



CHURCH OF CHRIST CARE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

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SPRING 2022

80 Years of Service Quietly Completed Without Celebration; Confidence Seen for the Future

In a facility where 100-year birthdays are celebrated regularly, it is hard to get people excited about celebrating an 80th birthday. Especially in a year where COVID-19 competes for attention every day. Such is the plight of the Church of Christ Care Community which just completed its 80th anniversary year in 2021. The past year has gone totally under the radar by staff who have had more engaging things to think about in their daily work.

Most staff, residents, and management have not stopped to ponder that 80 years ago, World War II was raging. The Great Lakes Home for the Aged was being launched in the city of Ferndale even as people that year were troubled by an attack on Pearl Harbor in the Pacific in an island paradise.



Troy Street Home in Ferndale

That original “Home” in Ferndale was opened in 1941 to accommodate 6 widow ladies who were the first residents there. That two-story house, still standing at 1776 Troy Street, has changed very little since the early days of operation. A recent photo verifies that the house is still in excellent shape. It was sold in 1950 to help purchase a larger facility in Romeo. Our final move was to our current location in Clinton Township in the 1970s. *(continued on page 3)*



David K. Stewart, CEO

Inside this issue

- 80 years of service!
- SCR is back in 2022
- Dinner at Freedom Hill
- Newest FR event: Bowling
- Golf Slated September 17
- Donor Focus
- Honor and Memorial Gifts



CHURCH OF CHRIST
CARE COMMUNITY

Steak and Corn Roast is back on tap for 2022!

Many of you are asking, “When will we have another Steak and Corn Roast?” We are happy to announce that it will take place on Saturday, August 27, 2022, at Freedom Hill in Sterling Heights. Due to continued concerns about COVID-19, we will not attempt to have it on campus, but have secured a great familiar banquet site at Freedom Hill on Metro Parkway. For many of you in the metro area, this will be closer and is very easy to find. The banquet hall, operated by Encore Catering and Banquet Center, is just in front of the Freedom Hill entertainment venue and is a warm, cozy facility that should be a perfect fit for our dinner this year. It has all the needed amenities and they do their own (excellent) catering. There will be a familiar feel as we are served fresh grilled steaks and corn-on-the-cob (continued on page 4)

FOCUS

Cover: Celebrating 80 years

Cover: SCR Returns

Doug’s Page 2: Rebranding

Page 3: Friend in New York

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INSIDE

Don’t miss the great stories inside this issue



This Publication is Part of Our Rebranding Process



Doug Edwards
Director of Philanthropy

As we continue in our branding processes, our Newsletter has received some modification even as we have attempted to retain some of the original flavor. Please enjoy the new format and feel free to reach out to me, the editor, with thoughts and ideas you may have for improvements in the future.

Bowling at Astro Lanes on April 9, will be a Success Story

We know in advance that our first bowling event will be a financial success as sponsors stepped forward to provide more than \$4,000 in funding. Thank you Pat Johnson for coming up with this idea. You stepped forward to be our role-model by sponsoring 4 lanes (unasked) and asking others to follow your lead! Thank you!

Mark Your Calendar for August 27, 2022 for SCR at Freedom Hill!

It is hard to believe that we have had two years with no Steak and Corn Roast! COVID has had many cruelties, but in my world, that is the most unforgivable! SCR has been our signature event for more than 32 years, but it is back at Freedom Hill on August 27! Not only will we have tasty steak and corn with all the trimmings, we will have outstanding entertainment with the coming of Shades of Blue, a popular Motown group with a couple of national hit songs in their history! You will love the facility with great parking. Bring your friends and be ready for an amazing evening of fun. We are working on some other features as well. We feel a great event is coming around this year. Don't miss it!

Golf is our Trifecta of Amazing Events on September 17, at The Orchards

We now sponsor three amazing events at the Church of Christ Care Community for your participation. Our golf event is one of our most successful outings year after year. Plan your team now. We need golfers and sponsors to make this event a great success. Be sure to add this to your calendar.

Most of all, we need people who will give year-round to help us accomplish our mission. I pray you may use the coupon below to send us a gift (or monthly gifts). Or, it is easy to go to www.cofccc.org/ways-to-give and make a contribution on-line with a credit card. Thank you for helping!

