Anyone for Appetizers?

Calling all cooks . . . **Clara’s Cookbook: Volume 2** is in the works! This one will be a smaller format and will focus on appetizers for all you party-goers and hosts.

We had wonderful feedback from the first Clara’s House Cookbook and actually sold out! Therefore, we decided a second volume was definitely in order. Please send in your favorite appetizer recipe(s) as soon as possible. You can email them to lkuzma@firsthealth.org or drop off a copy at Clara’s House.

If we get enough submissions by mid-September we will put together another book in time for the holidays!
Save the Date – Volunteer Appreciation Night

Every year, we like to take time to say a sincere “thank you” to our volunteers for all you do to support the Clara McLean House and the Foundation of FirstHealth. This year, we have planned something a little different and are excited to announce an evening at “The Rooster’s Wife” with our own private performance from the extremely talented April Verch.

This will be a special night so mark your calendars now and look for an invitation with more details to arrive in late September.

Monday, November 2nd, 5pm – 7pm
The April Verch Band
The Rooster’s Wife, Aberdeen, NC

Below is a link to view a clip of April’s many talents.
April Verch - BELLE ELECTION

Create Your Own Masterpiece

As part of our VEW series (Volunteers’ Everyday Wisdom), we will be offering a beginner painting class, led by our very own volunteer, Magda Sonderfan, whose artwork many of you have seen at Clara’s House.

Magda will be teaching a painting style that can be done by anyone -- even if you have never painted before and are sure you have no artistic ability! This will be a single, two-hour class and you will leave with a masterpiece. The class will take place on Tuesday, September 15th from 10am - 12noon at Clara’s House. The cost will only be $10, paid in advance, which will cover all the supplies.

Due to space constraints, we can accommodate the first 12 people who register so please respond to Laura Kuzma at lkuzma@firsthealth.org or 715-4230 if you would like to participate.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Message</th>
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<tr>
<td>June 8, 2015</td>
<td>Thank you just can’t do it! We were in good hands here. This experience was unspeakable and it is hard to express how wonderful the staff and volunteers and accommodations were during this difficult time. This home is amazing. May God continue to bless this house and all who enter and exit because this place is a great example of LOVE. The Pembertons</td>
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<td>May 21, 2015</td>
<td>Many thanks to the staff, volunteers and community for this wonderful home. May God and his angels continue to watch over all who made this safe place to take the other stressful situations down a level. I felt like God’s angels had me wrapped in their arms the moment I walked in here. Thank you to all and may others who stay here find peace and rest. The DeWitt Family</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 4, 2015</td>
<td>How does one express how grateful we are to come to “American City” where you meet Americans who care for others in times of need? Where we can trust in God to see miracles happen through prayer and to find a home full of love from the Clara McLean House... People who show concern and love to those of us who are in need of comfort, you are true family. Thank you so much from the bottom of our hearts - L. Montoya, Hopi Reservation</td>
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*Recent guest, Evelyn McMillan enjoys a respite in the Healing Garden.*
A Note from the Director. . .

Each time a family is referred to Clara’s House, they are carrying a burden with them -- whether it is an elderly couple separated for the first time by critical illness, a young couple with a premature baby in the NICU or an out-patient facing daily radiation treatment without the support of family. Each of these scenarios is occurring at Clara’s House today at the time of this writing.

However, we have seen something very special happening at Clara’s House with the initiation of our “Return the Kindness” program three months ago. At the time of check-out, our staff asks guests if they would like to defray the cost for another family at $35 per night. On many occasions they feel compelled to contribute so that others can benefit from Clara’s House as they have, even with their own difficulties.

Just yesterday, another layer of returning the kindness occurred. Frequently, guests provide a listening ear and encouragement to each other in this caring environment. In this instance, as one family member was leaving, she asked to anonymously fund the stay of a family that she had connected with during their stay. As you can imagine, this was a very moving experience for both families as well as for our staff and volunteers.

Donations from our guests and members of this community are appreciated and needed for us to continue to operate Clara McLean House and the Healing Garden, and with these donations are the precious gestures of kindness allowing one passing through ours doors to face their personal challenges with grace.

