.



It's Love in the Heart that puts Christmas in the air.

- Kathy Loun Stilley

Christmas time is the season of love, joy and happiness. It truly is "love in the heart that puts Christmas in the air."

We enjoy spreading love, joy and happiness to the residents all year at St. Paul's, and are able to do this with the generous support to the resident Christmas Appeal.

So far, we've raised more than \$29,000 to support our annual Resident Christmas Appeal. We are so grateful to all of the generous donors who share our love for the residents at St. Paul's.

Robyn Weaver, Executive Assistant at St. Paul's, is one of those generous people. "I chose to make a donation to the Christmas Appeal because the residents have become my second family and I want them to feel the excitement of receiving a present from Santa himself," said Robyn.

Robyn also has family that resides at St. Paul's and made her donation in honor of the team of Jones Serenity

Lane. "I wanted to honor them for the kindness, compassion, and care that they provide to my loved ones and I feel the best way to do that was by making this donation," said Robyn. "While I know they enjoy the Christmas cookies and candy, I also know they love to see Santa handing out presents and the smiles that puts on their resident's faces."

If you have not yet made a gift to the 2022 Resident Christmas Appeal, it's not too late. Your donation will ensure that every resident at The Villas, The Heritage and The Ridgewood receives a special Christmas gift. Any additional money raised will go toward resident "wish list" items for all residents to enjoy throughout the year.

Thank you for your support! May the Christmas season fill your home with joy, your heart with love, and your life with laughter. For more information please contact Teresa Findley, Director of Annual Giving at 724-589-4778 or tfindley@sp1867.org.

To Donate:

- 1. Scan the QR code to the right.*
- 2. Text-to-Donate- by texting SPCHRIST22 to the number 44-321.*
- 3. Send a check to St. Paul's Charitable Giving Office at 341 E. Jamestown Rd. Greenville, PA 16125.*





339 East Jamestown Road
Greenville, PA 16125

www.stpauls1867.org

OUR MISSION

The mission of St. Paul's formed and sustained by the Judeo-Christian faith, and historically related to the United Church of Christ, is to provide meaning, richness of life, health care, and other support services, while maintaining and enhancing the dignity of human life.

OUR VISION

To create a sense of belonging and purpose by providing a nurturing environment in the place you call home.

OUR CORE VALUES

Security • Compassion • Person-Centered

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Erie, PA
Permit No. 869



The Auxiliary of St. Paul's

Arms of Love & Service



In 1972, a planning committee met to discuss the possibility of establishing an Auxiliary for St. Paul's and on May 19, 1973, such an Auxiliary was formed.

This year The Auxiliary at St. Paul's will celebrate its 50th Anniversary at their annual meeting on Saturday, May 13!

The mission of The Auxiliary of St. Paul's, historically related to the United Church of Christ, is to serve as a great help to St. Paul's in providing financial support through fundraising efforts to purchase items that enhance the lives of residents. Since its inception, the Auxiliary has raised more than \$600,000 to support projects that directly benefit residents of St. Paul's.

If you would like more information about the The Auxiliary of St. Paul's, please contact Wendy Vaughn, Director of Volunteer Services and Staff Liaison to The Auxiliary at St. Paul's at 724-588-9613. ext 1135 or wvaughn@sp1867.org.