

November 2025 Newsletter

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NOVEMBER



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Happy November!

It's amazing how quickly the year has moved, and yet your impact continues to ripple in every direction. From companionship and caregiving to administrative support and community outreach—you are the heartbeat of our hospice.

As the holidays approach, may you pause to recognize the quiet power of what you do: easing burdens, creating peace, and offering presence.

For more information on how you can contribute and create a positive impact as we conclude another fantastic year together, please look inside.

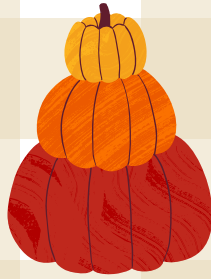
Your involvement not only enriches our events but also fortifies the connections within our community. Let's strive to make this holiday season truly unforgettable!

A heartfelt thank you to all our volunteers. Your efforts truly transform Serenity Hospice and Home into a sanctuary of comfort and hope. Wishing everyone a joyful and warm November!

Stephanie Wheeler



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



GATHERER GROUP

Join us on Wednesday, November 5th, at 1:30 PM in the Serenity Conference Room for our monthly Gatherer group meeting. This group is a delightful craft gathering. This month, we'll focus on creating gifts for Veterans. All skill levels are welcome, and materials will be provided. It's a wonderful opportunity to socialize, share creativity, and contribute to a meaningful cause. Refreshments will be served, adding to the cozy and welcoming atmosphere. We hope to see you there, ready to make a difference and enjoy a fun afternoon together!



Our incredible veterans will gather at Oregon Elementary School on Monday, November 10th, to read books that highlight themes related to veterans and the military for students in grades K-3. This event is part of a week-long celebration in honor of Veterans Day, aimed at inspiring young learners and nurturing a deeper appreciation for the sacrifices made by those who have served in the armed forces.

- Each veteran will share their personal experiences and stories, captivating the children with engaging storytelling sessions.
- These sessions will not only highlight the importance of service and duty but also encourage empathy and understanding among young listeners.

After the readings, students will have the opportunity to ask questions and interact with the veterans, fostering meaningful conversations and creating lasting memories for both generations.

KNITTING AND CROCHETING GROUP

Those who knit and crochet should meet us at the Serenity Shed on Friday November, 14th at 10 am. We'll be gathering for a cozy morning filled with creativity, laughter, and the soothing rhythm of yarn and needles. Whether you're a seasoned crafter or just starting out, everyone is welcome to join in the fun. Bring your favorite project, or start something new with us. It's a wonderful opportunity to connect with fellow enthusiasts, exchange ideas and tips, and simply enjoy the peaceful art of knitting and crocheting together. We hope to see you there!



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



VETERAN DAY DELIVERY



Veterans Day is an ideal occasion to express our gratitude to the veterans on our service. We are seeking volunteers who can visit our esteemed veterans, present them with a gift, and extend our thanks for their service. This simple act can create a meaningful impact, demonstrating our appreciation for their commitment and sacrifices. Whether it's taking a few moments to share stories, listen to their experiences, or simply offer a warm smile, every gesture of kindness can truly resonate with those who have served. Let's unite as a community to honor and celebrate these courageous individuals, ensuring they feel cherished and remembered. If you're interested in volunteering, please contact us, and together, let's make this Veterans Day a memorable one for our heroes.

Every month, we provide in-person education to ensure that our hospice volunteers remain compliant and informed. Join us on Tuesday, November 18th at 10:00 AM in the Serenity Conference Room for a Dementia in-service. We believe that ongoing education is crucial for delivering the best care and support to our patients and their families.

Your involvement is key to enhancing the quality of our hospice services. Refreshments will be available, and there will be a Q&A session at the conclusion of the event. We look forward to seeing you there and collaborating to create a positive impact in our community

EDUCATION



VOLUNTEER SUPPORT CHAT



Our dedicated hospice volunteers generously devote their time each month to visit numerous patients. On Wednesday, November 26th, we invite you to join us for a volunteer support chat at 10:45 AM in the Serenity Conference Room. This is a wonderful chance to connect with fellow volunteers, share your experiences, and gain valuable insights into delivering compassionate care. We truly value the incredible impact you have on the lives of our patients and their families. Your commitment and kindness are genuinely inspiring. We look forward to seeing you there!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



THANKSGIVING MEALS

Every year at Serenity Hospice and Home, we are grateful to provide Thanksgiving meals to patients and families in need. While our staff can deliver many meals, we are seeking volunteers to help distribute them on Wednesday, November 26th, at any time throughout the day. If you are available and eager to spread some holiday warmth and joy, we would be thrilled to have you join us in this meaningful effort. Your support is immensely appreciated.