Clip Here 

Yes, I want to help care for elderly residents!

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ - _____

Gift In Memory/Honor of: _____

Please Acknowledge to: _____

Address: _____

Am. Ex. _____ VISA _____ MC _____ Disc. _____

Enclosed is a gift of \$ _____ to be used for:

Credit Card #: _____ Expir. _____

Unrestricted Gift

My company (name) _____ is a matching gift company

Most Needed

Other _____

Please remember the Church of Christ Care Community in your will or trust:

I would like to discuss my final estate plans.

I want to acknowledge that I/we have included the Care Community
In our will or final estate plan.

If you wish to make a gift online, please go to:

www.cofccc.org/ways-to-give



A Friend in New York Shares Her Story of Involvement

Readers will notice that from time to time someone is featured who has been involved in the history of the Church of Christ Care Community in some way. It is largely curiosity about our supporters on one hand and yet those who are a part of our care family do enjoy reading about people who are involved.

“I have never personally met Donna Prince, who lives in New York state, but she must be a very nice person as she sends 2 or 3 sheets full of jokes to make my day whenever she sends support,” says Doug Edwards. “Donna and I know several friends in common, so that makes her involvement with the Care Community even more special” Over the years, Doug has visited churches in New York state and Christian camps like Camp Hunt, Camp Agape and Shiloh. He was now eager to learn if she was a staff at Camp Agape when he brought a singing group called “Sonrise” to sing there years ago. Donna has worked as a volunteer staff there, but possibly not when he brought the singers.

As Donna described her initial involvement with helping the Care Community, she noted two significant things: She mentioned that someone she knows (Karen McEvoy) had a mother she had cared for in her home (Marie Miller) who was the “sweetest widow” from Michigan. There was a history of some other family members who had resided here at the Care Community in Michigan. At Marie’s eventual memorial service, a simple statement was made that “in lieu of flowers donate to the Church of Christ Care Center in Michigan.” Donna said she then called the Care Center at that time and learned that we take care of widows. She said that was meaningful to her because she knew the Bible tells us in James 1:27 that we should take care of orphans and widows. She had supported orphans before, but was grateful to learn about a place where she could help widows.



Donna Prince

Donna has honored several she has known in life by making memorial gifts when they have passed on to their reward. Thus, continuing a pattern she learned from a good friend. Donna does not want any undue attention shared about her giving. This article is not about giving Donna special glory, though there is a Biblical admonition to give honor where honor is due (Romans 13:7). There is an attempt to share here that Donna has been able to effectively use a concept someone shared with her to get others involved in helping the elderly. This simple way that others may want to consider to honor friends and family with memorial gifts can provide support for widows and elderly at this Care Community. It is a wonderful idea. Thank you Donna!

80 Years of Service *(continued from page 1)*

A time of celebration has certainly not been on the table in a year where staff and management have often been working double duty with staff shortages and solely focused on the needs of residents. But we cautiously look at the possibility of better days ahead and times to celebrate our resident’s lives.

We have great confidence in our future and appreciate those families who share their elderly loved ones with us. Thank you staff, friends, residents, and supporters, for being a part of our great family history.



Ejona Brings Marketing Synergy to the Care Community

Marketing is the life-blood of most organizations and senior care is no exception. Since the advent of COVID, things have become much more complicated in the industry. There was a time many campuses could stay mostly full without hiring a marketing specialist. However, COVID has greatly impacted all of us. People have already been choosing senior facilities as close to home as possible in recent years.

As we rebound from the trauma of the last two years, we are grateful for the work of Ejona Jashari who is filling rooms and making a great impact. Ejona has her BA degree from Oakland University and her Masters from Capella University in Health Administration. She has provided leadership in marketing and/or healthcare administration at Beaumont Hospital, American House, and Comfort Care.

VP of Campus Operations, Patti Jenema, was asked how Ejona was doing in her marketing work so far? Patti responded in one word: "Awesome!" Ejona had 7 deposits paid and 5 move-ins in her first month of her work at Assisted Living. That is great work! COVID-19 has presented us some empty beds and Ejona is very eager to fill them!

Ejona (pronounced Ā-OWN-uh) describes the Care Community and especially Assisted Living and Memory Care as a hidden gem. She is eager to bring it out of hiding. She has a great start!

