

The Way I See It

10-1-16

Well, another incredible week. I had the chance to sit in on our nursing program's presentation of National Patient Safety Goals and Infection Control. Melissa, Sara, and Lynette are very impressive and their presentation demonstrates the depth of their learning. Our Pharmacy underwent their State survey this week and did very well. In addition, our recent renovation and hood installation are approved. Thanks to Toni Bromley for her leadership in the pharmacy.

Congratulations to the students who recently completed the CNA training, **Sarah Frank, Mark Nyhus, Devany Stutlien, Lori Martin** and **Matt Voeller**. All have tested and passed! I am so proud of them and excited that they have joined our Team at St. Aloisius! **(Submitted by Gail Grondahl)**

Jess Coombs has worked on Med/Surg a little over a year now, she always has a bubbly smile and a happy hello for everyone. She can always be counted on to do an excellent job and beyond. She seems to love working with the patients and has a caring way with them. You're awesome Jess !! **(Submitted by Eleanor Sieglock)**

I want to recognize **Sara Frank** for stepping up to cover shifts for employees who called in. Sara had a great attitude and was so willing to help. Sara is a true professional and team player. We are very lucky to have her here at St. Aloisius. **(Submitted by Lee Ann Krahler)**

Finally, a break-through in collections. Our Business Office has been working very closely with the State to get claims paid. **Jessica Hanson's** patience and perseverance paid off as she overcame several roadblocks this past year. The State converted to a new computer system and all facilities experienced a dramatic reduction in cash receipts. Jessica's efforts allowed St. Aloisius to collect a significant amount of the outstanding collections. **(Submitted by Sandy Teubner)**

I want to say what a refreshing addition **Matt Voller** is to our staff. He is a fun to work with and lightens everyone's day. He is a great CNA. Hey, Matt we all enjoy working with you very much. Thanks for all you do. **(Submitted by Eleanor Sieglock)**

I want to thank **Krystal Wiesz** for covering for me on short notice. My absence was not in the plans, but things came up and she was more than willing to cover for me so that I could be gone. It is always appreciated and I know she is capable of anything that comes her way! **(Submitted by Danica Grossman)**

Many thanks to **Sandy Teubner** for creating the garden memory book as our farewell gift to Isolde Graumann. The time and talent Sandy put into its creation had a beautiful result. **(Submitted by Donna Corneliusen)**

When Mavis Troftgruben went on medical leave, she left a "to do" list for **Tonia Erickson** and I. I didn't end up doing much on that list as Tonia just dug in and got it done! I so appreciate her initiative and help! **(Submitted by Donna Corneliusen)**

Talise Boskat deserves recognition once again. We were short staffed due to a family emergency & Talise volunteered to work a supervisory shift even though she had only been trained one day. There are a lot of things to learn in regard to that shift but she has a can do attitude & she did a great job! Thanks again Talise!! **(Submitted by Lynette Bender)**

My mom is a resident here & I'd like to say a big thank you to **LeeAnn Krahler, Gary Kennedy & Bob Grey** for helping me move her from one room to another. It was done very quickly & efficiently. **(Submitted by Lynette Bender)**

This week a family member told me how grateful she was for CNA, **Jess Coombs**, who spent much of a night shift with this person's family member to bring comforting presence and reassurance. Thank you, Jess! **(Submitted by Donna Corneliusen)**

Bea Peterson from the laundry was very willing to stop what she was doing to complete a sewing repair that I needed completed. THANKS BEA!! **(Submitted by Robin Arnold)**

Bethany Egeberg always makes my day better when I see her in the halls while I'm walking through! She always has a smile on her face and has so much positive energy! **(Submitted by Jaime Bush)**

I would like to recognize and commend our two night CNA's, **Glenna Faul** and **Dave Schmitz** for all of your hard work, empathetic and professional care you give to our patients. Glenna, the staff just love your water glasses with the caring comments and funny notes. You are truly one of a kind. Dave we thank and commend you, for putting up with all of us nurses. Nights are not easy shifts and you have shown your conscientious contribution to the night shift and your patients. Keep up the great work!! **(Submitted by Eleanor Sieglock)**

Thanks to **Mindy Schneibel**, **Crystal Holzer**, and **Crystal Hornbacher** for filling in as supervisor in the LTC when needed. They do a great job! **(Submitted by Kathy Sieg)**

Thank you **Melissa Vollmer** for helping everyone with the new "notes" training! We transitioned smoothly to the new version, thanks to you. **(Submitted by Candie Thompson)**

