

# Calvin Connection

Spring 2015

A quarterly publication for friends of Calvin Community

## Continued revitalization of Calvin Community campus!

The arrival of spring and summer is especially exciting this year as we see last year's extensive campus landscaping improvements come to life. The explosion of color is a sight to behold!

This summer marks the 51st anniversary of Calvin Community serving seniors. Along

with the reward of serving literally thousands for these many years, comes the challenge of the ongoing revitalization of our facilities. Since 2005, Calvin has invested \$3.5 million in capital improvements and quality of life

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We are now planning for the next phases of our campus revitalization, focusing on three remaining and very important components. These improvements will enable us to provide exception-

al service to our future residents and their families.

First, to care for the growing number of people who are living with Alzheimer's disease, we are

[continued inside...](#)

## Support the Good Samaritan Fund

Calvin Community has, from its beginning in 1965, maintained the policy of never asking a resident to leave for financial reasons. So far this fiscal year, Calvin Community has provided over \$608,000 in charity care – the shortfall between what Medicaid pays and our actual daily cost of delivering quality care. The Good Samaritan Fund was created to

help reduce this shortfall. This gives each resident the peace of mind of not having to leave their friends and caretakers in their advanced stage of life.

For more information about the Good Samaritan Fund contact Jim Deeds, Development Director at 515.633.2642 or to donate online visit [www.calvincommunity.org](http://www.calvincommunity.org).

## Long Term Care Week!

May 10-16 is a fun week at Calvin which we focus on activities that specifically bring residents and staff together.

On Tuesday from 7:00 to 9:00 a.m. we will be having a special employee & resident breakfast in the Main Dining Room. Our great dietary department provides a delicious breakfast that includes warm freshly made donuts! There is also a drawing for a variety of prizes for both the residents and staff. That afternoon we will have music by Merrymaker musician Rob Lumbard at 2:00 p.m.

On Wednesday we start the morning out right with 'Walk & Roll' at 10:00 a.m. Weather permitting, all residents will be encouraged to walk or roll with employee assistance around the sidewalk in the backyard. At 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday we will honor many of our employees at the Employee Recognition Program in the Main Lounge. We honor employees who have been at Calvin for 5, 10, 15, etc. years.

On Friday we end the week with ice cream sundaes at 1:30 p.m. in the Main Lounge/Patio. Music will be provided by accomplished musician Maurice Walker-Jules and another drawing for prizes will be done.

[visit calvincommunity.org](http://www.calvincommunity.org) for our full calendar of events

# Continued: revitalization

expanding our assisted living memory care wing by creating 14 additional private rooms. Our existing memory care wing is typically full, and we are often not able to accommodate the requests we receive from families who are looking for memory care for a loved one.

Second, we plan to completely renovate and upgrade the third floor of our Health Center, which will include all the individual rooms and bathrooms, common areas and the dining room. In doing so, our 3rd floor will be as home-like and appealing as possible, as is our previously upgraded 2nd floor Health Center.

Third, we are exploring different options to create a multipurpose meditation chapel suitable for small group bible study/activities, personal contemplation, counselling with the chaplain,

and a quiet respite area for visiting family members. Calvin has a rich faith tradition, and places a high priority on the spiritual well-being of our residents.



Mark Teigland, President/CEO

To enable Calvin to accomplish these important three next steps, we are now exploring the feasibility of a capital campaign which will raise the necessary funds for the next phases of our revitalization.

Calvin's goal is

to remain responsive to our residents and our community's need, and the next phases are a big step in that direction.

Thank you for your ongoing support of Calvin Community, our residents, and their families. We continue to give thanks and praise to God for his leading as we confidently look to the future!

*Mark Teigland, President/CEO*

# Drake University students learn, volunteer

Calvin Community hosts four Drake University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences Geriatric Service Learning Students during both the Fall and Spring semesters.

Each student volunteers 20 hours in the Activity Department gaining communication skills specific to the elderly population during this experience.

