



UNITED METHODIST HOMES

Seasons

A NEWSLETTER FOR STAFF, RESIDENTS & FRIENDS OF UNITED METHODIST HOMES

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Strategic Planning at United Methodist Homes

The leadership of every successful organization – regardless of its size or years in operation – must consider current and future challenges, short- and long-term goals, and then determine the best way forward. In many settings, from colleges to corporations, this is called strategic planning, a process typically led by an organization's high-level administrators, its Board of Directors, and a strategic planning subcommittee of the Board. But staff at all levels are a key part of the process – strategic planning succeeds only if everyone understands the organization's goals, his or her role in the organization, and how he or she is critical to the plan's success.

How Strategic Planning Works

Strategic planning works in much the same way as managing the construction of a home – there are projects that must be dealt with immediately, others that continue throughout the process, some that must remain on a watch list, and others that are deferred for the future. For example, immediate considerations would include securing a permit, getting the foundation poured, and having the framing completed. Ongoing jobs would include electrical, plumbing and drywall. The watch list would involve arranging inspections as electrical and plumbing projects are completed, choosing cabinetry and selecting light fixtures. Things that could be deferred include choosing paint colors and buying furniture.

The same categories are considered by a business or not-for-profit organization:

- immediate – what do we need to focus on now?
- ongoing – what do we need to manage continually over time?

- watch list – what do we need to keep an eye on?
- deferred – what can we come back to at a later date?

By considering the organization's focus and operations, fiscal realities and future goals, leaders are able to determine what issues and initiatives belong in which categories. Strategic planning is essential to help a business or organization anticipate changes in its industry, the economy, its customers or its workforce, all of which can impact future operations. Knowing who you are, where you are, and where you're going are all critical.

Strategic Planning at the Homes

United Methodist Homes has maintained a strategic plan since the 1980s, and the current plan spans from 2009 to 2013. The strategic planning subcommittee of the Board meets monthly to discuss issues, projects, plans and other short- and long-range concerns, such as competitors, state and federal reimbursements, the future of long-term care and how our business will change as the Baby Boomers age. The committee is currently actively working on the following issues:

- crafting a revised mission statement
- planning ahead for potentially reduced Medicare and Medicaid reimbursements
- developing a plan to ensure that occupancy levels meet the covenants outlined in our banking agreements
- considering next steps for the Wesley Village Campus

A significant issue before the strategic planning committee is the Wyoming Conference. In an October 2007 referendum, members of the Wyoming Conference and three other United Methodist conferences in upstate New

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Administrative Editorial

Keith D. Chadwick, President & CEO



For the past 12 to 14 months, the strategic planning subcommittee of the United Methodist Homes Board of Directors has been working hard to develop and finalize the organization's strategic plan for the next five years. The plan includes input from Board members and staff, and is also informed by information and statistical data about the aging population within our service area.

The cover story in this issue of *Seasons* gives an overview of strategic planning and its importance, and highlights some

of the issues and concerns currently before the organization. But in order for strategic planning to be successful, we must all be on the same page. Everyone – staff, residents, volunteers, family members, Board members – must understand that United Methodist Homes is one unified organization. We are the sum of our amazing parts – each campus, each facility, each service brings so much to the organization as a whole. Our campuses are each unique, bringing different programs to the table, and these individual strengths enable us to offer a full spectrum of senior care to the communities we serve. We can all learn from each other. A success at one facility is a success for us all.

Our staff members at each campus are all working in service of our mission, which – simply stated – is to provide quality housing, care, and senior services to the people who call our facilities home. Our strategic plan maps out the programs and services we feel are necessary now and into the future. As I read this future plan, I am excited to be heading such a great organization, one which clearly has a strong ongoing commitment to seniors.

The future is what we make it, and the Homes is in a position to make it a successful continuation of our first 50 years of service.

