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St. Paul’s News Winter 2019
As another year comes to a close, I always appreciate the opportunity to reflect on the past year and the challenges and successes we have experienced as an organization; both of which have helped us to grow and become better for those we serve.

Health care continues to change and it’s our priority to keep our finger on its pulse and adapt accordingly. Regionalization of hospitals and services continues to evolve and St. Paul’s continues to explore ways in which to fill gaps in services to better meet the needs of our residents and their family members as well as attract quality team members.

I am grateful for our Board of Trustees and the talents they bring to our organization. They are a dedicated group of individuals who have St. Paul’s best interests in mind and they are invaluable as we explore future endeavors.

I am also grateful for our countless donors and volunteers. You continue to afford us the opportunity to do more for those who call St. Paul’s “Home.” Through the gifts given by our donors, we enhance accommodations, services and opportunities for residents; and through the time given by our volunteers we enhance the quality of life created at St. Paul’s. Thank you to everyone who gives of your time and treasures. Words simply can’t express our deep appreciation.

I’d like to acknowledge Rev. Dr. Paul Westcoat who was honored this past year for 55 years of service to our Board of Trustees. Dr. Westcoat, on behalf of our residents, families, volunteers, donors and the team at St. Paul’s – thank you for your dedication and service. You have been and continue to be a dear friend to St. Paul’s.

I’d also like to thank my team members for their continued service. We are blessed to have so many gifted and dedicated individuals who have a passion to serve. Our organization’s continued success is largely due to your dedication, support and commitment.

As we look to the New Year we anticipate growth in our home and community based services, community living and special care for individuals with dementia. Also, in 2020, we welcome a new group of honorees to our donor rolls – the 1867 Society – individuals who have had a significant impact on St. Paul’s mission through their lifetime giving.

One thing is certain as we plan for the future and that’s change. I invite you to stay connected with our community through our various publications, our website and Facebook. Feel free to “join” in or simply keep up-to-date on what’s happening. Again in 2020 we will host our Ask an Expert series, presentations designed to educate and inform participants on a variety of topics related to our industry and long term planning. In addition, we’d like to offer the opportunity for representatives from St. Paul’s to present to your group on Health Care Today. Should you be interested, please feel free to call my office.

I hope that 2020 is filled with opportunity to live life to its fullest and to make lasting memories. Happy New Year!
The Pennsylvania Department of Aging’s Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman visited St. Paul’s Senior Living Community in October in recognition of National Residents’ Rights Month. As the month is a time to create awareness about the dignity, respect, and rights of skilled nursing and personal care residents, the office wanted to shadow a Pennsylvania Empowered Expert Resident (PEER) to see how one spends their day. Who they chose was Adele Lehowsky – and what they learned inspired them all!

Adele has been a resident at The Ridgewood for more than 16 years. She completed her PEER training in 2004. The five-step, 10-hour program was designed to train residents in senior living communities to self-advocate and empower their fellow residents to improve their quality of life. In short, giving elders the opportunity to take an active part in their communities.

Adele introduces herself to new residents by presenting them with a welcome basket she has assembled and the resident handbook. But, to Adele, being a PEER goes much deeper than that. “Some of the greatest moments are when I’m sitting with someone who is upset or confused and I can take their hand and say, ‘I’m here for you, we’re friends,’ and their whole demeanor changes,” Adele said.

As the group heard about “a day in the life” of Adele, they listened with tears in their eyes and hope in their hearts. “You make a difference from the moment you wake up every day,” Margaret Barajas said. “When I met you, you filled my spirit. The good stories rarely get told, yet here you are—thriving and finding meaning in every day.”

So, what exactly does Adele do to find meaning in every day? Following are a few things that she shared with the group. She’s very modest, and these examples are just a sampling of the incredible gifts that she shares with our community and far beyond. But this does prove that she “love[s] to stay busy” and especially “enjoy[s] being in the kitchen.”

**She shares her talents.** Adele, along with a talented group of women at The Ridgewood, knit and crochet hats for babies that have to spend time in local hospital neonatal intensive care units. She also crochets wash cloths to be included in Good Samaritan boxes sent around the globe (350 at a time!).

**She shares her faith.** Adele assists with weekly worship services at The Ridgewood by setting up the flowers, washing and ironing the altar cloths and preparing the juice and baking bread for communion. She also irons clothes for some of her neighbors and said, “When I iron, I pray for the individual who wears what I’m ironing.”

**She shares her heart.** Adele is a seamstress for the national Angel Gowns® Program. The program provides comfort for bereaved families who have lost an infant, through the gift of a beautiful custom-made gown (fashioned from donated wedding gowns) for final photos and burial services. Sadly, Adele experienced the loss of an infant daughter in 1975.

