

Sheboygan Senior Community

Short Term Rehab • Assisted Living
Skilled Nursing Care



December 2017

3505 County Road Y | Sheboygan, WI
53083

(920) 458-2137

sheboyganseniorcommunity.com

Resident Birthdays

12/02	Janet Polster
12/02	Toni Hawley
12/17	Tom Seymour
12/18	Rosemary Reiter
12/20	John Zelm
12/24	Perry Harris

Staff Birthdays

12/01	Jeanette Grunewald
12/02	Carolyn Eiden
12/03	Annie Howe
12/05	Luke Yang
12/12	Tara Holzem
12/14	Holly Bieberitz
12/15	Tom Lawry, Melissa Oxtoby
12/16	Bonita Priebe
12/19	Josh Giles
12/22	Cassandra Neese
12/27	Susan Becker
12/30	Kaylene Morado
12/31	Song Xiong

December Special Events

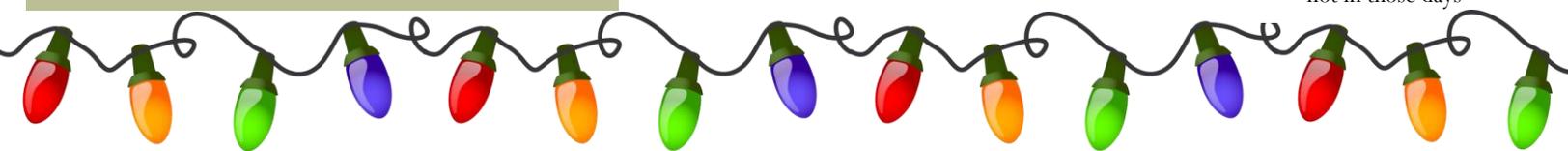
- December 16 – 10am – *Richards School of Dance Christmas Program* – Gallery
- December 16 – 2pm – *Bingo with Girl Scouts* – Gallery
- December 18 – 2pm – *Christmas Carols with Lake Country Academy* – Gallery
- December 18 – 3:45pm – *Resident Council with Special Guest Aegis* – TOL
- December 20 – 2pm – *Open Art Studio* – Maple Dining Room
- December 21 – 10:30am – *Christmas Stories by the Fire* – Oak Dining Room
- December 22 – 2pm – *Decorate Christmas Cookies* – Willow & Maple Dining Room
- December 24 – 3pm – *Hamer Family Christmas Songs* – TOL
- December 25 – All Day – *Christmas Movies by the Fire* – Living Rooms
- December 27 – 2pm – *Open Art Studio* – Willow Dining Room
- December 28 – 10:30am – *Christmas Word Games* – Maple Dining Room
- December 29 – 3pm – *New Year Celebration ft. music by "The Steve Schultz Las Vegas Revue"* – Gallery

Enjoy original Holiday Poetry created by Oak residents Doris P. and Bob A.

*"The Happy Story
about Jesus"*
Christmas means the birth
of Jesus with the three
wise men in the stall he
laid in a cradle the animals
all around took care of
Him

*"The Day Before
Christmas"*
Deep green,
berries and holly
on the mistletoe
Hung in the doorway
on the center light
on the ceiling
Christmas presents
tree in the corner
with pretty colored lights
Different colored ornaments
trying to keep the magic of
Santa alive

*"Christmas in the Good Ol'
Days"*
Lots of toys... in those days
there wasn't a lot of money
for toys
During the depression a lot of
toys were handmade
Depends how good the kids
were... some stockings with
coal
Scooters and coasters made of
wood by hand
Under the tree my sister got a
tricycle and I got a coaster
wagon
No need to wrap the presents,
not in those days



From the Desk of Paul Treffert

I do hope that as we enter this Holiday Season this month's newsletter finds everyone at 'the corner of healthy and happy' as one of our Willow Resident Assistants likes to say. (I think she may have stolen that from somewhere.) I don't love the cold, but I do love snow and being outside this time of year.

Occasionally our readers have noticed that the monthly newsletter is not available and distributed on the first of every month the way it probably should be. As the senior editor of this fine publication, I wish I could put the blame on Dana and Stephanie, instead of where it rightly belongs, which is on me. It's not like they don't try to get it from me on time. They are almost always ready to go well before the end of the month, but they always end up waiting for my words of wisdom. I know it really annoys them both that I rarely have it done on time, but they hide it well. (Not as well this month.)

