

CHARLOTTE HALL VETERAN'S HOME

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

A LETTER FROM: OUR ADMINISTRATOR

Maria Atten

This month our educational focus has been to in-service staff on the following topics:

- Restraints with emphasis on not locking wheelchairs for residents who are able to independently move in their wheelchairs.
- Abuse Prevention with emphasis on the fact that employees are mandated to report any observation of abuse immediately and review types of abuse.
- Infection Control Procedures for personal items with an emphasis on the need to maintain the shared bathrooms free from any personal items.
- Infection Control Procedures for items in the nourishment refrigerators with an emphasis on the need to date any items in the nourishment refrigerators.
- How to place maintenance work orders to ensure that we address any pest control or maintenance concerns in an efficient and effective manner.

I will begin working with the charge nurses as to their duties to monitor and supervise the care provided to our residents. I continue to be thankful for the opportunity to serve those who have served and to work with the staff toward providing quality care and services. As mentioned last month, I would like to share some of the positive remarks made by families whose loved ones reside in the nursing home. Those remarks can be seen below.

LET US CULTIVATE KINDNESS:

National Skilled Nursing Care Week, or Nursing Home Week, is May 14th - 20th. The American Health Care Association has established this year's theme, "Cultivating Kindness." This year, CHVH is excited to hold a spirit week to celebrate our residents and staff members!

A family member whose loved one resides in 1C stated that her father "gets the quality 24 hour care he needs from those that give it to him on this unit". This family member complimented the charge nurse and the unit manager for "going over and beyond" for the resident. Great job 1C Staff!

"Being overwhelmed with my job, church commitments, yard work (as all of us are) my heart is there and seeing those oversized signs [for volunteer week] lifted my spirits and gave me strength seeing your thoughtfulness!! Tell Brandi and the team that they are awesome!! God bless."

A family member from 2B who visits almost weekly states, "The facility appears to be clean and fresh," "[My husband] has always been clean," "I receive phone calls about his health and care weekly," and "Most of his caretakers take extra time to chat with him and listen to his stories and jokes." She also complimented the unit manager as being "professional and kind." Kudos to the 2B staff! Keep up the good work!

MILITARY SPOUSE DAY SPOTLIGHT:

Phyllis Huseman

Does this face look familiar? She was pictured in the March 2023 CHVH Monthly Newsletter! Phyllis Huseman was born in New Jersey and lived there until the age of 12. She was raised in Washington DC. Phyllis is the spouse of an Air Force Veteran, named John "Bernie" Huesman. Though she does not recall it, her husband said they met as young kids. He used to play baseball with her older brother. Bernie needed a date for a New Year's Eve Party after he separated from service, and she agreed to take part in this double date with the friends they had in common. Phyllis and Bernie had been together ever since! Mr. Huseman is the father to her four sons, two of whom were twins! He served in Alaska and fell in love with the state while enjoying hunting and fishing there. During his service, he endured a plane crash, but the cold temperatures saved him! Phyllis said he would have loved to live there but it was too cold for her! She is very family oriented and enjoyed going to the beach every summer with her family. If she could do anything, she would watch her children play sports again. A highlight of her life is that she lived in Florida for 20 years but chose to move back home to Maryland, after her husband passed, to be close to her children. In her free time, Phyllis enjoys playing solitaire, going to bingo, doing her makeup, interacting with the other woman here, reading mysteries and funny books, and looking at the wall of photos of her sons and their families. She used to love to knit and crochet, but cannot do that as much anymore. She owes that skill to her daughter-in-law's mother, who taught her how in her adulthood. Phyllis left us with these words of wisdom, "be a nice person, because it comes back to you. There is no use in being mean. You only upset yourself." Happy Mother's Day to you as well <3



MAY THESE FLOWERS GO TO YOU

In loving memory of Assisted Living Activity Aide, Debbie "Lil' Debbie" Russell, who bravely fought cancer in her final days, left us to enter eternal light on Friday, April 14th, 2023. Debbie began proudly serving those who served in August 2020 and never slowed down over the past 3 years. You may have seen her speed-walking through the halls on a mission to lead our activities, decorate for holidays, help those with individual needs, or warming up for a competitive game of Shuffle Bowl. She was truly a fun, loving, spunky, spitfire who had the ability to spread joy and laughter daily from morning check-ins to late-night Bingo shouting "O-69!" through the main halls. Some of her go-to sayings were "Gotta get motivated" and "Good enough for government work" - both of which still cause us to chuckle in Assisted Living Activities. To our Road Runner, Shuffle-Bowl Queen, and Lil' Debbie - You will be greatly missed by many, and thank you for your service.



Love your AL Activities Team

OUR PARTNERS IN THE COMMUNITY:
CHVH Volunteers & Donors



In April, we honored organizations and individual volunteers for their outstanding service and contributions to our veterans in 2020, 2021, and 2022. Our best effort has been put forth to try to recognize all groups and individuals who contributed a minimum of 24 volunteer service hours to Charlotte Hall Veterans Home. Any omission of a group or individual volunteer from this program was not intentional. The award levels are determined based on a group or individual's collective services throughout this three-year period. To ensure that you're properly credited for your donations and volunteer service hours, please be sure to fill out a donation form each time you make a donation and sign in and out each time you perform a service. Thank you for your outstanding contributions to our Veterans Home! Happy Belated Volunteer Appreciation Week to our CHVH Volunteers!

A SPECIAL THANKS TO:
OUR NURSES



To our ladies and gentlemen who can wear the red, white, AND blue scrubs, Charlotte Hall Veteran's Home would like to give you a big THANK YOU! The individuals pictured are some of our nurses who work throughout the Skilled Nursing Facility and Assisted Living sides of our home. It is due to their cooperation and leadership that our nursing staff can continue to run. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed, and for this, we would also like to wish you a Happy Nurse's Appreciation Day!

MAY

EVENTS CALENDAR

- Bingo Mania on the 2nd
 - Chris Dudley Music Performance on the 3rd
 - Cinco de Mayo Nacho Bar on the 5th
 - Port Tobacco Pickers Bluegrass Concert on the 10th
 - Catholic Mass In the Grass on the 11th
 - Red Hat Society, Ruby Diamonds Visit on the 11th
 - CHVH Auction on the 12th
 - Mother's Day Tea Party on the 14th
 - Nursing Home Week Begins on the 14th
 - Sons of American Legion BINGO on the 15th
 - Grace Christian Academy Youth Band & Orchestra on the 16th
 - SMECO Bingo on the 16th
 - Blue Crabs Baseball Game on the 15th
 - Hot Dog Social on the 22nd
 - The Unclouded Day Bluegrass Concert on the 24th
 - Fusion Cadets Junior Drum & Bugle Corps on the 27th
 - Memorial Day BINGO on the 29th
 - Memorial Day Ceremony on the 30th
 - Rita's Ice Social on the 30th
- And a variety of activities, scenic drives, outings, and socials held throughout the month!

A GLIMPSE AT LAST MONTH



The April showers have come but they are not gone! Take a look at our May flowers and see how they are beginning to blossom!

