

# HILSGROVE HAPPENINGS



## HIGHLIGHTS

- Unit Updates
- Upcoming Socials
- Director's Corner

## UPCOMING SOCIALS

- March 2, 10-2, Game Night
- March 7, 4-6:30, Sushi Making
- March 16, 10-2, Mystic
- March 21, 4-6:30, Wellness/Yoga
- March 27, Employment Dinner

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# Director's Corner

IN THE MIDDLE OF FEBRUARY, HILLSGROVE CLUBHOUSE HAD 140 ACTIVE MEMBERS. THIS IS A BIG ACHIEVEMENT FOR A FEW REASONS, AND MARKED THE FIRST TIME SINCE MARCH 2020 THAT WE HAVE OVER 138 ACTIVE MEMBERS AT THE TIME OUR LARGEST AMOUNT OF ACTIVE MEMBERS IN NEARLY A DECADE. WE SAW A STEADY DECLINE IN ACTIVE MEMBERS AFTER THE START OF COVID PROTOCOLS, DROPPING TO 110 ACTIVE MEMBERS THE WINTER OF 2021. OUR ABILITY TO FULLY RECOVER AND EVEN SURPASS OUR TOTAL IS THE RESULT OF HARD WORK AND THE QUALITY OF THE CLUBHOUSE EXPERIENCE. AS OUR WINTER WINDS DOWN, IT WILL BE THE FIRST TIME THAT OUR TOTAL MEMBERSHIP HAS GROWN DURING JANUARY AND FEBRUARY.

THIS IS OUR FIRST YEAR WITH OUR MEMBERSHIP TEAM, A GROUP OF MEMBERS AND STAFF DEDICATED TO OVERSEEING THE ENROLLMENT PROCESS OF NEW MEMBERS. THE SUCCESS OF THIS TEAM HAS OPENED NEW REFERRAL SOURCES AND STRENGTHENED OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH ALL OF OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS. NEW MEMBER FEEDBACK CONFIRMS THAT OUR TOURS, ORIENTATION, AND ONGOING OUTREACH FOR NEW MEMBERS HAS MADE THE EXPERIENCE VERY POSITIVE AND ENGAGING. IN ADDITION, OUR RELATIONSHIPS WITH LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES HAS RESULTED IN US RECEIVING ALMOST TWICE AS MANY REFERRALS IN DECEMBER, JANUARY, AND FEBRUARY AS LAST YEAR. OUR EFFORT TO RAISE COMMUNITY AWARENESS OF THE CLUBHOUSE MATCHED WITH OUR GREAT SUPPORT FOR NEW MEMBERS IS A GREAT COMBINATION.

AT OUR FIRST HILLSGROVE CLUBHOUSE PLANNING DAY IN 2017, WE SET AN AMBITIOUS GOAL TO REACH 150 ACTIVE MEMBERS; AT THAT TIME, WE HAD 101 MEMBERS. BASED ON OUR CURRENT MEMBERSHIP AND HOW THE CLUBHOUSE TRADITIONALLY HAS ITS LARGEST ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP IN THE LATE SPRING, THIS AMBITIOUS GOAL SEEMS MORE THAN ACHIEVABLE. THE ENERGY AND EXCITEMENT OF A LARGE CLUBHOUSE IS ALREADY BEING FELT HERE ON MOST DAYS, AND IT WILL BE A THRILL TO SEE US REACH OUR FULL POTENTIAL. COME BY ANYTIME TO CHECK IT OUT.