Some might call it procrastination; I call it waiting for inspiration. Either way, it is something I would like to be better at in the New Year. People I work closely with know I am a big believer in accountability and setting goals, so I am setting a goal of getting my newsletter piece submitted before the first of the month, every month. If you have suggestions of what repercussions or consequences I should be subjected to in the (not entirely unlikely) event that I miss my goal, please pass it along to either Dana or Stephanie. They have final say in how I will be held accountable. Anyway, inspiration finally struck, so here we go...

Depending on the last time you visited you may have noticed that the children's playground equipment and sandbox are no longer in the large courtyard across from the Gallery. This was not an easy decision to make because it was fun to occasionally look outside and see one of our resident's grandchildren or great grandchildren playing out there. Making this an enjoyable place for children of all ages is one of our primary goals, but after two years it really was not being used very much, so it has been donated to the Town of Sheboygan where it will be used in one of our local parks. Next Spring we will begin transforming the Gallery Courtyard to hopefully match the relaxing beauty of Willow and Hickory Courtyards.

I am also excited to announce that our application to provide training to new nursing assistants has been submitted to the state and discussions are underway on how to best add this new component to our service offerings. We continue to look for ways to become the Employer of Choice for health care students in Sheboygan County, so adding a CNA training is a natural next step. Details will be announced as we move forward.

As noted, inspiration finally struck. More accurately it came in waves over one particular day. Last Sunday I attended church service before heading to work as the Manager on Duty. Part of Pastor Bruce's message was that the holidays can be hard sometimes because we feel like we are supposed to be feeling more spiritual and uplifted this time of year than we really are. So sometimes we need to seek out inspiration instead of letting it just come to us. He referred to it as 'metanoia', which is 'a change in one's way of life resulting from penitence or spiritual conversion.' His words resonated as I drove along to work that day.

Just as I was opening my office, one of our former Board Members stopped by to say that he and his family are making a gift to us to help build birdhouses that we can place around the pond to attract more wildlife to our grounds. He shared with me that when his wife was here for Rehabilitation a few months earlier, she had loved watching all the wildlife on our property as the sun went down, and they wanted others to experience that as well. The money is much appreciated, but it was the thought behind the gift that struck me that morning as I left my office to make rounds.

As I opened the door to Oak, I saw two of our nursing staff sitting and talking with residents like old friends as they waited for lunch to arrive. As I said hello to them and then walked around the building I felt an ease and a warmth between caregivers and those being cared for that is really all I could really ever ask for.

When I finally made it back to my office I checked my voicemail. There was a message from one of our resident's family members who said that their family had really enjoyed contributing to our employee's Christmas gift last year and asked if we would be doing that again this year. It turns out we have since gotten several of those inquiries from families. I love the fact that our residents' family members appreciate how hard our employees work all year long, and want to say thank you in a meaningful way.

And when I finally got around to opening my email, the first message I saw was from another family member who wanted to share how impressed she was with two of our caregivers, who are always so kind and patient with her mother whose health is declining and memory is fading. Her note was thoughtful, touching, sad and beautiful all at once. But she took time to mention the relief she feels to know that Mom is here at SSC.

So how's that for inspiration? Not bad for one Sunday afternoon. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!! And a big healthy dose of METANOIA to ALL...

-pt



(Terri with a stethoscope giving one of our RA's a checkup!)

Terri Grunewald: Willow Lane's Newest Resident

Born in the Milwaukee area, Terri is the oldest of five children. She attended primary school at St. John's Lutheran School in Glendale, then spent one year at Random Lake High School and 2 ½ years at Howards Grove High School. Wait, that's only 3 ½ years of High School?! That's correct! Terri received her High School diploma in just 3 ½ years. Her mom said she was extremely bright and had the memory of a sponge.

After high school, Terri got her CNA license from LTC, and began her medical career at Meadowview Nursing Home. She later got her Nursing degree from Concordia College while still working at Meadowview. Upon graduation from Concordia, Sheboygan Memorial Hospital hired Terri as a Nurse Manager in the Neonatal Infant Care Unit. She was able to assist in the delivery of many babies while also providing psychological help to those who suffered loss.

Terri has an amazing family story to share. Her mother had 5 biological children, 2 stepchildren, 11 foster children, and 4 children she adopted from Korea. Their home had as many as 12 children in it at any one time. Wow! Through our brief exchange, I quickly learned that Terri comes from a very loving, Christian home. It was the voice of God that prompted her family to take on this kind of responsibility, and God's Grace that gave them the strength to carry through. Her mom has a heart for children and those that are lost.

