

News From Crossroads House

Our goal is to provide care and support with love and dignity to individuals and their families as they journey through the dying process. We deliver the very best in comfort care to Genesee, Wyoming and surrounding counties.



Executive Director's Message

2023

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Check out our website at:

www.crossroadshouse.com

What a glorious time to join the staff and volunteers of Crossroads House! Happy Silver Anniversary-25 years! When I was asked to be the Interim Executive Director, I immediately responded with a resounding, "yes"!

As a resident care volunteer, end-of-life doula, and co-facilitator for our grief support group, I have developed a passion for the work we all do at Crossroads House.

Having been retired for the past 12 years, I am excited to return to work. Using my skills as an educational administrator in the public school system, it is my vision to continue to build community with our residents and families, volunteers, CRH staff, donors, and members of our local community.

I am happy to have my first message be at the same time that we are celebrating 25 years of serving our community. The foundation of our success has been due to the dedicated volunteer force we have. This month is Volunteer Appreciation Month, April 2023. When you volunteer, you donate your most valuable resources: time, talent and treasures. Volunteering is one of the greatest sacrifices you can make. When you volunteer, you put someone else's interests above your own. Time after time, I see the volunteer who brings a favorite homemade soup; or the volunteer who sits and holds a resident's hand who has no family; or the volunteer who searches for tobacco so our resident can smell it as he is actively dying. These are just a few of the many acts of caring we see every day at Crossroads House.

Volunteering takes generosity, a willingness to give your time to others; it takes understanding, because their lives might be very different from your own; it takes empathy, an ability to put yourself in someone else's shoes and feel what they are feeling; and it takes compassion, to truly care about making someone else's life better. Our Crossroads House volunteers show these qualities, and so many more.

"Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around." - Leo Buscaglia

Please join our Crossroads House family by giving your time, talents and treasures.

Thank you for all that you do.

Thomas Staebell

Crossroads House Wish List

- * Volunteers
- * Paper towels, toilet paper, facial tissues
- * Regular & Decaf coffee
- * Coffee Creamer
- * K-cups
- * Batteries-AAA, AA, & 9 Volt
- * Postage Stamps
- * Copy Paper: White, ivory & pastels
- * Mailing labels: Avery 5260 & 8160 or compatible other brand
- * Packing tape
- * Gift Cards that will help support the families of the resident: Walmart, Tops, Aldi, BJ's, Amazon, and local fast-food businesses & restaurants
- * Hearty canned soups
- * Individually packaged pudding, applesauce and fruits
- * Packaged pitted prunes
- * Ginger Ale
- * Prune Juice
- * Liquid or foaming hand soap
- * Fragranced lotions for men & women
- * Body wash for men & women
- * Latex free disposable gloves
- * Baby wipes
- * Skin protectant:
Boudreaux's Butt Paste
Anti-Monkey Butt Powder
(Both can be found at Walmart)
- * Biotene Oral Rinse

Calendar of Upcoming Events

May 12 & 13, 2023

Annual Spring Basket Raffle
Batavia First Presbyterian Church

July 26-29, 2023

Annual Garage Sale
Held at Crossroads House

September 17, 2023

Kiwanis Annual Car Cruise
and Fall Festival-Pembroke Town Park
Featuring
Crossroads House Food Stand
&
Basket Raffle



A testimonial from Crossroads House Volunteer and Friend, Cathy Winding



"I truly believe that Volunteerism is the foundation of America. The rewards we receive will only be measured by our own growth."

Over the years I have witnessed this happening in the lives of my family, friends and even casual acquaintances. You hear about someone doing a good deed for another and they receive something in return tenfold. It doesn't always happen right away but when the time is right you suddenly receive a blessing. In some instances you may not receive what you asked for, but get something that is a better outcome for you.

When my husband retired 28 years ago we had always planned to move south since financially staying on Long Island was not an option. That quickly changed when we were blessed with our first grandchild. I knew that if we went south we would not be able to be there for many of the precious milestones. Hence our move to Batavia, New York. We decided to do nine months here and three months in Florida. Needless to say, many of our friends said "You are moving where?"

After settling in, I was searching for something to do with my free time. I was experiencing a sense of loss as I came from a huge family and we had been blessed with many wonderful friends. I found it difficult to find my niche. I was told that I talked funny and I moved too fast. People from Long Island were often called "Fast Movers."

One day while reading the local newspaper, I came across an article about the opening of Crossroads House. It immediately spoke to me as I had recently experienced both of my parents passing in a nursing home on Long Island. That had been a very stressful time for our family. We had to have a family member there every day to make sure that all their needs were taken care of, despite the fact that my parents savings were gradually dwindling down. If we went through all their savings they would have had to be moved to a different facility.

