



# The PULSE

## CELEBRATION

### Thank you, nursing assistants!

As we celebrate National Nursing Assistants Week June 17 to 24, we want you all to know how much we appreciate each and every one of you! Treats are available at CHCC Monday through Friday; check the employee calendar for specific details.



#### CHCC begins online visit scheduling

Family and friends of loved ones living at Christian Health Care Center may go online (starting sometime this month) to <https://chclynden.org/visitation/> to schedule visits. The new service is intended to make scheduling easier for the community while also easing the burden on CHCC team members. Via the new system, family and friends can select a requested visit date and time; team members will then confirm that the appointment works with schedules and confirm accordingly.

## CEDAR COVE

### *New robotic pets to assist in memory care*

In memory care, robotic pets are used in many ways to improve quality of life. With a lifelike look and feel, robotic dogs, cats and other animals can be a soothing diversion during times of stress. Notably, robotic pets also have been shown to improve brain function and prevent cognitive decline.

Studies of the PARO robot, an adorable therapeutic seal developed in Japan, have shown that at least half of the elderly with Alzheimer's disease and similar cognitive decline experience improved brain function when interacting with the animals. In many cases, the results are similar to those gained in animal therapy.

That is great news, because two of the PARO robotic seals are

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Like or share CHCC's Facebook posts with your friends and family to help others learn about job openings, volunteer opportunities, donation requests and more.

[facebook.com/christianhealthcare](https://facebook.com/christianhealthcare)

## KUDOS

# Lynn and Betty are Shining Stars

Lynn H., the lead hospitality aide on evening shift, is CHCC's nursing Shining Star for April. She stepped into her role recently and has taken it on with grace and gusto. Anyone who knows Lynn knows that she leads with compassion. She is gracious, even when she's running in 100 directions! We are so fortunate to have Lynn on our team.



Lynn H.

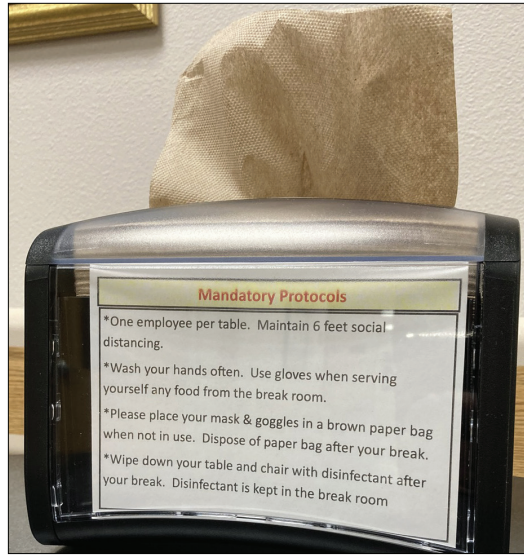
Betty L., the unit secretary on rehab, is CHCC's non-nursing Shining Star for April. She must have more than two arms, because she juggles so many things. Betty is fun, kind and organized. She is pleasant to the many people she must deal with on a daily basis, both in person and on the phone. She also is a "go to" team member when it comes to creating things: forms, signs, even our Christmas slideshow, which she took on last year! She is a gem. Betty also is about to have a baby, so we all wish her well with this new chapter of her life. And we look forward to when she comes back to work; she is such an important part of our team!



Betty L.

Thank you for leading by example; you can both be proud of your contributions and accomplishments here.

## KUDOS



Thank you to the team member who suggested that we change the way notices are displayed on tables in the break room.

Your suggestion led to the installation of these snazzy napkin holders, which allow us to share important information with you without the need for laminated info sheets on the tables.

#CHCCTeamwork

**REFRESH!** If a surveyor wants to watch you perform a skill involving a resident, remember to ask the resident for their permission first. Protect the resident's privacy. Alert your unit coordinator or nurse that the surveyor has asked to watch you. This allows for the unit coordinator or nurse to review and answer any questions you may have. In addition, ask the unit coordinator or nurse to be present, if able, to provide support and assistance. Be polite and confident. You are an expert at caring for your residents.



