



The Sunland Beacon

MAY 2019
Volume 5/Issue 5

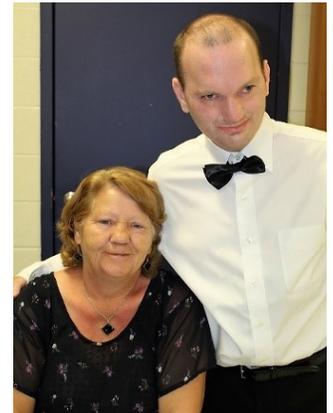
2nd Annual "Royal Affair" Ladies Tea

The Sunland Mall hosted their 2nd Annual "Royal Affair" tea on Wednesday, May 15, for the ladies of Sunland. The ladies who attended were beautifully dressed in their formal gowns, hats and gloves. They enjoyed limousine rides to the Mall where they were greeted by handsome waiters dressed in white shirts and bow ties, who escorted them in to the tea party. Beautifully appointed tables and an assortment of delectable cookies and hot tea awaited the guests of honor. The waiters enjoyed serving tea and refreshments, and especially showing off their expert serving skills.

Residents Michael L. and Peter P. provided opening comments and prayers, followed by Faye W., who sang a special song, and Johnnie Mae W., who offered her "You're Welcome" greeting. Guest speakers for the event included LaRhonda Barnes, Unit 3 Rehab Therapist, who spoke about "Always Being a Lady" and Sue Lee, Administrative Services Accountant, who shared a visual story about "Always Doing Your Best," using colorful balloons as visual aides. Ms. Lee provided inflated helium balloons for each lady present as a reminder of always being the best they can possibly be.

Following refreshments, the ladies received parting gifts and limousine rides back to their homes. Thank you Tonya Kelly and staff for hosting such a lovely event!

"Royal Affair" Ladies Tea



From the Superintendent...

I mentioned in our previous issue of the Beacon that summertime is almost here! With this season we have the opportunity to welcome the afternoon showers that cool the temperatures and refresh our outdoor surroundings. I encourage each of us to enjoy this more relaxed time of year while recharging and renewing.

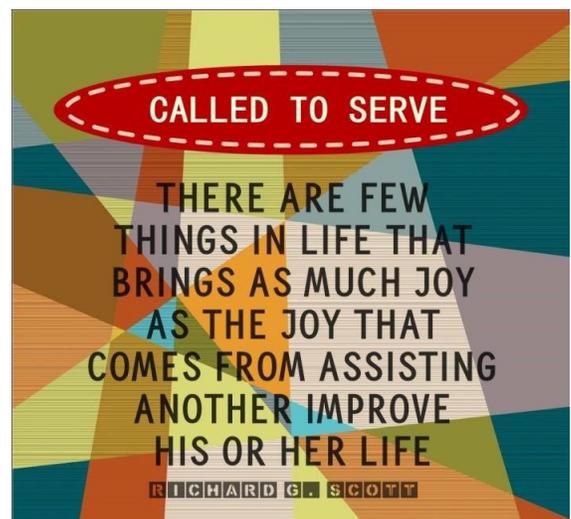
As we feel renewed and refreshed, I hope you will choose to not only continue to serve Sunland, but that you strive to renew your heart of servant-hood for those whom we serve. You may not realize it, but there is a difference between service and servant-hood. As important as it is to serve others, we are all in control of that service. When we choose to embrace servant-hood, we give up that control as we submit to the betterment of others. Often I have found that when I feel less in control, that is when I allow myself room to test my abilities. After all, I am the only one who can use my own abilities...so are you. Am I right? I think that many of us adopt an attitude of servant-hood from the experiences we live through that we most regret. We help others by what we have learned through our struggles.

Pastor Rick Warren, author of "The Purpose Driven Life" writes that *"what matters most in your life is not the duration of it, but the donation of it."* Thank you to each of you who have chosen to donate your service to our facility and to those whom we serve at Sunland.