We would like to give a huge thank you to **Lona Jelsing**, **Wendy Held**, **Ruth Meckle** and **Sr. Elaine** for filling in and covering extra shifts while we were out unexpectedly last week! They put in long days to make sure things kept running smoothly and we didn't have to worry about anything! We have a wonderful staff at daycare and everyone came to the rescue when we needed it! We appreciate the kind words from everyone also! Thanks from the bottom of our hearts! **(Submitted by Jaime Bush and Jodi Davis)**

Kudos to **Sylvia Hager**, **Kathy Sieg**, **Dee Dee Knudtson**, **Tonia Erickson** and **Tina Bonnet** – family members, responding to the August Pinnacle survey, have mentioned you by name as being someone who has made a difference in the life of their resident. Way to go!! **(Submitted by Donna Corneliusen)**

I would like to thank **Michelle Watkins** for her attention to detail. She noticed shortages during our food delivery. She realized those items were needed to prepare specific meals. She ran to both grocery stores to pick up items needed. She saved us from scrambling at the last minute to find replacement items. Thanks Michelle!! **(Submitted by Lynette Bender)**

Thanks to all the staff who helped out with the bake sale this week. A big thanks to Pam Stewart, Pam Held, Karen Bienek and Christy Arends for helping with the set-up and organization of it all. It takes time out of everyone's busy schedule to organize things like this, but the end result is benefiting a great organization in our community. **(Submitted by Jessica Hanson)**

I would like to recognize **Stephanie Wilner**. It is amazing to me that I can call her and ask for a medical code and she can tell me what it is off the top of her head. It saves so much time and effort for me to tap into her knowledge. She is very willing to be helpful, and always does so with a smile and positive attitude. Thanks, Stephanie, for making my job easier and more enjoyable. You rock! **(Submitted by Brenda Finley)**

Please thank and recognize **Jackie Martin** and **Trisha Austin** for their organizing, counting, and counting again, all of our products. Thanks also to all the staff that assisted us in our inventory. We appreciate all your support. **(Submitted by Lorie Sieg)**

I would like to recognize **Donna Corneliussen** for her support in keeping our Serenity Garden going. She works with Isolde and the maintenance staff to have a beautiful garden for the residents and staff to enjoy. She's also the cheerleader and coordinator for Wellness Days in the spring and fall. She is a faithful promoter of these activities and it enhances our services and gives our community opportunities to know what St. Aloisius is all about. Thank you Donna! **(Submitted by Sandy Teubner)**

Today at shift change, **Larry Regalado** (CNA) entertained the residents with a quiz/guessing game out in the commons area. Shift change can be a disruptive time for some residents and Larry's interaction made a great way for residents to focus on some fun. Thanks Larry for seeing a need and addressing it! **(Submitted by Courtney Heilman)**

Thanks to **Michele Bates**, CNA on Unit B for taking the extra time to sit, talk, and pray with 2 residents who were not feeling well this week **(Submitted by Kathy Sieg)**

I would like to recognize **Sarah Frank** and **Nathan Pitchford** for an exceptional job. Their compassion for the LTC residents shines brightly. I recently had the opportunity to work with them both and see firsthand the caring and compassion they have for the residents. They had the residents smiling and laughing throughout the meal with their conversations and storytelling. It made the room feel just like a home dining room with chatter and much laughter. **(Submitted by Danita Rixen)**

A big thank you to **Chris Henderson, Marjorie Kleinsasser, Beth Huseh, Sandy Teubner, Emy Becker** and **Candie Thompson** for helping us spread the word to their communities about our upcoming Wellness Days. I really appreciate their help. **(Submitted by Donna Corneliussen)**

The Med/Surg staff and especially me would like to thank **Gary Kennedy** and **Bob Gray** for all the work and time they have spent helping us with the new Nurses Station. We couldn't have done it without them. Gary and Bob both have spent many hours moving equipment and electronics. Thank you guys, we're almost there. **(Submitted by Eleanor Sieglock)**

I would like to thank **Hope Hoornaert** for staying to complete her training hours when she got a LCD on her weekend. She is very good about working on training whenever she gets a chance. **(Submitted by Jaime Bush)**

In reviewing the Resident Satisfaction Surveys that are completed by an outside source one comment made was "Nurses and CNA's are very caring and good". In addition, many staff members were named, including Tina Bonnet and Sylvia Hager. Congratulations on being recognized for your hard work! **(Submitted by Gail Grondahl)**

I appreciate LeeAnn Kraher for her attention to detail in completing and sending to each residents family all of the necessary consents that are needed for us to proceed with administering the influenza vaccine to our residents. This takes time and commitment as not everyone is able to respond and follow up is needed. **(Submitted by Gail Grondahl)**