Students also have individual talents and interests they share in Activities programming. Residents make new friends, share life histories and receive special one on one attention. Students develop meaningful relationships and learn about the rewards, losses and special needs of the elderly. This is a win/win situation for both students and residents.

We are pleased to be a mentor in this program and look forward to the continued association with the Drake students.



Drake Pharmacy student Rob



CALVIN COMMUNITY CAMPUS ▲

# Employee Recognition

Each May during Long Term Care Week we honor our long term employees. We think it says a lot about Calvin when employees want to be here and continue to work in a facility year after year.

There are many employees who deserve praise and thanks for the

Monday Mii, Susan O'Connell, Kathleen Scott, Mark Sitterle, Donna Staple & Donna Wonders.

For 10 years of service we honor Zehida Beganovic, Valerija Bodiroga, Michelle Bryngelson, Namka Husic, Judith Smith & Kathleen Wonders.



Ann Scallon and Deb Bodson, Activity Department employees celebrating 40 years of service at Calvin!

excellent care they give. At our Employee Recognition banquet we honor those employees who have worked at Calvin for a milestone year such as 5, 10, 15, etc.

We have over 200 employees at Calvin, and we will be saying a special thank you to 23 of those employees at our annual program.

For 5 years of service, we honor Dorothy Baye, Benita Escutin, Jodina Gilliam, Kim Halverson, Carolyn Jensen, Gina Leverman,

For 20 years, Mahboob Pathan; 30 years, Vickie Wagner and 35 years Pamela Carberry.

Last but not least, we honor two employees who have called Calvin their second home for 40 years: Deborah Bodson and Ann Scallon, both of whom work in the Activity Department.

Please join us in honoring these special people on Wednesday, May 13 at 2:00 PM in the Main Lounge.

# Help us "Show and Tell"

One of the most popular monthly discussion group activities in Assisting Living is called "Show and Tell."

Residents are invited to bring an item to show to other residents and tell the story or history of the item. Items can be a photo, a poem, a book, an antique, something passed down in the family, something hand made or a gift. Anything goes!

Examples of recent items shared are a hand beaded flapper dress (modeled for the residents by an employee), several handmade quilts, button baby shoes, gold panned in Alaska, childhood toys including a Shirley Temple doll and cast iron trucks, scrapbooks, handmade lace, a horse shoe that was actually on George Washington's horse, the first British postage stamp, a tortoise dresser set, a hand tailored suit, childhood portraits, needle point chair covers, antique jewelry, even an engraved silver tray given to a resident's parents on their wedding day!

Everyone likes to talk about their life experiences and have the opportunity to show items that have meaning to them. Much reminiscing and conversation take place when we gather for "Show and Tell."

Please encourage your friend or family member to participate by providing suggestions or Show and Tell items!

## Pie & Ice Cream Social coming June 7

Please join us for the annual Calvin Community Pie & Ice Cream Social. Saturday, June 7 from 2:00-3:30 PM. Entertainment will be provided by the Urbandale Swing Band.

All family and friends are encouraged to attend. Weather permitting, the band will be playing in the gazebo and everyone can get outside and enjoy our beautiful backyard.



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Ann's Activity Calendar

# Join us soon!

**Meredith Middle School Music** - Wednesday, May 6 at 10:00 AM in the Main Lounge.

**Medicap Bingo** - Monday, May 18 at 6:45 PM in the Main Lounge.

**Pie & Ice Cream Social** - Sunday, June 7 from 2:00-3:00 PM in the Main Lounge. Music by Urbandale Swing Band.

**Merrymaker Julie Moss** - Tuesday, June 9 @ 2:00 PM in the Main Lounge.

**Bill Tillman Musical Memories** - Saturday, June 20 @ 2:00 PM in the Main Lounge.

**Iowa Cubs baseball trip** - Wednesday, June 24



Resident Betty Miller and her family