She is optimistic and wants to increase Assisted Living occupancy by 5% on the short term and the longer term goal is to have a waiting list for memory care. She is eager to build a strong team spirit and her motto is "team work is the best work." Thank you for your great spirit, Ejona!



Carol Halsey loves putting together puzzles. She moved recently from independent living to Assisted Living. She is being hugged by Tracy Zdrowski, Life Enrichment Director.



Ejona Jashari and Nora Compton (Director of Admissions) are dressed for success at a marketing event they hosted on campus. Congratulations on a great program!



It seems like only yesterday we were celebrating Irene's 102nd birthday. Here she is again to celebrate 103! Time sure flies quickly when you are having a good time!

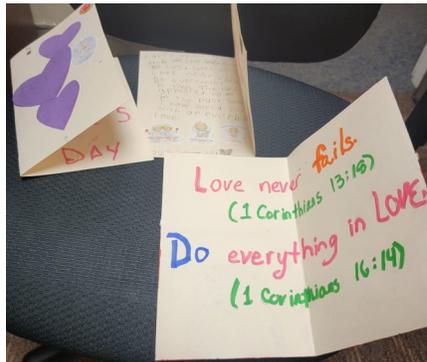
Steak and Corn Roast Returns (continued from bottom of page 1)

"just like we have enjoyed on our campus in all those past 32 years," noted Director of Philanthropy, Doug Edwards. Prices of catering are going up, but we expect ticket prices to increase only \$5, unless there are some unexpected costs we do not see presently. Our fabulous entertainment will be provided by the Motown performers, "Shades of Blue," who live in the area and have performed in metro Detroit for many years. The original Shades of Blue performers produced a #1 hit song in 1966 called "O How Happy." They usually perform that hit at concerts. Along with some other new features and really great food, it should be a wonderful evening! Freedom Hill has a fine banquet facility with excellent parking. This event will raise needed funds to help care for our precious residents in the year ahead.



Residents Love Activities of All Kinds Year-round!

There is something happening pretty much every day. Residents do not seem to have too many activities! Wearing the green for St. Pat's day seems to give them pleasure. But like people most everywhere, they love having something to do and something for which to dress up.



Briera, Rehab and Health Center Concierge (left), always has a smile for those who enter this facility



**HONOR AND MEMORIAL GIFTS FROM OCTOBER 27, 2021 TO MARCH 25, 2022*****GIFTS IN HONOR OF:***

Tom & Sarah Cardwell
Ramona Cardwell

Edna Chester
Martha E. Bouman

Mona & Donato Daddario
Ramona Cardwell

Doug Edwards
Larry and Lynne Stewart
Ron and Elaine Loshier

Elizabeth Janutol
Gerald & Carolyn Gianunzio

Julie Maher
Marcella Maher

GIFTS IN MEMORY OF:

Rose Agati
Donna Prince

Louis & Ethel Anthony
Willie and Virgie Crawley

Ruth Arnold
Sue Opperman

Ruth Ellen Ahrens
Doug and Janet Edwards
Dale and Laura Sawyer

Olive (Ollie) Bateman
Bob and Robin Wrobel

R. Vernon Boyd
Alice Boyd

Charlie Brewer
Donna Prince

Jack Cardwell
Ramona Cardwell

Graydon Chester
Martha E Bouman

Dolly Cox
Edith E Tucker
Gladys Tucker

Anna Foshee
Donna Prince

William & Alice Gillespie
Fredrick Gillespie

GIFTS IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Annette Guswiler
Linda Lamerato

Jim and Lois Harrington
James and Debra Arnett

Thelma Harrington
James and Debra Arnett

Florence Henk
Fred and Joan Henk

Waurine House
Richard House

Elza and Beulah Huffard
Ron and Loreta Rea

Sara Hurianek
Bill and Lillian (Frankie) Yen

Willis Hagle
James D. (Dave) Ray
Doug and Barbara Williams

Darlene Hindsley
Ron and Catherine Englehart

Mable Johnson
Robert (Pat) Johnson

Marilyn (Muggy) Jones
Bill and Karen Nocita
Bob and Robin Wrobel
Dan and Anne Bateman
Dan and Liz Spiceland
Jess (Lindy) Hodges
Lynn and Connie Ryan
Janice Rosso
Jim and Gloria Gostovich

