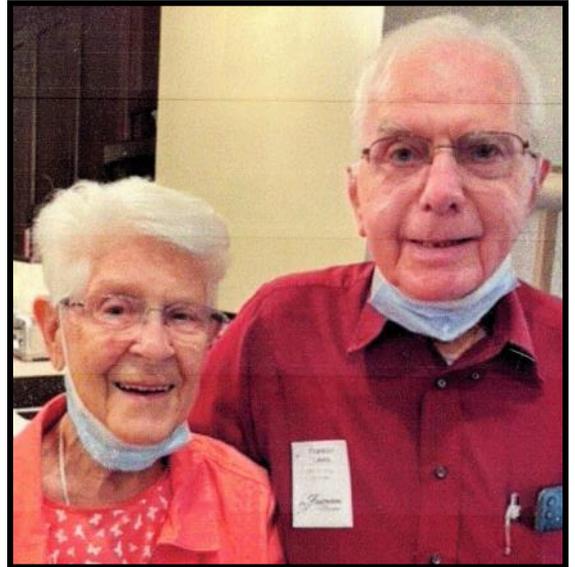


# News From The Haven

January/February 2023



**THROWBACK TO SUMMER!** Martha Meister, Anna McKeon and Danielle Steffen are enjoying the Ice Cream Social.



**MARGE MISHLER** will celebrate her 101st birthday on February 11, 2023! Here she is pictured with her brother, Bud Lewis.



**AT LEFT:** Ty Mueller hosted Ron Gentes at a school Veterans' Day tribute.

**BELOW:** Busy Corner is a favorite place to dine! (L-R) Connie Wlos, Phil Hilti, Nick Kaeb, Barb Hurt, June Schahrer, Lucille Knapp, Dorothy Rudin, Karen Leman and Marcella Meyer.



**An Apostolic Christian community where choice is valued, growth is encouraged and life abounds.**



# Reflections From Rick

—Rick Plattner, Director of Public Relations

## How Great Our Joy!

During the Christmas season, the word *joy* is common. It's a theme in many Christmas carols, such as *Joy to the World*.

JOY is definitely the message of the Scripture at the time of Jesus' birth. In Matthew 2:10, we read of the wise men's response when the star led them to the place Jesus resided. It says, "When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy." In Luke 2:10, we read of the angel saying, "Fear not for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great Joy, which shall be to all people." God came to earth and clearly it was a joyous occasion.

Does it sometimes seem like we let the joy slip away? Do we allow the busyness of the season rob us of our joy?

In John 15, Jesus taught His disciples to continue in His love and abide in Him. In verse 11, He says, "These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full." Joy doesn't begin with us. It first dwelt in Christ. And Galatians 5:22 teaches us that joy is a fruit of the Spirit. It comes forth from

our life because God's Spirit dwells in us.

Jesus wants His joy to remain in us and be full. It would be good to make this (feeling God's joy) a point of daily prayer. Let's ask Him for it and pray that it may be abundant. We have many things to do, but let's not allow the stress, worry, or fear overwhelm and choke out our joy.

Being a faithful follower of Jesus, the Apostle Paul spoke of joy in Philippians 4:4. He said, "Rejoice in the Lord, and again I say, Rejoice." In verse 6, he reminds us not to be filled with anxiety or worry (joy killers), but rather to make our requests (prayers) known unto God. Letting God help us and not leaning on our own strength will help us cultivate the joy of the Lord.

As the holiday season comes and goes, let's think about this joy that God gave us. We can be content with His promises and not be overcharged with the covetousness of this life (Hebrews 13:5). I believe our joy will be strengthened and in turn we can help others experience this joy! (2 Corinthians 1:24)



## The SCOOP at SERENITY

PHOTO AT LEFT: (L-R) Margaret and Duane Haney, Wally Ross and Ernie Hofmann decorate fall cookies.

AT RIGHT: We crafted some autumn door decorations. Karen Hildreth displays hers.



RADER FARMS was a fun fall outing for (L-R): Ruth Wes-sels, Esther Gerber, Joyce Blunier, Judy Anliker, Diane Rieger, Jen McBride and Wally Ross.

# Down Memory Lane ...

Recently, we had a contest among our team, sharing memories of Fairview Haven. We thought you'd like to share them with us...

"My favorite memory is seeing the residents' faces when they could have Christmas meal with staff and the 1:1 that was given and it just made their faces light up. We are so fortunate to

work in a place where staff treat the residents like family." —Billie Waddell

"Some of my favorite memories are from when I was a CNA and things didn't always go as planned. Like when I was helping Sarah Bellot fix a stuck curtain and the whole thing came crashing down off the wall. Or when I got trapped in a bed trying to climb out from behind it after helping Jessica Ifft with repositioning a resident. Another favorite memory, although not a fun thing to go through, was watching our team pull together to face a common enemy at the beginning of the pandemic. Many nursing homes have not survived the past few years and many of those that have are operating as complete disasters. I am thankful for our team, as that is the reason we are still relatively thriving." —Brandon Stoller

