# Progressive Thinking

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Annual Company Picnic August 23rd, 2013 1PM-3PM Hess Hathaway Park 825 S. Williams Lake Rd Waterford, MI 48327

Annual Benefits Meeting
August 15, 2013
Time: 10:00am
Comfort Inn
7076 Highland Road
Waterford, MI 48327
Come to get valuable
information on benefits the
company offers. Please let
your home manager know if
you will be attending this
meeting. As in years past,
lunch will be served.

#### **Congrats**

Congratulations to our new manager and new assistant managers!

- Meaghan Percival
- Chavonte Martin
- Joshua Prince

#### News

The newsletter staff is always looking for more good things to report. Please submit ideas and suggestions to news@progressivelifestylesinc. org





## A Message from John Williams

Summer is coming to an end and our picnic is quickly approaching. This year the picnic will be held at a new location and I look forward to seeing what our committee has in store for us. The picnic committee has worked very hard again this year on making this a fun filled even for everyone. Our staff generated close to 4,000.00 dollars through direct donations, garage sales and other activities. Thank you to Church and High Meadow Homes for hosting the garage sales. Also, thank you to everyone who participated in any of our fundraising events.

Open enrollment is almost here and work is underway on our health insurance plans. We anticipate some adjustments as the company continues to prepare for full implementation of the Federal Affordable Health Care Act. There will be important decisions that staff will need to consider before *open enrollment begins* September 1<sup>st</sup>. An informational meeting will be held on August 15<sup>th</sup>. A notice has been sent out the homes with time and location. We encourage everyone to attend this meeting to educate themselves on the changes.

Please remember that we are always interested in talking to staff that wish to be promoted, would like to work with mobile crew or at the Transition Home. Just let one of the Directors or myself know if there is an interest.

We have a new friend living at Ortonville home. There also have been some folks moving to different homes within the corporation. We would like to recognize all of those who helped make these transitions go smoothly, the folks that moved say THANK-YOU. As Always, we are looking to improve the lives of the individuals we support. We are proud of the work we do and would like to thank everyone for your hard work and commitment to providing the highest quality services.

Unfortunately I have to report a couple of sad events. First, Jane Costello passed away in February, second Eleanor Tedder passed away in May. Both have been friends to us for many years. We will miss them dearly and will always be grateful for the time they were with us. Another loss we've endured is that our friend David Schulman passed away in June. David was a part of Progressive Lifestyles for 27 years. He taught us and many others much of what we know about Gentle teaching today. He was a fantastic trainer and I think it is fair to say if you could successfully work with him, you could work with any of our folks. He will truly be missed. We would like to acknowledge the staff that provided such excellent care to our friends and those who helped make them feel loved in their finals days with us.

## **Progressive** Thinking

Please join us in congratulating this year's <u>Angel Among Us</u>
<u>Award</u> winner Shayla Johnson! We are proud to have you as part of our team!

#### <u>Summer</u> By: Andy Slezinski

These warm and sunny days remind me of when family took its my summer vacation. Grandma Slezinski lived in a cottage in Waterford Townsend on Lake. Grandpa built it. We were up there for a full two weeks, and it was great! Dad did all the fishing he wanted! I slept on the back porch, when I woke up in the morning I could see Grandma eating her Cheerio's and drinking her coffee. Best of all was the swimming. The lake in front of grandma's property was full of seaweed and muck. We went swimming 2 doors down at the Hale's house. I can still see my brothers and sister jumping off the dock into the bright blue Pure Michigan Water.

## What is a Mentor? By: Chavonte Martin

The definition of a mentor is someone who is a supporter; somebody who gives advice and guidance to someone in the right direction for a positive and productive future. I really love and enjoy being a mentor because it gives me a chance to work hands on with our friends and support them in the goals and dreams they may already have in place or they want to have in place for the future. Also, I enjoy listening to their stories and hearing about the obstacles they have overcome. As a mentor I do everything I can to listen to our friends and understand their needs and wants and not overlook the possibility the future holds. A big part of being a mentor is making them feel safe and loved. Now you might wonder just how I make them feel safe and loved!?!? Well, I'll tell you my little secret: always being positive and not degrading their dreams or what they have to say or do in life and giving them hope that the sky is the limit and anything is possible to those who believe. So, that's what being a mentor is about to me; being a go to person that is willing to help, listen, guide, provide, and support our friends with information that could help them in life and that benefits them. Always remember if you change your words you can change your life and also team work makes the dream works.

### Remembering Loved One's By: Keila Adkins

In a profession where loving someone unconditionally is one of the fundamental beliefs, no one is prepared to say goodbye and this year we have had to do just that; say goodbye to three very loved individuals whose influence and impact on our lives words cannot explain. Jane Costello, Eleanor Tedder and David Schulman left us all with memories that we, as caregivers, friends and housemates will carry forever. It has been such an honor of mine, and I am positive everyone else, to have been a part of helping make their lives the best it could possibly be.



## **Progressive** Thinking

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#### Please visit our website at:

www.progressivelifestylesinc.org

#### **Annual Company Picnic**

The annual Company Picnic will be held on August 23rd at the Hess Hathaway Park in Waterford from 1PM until 3 PM. We will be located at the large pavilion. We are inviting families again to this year's picnic and we are hoping this year's event will be bigger and better than ever. So that we have an accurate count of how many people will be attending, employee's please RSVP with your home manager and they will make sure that the office is given an accurate count. Families please RSVP at (248) 666-1388 to Jennifer Williams. Please leave your name and the number of individuals who will be attending and a phone number so that we may contact you back if we have questions. The address to the park is 825 S. Williams Lake Rd Waterford, MI 48327

## Please join us in thanking the following family members, friends and businesses for providing donations for our fourth annual company picnic.

#### Thank You

Rosemary Rangi Compuware Arena Attn: Pete Krupsky New Beginnings III LLC Phyllis Blumenschein **Detroit Red Wings** Toledo Mud Hens Baseball Club. Inc. Robert & Ann Sanderson Jim & Laura Rozell Rose-Marie Venier Faye Gorbeck Anna Pirolli **Sharon Krys** Cathy Crane Rosenbaum Union Lake FOE Auxiliary

**David Cervone** Chester Shire Realty LLC

Patricia Biernat **Shelley Schmitt** 

Barbara Kienman

Olympia Entertainment

Trini & Carmen's The Home Depot

Heroes Bar BBQ & Brew

**Custom Results** 

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