

# Gardens Gazette

January 2026

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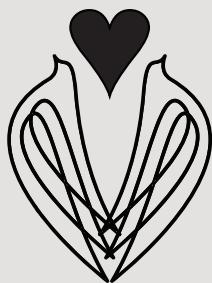
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**Felician Village**

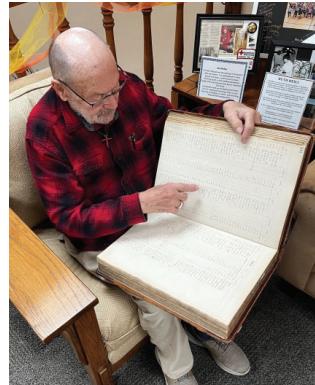
Sponsored by the Felician Sisters

## Celebrating God's Given Gifts & Talents

At The Gardens, they recently celebrated residents' God-given gifts and talents!

A special display was created so everyone could learn more about each other, share with their families, and enjoy a warm, community-family atmosphere.

Residents even wrote down what they found most interesting about their friends, such as, a resident who used to investigate parking lots for alligators before opening the lots in the Everglades, FL. One resident created ceramics for over 40 years and another played in a band for 40 years. Another put together train engines and also made wood toys. It was a beautiful way to connect and celebrate each unique story.



*"So we are to use our different gifts in accordance with the grace that God has given us." - Romans 12:6*

## BUS TRIPS

**Friday, January 23**

**12:30 p.m.**

**Shopping at Meijer**

**Friday, January 30**

**12:00 p.m.**

**Branch Station Restaurant**

**\*Sign up in the Gardens Activity Binder for all bus trips listed.**

## Blue Christmas

Chaplain Stephanie led a comforting Blue Christmas worship service in December. It was a gentle reminder that the holidays can be hard too.



## Christmas Came on 'Wheels: Our New Bus Has Arrived!

Santa and his helpers made a very special stop at Felician Village, delivering a fully donor funded, brand-new ADA bus. This incredible gift will offer our residents endless opportunities for meaningful experiences. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you to our very generous donors who made this incredible gift possible.



## 7 Benefits of a Transportation Program for Older Adults:

1. Maintains Mobility and Freedom
2. Reduces Social Isolation and Loneliness
3. Cost-Effective Alternative to Car Ownership
4. Reduced Stress and Anxiety About Travel
5. Improved Cognitive Function Through Community Engagement
6. Reducing Caregiver Burden and Stress
7. Allows Working Family Members Peace of Mind

## Spreading Christmas Spirit

A huge thank you to this wonderful group, who call themselves the Pigeon Lake Ladies, for sharing your time, talents, and Christmas spirit with us. From helping decorate to assembling Christmas gift bags for our residents, the joy you brought can be felt in every smile and festive touch.



# Final Happy Hour of 2025

A big thank you to Home Instead for sponsoring and serving up a delicious spiked apple cider, and to Mission Karaoke for keeping the fun going. What a great way to toast the year!



## Bringing the Christmas Story to Life

Residents and staff joined together for our annual Christmas nativity play, a heartfelt reminder of the true meaning of Christmas.



# Holiday Gala

The Gardens Holiday Galas brought delicious food, festive fun and fabulous company. It was a beautiful way to celebrate the season together. A special shout out to the fabulous FV Culinary Department!



*The holidays invite us to pause, gather, and give thanks—for moments shared, friendships formed, and the joy that grows when we come together.*



## Winter Riddles

1.



**What do you call  
a slow skier?**

**What do you call a  
snowman in summer?**



Answers on page 6.

## Mission Message

St. Francis once said, "The Lord has called me into the way of simplicity and humility, and he has indeed made this

way known through me and through all who choose to believe me and follow me." Eight hundred years later, there are still so many in this world who are affected by the model that St. Francis offered to us. Those who read his words and follow his way are following in the path that Jesus walked, because that is where Francis leads us: straight to Jesus.

As we start this new year, we are filled with goals and aspirations. But maybe the message of Francis is the one to take most to heart. Simplicity. Humility. What a world we would have if everyone followed that model! What do you hope to make room for next year in your life? Not so much as a resolution, but as a holy invitation? What if it's not about losing weight and getting physically healthy, but more about our spiritual health? Inviting ourselves and others to deepen our love of God can bring us into the new year with the joy we felt at Christmas.

We don't have to be perfect, and we probably can't be! That might help explain why resolutions so often fail by the end of January. If we can invite ourselves to be more present to others and to God, that can continue through the year. That is not an impossible task. Simplicity and humility offer us that pathway. We know that Jesus' disciples came from simple backgrounds for the most part. They had to learn humility along the way. They weren't perfect. They dedicated their lives to the work of Jesus. Francis also devoted his life to serving others as Jesus modeled for him. When he recreated the Nativity scene in Greccio, Italy, he wanted to bring that moment of the Incarnation to life, to remind people of the gift they had been given. He made himself present to the people. He spent time in prayer making himself present to God. Give it a try. Open yourself to the promise of God to make all things new.

Written by Barb Spies, OFS,  
Director of Mission Services and Pastoral Care

**GLAMOUR**  
*Through the Generations*

**Saturday, February 7th**  
**9 a.m. - 12 p.m.**  
**Felician Village - Village Hall**

Girls will be paired up with residents to do each other's make up (*make up will be provided*).

- Finger nail painting
- Photo shoot
- Treats

**Ages 6 - 12 years old**  
**\$10 per child**

*Limited spots available!*



Girls just wanna have fun! Join us for a fun, feel-good afternoon of hair, makeup, laughter, and connection as we celebrate beauty, confidence, and joy at every age!

**Sign up with Lauren, (920) 684-7171, ext. 425 or  
lidaun@felicianvillage.org**

## In Loving Remembrance

December 2025

Natalie Docter, *The Gardens*





# SAVE THE DATE

April 10, 2026

5 - 9 p.m.

Silver Valley Hospitality

## Set Sail For Wheels

*A Fundraiser for the Felician Village Transportation Program*

Set Sail for Wheels invites you to escape to a Gilligan's Island-inspired adventure filled with island flair, laughter, and generosity to support the Felician Village Transportation Program.

So grab your crew, drop an anchor with us, and dive into a shipload of fun! Enjoy island-inspired décor, creative cocktails, live entertainment, games, and delightful raffles. Dress as your favorite island character or in your best beachy attire, and get ready to make waves for a cause that truly matters.

**[MORE INFO COMING SOON!](#)**

## Sponsorship Opportunities Available!

Contact Renee, ext. 381 or [rthompson@felicianvillage.org](mailto:rthompson@felicianvillage.org)



We are so grateful to everyone who sold and purchased raffle tickets!

Your support made our Holiday Raffle a wonderful success, raising \$1,846 to benefit our transportation program.

## Winter Riddles Answers:

1. A Slopepoke
2. A puddle



If there's one thing I've mastered in winter, it's the art of the penguin walk on icy sidewalks

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### Our Mission

To continue the healing ministry of Jesus by providing compassionate care that respects the dignity of each person we serve.

### Our Vision

Our vision is to lead the community in offering seniors personalized services that are life-enriching and wellness focused.

### Our Values

Respect for Human Dignity  
Compassion  
Transformation  
Solidarity with People in Need  
Justice and Peace

**President & CEO**  
Luke Schubert

**Director of Marketing**  
Megan Bruckschen

**Marketing Specialist**  
Kim Christoffel, *Editor*