



## ASK THE SOCIAL SERVICE COORDINATOR...

As the Social Service Coordinator at the Longmeadow Adult Center, I frequently am asked "What is it that you do?" Or someone might comment, "I didn't know you had those services." I have been in this position for 21 years, and believe me, with the growing adult population over these years, my job has expanded dramatically. I care about our residents and the quality of their lives and do my best to be an advocate for them.

I am a source of information and referral. I am a resource and know the whos, whats whens, and wheres for service; and help our seniors in getting these services. If I cannot answer your question, I'll find someone who can and that's a promise. I see people in my office or in their homes - wherever we can talk privately - and confidentiality is a guarantee.

I am an intake worker and case manager. I work with the disabled and homebound. I can assist with Fuel Assistance, Joe for Oil, Prescription Advantage, Mass Health, Medicaid and Food Stamps. I am a member of TRIAD and co-lead our S.A.L.T. (Seniors & Law Enforcement Together) in developing education programs about safety issues. I assist clients with locating housing, retirement communities, long-term care facilities and respite care. I also refer home health aid programs and private-pay workers.

I work with our Town Departments (Board of Health, Tax Collector, Assessors, Police, Fire and EMT's). In addition I work with Stavros, Alzheimer's, VNA, Lifeline and area hospitals and nursing homes in discharge planning. I also help coordinate services from GSSS and Protective Services involving neglected or abused elders.

Occasionally I will speak to organizations and elder groups. I encourage seniors to participate in our wonderful programs, activities, health workshops, and frequently help to organize some of these presentations.

I continue to look forward the new challenges facing the seniors in our community. To meet these challenges, I attend conferences throughout the Massachusetts area which keep me abreast of changes in government policies and new programs. Please, if there are any questions you have, or if you need assistance or direction, call me . . . or pop in and introduce yourself. I am here to help you in anyway I can! Linda Collina, 565-4150 Health Office.

## GET OUT OF THE HEAT!

Join us for .....

Lunch, Movies, Pitch, Fitness Book Club, Mah Jongg, Chess, Discussion Group, Fitness Corner, Complimentary Newspaper and more!

# VOLUNTEER VIEWS



Ellen Gold  
Coordinator of Volunteers

### OUR TERRIFIC VOLUNTEERS

We have some wonderful community minded people who have just become our most recent volunteers. Our newest drivers for Meals on Wheels include: **Lorraine Ahladas, Christine Cates, Leah Cates, Mike Hodges, Patricia Hodges, Meri Kassanos, Ben Miller, Judith Miller and Michael Rappaport.** Volunteering in the dining room and kitchen are **Elaine Brulport** and **Justin Conniff** and working in the gift shop is **Andrea Lucia.** We also want to welcome back **Cathy Roy** who is now helping in the kitchen and dining room. A special thank you to all who help make our programs so successful.

### RAFFLE

Congratulations to **Roberta Panuccio,** the winner of our spa basket raffle. Thank you to everyone who bought tickets to support our programs. Thanks also to **Venessa O'Brien** and **Jean Glantz** for organizing this fundraiser.

### THE HEART OF OUR PROGRAMS

Thank you to **Moe Fieldstein** of **Brightwood Hardware** for his donation of supplies. Our deepest appreciation to those volunteers who have recently done additional work at the Center. Thank you to **William Morey** who has been coordinating the Veterans Group. Thank you to **Saul Finestone** who has been coordinating both the Discussion and Jazz groups. Thanks to **Inger Bolduc** who gave a terrific presentation on her native country,

Norway. Thank you to **Louise Lopardo** who created wonderful centerpieces. Thanks to **John Sopet** who has been giving one-on-one computer instruction. Thanks to all the other student volunteers: **Shayne Michelman, Justin Conniff,** and **Jennifer Martel.** Thank you to **Ali Bers,** of Western Massachusetts Legal Services, who gave a presentation on Confidentiality, HIPAA, and Patients' Rights. Thanks also to **Paul Brinnell** and family - father, **David;** sister, **Haley** and grandmother, **Irene Avilla,** for their fabulous Journey to Jazz performance .

### GRANDPALS

Our *Grandpals* concluded the year hosting a party for their Center School "pals" at the Adult Center. It was a delightful hour with entertainment provided by the students from **Mrs. Rushbrook's** third grade class. Our *Grandpals* were: **Ruth Brenner, Meredith Wheaton, Anamarie Friberg, Charlotte Burke, Evelyn Baron, Marion Pava, Margaret Kirby, Hilde Kmetz, Mary Smith, Kathy Luty and Beverly Gray.**

### SENIOR READERS

Some of the *Senior Readers,* under the direction of **Phyllis Bogert,** have been reading to elementary school children for fifteen years. Our readers were: **Rosemary Cahill, Hilde Kmetz, Marion Loughman, Tony Odierna, Judy Moran, Bette Schube, Helen Seabury, Sydney Torrey, Ruth Wolk, Joanne Urstadt, Elaine Becker Ezrin, Joyce Broadbent, Helen Murphy, Stan Goldman, Nettie Fischer, Marilyn Potvin and Rita Schwartz.**