Father's Day is coming soon! Wear a tie to CHCC on Sunday, June 20, in honor of fathers everywhere. Maybe tell a terrible dad joke, too.

To all of the fathers on the CHCC team: Thank you for being the men you are! Happy Father's Day to you all.

# Bingo is back!



Bingo has long been one of our resident's favorite activities, so we're happy to be able to offer it again. Paying close attention to safety precautions, our amazing therapeutic recreation team has been able to relaunch bingo and other enriching happenings during small group activities. Look at those smiles! Thank you to all of the CHCC team members who have worked so hard to enable those who live here to resume group activities.



Please join us in expressing gratitude for Thea M.

We had the pleasure of caring for her wonderful husband, Bill, until he passed away earlier this year. (Read Bill's spotlight interview: <https://chcclynden.org/resident-spotlight-bill-m/>.)

Thea was incredibly generous during the time Bill lived here. She sponsored several pet therapy visits and was always kind and encouraging to our care team. She was a bright spot in our days during the pandemic.

After Bill passed, Thea decided to make a legacy donation to CHCC's foundation. That donation will be used to improve the lives of those who receive care here in the future. We are deeply grateful for her generosity and thoughtful contribution — a gift that will bless many others for years to come.



## HUMAN RESOURCES

# Help recruit NACs, earn up to \$500

During this time of heightened need, we would love your help recruiting certified nursing assistants to work here. Please encourage any kind and friendly nursing assistants that you know to apply online at <https://chcclynden.org/careers/>. If they get hired at CHCC, you'll earn a referral bonus of up to \$500!

## PARO

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now at CHCC!

Thanks to a LeadingAge grant, CHCC has been able to purchase two of the cute robots for use in Cedar Cove, the memory care wing of our long-term care center. The grant is similar to the one used recently to start an outdoor bicycling program for residents.

Dr. Sandra Petersen, from the University of Texas at Tyler, soon will be training CHCC staff members on the use of the robots for providing therapeutic care to those who live here. PARO robots were first released in 2003; CHCC's will be the eighth generation of the successful tool.

The sophisticated new seals will be added to the robotic dog and cat already in use.

"We have observed the 'Joy For All' companion pets provide CHCC residents with many moments of comfort and joy over the past couple of years," said Josh Friesen, a social worker in Cedar Cove at CHCC. "With our staff participating in specialized training provided through the grant, we anticipate even greater therapeutic benefits for our residents as they are introduced to the PARO robots!"

According to the company's website, PARO robots have sensors for touch, light, sound, temperature and posture. The robot can distinguish between light and dark, and it knows when it is being stroked or petted. The posture sensor helps the



The new robotic seals add to the collection of animals being used in memory care at CHCC.

robot know when it is being held, and it also can sense the direction of voices and recognize its name and common greetings.

Check out the CHCC website at <https://chcclynden.org/news/> for more.

#### Leadership tip:

#### How to build a more collaborative workplace

Creating a more collaborative workplace at CHCC — in which all team members work together in a cohesive unit to fulfill our mission — is up to each of us. There are many things we can do to encourage ourselves along the path to better cohesion.

As stated in an article in Entrepreneur (<https://www.entrepreneur.com/article/302126>), the first step is to **establish a cause we can get behind**. At CHCC, our stated mission is to "provide skilled nursing care with compassion and love in Christ's name." That mission has many components, including recognizing the importance of quality care, providing a safe and well-maintained physical environment, and addressing the needs of all in our care.

As a leader, you can inspire others to want to help fulfill that mission. If people around you aren't clear about the value of the work they're doing, they're also not going to want to collaborate to accomplish the work. To work well together, we need to start encouraging others to see the work we all do as important and valuable.

Speak positively of your job and of the difference it makes in the lives of CHCC residents and their loved ones.

#### JUST FOR FUN

## Dietary dresses up for hat day



How adorable are these ladies from dietary in their hats, in celebration of hat day in May?! To see your team featured in The Pulse, snap a photo on the next dress-up day and send it to [marketing@chcclynden.org](mailto:marketing@chcclynden.org). Check the staff calendar for special days in June.