SEE YOU SOON, MARK

# Employment & Education Unit

EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION DINNER: THIS MONTH WE HAD JOSH FROM THE SHERLOCK CENTER PRESENT AT OUR DINNER. HIS PRESENTATION WAS ON "BREAKING THE BENEFITS BARRIER". HE PROVIDED LOTS OF INFORMATION ABOUT WORKING WHILE ON SSI OR SSDI AND CLEARED UP SOME OF THE GENERAL STATEMENTS PEOPLE OFTEN HEAR OR FEAR AROUND WORKING AND HOW IT AFFECTS YOUR BENEFITS. ALSO, WE LEARNED ABOUT THE DIFFERENT WAYS TO RECEIVE BENEFITS COUNSELING (A GREAT FREE BENEFIT FOR INDIVIDUALS) TO ASSESS YOUR SPECIFIC SITUATION. TO LEARN MORE OR ACCESS HELPFUL RESOURCES FROM THE SHERLOCK CENTER, VISIT:

[HTTPS://SHERLOCKCENTER.RIC.EDU/](https://sherlockcenter.ric.edu/)

NEXT DINNER: OUR NEXT EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION DINNER IS WEDNESDAY MARCH 27TH FROM 4-6PM. WE ARE ALWAYS HAPPY TO HAVE SUGGESTIONS FOR DINNER TOPICS OR REQUESTS FOR PRESENTERS. PLEASE CONTACT JEFF, PAULINE, OR DONNA IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO ATTEND.

TEP UPDATES: THIS MONTH TWO OF OUR TE POSITIONS, JANITORIAL AT OLD NAVY AND THE CLERICAL ONE AT THRIVE WRAPPED UP AND WE JUST ONBOARDED THE NEWEST MEMBERS TO THESE POSITIONS THE LAST WEEK OF FEBRUARY. WE WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE JON H AND JOHN R ON THE COMPLETION OF THEIR TE'S AND LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING WHAT IS NEXT FOR THEM. WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO SAY CONGRATULATIONS TO VINNY C AND KEVIN S AS THEY START THEIR NEW POSITIONS.

LITTLE TIPS:

- DID YOU KNOW THAT YOU MIGHT BE ELIGIBLE FOR FREE TAX PREPARATION?

GO TO: [HTTPS://WWW.UNITEDWAYRI.ORG/GET-HELP/TAX-PREP/](https://www.unitedwayri.org/get-help/tax-prep/)  
YOU CAN FIND OUT

- IF YOU ARE ELIGIBLE

- LOCATE A TAX PREPARER

- DID YOU KNOW THAT ANYONE CAN CREATE A MY SOCIAL SECURITY ACCOUNT?

- [HTTPS://WWW.SSA.GOV/MYACCOUNT/](https://www.ssa.gov/myaccount/)

- THERE ARE MANY USEFUL OPTIONS AVAILABLE ONCE YOU CREATE AND ACCOUNT (INCLUDING REPORTING INCOME OPTIONS)

# *Multimedia Updates*

Are you interested in helping out with News at Noon? Give it a try! Help us collect information for our daily news. We always need help with local news stories, weather updates, Science headlines, fun facts, strange laws, and more. If there is an aspiring writer in you, give our News at Noon a try and be part of a team bringing information to the clubhouse masses.

