



# THE SUNRISER

## Volunteers 'Build a Better World' Annual Volunteer Recognition Ceremony

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Administrator's Corner</i>	2
<i>Memorials/Donations</i>	3
<i>Star Awards</i>	3
<i>Resident Volunteer</i>	4
<i>Special Events</i>	5
<i>Nursing Home Week</i>	6
<i>Employee Banquet</i>	7
<i>Activity Calendar</i>	8

### Sunny Hill is now a WiFi Hotspot!

Unlimited internet access is now available to our visitors and residents.

Even while 2009's volunteers were being honored, others were scurrying around the dining hall at Sunny Hill Nursing Home of Will County, helping make the afternoon memorable.

The county-owned nursing home at 421 Doris Ave. held its annual volunteer recognition ceremony, this year themed *Volunteers Build a Better World*, on Saturday, April 24, to honor and thank those who have given of their time and talents to residents.

Will County Executive Larry Walsh, who oversees the nursing home, said volunteers do, indeed, make the world a better place.

"Our volunteers build a relationship between our residents and the communities in which they once resided," he said after the ceremony. "The volunteers bring joy to the residents and their work gives staff members time for other necessary functions. We cannot thank them enough for all they contribute to life at Sunny Hill."

Four awards were given, one of which was renamed after a former volunteer whose good works still enhance life at Sunny Hill.

Administrator Karen Sorbero spoke about her friend and one-time volunteer extraordinaire before naming the winner of the Bellizzi Community Award for the group which has done the most for the facility in the previous year.

Jacqueline "Jackie" Bellizzi was a physical therapist for special education students. She was an only child who never married and gave her time to four area organizations, one of which was The Friends of Sunny Hill, Inc.

"If you needed an infusion of enthusiasm, Jackie was the girl," Sorbero said. Bellizzi retired and moved to Albuquerque, N.M., but never forgot the groups to which she had devoted so much of her life. Upon her death, her estate was divided among them.

By the time the annuities run out, The

Friends of Sunny Hill will have received an estimated \$500,000, said Sorbero. An amazing gift to the non-profit organization, which provides the "extras" that enhance residents' lives that can't be provided in the county's budget.

So far, Friends of Sunny Hill has spent about \$200,000 creating two safe, wheelchair-accessible outdoor areas for residents. Next the group will consider ways to enhance the current back courtyard, making it more user friendly for residents.

The Board of Directors of The Friends of Sunny Hill was named the first Bellizzi Community Award winner.

Sorbero also named the Schuth Gratia Deo Volunteer of the Year Award winner. The award is named after the Rev. Louis Schuth, who was a chaplain at the nursing home during its early years and is credited with starting the volunteer program.



Don Werner is shown with his Schuth Gratia Deo Volunteer of the Year award. Don was unable to attend the annual event because of another volunteer commitment.

## ADMINISTRATOR'S CORNER

### Sunny Hill Administration:

Administrator	Karen Isberg Sorbero, LNHA
Assistant Administrator	Becky Haldorson, LNHA
Director of Nursing	Debbie Stanko, RN
Assistant Director of Nursing	Maggie McDowell, RN
Rehab /Restorative Coordinator	Tommy Knight, RN
Financial Supervisor	Andrea Dolan
Social Services	Tammy Sangmeister, LSW
Admissions Director	Carol Dillon
Admission/Marketing Coordinator	Charlotte Mather
Dietician	Paula Hall, LD/RD
Kitchen Manager	Bonita Dodson
Laundry/Housekeeping Manager	Gordy Taylor
Activity Director	Larry Lindholm, CTRS
Maintenance Supervisor	Rene Munoz
Human Resources	Keri Bartlett

### Nursing Department

MDS Coordinator	Marbe Flores, RN
MDS/PPS/Care Plan Coordinator	Sheila Altis, RN
MDS Nurses: Tami Hutchinson, RN	Joann Crowder, RN
	Pheyla Fleming, RN