Wesley Village Hosts Pennsylvania Secretary of Health

National Public Health Week was celebrated nationwide the week of April 6. On April 8 – “Health in the Workplace” day – the Wesley Village Campus was privileged to host a panel discussion about health at work, featuring Pennsylvania Secretary of Health Everette James. Wesley Village was selected as the site for the event in conjunction with the campus' kickoff of its Steps to a Healthier PA program, which will focus on educating staff about healthy habits ranging from eating to medication management to exercise. The campus will also offer exercise-related activities, have healthy selections in the Village Café, and host guest lecturers who will provide wellness education related to specific health conditions.

The panel discussion was opened by Anderson Personal Care Administrator Janie Schneider, who welcomed attendees and introduced Secretary James. Other panel participants included representatives from the Steps to a Healthier PA program, the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Business and Industry, Kings College, Martz/Trailways and Motor World, who each discussed wellness initiatives in their workplaces and how they were possible.

Said Schneider, “It's essential to promote healthy practices for our employees, who care for people at work, then go home and care for their families – the last person they care for is themselves. We're measuring our success one healthy lifestyle change at a time.” Secretary James congratulated Wesley Village on taking steps to make health a priority and to create a culture of wellness. Reporters from the *Citizens' Voice*, the *Hazleton Standard Speaker*, the *Wilkes-Barre Times Leader*, and WYLN-TV covered the event.

In addition to the panel discussion, the day included a health fair for staff, with tables featuring information from the

Wesley Village Wellness Center, the YMCA of Pittston and Wilkes-Barre, Blue Cross and more. Anderson Personal Care Food Services Manager Anita Rinaldi provided tables of sliced fruits and vegetables to encourage healthy snacking. As a continuation of this program, the campus will host a farmers' market once a week this summer (start date to be announced). Staff, residents and visitors alike will be able to purchase fresh fruits, vegetables and more.

For more information about the Steps to a Healthier PA program in Luzerne County, visit www.stepstohealthierluzernecounty.org.



Pennsylvania Secretary of Health Everette James (right) looked on as Anderson Personal Care Administrator Janie Schneider welcomed attendees to the panel discussion.

Staff Announcements



Christopher Frushon

Christopher Frushon has joined the Wesley Village Campus as a dietitian. He comes to the Homes from St. Michael's School in Tunkhannock, PA, where he was a dietitian.

Frushon earned his associate's degree in culinary arts from the Culinary Institute of

America in Hyde Park, NY, and his bachelor's degree from Johnson & Wales University in Providence, RI. He is currently working toward a master's in food and nutrition sciences at Marywood University in Scranton, PA.

Frushon is a professional member of the American Dietetic Association, and serves as a clinical dietitian for VNA Hospice/Home Health on a consultant basis. He also maintains a private nutrition practice, Total Nutrition Concepts, in Clarks Summit, PA.



Lynn Klapat, OTR

Lynn Klapat, OTR, has joined the Wesley Village Campus as an occupational therapist. She comes to United Methodist Homes from Dunmore Healthcare Center in Dunmore, PA, where she was also

an occupational therapist.

Klapat earned her bachelor's degree in occupational therapy from College Misericordia in Dallas, PA, graduating magna cum laude. She is a member of Pi Theta Epsilon, the national occupational therapy honor society.

Girl Scouts Pursue Gold Awards With "Art Camp"

Wesley Village Personal Care Residents Benefit from Unique Program

Personal care residents at Wesley Village's Anderson Personal Care Facility and Myers Manor have been enthusiastic participants in a special project organized by two Old Forge Girl Scouts working toward their Gold Awards, the highest award in Girl Scouting. A Gold Award project is an endeavor designed to set the foundation for a lifetime of active citizenship; projects typically focus on developing leadership and organizational skills, and a sense of community and commitment.

Cousins Shelby Kolesar and Gabriella Malacari, both seniors at Wilkes-Barre's Holy Redeemer High School, have been involved in scouting for 12 years. Both were interested in pursuing their Gold Award and wanted to do so together. They envisioned a hands-on, interactive project that would make a difference to a special group of people. Over the years, both had visited friends and family at Wesley Village and, they said, "felt comfortable in the warm and inviting atmosphere."