Much appreciation,

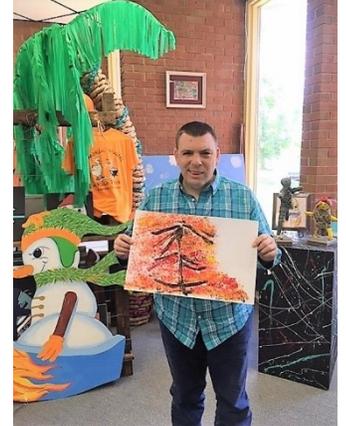
Marguerite

Marguerite Morgan, Superintendent



Art Classes Spark Unique Inspiration!

Maria Johnson, Sunland's Volunteer Coordinator who also serves as an art instructor with the Hub, recently provided art classes for residents in Unit 2. During the classes, students learned how they could expand their skills using simple things to create works of art, such as bubble wrap and tooth brushes. A smile says it all! Just look at the smiles on the faces of the proud artists in the photos below!

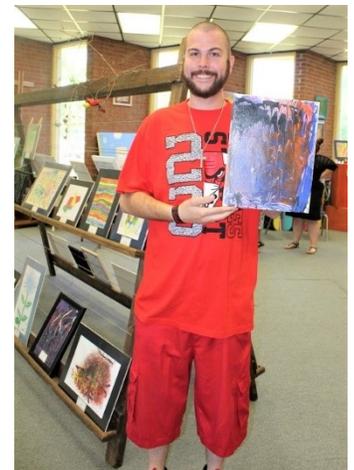


Later in the month, Maria and Earl Mathews, Vocational Instructor II offered assistance with art classes in the Learning Centers. Christy Hatcher, Education Supervisor II stated Maria and Earl "have been so graciously assisting with bringing art to the classrooms. We have started with Unit 2 and are working our way through every learning center classroom. The residents enjoy painting with various utensils and creating pictures such as these. I hope you all enjoy these pictures as much as we do." Quoting Dr. Seuss she said "You'll never be bored when you try something new. There's really no limit to what you can do!"



Sunland Hub Hosts Student Art Show

Due to storm damage at the Environmental Park, the annual Art in the Park event was not able to take place this year. However, that did not dampen the creative spirit at the Sunland Hub! The old saying “the show must go on” rang true for Maria Johnson, Vocational Instructor for the Hub art program. In lieu of Art in the Park, the Hub hosted a student art show on May 22. Residents who participate in art classes were thrilled to have their artwork displayed for all to see. Several of the students were on hand to show their art, speaking about the process of creating their various pieces of art, and their source of inspiration while working on their art. Attendees came away with a new appreciation of art, learning that “art is not only good for the soul, but for the body.”



Sunland Hub Hosts Student Art Show



Sunland Staff Appreciation

May 6 -10, 2019

Week

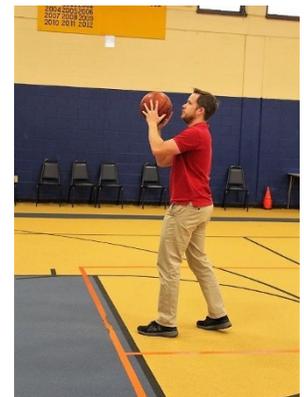


Sunland Staff Appreciation Week was celebrated May 6 - 10. The week long celebration was planned and organized by members of the Sunland Employee Recognition Committee with the assistance of Clint Cox, Recreation Director and his staff who assisted with sports activities. Thank you to everyone who took part in the planning process and everyone who participated. It was a tremendous effort and a fun week for all.



Sunland Spirit Day and Basketball Shoot-Out!

The week kicked off with "Sunland Spirit Day" on May 6, with staff wearing the blue and gold Sunland colors, or their favorite Sunland tee shirts. Throughout the day, numerous staff participated in the annual basketball shoot-out. Congratulations to James Rhynes of Pathways who took 1st Place in Free Throws; Jake Wood and Clint Cox, both from CSS tied for 1st Place in Three Point Shots. The overall winner for the best combined scores was Keith DeWitt of Pathways.



Favorite Era Day & Cornhole Tourney!



