

# Gardens Gazette

FEBRUARY 2025

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## Bingo and Banana Splits

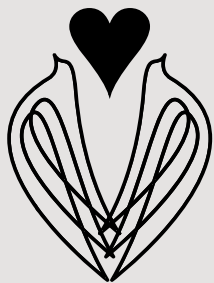
Students from Bethany Lutheran School and Jefferson Elementary School visited our campus during October for a trick or treat event with our residents. During that event coloring pages were handed out and students were invited to compete in a coloring contest. The winning students got to bring their classes for a Bingo and Banana Split Party with our residents from the Gardens, the Court, and our Felician Village at Home Members.

We welcomed the first grade class from Bethany and a fifth grade class from Jefferson. This event was about bringing together older and younger generations to meet new people, to make community connections, to enrich lives and to help bring a sense of involvement to both the students and residents/members.



## TRIVIA Day

Trivia day with "Scoop" Druschke at The Gardens with residents and administrative staff members. The winning team was "Genius Minds" who only missed three questions out of 60!



Felician Village

Sponsored by the Felician Sisters



## BUS TRIPS

Friday, February 21  
12:30 p.m.  
Shopping at Aldi\*

Friday, February 28  
12:30 p.m.  
Shopping at Meijer\*

\*Please sign up in the activity binder outside the Gardens offices.



What year did Hallmark first start selling Valentine's Day cards?

ANSWER ON PAGE 6



# Looking for Vendors!

## Felician Village Spring Craft & Vendor Fair

Saturday, March 29th  
8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Felician Village: Village Hall  
1635 S. 21st Street, Manitowoc

 FREE Admission

 Open to the public

Vendor booths, delightful food and beverages, along with a visit from the Easter Bunny, LIVE music and an Easter egg hunt that will take place between 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Questions or interested in being a vendor?

Contact Lauren, ext. 425 or [ldaun@felicianvillage.org](mailto:ldaun@felicianvillage.org).



**Saturdays at 1 p.m.  
in the  
St. Francis Room**

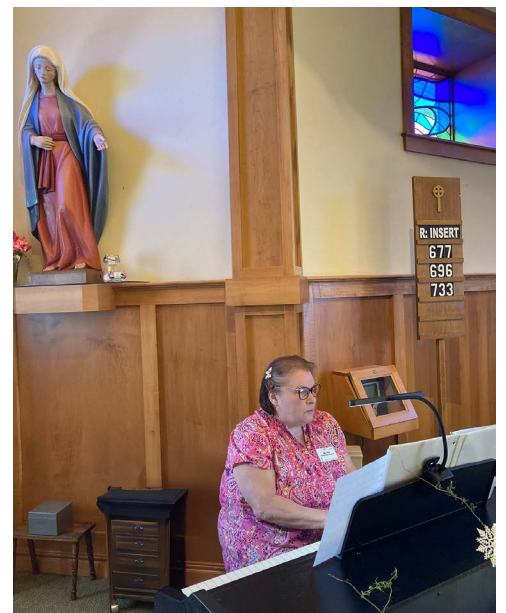
**Saturday, February 15  
*Chasing Liberty***

**Saturday, February 22  
*History of the World***

### *A Gift of Music*

Felician Village was recently blessed to receive a new keyboard for our Blessed Angela Chapel. Bill Hansen and his late wife, Diane Gorychka Hansen, owned a private Montessori school, and when it was time to downsize, Bill contacted us and asked if we had a need for the keyboard. We graciously accepted it!

Marcia Baeten, our lead keyboard player, has been enjoying the new "ivories." Marcia has a God given musical talent and has found so much joy in sharing the special qualities the keyboard offers (a variety of musical instruments can be heard with the flip of a switch).





## A SOUPer Event

Nothing beats a savory bowl of soup to help you warm up on the cold winter days. Thank you to all those who attended the SOUPer Social Event at The Gardens on Wednesday, January 15.

A special shout out to our event co-sponsors HomeCare Health Services & Hospice, Greenfield Therapy, Peggy Kadow/Re/Max Port Cities Realtors, and Felician Village. From chili to chicken noodle to cheesy cauliflower & broccoli, there was a great variety of soups to choose from and taste.



**Valders High School students offered their assistance at The Gardens for a day of service. They assembled handbooks and Valentine's Day treat bags.**



## Updates from the Environmental Services Department

Welcome back to Bob Resch, who recently rejoined the Felician Village team as the HVAC Technician. Bob comes to us with 30+ of years of experience, most recently working at a HVAC company in Green Bay. DJ Frietag, was recently promoted to Landscape and Grounds Lead. In his new role he will oversee lawn care and landscaping across the campus. These two departmental changes will allow our organization to manage these campus wide services more effectively and efficiently. Please help us welcome Bob and congratulate DJ!



*Bob Resch*



*DJ Frietag*

**NOMINATIONS**

**2025 Volunteer of the Year Award**

*Excellence in Volunteer Service*

It's time to celebrate some of the exceptional people who help to make Felician Village great. This award honors a volunteer who has made a positive impact at Felician Village and exceeds our mission, vision and values.

Please take a moment to think of a volunteer you know who has made a difference and fill out the simple nomination form.

The nomination forms can be found at the following locations:

- Front Desk
- Gardens – near the mail boxes
- Café
- The Court – *in front of Jeremy's office*

**The deadline to submit a nomination form, to my mailbox, is Friday, March 28th.**

The 2025 Volunteer Appreciation Event will be held in Village Hall on Wednesday, April 23rd where the winner will be announced.

Any questions, contact Lauren Daun, Membership & Volunteer Supervisor, ext. 426 or [ldaun@felicianvillage.org](mailto:ldaun@felicianvillage.org).