Kolesar and Malacari were invited to meet with residents to gauge interest in a 12-week "art camp," and nearly a dozen residents committed to involvement. From December 2 through February 24, the girls came to the campus weekly to lead projects such as acrylic painting on canvas, paper art, sculpture, holiday arts and crafts, and an introduction to digital photography. An art show was held on March 3 so other residents, staff and family members could view the residents' work.

Said Personal Care Activity Aide Suzie Mizzer, "Intergenerational initiatives like this are positive for everyone involved. We were honored to be the organization Shelby and Gabriella selected for their project."



Cousins Shelby Kolesar (left) and Gabriella Malacari (right) watch as Myers Manor resident Rose Ludzia shows off her progress on a project.

Spirit Week at the Doris L. Patrick Campus

During the week of March 30, staff and residents at the Doris L. Patrick Campus celebrated Spirit Week in conjunction with Norwich High School. Everyone was encouraged to dress according to the theme of each day, which included country western day, wacky hair day, sports day, hat day and team day.

To give the event a purpose beyond the pure fun of it all, staff were encouraged to bring in donations of non-perishable food items for Our Daily Bread Food Pantry in Oxford. All employees were assigned to a Spirit Week team, and a competitive edge was added to the festivities by awarding points for each food donation, with a maximum of six daily per staff member. Friday was "team day," and any food donations on that day were eligible for unlimited points. Said Activity Director Danielle Giordano, "Needless to say, Friday brought in more cans than the other four days combined!" Congratulations to the Red team, which earned 967 points!

The campus collected almost 1,000 non-perishable items for donation to Our Daily Bread, a cooperative program of

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Strategic Planning at United Methodist Homes *Continued from page 1*

York and Vermont voted to change the boundaries of these conferences and create a new conference including all or part of each of the four. A second measure, approved by just the Wyoming Conference, will result in the Wyoming Conference splitting along state lines, with congregations in Pennsylvania joining the Central Pennsylvania Conference. These changes are expected to take place in 2010.

According to Chadwick, "We are actively following the progress of this change, and no matter how the Wyoming Conference is affected by these jurisdictional changes, United Methodist Homes will remain intact. We are working actively with all the players to maintain and develop statements of relationship with all conferences in our service area." United Methodist Homes has traditionally served communities only within the boundaries of the Wyoming Conference, but as these boundaries change, will broaden its horizons. "However," said Chadwick, "we don't want to duplicate services where other United Methodist Homes senior communities are providing them, but we will plan to work with them to determine if there are unmet needs we can fill."

Where Are We Going?

In the long-term, United Methodist Homes faces the same issues as all senior services providers – the changing needs of our aging population, and the influence of the Baby Boomer generation.

Said Chadwick, "More people are trying to remain at home as long as possible, so home- and community-based services will move to the forefront. The strategic planning committee is aware of this trend, and we are considering how to deliver services in the way individuals wish to receive them and can afford them."

How Individuals Fit In

It's tempting to think that such a high-level organizational process as strategic planning only involves senior leadership and Board members. But to make it a success, everyone must understand the organization's goals and how he or she fits into them. Said President and CEO Keith Chadwick, "All employees are essential, and should consider themselves as such. Think about what you do each day, if anyone else knows how to do what you do, and how you make a unique contribution to the organization. All our staff come together to make the organization what it is. The Homes is not our buildings – it's our people."

Watch for more information about the Homes' strategic goals in future issues of *Seasons*.

Resident Family Donates Equipment, Dollars

In early 2003, Sheila and Bob Montgomery relocated to the Elizabeth Church Campus from New Jersey to be closer to family, and so they could remain close to each other despite requiring different levels of care. "The multi-level care provided on the Elizabeth Church Campus allowed them to see each other daily," said their son Bob Montgomery, Jr.

Sheila Montgomery passed away in 2004, and Bob Montgomery died in June 2007 at age 84. His son noted, "He was active and very interested in computer technology until the very end. About a week before he died, he was asking me whether or not he should get a BlackBerry." The elder Montgomery had four computers, a PDA, a cell phone, a digital camera and several iPods.