On May 7, the hands of time turned back as staff sported their favorite threads from days gone by during "Favorite Era Day." A large number of staff participated in the annual Cornhole Tournament. The AM Session saw "The Johnson Boys" (DeRon Johnson and Kevin Johnson), both from Food Service, narrowly defeating "Beauty & The Beast" (Marguerite Morgan and Doug Stone), representing Administration. In the PM Session, "Bonnie & Clyde" (Nikki Spires and Jake Wood) from CSS defeated "Team Old School" (Keith Selbe and Gene Garrett) from Food Service. In the Championship Round, "The Johnson Boys" took top honors and will be reigning Champions for the next year!





Favorite Sports Team Day & Volleyball Games!

May 8 was "Favorite Sports Team Day" with staff proudly wearing their favorite sports team attire. Volleyball matches were held in the gym with employees from CSS, Unit 1 and Unit 3 participating. A fun time was had by all, players and spectators alike!





Staff Appreciation Day Cookout & Bake Off!

May 9 was another fun day with staff dressing to the nines for "Wacky Tacky Day!" Special thanks to the Sunland Leadership team for providing a hot breakfast for 3rd Shift staff and a grilled hamburger cookout for 1st and 2nd shift staff. The meals were delicious and very much appreciated!



In conjunction with the hamburger cook-out, the Staff Day Bake Off was held with a record of 50 delicious entries in the cakes, pies and cookies divisions. The Overall Grand Champion Winner was Raquel Dunston for her Lemon Blueberry Pound Cake. Raquel captured the \$50 Cash Prize and Grand Prize Trophy. Much appreciation to Sue Lee, and her team including Lynn Kern, Janet O'Pry, Sharon Elmore, Nikki Spires, and Pat Collins for organizing the event. Judges were Sunland retirees Leontyne Clay, Donnie Lipford, Gail Snelgrove, Julie Jackson and Eudora Conner! Heartfelt appreciation to all who supported and participated this year! This was by far the BEST Bake Off Ever!

Congratulations Winners!

Cookie Division

- 1st Place - Pauline Robinson
- 2nd Place - Lori Burke
- 3rd Place - Katey Hobbs

Pies Division

- 1st Place - Marilyn Pierce
- 2nd Place - Shannon Stewart
- 3rd Place - Raquel Dunston

Cakes Division

- 1st Place Raquel Dunston
- 2nd Place - Annette Odum
- 3rd Place - Sharon Elrod

Grand Champion
Raquel Dunston



Administration Wins Spirit of Sunland Award!



During the Staff Day Cookout on May 9, the "Spirit of Sunland" traveling trophy was awarded to the department with the highest percentage of participation in Sunland Staff Appreciation Week activities, as well as participation in Sunland's Star Award Program during FY 18/19. It was a close race this year! Emerging as the proud winner for 2019 was Sunland Administration. Coming in a very close 2nd Place was CSS, with Unit 3 placing 3rd. Congratulations to our winners, and thank you all for displaying amazing team spirit!

At 1:00 p.m., staff and residents gathered at the Gym for the Wacky Games "Desk Chair Derby." What a funny event that was! A total of ten teams participated in the Derby. Teams had to complete an obstacle course with one staff sitting in an office chair with the other staff pushing. When the dust had settled, the following were the top three teams: **1st Place – Team Burnt Toast** (Bill Gentry & Hannah Pearson, Food Service) finishing in 1:37 minutes; **2nd Place – Team H.R.** (Veronica Mullinax & Nicole Sims, Human Resources) finishing in 1:42 minutes; **3rd Place – Team Sassy Chicks** (Christina Murff & Mandy Bauldree, Food Service) finishing in 2:02 minutes. Needless to say, it was a hilarious, wacky and fun day for all!

"Desk Chair Derby"



May 10
F **CRAZY HAT DAY** and **Crazy Socks Day**



Friday, May 10 rounded out the week with "Crazy Hats & Crazy Socks Day" and "Pickleball" demos and matches.

The demos and matches were held in the Gym, where staff learned the art of playing Pickleball, a paddle sport that combines elements of badminton, tennis, and table tennis. The game was originally created for all ages and skill levels and has become a nation-wide sensation. Rumor has it that our own Clint Cox is going pro in the sport!