After some time passed and I continued to follow my heart, I decided to investigate Crossroads House to see if it would be the answer to my prayer. I was met at the door with a warm smile and immediately felt welcome. After a brief interview I was given an application and a tour of the house. I was blown away with what was taking place inside this beautiful home. Since I wasn't comfortable doing resident care, my first experience was to volunteer to clean, garden, shop for the resident, or do office work. That quickly changed when one Friday evening I was cleaning out the refrigerator and one of the volunteers needed help with a resident. I said that I don't do that but she insisted that I put on a pair of gloves ASAP. To my surprise I survived and eventually became a hands on volunteer. That was twenty three years ago.

It never ceases to amaze me how much joy and satisfaction I receive each and every time I complete a shift; whether it be taking care of a resident or simply helping out with a fundraising project, gardening or just sitting and being present with a resident. There are endless ways in which you can help each and every resident “Live until they die. ”There is a great deal of satisfaction when you extend yourself by giving to others. I urge each and everyone who is reading this article to look into what you could do to contribute to this beautiful place. Visit our website at crossroadshouse.com and take a tour. I guarantee that you will find your niche. If you don't have access to a computer just simply give us a call at 585-343-3892 or stop by.

This is a quote from the late Harry Chapin:

“Without Volunteers in our society, the quality of life would immediately drop. Volunteerism is a right and we volunteers are carrying out the heritage of this country. We must all go that extra mile. We must be aggressive in the sense of challenging others and making them realize that the American Dream implies that all of us must be actively involved.”

Cathy Winding-Long time Volunteer and Friend of Crossroads House



Words from the heart of Ashley Manuel, our Coordinator of Volunteer Services

We have all heard the saying, “home is where the heart is.” I think it’s because home is not just a place, it’s a person. Volunteering at Crossroads House is all about people. It is not the new door, or the color of the walls. It is the friendly smile you get when you walk in. The endless hugs and kisses. The presence of another person in your darkest hour. You are never alone! We become family, we become home. This home feeling is for each person who comes through the house, from the volunteers, to the staff and especially to the residents and their families.

You are always welcome to come home.



\$25 for 25

In honor of our 25th Anniversary, and all the dedicated Volunteers who have made this milestone possible, please consider donating \$25 today!

Donating is easy!

Use the donation form on the back of this newsletter.

Go to our website, www.crossroadshouse.com. There is a donate button on our Home page or click on the Donate tab at the top.

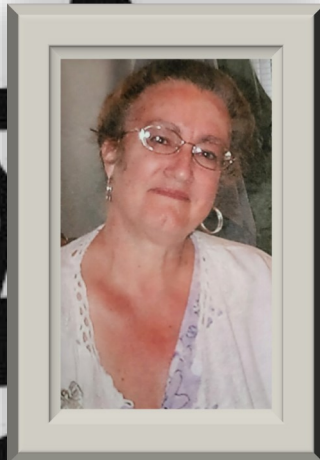
Come visit us at Crossroads House and drop off a donation.

“A Gift to the Community, Made Possible by the Community”





CROSSROADS HOUSE



Looking over plans
Local organizers of the new Crossroads House look over paperwork and pictures from other facilities like Crossroads. In front, from left, are Betty James, Marion Fox, Kathryn Barrett, Kathy Panepento. In back, from left, are Tim Woodward, Madeleine Rusch and Frank Panepento.

Planned facility offers alternative to nursing home for terminally ill

Marsha Bolton/Daily News

Marsha Bolton
News from
lived alone, the kids lived in
one in Florida — and
A lot of people live alone
nowadays, or else the primary
caregiver at one time to take
Hospice, Visiting Nursing Associa-
tion, Wyoming County Health Depart-
ment or Genesee County Public
Health Department, Panepento said.

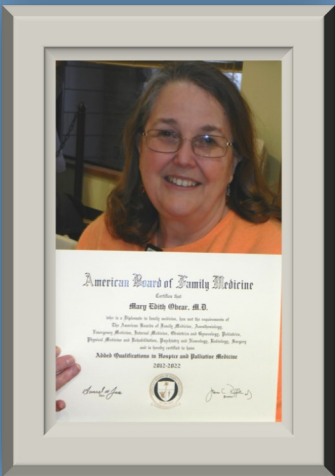


Crossroads House marks first year of service
 By Raymond Coniglio
 Daily News Staff Writer
 1/19/99

With deep gratitude but little fanfare, Crossroads House is quietly marking its first anniversary. The volunteers and staff of the residence this month can look back on a year of providing personal care for approximately 21 patients in Geneva and who would come and do what these people do."