**She advocates.** Adele’s husband of 56 years, Frank, died in 2010 from Alzheimer’s Disease. Each year, she goes on a five-week long “road tour” spending an entire day in the lobby of each residence on campus spreading awareness about the disease and taking orders for homemade bread and coffee cakes to benefit the St. Paul’s Walk to End Alzheimer’s team. This year, she raised more than $1,100 – and some of you reading this enjoyed her delicious baked goods over the recent holiday season!

**She serves.** Recently, Adele accepted an invitation to the board of directors for Voice of Inspired Change for Elders (VOICE) in Pennsylvania. She is one of only two residents on the board representing those in senior living communities across the state. Tammy Lininger, Administrator at The Villas, encourages Adele’s participation to represent St. Paul’s and says of her, “I’ve met a lot of people over my 28 years at St. Paul’s and many can’t see beyond their own struggles to find their purpose – Adele is a wonderful inspiration despite the adversity she’s faced. She makes it her personal daily mission to make somebody else’s day better. If we could all take a lesson, the world would be a better place.”
St. Paul’s Without Walls Home Based Services celebrated their seventh anniversary in October. Five team members (pictured above) were hired in 2012 and are still proud members of the team.

When we asked them to reflect on their seven years with WOW, this is what they had to say...

“Everyday is a new experience; it’s never the same day-to-day. I have made many friends in this job.” — Gretchen Zahniser, Care Partner in Community Living

“I’ve noticed how far a smile goes. A smile shows a positive outlook. It makes the clients smile back!” — Debbie Reagle, Care Partner

“My client and I have developed a close relationship. We’re buddies!” — Megan Nickel, Companion

“Delivering hot meals on a cold day is what I like. Sometimes I’m the only person they will talk to all day. I get invited to stay for lunch a lot!” — Donna Roberts, Care Partner

“On the second day in the office I remember saying, ‘I sure hope it gets busier than this.’ I don’t need to say that now!” — Linda Iliff, Office Manager

Congratulations to the “originals” and many thanks to all of our team members! We’re always on the look out for honest, dependable, compassionate individuals to become Care Partners and Companions.

To find out more about our home-based, non-medical services available to individuals who wish to remain independent in their own homes, visit www.WOW2012.org and don’t forget to Like us on Facebook: St. Paul’s Without Walls.
In October 2018, St. Paul’s established Community Living, a new style of accommodations and level of services.

Community Living (sometimes referred to as Share Care homes), provides housing opportunities in the Greenville community for individuals who need assistance with daily living activities and have limited resources that limit their options for housing and supportive services.

St. Paul’s has purchased and renovated two beautiful houses in Greenville. These houses feature three bedrooms, living and dining rooms, kitchen, bath, and outdoor spaces.

Each house is designed to be home for three women. Residents enjoy the privacy of their own rooms and yet have the opportunity for valued relationships within the home.

Personal Assistance Services are currently provided through the Pennsylvania’s Office of Long Term Living’s Aging Waiver program. In 2020, the Aging Waiver program becomes Community Health Choices – a Medicaid managed care program.

The actual assistance with activities of daily living (ADL) (including hygiene, grooming, dressing, mobility, meals, housekeeping, laundry, and medication assistance) is provided by Care Partners from St. Paul’s Without Walls - St. Paul’s private duty home and community based services. We currently have a team of 12 Care Partners who serve both homes and they have done a tremendous job in making these houses “Home” for the ladies who live there. This first year has given the Care Team opportunity to create good practices in each home and strengthen relationships between residents.

In addition to support of ADLs, residents enjoy community events through the coordination by staff. They participate in St. Paul’s special events and campus activities along with supportive services such as the beauty shop and fitness center.

According to Rita Clemente, VP of Community Relations, “These homes offer an option for individuals who need daily assistance but don’t require nursing services. In most situations they can’t live alone in their own home and their only option is nursing home care. We are glad to be able to offer these accommodations and services as they fill a gap for folks who need them. We are currently looking for our third home and may be considering a home for men.”

Information about Community Living is available by calling Rita Clemente at 724-589-6909.

The Oakview House is pictured above left and the Jamestown Road House is at the right.

Residents and Care Partners from both homes gathered at the Oakview House for a “Friendsgiving” meal before the Thanksgiving holiday.
Dillon Groover is a 2017 graduate of Greenville High School who played football, ran track and entered Slippery Rock University as a secondary education major. His college career was cut short, though, when he began suffering from headaches, ear and sinus infections, dizziness and vertigo.

After visits to doctors and hospital emergency rooms, Dillon's symptoms weren't going away, so he started doing his own research. Early in March 2019, during spring break, he told his mother, Michelle, “Mom, I know I have a brain tumor.” Then things started moving very quickly for Dillon and his family.