Inservice/Quality Assurance Coordinator  
Maggie McDowell, RN

Nursing Supervisors:  
Skin Care Tricia Jender, RN

House Nursing Supervisors:  
Lori Chancey, RN Karen Pappas, RN  
Selena Hammond, RN Ma-Advena Legayada, RN  
Mardy Mon-Alon, RN Sandi Matthaya, RN  
Evangeline Ba-ad, RN Imelda Defensor, RN  
Perlita Shipp, RN Ferdinand Cantor, RN

### Dear Family Members, Volunteers and Community Friends,

Winter is finally gone and warmer weather is here! No matter what the weather forecast may be, the improvements and celebrations at Sunny Hill have not stopped at all:

Sunny Hill recently completed the annual **health and life safety survey from Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH)** with great success and we thank all of our residents, staff, family members and volunteers for helping us continue to implement all of the needed changes that IDPH put into place this past year.

**National Nursing Home Week** (May 9<sup>th</sup> through 15<sup>th</sup>) was an amazing success! We thank all of Sunny Hill's Departments for their support, but especially the Activity Department under the leadership of Activity Director Larry Lindholm and the Dietary Department, led by Kitchen Supervisor Bonita Dodson. They pulled out all the stops in making our train adventure so memorable! Also, a local cable access TV show, Will County Works, will feature a program about Sunny Hill. It is hosted by Will County Executive Larry Walsh and will be shown in the Will County area during the month of June.

Our 5<sup>th</sup> annual **Caring Hearts Employee Recognition Banquet** was held on May 14<sup>th</sup> with a great time had by all! Congratulations to all of our award and achievement winners, especially our **Employee of the Year, Kristi Rover**. Kristi is one of our unit charge nurses on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue and has been providing medical care and support to our residents since 2001.

Sunny Hill recently honored our Volunteers at the annual **Volunteer Recognition Ceremony** on April 24<sup>th</sup>. Resident Diane Brozman was named the Sunshine Resident Volunteer of the Year, the Friends of Sunny Hill was named the Volunteer Group of the Year and Don Werner received the Schuth Gratia Deo Distinguished Volunteer of the Year Award. We thank all of our Volunteers for providing time, heart and caring everyday to Sunny Hill!

Sunny Hill will begin providing **enhanced television programming through Direct TV** in the next month or so. This change became necessary due to many problems we experienced with our local cable TV carrier. I know that our residents have been greatly impacted by the loss of their favorite television channels and we thank everyone for their patience as we worked through the process of finding a better solution. Also, thanks to *The Friends of Sunny Hill*, **wall-mounted digital ready televisions have been purchased and will be installed in the resident bedrooms on 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Avenues**. We will notify all of those affected families when the installation is beginning so that resident TV's can be picked up.

Another welcome additions to Sunny Hill is the **completed installation of Wi-Fi access** throughout Sunny Hill and the **Sunny Hill TV channel** that is currently in the works. This dedicated channel will show scheduled movies and be able to provide needed information to our residents, such as weather alerts, daily menu offerings, the activity schedule, etc. This improvement is being provided through an innovation grant award by Illinois Department of Public Health.

Please feel free to contact me at any time. Have a fun-filled spring and summer!

Sincerely, *Karen Isberg Sorbero*

## The Sunriser

Published four times yearly for the Family Members and Community Friends of Sunny Hill Nursing Home of Will County  
For more information, offer suggestions or submit materials, contact Becky Haldorson, Assistant Administrator  
815-774-4375

## MEMORIAL GIFTS

The following Memorial Gifts have been received by either The Friends of Sunny Hill or Resident Council. The Families and Friends of these Residents are in our thoughts and Prayers.