In keeping with his passion for technology, the Montgomery family donated Bob's two Apple desktop computers, his electric wheelchair and a television to Elizabeth Church Manor in acknowledgement of the loving care Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery received. A generous monetary donation from the Montgomery family also enabled the Activities Department to purchase a zoned stereo system with XM Satellite radio for the first floor dining room at Elizabeth Church Manor.

The Activities Department chose this particular application for the donation because Montgomery loved music. Said Elizabeth Church Manor Activity Director Diana Husnay, "Bob had an extensive CD collection and a zillion tunes on his iPod. He compiled CDs of special music he knew his peers would enjoy, and made sure that music always accompanied each meal in the dining room. He had a generous and caring spirit, and was always willing to go the extra mile to make sure everyone was involved, felt included and had a reason to smile. We felt that a new music system would be a wonderful tribute to Bob and his love of music."

Special thanks to the Montgomery family for their generosity!

20th Annual Rummage and Bake Sale

9 AM to 2 PM, Saturday, May 2

Grace View Manor, 80 Calvary Drive, Norwich

Featuring homemade baked goods, furniture, clothing, dolls and much more! Free refreshments. Tours of the facility will also be available for those interested in learning about residency.

Sponsored by the Grace View Manor Residents' Association

A Night to Remember – the ultimate girls' night out!

5-8 PM, May 28, Traditions at the Glen, 4101 Watson Boulevard, Johnson City, NY

The event is for women only (teens and up) and includes massages, a fashion show, manicures, facials, local celebrity chefs and more. Tickets are \$50 per person and must be purchased in advance by calling (607) 785-7852, ext. 120.



PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION.

Two Campuses Name Employees of the Month



Linda Shoemaker, LPN

Linda Shoemaker, LPN, has been named the April Employee of the Month on the Elizabeth Church Campus. She has been with the Homes for 38 years, serving in many roles – she currently works

at St. Louise Manor. According to her co-workers, Shoemaker is flexible, knowledgeable, dedicated and caring. Quotes from her most recent Shining Star nominations bear out these descriptions: "Linda is a wonderful nurse! She is always smiling and so caring to the residents. She is always thinking of things for them to do and keeps them talking and enjoying each others' company. The residents love her!" and "Linda takes the time to gather the residents together in the evening for refreshments. She jokes with them and brings smiles and laughter. She takes the time to listen to their concerns and does what she can to help."



Joel Cummings, RN

Joel Cummings, RN, has been named April Employee of the Month on the Doris L. Patrick Campus. According to his nominator, "Although he has been with our team for a short time, Joel exemplifies a wonderful nurse and employee. He helps his coworkers, no matter what is asked of him. In caring for our residents, his quiet kindness always reassures them. His strong support of everyone at Gilmour truly makes him employee of the month and we are glad he is here."

There's a Pot of Gold at the End of the Rainbow!

On March 17, Hilltop Campus residents enjoyed a St. Patrick's Day party, featuring the much-anticipated annual visit of the world's largest leprechaun, Bill Armstrong of Johnson City. The party included a video about Ireland, residents snacked on green chocolate-covered popcorn and green punch, and Armstrong passed out gold-coin chocolates. Everyone wore green to get into the spirit! Posing with Armstrong and the elusive pot of gold are Hilltop residents Catherine "Kay" Sivak (left) and Paul Sivak.



Tunkhannock Hosts Dog Show

Tunkhannock Campus residents are fortunate to regularly welcome visits from individual dog handlers and their therapy dogs. Therapy dogs differ from service dogs in that therapy dogs are used in situations where the presence of the animal is primarily of psychological benefit. Dave Oberbeck of Meshoppen, who brings his golden retriever Jake to the campus a few times each month, wanted to expand on visits with individual animals and stage a multi-dog show.

So on March 21, 11 dogs and their handlers competed in an informal competition before an audience of residents and family members and a panel of three resident judges. The dogs competed in a parade, an agility course and in special tricks such as packing a suitcase and riding a skateboard! The winner of the contest was Australian shepherd Shelby, owned by Robert Thompson of Franklindale, PA.