On another note, we are excited to learn that Pickleball has become an official Special Olympic Sport and Sunland athletes are gearing up for competition! Go Sonics!

A huge shout-out and thanks to everyone who contributed to Sunland Staff Appreciation Week! The week was a great time to enjoy the company of one another and to build our Sunland Team Spirit.



Celebrating Our Wonderful Nurses!

Nurse's Week was celebrated the week of May 6 - 12. The theme for the week was "More Than 40 Reasons to Celebrate." Various departments and staff from all across the Center took time to express their appreciation to our nurses for their dedicated service to Sunland. The Nursing department would like to thank the following departments for making Nurses Week 2019 a week to remember:

Maintenance: for the lovely nurses poem

GBM/Morian: for the delicious peanut butter cake

Unit 1 Social Services/Greg: for the very tasty chocolate butter milk pie

Administration/Marguerite: for the yummy muffins

Pathways/Mike/George: for the discounted car washes

Unit 1 Grant House/John: for the lovely nurses sheet cake

Greg Poythress/Harold Parker: for sponsoring our pizza party

Sandra Helms: for sponsoring door prizes

Print Shop/Stephanie and Ashley: for putting up with me daily!!! You guys rock!

Pharmacy/Ed: for sponsoring door prizes

CSS/Clint, Maria, and James: for organizing our resident poster contest

Unit 3 Administration/Sharon : for the clever nursing bulletin board



Thank you to the awesome residents that participated in the "Sunland Nurses Rock" poster contest. Congratulations to Roland G., 1st Place; Lillie S., 2nd Place and Tevin H., 3rd Place! This was my favorite part of this week. The talent shown in the posters is humbling and makes me so proud to work at Sunland.

Finally, my awesome nursing leadership team. Danielle, Jennifer, Janice, Cindy, Sheryl, and Shandrell. You guys selflessly give of your time, talent, and wages to ensure that your nurses feel appreciated. I am so honored to work beside you every day to achieve the common goal of providing quality nursing care to our residents.

With Sincere Appreciation, Rose Crews, END

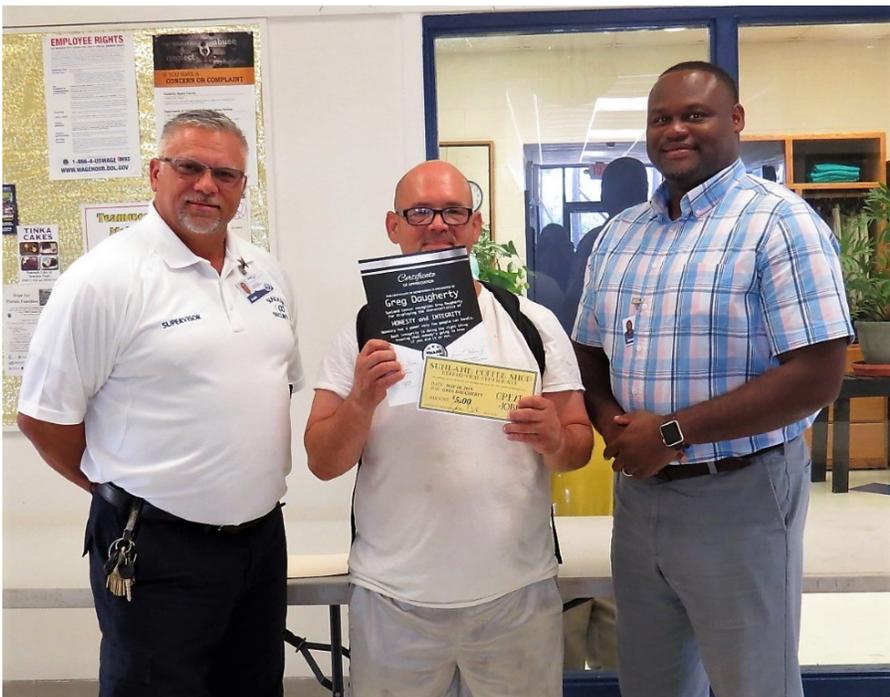
Proud to be a nurse!
Happy Nurses Week.