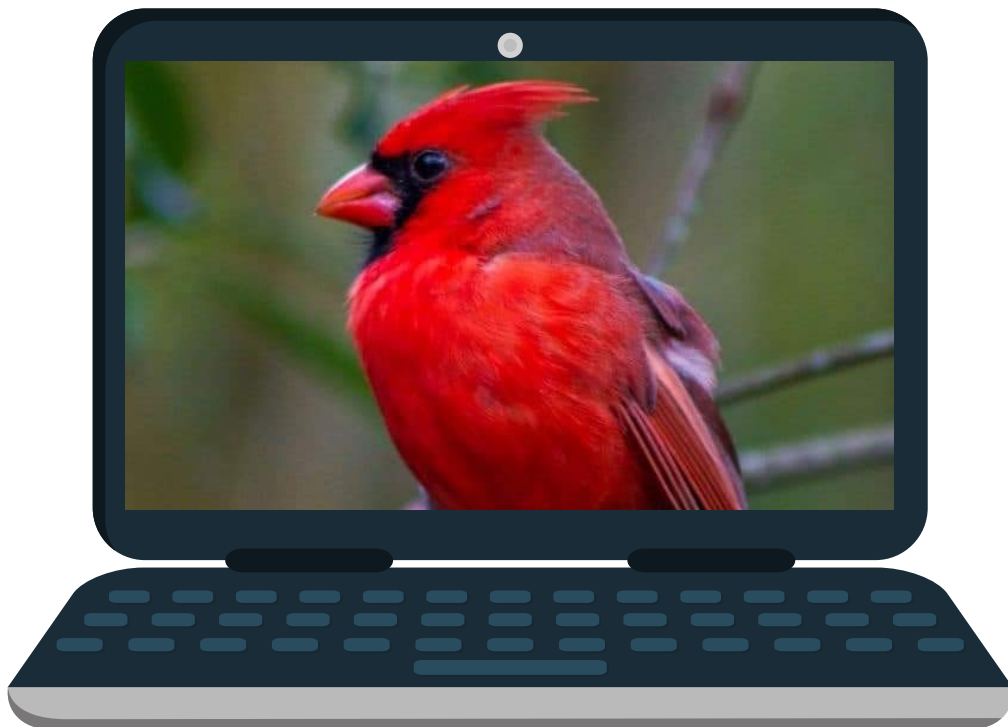
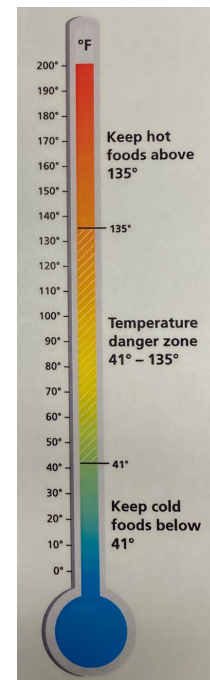


Photo Credit: Joe B.

# Kitchen Unit Updates



FEBRUARY WAS AN EXCITING MONTH FOR THE KITCHEN UNIT. THE UNIT RECEIVED A VISIT FROM BHDDH FOR A SITE INSPECTION ALONG WITH A VISIT SHORTLY AFTERWARDS FROM THE CACFP. THE KITCHEN RECEIVED GOOD FEEDBACK FOR OUR LUNCHESES FOR FOLLOWING THE CACFP GUIDELINES, AND FOR PROVIDING TRAINING FOR ALL MEMBERS & STAFF. THIS MONTH'S TRAINING FOCUSED ON MEAL BENEFIT APPLICATIONS FOR OUR MEMBERS & HEALTH, SANITATION, & SAFETY REQUIREMENTS. FOOD SAFETY IS A PRIORITY IN THE KITCHEN UNIT. MEMBERS DO A GREAT JOB WITH HAND WASHING & FOOD TEMPERATURES. AS ALWAYS, WE ARE ADDING NEW RECIPES TO OUR LUNCHESES & REVISING OUR INVENTORY.

THE UNIT WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME MEW MEMBER NOELLA WHO HAS DONE A FANTASTIC JOB, ESPECIALLY WITH OUR MONTHLY BIRTHDAY CAKES. ALSO, A SHOUT OUT TO OUR KITCHEN CREW MEMBER VINNY C., WHO IS STARTING HIS TEP AT OLD NAVY & IS STILL COMMITTED TO HELPING OUT THE KITCHEN UNIT. THIS MONTH WE CELEBRATED FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS WITH A FABULOUS WHITE CHOCOLATE STRAWBERRY CAKE. WE LOOK FORWARD TO SPRINGING FORWARD IN MARCH WITH A PISTACHIO CAKE. C U SOON!

# Cafe' Unit Updates



This month, the Café has been staying true to our creative nature! Not only did we supply tons of yummy snacks, but we also served up the delicious Strawberry Pink Drink pictured above!