Timmy Kelly
Donna Prince

Art Kilgore
Doris (Jeanne) Kilgore

Mary, Dick and Ruth Koon
Susan Gmitter

Opal Lockett
Emma Crockett

Gilbert S. Maldonado
Mamie and Tom Davis

Jim and Delma Mayes
Tom and Joyce Mayes

Alice and Murrell McBee
Susan Gmitter

Janet Kay Meeks
Donna Prince

Richard (Dick) Messier
Bob and Sue Wilson
Bill and Sharon Rottier

Marie Miller
Randall and Linda Coss

Lawrence E. Moebs
Mary Moebs

Gene and Mary Monroe
Bob and Sue Wilson

Betty Moore
Larry and Mary Lund

Mary Motsinger
Martha E Bouman

Sam Patrizo
David (Dave) Patrizo

William Putty
Helen Putty

Dave Randolph
Donna Prince

Bill J. Robbins
Steven & Katherine Ferguson

Carolyn & Dorsey Roberts
Martha E Bouman

Nell Russell
Jim and Wendy Burcham

John and Beatrice Smith
Connie Deyak

Oliver & Dorothy Schick
John and Sandra Mathey

John and Carolyn Swan
John and Sandra Mathey
Gary and Deborah Johnson

Rose M. Simek
Jane Vsetula

Oliver & Dorothy Schick
Martha E Bouman

Michael Serilla
Thomas and Janet McGraw

Mike and Jackie Serilla
Michael and Karen Serilla

Frederick Ralph Sitter, Jr.
Bonnie Sitter

Walter Szych
Linda Case

Nola Tucker
Edith E Tucker

Michael Thomas
Averill Thomas

Wilma Thomas
Kim & David Bartula
Linda Case
Debra Corbett
N Dimple Correa
Doug and Janet Edwards
Lucky and Bettye Hanks
Gary and Deborah Johnson
Dorthea (Ted) Lafever
Linda Leffler
Gordon & Nancy MacKinnon
Richard & Brenda Miller
Bob and Judy Nash
Phillip and Marie Mc Fall
Dale and Laura Sawyer
Rick and Karen Simpson
Jerry and Marion Starling
Raymond and Marlene Theys

Mary Vsetula
Jane Vsetula

Bob and Mary Jean Wilson
Bob and Sue Wilson

Doris (Moore) Walker
Patricia Moore

Maxine Whittle
Charles Whittle

Honor or memorialize
those you love on this
page with a gift of any
amount



The Competition was Invited to a Campus Breakfast and Tour... They were impressed!

Our own sales and marketing director, Ejona Jashari, is a member of the Senior Coordinating Aging Network known more commonly as SCAN Macomb. Members of SCAN, across Macomb County, were invited to our campus recently to become more familiar with the campus, have networking opportunities, and learn more about serving the needs of aging. Forty-four representatives of other senior care facilities in Macomb County showed up! They were primarily people engaged in marketing services. So, you could say that Ejona invited our competition!

Karen Adair, Chairperson of SCAN Macomb, was also the chair of this event. She was very complimentary of our day and our assisted living facility, where the event was hosted. Guests were given a tour of the facility. Several of our staff, and guests who attended, commented on the beautiful set-up and the delicious and nutritious breakfast provided by Director of Dining Services, Joe Blash, and Chef Asunda Amluxen from Morrison Living.

David Stewart, CEO, was enthusiastic in his pride for work well-done by admissions, marketing and other extended staff who had a part in this excellent event. He commented, “We have already seen an uptick in resident guest applications recently. This event is just another opportunity to put our best foot forward with our public and share our mission and values.”



SCAN guests enjoy coffee and conversation



Faces of a wonderful event on our campus



Chaplain Jim MacKenzie keeps a busy schedule visiting with individuals, conducting small Bible classes, and offering prayer and counsel. We are grateful to have a full-time chaplain to serve the spiritual needs of our residents.



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Church of Christ Care Community Spring 2022

Where the special needs of aging are met with special care.



Freedom Hill Banquet Center: Site of the August 27, Steak and Corn Roast With the "Shades of Blue!"