

# HOUSING HOT TIPS

THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF HOUSING SERVICES AT UNITED CHURCH HOMES • SPRING 2011

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We would like to thank all of the managers and regional managers who submitted material for this publication.

## YOUR INPUT IS WHAT MATTERS!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at the above extensions.

## BARRINGTON SQUARE

SUBMITTED BY MELBA OSBURN

### A PLACE TO GO WITH YOUR PET

Since we allow our residents to have pets and the pet owners are limited to where they can take their pet for a walk, we have made a “pet friendly” area at Barrington Square. We installed a Pet Waste Station that has baggies for clean up with a trash receptacle for disposal of such. This makes clean-up easier and confined to one area. We have installed a swing and there is a leash hook-up stake in the ground where the dog’s leash can be hooked to. That way the resident can set and swing awhile and their dog enjoys being outside for a longer period of time.



### INFORMATION CENTER

Out in the vestibule of Barrington Square, we have an Information Center. This is an area where application packets and information on Barrington Square can be displayed. Guests who come to Barrington Square after office hours can get to this information. There is also a locked box where they can return their application. This is a really helpful tool for guests that come by over the weekend and after office hours seeking information on Barrington Square.



## GLENDALE COMMONS FOX HOLLOW COMMUNITY

SUBMITTED BY ROSIE HUGHEY

### TRAVELING HEALTH CARE

Glendale Commons and Fox Hollow Community have a PA that works under the direction of a local Doctor's office. He comes to the properties certain days of the week to visit his patients so they do not have to get out. These patients do not have to fall under any income guidelines or have any special needs. They are just patients of this clinic. It all started when Amedisys Home Health started coming to our properties monthly. They come to the community room and have a health education class for the residents and they play Bingo and they also have luncheons for the residents. As Connie, the head nurse was conducting blood pressure clinic one month she discovered a resident that needed medical help. She informed the resident that Alan Hopkins, PA made home visits. I thought this was a thing of the past. Well it is back!!! Since that time there have been many patients that have become a part of his weekly visits. This gives them a doctor to call if they need a prescription or if they are sick they call his office and he makes a home visit. This is just a great amenity that the residents of my two buildings have in this area.

Alan holds the flu shot clinic at both properties every year and if a resident is not yet on Medicare, Alan makes sure they receive their shot for free.

I have been given permission for him to set up in a room on the properties to hold clinic for the residents. Here at Fox Hollow and Glendale we don't have many rooms but they will be able to hold the clinic in the community room. They even have a traveling xray machine which saves the residents from having to get transportation and travel to Radiology. The home health agency and the PA work together to ensure all residents are kept healthy as possible.

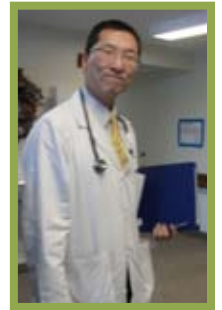


## CAPITOL STATION

SUBMITTED BY KAREN CLOYD

### 'THE DOCTOR IS IN' MEDICAL DOCTORS WHO MAKE HOUSE CALLS

Our service coordinator puts together monthly educational programs for our residents. Among one of the programs we were introduced to was Mobile Doctors, whom provide a convenient service to our residents. Their staff consists of Physicians & Medical Assistants who offer home based treatment and diagnostic services that are found in a physician's office.



The doctors provide chronic disease management and care plan development, which will save many trips to the emergency room, hospital and nursing home admissions. The company provides primary care doctors, podiatrists & diagnostic testing technicians. The primary care physicians are board certified in internal medicine; and or family practice. Dr. Chiu Yuen To D.O., our physician that comes to Capitol Station once a month; brings x-ray equipment, lab tech, weighing scales, diabetes monitors, whatever their patients' needs are, they bring their office in a bag! We have 5 residents that are currently using this service, and they are very content with the services they receive. Their services are Medicare approved.

### ROUND UP THE 'SWAPPERS'!

I hosted a 'Bling' jewelry & accessory swap party. Pearl necklaces, vintage pins, cocktail rings, chunky jewelry, purses & scarfs were brought in by residents; we displayed the items in groups of chunky, vintage and modern. Mirrors were placed around the room, and paper tote bags to make them feel like they are on a real shopping spree. The ladies had a blast swapping their items for other items, trying on things, interacting with each other, listening to their oos' & ahhs, and giggling. This made a very enjoyable afternoon social event. The leftover items were then boxed up and donated to a nearby nursing home that provided the paper tote 'swapper' bags.