"One of my many favorite memories ... I remember a time where each department was to dress up around Christmas time. Kaye Lynch, Kristi Lee, Bonita Frank and I dressed up as snowmen. We paraded the halls in our snowmen costumes.... with all our extra padding to make us fluffy. —Crystal Miller

My favorite memory of Fairview Haven is walking here after school to see my mom for a few minutes. She worked here for over 25 years herself. I would write and read letters for Martha Stortz at the time because she was blind and loved to send and receive letters. I couldn't wait to turn 16 and get a job here. 41 years later, I could write a book of so many things happening. The thing is WHAT WOULD THE TITLE BE?" —Dianna Kester

"Watching the Serenity Villa dream come to what it is today ... The best memory support home around!" —Anna McKeon

"I don't have a particular memory but just love working at Serenity Villa. I enjoy the neighbors and co-workers. I have enjoyed getting to know many

new neighbors throughout the years I have worked here. One person in particular taught me a lot and I always told him 'I wish I knew you when I was in school; maybe I would have done better.' He always smiled at that." —Barb Hall

"My favorite memories are always the ones where residents say things that make you know you are working in the right place for you! The one that comes to mind is one of the first times we had to test a resident for covid, and when I told her we had to swab both nares, she stated 'I'm glad I only have two!'" —Lila Fehr

"Most of my favorite memories are about the residents I have connected with and their families during my 15 years working at Fairview Haven. One gentleman was blind and I would read his emails from his daughter, letters from his son and family, friends and the newspaper. We had a very close relationship. Our camping trips with other homes to Lake Bloomington definitely were a fun memory. Dixie made sure anyone who wanted to go out on the lake got on the pontoon boats. Even if she had to carry them! The Mothers Day Suppers are a huge undertaking and ALL hands on deck, but so worth it seeing the ladies enjoying the evening with their guests." —Connie Wlos

"Like everyone else...so many memories of residents I have loved like family, memories of employees I have loved like family... Having the opportunity to serve our ladies at Mother's Day is always a favorite. And, like Connie said, the camping trips were amazing. To see a 103-year-old resident on a pontoon boat with the wind blowing on her face was worth every effort! Serving steak and ribs to the men for Father's Day has been great fun. Outings on the bus are similar to hanging out with your best friends. But my fondest are Christmas dinners served to

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*In loving memory of  
loved ones on our  
campus who have  
gone to rest in the  
past year ...*

01/17/22 Kenneth Ashman  
01/22/22 Larry Lancaster  
01/27/22 Clement Rosenberger  
02/09/22 Belen Secoquian  
02/21/22 Roger Bachtold  
03/09/22 Patricia Perkins  
03/15/22 James E. Steidinger  
04/07/22 Nancy Honegger  
04/20/22 Mary Knapp  
06/05/22 Donald Perkins  
07/16/22 Alma Stipp  
07/18/22 Elaine Schmid  
08/01/22 Charles Haberkorn  
08/27/22 Juanita Fritchley  
09/03/22 John Hildreth  
09/06/22 Arthur Rhoades  
11/04/22 Dennis Steidinger  
11/29/22 Robert Haab  
11/29/22 John 'Jack' Trainor  
12/02/22 Mary Ellen Goold  
12/05/22 Maxine Zorn  
12/08/22 Duane Schneider



☺ *Welcome to Fairview Haven* ☺

**John Nance** of Forrest has returned to the Fairview Haven family and is residing in Daffodil Drive.

**Robert Haab** was here for a time before he passed away. His obituary is on page 4.

We welcome **Ruth Edelman** to Angel Avenue. Ruth is from Strawn.

**Anna Mae Fehr** and **Thelma Maier** are here for a time of recuperation.

They are both from Fairview Suites Independent Living.

**Roberta Meyer** came for rehab and hopes to return to her condo soon.

# 60th Anniversary Trivia Contest

Thank you to all who participated in our Fairview Haven 60th Anniversary Historical Trivia Quiz!

*Winners of a large Fairview Haven cooler bag are: Anne Wenger, Barbara Haney, Dolores Zehr, Leona Kaisner and Anna Reis.* Please pick up your prize in the Social Services office.

Following are the answers to the trivia questions:

1. Lived at Fairview Haven for a record 30+ years: Hazel Ellis

2. First administrator: Eli Leman, First cook: Bertha Leman, Their daughter who was activity director: Carolyn Zimmerman

3. First bus: Old Blue

4. Current centenarians: Isabelle Bauer, Marge Mishler, Anna Kaeb

5. Fairview Haven Cookbooks: Homemade with Love, Golden Delights

6. Administrators: Eli Leman, Edith Huette, Rosy Mowery, Wayne Drayer, Sam Ball, Rick Plattner, Dave Blunier

7. Benefit Supper started: 1986, Harvest of Sharing Auction started: 2003

8. Residences/Services and when they started: Fairview Haven - 1962 Fairview Suites - 1978 Fairview Estates - 1998 East Haven Condos - 2014 Serenity Villa - 2018 Connections Home Care - 2021 In Motion Therapy - 2022

9. Husband and wife who worked for 25 years combined: Earl and Esther Gerber

10. Farmers' Market started: 2011

11. Fairview Haven mottos: Loving and Caring, Peacefully Sharing That Which Is Good; Putting the Gold Back into the Golden Years