Character Matters...



Each month the Beacon highlights a character quality, discussing what that quality looks like when put into action in our personal and professional lives. When employees are recognized with Star Awards, they are also commended for specific character qualities that they have emulated on the job. As well they should be. And then there are moments when we shift our attention beyond our employees to others who are also due appropriate recognition, such as Unit 2 resident Greg D.

This month, we honor Greg who was recently awarded a Certificate of Appreciation and a \$5.00 Gift Card to the Suntown Mall Coffee Shop! Greg was recognized for exhibiting and putting into action the character qualities of *Honesty* and *Integrity*. Greg found and turned in an iPhone, as well as a credit card that he found on the ground. Because of his honesty and integrity, Greg wanted do the right thing, He was duly recognized and commended for his actions. Thank you, Greg, for being a good role model! Sunland appreciates you!



Honesty requires a lot of courage, respect, responsibility and good judgment.



Integrity means following your moral or ethical convictions and doing the right thing in all circumstances, even if no one is watching you.

Jackson County School Bids Fond Farewell to Mamie Russ

How do you say “goodbye” to someone like Mamie Russ?! Mrs. Russ has faithfully served the Community Day students at Jackson County School at Sunland for many years. She was honored with a luncheon attended by her family, coworkers, Sunland staff, students and their families. There were so many accolades spoken about her character, her love for her students, her work ethic and many other qualities. A family member of one of her students called her his brother’s “other mother.” Phyllis Daniels, her supervisor, said, “We may fill her position, but we can never fill her shoes. I guess we will have to get a new pair!” Enjoy your retirement, Mrs. Russ! You’ve earned it!



May Star Awards

Congratulations to Sunland's May Star Award recipients! Honored at the May 28 Star Awards ceremony were: Ann Johnson, Unit 1 Day Program; Rosalind Horne, Unit 1 Day Program; Kirsten Lovett, Unit 1 Harrison; Gayla Clower, Unit 1 Harrison; Mikel Patterson, Unit 1 Patterson; Sally Toal, Unit 1 Parkview 3rd Shift; Taurus Williams and Orlando Jackson, Unit 1 Harrison 3rd Shift; Unit 2 Hayes House Team - Jason Huckaby, Shantrell Brown, Sharon Dudley, Tracey Miller, Jerry Yon, Lisa Wilson, Rayburn Rehberg, Brandon Maphis, Joann Williams and Barbara Barnes; Rick Hendreith, Unit 2; Renee Reagan, Unit 2 Hayes 3rd Shift; Eva Brown, Unit 3 East Washington; Lee Cranford, CSS/Recreation; Ruthie Moore, CSS/Chaplain Services; Hollie Autman, Operations/Maintenance



GOLD STAR AWARD - ROSALIND HORNE
 Pictured: Marguerite Morgan, Superintendent; Rosalind Horne and Corliss McGriff, Unit 1 OMC I



GOLD STAR TEAM AWARD - UNIT 2 HAYES HOUSE
 Pictured L-R: Marguerite Morgan, Superintendent; Brandon Maphis, Jerry Yon, Barbara Barnes and Lucious Williams, Unit 2 POA



GOLD STAR AWARD - SALLY TOAL
 Pictured: Lillie Johnson, 3rd Shift HSSS, Sally Toal, and Marguerite Morgan, Superintendent



GOLD STAR AWARD KIRSTEN LOVETT
 Pictured: Marguerite Morgan, Superintendent; Kirsten Lovett, and Corliss McGriff, Unit 1 OMC 1



GOLD STAR AWARD RICK HENDRIETH
 Pictured: Marguerite Morgan, Superintendent; Rick Hendrieth and Lucious Williams, Unit 2 POA



GOLD STAR AWARD RUTHIE MOORE
 Pictured: Marguerite Morgan, Superintendent; Ruthie Moore and James Godwin, CSS Director



GOLD STAR AWARD LEE CRANFORD
 Pictured: James Godwin, CSS Director, Lee Cranford and Marguerite Morgan, Superintendent;