Said Oberbeck, "Many of the residents at Tunkhannock Manor grew up in rural areas, and had animals as children and as adults. The presence of animals can be rejuvenating, and can bring a smile to someone's face."

Following the show, the handlers and their dogs mixed with attendees, giving everyone a chance to greet the animals.



Rick Douglas of Sayre, PA, and his Old English sheepdog Jazz are shown after the show.

Spirit Week at the Doris L. Patrick Camps

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community churches that serves Chenango County. Said Giordano, "The pantry was especially pleased because at this time of year they usually do not receive many food donations. We're so proud of our staff – their combined efforts enabled us to make a big difference for a fellow community organization."

Spirit Week was planned by the Human Resources and Activities Departments. Special thanks to Administrative Assistant Robin McCarthy for her extra efforts in making the event a success!

**Learn to Use the Visions
Federal Credit Union Website**

**2 PM, Thursday, May 14,
Hilltop Computer Room**

**Residents are invited to join Visions Federal
Credit Union Online Specialist Laura Waslyn
for an online banking demonstration.**

Shorts

Janine Savage, RN, RAC-CT, United Methodist Homes' Vice-President of Clinical Operations and the Corporate Compliance Officer, gave a presentation on non-pharmacologic pain management, focusing on Hilltop's Comfort Zone concept, at the Adult Day Health Care Council's Annual Spring Conference, April 22-24 at Turning Stone Resort and Casino in Verona, NY.

On February 13, St. Louise Manor residents welcomed local antique dealer Chip Hunt, who gave a presentation on the history of the Weeks and Dickinson Building in downtown Binghamton.

On March 12, Wesley Village Health Information Management Coordinator Randi Smith, NCICS, gave a presentation about appropriate documentation of activities for Activity Coordinators Together (ACT), a group of activity directors from Luzerne, Lackawanna, & Wyoming Counties that meets on a quarterly basis. The meeting was hosted by the Tunkhannock Campus.

On March 11, the Wesley Village Campus hosted the quarterly meeting of the Northeast Pennsylvania Health Information Management Association (NEPHIMA). Wesley Village Health Information Management Coordinator Randi Smith, NCICS, is a member of the organization, and Hilltop Health Information Management Coordinator Mary Freeman, RHIT, also attended. The meeting was open to high school and college students considering a career in health information management, and special presentations were given by health

information management professionals to help the students understand more about the job and the training required. Admissions representatives from DeVry Institute and Penn College were also on hand to answer questions about enrolling in health information management degree programs.

Residents at the Wesley Village Campus were treated to a performance by the Spark Gospel Singers on March 28.

The Hilltop Campus hosted a "Chili Challenge" on March 24 as a fundraiser for the 2009 Southern Tier Memory Walk, which benefits the Alzheimer's Association. A panel of staff judges – including President and CEO Keith Chadwick, Hilltop Chaplain Lea Harding and Golden Oldies Café Coordinator Vicki Considine – selected Jean Harding as the winner in the judges' category, with Preventative Maintenance Tech Brian Percival selected as runner-up. Staff and residents were able to sample all the entries for a \$5 fee – the winner in the people's choice category was Activity Leader Misty Harper, and Percival secured the runner-up spot in this category as well. A total of \$175 was raised. Special thanks to Assistant Dietary Director Nick Finlayson for organizing, setting up and coordinating the challenge.

On April 2, the Doris L. Patrick Campus hosted an employee appreciation barbecue. Staff enjoyed hamburgers and hotdogs off the grill, potato salad, brownies and lemonade.

On March 16, Elizabeth Church Manor staff and residents assisted students from

Broome Community College's Medical Assistant program in learning how to perform electrocardiograms (EKGs). Six residents volunteered to allow students to try their hand at the testing modality.

To celebrate National Nutrition Month in March, Elizabeth Church Campus Dietitian Natalie Nicholas, RD, held a contest for staff. Participants tracked their daily servings of fruits and vegetables – individuals who tracked the data for an entire month were eligible to enter a drawing for a fruit basket. Congratulations to the winner, Administrator Vicky Morabito! Staff also donated non-perishable items for the Food Bank of the Southern Tier, and contributed a total of \$75 for the Food Bank.