Family is still what matters most to Terri today. She has one son, Jeff, and two daughters, Stacy and Stephanie. They all have the same compassionate heart and have found success in their careers. Her children have blessed her with six grandchildren, and they too support her with frequent visits and companionship.

Terri has dabbled in painting, quilting and crochet. Some day stop by her apartment and you will notice the quilt on her bed that speaks highly of her quilting skills. Traveling was also a favorite pastime of Terri's: she has been to Disney, Tennessee, Washington D.C, Mount Rushmore and Branson, MO. She LOVES rock 'n roll music, like Journey, Simon and Garfunkel and Elton John. Her mom reminded her of the day they sat in church together, and she glanced at her young teenage daughter dressed in a thermal shirt and flared jeans with patchwork hem. Very rock 'n roll, not her "Sunday best", but her mom thanked God just the same because at least she was in church worshipping with the rest of the family.

Terri sings the praises of SSC every day. She loves her little apartment because it feels cozy and safe, and she still has the freedom to come and go as she pleases. We are so glad to have her with us. Welcome to Sheboygan Senior Community, Terri.



Staff Spotlight – Melanie Becker – LPN

Melanie Becker is an LPN in our Maple Creek household. She was born and raised in Marshfield, Wisconsin as one of three children. Melanie completed both her elementary and high school years in the Marshfield School District. There she proudly performed on the Marshfield H.S. Drill Team as a rifle specialist. The team received a rare invitation to perform at the World's Fair in Knoxville, Tennessee in 1980. That was the highlight of young Melanie's high school career. After graduation, Melanie enrolled at Mid-State Technical College in Wisconsin Rapids where she received an Administrative degree, while also taking Medical Technology courses.

Melanie was hired by the Marshfield Clinic to work in their Health Insurance office. However, she knew very quickly that her calling was not to shuffle paperwork, but to serve more personally one on one with residents. After completing courses to become a Radiology X-ray Technician, Melanie worked at several healthcare facilities, and has quite the extensive and impressive healthcare resume where she held a variety of positions. Still eager to advance her education, Melanie completed her LPN degree at Fox Valley Technical College.

Melanie has been with Sheboygan Senior Community as an LPN since October: she loves serving the residents of her household and developing a personal relationship with each one. In the short time we have had getting to know Melanie, it is clear that she is well learned, passionate, has an attention for detail, and jumps in to assist with both feet sans a parachute. Melanie says the beauty and charm of our facility, and the warm welcome the staff has given her, has made this job transition quite easy.

One thing most people do not know about Melanie is that she can create some pretty sweet melodies with a pick and a guitar. Earlier in life she would entertain at nursing homes during the Christmas holidays. Who knows, maybe the name **Melanie Becker** might show up on our monthly activities calendar soon?!

Melanie has been married to her husband, Timothy for 20 years. Tim has worked at the Kohler Company for 40 years. They have one 15 year old son, and a stepdaughter with 3 children. Melanie and Tim love to travel, play computer games, watch movies, and cook.

When asked what is one thing left on her bucket list? Melanie's answer is that she just wants to see her son graduate and get started on a successful career. Well, hopefully he can be as successful as his mom has been! Welcome aboard, Melanie, we hope to LEARN a lot from you!

Welcome to the TEAM



11/15/2017	Tonya Isbell	Residential Aide
11/15/2017	Deana Schmidt	CNA
11/22/2017	Priscilla Gaffney	Unit Assistant
11/24/2017	Kaylee Norwood	Unit Assistant



SSC Friendly Voices Christmas Concert

The Friendly Voices choir members sang beautifully for their 20th Annual Christmas Concert on Wednesday, December 13. Our residents sang in different languages ranging from Norwegian, Italian, Latin, German and Polish! Family, friends and Landmark residents were all in attendance. We thank our director, Chris K. for her dedication and appreciation for music.

Support us when you shop this holiday season

Buy your gifts and holiday essentials at [smile.amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/smile). You shop. Amazon donates.



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Holiday Room Reservations



Rooms and dates are still available for reservation during the Holiday Season. *Private Dining Rooms, Tree of Life, and the Gallery* are all available for reservation. Reservations are on a first come first serve basis, but we will do our best to accommodate all requests. Contact Life Enrichment Director, Melissa T. to make reservations (920) 458-2137 ext. 710.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OF THE RESIDENTS, FAMILY, FRIENDS, AND STAFF OF SHEBOYGAN SENIOR COMMUNITY. HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!