### **Richard Barrows**

Family of Richard Barrows  
Mrs. Rosemary DelSasso  
Joanne and Leon Mrozek and Family  
Ernest Serena  
Les and Jeanne Lindholm  
Joann and David Teague  
Terry and Phyllis Peterson  
Jean Barrows and Lori Franze  
Joanne Benedick  
Dresden Station Employee Fund  
The Stevenson Family  
Peter and Dee Abate  
Bill and Janet Holland and Family  
Old Timer's Baseball Association  
Mary and Joseph Juricic  
Sandy Whitgrove  
George and Maureen Bloch  
Rick and Sue Kitsemble  
The Wrobel Family  
Ed and Peggy Periu

### **Norma Benn**

Kathleen Benn

### **Aloysius Furdek**

Family of Aloysius Furdek  
Susan Tibble  
Douglas and Elizabeth Hucek  
Martha Ann Cetina

### **Special Donors**

Danette McFarland  
Frank Brown  
Dr. David Taylor

### **Mildred Kethcart**

Family of Mildred Kethcart  
Donna and Richard Cleek  
Randy and Carolyn Kethcart  
Erin Brylka  
Kevin Kethcart  
Sean Kethcart  
First Midwest Bank

### **Catherine Newton**

Jane Newton

### **Helen Pell**

Family of Helen Pell  
John Crnkovic and Family  
James and Helen Nussbaum

### **Emily Oberts**

Family of Emily Oberts  
Mr. and Mrs. Lou Kaducak  
Mr. and Mrs. Victor Corsetti  
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Alberico  
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Valek  
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Coats  
Gerald and Joleen Mallon

### **Martin Warmbier**

Family of Martin Warmbier  
James and Cindy Warmbier  
Deborah Rouser  
Kellie and Jay Connell  
Gerald and Mildred Meyer



## **S.T.A.R. Spontaneous Thanks and Recognition**

The following staff members have joined the ranks of those who are going above and beyond the call of duty and providing the best care possible to our residents and Sunny Hill. Department Heads, Supervisors and Family Members have nominated these employees since January 2010:

### **Activities**

Mary Oberts

### **Dietary**

Kathleen Schubert

### **Nursing**

Janice Brieschke  
Dottie Hamilton  
Louise Jones  
Debbie Bennett  
Vivian Bibber  
Ann Crowley  
Dania Dorval  
Vickenson Dorval  
Brianna Drotts  
Demetria Grubbs  
Judith McGann  
Laura Mentzer  
Cindy Plese  
Eva Roczowski  
Kristi Rover  
Dellanise Wright  
Sadie Alexander  
Brenda Climer  
Lucia Gallop  
Rubby Johnson  
Chris Lane  
Gwen Ollie  
Mercedes Roberts

### **Housekeeping/Laundry**

Maria Cisneros  
Germa Marquette  
Janet Youngblood

## THANK YOU!

To the following community groups and families for your generous donations to our Residents.

Jan Chinske  
Women's Group of Resurrection Lutheran Church  
Marlene Greiner  
Roy Beam  
Santa's Helpers (at Easter) of Braidwood  
Laurice Patterson  
Sharon La Fontaine  
Selma Irwin  
Robert Pell

Vera Busch  
Mike McGraw  
Josephine Orlovich  
Nancy Jones  
Donna Purdy  
Mary Tait  
Connie Jaros  
Claudia Green  
Judy Fisher  
J. A. Ronsick  
Dick Leaman

M&M Bank  
Kathy Hartong  
Betty Neiswender  
Joliet Area Community Hospice  
Rita Willis  
Will County Historical Society  
Friends of Sunny Hill

## VOLUNTEERS ....CONTINUED FORM PAGE 1

This year's winner is considered "Mr. Cheerful," she said. "No matter what you ask him to do, he does it."

He's long been a facility supporter, but now gives even more of himself, volunteering in the Sweet Shoppe weekly with his wife and running the annual bazaar. "Since his retirement, he's made Sunny Hill a part of his life."