## BIIMAADIIZIWIIN

SUBMITTED BY DICK BRUDEVOLD

### DEALING WITH THE DEATH OF A RESIDENT

It was a recent Saturday morning when I received a call from one of our residents that the police were at Biimaadiiziwiin. She told me the apartment number that the police had gone to and there was reason to believe that it was serious. I arrived at the building within fifteen minutes of receiving the call and went to the unit immediately. Two Tribal police officers that I knew met me at the door and confirmed the worst for all of us. One of our residents was found dead that very morning by a good friend of his who had come to the apartment. These two individuals produced a weekly radio program for the Tribe which was broadcast live each Saturday morning over the Park Rapids, Minnesota radio station. Additional officers from the Becker County Sheriff's Dept. arrived to assist with the investigation and eventually the funeral home was notified in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota to remove the body.

This is not a typical article for this publication but I'm sharing this because of the complications that have ensued over the past several weeks. This gentleman had no known relatives that have been located... at least up until this point in time. I was aware of this fact and I believed him. He was a very private individual who protected his domain. Also, the deceased was looked upon as somewhat of a "Spiritual Advisor" within the Chippewa Tribe and had many artifacts in his possession which are deemed valuable. He had a select group of close friends who were honored to be known as his "spiritually checkered sweat lodge children". His paperwork on file listed only two close friends from this immediate area.

I have been working with a non-Tribal attorney who is quite knowledgeable with Minnesota Tenant Law to review the procedures to follow and it has turned out to be somewhat complicated and quite time consuming. To a Tribal member, these numerous artifacts cannot be disposed of. We have photographed these items at the direction of UCH legal counsel and our Housing Dept. Everything remains in the unit at this time and to be honest, I would like to have a relative surface that I could turn the contents over to.

I have since reviewed all of the files of my residents and have two other situations that need to be resolved before this happens again. It has been a learning experience that is not over yet but I'm doing my best to expedite these matters in a manner that is both legal within Minnesota law and accepted within the Tribe. For a retired school teacher and administrator, it's been an interesting learning process.

## ATHENA GARDENS

SUBMITTED BY DEBORAH COLELLA

### GREETINGS FROM ATHENA GARDENS

Residents exchange stories, ideas, laughter and smiles while working on their sewing and knitting projects every week. You can imagine all the love that goes into the little lap quilts that will be donated to children's shelters throughout our community. The residents have knitted over ninety hats in a variety of sizes, colors and themes. After some research, St. Jude's Hospital was delighted to accept the hats for their children. It is truly amazing to see how an act of love can touch so many.

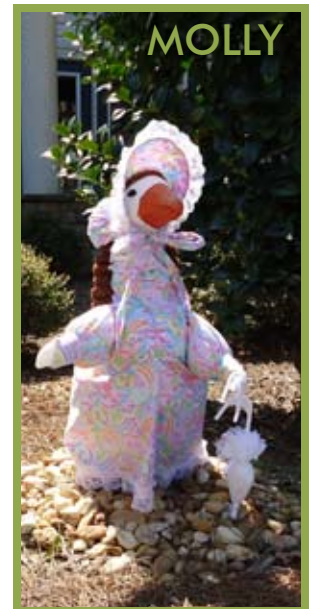


## LAUREL'S EDGE

SUBMITTED BY DON SMITH

### DECORATE YOUR PROPERTY!

Get your tenants to help with decorations for your property. They can have some great ideas and be very creative. It gives them something to do and provides lots of good conversation around the community. Especially if you have a mascot, like Laurel's Edge mascot: Molly. Isn't she adorable in her Easter finest?



## MAGNOLIA GROVE

SUBMITTED BY MARSHA LANDERS

### JACKSON FALL FESTIVAL -- MARKETING

Magnolia Grove participated in the first annual Jackson Fall Festival in October 2010. Flyers, Business Cards with Halloween candy were given out, as well as specialty items identifying United Church Homes. The residents sold delicious baked goods as a fundraiser for our activities. Every last scrumptious morsel was sold. Several of the residents worked shifts to help manage the booth and give testimonials to those interested in living here. Even a Georgia Bulldog stopped by to sniff the great smells coming from our booth!



## CHAUTAUQUA COLONY

SUBMITTED BY SANDY GRIMM

### A BEAUTIFUL LIBRARY

Chautauqua Colony has a beautiful library on the 3rd floor, thanks to these two ladies (Virginia & Delores). They both love books and read them; if it wasn't for them, the library would not look like it did. They even labeled all the shelves, to tell what type of books they are! Thank you ladies.