**ONE OF THE GREATEST GIFTS YOU CAN GIVE YOUR TIME**



# Food & Beverage Days



During the month of January Gardens residents recognized National Popcorn Day and National Hot Chocolate Day.

Did you know Americans consume about 14 billion quarts of popcorn each year? (*according to census.gov*) Gardens residents were part of the statistic on January 19. The delicious aroma of the buttery kernels filled the hallways while residents were invited to the Lodge to enjoy a bag of freshly popped popcorn.

Then, on January 31, National Hot Chocolate was celebrated! What could be better on a cold wintry day or night than a hot cup of cocoa? Residents gathered in the Glab Lounge to sip on homemade Mexican hot chocolate, snack on cookies and play games.





# President's Column

As we continue to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Felician Sisters of North America, let's reflect on the lives of the first Felician Sisters who came to Manitowoc. Although things were difficult at times, the Sisters were always thankful for what they had. Father Luczycki, the priest who invited the Felician Sisters to Manitowoc to care for the orphans and cripples, returned to Poland in 1894. With his departure, the printing establishment he had started which was a source of income for St. Mary's, also disappeared. Without a steady stream of income, the Sisters took it upon themselves to beg for food and clothing for the orphans and elderly. They became well-known throughout the city as the "Brown Sisters" because of their brown habits. They would go from home to home with a horse-drawn wagon and families would give them whatever they could offer: money, fresh produce, chickens, or a load of coal. The Sisters used the land surrounding the home for planting crops, such as potatoes, beans, peas, and corn. The residents, along with the Sisters, worked in the fields, planting and harvesting vegetables. There was a barn in the back of the home that housed milking cows, horses, pigs, and chickens. St. Mary's was commonly known as the "Poorhouse on Polish Hill," as it was a home for the poor, elderly, and orphans who had nowhere else to go. In historical records for the date April 15, 1899, it was noted "The Asylum was visited... and had 45 inmates: 21 female and 24 male. There were 28 orphan boys and 2 insane inmates. Condition of the food, clothing, beds, and grounds is good. Condition of the building is fair. City and county paupers board here." Blessed Mary Angela, the foundress of the Felician Sisters, reminded her fellow Sisters, "Submit yourself to God's will without reservation and you will merit many blessings." The Felician Sisters in Manitowoc have done that for over 137 years and those blessings continue today.

In January we held our Strategic Board Retreat. Here our Board of Directors and Strategic Team come together to review our previous and present plans and then look forward, not only to where we are going but where our community and others in the senior living industry are headed. A few of the important topics discussed were innovative trends in senior services, state of the industry & life plan communities nationally and statewide, labor market & agency staffing trends in senior care, and potential upcoming regulatory changes. Blessed Mary Angela reminded the early Felician Sisters, "Whatever you will do, do so thoroughly so that it may be said of you what was said of Christ: He has done everything well." We remember those words in our work daily and as we develop plans for the future. It is this trust in God that allows us to embrace prayer and the Felician core values to continue to grow this ministry of Felician Village.

*Luke J. Schubert*  
Luke Schubert, President/CEO

## Winter Painting

The Gardens canvas painting encouraged them to embrace the magic of winter and let their imaginations roam. Each snowman and snowflake uniquely painted.



One of the Core Values of the ministry of Felician Village is Solidarity with People in Need. That value

is described here: "Sensitive to need, we provide resources and services for the underserved, especially the financially disadvantaged." There are always opportunities for us to uphold this value, as there are always those in need. This value urges us to move away from consumption for self and focus on aid for others. St. Francis hoped for his Brothers to be apart from the consumer economy of his time in the 1200s. Overconsumption and greed is not a new thing! Just as in the days of Francis, our focus on buying can separate us from the care of our sisters and brothers in Christ. Fr. David Couturier, OFM Cap., offers an examination of the economy of Franciscans in Franciscans and Their Finances: Economics in a Disenchanted World. He looks at what he calls a "Fraternal Economy" that provides direction for friars living in an unequal and unjust world, using goods and well managed time, talent and resources. It is good to know that the friars pay attention to their vow to live without anything of their own!

Roderic Hewlett, in *The Virtuous Economy: Reforms in the Franciscan Tradition*, translates some of the ideals of the Franciscan Friars into what we can do as lay people. He talks about a "Virtuous Economy." It's not quite taking a vow of poverty! But, he does focus on limiting consumption to needs, employing wealth principles that put wealth into action to alleviate suffering, and focusing on the impact of consumption on global peace, the environment, security, and justice.

In February we have the opportunity to participate in the "Virtuous Economy" and act on our Core Value of Solidarity with People in Need. The Help for the Homeless Hygiene drive begins in the last week of the month. Watch for information on what the particular needs are in our community. We will collect items in various locations around Felician Village so that we can offer assistance to those who are living without access to the basics for healthy living.

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



**Save the Date!**

**Friday, April 11**

**Mrs. Roper's Romp**

**5 - 9 PM**

**Inn on Maritime Bay**

**101 Maritime Dr, Manitowoc, WI**

*Fundraiser to benefit Felician Village New Patio & Pub*

**Tickets on sale! Visit the front reception desk at the 1635 S. 21st Street entrance to get yours today!**

**\$20 in advance    \$25 at the door**

*"Feed the birds in winter. In return, they will feed your soul with the look of gratitude!" - Mehmet Murat Ildan*



Trivia Question Answer:  
**According to Readers Digest (www.rd.com), Hallmark starting producing Valentine's Day cards in 1913.**

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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*

*In Loving Remembrance*

January 2025

Eileen Mosuch, *Villa*

Nancy Orth, *St. Mary's*

Evelyn Schlies, *Court, Villa & St. Mary's*

Jeanette Wilda, *Villa*

Diane Cisler, *St. Mary's*