In Gratitude, Rebecca

Community Schools Give Back
Clara’s House was thrilled to welcome students from Sandhills Classical Christian School and Aberdeen Elementary School for a visit and tour. The students generously donated funds, pantry supplies, handmade cards, and gift bags in an effort to support the mission of Clara’s House and provide comfort and support to guests of all ages. Thank you for making a difference!
Readers Rejoice: Clara’s House Book Club Resumes!

The Hospitality Book Club will resume at 10 am on Thursday, September 3rd at the Clara McLean House. The group will meet monthly until June of 2016. Our first book will be The Zookeepers Wife by Diane Ackerman.

Based on group feedback, we will continue selecting books that deal with the theme of hospitality or caring for one another in some form or fashion. However, all books selected must be available in paperback or in the library so that people can keep their costs down. Keep in mind that in addition to Givens, Southern Pines, and Carthage Libraries, there is also a library at the Community College, and we now have the used book store as well.

Please forward any book selections to lkuzma@firsthealth.org or 910-715-4230. We are looking forward to good books and great discussions.

Hospital Auxiliary Supports FirstHealth Dental Care

SATURDAY · JULY 25, 2015 · 6PM
COUNTRY CLUB OF NORTH CAROLINA

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT’S DREAM
Garden Party

IN SUPPORT OF FIRSTHEALTH DENTAL CARE

Join us for a magical event that will shed light on and raise funds for the dental needs of more than 25,000 underserved children in Moore and surrounding counties.

Live Music by Local Favorite
House Call · Fairy Garden Raffle
Heavy Hors d’oeuvres · Cocktails
Rain or Shine · Resort Casual

Hosted by FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital Auxiliary
190 appropriations Road, Pembroke, NC 28372

RESERVE YOUR TICKET TODAY ($100 each)
910-695-7504 or ptighe@firsthealth.org
Volunteer, Marcia Krasicky, goes the extra mile to ensure Clara’s House remains spic and span.

Helpful Hints from the House Manager

Oh, no! You’ve discovered a nasty white ring left from a glass on your favorite antique table. Don’t fret; a simple trick will fix it!

Generously smear **mayonnaise** over the spot being sure to completely cover it. (And, no, it doesn’t matter if it’s Duke’s or Hellman’s.) Leave it there for at least an hour and check for progress. A very difficult ring may require an overnight treatment. Just be patient. Use paper towels to both remove it and to absorb any remnants. An antique dealer showed me this years ago when I purchased a 19th century bureau at an auction, and the top was covered in white spots. It was an overnight process, but not a trace of white could be found. (I bet Heloise didn’t know that).

Stay tuned for more hints … or share your own!

- Patricia
A Peace of the Spirit by Pam Hudson

More than any other time of the year, I think summertime may remind us of all that sustains us. Maybe it is the variety and abundance of fresh vegetables and fruits that we pass by on an almost daily basis with farmer’s markets and roadside stands. What a generous time of year! And then there are those of us (but not me😊), who grow their own gardens and have everything ranging from salad to peppers to squash to peas to tomatoes…..there really is nothing else like a fresh tomato sandwich. And we could redefine what a fruit roll up is just by how we seem to ‘roll’ from strawberries to blueberries to peaches, and even a few figs thrown in along the way. Abundance seems to surround us this time of year and we are blessed! And I think we know it too, because we are quick to share with our neighbors and pass along the goodness we grow, offering the bounty we have and happy to be able to do so. Being able to turn to one another and return some of the gifts we are given in this way is not only a life giving exercise but a way of sharing in life! I have a deep appreciation for sharing coming from a family where sharing was both an expectation and a norm and brought much joy. That’s probably one of the reasons I love working at Clara’s House. The sharing and many ways kindness is returned here each day is life giving! And how fortunate we are here at Clara’s House with our ‘Return the Kindness’ program, sharing and passing along a bit of whom we are one to another. Thank you to everyone for being a part of all that sustains us and keeps us going! May our generosity grow to sustain us with each and every passing day, all year long!