Residents of the Anderson Personal Care Facility and Myers Manor on the Wesley Village Campus were treated to a Coca-Cola party on March 27. Residents enjoyed Coke floats, 1950s memorabilia, music and dancing.

On March 5, author Mary Beth Voda of Wyalusing, PA, visited the Tunkhannock Campus to read selections from her newly-published book *From Shoebox to Saltbox*. The book shares how a "city girl" restored a Civil War-era farmhouse and raised a family in rural Wyalusing.

Shelley Jones of Feathered Kisses Aviary, Rescue & Sanctuary in Kirkwood visited St. Louise Manor in March to give a presentation on the behavior and care of pet birds. Jones brought along two macaws, and residents had the chance to hold and touch the birds.

CQI Kickoff at Hilltop

The Hilltop Campus celebrated the initiation of its continuous quality improvement (CQI) process with a kickoff event on March 19. Staff members who are part of CQI teams wore their colored team shirts, and all other staff members received a CQI button to wear. Everyone was invited to enjoy cake and punch. Shown in their team-color shirts at the celebration are (left to right) Dietitian Susan Buckingham, Risk Manager Jack Bates, Infection Control/CQI Coordinator Ashley Bezek, Assistant Director of Nursing Jeannine Best-Baker (back), Activities Coordinator Denise Reilly, Employee Health/Staff Development Coordinator Denise Johnson, Assistant Administrator Jackie Otremba, and Social Services Director Aaron Ampula. CQI action plan teams throughout the organization have started meeting and are beginning work on their respective goals.



Letters of Appreciation

To the Hilltop Campus

You may never know the many words of praise our entire family has voiced about your facility and its staff as pertains to their service, care and treatment of our loved one during her stay with you. I still see the many smiling faces on the willing helpers who made her days as pleasant as possible. I cannot thank them enough for the exceptional care they provided to the very end when they took the time and effort to enable me to speak to her. Please thank them all – it is truly appreciated.

To the Wesley Village Campus

Thank you for the note of sympathy. Wesley Village certainly was a blessing for mother and for us. The day she told me she wanted to go to Wesley – sight unseen – I knew it was a good omen. We drove to Pittston to visit, and as they say, the rest is history. She enjoyed Myers Manor very much, and my husband and I greatly appreciated the services of the South and Serenity Units. I will never forget the first call I received from Serenity – I was told Mother needed a band-aid, and I replied, “Thank you, but it isn’t necessary to phone me.” “Oh yes,” was the reply. Thus I learned about Wesley’s care. We truly wish we could thank each person who cared for Mom. Instead, I ask you to convey our message of thanks and best wishes.

To the Elizabeth Church Campus

I wanted to let you know what a wonderful place Elizabeth Church Manor has been to me and my family. Following a lengthy hospital stay, my dad was finally ready to be transferred to a nursing facility for eight weeks of rehab. Everyone I spoke with highly recommended Elizabeth Church. I would like to commend JoAnn Kunkle, Natalie Nicholas, Deena Stanton and Diana Husnay. They are an exceptional group who went out of their way to keep us informed of Dad’s progress and did all they could to help him get well so he could come home. Their open communication was wonderful and refreshing. JoAnn was our social worker, and after the first time I spoke with her, I was confident Dad was in good hands. JoAnn assured me that she would keep us informed of Dad’s progress, and she did just that. We met several times, and she was always willing to speak with me about his progress, even when I encountered her in the hall on my way to visit. I was so impressed with the open communication. I was also impressed with how the staff listened to my concerns about Dad’s continued weight loss. I was able to talk with nutritionist Natalie Nicholas on several occasions, asking her if we could try something different, and she was always willing to listen. Then, after speaking with my dad, I would find out that she really did implement the changes we had suggested. Each of these women is a real asset to your facility. Because of this team, Dad’s physical

body as well as his spirit began to thrive while he was at your facility. We had not seen this until he came to stay at Elizabeth Church Manor. I would also like to mention Serge and Jeannie in physical therapy. They worked with Dad daily, and Dad couldn’t say enough about them. They pushed him when he needed it, but it was tough love. Serge was also always willing to speak with us. I must mention the sign that greets you as you walk into Elizabeth Church Manor – it says “Our residents do not live in our facility, we work in their home.” Those words sum it up. Elizabeth Church was truly a home-away-from-home for my dad and our family. The staff’s kindness will never be forgotten, and if we ever need a facility again, I will definitely call Elizabeth Church Manor. As you can imagine, I’ve been sharing our story with everyone who is looking for a nursing facility. Your staff members are worth their weight in gold.