The honored volunteer, Don Werner, was unable to attend because he was busy with another part of his volunteer life – the award-winning American Legion Band. Werner has played clarinet with the group for 50 years.

The award was accepted on his behalf by his wife, Molly Werner, who held a large picture of her husband like a mask in front of her face. "My husband is a man of few words," she said. "He'd just say, 'thank you.'"

Miranda Harvey was named the Youth Volunteer of the Year. The 15-year-old sophomore from Joliet Central High School started volunteering on Feb. 14, 2008, to fulfill community service hours. She completed them and then kept on volunteering, serving an estimated 200 hours beyond her school requirement.

Harvey encourages other young people to spend time with the residents. "I love it here. It's so much fun," she said. "And the seniors appreciate it."

Many of the seniors who call Sunny Hill home were volunteers in their younger days and continue to volunteer in their current home. This year's Sunshine Volunteer of the Year is Diane Brozman. It is Brozman's second honor this spring. (See related story on next page.)

Larry Lindholm, Sunny Hill's activity director and volunteer coordinator, said that in 2009 volunteers gave 22,786 hours of work to the facility, doing everything from helping with activities and religious programming to veterans programming and friendship visiting hours.

"If assigned an average wage of \$7 an hour, the services would be translated into \$159,502," he said. There were 271 volunteers who aided the facility last year.

And Lindholm pointed out that volunteers were helping to make the afternoon event possible, calling a group of youths out

to be recognized. The teens had helped set up for the event and manned the sundae bar.

The young people were from Joliet West High School, Premiere Academy, Heritage Trail Middle School, and Mount Carmel High School in Chicago.

The Chicago students found their way to Sunny Hill via the father of Miguel Ravera Jr. Miguel Ravera Sr. is an electrician working on the ongoing renovations at the home. He recommended that his son and friends do their school community service hours there.



Miranda Harvey, 15, a sophomore at Joliet Central High School, is congratulated by Sunny Hill Activity Director Larry Lindholm. Harvey was named the county-owned facility's Youth Volunteer of the Year at its annual event on Saturday, April 24.

*Would you like to volunteer at Sunny Hill?*

*We are always looking for individuals or groups that would like to share their talents with our residents.*

*Contact Larry Lindholm, Activity Director and Volunteer Coordinator at 815-727-8711 for more information.*

### **Would you like to join Sunny Hill's Memory Walk Team?**

*Memory Walk benefits the Alzheimer's Association and will be held on September 25, 2010 at Rock Run Forest Preserve*

*Contact our Team Captain, Charlotte Mather at 815-727-8710.*

*Or register for the team at:  
<http://memorywalk.kintera.org/joliet2010/sunnyhill>*

## ***91-year-old Sunny Hill Resident Named 'Hero,' Volunteer of the Year***

*Diane Brozman just continues to do the same things she's been doing since she was a little girl.*

*The congenial, smiling 91-year-old resident of Sunny Hill Nursing Home of Will County could not have foreseen that her lifetime of volunteering – and her knack for selling raffle tickets – would someday earn her a pair of awards.*

*On Saturday, April 24, Brozman was named the Sunshine Volunteer of the Year during the county-owned nursing home's annual volunteer recognition event. (See related story) Sunshine Volunteers are residents who give their time and talent to enrich the lives of those who make Sunny Hill home. Residents performed 16,973 volunteer hours in 2009.*

*Brozman will also be honored as one of 120 "heroes" by the Health Care Council of Illinois during National Nursing Home Week, which always begins on Mother's Day. According to the HCCI website the heroes "have made meaningful contributions to the lives of their facilities."*

*Will County Executive Larry Walsh, who oversees the nursing home, praised Brozman. "Diane has continued to be true to herself her entire life. She has made volunteering a vital part of who she is and like many others, she has continued on that path at Sunny Hill. She is an inspiration."*

