

# The Gardens Gazette

April 2026

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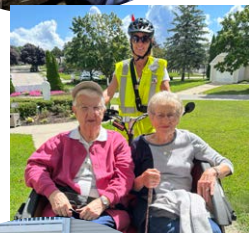
April 19 to April 25, 2026

During National Volunteer Week, we want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of our incredible volunteers at Felician Village.

Your time, energy, and kindness bring joy, comfort, and connection to our residents every single day. Whether you're leading activities, transporting residents, sharing a friendly conversation, or simply showing up with a smile, your impact is felt in countless meaningful ways.

You are truly the heart of our community, and we are so grateful for the difference you make. Felician Village wouldn't be the same without you.

Thank you for all that you do and for choosing Felician Village to share your gifts with us!



## Blizzard Elsa vs. Our Fearless Team (and a Very Helpful Dog!)

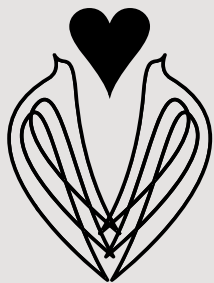


During the March blizzard, our Director of Nursing was working tirelessly to secure a nurse to pass medications when an unscheduled caregiver stepped up without hesitation, but she couldn't safely get her dog to Cleveland like she normally would and didn't want to leave her home alone.

Without missing a beat, we leaned into our Franciscan spirit and said, "Bring that dog to work, just make sure we get a cute picture of him helping out." And she did.

In the middle of a snowstorm, this simple act became something so much bigger, a reflection of compassion, flexibility, and the deep care our team

has for one another and for those we serve. This was more than just a snowy day, it was a beautiful Franciscan moment. It's a powerful reminder that our staff are true heroes.



**Felician Village**

Sponsored by the Felician Sisters



Congratulations to our recent Mission Excellence Winner!

**Jenny King,**  
**Business Office Manager**

**Nomination:** "A Gardens resident wanted to make a homemade Valentine for a special friend. Jenny provided a container full of all the supplies a person could need to make the prettiest Valentine. Jenny thought of absolutely everything and expected nothing in return."



Pictured (left to right): Shannon, Chief Financial Officer, Jenny, Mission Excellence Winner, and Barb, Mission & Pastoral Care Director.



### Where Generations Meet on the Dance Floor

A group of Manitowoc Lincoln High School students spent part of their spring break with us. They filled in as teachers for the bi-weekly tap dance class, normally led by Lauren Daun. The students choreographed a dance to Party in the USA, which they will continue to practice with Lauren and perform for the students again this summer. Thank you for sharing your time and talents with us!

### Bus Trips



Friday, April 24  
9:30 a.m.  
Anointing Mass  
*St. Thomas the Apostle*

Friday, April 24  
1:30 p.m.  
Shopping at Meijer

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

### Gilded with Imagination

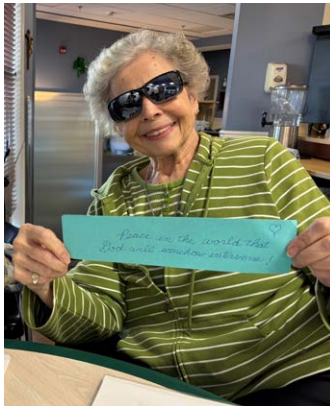
Garden residents got a little fancy with their creativity. Using gold gilding, they designed beautiful lace-inspired backgrounds, proving that a little shimmer can turn into something truly stunning.



# Ribbons of Hope

In celebration of Catholic Sisters Week, Felician Village participated in The Ribbon of Hope project. Residents, staff and volunteers were invited to write a word or short phrase of hope on their ribbon.

As each ribbon was added, our individual hopes came together as a shared sign of faith.



# WAFFLE DAY

Did you know March 25th was International Waffle Day? The day fell perfectly...the Cafe's normally scheduled Waffle Wednesday fell on 3/25/26! There's nothing quite like the smell of fresh waffles drifting through the Village Square.



## In Courage Presentation

*In Courage* taught us their purpose in our community. We Thank Ciara and Tianna for taking the time to share the special work they do for others.



Watch for Celebrating Seniors Week Information!

