St. Monica's Senior Living

You are the heart of our home.®

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THE Community MONITOR

BEST OF Racine County
THE JOURNAL TIMES 2026

OUR AVIAN FRIENDS

SAND HILL CRANES

Basic Life Information

Information from *- International Crane Foundation, 0- National Wildlife Federation and other web sites.

*- Few experts can tell male from female, most rely on blood tests.

*- Cranes live for 20 to 30 years

*- Grow to about 22 lbs.

*- Wing span 5 to 6 feet

0- Color brown to grey at about 2 years old

0- Nest Northern U.S.A. to Alaska

0- Migrate to Southern U.S.A. in November

0- Pair up as early as 2nd northern migration, they mate for life

*- Mated pairs start breeding at 3 to 5 years old

0- During mating time they do an intensive dance display, dance can happen year round

*- Lay 3 to 5 eggs, incubate for about 30 days, both incubate eggs

*- Chicks grow rapidly and are ready to migrate south with parents at 3 months old

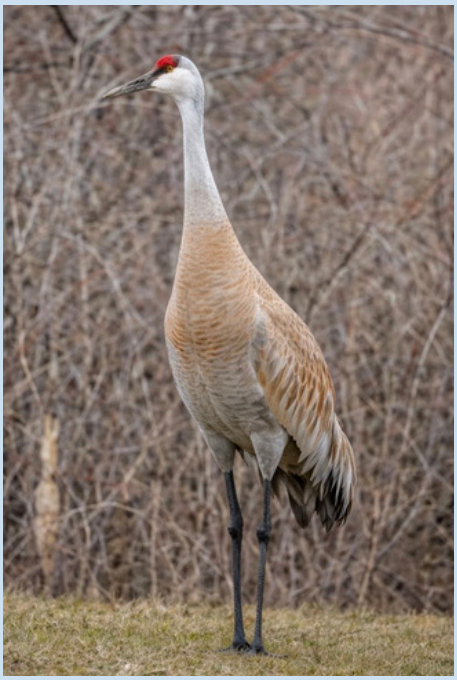
0- Feed on plants, grains, seeds, invertebrates, reptiles, small mammals

Our pair of cranes here at St. Monica's are about 2 years old as Faith and I saw them change color from a rusty brown to grey this summer. Grey is their adult color. They probably paired up this past spring on their 2nd northerly migration. Many of you have seen them do a big show dance which is their mating dance. They could lay their first eggs next spring if we have their age correct.

Someday soon they will fly to Horicon Marsh here in Wisconsin. Horicon is the October and November gathering place for cranes living in eastern Wisconsin. In late November huge flocks take off and migrate to southern U.S.A. and Mexico.

It is not known if our cranes will return to St. Monica's next spring. Since we supplied them with a ready food supply, bird seed, they could very well be back.

Happy bird watching, Faith and Howard Wirtz October 22, 2026





Best of Racine 2026 Results

We have some exciting news to celebrate! St. Monica's has received several 2026 Best of Racine recognitions:

- 🏆 **Best Memory & Alzheimer's Care**
- 🏆 **Best Senior Care Services**
- ⭐ **Favorite Assisted Living**
- 🏆 **Best Physical Therapist – Kelly Bardosy**

St. Monica's Senior Living

You are the heart of our home.®

Thank you for making us the Best of Racine!

SALUTING OUR VETERANS

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL CEREMONY HONORING OUR VETERANS WITH THE NAVY CLUB ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH AT 11:00 AM IN THE PARTY ROOM.



Larry P.
Air Force



Steve A.
Marine Corps.



Julie P.
Army



Richard J.
Navy





Howard W.
Army Reserve



Jerry F.
Army



Bob M.
Army



Thomas R.
Marine Corps.
Reserve



Jerry R.
Navy



Frank Kr.
Army



George F.
Air Force



Jim S.
Air Force



Dr. Ken J.
Navy



14th Annual Golf Outing: A Wonderful Success!













A Record of Generosity

Thank you to everyone who helped make St. Monica's 14th Annual Golf Outing on September 21st a tremendous success. Together golfers, sponsors, donors, volunteers, and supporters raised more than $46,000 to support enhancements to Oak Lane, our Memory Care neighborhood, which is approaching its 10-year anniversary.

These funds will help refresh the environment and expand meaningful engagement opportunities for those living with dementia, creating more moments of comfort, connection, and purpose. We are deeply grateful for the generosity of our community and the impact it will have on those we serve.

Core Value Award



Crystal Reynoso

Life Engagement

Commitment: Dedicated to the success, values, and ideals of St. Monica's.

How long have you worked for St. Monica's?
"I've worked here for 5 years. I was a Caregiver and now I'm in the Life Engagment Dept."

What do you like to do in your spare time?
"I like to workout, bake, crochet, and try new coffee shops with my friends, as well as spend time with my nieces."

What do you like most about working at St. Monica's?
"I love the community members and being able to build meaningful relationships with each one of them."

What are some things on your bucket list?
"I want to travel and see new countries, South Korea and Italy are at the top of my list right now."

Community Member of the Month

Family: "I have 6 children, 4 girls and 2 boys."

Early Years & Hobbies: "I was born and raised in Racine. I went to St. Catherine's High School. I liked to golf a lot. I would also play cards and travel with friends. Florida was my favorite place to visit, I have a daughter who lives there."

Former Career: "I worked at Kohl's and a grocery store, but I spent most of my time taking care of my kids. We took them to the zoo as well as trips out of state."

