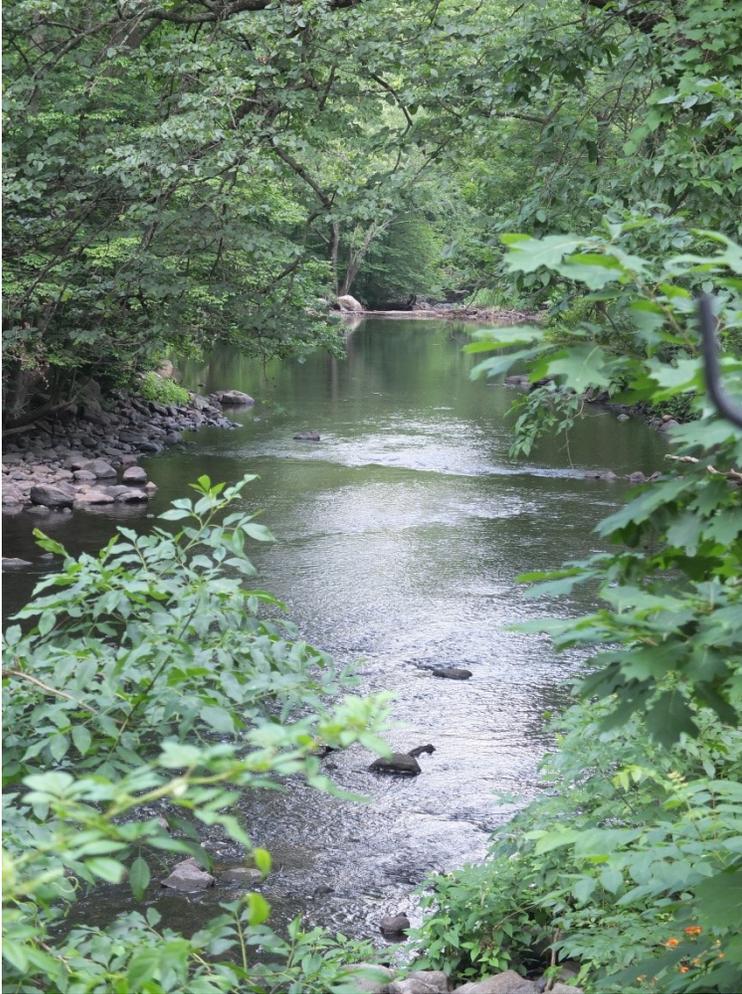


RIVERSIDE IDYLL

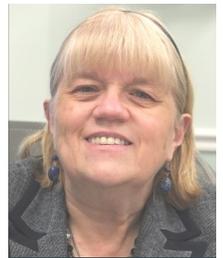
News from The House of the Good Shepherd

July 2020



Happy Summer to All!

We have all been through a rough Winter and Spring together in managing Covid-19 at the House. Our hearts go out to all those who were impacted, and we continue to offer healing thoughts to all who have suffered—residents, families, and staff. Tremendous praise for our staff who helped us successfully manage through this and to our families who have had to stay distant during this crisis. Thank you all for your courage and patience!



Sue Lanza

We are excited that the Rev. Shawn Carty is staying on with us as Chaplain and adding to his responsibilities. One of those projects is the newsletter, which is something that many residents have asked for. Please let us know what you would like to see in YOUR newsletter!

We will be restarting some projects at House as soon as we are able to. The renovation of the public rest rooms will start again; and we are finally beginning to work on the Riverwalk project: repairing the pathway that runs along the river so everyone can enjoy the spectacular views of our part of the

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Living well along the Musconetcong River in Hackettstown, New Jersey



Editor's Note

Welcome! This is our first issue of the *Riverside Idyll*. We plan to publish monthly with news from residents and staff at the House of the Good Shepherd.

While this issue has plenty of staff news, I look forward to including more photos and articles from residents in future issues.

Have an idea to share? Willing to have your picture in the next issue? (After a haircut, of course!) Contact me at x5931 or scarty@hotgs.org.

Thanks for reading!

The Rev. Shawn Carty, *Editor*

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lovely Musconetcong River. Look for more information to come on these and other projects.