12. Dogs: Bailey, Gilmore, Wally; Cockatiels: Pedro, Tails

13. Mother and son who worked for many years: Nettie Kupferschmid, Al Kupferschmid

14. Grandmother and grandson employees: Sally Schieler, Brandon Stoller

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

## In Loving Memory Of . . .

**Dennis Steidinger**, 75, of Fairbury, passed away Friday, Nov. 4, 2022. Dennis was part of the East Haven Condos family and he enjoyed cooking and baking for his neighbors as well as many others. His funeral was Wednesday, Nov. 9 at the Gridley Apostolic Christian Church. Surviving are his children: Michael (Holly) of Fairbury, Philip (Lana) of Sharpsburg, GA, Joy (Jason) Kilgus of Fort Wayne, IN, Matthew (Janelle) of Humanita, Brazil, Timothy (Amy) of Lanark, Mark (JaNae) of Forrest, Hope (Ryan) Stoller of Gridley, and Faith (Louis) Robinson of Lakewood, CO; 30 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren; eight siblings: Marjorie Edelman of Sabetha, KS, Velda (Karl) Glueck of Tremont, Charles (Joanne) Steidinger, Barbara (Ronald) Kaeb, David Steidinger, Eldon (Darlene) Steidinger, Thomas (Dianne) Steidinger, all of Fairbury, and Judy (Terry) Bachtold of Strawn. Dennis and his late wife, Jane, had a dairy farm and later established Living Greenery Greenhouses. Dennis was a veteran of US Army, serving during the Vietnam War. He was a member of the Gridley Apostolic Christian Church.

Funeral services for **John "Jack" Trainor**, 92, of Wing were held Monday, Dec. 5, 2022 at St. Andrew Catholic Parish, Fairbury, where he was a member. Jack passed away Tuesday, Nov. 29. He had moved

into Fairview Suites earlier this year. Survivors include his children, Mike (Teresa) Trainor of Chatsworth, Pat (Eric) Rieger and Lynn (Mike) Reis, both of Forrest; Ann (Cal) Zimmerman of Fairbury, daughter-in-law, LuAnn Trainor of Odell; 20 grandchildren and 40 great-grandchildren; and one sister, Pat Russell of Cottage Grove, WI. Jack was a U.S. Air Force veteran, serving in Korea during the Korean War. He owned and operated Trainor Grain, having elevators in Strawn, Forrest, Saunemin, Dwight, Swygert, Emington and Wing. He was past Chairman of the Board at the Unionbancorp, Streator, having served on the board of directors for 21 years.

**Robert "Bob" Haab**, 90, of Forrest, passed away on Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2022, after being at Fairview Haven for a few weeks. His funeral was Dec. 6, 2022 at First Baptist Church in Fairbury. Surviving are his children, Nancy (Joe) Lane of Ft. Myers, FL, Robert (Kathy) Haab of Forrest, Kay (Ryan) Shiflett, Gail (Gary) Marten of Broken Arrow, OK and Mark (Kim) Haab of Fairbury; nine grandchildren; two step-grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; sister, Eleanor Ricketts of Fairbury; and sister-in-law, Marylu Haab of Forrest. Bob farmed in the Forrest area. He was a member of Living Word Church in Roberts. He served in the U.S. Army from 1954-56.

A memorial service was held Thursday, Dec. 8, 2022 at the First Presbyterian Church in Fairbury for **Mary Ellen Gould**, 99, of Fairbury. Mary Ellen passed away Dec. 2, 2022. She had been in the Fairview Haven family since 2017. Surviving are her children: Ann Arendell of Bloomington and Joan Smeltzer of Fairbury; a sister, Cathryn Frisby of Pontiac; three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Mary Ellen worked as a secretary for the director of Brown Business College. She and her husband, John, were farmers in the Fairbury area and the family had Trees n' Trim Christmas tree farm. She was well-known in the Fairbury area for her hobby of painting beautiful china. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church, Fairbury.

**Maxine Zorn**, 93, passed away Monday, Dec. 5, 2022. She had lived in Fairview Suites since March 2022. Her memorial service was held Dec. 10 at Duffy-Pils Memorial Home, Fairbury. Surviving are her children, Sharon (Dr. Reinhardt Hilzinger) Zorn of Carmichael, CA, Mark (Rita) Zorn of Chatsworth, Randy (Marla Behrends) Zorn of Forrest; son-in-law, Herbert Ingold of Chatsworth; eight grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren and sister-in-law, Patricia Hornickel. Maxine owned and operated Maxine's Beauty Spot in her home for 45 years. She was a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