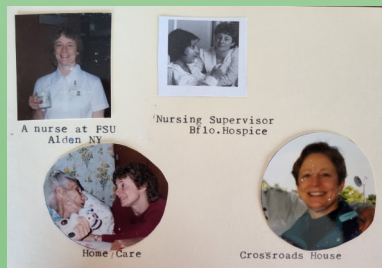
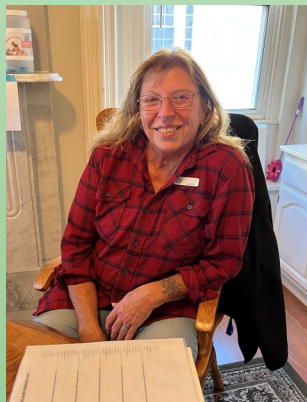
The volunteers and staff at Crossroads House have served a total of 16 terminally ill patients since they first moved in last January, according to Kathleen Panepento, RN, director. There are 75 volunteers at the residence, where they join a paid staff

Batavia's Nothnagle Realtors organized a fund-raising flea market in September, Panepento said. The delivery of a proceeds check for \$750 arrived at Crossroads House almost the same time its furnace expired. The check almost exactly met the down payment needed on a replac





Crossroads House
RED CARPET GALA
25TH ANNIVERSARY
 BATAVIA DOWNS
 PARK PLACE ENTERTAINMENT CENTER
 BUFFET DINNER - CASH BAR
 ENTERTAINMENT - DUELING PIANOS
 AUCTIONS & RAFFLES
Saturday
January 20th





Legacy Living Center...

A Crossroads House



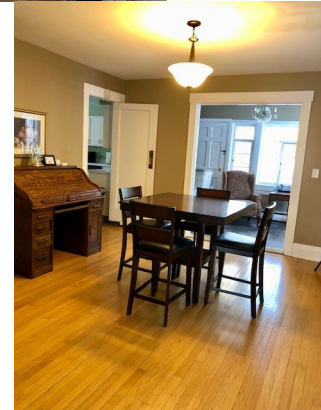
Our Living Legacy Center (LLC), located behind St. James Episcopal Church, 405 E. Main St. in Batavia, is a multi-functional building that Crossroads House uses for fundraising event planning, meetings, and training for both our Direct Resident Care Volunteers and End-of-Life Doula programs. The LLC is also the site for our Grief & Loss Peer Support Group sessions.

The LLC is available to the public.

Businesses and organizations may use the site for meetings and trainings. It is suitable for small parties, like baby and bridal showers or birthday and holiday gatherings.

Only the first floor is available. There is a bathroom, full kitchen, 4-person pub style table and two large conference tables. The site features free WiFi and surround sound with a large screen TV for hook up to a computer or phone.

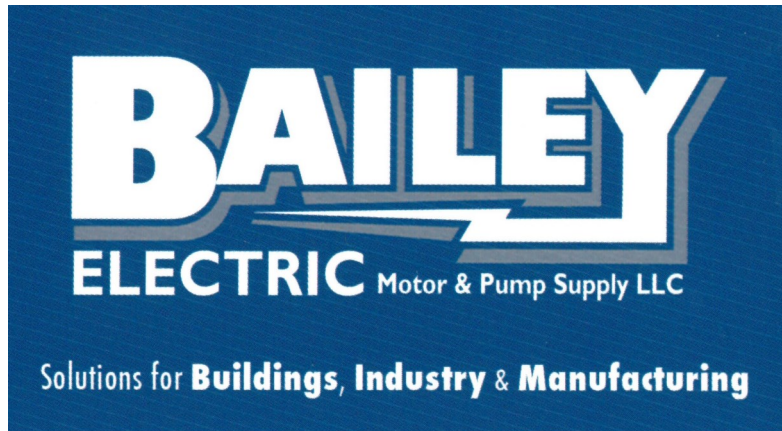
Contact Crossroads House Interim Executive Director, Thomas Staebell, for more information about the LLC or to schedule an event, 585-343-3892 or thomasstaebell@crossroadshouse.com.



The Legacy Living Center is the former rectory of St. James Episcopal Church, 405 E. Main St, not far from Crossroads House. It is a multi-functional building that we use for meetings, training, and making baskets for our raffles.

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Silver Anniversary Sponsors



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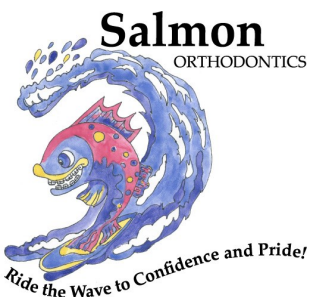
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