## Celebrating the Magic of Libraries

*In recognition of National Library Week, our Gardens residents enjoyed a special behind-the-scenes tour of the Manitowoc Public Library! They returned inspired after discovering the many opportunities the library has to offer. A special thank you to our wonderful Garden Librarians, Judy and Joyce, for hosting an engaging internal tour and sharing their love of reading and lifelong learning with our community.*



Members of Felician Village at Home and our residents brought the Irish spirit to life at our Bingo & Brews St. Patrick's celebration! Some struck gold, others just enjoyed the ride—but one thing's for sure... everyone left with a smile.



# President's Column

As April arrived, we were filled with the joy and hope that came with the Easter season. Earlier this month, we celebrated the Resurrection of our Lord a meaningful reminder of God's endless love and the gift of new beginnings. During this special time, I hope that you had the opportunity to reflect on the many blessings we share as a community and honor those who continue the legacy of the Felician Sisters and their core values.



National Volunteer Week will be celebrated April 21 – 27. I want to personally thank all our volunteers for their dedication to serving Felician Village and our residents. Their commitment to the Felician values of Compassion, Respect for Human Dignity, Justice and Peace, Transformation, and Solidarity with People in Need is shown in the service they provide. Our volunteers help in countless ways from transporting residents in wheelchairs to mass or other activities, companionship, grocery delivery, activity assistance, driving the bus or car, helping at an activity or event, singing to plants, and much, much, more. Their service truly makes a difference across our campus each year.

I also encourage all residents and responsible parties to take part in our Resident Satisfaction Surveys, which were distributed in late March. Your input is essential in guiding our strategic planning and helping us continue to deliver the highest level of care and services. Thank you in advance for sharing your feedback as it plays a vital role in our continued growth and improvement.

At the March Felician Village Board of Directors meeting, it was announced that Felician Village will proceed forward in transitioning the prior NextStep Rehab area into a new assisted living unit (CBRF). Our team is currently working closely with architects and the state to finalize designs and approvals. Construction is anticipated to begin in early summer, with a tentative opening slated for mid to late fall 2026. Be sure to watch our newsletters, website, and social media channels for updates as this exciting project continues to progress. Thank you for being part of the Felician Village community, and may God bless you and your loved ones this Easter season.

With gratitude,

*Luke J. Schubert*

Luke Schubert, *President/CEO*



We have celebrated the Resurrection of Jesus with joyous Easter festivities. Our worship sings God's praises. We use the word "Alleluia" once again, after weeks of Lent.

We are seeing the signs of spring more fully. We sing the beauty of creation.

St. Francis also sang God's praises and thanked God for the beauty of creation. When he spent time on Mount La Verna in prayer, he wrote a kind of litany of love about our Creator. He used phrases like: "You are grand. You are most high. You are the Good, every good, the highest good. You are love, charity. You are our protector. You are our hope. You are our total delight."

St. Augustine around the year 400, wrote his Confessions. Some of my favorite words from this writing are: "Late have I loved you, beauty so old and so new." Also, "You have made us for You and our heart is restless until it finds its rest in You."

Sometimes we find our own expression in the words penned by the saints. These holy people spent so much of their lives in contemplation of who God is, what Jesus has done for us, how the Holy Spirit inspires us, and how creation shows us God's love. Those saints model for us the kind of worship we too can offer. I heard a gospel tune recently titled "May the Work I've Done Speak for Me." It's a call to action that I hope we all can heed.

As we enjoy the blooming of creation this month, we can keep in mind the love that God has for us and how we can express our love to God. Blessed Mary Angela expressed her love through service. The works she did spoke of her love for God and all of God's creation.

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

*In Loving Remembrance*  
**March 2026**  
 Janet Kramer, *The Court*  
 Larry Pearson, *St. Mary's*  
 Janet Breuer, *St. Mary's*  
 Barbara Walsh, *St. Mary's*  
 Donald Ahrndt, *St. Mary's*  
 Francis Knutson, *The Gardens, The Court*  
 & *St. Mary's*  
 Douglas Ziarnik, *St. Mary's*



*Did you know March 19th was National Let's Laugh Day? Our culinary department did! From silly glasses and goofy noses to sharing jokes with residents, there was laughter around every corner.*

The Gardens resident Workshop has been hopping with activity!



Resident Ken has been hard at work, and he's not alone...many of our talented residents have been busy painting, decorating, and bringing their creations to life. So many hands, so much creativity, and a whole lot of fun along the way!



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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*

**Felician Village**  
**Spring Craft & Vendor Fair**

**Saturday, April 18th**  
**9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

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

Delightful food & beverages available in Village Cafe  
10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Kids' Activities & LIVE Music