#GIVINGTUESDAY IS TODAY!

Giving Tuesday is a day about kindness, compassion and generosity. Join us in our mission to support seniors who have already given so much. Help them live safer, healthier and happier lives with supportive services and housing.

PLEASE DONATE TODAY!

November 2018 News from ILI

Dear Friend,

Warm greetings to you! We’re pleased to share news about Independent Living, Inc.

Tennyson Senior Living Community Opens, Welcomes Its First Residents

After years of dreaming and planning, and 18 months of construction, Tennyson Senior Living Community is now open on Madison’s north east side.

Tennyson Senior Living Community is a four-story assisted living residence with 60 private apartments and studios. A tiered pricing structure and meal plan options offer residents the independence they want with services as needed.

Also open is the Tennyson Health & Wellness Center. Free for all residents, the center has exercise studios and equipment, and a warm-water therapy pool with an underwater treadmill, one of only four in Wisconsin.

As a special offer, members of the public, age 55 plus, can try out free classes for the month of December. Call 608-268-9649 today to register for Aqua-walk, yoga or fitness training!

We are delighted to welcome our first residents in early November and are working through a huge waiting list to help more residents call this home for the holidays. For information or to schedule a tour, please call us at 608-268-9645.
Meet the Team

Many new faces have arrived into leadership positions at Independent Living. Some you may have met already; others are waiting to meet you!

**Brian Miller, CEO**

Brian joined us this summer, replacing interim CEO John Hecht. With a background in affordable housing, operations and fundraising, Brian has worked for Journey Mental Health Center, Habitat for Humanity, and Operation Mercy Sweden.

**Jessica Peterson, Chief Housing Officer**

Jessica oversees all residential communities, bringing more than 10 years of property management experience in Madison and Chicago. Her financial planning background and leadership have been helpful in launching Tennyson as a new community.

**Peggy Schmudlach, Residence Director, Tennyson Senior Living Community**

Peggy has 27 years of experience providing care and services to seniors and adults with disabilities. Most recently, she worked for a local senior living community.

**Lori Devine, Health & Wellness Center Manager, Tennyson Senior Living Community**

Previously Assistant Director of Fitness & Wellness at University of Wisconsin-Madison, Lori has extensive credentials including certified personal trainer, group and water fitness instructor, and health coach.

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**Resident at The Gardens Crafts Small Wonders**

Don Pfister is a busy man. For 41 years, he was an electrician with Motor Mart in Monroe, serving a 40-mile wide area of farmers, other businesses and residential customers. In his spare time, he used to remodel homes. Now retired, he creates bird houses and other wonders in wood for The Gardens, Segoe Gardens and friends.

The eldest of three boys, Don grew up on a farm near Woodford in Lafayette County, Wisconsin. He served during the Korean War, and then studied and trained to become an electrician. For 41 years, he was an electrician with Motor Mart in Monroe, Wis. serving farmers, businesses and residential customers in a 40-mile radius. In his spare time, he remodeled homes; naturally inventive, he always found ways to improve efficiency.

Don was married to his late wife Jane for 49 years, and they had three daughters and a son. He eventually moved to The Gardens Retirement Community, where he continues his creative side through woodworking.
Describing himself as a Jack of all trades, Don is handy with tools, and uses his table saw as an artistic outlet. His forte is miniature replicas of local buildings. From photographs, Don creates a pattern. Then he goes to work cutting shapes, assembling parts, and painting the finished product.

One of the beneficiaries of his handiwork is The Gardens. Don custom-built a hanging sign for the community's “Forget Me Not” garden. He developed the pattern, acquired the pine wood, cut the shapes, painted everything, and assembled the sign to hang nicely from a shepherd’s hook. Don also enjoys creating birdhouses and to-scale small replicas of real buildings. He's built a school house, several churches and even the original version of Turner Hall in Monroe, which has been donated to the organization.

“I was pretty happy that I could bring my table saw to The Gardens,” Don says. “I like to keep busy!”

The Gardens is a wonderful place to call home with great neighbors like Don. See for yourself. Or invite someone to tour. Call and make arrangements today by contacting Kathy Dieck, our new leasing manager at The Gardens. She can be reached at 204-0900. Hope to see you soon!

From Meals to Statuesque Marvels

Rob Severson has many talents. Not only does he manage our Evening Meals on Wheels program, he is a trained chaplain and an artist. This summer, Rob participated in "Bucky on Parde," which transformed 85 life-sized Bucky Badger statues around Dane County into works of art. Rob's creation, "Superbuck" appeared on the UW campus mall until it went "home" to a dental practice. "Bucky Lloyd Wright," displayed at Monona Terrace, now resides on a senior housing campus. Kudos to Rob!

Rob’s next amazing project will be moving the office and production of Evening Meals on Wheels to Tennyson Senior Living Community. The transition will occur sometime in December and January. The larger commercial kitchen at Tennyson means increased capacity for meal production and serving more clients.

Would you like to help? Volunteers are always welcome! Learn how easy it is to deliver a meal and a smile. Contact Rob at 608-204-0923 or meals@independentlivinginc.org.

You can make a difference, too.

Donations are important to Independent Living, Inc. As a local nonprofit serving Dane County, we appreciate your financial contributions that allow us to serve those in need. Your gift—whether cash, appreciated stock, estate commitment or another form—is a way to support our organization and make a difference in the community. If you would like to discuss making a lasting impact, please contact Brian Miller, CEO, at 608-274-7900.
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Independent Living works round the clock to change lives.

We are a local nonprofit organization helping seniors and adults with disabilities maintain a sense of independence through in-home services and senior living communities in Madison, Fitchburg and Sun Prairie.

From evening meals delivered by friendly volunteers to an in-home installation of grab bars, or from compassionate personal care to the ease of living in a senior community, Independent Living can help.