*Becky Haldorson, Sunny Hill's assistant administrator, named Brozman as the Sunshine Volunteer of the Year during the April 24 event and nominated her to be a Hero in Long-Term Care.*

*Brozman helps with any project she is asked to, said Haldorson. Visitors to Sunny Hill often are treated to her smile, a warm greeting and then asked to purchase raffle tickets as they walk into the facility.*

*She has sold thousands of raffle tickets and acted as an unofficial greeter at the same time, a twofold benefit to the nursing home that she enjoys providing.*

*"I love to talk to people," she told Haldorson. "That is why I sell so many tickets."*

*Brozman has been instrumental in raising money for Sunny Hill's Memory Walk team. Last year the team raised more than*

*\$8,000, making it the team which raised the most money in the local event. She garnered pledges not only for herself, but for other residents, as well.*

*For the honoree, volunteering is part of living. "I was raised that way," she said.*

*She started volunteering in eighth grade at St. Mary Nativity in Joliet when the nuns asked her to sell raffle tickets. Every day they would give her a handful of tickets. She would sell them all and then return for more.*

*No one at Sunny Hill would have ever considered that she had done less.*



*Diane Brozman, 91, was named the Sunshine Volunteer of the Year during the volunteer recognition event at Sunny Hill Nursing Home of Will County on Saturday, April 24, by Assistant Administrator Becky Haldorson and Activity Director Larry Lindholm. Lindholm also is the volunteer coordinator. Brozman will be honored as a hero of long-term care during National Nursing Home Week in May.*

**Mark your calendar!  
July 15th 2010  
Outdoor concert with  
Karen Isberg**



## National Nursing Home Week a Success

Residents of Sunny Hill Nursing Home of Will County "traveled" around the country on a weeklong adventure celebrating National Nursing Home Week.

National Nursing Home Week kicked off on Saturday, May 8th with a Mother's Day Tea to the tunes of Bruce Korosa and his Polkas on Tour Program.

This year's theme at the county-owned facility was *Enriching Every Day*, and each day was spent exploring a different part of the country.

Activity Director Larry Lindholm said, "We are traveling around the United States this year and visiting different sections of the country. As we visit each part we will have entertainment, and the dietary department will fix a meal that is famous from a city in that part of the country."



Sunny Hill Resident, Artimese Robison-Bey and Dietician, Paula Hall enjoy Paula's "Garden Treat Box" at the Red Hat Club's Box Social.

"Our mode of travel is the rail system, and on Monday residents were issued a ticket to board."

Celebrity Scooper dished up ice cream from 2 to 3 p.m. in the Sweet Shoppe. Monday's scooper de jour was Will County Executive Larry Walsh, who oversees the facility.

"I'm always happy when I get an opportunity to spend time with the residents of Sunny Hill," said Walsh. "This year's theme for National Nursing Home Week is especially appropriate since the staff always aims to enrich the lives of those who live there."

On Monday, residents were treated to an All Aboard Party and given the week's itinerary. John Boda performed road and travel songs. That day's destination was the North-

east. Buttons and Brass also entertained travelers with songs of Americana.

Frank Rossi entertained on Tuesday, when the group headed back to the Midwest. Each floor had a Train Travel Trivia Tournament in the morning.

Wednesday's schedule included a trip South and entertainment by Mo Better Blues. At 10:30 a.m., Bill Moloney from the Will County Historical Society gave a presentation about Will County train history.

The group headed West to the land of bright lights and tinsel on Thursday. Chris Colletti provided Hollywood Songs. The Red Hat Club had a Box Social in the afternoon while the Men's Club enjoyed a hobo meal similar to those cooked in the camps alongside railroad tracks.

On Friday there was a morning worship service, followed by tunes of the Southwest by Regis in the afternoon. Celebrity Scooper was Laurie McPhillips Weglarz, a Will County Board member.