## MAGNOLIA GROVE

SUBMITTED BY MARSHA LANDERS

### CODE RED – EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

At approximately 11:45 pm, on Monday, April 4, the telephones of residents of Magnolia Grove began ringing simultaneously as a CODE RED began to spread across Butts County. A severe storm alert with a tornado warning was being issued. Most of the residents heeded that alert and followed our severe storm procedure. They managed to get downstairs, closed the community room and library fire doors to protect themselves from glass, and huddled in the long hallway away from the end windows. Those that chose to stay or could not leave their apartments, sat huddled in their bathrooms with bed pillows and blankets as they listened to the windows rattle with force. As the sound so like a train came closer, they were all so thankful that the windows and building held fast.

The electricity went out, the emergency lights came on, and as the storm passed they made their way back to their rooms. The electricity remained out for almost 22 hours, but there was little complaint as everyone was pensive about a Butts Co. man and his small son who perished in that storm when a tree hit their home. The residents mostly remained in their rooms, but a few who could handle the stairs as the elevator was inoperable because of no electricity, would come out every now and then to visit. Late afternoon many were craving the coffee that they had no way to get that day, and a couple of ladies made a coffee trip to a local store and brought several cups back to share.

Two of the men fired up the charcoal grill and cooked chicken, hot dogs, burgers, and any thing that had thawed during the power outage that could be cooked. The food was shared with anyone who needed it. Though it was a difficult time, it was one that was made better by advance warning, helping each other and knowing in advance what should be done.



## ASHBURY COURT

SUBMITTED BY CARAN BROWN

### VERONA CIVIC CLUB DELIVERS FRUIT BASKETS

Verona Civic Club members delivered fruit baskets to residents of Ashbury Court during the Christmas Holidays. The residents really appreciated their deliveries!



### VERONA COUNCILS WORK TOGETHER

The Verona Elementary School student council wanted every person in Ashbury Court, a retirement community located a few blocks from the school, to receive a Christmas card. The students made cards for every resident, but because of bad weather they ran out of time to deliver the cards. Another youth council, the Verona City Youth Council, stepped in to deliver the cards to the residents before Christmas.



Ashbury Court resident Guinn Payne, 3rd from left, and Verona Alderwoman Jessie Gilmore, 3rd from right are joined by VCYC members.



Ashbury Court resident Charlita Bell, center, is joined by VCYC members.

## WESLEY PARK

SUBMITTED BY PAULA LAWS

### GREETINGS FROM WESLEY PARK

We had a beautiful Christmas with our new decorations. We drudged through January and February doing crossword puzzles, playing games and having a new Bunko club. We play Canasta and Bunko every other club meeting.



## CONCORD ESTATES

SUBMITTED BY KATHERINE TOOLEY

### SIDEWALK SUCCESS!

In late fall our new sidewalk was completed. It goes all the way around our building and these ladies in particular have been known to walk in all kinds of weather. I've seen them out in the rain and in the snow. You see; if you follow the sidewalk around 6 times then you've walked 1 mile and for most that is quite an accomplishment. These ladies are Frances, Ruby, and Carol. Frances and Ruby are both in their 90's so when someone tells you that walking is really good for you-believe it!



## SALEM MANOR

SUBMITTED BY MELODY BLEVINS

### WELCOME TO SENIOR CRIMESTOPPERS

On February 17, 2011, Salem Manor in Fort Wayne Indiana was welcomed into the Senior Crimestoppers program. A "Welcoming Ceremony" was held at each of our buildings and a plaque was presented by Lake City Bank, who is sponsoring the program for our residents. Along with the representatives from Lake City Bank, we were pleased to have Cheryl Wickersham join us for the ceremony. Residents also attended and enjoyed some snacks during the presentation. A special thanks to Lake City Bank for their generosity in sponsoring this program for Salem Manor.



Thank you to those of you who have submitted articles to this issue of Housing Hot Tips. It is your articles that make this publication a success. If your community holds an event or you participate in an activity that you would like your fellow managers to know about, send it our way. You can send it at any time and we will save them in the file for the next issue. Many managers start new events or ideas from what they read in this publication! Have a great spring and contact me with any questions or for more information! Happy Spring!

●●● -Jennifer McMahan, Graphic Designer

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United Church Homes does not discriminate based upon race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin.

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