



December Newsletter



Staff Breakfast Celebration

Hillcrest Commons held a breakfast today (Nov. 27) to reward and thank staff for all of their hard work. The work by the dedicated team at Hillcrest helped achieve our recent 5 Star rating from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) as well as our Silver - Achievement in Quality Award from the American Health Care Association. Administrators and managers were on hand to thank staff and cook breakfast. (Picture – Assistant Administrator – Katie Henault & Executive Director – Delores Duncan)



Memory Tree

Thank you to the Berkshire Eagle who on November 30th reported on our memory tree from unit 5. Hillcrest Commons' Activities Department did a great job with the staff on the unit. Hands-on activities are an important part of the memory care work for the residents and they were a vital part of decorating the tree.



Harvest Run -The Berkshire Healthcare Harvest Run raised more than \$15,000 for the Berkshire Community College nursing program scholarship last month at a trail run and cook-off. More than 170 runners participated.

Student of the Month - OCTOBER

Hillcrest Commons is proud to partner with The Crosby School! We are supporting the school with a Student of the Month program. This will be followed up with a Student of the Year event in June. To receive this honor, students must achieve 90% attendance or better, receive no office referrals, and have a homework completion rate of 80% or better. November awards will be handed out on December 8th. So no revealing the winners in advance. **Congratulations to the October Students of the Month! K - Delroy Leard, 1 - Avah Conroy, 2- Hera Tubbs, 3 - Siul Sanchez Rodriguez, 4 - Taea Cunagin and 5 - Bryanna Hallock.**

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Boston Post Cane

Hillcrest Commons Nursing and Rehabilitation Center hosted a celebration and presentation for Mrs. Clarice Clement who was presented with the Boston Post Cane by Lenox Council of Aging. The Boston Post Cane is a New England tradition which dates back to 1909 when the cane would be presented to the oldest citizen of each town. Gold headed canes were presented to 700 New England Towns by Edwin A. Grozier, Boston Post Publisher, with approximately 500 towns still keeping with the tradition today. On hand for the event at Hillcrest Commons which is now home to the 103 years old Mrs. Clement were Susan Holmes (Lenox Council on Aging), Chris Ketchen (Lenox Town Manager), Kate Walker (representating State Rep. William "Smitty" Pignatelli), and representatives from Hillcrest Commons including Assistant Administrator Katie Henault, family and loved ones of Mrs. Clement. Jackie Kearin, unit manager where Mrs Clement resides, shared her life story with the group before the presentation.

Clarice was born on May 31, 1914 to Henry and Anne Bromley in Pittsfield, Mass. She worked for Western Union where she met her future husband. Working at Western Union she described this as the hardest job ever as she was in charge of typing the information up and as a result she knew first that her friends and neighbors had lost their life in the war. It was also a happy time as she met her future husband Harold Clement and after marrying in 1952 moved to Lenox where she lived for the next 62 years. Her family included a stepson Harold Jr. and son David.

After Western Union she worked for many years at Trinity Church in Lenox as the secretary and was a member of St. Helena Chapel where she worked into her 90's as an altar guild, washing and ironing the linen and arranging the altar. She also volunteered in helping set up the craft fairs and visiting church members who were sick or in nursing homes.

One of her greatest joys was being known as "Niany" (Welsh for Grandma) to Trevor and Justin. She would follow them in their sporting activities including attending their high school and college graduations. She is now a great grandma to Miss Charlie and the two share a special bond even though there is 100 years difference.

Clarice always talks about how blessed she was with the family and friends who surround her. Even during the most difficult times they survived on the love of family and friends who would always be there to support.

We salute Mrs. Clarice Clement as the oldest Lenox Citizen and celebrate with her in this milestone. (Picture – Mrs. Clement and family with Boston Post Cane)



Happy
Holidays!

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