It was nice to have **Lori Martin's** daughter Riley play her saxophone for our residents on Unit B. I think they enjoyed having her. The residents love kids! **(Submitted by Kathy Sieg)**

I would like to say a big thank you to **Jessica Hanson**. She is a great boss who is always willing to stop what she is doing ensuring we at the front desk always get the help or assistance we need. **(Submitted by Danita Rixen)**

What can I say, **Rosella Adam**. You are conscientious, punctual, professional and flexible with your schedule. You always strive to do an excellent job. Sitting in the hot seat, Ward Clerk on Med/Surg can be a very trying and nerve racking position to be in. Keep up the good job. **(Submitted by Eleanor Sieglock)**

Brittney Schmaltz took a little time, after lunch, with a new resident who had tears in her eyes, as she does not understand why she is here. Brittney did a great job in reassuring the resident. Her caring attitude really made a difference. **(Submitted by Sister Mary Agnes)**

Miranda Weninger learned that a resident was an avid Minnesota Vikings fan. That resident was having difficulty following the team because she did not know the team's schedule. Miranda, a true Vikings fan, quickly wrote down the schedule, and provided a bunch of information on the team's season so far. Thank you Miranda for going the extra mile for a resident.

Joe Fisher won the ticket for tonight's basketball game, but already bought 4 so he gave one another staff member. **(Submitted by Sister Mary Agnes).**

CNA's- **Tina Bonnet, Ashley Lemer** and **Dana Fitzgerald** made our residents look truly beautiful by taking extra time to ensure everyone had a chance to visit the beauty shop. The residents looked so nice and you improved their day!! **(Submitted by Courtney Heilman)**

I have witnessed **Reed Trosen** leave the facility in the morning with a smile on his face and saying he had a really good night. It's such a joy to see employees who enjoy their job and always have something positive to say. Thanks Reed for setting the example of positivity. **(Submitted by Danita Rixen)**

Christy Arends and Karen Bienek have been going the extra mile this month to bring in as much cash as they possibly can before our year ends this month. Working with insurance and billings is not easy and some days are definitely a struggle, so thank you for your diligence and hard work. **(Submitted by Jessica Hanson).**

I would like to thank **Pam Stewart** for teaching me how to use the "Publisher" program on my computer. It was very helpful getting ready for Flu Season. Thank you for your patience with me... **(Submitted by Mary Prouty)**

Nancy Meland wears many hats from Admin, HR, Benefits, Presentation & Sr. housing rentals, as well as answering the million odd questions from employees. Nancy does all this with a smile and makes sure each of us feels welcome and important. Thank you Nancy for your generous hospitality and assistance with any question or problem no matter the nature of it. **(Submitted by Danita Rixen)**

Upcoming Events:

1. On October 13, 2016 we will be having our Wells Co. Relay For Life "Breast Cancer Awareness Cake Auction" @ the Harvey Eagles Club. The theme is "Breast Cancer" and the hospital will sponsor a cake, we will need two or three employees to decorate the cake for the hospital. Sheet cakes, frosting, and food coloring are all provided by Hinrichs Super Value. If you want other embellishments on your cake you can bring them. You will have 15 minutes to decorate your cake and then we auction them off. We will be serving all the soup and bread you can eat for \$6.00 per person from 5:00 to 7:00. Cake decorating starts at 7:00 to 7:15 and the auction starts at 7:30. This is a fun filled family night and I would encourage people to come out if you have never been to one. All the proceeds from this auction will go to our Wells Co. Relay for Life.
2. Reminder that Monday our Community Cares group is asking EVERYONE to wear BLUE in support of Bully awareness. Ann Adams offered to give out wristbands "Stomping out bullying" on main street to those wearing blue. She could use some assistance if anyone is willing to assist with wristbands.

3. We will begin to offer a Surgical Weight Loss Support Group through CHI- St. Alexius using telemedicine. Keep an eye out for posters and additional information on times. We are doing this in response to our community's responses to our Community Health Needs Assessment.
4. Our Employee Awards Banquet/Christmas Party is scheduled for Friday 9 Dec at the Harvey Eagles Club. This year we are arranging for music and dancing.
5. M&M days sessions are scheduled for 19 and 20 October. These are important sessions and I look forward to seeing you there.
6. We will be offering flu shots in the next couple of weeks. Please get your flu shot. We want you to remain healthy.
7. This week we had some employees identify questionable emails. Fortunately, they notified NorthStar immediately and they removed the dangerous email. No one in the hospital clicked on the attachment so our network remains intact. I am grateful for everyone's support in identifying and reporting attempts to access our network.

Greg