On March 7, Dillon was diagnosed with ependymoma, a type of tumor that can form in the brain or spinal cord. Ependymoma can occur at any age, but most often occurs in young children. The next day, surgeons spent seven and a half hours successfully removing the golf ball-sized tumor. The surgery left Dillon with extreme weakness on the right side of his body and he was faced with having to re-learn how to swallow, speak and walk.

For the next seven weeks, Dillon was at UPMC Presbyterian in intensive care and rehab. While in Pittsburgh, he suffered a few setbacks due to complications from an infection and pneumonia, but was able to return home to Greenville and the care of his parents.

Dillon’s mother worked from home at the beginning of his recovery, but eventually had to return to work full-time, so she reached out to St. Paul’s Without Walls (WOW) for in-home assistance. Michelle was apprehensive about leaving her son and wasn’t sure how Dillon’s new caregiver, John, and he would manage. But after only a few days she knew it was a good match. “John is thoughtful and conscientious,” she said. “We feel very confident that Dillon is taken care of while we are at work.”

The WOW visits started slowly, only a few hours three days a week and gradually increased to full days, five days a week over several months. Dillon’s WOW Care Partners also accompany him to therapy three days a week and, because of the level of care Dillon requires, completed specialized training.

“Getting to know Dillon was easy,” John said. “In the months I have been working with him we have grown a great friendship.”

At age 21, Dillon is the youngest St. Paul’s Without Walls client. He uses his cell phone like a “lifeline” to keep in touch with his friends and enjoys “hanging out” with his WOW Care Partner. “John is fun to be around, we get along good,” Dillon said.

In late August, an intense rehab stint pushed Dillon forward with his recovery. He has been making great improvements and has received a promising prognosis. Together with his Care Partners and family, he is on the road to recovery. “It’s nice to finally see him eating solid food,” John said. “He’ll eat my cooking but likes Chinese take-out better!”

The WOW Care Partner schedule has tapered off a bit recently, so that Dillon can start getting used to being on his own a little more. He knows that he has a long, bright future ahead of him and is working hard to achieve his goals of living independently and returning to Slippery Rock University to finish his degree.

Dillon’s youthful spirit and determination, along with the amazing support from his family and friends, have brought him through an extremely challenging year. St. Paul’s Without Walls was thankful to have been a part of it and wishes Dillon and his family all the best for the future!
Jane Loutzenhisler has lived in Greenville, Pa., her entire life. In her retirement, she hadn’t spent much time thinking about becoming a resident in our independent living neighborhood, but every time she ran into Bryan Oros, former Executive Director at St. Paul’s, out in the community he would ask her when she was going to move to The Colony.

Eventually, Mr. Oros’ inquiries sparked enough interest that Jane inquired and decided to make the move in April 2018. She hasn’t looked back since and says she is, “as happy as can be.” With her lifelong ties to Greenville, she already knew many of the residents when she moved in.

A member of the final graduating class of Penn High School in 1958, Jane married her husband Jack in 1962 and they had three sons. The Loutzenhisers were entrepreneurs who owned a number of businesses, including a Putt-Putt golf course in Hermitage, Pa., Loutzenhisler-Jordan Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Inc. and L.L. Keck & Sons, a department store in downtown Greenville that Jane managed for fifteen years. After Jack’s passing, Jane oversaw operations at the funeral home while her youngest son was completing mortuary school and eventually took over the family business. Through their businesses, the Loutzenhisers have had the privilege of serving and supporting many of our residents over the years, but Jane has an even more personal connection as multiple generations in her family had ties here. Her great-grandmother Fry lived in the Fay Mansion—the first residence at St. Paul’s dedicated to care of the elderly—during the 1940s and tended the flower gardens and her father had been a resident at The Health Center. When Jane was a young girl, her parents even had plans to adopt a child from the orphanage. Those plans fell through, however, when the young boy’s mother was located.

Jane has always had an affinity for travel which continues now that she is a resident at The Colony. She has visited various destinations around the world including the Rhine River, Aruba and Alaska to a name a few. She enjoys traveling to Panama City Beach, Fla., each March with friends. She appreciates the many events and excursions that are offered to residents in The Colony and finds comfort knowing she can “pick and choose” which ones she wants to participate in. She really enjoyed the scavenger hunt during Active Aging Week and the trip to Lancaster to see the play Jesus. Jane experienced kayaking for the first time in September with a group of residents from The Colony and a few staff members. She had a great time on the river and was thankful to have Dawn Hartman, Director of Planned and Major Giving and an experienced kayaker, with her. The Eden Alternative says “An Elder is someone who, by virtue of life experience, is here to teach us how to live,” and that day, Jane and Dawn were able to teach each other a few things!

She spends a lot of time with her fifteen year-old grandson, Grant, who visits often. They enjoy going on walks through the neighborhood and he has made friends with many of The Colony residents. One of the things Jane enjoys most about living in The Colony is the feeling of security that she has, and she added, “and everyone is just so friendly.”