Seeking Garage Sale Items!

For the annual Elizabeth Church Campus garage sale in June. All proceeds benefit the Alzheimer’s Association. If you have gently-used items such as knick-knacks, kitchen utensils and gadgets, toys, tools, books, movies, and more, drop them off in the Elizabeth Church Manor lobby from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM Monday through Friday from now until June 1. No clothing, please. Questions? (607) 722-3463 ext. 233 or ext. 230.

Elizabeth Church Campus Helps Nursing Students Learn



Broome Community College nursing students Ashley Wells (left) and Mary Simmons enter resident care data into the LEMR (limited electronic medical record) system at Elizabeth Church Manor.

For nearly a decade, the Elizabeth Church Campus has been helping the next generation of hands-on caregivers learn about resident care in the skilled nursing setting. Following an orientation, freshman students enrolled in Broome Community College’s registered nursing degree program spend a day a week for five weeks working in a supervised capacity on campus. The campus accommodates a 20-student group in both the spring and fall semesters.

During their time on campus, the students learn the basics of activities of daily living and providing personal care. While in the facility, the students are supervised by clinical instructors from the college, although each has a chance to interact with facility staff members such as unit managers, nursing staff and nursing education.

Said Administrator Vicky Morabito, “We’re pleased to have such a long partnership with our neighbor BCC. Serving as a training site for nursing students enables us to provide them with an opportunity to see skilled nursing practices first-hand. They also have the chance to learn skills such as time management, communication, leadership, team-building, nursing assessment skills and more.”

is published monthly for employees, residents, family members and friends of the United Methodist Homes. You may direct all inquiries about *Seasons* to Sarah Soden, Director of Marketing/Communications/Public Relations, United Methodist Homes, 10 Acre Place, Binghamton, NY 13904. If you no longer wish to receive this publication, please call (607) 775-6400. If you are receiving duplicate copies of the newsletter, please let us know so we can amend our mailing list.

Abbreviations

- DLP – Doris L. Patrick Campus, Norwich, NY
- ECC – Elizabeth Church Campus, Binghamton, NY
- JGJ – James G. Johnston Memorial Nursing Home, Johnson City, NY
- SLM – St. Louise Manor, Binghamton, NY
- UMH – United Methodist Homes
- WV – Wesley Village Campus, Pittston, PA

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United Methodist Homes Named Business of the Week



United Methodist Homes was named business of the week by the Greater Binghamton Chamber of Commerce during the week of March 16. President and CEO Keith Chadwick accepted a certificate from representatives the Chamber's membership committee. Corporate Office staff are shown gathered around the business of the week sign, which was displayed in the lobby throughout the week.

New Best Friends at St. Louise Manor



St. Louise Manor residents recently adopted the Front Street Dog Shelter as a community project. On February 10, they welcomed yellow Lab Luke accompanied by a shelter assistant who presented information about the shelter; its mission and the animals for which the shelter provides care. As their first initiative, St. Louise residents are saving newspapers for the shelter to use in lining the dog pens. Resident Barbara Hutter is shown getting acquainted with Luke as resident Arlene Elliott looks on. Elliott shared with the group that her father raised Russian wolfhounds, and she remembers the dogs going to shows at Madison Square Garden in New York City.

Give your wilting, potted Easter plants a second life!

Martha MacMillen, St. Louise Manor Activities, will plant your wilting, potted spring plants (Easter lilies, hyacinths, tulips, daffodils, etc.) in the outside garden areas on campus. Bring them to the Activities Department to see them bloom again outdoors!