

# GREENWOOD HOUSE GAZETTE

NOVEMBER 2016

Hello Family Members and Friends,

You will notice over the next few months that our newsletter will be taking on a different double-sided format and will feature new and improved articles. If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact me at any time. I welcome your opinions. — *Lauryn Goldstein, Marketing/Development Coordinator*

## A Taste of Home

As you know, moving into an Assisted Living or Nursing Facility can be very stressful for residents. Though our staff creates a warm, welcoming environment there are certain things that the residents will always miss about being at home.

Enter Mary Strange. Mary has been a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) at Abrams Residence since it opened its doors 14 years ago. She was the first CNA to work at Abrams and has nearly 40 years of experience in the field. Mary explains that she had an elderly grandmother when she was a teenager and she took care of her, which is what led her to a career as a CNA.

She is truly a special woman who goes above and beyond for each and every one of her residents. Aside from being a very warm person, her claim to fame is that she cooks fresh, scrumptious blueberry pancakes from scratch for the Abrams Residents every Wednesday. The smiles on the resident's faces when they see Mary come out of the kitchen with the steaming hot stacks are priceless.

Mary will always greet you with a smile and is always there to lend a helping hand. Her typical day begins at 5:30 am which is when she begins cooking. She spends the rest of her work day assisting with activities, helping with housekeeping and making sure that every resident is well taken care of. She shares, "I get very attached to the residents and I am inspired by their stories. They become my family."

Mary constantly exceeds her job duties to ensure that her family of residents has smiles on their faces. Whether it's bringing a resident their favorite candy or taking a wheelchair bound resident for a "walk" outside, if it will make her residents happy, she is more than willing to do



it. "I leave here every day very tired, but knowing that my residents are happy, makes it all worth it."

When you speak to any of the Abrams residents, you can see that the feeling is mutual. "Mary's pancakes are a treat that remind me of home. She is a very special woman," shares Dot, one of the residents. Another resident leaves Mary "love notes" every morning at breakfast and fondly refers to Mary and her co-worker as the "Golden Girls." One resident even gives Mary her first hug of the day every morning. The residents all see how incredible she is and appreciate her work so much.

In her spare time, she loves to spend time with her two daughters and her dog as well as go bowling, swimming, to the movies, and church. She was born in Princeton and grew up in Lawrenceville. Prior to working at Abrams, she worked at two other local nursing facilities.

Mary is treasure to have on the staff and it's people like her who make Greenwood House and Abrams the special places that they are. We cannot thank you enough Mary for going the extra mile to make our residents feel at home.



Greenwood House



Dr. Schwartz-Chevlin (second from right) and some of her fellow Hadassah Members.

## Meet Our Hospice Doc

Dr. Jill Schwartz-Chevlin, who has been a Greenwood House Doctor and Medical Director of Greenwood Hospice since it was established in 2006, is also the Physicians' Council Co-Chair of Hadassah. Dr. Schwartz-Chevlin facilitated a breakout session at the Hadassah Annual Meeting in July which was held in Atlanta, Georgia; "Jewish Perspectives on End of Life Care" related to medical ethics. The panel included esteemed medical professionals from all over the United States. Dr. Schwartz-Chevlin has a visiting medical practice for the homebound elderly. She continues to be a faculty member at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School as well as Princeton Medical Center. Her interns and residents can be seen visiting facility and hospice patients each semester as part of their training.

## Upcoming Events:

### November 17

Join us at 2:30 PM in the Auditorium for our special "What's It Worth Event." A certified appraiser will be here to tell you what your items may be worth! To sign up to bring an item, contact Theresa Kling, director of activities, at 609.883.5391 ext. 322 or [tkling@greenwoodhouse.org](mailto:tkling@greenwoodhouse.org). Please note that the appraiser will not be accepting: jewelry, coins, stamps or guns.

## Greenwood House at Home

The Shirley and Harold Silverman Homecare Program of Greenwood House continues to partner with Jewish Family and Children's Service (JFCS) to provide personal homecare services to our frail, needy Jewish elderly in the community. JFCS social workers identify these clients and we collaborate to provide help to keep them at home. The collaboration of the JFCS social workers and our nurses and certified home health aides can be a lifeline for these elders. We hope to continue this partnership for many years. In addition, we continue to be able to offer help to some community members as a result of the generous donation of the Silverman family.

## Grant Being Put to Great Use!

You may remember that Greenwood House was recently chosen to receive a \$10,000 Tzedakah Grant provided by the Legacy Heritage Foundation. We have already begun using the grant money to provide items such as clothing and personal care items to many residents in need and plan to continue to improve the lives of as many residents as we can!

Greenwood House is grateful to Legacy Heritage Fund for establishing the Legacy Heritage Tzedakah Fund at our institution. The Fund was established to help residents lead their lives in health and with dignity. Our residents are so appreciative of the concern for their welfare demonstrated by the establishment of this Fund.