Our Skilled and Long-Term Care Unit had our Department of Health Survey in late June that was specifically focused on how we handled infection control aspects of the Covid-19 situation. We were deficiency free, thanks to our wonderful staff! Our regular annual (unannounced) inspection normally occurs at the end of the summer but the scheduling is likely to change due to the Covid-19 interruption.

Work continues on reviving our Strategic Plan which is focused on some renovations at our campus over the next few years. Over the summer, we are collecting information from our Board, Independent Living residents, and other key stakeholders so we can hold a Board of Trustees Retreat in September to discuss next steps. We will keep you posted.

Staying safe and healthy during the ongoing Covid-19 crisis is really a personal responsibility. We often look to others to guide us but if we practice good handwashing, social distancing, and mask wearing, we are likely to be safe. Please remember that your actions do have an impact when you live with many people in a campus like ours. Thanks for your diligence in considering others. Enjoy your summer!

Sue Lanza, *CEO and President*

Summer's Bounty of Strawberries

Look at these delicious strawberries grown by **Bill and Geri Barton** right here at the House of the Good Shepherd. Their strawberry patch is in the center courtyard of the main building and produced an abundant crop of these bright red gems this year. If you find yourself with strawberries on hand, here is a recipe to try from King Arthur Flour.



Strawberry Shortcake Biscuits

Makes 9 biscuits

- 3½ cups All-Purpose Flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- ½ teaspoon baking soda
- ¼ cup dried buttermilk powder
- 3 tablespoons granulated sugar
- 8 tablespoons cold butter (or ½ cup cold shortening)
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1 large egg
- 1 cup milk (or substitute 1 cup buttermilk for the buttermilk powder and milk)
- 2 teaspoons milk (optional)
- 2 teaspoons sugar (optional)

Preheat oven to 425°F. Lightly grease a baking sheet, or line it with parchment.

To make the biscuits: Whisk together the dry ingredients, and work in the cold butter or shortening until the mixture is crumbly.

Whisk vanilla and egg with the milk, then add all at once to the dry ingredients and stir until the liquid is absorbed.

Turn the dough out onto a lightly floured surface and knead four or five times, just until it holds together. Pat the dough out until it's about ½" to ¾" thick, and cut it into 2½" to 3" circles.

Place the biscuits on the prepared baking sheet, brush the tops with milk for a shiny surface, and sprinkle with sugar if desired. Bake for 10 to 12 minutes, until the tops are golden brown. Remove them from the oven and cool for 15 minutes before serving.

Just before serving, split open the biscuits, spoon half the berries and whipped cream on the bottom half, top with remaining biscuit halves, and spoon on the remaining berries and cream.

<https://www.kingarthurflour.com/recipes/strawberry-shortcake-recipe>



Board of Trustees News

Many thanks to these new members of the Board of Trustees for the House of the Good Shepherd who have joined in 2020.

Greg Ackerson joined the Board of Trustees in January. Raised in Blirstown, Greg is a graduate of Lehigh University and is President and owner of Blue Ridge Lumber and Grand Rental Station. He lives in Blirstown with his wife and two children.

Norman Worth joined the Board in January and is co-owner, President and General Manager of WRNJ Radio; and is co-owner of Tri-County Answering & Paging Service, both in Hackettstown. Active in Rotary, he has served on the boards of Hackettstown Medical Center and Centenary University.

Gene Milton joined the board in July and is a consultant and executive coach. Gene's extensive experience in healthcare includes serving as President and CEO of Hackettstown Medical Center and in a number of positions with Adventist Healthcare in Rockland, Maryland.



“Summer afternoon—
summer afternoon;
to me those have always been
the two most beautiful words
in the English language.”

— Henry James



Meet Will Ashby



On May 4, we welcomed Will Ashby, our new Director of Plant Operations. Will took a few moments out of his full schedule of overseeing the building operations to share a bit about himself as he begins his work at the House.

Tell us a little about your yourself.

I was born and raised in New Jersey and spent my growing up years in Irvington. I'm the eldest of four kids. In college, I earned a degree in photojournalism and worked in that for a while. I went into mechanical engineering and have worked in telecommunications. The past four years I have worked in building management in a long-term care facility.

