

50 the Meadian

*A newsletter published periodically for families, friends and residents of St. Anne's Mead
Celebrating 50 Years of Providing Loving Care*

JUNE 15, 2017

Annuals Event



A group of volunteer women from Troy and Royal Oak spent much of their weekend June 3, planting flats of annuals to brighten the landscape around St. Anne's Mead. The women are part of a larger group who meet regularly to choose projects that benefit area civic and not-for-profit organizations. From left at back are Robin Norden and Joanne Copeland (standing), Mary Kangas, Kelly Lutz (holding potted geranium) and Wendy Lutz, at right.

Father's Day Memories

What Dads Taught Us About Life and Living It

Without exception each one of us has had a father, a step-dad, or other father figure who by his deeds or actions, presence or absence, taught us something about living and life. It may have been indirectly by our observing or absorbing his philosophy, manners or ways, or, it may have been directly through a purposeful demonstration or instruction.

In any event, our dads have helped form our attitudes and ideals, and for his positive influence, we have chosen a day to honor the role he played in our lives.



Monique Boyd, housekeeping, holds a photo enlargement of her dad who told her at a very young age that just because she was the only girl born into a family dominated by males, she didn't have to be subordinate to any of them.

For this year's observance on June 18, we asked a number of people associated with St. Anne's Mead to tell us what it was that their dads passed on as a lasting lesson in life or living.

Here are their responses.

MONIQUE BOYD Housekeeping

You can spot Monique by the bright yellow and blue cleaning cart that she pushes around the hallways. But being pushed around was something that her dad said she didn't have to take. That was partly to offset the swagger of the male cousins she grew up around. "Just because you wear a dress, doesn't mean you can't be tough. Don't let anyone take advantage of you. Stand your ground and never be fearful," he told her.

JOHN DALEY Dining Services

Sometimes, not saying much says a lot. John's parents were Iraqi. His dad died at the early age of 53, "I've been here (in the United States and at St. Anne's Mead) for 18 years. I love my job, my wife and my kids. I have six brothers and two sisters. My dad loved his family, and I miss him very much."

KIFFNEY SWIFT ECU

What did Kiffney's dad teach her? "That's simple," she says. "He taught me how to tie my shoes. If the laces were too long, he showed me how to double them up." She laughs but agrees that the string of knowledge he provided was a lesson in disguise: holding your tongue and not tripping yourself up.

MARY BEASLEY JOHNSON and her brother WILL JOHNSON ECU

"Dad told us both, 'No matter what, you can always do better.'" He said if you bring home a "B" in school, next time make it an "A." A bit profound and deep was his statement that for "what you don't know, you can build a whole new world."

WILLIAM HOSLER Board of Trustees

William says though his dad was a stepfather, William felt just as strongly and affectionately toward him as if he had been his natural father. "He gave a safety net of love and support not only to his own children, but equally so to his children by marriage and now grandchildren by marriage who know no other grandfather. At 83-years-young and going strong, he remains the guide light for all of us."

NADINE DAVIS Dining Services

According to her dad, "All things come in sequence, so take life one step at a time, not all at once." The words have guided Nadine all her life. But even more deeply and serving as a reminder of the order of the world, he believed that "First mind assigns all dimensions." She explains that when you first encounter a situation, how it is first perceived, usually is the way it is and everything that follows is derived through cause and effect. "It will all become clear."

JERRY NECHAL Board of Trustees

"First and foremost," says Board President Jerry Nechal, "My father taught me the value and importance of working hard and not setting limitations for yourself." Jerry adds that his dad also held that "honesty was something to never compromise."

GILDA JEFFERSON ALA

Gilda's dad gave her something golden to remember him by...a version of the "do unto others" rule. Gilda says "Dad always said to give people the respect you would want people to give you." But he also added, "Live life to the fullest because tomorrow is never promised."



Worth Repeating

“We cannot begin to express our gratitude for the kindness and loving care that each and every one of you extended to our father, John. We were always so confident in the care that was provided to him and never felt one moment of hesitation at leaving him in your healing hands. We thank you for your friendships and your guidance to ensure our father’s every comfort.”

-- The family of John Nahabedian



Looking For A Few Good Feet

Robin Harris, Director of Admissions, is asking for volunteers to participate as team members in the 2017 Walk to End Alzheimer's, a fundraising event sponsored by the national Alzheimer's Association.

Robin says walkers should register on the team's participants page for the Aug. 26 event. "If you are unable to walk, you can still participate by making a \$35 donation to the team's fundraising campaign. Every dollar advances the care, support and research efforts of the Alzheimer's Association," says Robin. "Walkers who raise at least \$100 earn a 2017 Walk to End Alzheimer's T-shirt."

The event takes place at the Detroit Zoo, 845 W. 10 Mile Rd. in Royal Oak. Registration opens at 7:30 a.m. with the walk starting at 8:30 a.m.

(The St. Anne's Mead page link is: http://act.alz.org/site/TR?fr_id=10497&pg=personal&px=4563632)

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Be sure to check our Facebook page for photos, videos and comments.

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Our Mission

St. Anne's Mead mission is to provide compassionate and professional health care and supportive services to seniors in a safe, secure, and loving home.

In keeping with our faith-based traditions, we endeavor to serve the unique needs of individuals and their families while preserving dignity and enriching lives.