# Party Line

## SOMEBODY'S MOTHER

Contributed by Rick Plattner

The woman was old and ragged and gray  
 And bent with the chill of the winter's day.  
 The street was wet with a recent snow  
 And the woman's feet were aged and slow.  
 She stood at the crossing and waited long,  
 Alone, uncared for, amid the throng  
 Of human beings who passed her by  
 Nor heeded the glance of her anxious eyes.  
 Down the street, with laughter and shout,  
 Glad in the freedom of "school let out,"  
 Came the boys like a flock of sheep  
 Hailing the snow piled white and deep.  
 Past the woman so old and gray  
 Hastened the children on their way.  
 Nor offered a helping hand to her -  
 So meek, so timid, afraid to stir  
 Lest the carriage wheels or the horses' feet  
 Should crowd her down in the slippery street.  
 At last came one of the merry troop,  
 The gayest laddie of all the group;  
 He paused beside her and whispered low,  
 "I'll help you cross, if you wish to go."  
 Her aged hand on his strong young arm  
 She placed and so, without hurt or harm,  
 He guided the trembling feet along  
 Proud that his own were firm and strong.  
 Then back again to his friends he went,  
 His young heart happy and well content.  
 "She's somebody's mother, boys, you know,  
 For all she is aged and poor and slow,  
 And I hope some fellow will lend a hand

To help my mother, you understand,  
 If ever she's poor and old and gray,  
 When her own dear boy is far away."  
 And "somebody's mother" bowed low her head  
 In her home that night and the prayer she said  
 Was "God be kind to the noble boy,  
 Who is somebody's son and pride and joy!"  
 -Mary Dow Brine

## PEACE

Emotions are transient.  
 Pain. Sadness. Joy. Happiness. All are transient.  
 Peace, though, is a state of being.  
 What a paradox... Seeking happiness is destined to  
 bring you unhappiness.  
 Because happiness cannot sustain itself.  
 No emotion is permanent.  
 Like all feelings, happiness ebbs and flows.  
 But peace is unlike feelings.  
 Peace is a condition. It does not waver.  
 It is your compass when your world is turned  
 sideways. Seek Inner Peace.  
 It is steadfast and true, separate from, and  
 independent of, your emotional state of the moment.  
 Find peace, and you will get through what's hard.  
 You will find strength through your pain.  
 And you will relish and cherish what brings you joy.  
 Therefore, happiness isn't the greatest of all  
 pursuits. The greatest pursuit is peace.  
 It is the only light which does not extinguish.

-Kim O'Reilly

If you have any poems or short inspiring articles to contribute for *Party Line*, please send to Sally Fehr (sfehr@fairviewhaven.org) or drop them off at the Social Service office. They will be printed as space is available.

## Personnel Profiles

**Lisa Gillespie** became a CNA in 1994. She joined the Fairview Haven team in 2015. When Serenity Villa opened in 2018, she chose to transfer there.

"I really enjoy working with my night shift family," she says. "The teamwork is amazing. I like coming to

work and spending time with the neighbors and putting smiles on their faces."

Lisa lives in Fairbury with her husband, Mark, and dog, Boog. She has lots of nieces and nephews and great and great-great-nieces and nephews.

Lisa's hobbies are baking, cooking, gardening, sewing and collecting antique farm items to use for decorating. She loves books! She says she likes making occasional special desserts for the Serenity Villa neighbors. They really enjoy them.

LISA GILLESPIE



# Thoughts from Dave's Desk ...

Dave Blunier, Administrator

"Whither shall I go from thy Spirit? Or whither shall I flee from thy presence? If I ascend to heaven, thou art there; if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there... If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, even the night shall be light about me." Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day; the darkness and light are both alike to thee... I will praise thee, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; marvelous are thy works, and that my soul knoweth right well." Psalm 139:7-8, 11-12, 14

As we reflect over the past year — 2022 — we have no choice but to give thanks and praise to our great God who has done wonderful works. We are in some very tough times (as many of you are aware) but, through God's provisions, the ministry of Fairview Haven remains strong.

It has been predicted that, by the end of 2022, over 700 nursing homes in the US will have closed since the

covid pandemic started. Almost half of them had already closed at the start of 2022, displacing nearly 13,000 seniors across our land. Two out of three nursing homes surviving today state they will not make it another year under current conditions.

While Fairview Haven has suffered from staffing shortages and financial losses, we end the 2022 year strong. And all thanks and praise goes to the One who makes it all possible — our great God!

Staffing shortage is a major concern amongst nursing homes in the United States, with 99% of them facing some sort of staffing shortage. This continues to be a struggle as more healthcare workers leave the industry due to fatigue and burnout. Also finances/funding issues prohibit nursing homes from paying a commensurate wage for the highly skilled work our team provides.

At this time, Fairview Haven's

staffing shortage isn't dire, thanks to the committed team that we have been blessed to attract and retain. We must continue to be vigilant and we need your assistance in doing so.

What can you do?

Pray — this is always the best first step. We have learned that the power of prayer is mighty and, without the Lord's direction, we have nothing.

Financial Support — We continue to need financial support in order to remain competitive with our wages and to provide the best level of care.

And finally, pray about how you could serve in this ministry. We need God to call out people to serve in healthcare and, especially, long-term care right now. This is an underserved area, struggling to fulfill the ministry in which we are called to serve.

Is God laying it on your heart to consider a career in long-term care? I ask you to reach out and ask questions. We are here to guide you, if God is calling you. I understand that not everyone is called to this ministry, but

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

## Photo Puzzler



Thanks to Joe Koehl from Fairbury for providing the last Photo Puzzler photo of his mother and her dear friend.

