



Coastal
Hospice

January /February 2018

Volunteer News

OUR VALUES: AFFIRMING LIFE - RESPECT - COMPASSION - TRUST - COMMITMENT - QUALITY

Dave Duitscher honored with Governor's Award

On November 2, Dave Duitscher was recognized for his Coastal Hospice volunteer service in the veterans category at the 34th Governor's Service Awards ceremony held in Annapolis. Although Dave has been a patient care volunteer since 2001, it was his active participation in our We Honor Veterans program that prompted this award. Dave has volunteered in a number of roles, including representing Coastal Hospice and playing Santa for the annual delivery of fruit baskets and blankets (see inside for photographs). Congratulations to our dedicated volunteer!



IN THIS ISSUE

Santa Run brings joy to patients

Memories from this year's event

-page 2-

New Medicare card

What you need to know

-page 3-

Holiday open house

Volunteers get a chance to share holiday cheer with one another

-page 3-

Calendar

Events through May

-page 4-

At left: Steven McAdams, executive director of the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives; Robert L. Flynn, deputy secretary of the Department of Veteran Affairs; Dave Duitscher; and Van Brooks, director of the Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism.

Orientation for new volunteers scheduled

To meet learning objectives, we will be offering a combination of classroom and online training for new volunteers. For those who do not have access to a computer, computers are available at the Volunteer Services Office in Salisbury or at local libraries.

Please plan to attend six hours of classroom training as part of new volunteer orientation:

Wednesday, January 31, 2018

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Philmore Commons, Suite 202, Salisbury

To enroll, call **410-543-2590** or email volservices@coastalhospice.org. We provide instruction about how to complete the online portion of the training. Please refer anyone who may be interested!

Volunteers bring joy to hospice patients

Volunteers dressed as Santa, Mrs. Claus, and Elf delivered donated blankets, fruit baskets, and stuffed bears to 167 patients over a busy three-day period. It took many hands to make this happen. Groups and individuals donated the blankets, many of which were beautifully handcrafted. The Quota club provided the fruit and assembled 119 decorated baskets. JB Robinson donated the stuffed bears. The result? Lots of photographs, joy, expressions of appreciation, and fond memories.

At the home of a patient who was sleeping comfortably, Mrs. Claus and Elf asked the grandson if he had been good this year. Without hesitation, he said, “No,” but they gave him a candy cane anyway for his honesty!

If you are interesting in participating, let us know so we can keep you in mind for next year.



Davette Askins (above) donated blankets from the Oziel Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star to Bereavement Services Manager Howard Travers

Santa Glenn Mohr, Mrs. Santa Carolyn Jones, Santa Dave Duitscher, and Santa Gary Hutson

Catherine Bratten (right) from New Life Women's Ministry of Salisbury



Elf Jenn Hawkins, Mrs Santa Ellen Lowe, Elf Diana Todd, and Elf Sandy Lyle



Santa Glenn Mohr and Elf Cindi Strawley



Elf Norm Wolske and Santa Gary Hutson

Santa visits *continued...*



Mrs. Santa Carolyn Jones and Elf Deborah Fisher-Reynolds



Patient Elizabeth Smith of Hurlock receives a cheery visit from Mrs. Claus Ellen Lowe

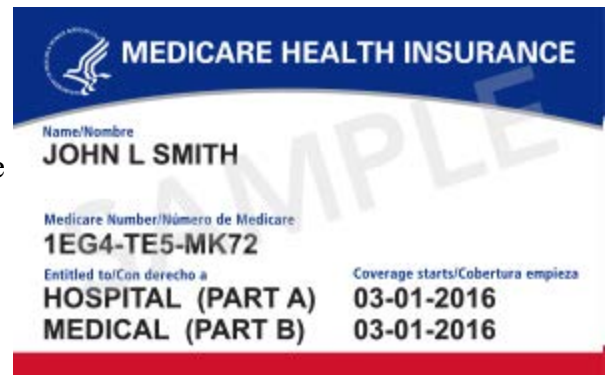


Elves Gary Carpenter, Kerry Burns, Renee Smith, Diana Todd, and Linda Thomas

New Medicare card: What you need to know

To combat identity theft and deter illegal use of Medicare benefits, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is required to remove Social Security numbers from all Medicare cards by April 2019. CMS will begin mailing new cards to people with Medicare benefits in April 2018. CMS will assign all people with Medicare benefits a unique Medicare number that contains a combination of numbers and uppercase letters (see sample at the right). **Issuance of the new number will not change benefits that people with Medicare receive.**

CMS is working with healthcare providers to answer questions and ensure they have the information they need to make a successful transition to the new Medicare number. For more information, please visit: <https://www.cms.gov/medicare/new-medicare-card/nmc-home.html>.



We gather together for the holidays

Volunteers and Volunteer Office staff gathered on December 20 in Salisbury to share holiday cheer and volunteer experiences. Look for next year's date, and please plan to join us!



Coastal Hospice, Inc.
 P.O. Box 1733
 Salisbury, Maryland 21802-1733
 410-742-8732
 www.CoastalHospice.org

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Coastal Hospice, Inc., does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex.

Calendar of Events

January 1 **Holiday and office closed**

January 23 **Salisbury Chew & Chat —
 A Day with a Hospice Chaplain**
 Noon - 1:30 p.m. Philmore Commons
Learn more about the issues faced by hospice chaplains, including distinctions in spiritual/religious and cultural practices/respect. Bring a friend.

January 31 **Introduction to Coastal Hospice**
 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Philmore Commons
Encourage interested individuals to register to learn more about opportunities for volunteering for Coastal Hospice.

February 27 **Berlin Chew & Chat —
 A Day with a Hospice Chaplain**
 Noon - 1:30 p.m. Racetrack Rd.
Learn more about the issues faced by hospice chaplains, including distinctions in spiritual/religious and cultural practices/respect. Bring a friend.

March 28 **Salisbury Chew & Chat —
 Open Volunteer Forum**
 Noon - 1:30 p.m. Philmore Commons
Share your favorite experiences, get perspectives from other volunteers, and enjoy an exchange of ideas in an open discussion. Bring a friend.

April 17 **Berlin Volunteer Brunch**
 10 a.m. The River Church

April 18 **Salisbury Volunteer Brunch**
 10 a.m. Philmore Commons

May 22 **Salisbury Chew & Chat —
 A Day with a Social Worker**
 Noon - 1:30 p.m. Philmore Commons
Learn more about the issues faced by social workers including a focus on dementia care. Bring a friend.

May TBD **Introduction to Coastal Hospice**
 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Philmore Commons