Silver Center Scene Special to Seguin Gazette

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For Information: Jan Almon <u>janalmon@sbcglobal.net</u> 830-372-4452 or Kim Manley, <u>silvercenter@sbcglobal.net</u> 830-303-6612

New Silver Center Staff Now In Charge

By Jan Almon

An Internet story relates how a cab driver takes an old lady on a sentimental drive past reminders of her life before delivering her to the hospice. The moral is people may not remember what you say or do, but will remember how you make them feel.

That is a perfect match for the philosophy of new Silver Center Director Kim Manley, who takes control this week. She and her husband, Dave, moved to Seguin 2 ½ years ago from upstate New York where she had pursued a career in accounting and they had founded and operated their own non-profit, Family GAP Ministries, Inc.

Family GAP worked closely with county social services agencies in Malone, NY to provide displaced families with furniture and household needs so they could get reestablished.

Married for 32 years, Dave is a truck driver and the oil field boom brought them to Texas where one of their four grown children has now joined them. They have a married daughter and grandson in Florida and daughter, married son and granddaughter in New York.

"The Silver Center is a well-established, well-run part of the community," Kim says. "Now I have the opportunity to serve and build a stronger relationship with the community. We need to recognize the value of our seniors and seniors need to recognize their own value.

"I think there are many opportunities for the next phase of the Silver Center and making the community more aware of all it has to offer," she adds.

Kim is actually part of a new triumvirate that has fortuitously joined the Center this month and is now in command.

Tammy Dillon, a Seguin native, is the administrative assistant. Tammy is a graduate of both Seguin High School and Texas Lutheran University. Except for some brief forays courtesy of the military, she has always lived in Guadalupe County.

In fact, Tammy's family's history dates back to 1832 when the Stautzenberger family settled in the Geronimo area, and she and other family members still live on the original land purchased by her ancestors.

She has always been in a service-type position having spent 25 years with USAA, worked with a software company, and in medical billing. She is delighted to finally have a job in Seguin without a commute. Her grown daughter and son-in-law live in Martindale and work in San Marcos.

Petra Luna rounds out the trio as kitchen manager. Her favorite things to do are cooking, sewing and homemaking tasks, so her job is her passion. She has cooked since she was 7 and she previously worked in food service at Jefferson and Koennecke Elementary Schools.

She was born and raised in Pleasanton and graduated from high school there in 1986. She moved here in 1988 and raised three children ranging from age 20 to 26. She also has a 6 year old and three grandbabies.

She says she really likes the Silver Center and has been busy planning new menu items and developing new ideas for the regular lunch and menus.

The other member of the office staff, Bookkeeper Laverne Roskydal, has been with the Center barely a year. The senior staffers are now Yancey McCartney who is the food service assistant and maintenance and Sally Villanueva, the Thrift Store manager.

The new gang will doubtless be bringing about many changes. The Silver Center has always been a good place to get acquainted and there could not be a better time than now. Check out the Silver Center's Facebook page or website for updates. Start looking over some new menus. Stop by soon and see what is happening.

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Photo Caption:

New Silver Director Kim Manley (seated) is joined by other new staffers, Petra Luna, food service manager (left) and Tammy Dillon, administrative assistant (back).