"The ladies in the picture are Gladys (Maurer) Koehl and Lorene (Huber) Kloter. I really enjoyed sleuthing to figure this one out! Had to use the clues and a little searching online for a maiden name and a first name!" -Trish Steidinger of Fairbury

"We think the Photo Puzzler is Gladys Koehl and Lorene Kloter." -Dale and Sandy Stoller of Fairbury

"I know the one lady pictured is Lorene Kloter. She was my mom's sister. The other one, I think, is Gladys Koehl." -Loretta Zimmerman of Fairbury

"I think the two ladies are Gladys Koehl and Lorene Kloter. Beautiful ladies!" -Carol Bazzell of Fairbury

"My guess is the one on left is Gladys Koehl and on the right is Lorene Kloter." -Sandra Schneider of Fairbury

We also heard from Erna Lou (Hofmann) Kelly from Florida who identified the photo.

**Clues:** In 1991, these ladies were celebrating Moth-



er's Day together at Fairview Haven, where the mother (center) resided. The three daughters lived in the Forrest area at the time. The daughter on right has since passed away and the daughter on the left has moved out of the area. The daughter in center and daughter on the right were former Fairview Haven team members.



Please send your guesses to: Editor, *News From The Haven*, 605 N. Fourth, Fairbury, IL 61739; or e-mail to [sfehr@fairviewhaven.org](mailto:sfehr@fairviewhaven.org) or drop off at Social Services.

# On the Bulletin Board: Ben Kafer

Introducing ... board member **Ben Kafer** from Fairbury.

Ben is married to Carol and they have four children: Chris (Aby) Kafer, Brad (Bethany) Kafer, Bethann (Ben)

Kaeb and Britney Kafer.

Special times for Ben and Carol are being with their children and 12 grandchildren. They also like to travel and enjoy God's creation.

Ben and Carol live in Fairbury and they own and operate Kafer Tiling & Excavating, Inc. Ben serves as the president of the business.

Duane and Pat Kafer (deceased) are Ben's parents and his parents-in-law are Bud (deceased) and Sharon Kelson.

Ben says: "I was put on the Fairview Haven board as we began to investigate the need of a memory care facility that would become Serenity Villa. I count it a blessing to have been part of working on this project and seeing how God had prepared for it in many ways, i.e. property, city sewer, city water and large watermains for fire sprinkling system, storm water outlet, fill dirt for raising grade, etc.

"I appreciate working

together for the good of all. The administration, team and board consider Fairview Haven a mission. We want to honor God in providing the best possible care for residents. The physical property and equipment is important but our greatest asset is our employees who have the love and desire to give our residents the best of care they can. Also the many volunteers help make our home and activities very successful.

"The many months of covid-19 pandemic and regulations have been hard on employees and residents. We are thankful for the hard work and perseverance all have given in this struggle.

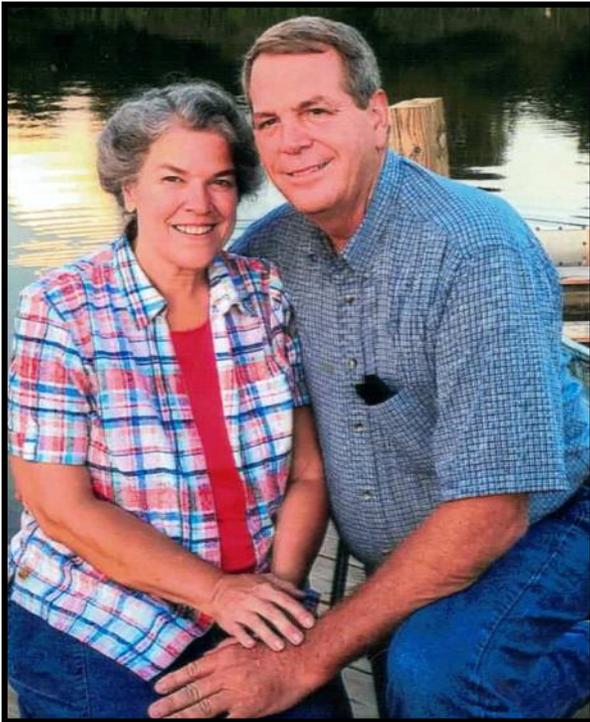
"The board and administration are now working on evaluating our physical property to establish a long-term plan for the future. Praying and trusting God will guide us."

## Memorial Fund Report

Contributions were received in the past few months in memory of:

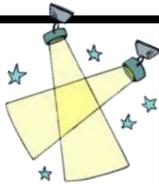
- Richard Aberle
- Elaine Schmid
- Curtis Sauder

Recent purchases were: elliptical machine and Christmas display for Serenity Villa.



BEN AND CAROL KAFER

## Volunteers in the SPOTLIGHT ...



THANKS AND APPRECIATION to Randy Anderson and his wife, Ann, for the many hours and efforts spent on the beautiful aquarium in the Fairview Haven living room!

## Hobby Corner

Featuring the hobbies and interests of residents



Stan Weeks shares his talent as a pianist with us.

