

THE VILLAGE NEWS
NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 17 | FEBRUARY 2022

3000 Risen Son Blvd, Council Bluffs, IA 51503
Office: 712.325.7040 www.christianhorizons.org

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MESSAGE

Risen Son Christian Village, just as the rest of the country, is prepping for six more weeks of winter. This undesirable weather news is according to Punxsutawney Phil: the ground hog who has a record of averaging 40% accuracy over the last ten years (this really is not bad given our local weather forecasts at times can be off too). I must confess, this has been an easy winter so far!

We are continuing several projects around the campus focusing on renovating areas, continuing momentum on scheduling routine upgrades for existing residents, and we continue to look at ways to upgrade some of our aging systems. We thank everyone for their patience and please continue to reach out should you have any questions or concerns.

Our December to present COVID activity has totaled at the time of this writing as follows: 37 residents and 42 associates. The silver lining has been that symptoms have been less severe and overall illnesses were less severe. This continues to show the importance of COVID-19 vaccinations. We were able to host another COVID-19 vaccine booster clinic for associates and nursing home residents on February 4,

2022 and continue to see increases in numbers for those boosted. This is important as the CMS/ CDC guidance for health facilities has changed their lingo from considering an individual as vaccinated to include an 'up to date' clause listing the booster. To encourage associates to obtain this booster we've been creative in having gift card giveaways and raffles for extra PTO should they receive their booster dose.



- BENJAMIN EDDY

As of today, I'm pleased to announce that we've offered the Health Care Administrator position and it has been accepted. We've also been able to add 10 additional associates over the holiday season since our last update. It will be exciting to see what March will bring! Lord, help us to see the ways you abundantly bless us. Help us to appreciate the good in our lives. Amen.

I'VE BEEN THINKING...

FAREWELL TO MY DEAR FRIEND, DUANE KING

One of the Bible's most notable friendships was that between David and Jonathan. In spite of King Saul's jealousy of David and determination to kill him, his son, Jonathan, remained faithful to his friend, David. When he learned of Saul's intention to kill David and he could not convince his father that David had done nothing wrong, he warned David and helped him escape. This narrative from Scripture is the account of this story:

“Jonathan said to David, ‘Go in peace, for we have sworn friendship with each other in the name of the Lord, saying, ‘The Lord is witness between you and me, and between your descendants and my descendants forever.’ Then David left, and Jonathan went back to the town.”
– I Samuel 20:42

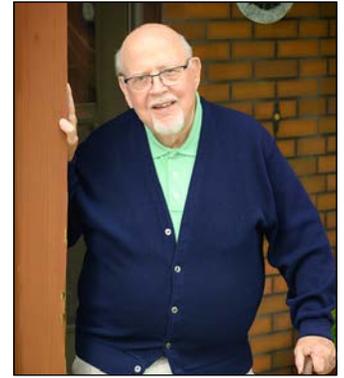


LOWELL AND DUANE WITH MEMBERS
OF THE RISEN SON QUARTET

For more than 66 years Duane has been a dear and faithful friend to me and Dixie. Our bond of friendship, like Jonathan's and David's, was in the Lord. We will miss him greatly.

We'll miss his home spun humor. He was a great story teller and his preaching was plain talk, seasoned with both humorous and serious

stories from his personal experience, but always with sound Biblical teaching. Dixie was telling me this morning that she remembers a sermon about heaven he once preached at our home church in Norfolk, NE. She was so moved that she told him afterward that she was ready to go! That's the kind of preaching we all need.



- LOWELL BURKUM

I'll miss the many times that we played sports together. Duane was a good athlete. We played ping pong, basketball, soft ball, golf and tennis together. He beat me regularly at most of them (except tennis), but it was always great fun because he would never just "let you win." I did win a few times, but I really had to work at it.

