

## Sanborn Gratiot Memorial Home Newsletter



# From Homeless to a Home

For over 50 years the Council on Aging has been serving senior residents of St. Clair County, 60 and over, with such services as providing transportation to and from medical appointments, senior nutrition services such as meals on wheels, personal care, help with chores and home repairs. They also have four senior centers that provide socializing opportunities, crafts and exercise programs. Sometimes, the council on aging has the opportunity to really help an area senior in a big way with a major life change. That is exactly what happened with a local area senior who is 78 years old and was homeless.

Cheryl Kelly who works for the downriver Council on Aging, had received a call one day from a gentleman who was looking for some help. He was staying at a hotel downriver and was looking for some food. Cheryl went to visit the man and in talking to him, she learned his story. He was a homeless senior who had been homeless for sometime. He had been in and out of the hospital for various health issues and had just recently gotten out of the hospital and was fortunate enough to have received a room at the hotel for about 3 or 4 nights from some very caring individuals. He had disclosed to Cheryl that he had one night left at the hotel and then he was going to go back to the bench at the park to stay. This didn't sit well with Cheryl and she told him she would be in contact with him soon. She went straight back to her office and contacted Mary Taylor who is the Assistant Director of the Council on Aging. She told Mary his story and said they had to find a way to help him! Mary reached out to Amy Smith of the St. Clair County Community Mental Health agency who said they had no shelters available for him downriver but suggested that they contact Sanborn Gratiot Memorial Home as they have some beds that are set aside for homeless seniors. They contacted Kathy Baker at Sanborn who told them that all of their beds designated for homeless seniors have been filled, however she was determined to help this man as well and she

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## Sanborn Gratiot Memorial Home

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600 Grand River Ave  
Port Huron MI 48060  
[www.thecouncilonaging.org](http://www.thecouncilonaging.org)  
810-987-8811

Contacted Jenny Posey at the Council on Aging to ask if there were any extra millage dollars set aside to help this man have a bed at Sanborn temporarily until a permanent home could be found for him. Cheryl and Mary were working on finding him permanent residence and they were able to find an apartment for him, however it wouldn't be ready for him to move into for a month and nobody wanted to see him staying at the park and not getting the proper medical attention that he needed.

The good news came in and a 5th bed for homeless seniors was approved through the millage dollars and he was able to move into Sanborn Gratiot Memorial home where he had a warm bed to sleep in, meals provided for him and people around the clock to care for him!

This is not the end of this story however. As stated above, Cheryl was able to find him an apartment that he moved into in mid July. Not only did they help him find his own fully furnished place, they helped him set up all of his utilities, move his medical doctors from Macomb County to St. Clair County, set him up with food pantries and for their programs they offer such as meals on wheels and transportation to all of his appointments whenever he needs to go. Cheryl was able to go to Harbor Impact Ministries and Barb the director there helped her go through all of their donations to get the things he would need for his own place. What they couldn't find there, they were able to ask the public for donations. The public donated everything else he needed to live independently. Right down to a shower curtain!

Cheryl said that all he kept saying was that he couldn't believe how nice and generous everyone had been to him. This story is just one of many stories involving seniors in our community who need help. Not only with the big things such as this, but with little things like household chores, repairs, rides to appointments, food, socializing and friendship. We are so very grateful we have the Council on Aging in our community. Thank you Cheryl for your compassion and determination to help not only this man, but all those that you and the rest of the Council on Aging staff and volunteers help on a daily basis!

## 2024 Sanborn Gratiot Memorial Home Dueling Pianos Fundraiser



Save  
the  
Date

Friday, March 8, 2024  
Alexanders Banquet Facility  
6pm - 9pm  
Tickets Available at a Later Date  
Mark Your Calendars!!

“THE HAPPIEST  
PEOPLE I KNOW  
ARE THOSE  
WHO LOSE  
THEMSELVES  
IN THE SERVICE  
OF OTHERS.”

-Gordon B. Hinckley

shelteringgrace.org

Sheltering Grace Ministry



*Sanborn Gratiot*  
MEMORIAL HOME



## New Senior Services

Funded by the St. Clair County Senior Millage

### Vision Program –

Exam & Glasses: Call

(810) 984-5061

Administered by Council  
on Aging

### Hearing Program –

Exam & Aids: Call

(810) 984-5061

Administered by Council  
on Aging

### Personal Emergency Response System

Alert Program: Call

(810) 984-4131

Administered by  
Visiting Nurses Association

To qualify, you must ...

1. Live in St. Clair County, MI
2. Be age 60 or over
3. Be at or below 200% of the  
Federal Poverty Level



# Sanborn's Annual Summer Picnic

**July 28, 2023**  
**12pm - 3pm**  
**2732 Cherry St.**  
**Port Huron**

**RSVP: 810-985-5631**  
**[sanbornassistant@bwdh.org](mailto:sanbornassistant@bwdh.org)**

**Food, Fun & Entertainment!!**  
**Please join us!**



*Make a Difference!*  
**DONATE**

Sanborn Gratiot Memorial home is always accepting donations for our residents. Some of the items that we currently need are: Kleenex, Body Wash, Shampoo, Craft Supplies, Comforters and prizes for Bingo.

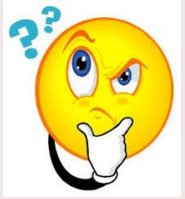
**We currently have a big wish list item; Asphalt to fill the end of our driveway/parking lot. We are in need to have this done and would love it if someone wanted to donate this service!**

If you or someone you know would like to donate these wish list items, please feel free to contact Betty Guigar at 810-985-5631 or email her at [Sanborn@bwdh.org](mailto:Sanborn@bwdh.org).