First impressions of the House?

Everyone has been warm and friendly here and people have been really kind. It seems like a wonderful place to be and it's a place that honors and celebrates life. I feel like I fit right in. I am big into nature, so the grounds and the unique setting of the House being on the Musconetcong River makes it a beautiful place to work. At the moment, my favorite place on the grounds is the large maple tree with the cove of boulders near the front entry.

How has it been starting a new job the middle of the Covid-19 pandemic?

Coming here, I was impressed with seeing how hard everyone has worked to care for the residents and keep them safe as possible during this pandemic.

What do you enjoy most in your work?

I really enjoy interacting with the residents and my coworkers here at the House. I definitely have a "hands-on" approach and like to lead by doing. I take every opportunity to learn and I believe knowledge is powerful. There are projects I am looking forward to as we complete the Riverwalk and make it possible for residents to enjoy the river more. There is always a renovation project happening and that's good.

Anything about you that others might find surprising?

I have a small business making all-natural soaps and body care products. It's called Sunrise Mountain Soap and we sell online and at a farmer's market.



Thanks to all staff who participated on June 26 in **Employee Spirit Day** celebrating Pride Month

The next Employee Spirit Day will be July 31



New Employees

A warm welcome to new employees who have started at the House since June 1

- Jesse Rinier, Maint. Asst.
- Grace Paonessa, Receptionist
- Emma Cofie, Certified Nursing Asst.
- Rosalind Perez, LPN
- Sandra Torres, Receptionist
- Latrisha Lopez, Housekeeper
- Joshua Michonski, Temp. Maint. Asst.
- Sasha Adams, Bus Driver

Know someone who might make a good member of the team at the House? Did you know you can receive a bonus for referring new employees? Job openings are posted near the Second Floor receptionist, on the First Floor by the ATM machine, and online. For more information talk with Gina Arnone in HR.

<https://www.hotgs.org/employment.php>



Employees, are you up-to-date on your Relias training? Please check with your department head about the status of your Relias online training. You should have completed 10 courses by June 20. If not, please complete these courses ASAP!

RELIAS

Staff Members of the Quarter

Emilie Mitchell, LPN

Emilie started working at the House of the Good Shepherd on the Assisted Living Unit on September 25, 2018 on the 3-11 shift. She graduated from the Warren County Technical School LPN Program.

She has grown into a professional nurse. Emilie is hard working and very compassionate. The residents are always happy when she is working, as they know they can depend on her. She has quickly learned the daily operations of the unit and has become a valuable team member.



Since her employment, Emilie has not reported off for any shifts. She always will do what is needed. She has changed her days off, given up vacation time, worked overtime, and has stayed when others have reported off.

Emilie has become so much more confident that she is now training new nurses. Thank you for your dedication to the organization!

Bill Canfield

Congratulations to Bill Canfield, our Staff Member of the Quarter! Bill has worked for the House of the Good Shepherd for 10 years as of July 3 this year.

Bill is a devoted and hard-working individual in the Maintenance Department and has gone above and beyond expectations without question.

He never questions anything that is asked of him.

After two employees recently left the maintenance department, he has worked for

4½ weeks straight without a day off to make sure the residents and building were taken care of. Bill is the heart and soul of the Maintenance Department. The House could not have asked to have a great employee like Bill.

Thank you for your dependability and hard work for all of us who live and work at the House!



*Congratulations to Emilie Mitchell and Bill Canfield
Staff Members of the Quarter for July-September.
We are grateful for your good work and service
to the House of the Good Shepherd. Well done!*

Just for Fun

American Independence Day	Bill Canfield	Emilie Mitchell	Flag	Fourth of July	Garden State	Good Shepherd	Hackettstown	Ice Cream	Idyll	Independence Day	Musconetcong	New Jersey	Riverside	Sheep	Shortcake	Solstice	Strawberry	Summer	Will Ashby					
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										T	A	F	K	M	A	E	R	C	E	C	I	N	J	G
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Did you find the lost sheep in this newsletter?

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