Of course, I will especially miss the our more than 30 years of singing and preaching in the Watchmen Quartet revivals, several revivals with Peggy and Dixie in the Burkum-King mixed quartet and a few years with the Risen Son Quartet. I treasure a short book, "The Quartet Man," which he wrote about me because of the many quartets I organized and sang with from my high school years through the Risen Son Quartet. Duane loved singing bass and he and Peggy frequently attended the National Quartet Conventions, Branson, and the Southern Gospel series here in Council Bluffs. I thank God that I got to stand next to Duane and sing for the Lord for so many years.

And I'm sure you'll understand what I mean when I say I will miss his teasing banter which he used on everyone. Someone (unknown) has said, "Best friends are the people in your life who make you laugh louder, smile brighter and live better." Duane was certainly that kind of friend. G. Randolph said

“Truly great friends are hard to find, difficult to leave, and impossible to forget.” I will never forget my dear friend, Duane. Our love and prayers are with Peggy and all her family.

When I read the last line in the Scripture above I see Duane like David and myself like Johnathan. My friend has left for a safe and better place and I must return to whatever the Lord has left for me. Some will say Duane lost his battle with Covid or illness, but he did not lose, he won again!

“But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

I Cor. 15:57

Sin and death lose and Duane wins. Way to go, Duane! Look up Bob and Harold and save a place for me if He can use a newer and better Watchmen.

LOWELL AND DUANE WITH MEMBERS
OF THE WATCHMEN QUARTET



CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

Greetings Residents!

I am pleased to announce that we will be hosting “GriefShare,” a grief support group, at Risen Son. All Independent Living residents are invited to participate. Though there are several different types of grief, this group is geared specifically towards those who are grieving the death of a family member or friend.

Whether it has been months, years, or decades, all who have experienced loss are encouraged to join. This 13 week program will begin Thursday, February 3rd at 2:00 PM in the Theatre Room on the Lower Level. Please email me at hlangley@chliving.org if you wish to participate.

Of course, I can't have an article in a February newsletter without a Scripture on love! In the NIV version of the Bible the word “love” appears 686 time. With so many Scriptures on love, I admit it's difficult to narrow it down to just one. It has been brought to my attention more than usual lately about how God desires us to be authentic. We are called to be authentic in our prayers, authentic in our interactions with others, and authentic in how we love.

In Romans 12:9, 10 Paul says, **“9 Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. 10 Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.”** As we enter into February, let's remember the kind of love that God desires from all of us. Whether it be our friends, family, believers, unbelievers, let's show the same kind of love that Jesus shows us, a love that is genuine and self-sacrificing.



- HANNAH LANGLEY

Birthdays & Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

January

1/3 Tanya Etherington & Beth Hawkins
 1/11 Emma Lee
 1/21 Stephanie Godfrey
 1/31 Kyler Winkler

February

2/1 Claire Brown
 2/2 Kelly Alley
 2/3 Kelly Perman
 2/5 Denise Phippen
 2/12 Tammy Harper
 Camerin Jones
 Jimett McDuffie
 Braden Mohr
 2/14 Kathryn Bundoc
 2/15 Mark Holeyton
 2/17 Ronetta Mountain
 Heather Stearman
 Pam Petersen
 Tracy Ibarra
 Deb Fisher
 2/19 Sabrina Gardner
 2/20 Gloria Delanty
 2/22 Wendy Starrett
 2/24
 2/25
 2/28

WORK ANNIVERSARIES

January

Eliane Amuzn 1 year
 Camerin Jones 1 year
 Robert Speigh 1 year
 Hannah Langley 3 years
 Sally Baker 4 years

February

Ronnetta Mountain 4 years
 Susan Vergamini 8 years
 Cindy Pike 14 years
 Deb Fisher 29 years

Promotions:

Cindy Pike, LPN Wound Nurse
 Tracy Ibarra, CNA Medical Records Coordinator



2021 Risen Son Christian Village employee of the year goes to Courtney Erixon!

Courtney is a member of the lifestyle and wellness team and has been serving the residents of Risen Son for 2 years now. Thank you Courtney for your perseverance, hard work, bubbly spirit, and love that you share with our community every day!