# DAVE'S DESK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

please don't brush it off if He is pricking your heart. It is a worthy career to serve elders in any way.

We know, without a doubt, that God loves and endorses this ministry. It will not survive without servants willing to let God grow a passion in their heart for the ministry.

\* \* \* \* \*

The senior leadership team and Board of Directors continues to look at operations and evaluate best practices to help sustain this ministry.

In 2022, we were blessed to open our fitness center and outpatient therapy clinic. According to a poll I recently viewed, the most common New Year's resolution is to exercise more and the second most common is to lose weight.

Well ... In Motion Therapy of Fairview Haven can help you with that! Come check out our fitness center and meet with a personal trainer to develop a plan to meet your goals of exercising

more. **If you sign up during January and mention this special, you will receive 50% off your membership fee for the month of January. In addition, if you sign up in January, you can pay \$330 for an annual membership (amounting to one month free).**

\* \* \* \* \*

Thank you for your prayers and support throughout this past year. Without our faithful supporters, and our wonderful team of caregivers, Fairview Haven (as we know it anyway) wouldn't exist. May God bless each one of you in the year to come!

# IN MEMORY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

member of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Chatsworth.

The funeral for **Duane Schneider**, 85, of Fairbury was held Friday, Dec. 16, 2022 at Forrest Apostolic Christian Church where he was a member. Duane passed away Dec. 8, 2022. He was part of the Fairview Haven

# New Faces!



We welcome the following members to our team: Kacy Baker, Fairview Estates caregiver; Heather Hodgson, Kamryn Huff and Abby Mayer, environmental services; Celeste Koch, infection preventionist; CNAs Maya Combites, Danilla Kessel, Carri Sargeant and Kaeli Marthey; Serenity Villa caregivers Abigail Valdez and Gabby Kafer.

family since 2015. Survivors include his daughter, Kathy (Charles) Fehr of Fairbury; three grandchildren; and two great-grandsons; siblings, Ken (Bernice) Schneider of Remington, IN and Mary (Virg) Metzger of Washington. Duane served in the U.S. Army from 1960-62. He worked for Honegger's, Farmers Grain and farmed for 40-plus years, working last for NuForm Countertops for 44 years.



## Fairview Haven Newsletter Team

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Dixie Steidinger  
Dianna Kester

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Lucille Knapp  
Martha Meister  
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Dorothy Rudin  
Alice Steidinger  
Edna Steidinger  
Colleen Walter  
Marjorie Witzig



# VOLUNTEER VOICES

TRISH STEIDINGER, Volunteer Coordinator



Over the past 2 ½ years, volunteer schedules got turned upside down due to covid. For a time, we cancelled almost all volunteers within the building. We trained some new ones and some experienced ones to oversee covid testing in the shed and assist with covid testing of residents. Eventually, we brought many of our volunteers back in to do some of the jobs they were doing before. We also added some new volunteers. It has not been easy to keep everyone up to date with the changes in requirements for our volunteers, so thanks for being patient.

In the past, we had many volunteers helping daily folding towels in laundry. Through the months of covid, when we could not have any volunteers come in, some of the residents stepped up to the plate and folded the towels. They want to continue to do this job, so we no longer need volunteers for folding towels.

Through all of these changes, I believe not everyone is logging their volunteer hours each time they come in. If you are volunteering in any way, and are not logging your volunteer hours, please try to start doing that. For your convenience, there are volunteer logbooks in the following places: the Fairview Haven reception desk, the In Motion desk, the entry table at Serenity Villa and on the table outside the administrator's office in the business hallway. Another option would be to send a text to

Trish (815.848.5599) with your hours if you didn't get them in one of the books. Thanks for all you do to help out! You are appreciated!

Kenan Blunier has been honored for reaching 25 hours of time donated as a Jr. Volunteer!

He received a Novice Award certificate and a small gift, which included some 100 Grand candy bars, since Kenan has been worth 100 Grand to us!



KENAN BLUNIER

If you are interested in joining our volunteer team in any capacity, or have questions about becoming a volunteer, please contact Trish at 815-692-6726, 815-848-5599 or [tsteidinger@fairviewhaven.org](mailto:tsteidinger@fairviewhaven.org).

## MEMORY LANE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

residents and team. When we turn off the lights, light the candles and sing Silent Night together, it touches my heart every time, knowing that the next year will not be the same group. I long for the day we can reunite as a family together for this.” —Dixie Steidinger

“Lots of things come to mind ... so many dear people that have lived here over the years and have been like grandparents to me. One special memory I have of Christmas time at Fairview Haven was one year when we decorated our offices and had open house for the residents and visitors to tour and have treats. The Social Services office was set up as the office of Scrooge & Marley and Dolores Zehr played the role of Scrooge ... that is a great memory!” —Anna Bahler

“My favorite memory was Serenity Villa being built and bringing the neighbors over. Watching change from being institutional to home-like. They really grew and changed in a different way. (I don’t know how to explain it but it was beautiful.)” —Liz Baxter

“My favorite memory is probably singing Silent Night by candlelight at each Christmas party.” —Hayley Vedder