**Thank  
you!**



## Sanborn Trivia!!!



Do you know what services Sanborn Gratiot Memorial Home has to offer? Do you know how many rooms we have? Do you know what activities are offered at Sanborn? Well, you can find all of this information out by visiting our website! [www.sanborngratiot.org](http://www.sanborngratiot.org)

# Musical Activities

On Friday, June 16<sup>th</sup> the residents of Sanborn Gratiot Memorial Home were entertained by the 7<sup>th</sup> Street Band. The room was full with 14 residents and several members of the auxiliary attending. As the band played bluegrass, country, Irish and other assorted songs, everyone's feet were tapping and hands clapping along in unison. The 7th Street Band is a group made up of two local families, each having a guitarist, bass player and fiddle player as well as a family friend who plays the hand drum and other small percussion instruments.

The Auxiliary would like to give a huge thank you to Mary Gibson, Ron and Andrea Hartson and their daughter Audrey Hartson MacDonald, who teaches 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade string music in the Arizona Public Schools, as well as Paul and Heather Mehnart and their daughter Taylor who is a music therapist in Indiana for this great performance. Another big thank you as well to Clair Mehnart who handled the sound system.

The Auxiliary's next music offering for the residents will be Thursday July 20<sup>th</sup> with folk music from the Pine River Legacy Band who will be playing hammer dulcimers, fiddles, cellos, drums and more. This should be a fun experience for all. Also scheduled for entertainment, will be Bill Bundy, who is always a resident favorite. Bill will be performing at the Sanborn Summer Picnic on July 28<sup>th</sup>.

Additionally, our music therapist Mindy Charron keeps the residents entertained and engaged the first Monday of each month.

Thank you to Sanborn Gratiot Memorial Home Auxiliary member Donna Class for the musical updates for this edition of the newsletter.



Do you know about Kroger Community Rewards? If you shop at Kroger, you can link your shopper's reward card to earn money for our organization at no cost to you and this will not affect your gas points! This program is designed so that Kroger donates back a percentage of your shopping total to the organization you designate and link to your shopper's reward card. Just go to Kroger.com and scroll to the bottom of the page where it says Community. Click on Community Rewards and follow the instructions to sign up!



Sanborn Gratiot Memorial Home, Inc. provides residential assisted living for the elderly with a mission to serve lower income seniors who are semi-independent and seeking a secure and affordable residence. Sanborn Gratiot Memorial Home, Inc. is the only "licensed home for the aged" in St. Clair County and the only senior residence with a mission to serve lower income individuals.

Our expanded circa 1890 Victorian style house is comfortably designed for ambulatory individuals and we are licensed to provide care for up to 30 residents age 55 and older. Paraprofessional staff provide 24 hour compassionate care for residents including personal services, laundry, bathing and medication administration.

If you know of anyone that is in need and would like more information or a tour of the facility, please contact Sanborn Gratiot Memorial Home for more information.

Be sure to follow us on Facebook!



#### Contact Us

Sanborn Gratiot  
Memorial Home  
2732 Cherry Street  
Port Huron, MI 48060  
(810) 985-5631  
[www.sanborngratiot.org](http://www.sanborngratiot.org)

#### Endowment Fund

Sanborn Gratiot Memorial Home is proud to partner with the Community Foundation of St Clair County.

The organization has established an endowment fund with the Community Foundation. This fund supports Sanborn Home by helping cover the costs of resident activities, furniture, supplies, and other operating costs that enhance the lives of seniors living in the home.

If you are interested in learning more about the Sanborn Endowment Fund or making a donation please go to:

[www.stclairfoundation.org/fund/the-sanborn-gratiot-memorial-home-endowment](http://www.stclairfoundation.org/fund/the-sanborn-gratiot-memorial-home-endowment)



United Way  
of St. Clair County

Sanborn Gratiot Memorial Home has been an affiliated organization with United Way of St. Clair County for many years, enabling you to direct your gift to Sanborn Gratiot Memorial Home. Sanborn Gratiot Memorial would like to encourage you to give generously to the United Way of St. Clair County to support its efforts to provide assistance to many deserving community agencies. Take some time to check out the United Way of St. Clair County's website to view current activities, fundraisers, newsletter and information about their current campaign.

Donations to the United Way of St. Clair County can also be made on their website or feel free to call 810-985-8169 to see how you can be an "everyday hero".

#### About Us

Sanborn Gratiot Memorial Home, Inc. provides residential assisted living for the elderly with a mission to serve lower income seniors who are semi-independent and seeking a secure and affordable residence. We are located near beautiful Lake Huron in Port Huron, Michigan in St. Clair County. Sanborn Gratiot Memorial Home, Inc. is the only "licensed home for the aged" in St. Clair County and the only senior residence with a mission to serve lower income individuals.

Our expanded circa 1890 Victorian style house is comfortable designed for ambulatory individuals and we are licensed to provide care for up to 32 residents age 55 and older. Paraprofessional staff provide 24 hour compassionate care for residents including personal services, laundry, bathing and medication administration. Please see our Activities & Services page for more information.

#### Mission

It is the mission of Sanborn Gratiot Memorial Home, Inc. to provide an affordable, comfortable, safe, assisted living home to the aging community while striving to maintain a high quality of life for our residents through social activities and family involvement.

Do you do a lot of shopping online? Want to know how you can help Sanborn Gratiot Memorial Home while you shop online? Go to iGive.com and sign up for an account. It is a free service where shopping at any of over 2000 stores like Walmart, Travelocity, Chewy, Overstock and more will mean a percent of your purchase will get donated back to Sanborn at no additional cost to you!! Sign up for your free account today and start earning for Sanborn!



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