The Joliet Antique Car Club showcased Old Time Transportation in the parking lot at Sunny Hill, America as a whole was celebrated on Saturday, and the final day of National Nursing Home Week was Armed Forces Day.

Many volunteers and visitors came throughout the week to celebrate with Sunny Hill residents and staff.



Frank Timmerman, poses in front of a Model T owned by John Honiotes at the Antique Car Show on Saturday, May 15th.

### Donation Wanted! Pool Cues and Chalk

We love our pool table, but the cues are too short for some of our residents in wheelchairs.

# Caring Hearts Employee Banquet

Sunny Hill's Annual Caring Hearts Employee Banquet was held on Friday, May 14th at the Renaissance Center in Joliet. Employee awards were given to the following:

*Employee of the Year*  
**Kristi Rover, LPN**



*C.N.A. of the Year*  
**Chandra Vidales**



*Dietary Employee of the Year*  
**Kristi Wilkinson**



*Resident Life Enhancement Employee of the Year*  
**Diana Bruesewitz**



*Department Head of the Year*  
**Andrea Dolan**



*Nursing Support Employee of the Year*  
**Jacqueline Houston**



*R.N. of the Year*  
**Evangeline Ba-ad**



*L.P.N. of the Year*  
**Christina Galvin**



*Housekeeping/Laundry Employee of the Year*  
**Patricia Davis**



**We want your e-mail address!**

*In order to reduce the cost of mailings and to simplify communications, we would like to add you to our e-mail list. Please contact reception with your e-mail address at 815-727-8710.*





# Sunny Hill Nursing Home of Will County

421 Doris Avenue  
Joliet, IL 60433

*The Leader in Resident Centered Care and Active Living*

Non Profit  
Organization  
Postage Paid  
Joliet, Illinois  
Permit No. 21

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[www.willcountyillinois.com/sunnyhill](http://www.willcountyillinois.com/sunnyhill)

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Please join us for any or all of the following events. You are ALWAYS welcome!



### June

- 1st - Lunch Trip
- 2nd - WalMart Trip
- 3rd - Birthday party and Juke Joint
- 7th - Mystery Social on the Patio
- 8th - Healing Mass and Lunch at St Mary Nativity
- 10th - Music with the Traveling Troubadour
- 11th - Red Hat Club and Men's Club
- 14th - "Flag Day" Ceremony - Music by John Boda
- 15th - Photography Party
- 16th - Lunch Trip
- 17th - Outdoor Concert with Chris Colletti
- 18th - Outdoor Social on the Patio
- 19th - Fathers Day Breakfast Cookout
- 22nd - Trip to Brookfield Zoo with County Executive Larry Walsh
- 24th - Resident Council
- 25th - Patio Game Time
- 28th - Bocce Ball Game
- 30th - Wal Mart Trip

### July

- 8th - Ryan Peterman entertains
- 11th - Harvest Time Gospel Singers
- 12th - John Boda Entertains
- 15th - Outdoor Concert with Karen Isberg Sorbero at 7:00pm
- 21st - Senior Night with the Jackhammers 6pm game
- 27th - St Paul Catholic Church Youth Group
- TBA 3 days of summer day camp with the Joliet Park District.

### August

- 1st - Salute to the Troops at the Jackhammers
- 12th - Outdoor Concert with the Traveling Troubadour
- 19th - Jerry Vernon entertains



Beginning June 25 the Activity Department will be scheduling Avenue Picnics

June 25 - 2nd Ave July 9 - 1st Ave July 16 - 3rd Ave July 30- 5th Ave Aug 20 - 6th Ave

Picnics are held in the Activity Room and the Outdoor Courtyard and families are welcome to attend. Please let your Avenue Activity Aide know so proper preparations can be made.

### Weekly Events

**Juke Joint** - Thursdays at 3:00 pm - **"Sweets & Treats" Shoppe**—Daily 2-3:30 pm - **Senior Scholars** - Monday, Wednesday & Friday at 9:30 am