“This is a tough one to answer because I have so many great memories of working at Serenity Villa. I would say a recent moment was when I read a birthday card from us to a neighbor and she teared up, so I gave her a hug and said: ‘We love you!’ and she responded saying: ‘I know.’ Makes all the hard times seem worth it!” —Katie Fehr

“I’m terrible at thinking of memories, but all of you who have responded have brought back some really great ones. I think my favorite memory of all is when I told a resident he could not call one of our volunteers a heifer. He denied he called her that and we talked for a long time. Then as I was walking out the door, with a twinkle in his eye he said: ‘you tell that old heifer, I did not call her a heifer!’” —Dave Blunier

“Wow - you all have stirred some great memories! I like to remember the journey we went through of transforming the Fairview Haven environment from clinical and institutional to home and resident choice-centered. Truly exciting times as we remodeled, changed our way of dining, bathing, med pass, etc. It was wonderful to see the residents relax and enjoy their home more.

What we learned on this journey led to the wonderful task of building Serenity Villa. So many ways God has provided for us over the years I’ve been here and the amazing things we have been able to accomplish. So blessed!” —Sally Fehr

“One of my favorite memories was when we were able to sit at the table for dinner with the neighbors and just talk to them about their days! Their faces would always light up talking about different topics. I really enjoy having the chance to work at Serenity Villa and couldn’t ask for a more amazing work family.” —Kirsten Deck

“I have worked in the therapy department here at FVH since 2014, but only been full-time here since July of 2021. I have a lot of great memories of working here with all the wonderful people. I always enjoy hearing the residents’ stories and getting to know who each individual resident is as I help them to get stronger and become more independent with their day to day activities. It is always rewarding to therapists to see both the therapist and patient’s hard work pay off when they become fully independent or return to the prior place of living whether it be on or off the Fairview Haven campus. I look forward to the upcoming year when I get to officially hire on as a

NEWS FROM THE HAVEN — PAGE 9

Fairview Haven employee! Thank you all for helping to make lots of great memories throughout the years!” — Jessica Hageman

“I have a ton of great stories, many include Dixie, Dianna and Crystal from our younger days, so much fun! (plus Ida, Geri, Delores and on and on...) I also have many wonderful stories from the residents - too many to share. All make me smile still: Martha S, Rosie T, Anna A, Gay T, - that list is very long also.” —Kaye Lynch

“I really enjoy the interactions I have with the residents - in doing interviews, it can often lead into some heartwarming and interesting conversations. I enjoy all my teammates and appreciate how each one does their part (nursing, therapy, maintenance, administration, activities, housekeeping, laundry, dining...) and we all work together for the good of the residents! We are a team and that is heartwarming!” — Sandra Schneider

“When I was in a rough down day, a resident smiled brightly and said ‘I LOVE YOU.’ I hold those words tight in my heart for now and every day. To my friends at Fairview Haven, Thank you for caring about me. You all make my heart beat every second.” —Anna Reis



A PRECIOUS MEMORY ... brothers Dave and Dennis Steidinger taking a ride on the tandem bicycle.

# Scenes From The Home ...



WE LOVE our Christmas tradition of creating gingerbread houses with the local homeschoolers. This year, we hosted in the maintenance shed.

PICTURED ABOVE are: Selah Waibel, Marjorie Witzig and Alison Waibel.

AT RIGHT: Landon and Jodi Kaisner detail a house while Laura Knapp and Lilyana Kaeb observe.



DONNA NELDNER celebrated her 95th birthday with her family and this beautiful cake.



2022 HARVEST OF SHARING Benefit was a tremendous success. We were thankful to be able to host in-person dining in the maintenance shed (pictured here) as well as carry-out meals. We served 1916 meals, a record that was only surpassed one other year. The total raised through the auction and supper was \$176,000. If you would like to see what each item brought, the information is still available on [www.harvestofsharing.org](http://www.harvestofsharing.org). Thank you so much to all who contributed and volunteered!!!

## TRIVIA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

15. First board president: Frank Honegger

16. Volunteers who operate the Fairview Haven Loom Room: Tom and Diane Steidinger

17. 40+ year employees: Kaye Lynch, Ida Ziller, Delores Ward (and now Dianna Kester)

18. Churches that founded Fairview Haven: Fairbury, Forrest, Cissna Park, Gridley Apostolic Christian Churches

19. Newsletter: News From The Haven—first published in 1981

Memories shared by those who answered the trivia questions:

Anna Reis remembers: Dorothy Householder—kindness, sense of humor; Raymond Johnson—honesty and witty; Katie Powers—saying I love you; Lorene Boner—caring, appreciative, hugs; Bob Perkins—hugs, smiles, grandpa figure. It's definitely been such an honor and a privilege to know all of them.

Anne Wenger: I remember coming to sing at Fairview Haven on Tuesday evenings with the Fairbury/Forrest Apostolic Christian Young Groups. It was first started when the Cissna Park young people would come to visit and sing and eventually Fairbury Forrest came later. Occasionally John Koehl would tell us to slow it down!