Knowing that top-notch care is available to her and always will be, gives Jane reassurance that she made the right decision to join our community. “I turned 80 in December,” she said, “and I’m happy about it!” She is investing in her future and having a great time along the way. For those who are considering a move to a senior living community, Jane has this advice: “Come as soon as you can, I wish I would have come sooner, because it is just a wonderful life!”
Honoring a Loved One

As a non-profit, St. Paul’s depends on the generosity of donors to support our mission. No matter how big or how small, your ongoing gifts and support are greatly needed and appreciated.

If you have a loved one residing at St. Paul’s and are happy with their care, we hope you will consider giving back by making a gift.

Memorial donations after a loved one passes away are a thoughtful way to do this. Your loved one’s memory will live on at St. Paul’s through these kind gifts, helping their neighbors and friends.

It can be hard to come up with a meaningful gift for a loved one at St. Paul’s who is celebrating a birthday, anniversary or other special event. If they are already downsizing or have limited space, what do you do?

Consider making a donation in their honor to St. Paul’s. You can designate it for a purpose that is important to them, such as benevolent care or you can just make a general gift. Your loved one will receive a letter letting them know that a gift was made in their honor.

Another unique way to honor or remember a loved one is to help beautify the outdoor space at St. Paul’s. With a gift of $125, an ornamental shrub can be planted with a marker showing the shrub is in memory or honor of your loved one.

For a gift of $350, a tree will be planted, offering shade from the sun, with a ground marker honoring your loved one.

You will be able to choose from a list of different trees and shrubs that will flourish on our campus, and we will work with you to determine the location.

If you would like to make a gift of $600, a beautiful bench will be placed where residents and visitors can rest, relax and take in the beauty of the outdoors. Each bench will feature a message of the donor’s choice on a 4x6-inch plaque.

If you are interested in making a gift in honor or in memory of a loved one, please contact St. Paul’s Charitable Giving Office at 724-588-7610 and speak to Dawn Hartman or Teresa Findley.

What Your Gifts Provide:
Benevolent Care - for residents who exhaust their resources
Life Enrichment - a variety of meaningful activities, such as music therapy
A Special Christmas - gifts for residents as well as wish list items to enjoy all year
Staff Education - opportunities for the team to learn and grow
Staff Appreciation - special recognition to help the team feel appreciated

Three Ways to Give:
✓ Use the enclosed remittance envelope.
✓ Donate online at www.stpauls1867.org/giving or on St. Paul’s Facebook page.
✓ Drop a donation off with the receptionist at any of our facilities.

Thank You!

930 individuals and organizations donated to support the residents and charitable mission of St. Paul’s in 2019, giving an incredible $436,600!
St. Paul’s held the 8th Annual Legacy Society Luncheon on November 7, 2019 at The Villas. The Legacy Society was created in 2000 to recognize a special group of donors who have chosen to make a deferred gift for St. Paul’s in their estate planning.

Twenty-four Legacy Society members were honored at the event.

Nine new members were welcomed in the past year – Jim & Jackie Weyman, Bob & Margie Hays, Dick & Patti Jones and three other donors who wished to remain anonymous. That brings the total of living Legacy Society members to 62.

The theme for the luncheon this year was “Moments of Joy.”

“For older adults struggling with health issues, a good day can be defined in moments of joy,” said Director of Planned & Major Giving Dawn Hartman. “With your gifts, you help create moments of joy that become a part of a life worth living.”

Guest speakers were certified music therapist Cindy Legwaila and Villas family member Karen Kirchhofer, who both talked about the music therapy program, started by a gift from a generous donor, and its impact on the residents at St. Paul’s.

“We hope you felt a sense of satisfaction today as you listened to these stories about moments of joy at St. Paul’s, knowing that you have chosen to help this legacy continue,” said Hartman in closing.

To find out more about the Legacy Society, please contact Hartman at 724-588-7610 ext. 1214 or email dhartman@sp1867.org.

The 1867 Society members will be recognized in St. Paul’s newsletters and on the website. They will be invited to an annual spring reception with President and CEO Chris Wright and other team members for an exclusive update on what’s been happening at St. Paul’s and what’s on the horizon.

In addition, they will each receive a framed certificate honoring them as a member of the 1867 Society and a special membership gift.

To find out how you can join the esteemed 1867 Society in 2020, please contact Director of Planned & Major Giving Dawn Hartman at 724-588-7610 ext. 1214 or email dhartman@sp1867.org.

“What we have done for ourselves alone, dies with us; what we have done for others and the world remains and is immortal.” - Albert Pike
Thank you for helping to fill Santa’s bag this year for St. Paul’s residents to enjoy! You helped us to make Christmas extra special and kept the joy and magic of Christmas alive.

For our residents, the holidays can be difficult as feelings of sadness can set in as they remember past traditions. No matter one’s age, a gift at Christmas means so much. For some, this is the only gift they receive.

