

Memorable September Moments



Our First Party on a Cart Brought a Luau to All

Last month we introduced the first of our Party on a Cart fun activities. A Luau was just the thing to bring big smiles and festive music to our residents. With tropical mocktails and yummy snacks, our first cart was a big hit with many more to come!



THE OPAL
AT NORTH NAPLES
A DIGNIFIED MEMORY CARE COMMUNITY

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It's Flu Shot Time

We will be scheduling our annual Flu shot program in the weeks ahead. Designated responsible care parties will receive an email about the program and process for completing consent forms. Flu shots will be administered on site at The Opal. Please contact the office if you have any questions at 239-598-1368.

north naples joyful moments

October 2020



The Opal Ring Editorial

The Opal at North Naples is excited to announce the arrival of our new Director of Wellness, Susan Eck. Susan comes to us with an outstanding career in nursing, with over 25 years experience as a nurse and administrator. She has worked extensively in memory care and served as a Director of Wellness in the past. Her passionate commitment to the care of others coupled with her vast knowledge of dementia care is inspiring to nurses and caregiver staffs. At The Opal, Susan will supervise the care and wellness team and be an integral supervisor of resident care planning with physicians and hospice providers. She understands the importance of outstanding communication with families and the education of all those affected by dementia.

A native of upstate New York, Susan came to Naples three years ago. She loves dogs and has a special French bulldog named Libby. Susan knows the unique comfort pets can bring to our residents too...real or mechanical ones! A leader by example and trainer in daily efforts, we look forward to her energy and enthusiasm at the helm of the wellness team!

Trunk or Treat Returns with More Joy Than Ever October 30th

A very special tradition here at The Opal at North Naples is our annual Trunk or Treat event for the children of the Gargiulo Education Center. With a little bit of tweaking here and there, we are so happy to announce that the event will happen, just a bit different in the era of COVID 19. But the fun still will go on October 30th from 3:30-5pm.

This year, families and friends are invited to host their decorated trunk at socially distanced intervals. We ask that you plan to give individual treats that can easily be placed in a non-contact way on a tray or table at your trunk location. To RSVP and for the details, please contact Donna Silva, Director of Joyful Moments at 239-598-1368. If you cannot host a trunk, but would like to donate treats, please let Donna know. Treat donations are gratefully accepted!

Our residents will remain inside the courtyard areas while the children have a parade and sing outside the fences. For most of the children, this will be their first experience with Halloween. Mary Asta, Executive Director of the non-profit Gargiulo Education Center, has shared that the children have been practicing their songs and are excited to don their masks and costumes. The Center provides educational support and meals for the children of migrant families that are here harvesting local crops. Bringing smiles....however hidden in the age of masks....to these children reminds us that even with the challenges of today's world, brightening a child's life is something we can all do. Your support and donations are always appreciated and truly make a difference in the lives of these little ones! More information about the Center can be found at www.gargiuloed.org or by calling 239-596-1975.

Medicare Open Enrollment Starts October 15-December 7

For those considering a change in Medicare Coverage, the Open Enrollment period starts October 15. Families and designated responsible parties are encouraged to contact the Florida Department of Elder Affairs SHINE program to see what changes are happening. **Free counseling services are available**, and virtual educational seminars are being conducted. Visit www.floridashine.org or call 1-800-963-5337 for more information or to speak to a volunteer counselor. When speaking with a counselor, be sure to indicate that your loved one is a resident at an ALF Memory Care community with onsite services, care providers and pharmacy. Some Medicare Advantage plans may have restrictions as to coverage or participation options. We encourage you to ask questions to get a complete understanding of what is covered in traditional Medicare versus Medicare Advantage plans so that you can choose the options that are best for your loved one.

A Special Thank You to Steven and Debbie

Pride in Food Services Week is October 4-10. It's the time of year when we love to sing the praises of our fabulous Dietary Services Director Steven Moyer and his terrific Assistant Cook Debbie Silva. Steven chooses menus that are not just nutritious, but ones that feature foods that celebrate the traditions and spirit of life here at The Opal at North Naples. Homemade goodies and specialty items are the hallmark of his caring and dedication. Debbie is his wonderful assistant whose smile, even under a mask, lights up the world of those around her. Thank you Steven and Debbie for making mealtime....fun time!