Join Us for the Final Angel Ball!

We invite you to help make the last Angel Ball a success! We are seeking volunteers for this special event on Saturday, December 6th. Volunteers are essential in ensuring that everything runs smoothly. Additionally, we are looking for four delicious desserts to feature as silent auction items at the event. Your contributions will make a difference!

HOLIDAY DECORATING IN THE SERENITY HOME

Our favorite time of year has finally arrived—it's time to decorate Serenity Home for the holiday season! We invite you to join us on Monday, December 1st, at 9 AM for a delightful morning filled with festive music, holiday cheer, and a warm cup of cocoa as we transform our beloved space into a winter wonderland. Whether you're a decorating pro or simply excited to spread joy, all are welcome at this cheerful gathering. This is a fantastic opportunity to share laughter, create lasting memories, and fully embrace the spirit of the season. Don't forget to wear your favorite holiday accessory—be it a cozy sweater or a cheerful hat—and let's make this year the most enchanting one yet!



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



BOOK CLUB



Join the Serenity Book Club on Thursday, December 18th, at 8:30 AM at the Village Bakery. This month's book is "The Wedding People" by Alison Espach.

We'll gather to discuss the book's themes, characters, and the unique storytelling style that Alison Espach brings to life. Whether you've read the entire book or just a few chapters, your thoughts and perspectives are welcome. It's a perfect opportunity to unwind with fellow book lovers, enjoy some delicious pastries, and engage in lively conversation. We hope to see you there for a morning of literary exploration and camaraderie!

Front Desk Greeters are needed at Serenity Home. They are essential in fostering a warm and inviting environment for all patients and visitors. Please consider one of the following available shifts:

- Sunday November 30th from 8:00 AM to 12:30 PM or 12:30 PM to 4:30 PM
- Tuesdays from 4:30 PM to 8:00 PM
- Wednesday, November 26th from 4:30 PM to 8:00 PM
- Thursdays from 4:30 PM to 8:00 PM
- Saturday November 8th from 8:00 AM to 12:30 PM or 12:30 PM to 4:30 PM
- Saturday November 29th from 8:00 AM to 12:30 PM or 12:30 PM to 4:30 PM

FRONT DESK SUPPORT



WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA



We are excited to announce that Serenity will once again be participating in Wreaths Across America this year. Our goal is to buy 60 wreaths to place on the headstones of Veterans at the Daysville Cemetery in Oregon, IL, and we are collecting donations to make this possible. Each wreath costs \$17, and we will also be attending the event on Saturday, December 13th at 2:30 PM. If you are interested in joining us as a volunteer, please let us know - we would be thrilled to have you with us in remembering and honoring those who selflessly served our country.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



ONLINE EDUCATION

With cold and Flu season among us, this month's online education is on infection control. While this presentation is from 2020 it is a good reminder of practices we should be using. You can watch the video here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B-M0VZ_h4Kk Afterwards be sure to add your training time to your timesheet and mark infection control webinar in the notes area of your time sheet.



FLU CLINIC



Final Flu Clinic Announcement

We invite you to attend our last Flu Clinic on November 11th from 7 AM to 10 AM in the Serenity Conference Room.

Important Reminders

- All volunteers interacting with patients or volunteering at the Serenity Home must have their flu vaccine (or an exemption) by November 15th.
- For those with an exemption, masks will be required while volunteering starting on November 15th.

Please ensure you submit your proof of vaccination.

2025 VOLUNTEER CHRISTMAS PARTY

Save the Date for Our 2025 Volunteer Christmas Party

Join us on Tuesday, December 16th at 10:30 AM for our Volunteer Christmas Party at the Prairie Jarrett Center, 7993 North River Road, Byron, Illinois.

Stay tuned for more details in an official invitation! We are thrilled to celebrate the holiday season with our amazing volunteers who have made such impactful contributions throughout the year.

Keep an eye out for your invitation, which will provide information about all the exciting activities we have in store. We can't wait to celebrate this special occasion with you and show our appreciation for your hard work and dedication!