It’s not too late to make a gift to the 2019 Resident Christmas Appeal. Even though every resident at The Villas, The Heritage and The Ridgewood has already received a gift hand delivered by Santa Claus this year we still have items on our Christmas Wishlist. Residents can benefit from these items all throughout the year.

Christmas is forever, not for just one day, for loving, sharing, giving, are not to put away like bells and lights and tinsel, in some box upon a shelf. The good you do for others is good you do yourself.

Peace on Earth, good will to men, kind thoughts and words of cheer, are things we should use often and not just once a year.

Remember too the Christ-child, grew up to be a man; to hide him in a cradle, is not our dear Lord’s plan. So keep the Christmas spirit, share it with others far and near, from week to week and month to month, throughout the entire year! —Norman W. Brooks, “Let Every Day Be Christmas,” 1976
Peggy Kovac has lived at The Villas for three years. Before becoming part of the St. Paul’s family, she lived in the same house in Kennard, Pa., for 80 years and took pride in making her home comfortable and welcoming. Today she does the same at The Villas, reaching out and welcoming new residents by sharing her beautiful artwork as welcome gifts.

“To give something from your heart and have it put a smile on another person’s face is the greatest feeling in the world,” Peggy said. From the time she was a child, Peggy has always loved to color. She taught first graders in her church and one of their projects was coloring. She taught her students how to color neatly and stay inside the lines of the pictures.

Peggy was a stay-at-home mother and homemaker and fondly remembers, when her husband was away on hunting trips, collecting colored paper and coloring supplies and gathering all her children around the table to create craft projects together. Her grandson bought her first adult coloring book and colored pencils. She now prefers gel pens, saying they are easier to use and shades of red and pink are her favorite colors to work with.

“The Lord spoke to me and told me I needed to do this—share this gift,” Peggy said. She appreciates the help and encouragement from fellow residents in fulfilling her mission. Her friend and neighbor at The Villas, Mary Kay, encouraged her and often reminded her of the joy she brought to people with her gifts. She would ask Peggy to color pictures so she could send them to her grandchildren in Germany. “I miss her,” Peggy said of her neighbor who has passed away, “she was a very good friend.”

Peggy is also grateful for the employees at St. Paul’s who help with her project and said, “I especially look for Sis [Walsh] and her smile every morning!” Sis is always on the look out for new designs and prints pages off the internet and sometimes orders books online. When they find an especially nice design, they photo copy it so Peggy can make different colored versions of the same picture. Sis also purchases inexpensive frames from the Dollar Store to display and present the pictures to new residents.

You can find Peggy’s artwork all around the building. The curio cabinets on the third floor of The Villas have Peggy’s work in them and the window sills in every dining room get refreshed with new art every month or so. Often when Bingo Bucks are redeemed by our residents, you can find Peggy’s handiwork on the prize table. Once word got out that Peggy had so many pictures to share, she could hardly keep up with the demand. She estimates that in her time at St. Paul’s she has colored and gifted more than 500 pictures.

“I don’t like spending idle time!” Peggy said. When she’s not coloring, she reads her Bible and visits the fitness center regularly—she has also gifted Ron Ashbaugh a piece of her art. Peggy also mentors another resident every Tuesday. “I try to be as kind and gentle as I can be and share my heart with him,” she said. “We read the Bible together and I pick out special passages for him. And we sing. He just loves to sing!”

Another one of Peggy’s “passions” are the African violets she cares for in her apartment. “I love anything of God’s creation,” she said. “I absolutely love my African violets. I talk to them and they love to have their leaves stroked. They have a heart you know?” she said with absolute certainty. And if they do, it’s no doubt that Peggy would find that heart and gladly share hers with it.
Although rainy and cold, the dedication of all those present was apparent at this year’s Walk to End Alzheimer’s. The St. Paul’s team raised more than $17,400 for the Alzheimer’s Association!

Jennifer Brownlee, Walk Manager for NW PA, (above, left) visited St. Paul’s on Monday, Dec. 9 to recognize our organization and two individuals for outstanding fundraising efforts.

Not only was St. Paul’s the top fundraising team at the event, we also had the top fundraiser among us with Mr. Dick Jones (above, right) who walks in honor of his wife, Patti, a resident in Jones Serenity Circle. Dick and his daughter, Melissa raised more than $7,000 and earned “Elite Grand Champion” status.

And don’t miss Adele Lehosky’s inspiring story on page 3. Adele raised $1,100 and earned “Grand Champion” status for her efforts through the years.

Everyone who participated in this year’s Walk to End Alzheimer’s in October has a story — a reason to walk. With 54+ team members it isn’t easy to tell them all, but here are a few.

Not all gestures can be grand, but each person through participation or sponsorships, makes a huge impact. The efforts of all team members have added up to a tremendous showing of support with the common hope of seeing the first white flower raised representing the first survivor of Alzheimer’s. Thank you to ALL who participated—for making a difference!

