We have made it through the primaries, the conventions and now we must endure two plus months of “he said, she said.” We should be grateful that there is a process which has worked for many, many years. I am sure that our sitting President can’t wait for January 20th, 2017 when he can return to a “normal” life. As President Obama said at the Democratic National Convention, “Don’t Boo! VOTE! and keep the process going.”

By the way, our residents all have the right and opportunity to vote. The Activities Department and the Board of Elections coordinate to make sure that all residents who wish to vote have access to do so. In the Primary, 21 residents in the Skilled Nursing facility and 9 in the Assisted Living facility voted. The residents are already being contacted to vote in this year’s general election.

Unfortunately some things you don’t get to vote on. Pam Haislip, our long time (16 Years) Director of Finance, decided that it was time to retire. Her last day with Friends was August 9th. She made the decision to be closer to her aging parents back home in Tennessee. Pam has been an incredible asset at FCC. She has served the organization at the highest level with professionalism and has been extremely dedicated to work, but more importantly, to the residents and their families. She often volunteered her time to help with activities and with events that transpired in the facilities over the years. She has left her legacy with us and is truly missed by all.

Rather than fill the Director of Finance position we decided to contract with Dayfield Senior Solutions. Dayfield is a long-term care billing, accounts payable, and accounting company in Englewood, Ohio. The principles of the company have extensive experience and expertise in long-term care finance. Although they will not have a presence on the campus, they are readily available to consult with residents, families and staff regarding any financial issues that might arise.

Speaking of finances, very often in the community, people will ask how we are doing financially. I am very pleased to say that FCC is on very solid financial ground. We have rebounded from closing 16 beds in order to create the new Rehab/Short Term stay unit. Although we did struggle until the Rehab Unit was fully functional 5 years ago, the investment in building that unit has been one of the best decisions Friends Care has ever made.

Well before you know it the elections will be over and we will have new leadership. So as the elections fade we will begin to head into the holidays. My, my, the time is a flying. We will all be here doing what we have been chosen to do which is to take care of the people who have entrusted their wellbeing to us. This is the greatest job in the world.

Thanks everyone for all of your support. VOTE!

-Karl Zalar
Friends Care

Darby

Friends Care Community has a new facility dog! Darby, a golden retriever-lab mix, came to us on May 22, 2016.PrimaryKey done an excellent job training him for us. Darby is young and a half old and is very smart, mellow, and playful. Although to the residents Darby seems like a pet, he is a working dog. It is important that we handle him using his verbal commands. When he follows a command, he should be rewarded and complimented. If he doesn’t follow a command, you will need to redirect him and try again.

Darby is allowed in resident rooms unless the resident requests that he not enter. He has been trained to put his paws up on the bed with the command “PAWS UP” so the resident can reach him to pet him. He has also been trained to jump in the bed with the command “JUMP” if a resident wants him in the bed.

Darby has a few restrictions in the building and isn’t allowed to enter the kitchen, dining room, and rehab Café. Should he enter, redirect him by saying “NO!” and say “NO!” if he tries to enter. He is never allowed to explore trash cans, residents’ trays, food on the floor, etc. If he goes after these, say “NO!” and compliment him when he walks away. Under NO circumstances is Darby to be given human food! He has a feeding schedule and quantity that must be followed. Unless you have been asked to do so, please DO NOT feed him. The facility will be providing treats for Darby. However, if you want to bring in treats, please bring in LOW CALORIE treats. Please NO MILK BONES, as they are very high in calories.

Darby’s personal space for feeding, breaks, and sleeping is on West Hall across from the Beauty Shop. His food and toys are also there. Residents and staff are encouraged to play with Darby and give him exercise. Darby’s potty area is the grassy area off the courtyard. The command is “GO POTTY”, and he should be complimented and rewarded when his business is done.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact one of the member of the Darby Handlers Association: Karl, Katie, Becca, Todd, Michelle H., Hannah, Jenny, Kent, and Bruce.

Activities

Our Annual Ice Cream Social
A great time was had by all in spite of the pouring down rain.

Cesital Sisters Visit in May

Ann Jauss with VITAS Hospice

The Boonshoft Museum Animals
**Friends Care Staff**

Jenny Bochenek, RHIT

Jenny recently acquired the position of Director of Human Resources and Compliance. Jenny has been employed with Friends Care Community for 13 years and 7 months. She has a degree in Medical Record Technology and held the Medical Record position previously. Jenny is looking forward to the new position to build our compliance program. Married to husband Dave for 24 years, they have three children, Alex 17, Ben 12 and Stéphanie 11. She has always enjoyed working at Friends and has had family members here as residents. She knows firsthand that Friends truly is a caring community with wonderful staff.

**Friends Care Activities**

During our celebration of National Nursing Home Week in May, the residents played Dollar Bingo, attended the Friends & Family Potluck, had brunch, watched the Rhinestones & Roses dancers and enjoyed a visit from the Boonshoft Museum animals. National Assisted Living Week is September 12-16 and we will be celebrating with the same activities at the Assisted Living Building.

On Memorial Day, our residents who are Veterans were honored with a Veterans’ pinning. We celebrated Mother’s Day with sundaeas on the patio. The residents’ garden has been planted and they have harvested and enjoyed tomatoes, peppers and cucumbers. We took a trip to the Reds game that they won!

Every holiday the residents choose their menu. The rain drenched hamburgers and hot dogs for the 4th of July were a hit with all the residents. The residents and some families enjoyed watching the Yellow Springs 4th of July parade that starts here at Friends. During the summer many residents enjoy going on weekly rides around our village and surrounding country side. We are honoring our Veterans with a pinning ceremony on September 6 at 3:30pm. Family and friends are invited and encouraged to attend any activities with their loved ones.

~Todd, Activities Director

**Congratulations STAR Employees**

Every year The Leading Age has each non-profit community nominate their STAR employees for the year. This year Friends is proud to announce our STAR employees: Cindy Willis, Team Coordinator and Jean Waulk, Dietary Aide (pictured) and Ashley Scott, STNA and Amanda Wallace, STNA (not pictured). They were chosen because of their kindness and dedication to the residents at Friends Care Community.

**Friends Care Our 2016 Board**

The structure of a nonprofit board really varies depending on the scope and size of the nonprofit organization. Just like any organization, a nonprofit organization exists in a specific stage of its own lifecycle which then determines the needs of the board of directors. The lifecycles include start-up, infancy, juvenile, adolescence and maturity. Just like a baby born and then raised into a mature adult, nonprofit organizations experience the same growing pains along the journey.

A nonprofit board serves an important role for the organization. Board members are ultimately responsible for the legal, fiduciary duty and best interest of the charity – and since it is a tax-exempt entity, the public.

Board members today are expected to sit on at least one (and usually more) committee’s, solicit their circle of influence for gifts, assist with implementing strategic plans and visions, perform executive director reviews and much more. Basically, it can become a second full-time job – especially for volunteers who assume leadership positions.

Ultimately, the success of the board is really dependent on two things. First, that the volunteer board leadership is an exemplary role model and holds their peers accountable. And second, that the executive director is assisting in managing the board and their needs. It only works harmoniously when both pieces are in alignment. This alignment is what builds capacity in the organization – this is one factor that truly affects change. (from Kali Baker Philanthropy in the News)

Thank you to Friends Board Members of 2016.

Front Row: Beth Rubin, Jackie Bowers, Margaret Dunn - President, Pat Dewess, Donna Silvert and Bill Kent
Back Row: Ann Cooper, Grover Criswell and Sterling Wright (Not Pictured: Bruce Bradtmiller and Faith Morgan)