New Hires:

Diane Wellman, Administration Assistant
 Jadda Davis, Dining Aide
 Jazmine Davis, Dining Aide
 Theresa Erixon, Payroll/Medicaid Assistant
 Beth Hawkins, Certified Medication Aide
 Kanneth Huebner, Cook
 Heidi Madsen, Helping Hands
 Crystal Sanchez, RN
 Alyssa Serrano, CNA
 Wendy Starett, Housekeeping Aide
 Baylee Swedensky, Dining Aide

NOW HIRING

Join Our Team!

Transportation Aide \$1,000 Sign On Bonus

Assistant Dining Manager

MDS Coordinator

Dining Aides

Day Cook

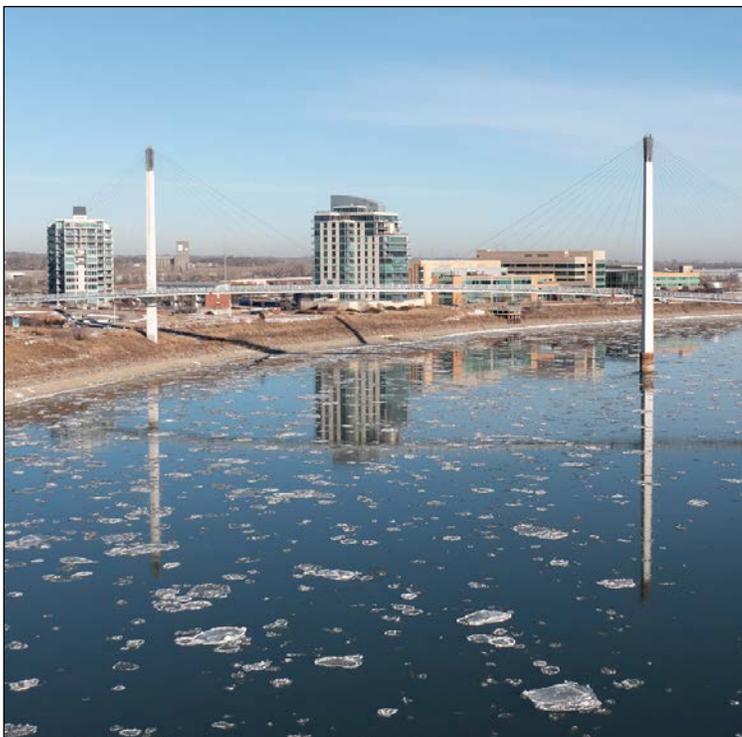
Evening Cook

Certified Nursing Assistants \$2,000 Sign on Bonus (1/2 for PT)

Certified Medication Aides \$2,000 Sign on Bonus (1/2 for PT)

Licensed Practical Nurses \$10,000 Sign on Bonus (1/2 for PT)

Registered Nurses \$10,000 Sign on Bonus (1/2 for PT)



Executive Director: Benjamin Eddy

Business Office Manager: Jennifer DeVault

Chaplain: Hannah Langley

Community Liaison: Brad Tompsett

Culinary Director: Matt Riechmann

Director of Lifestyle & Wellness: Krystal Cary

Environmental Services Director: Melody Gregory

Residential Services Director: Heather Stearman

Director of Nursing: Danielle Perryman

Human Resources Director: Steve Langdon

ALDS/RCF Director: Heather Stearman

Admissions Coordinator: Susan Vergamini

Social Services Director: Sandy Leimer

COVER: RISEN SON VILLAGE FROM ABOVE
ABOVE: BOB KERRY BRIDGE WITH PANCAKE
ICE ON MISSOURI RIVER.

PHOTOS BY CHRIS RUHAAK

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