So Many Reasons to Walk

Several staff participated, like Sheila Wasser (below, right) who recruited family members to participate through the year. Her daughter, Mallory sold cookies for the cause at the Color Me Happy 5K race this summer!

Five members of Alice Mecklem’s family were there, too. Alice is a current resident at The Villas. Alice’s husband, Eugene (middle) and his passion to raise money for the cause, is as inspiring as his love and devotion for his wife!

Patti Ogle (right), current resident at The Villas and Mimi Dreher, Director of Life Enrichment at The Villas. Patti walked in memory of her mom and aunt who both struggled with the disease.

Former staff member and volunteer, Carey Green (above, right) continues to walk with us every year. She recruits her grandson, Memphis to walk, too!

Five members of Alice Mecklem’s family were there, too. Alice is a current resident at The Villas. Alice’s husband, Eugene (middle) and his passion to raise money for the cause, is as inspiring as his love and devotion for his wife!

So Many Reasons to Walk
Another Record Year for the Auxiliary

Thanks to everyone who helped in any way to make this year’s Auxiliary Craft Show and Bake Sale the most profitable ever!

On behalf of the volunteers and Auxiliary we are very pleased to announce that after expenses, this year’s craft show and bake sale netted $12,599.15! This total will be allocated toward the Auxiliary’s current project, the purchase of a new 14-passenger bus with a wheelchair lift for our residents. The mission of The Auxiliary 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.

Many busy crafters’ hands, donations, time, treasure and talents helped to make this record-setting fundraiser possible. Thanks to all who attended the sale and shopped, bought food, baked goods, made crafts and purchased tickets. Mark your calendars for next year’s sale: Friday, November 6, 2020!

Congratulations to the winners of our two special raffles! Linda Savor (left) won the king-size handmade quilt. Chris Sidall (right) won the handmade chest.

Special thanks to the donors who contributed these two beautiful handmade items. The quilt was donated by an anonymous friend of The Auxiliary and the chest was donated by Joe and Reba Gizdic. A second quilt was donated by Elaine Wilkins and was purchased earlier this year for $800. Raffle tickets were sold throughout the year for the king-sized quilt and the chest.

Combined, these true labors of love raised more than $2,700 toward the Auxiliary’s current fundraising project.

Upcoming Auxiliary Events 2020

**Uniform Professionals Sale**
- **Jan 16**
  - Headland Friendship Commons
  - 7 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**In the Bag Handbag Sale**
- **Jan 27**
  - Headland Friendship Commons
  - 7 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**Collective Goods Sale**
- **Mar 23**
  - Headland Friendship Commons
  - 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**National Volunteer Week**
- **Apr 19-25**

**Annual Auxiliary Meeting**
- **May 16**
  - Headland Friendship Commons
  - 9:30 a.m.

**Uniform Professionals Sale**
- **May 27**
  - Headland Friendship Commons
  - 7 a.m. - 4 p.m.
St. Paul’s recognized four staff members for exceptional service and performance during a ceremony on Nov. 6 in the Headland Friendship Commons at The Villas. Nancy Provident, Personal Care Attendant at The Heritage, received the Staff Extra Effort Award; Deb Canter, Dining Aide at The Heritage, received the Staff Dining Award; Kenzi Kerins, Certified Nurse Aide at The Villas, received the Staff Leader Award; and JoAnne Kroner, Care Partner for St. Paul’s Without Walls, received the Staff Newcomer Award.

The awards are presented each year and seek to recognize and show appreciation for staff that improve and enrich the lives of the residents at St. Paul’s Senior Living Community.

A record 51 different staff members were nominated for awards this year. Chris Wright, CEO and President, stated, “Each year it is certainly a daunting task to choose these award recipients, as all of our nominees are extremely worthy and important team members.”

Congratulations to these very deserving staff members and all nominees!

Nancy Provident

Nancy has been a team member at St. Paul’s for seven years. Initially, she was a universal worker in The Heritage and has been a Personal Care Attendant on Jones Serenity Circle since 2015. “I love it up here – this is a very special place,” Nancy said. “It’s like our own little world. And I love it when the residents are waiting for me when I come in to start my shift.”

One of her co-workers commented, “Nancy is always happy. And she’s always nice.” And to that, Nancy responded, “People can perceive your feelings. It’s always best to have a positive attitude.”

Nancy has been married to her husband Dean for 32 years and they have one adult daughter.

Deb Canter

Deb is a Dining Aide on the third floor of The Heritage. She celebrated her one-year anniversary in June. In that short amount of time, Deb says, “I’ve gotten to know all of my residents and I feel like they are my friends now.” She takes time after serving meals to visit with them and find out about them. She stated simply, “If a resident isn’t happy with their meal, I fix it. They deserve every good thing they can get here.”