Barbara Haney: Being able to celebrate Duane and Margaret Haney's 70th anniversary with family (now 71 years)

Kaye Lynch: A resident told me once that she wished she could die and go to heaven. I told her God wasn't ready for her yet and she still was needed here on earth. She quickly answered, "Yes, to give you a job."

Maureen Stork: Esther Kiefer was just one of my favorite ladies for her spunk and her life story, including being a dressmaker in her past.

Trish Steidinger: I volunteered as a teenager visiting Martha Stortz. I very much enjoyed visiting with her! I hardly had to say a word. She just talked and talked. And I enjoyed listening!

Dolores Zehr: While I have many special memories of many special residents at Fairview Haven, today I wish to remember my Uncle Walter Metz and his inspiring tribute to the flag during a July Fourth celebration at Fairview Haven sometime during the early 1990s. Following his time in the Army during

WWII, he resided in Dearborn, MI where he worked for Ford Motor Company. After his retirement, he moved to Fairview Haven to be near family. On this particular day of celebration, he presented a reading to the crowd of residents and staff at the home ... a reading entitled "Do You Know Who I Am?" ... and spoken as if the flag were speaking. As he spoke for the flag and what the flag means when we see it, I was impressed and convicted and also very proud of Uncle Walter. I often reflect on this memory when I see a flag passing by and no one seems to notice. It is then I am reminded: "Do You Know Who I Am?" I am thankful for this special memory and trusting God will continue to bless America and the flag for which it stands and give us Peace. (To those who place the flag at his gravesite in Pleasant Ridge Cemetery, Wing each Memorial Day, he would be pleased and say, Thanks and God Bless.)



## Lines From Laundry

Often residents receive new clothing or blankets for Christmas. Please mark the tags on any new items with the resident's initials. That will help us avoid the confusion of unmarked clothing coming to laundry. We will then mark with our printed labels. Thanks!

## Happy Birthday to Martha Meister

Donations were made to  
Fairview Haven in honor of  
her 63rd birthday.



**2023 CLASSES—1 PM  
FIRST TUESDAY EVERY MONTH**  
**January: Staying Vertical  
(Improving Balance)**  
**February: Keeping Fit at Home**  
**March: Making Self Care Easy**  
**April: Gardening Tips**  
**May: Posture is Important**  
**June: Tips on Pain Management**  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!!**

**GET FIT NEW YEAR SPECIAL!**  
**Get 50% off your membership fee  
for the month of January at  
In Motion Fitness Center. And  
save on an annual membership!**



WE TRAVELED to Cissna Park for a lovely meal hosted by Mark and Janie Waldbeser. Here we are singing around the table. ABOVE: Sandy Rudin and Lucille Knapp (backs to camera), Fritz and Joan Waldbeser, Lana Waldbeser and Mark Waldbeser. Table at back: Phil Hilti, Nick Kaeb, Bonita Frank and Connie Wlos (backs to camera). Facing camera are: Dolores Haberkorn, Barb Hurt and Colleen Walter. Standing at back are Janie Waldbeser and Joann Edelman.

# FAIRVIEW HAVEN

605 North Fourth St.  
Fairbury, IL 61739  
www.fairviewhaven.org

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## THE LAST LAUGH ...

On our way to church, we asked our grandchild why it's important to be quiet in church.  
She said: "Because there are people sleeping."  
*Contributed by Kathy Fehr*



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

### JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

04 - Mary Morris  
06 - Ethel Wiegand  
09 - Nancy Hauptli  
12 - Myrna Weerts  
18 - Mary Bane  
25 - Judy Kemp  
29 - Edith Clausen

### FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

09 - Elda Mae Rieger  
10 - Ruth Wessels  
11 - Marge Mishler  
12 - Velda Huette  
17 - Donald Fehr  
26 - Eldora Coggins  
28 - Joyce Crews  
28 - Joyce Blunier

It is the policy of Fairview Haven to give equal opportunity to all qualified persons without regard to race, color, religion, sex, marital status, disability, national origin or age.

### **EMPLOYEE BIRTHDAYS :**

JANUARY — Lily Blunier (1); Debbie Vaughan (1); Carlie Hutchison (3); Elaine Mueller (6); Celeste Koch (8); Christy Raby (9); Teri Arteman (9); Jeremiah Rinkenberger (11); Jennifer Teubel (11); Crysta Stork (12); Katie Haas (13); Leslie Lowery (15); Melina Mora (16); Kimber Edelman (17); Taylor Wiedmann (24); Laurel Aberle (27); Katie Ricketts (29); Julie Rabe (30).

FEBRUARY— Kyla Stephens (1); Abby Kerrins (3); Kathy Farrell (4); Beth Bork (4); Rick Plattner (5); Connie Bahler (5); Lauren Hoselton (9); Kyle Steidinger (11); Michelle Ciulla (12); Destiny Rothert (14); Nelly Brand (14); Jeana Waibel (17); Excel Harris (18); Taryn Rodriguez (21); Diana Hockenberry (22); Audrey Leman (23); Elly Hill (23).

### **” CLOSING QUOTE**

If you look for the bad  
in people, expecting to  
find it, you surely will.  
-Abraham Lincoln