Fondest Memory: "I have so many to pick from, with 6 kids and a good husband. From family trips to graduations, and my son joining the service. We love each other very much and I couldn't be more thankful for the time we spend together."



Nancy Scharding

What's Happening?

Holiday Picture Day!



On Wednesday, November 18th we will be taking everyone's holiday picture! Make sure to wear your favorite Christmas sweater and put on your brightest smile. Pictures will take place in the Game Room at 10:00 am.

A Special Thank You



After learning that the Memory Care unit needed baby clothing, Faith generously volunteered her time and talent to knit three beautiful baby blankets. Thank you, Faith!

Holiday Dining Reminder

The holiday season is a special time to celebrate with loved ones. To ensure our community members continue to receive the highest quality dining experience and to allow our kitchen team to focus on providing meals for them, St. Monica's is unable to accommodate additional family holiday meals. We encourage families to enjoy time together before or after the community meal or to make plans for off-site holiday gatherings when possible. Thank you for your understanding and for helping us make the holidays enjoyable for all community members. Warm wishes for a joyful holiday season from everyone at St. Monica's.

Father Juan to visit St. Monica's



Father Juan Camacho will be leading a special mass on Friday, November 13th at 8:30 am in the Chapel for Rose Fumo's 100th birthday celebration. After services we will have cannoli and coffee in the Game Room.

You Asked, *We Did!*

- **Asked for New Outings**
  - *Cracker Barrel*
  - *Ross Store*
  - *Mi Jacalito for lunch*
  - *Olde Madrid*
  - *Racine Theatre Guild*
  - *Milaeger's outing (December)*
  - *Jellystone Christmas Lights (December)*

- **Asked for a welcoming committee**
  - *We are working on putting together a team of people, including both employees and Community Members, who would work together to welcome our new move-ins.*
  - *Our Gala is coming up Nov. 4th*
  - *New photos in the hallways featuring Racine landmarks and Howard W's photography*
  - *New Faith Share opportunities with Chaplain Eloy*

Thanksgiving Tea Party

Join us on Friday, November 20th in the Party Room at 2:30 pm to indulge in some tasty treats and tea with your friends! The "Men in Black" will be here to deliver an amazing musical performance.

St. Monica's Senior Living Presents: Gala of Achievements





This showing is to include art work, wood carving, basket weaving, quilt making, and a variety of hobbies. It is an opportunity for all of us to get to know each other.

Our Gala will be held on Wednesday, November 4th from 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm in the Party Room.

OAK LANE NEWSLETTER

Thanksgiving Tea Party

You're invited to a special Tea Party! Join us on Wednesday, November 18th at 2:30 PM for a lovely afternoon filled with sweet treats, delightful music, and wonderful company! Families are warmly welcome to join us as we enjoy this special time together. We look forward to celebrating with you!





Holiday Picture day in Oak Lane!

Holiday pictures will be on Wednesday, November 4th at 9:30 am

SALUTING OUR OAK LANE VETERANS



Harold S.
Army



Allen N.
Marine Corps



Richard W.
Air Force



Know Your Rights

"Right to be free from seclusion."



November Birthdays

Yustin Chino-Ramirez 1st (S)
Karen Osimitz 4th (CM)
John Perekovich 6th (CM)
Jerry Fraid 9th (CM)
Erica Boynton 10th (S)
Jennifer Zielinski 10th (S)
Stephanie Conwell 12th (S)
Rose Fumo 13th (CM)
Tiffany McKinley 15th (S)
Christopher Duffey 17th (S)
Bernice Byklum 20th (CM)
Frank Knoll 20th (CM)
Bea Merkes 20th (CM)
Schalender Darden 21st (S)
Helen Miller 22nd (CM)
Sarah Block 22nd (S)
Laura Maldonado 22nd (S)
Sydney Brewer 23rd (S)
Misti Ayala 25th (S)
Barb Loukidis 27th (CM)
Michael Hintz 27th (S)
Jerry Frievalt 29th (CM)
Community Member (CM) Staff (S)



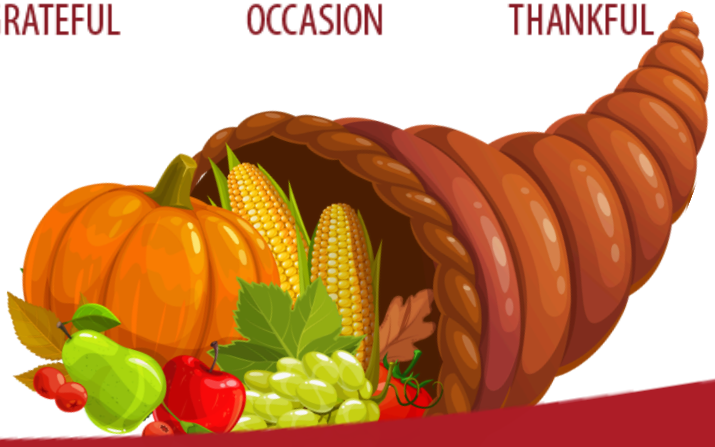
Staff Anniversaries



Shannon Kaplan 8 years
Sandy Meier 6 years
Briniqua Brown 6 years
Dominik Klingelhofer 5 years
Stephanie Conwell 5 years
Veronica Wilkerson 2 years
Lauren Ebersole 1 year
Latasia Burton 1 year
Zhaire Smith 1 year



CHILDREN
DINNER
FAMILY
GATHERING
GRATEFUL
HOLIDAY
HOME
JOYFUL
MEMORIES
OCCASION
PARENTS
RELATIVES
SEASON
VISITING
THANKFUL



Useful Information

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