Deb knows all of her residents’ birthdays and makes cupcakes to celebrate while the entire dining room sings “Happy Birthday.”

When she’s not working, Deb enjoys spending time with her five grown sons.

Kenzie Kerins

In the summer of 2013, at age 18, Kenzi signed up to complete the six-week CNA class and has been working at The Villas ever since.

Described by her co-workers as “caring and kind,” and having “a way of leading others through the day that looks effortless,” Kenzi’s positive and helpful attitude is contagious in the neighborhood where she works and beyond.

Kenzi loves seeing her residents everyday and said, “I enjoy caring for the residents and I love the people I work with. We all do as much as we can to making their daily living a little easier for them.”

Kenzie spends her “free” time with her two adorable children Jaxon (age 3) and Josie (age 2).

JoAnne Kroner

JoAnne has worked as a Care Partner for St. Paul’s Without Walls for only a year, but has spent most of her adult life caring for others—personally and professionally. For 13 years before joining the WOW team, JoAnne was a private caregiver for a former resident at St. Paul’s. During that time, she got to know many team members and family members and became familiar with our campus and the culture of caring at St. Paul’s.

Now she says, “I like working with the elderly, because I am elderly. I can help my clients with what they need.” Her supervisor, Michelle O’Malley said, “JoAnne is so confident in her skill set. She is an incredible mentor for our WOW team members.”
Since 1964, Reverend Dr. Paul Westcoat has served as a trustee on the Board at St. Paul’s. Dr. Westcoat, a pastor at St. Peter’s UCC Church in Punxsutawney at the time, was invited by then Board President Rev. Dr. E. Roy Corman and elected by the Board as a representative for the United Church of Christ.

In his early years, he served on the Farm Committee; although he claims that he didn’t know anything about farming. The committee’s charge was to oversee the operations of the farm including budget and personnel. Later, his time was devoted to the Personnel Committee and is currently a member of the Development Committee where he has served for many years.

In addition to ministering to his church, Dr. Westcoat served as the Penn West Conference Minister for more than 29 years; retiring as Conference Minister in 2000.

Throughout his 55 years of service to St. Paul’s, Dr. Westcoat always considered his primary role as a representative of the church. He considers St. Paul’s relationships with the churches as the most valuable throughout St. Paul’s history. “It was through the church that St. Paul’s was established and countless churches and members of Penn West Congregations have supported St. Paul’s over time.”

Over the past 55 years of service, Dr. Westcoat has supported and been witness to St. Paul’s evolution from a Children’s Orphanage and Old Folk’s Home to a vibrant Senior Living Community. His good friend Rev. Collins Defibaugh was the Executive Director when he joined the Board and Dr. Westcoat saw many changes between 1971 and 1989 during Defibaugh’s leadership. However, they recognized the importance of new leadership due to changes in health care and welcomed G. Bryan Oros in 1978. Oros, a nursing home administrator, served under Defibaugh’s leadership then later took the helm and retired as Executive Director in 2016. It was during these years that Dr. Westcoat described St. Paul’s greatest growth and development.

Dr. Westcoat trusts that his service through the years has made a difference and his hope for the future is that St. Paul’s Senior Living Community and the Penn West Conference continue to prioritize and strengthen relationships between the two organizations.

Today, Dr. Westcoat and his wife Glenda reside in Greensburg, Pa., where he serves St. John’s Harrold Reformed Church. He enjoys spending time with his son Todd and daughter-in-law Sharmaine and their three children. What additional spare time he has, he enjoys reading.

Collaboration with Accounting Department Allows Thiel College Students to Gain Real-World Experience

For several years, the Accounting Department at St. Paul’s has collaborated with students in the auditing class at Thiel College for an agreed upon procedures audit. The engagement allows the students to gain real-world audit experience, completing tasks such as designing audit procedures, selecting samples, performing an audit, and writing a report and presenting findings to senior management.

When asked about the benefits of the project, Professor Gary Witosky stated, “It provides students the opportunity to apply auditing concepts and techniques in a real organization using actual data, rather than through textbook-based problems. Also, students get to work directly with the accounting department staff at St. Paul’s just as they would when working in public accounting.” Through completion of these procedures, the students are introduced to and gain a basic understanding of the actual process of a professional audit. Another perk of the project is that it gives students the opportunity to possibly decide if audit is the road they want to take after earning their degree, or if they would rather explore another route.

When asked about the effectiveness of the project, Thiel senior Scott Simcoe stated, “The St. Paul’s project was a great opportunity for our class to apply theory learned in the classroom into an actual audit engagement.” The value of the engagement cannot be understated and many former students have provided positive feedback on their experience, noting that it has often become a point of discussion in interviews.
Mary Ann Marley, resident on Jones Serenity Lane and her two daughters, Sue Thrappas of Baltimore, Md., and Sandy Hetrick of Wilmington, Del., pose outside of The Heritage with Halloween decorations from their childhood.