The Café Unit has also been fortunate enough to have received loads of help from both new and returning members! It's always nice to see familiar faces and get to know some new ones. One of our recent returning members was Bob S., who jumped right back into being a stellar cashier!

As always, feel free to stop by and lend a hand, share some recipe ideas, or just chat with us!

# Business Unit Update

By: Kevin and Jeff

**ADMIN TEAM:** Jonathan has successfully completed the Thrive Copy Clerk TEP. Congratulations to him for a job well done during his tenure in the position. Kevin will be filling this TEP position for the next 6-9 months. Kevin is no stranger to TBH, Post Road location as he completed the Copy Clerk position right before the onset of Covid. The TEP job tasks have changed significantly since his previous experience. Kevin will be working Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 9:00am to 1:00pm. Kevin will plan on attending H.C. Tuesdays and Thursdays to help with billing and other unit tasks. His contributions to the team will certainly be missed.

The absence of both Peter and Kevin have been opportunities for other members to contribute to the Front of the House W.O.D. Brandon has assisted with the reception desk and Devan has been a consistent presence in answering the phones. He also has made major contributions regarding technology and software supports. Devan is in his element when it comes to computers and uses his skills to support the Hillsgrove Clubhouse WOD. Bethany has been assisting with the reception desk while also helping out with maintenance.

RIDE CACFP came for their unannounced audit on February 8th. The audit went extremely well and the auditors were very impressed by the Hillsgrove Clubhouses' tracking, monitoring, and reporting systems. A huge thank you to members that have contributed to the smooth operation of the team during Peter and Kevin's absence.

# Member Voices

by Ken B.

## The Question Why?

There is a new essence to this world. I try to grasp it, yet I falter. How can I grasp something that is so vast. An aside my true feelings for those of a lesser meaning. But, I still hunger for that obscure truth. What is this yearning inside, that burns inside the depths of my soul? Yes! They have taken my soul and have made it bleed. Such a wound will never heal with just a touch. I conquer evil yet make it a part of my daily life. I tell myself to cast it out. Yet it consumes me sometimes; to the essence of my very soul. Vanquished! Then I decide my true fate. I stumble through the darkness, only to find myself, facing myself in the light of truth. Humbled by it's immensity and brilliance. I can only succumb and let it's warmth wash over me. Let it burn away all my sins.

Captured by all that is holy, and loving, I am brought back to life. No ending or beginning. Only the eternal now. What is left to me? Oh! Lord! Why have you brought this humble servant of yours back into this wretched land of the living? For how can I change what has already been. I can only say yes to you. Oh! Lord! But, that does not mean I can not ask that eternal question Why!?







# *MARCH SOCIALS*

**March 2, Saturday, 10-2, Game Night**

**March 7, Thursday, 4-6:30, Make Your Own Sushi**

**March 16, Saturday, 10-2, Mystic**

**March 21, Thursday, 4-6:30, Wellness & Yoga**

**March 27, Wednesday, 4-6:30, Employment Dinner**

# Learn Yoga

Join us at our Wellness Social on the third Thursday of the month, 4-6:30, and learn some basic Yoga poses. Class will be 30-45 minutes long.

See you Thursday, March 21st.





## SPECIAL PROJECT



*As you may have noticed, our Creative Journal was just published. We will be using the same format to create a Pet Journal. Members are welcome to email a favorite photo of their pet to [Hillsgroveclubhouse.com](mailto:Hillsgroveclubhouse.com) and be part of our newest journal. Please only one photo per pet. Deadline March 31st.*

**We hope our readers have enjoyed reading our  
MARCH 2024 edition of our newsletter!**



**If you're interested in learning more about Hillsgrove  
Clubhouse or would like to get in touch with us to schedule  
a tour, please contact us at one of the links below:**



401-732-0970



[hillsgroveclubhouse@gmail.com](mailto:hillsgroveclubhouse@gmail.com)



[www.hillsgroveclubhouser.org](http://www.hillsgroveclubhouser.org)



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