The handmade holiday decorations were a staple in the front yard of their Sharpsville, Pa., home for decades every fall. The ghosts (six in all) are tied together to form a ring around a tree. When the wind blows, they appear to be holding “hands” and dancing in the yard.

Mary Ann had shared many stories with Michele Miranda, Life Enrichment Specialist at The Heritage (pictured above, right with Mary Ann), about creating homemade holiday decorations with her family for the holidays. Michele contacted Mary Ann’s daughters and asked, if there were any usable decorations still around, if they could bring them to St. Paul's to remind Mary Ann of home. And now all of our residents and visitors can enjoy them each autumn!

Mary Ann can see the friendly ghosts from her window and loves to share with people that she and her family made them!

Michele and Mary Ann check on the group of ghosts through a window at The Heritage.

Baking Up Memories on Jones Serenity Lane

The sense of smell is more closely linked with memory than any of our other senses. Those with full olfactory function can encounter smells that evoke particular memories; the scent of fresh baked cookies may conjure up recollections of joyous holiday memories, for example. For many families, holiday baking with their loved ones is or was once an annual family tradition.

Residents on Jones Serenity Lane (JSL) can now bake cookies and recall pleasant memories anytime—thanks to the new convection oven in their neighborhood! Terri Descoteaux, Life Enrichment Specialist in JSL, thought the oven would be a good addition (along with a popcorn maker that also sparks happy memories for the residents) and two generous donors stepped forward to make it happen. Since they received the oven, Terri has been regularly scheduling cookie baking events in the neighborhood that get the residents involved and keep smiles on their faces and in their hearts! (Dodi Clesi, resident, is pictured at left preparing—and at right with Terri, baking—her special gluten free cookies and residents Wayne Scott and Kathryn Yurko are enjoying the finished products!)
We welcomed autumn with our 21st Annual Car Cruise & BBQ on September 8. It was a beautiful fall day which encouraged nearly one thousand car enthusiasts to come and enjoy more than 400 classic and historic cars on display.

Family Picnics were held on Saturday, July 27. A great opportunity for families to gather and enjoy a beautiful summer day! And speaking of summer... In August, our Life Enrichment team at The Villas brought together resources from maintenance and environmental services to construct a safe outdoor water adventure for our residents to beat the heat—a HUGE slip ‘n slide in the Courtyard!
To view all of the albums from the many events held in December, visit: www.stpauls1867.org/about/photo-gallery.

You never know what you’ll find hanging out in the neighborhoods on Halloween!

The ladies at The Villas were served up a surprise in November when several of the men who work throughout the building donned some dapper duds to serve them lunch!
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>JAN 23</td>
<td>Annual Snowflake Ball at The Villas Headland Friendship Commons</td>
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<tr>
<td>FEB 12 &amp; 13</td>
<td>Loving Hearts Depot in The Villas Lobby all proceeds benefit resident life</td>
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<tr>
<td>FEB 18</td>
<td>Annual Women’s Retreat at The Villas Headland Friendship Commons</td>
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<td>FEB 27</td>
<td>Ask an Expert American Hearth Month: Heart-healthy Habits The Keifer Building</td>
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<td>MAR 21</td>
<td>Greenville Area Chamber of Commerce Business Expo Thiel College Dome</td>
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<td>APR 19-25</td>
<td>National Volunteer Week</td>
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<td>APR 23</td>
<td>Ask an Expert Smart Devices Tutorial &amp; Online Safety Tips The Keifer Building</td>
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<td>MAY 16</td>
<td>The Auxiliary of St. Paul’s Annual Meeting Headland Friendship Commons</td>
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<td>JUNE 14</td>
<td>18th Annual Strawberry Festival &amp; Auction Ridgewood at Shenango Valley</td>
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<td>JUNE 19</td>
<td>The Longest Day Alzheimer’s Awareness</td>
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<td>JUNE 20</td>
<td>4th Annual Color Me Happy 5K Race</td>
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<td>JUNE 25</td>
<td>Ask an Expert Investing for Income The Keifer Building</td>
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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

“Ask an Expert”
2020 Series
A community series featuring knowledgeable presenters covering a range of meaningful topics pertinent to seniors and their family members.

All presentations are at The Keifer Building at St. Paul’s (341 E. Jamestown Rd., Greenville, PA 16125) and begin at 6:30 p.m. Question & answer sessions follow each presentation.

February 27
American Heart Month: Heart-healthy Habits

April 23
Smart Devices Tutorial and Online Safety Tips

June 25
Investing for Income

September 24
Exploring Open Enrollment Options for Medicare

Seating for all dates is limited. Reservations are required. Call 724-589-4646 or email: jkather@sp1867.org.