

## Sanborn Gratiot Memorial Home Newsletter



# Furry Friends for Sanborn

For her birthday this year, Sanborn board member Tiffany Francis asked her friends and family for donations through Network for Good for Sanborn Gratiot Memorial Home. The money was specifically to be used for electronic/interactive cats for the residents to cuddle and enjoy.

When asked how she thought of this idea, Tiffany responded, "I was talking to Lisa Beedon at a Board Meeting at Sanborn and mentioned that they needed a cat or a pet there since it was such a home-like atmosphere. My grandfather, years ago, spent some time in a nursing home, which had a cat. He loved that the cat would come and nap in the sunshine at the end of his bed, when he napped in the afternoon. Knowing that cat brought him joy, I thought it would be nice to have that same joy for the Sanborn residents." Lisa told Tiffany that unfortunately, they couldn't have a furry friend due to potential allergies, but she had gone to a conference, where a vendor showed robotic cats and birds that were pretty life-like in behavior. Tiffany said she decided that Sanborn was the perfect way to celebrate her birthday coming up in June, so she posted a Facebook fundraiser link. Tiffany said the fundraiser through Facebook was really easy as it ties it to your page, with the non-profit of your choice, and then Facebook collects the donations from your friends, and sends a check at the end of the period directly to the non-profit. Tiffany said, "When I saw that we raised over \$200, I asked Lisa if perhaps the money could be used to buy a robotic cat." Tiffany enlisted the help of her daughter, Rory, to help choose the cat for Sanborn. Rory chose an orange one that the residents named Ginger. Tiffany said to her joy, she had raised enough money to purchase a second cat that is black and white. The residents named that one Midnight. Tiffany said, "We hope that they bring as much joy to the residents as our cat does to our family." (continued on page 2)

Pictured below (left to right): Tiffany Francis, Rory Francis with Amber, Sanborn Resident with Midnight



## Sanborn Gratiot Memorial Home

### Board of Directors

**Nora Arnold**  
President

**John Cantwell**  
Vice President

**Vacant**

Secretary

**Jeffrey VanDeusen**  
Treasurer

**Bonnie Bracken**

**Juanita Gittings**

**Tiffany Francis**

**Hargopal Tekumulla**



Senior Millage  
Recipient



**Community Foundation**  
of St. Clair County

**Voted #1**







The names for the new additions were picked by the residents by suggesting a bunch of names and then putting them into a hat and picking the winner. We can't thank Tiffany enough for the thoughtfulness of sharing her birthday with the residents of Sanborn. You can tell by the pictures how much they love Ginger and Midnight!

## HAPPINESS IS



...spending  
time with  
a cat.

© iStockphoto.com



## Auxiliary news

- Music by David Russell entertained residents at Sanborn Home on Thursday, Oct. 11. Thank you to Alice Rieves for hosting and providing treats!
- The Auxiliary is excited to announce that the Sanborn Auxiliary Luncheon and Fashion Show on Thursday October 26 is sold out! This event raises funds to provide beneficial activities for our residents at Sanborn including music, arts and crafts, excursions and many other needs. The Auxiliary would like to thank Port Huron Golf Club for providing a beautiful setting and wonderful food, and also Suzanne's Fashions for giving us a look at today's Fall fashions.
- Thank you to our many donors for supporting our mission for Sanborn!

- Sanborn Auxiliary Board

NEWS  
& EVENTS!



# **ANNUAL SANBORN GRATIOT MEMORIAL HOME**



## **MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY**

Date: Saturday, October 28, 2023

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Place: Sanborn Gratiot Memorial Home  
2732 Cherry Street  
Port Huron, MI 48060

Come dressed for volunteer work as we paint, rake, trim, clean and generally "spiff up" Sanborn Gratiot Memorial Home for the National Make a Difference Day.

Please RSVP to Betty Guigar at (810) 985-5631

THANK YOU!!!

# New Parking Lot



For a long time we have been dreaming of having the parking lot resurfaced. We have been looking for donations and trying to find a way to get it done. We have received estimates over time, but other projects took priority over the parking lot resurfacing. We finally found our knight in shining armor! An asphalt vendor, APEX, provided Sanborn Gratiot Memorial Home with a way to get the job done and we couldn't be happier to see this project being completed!

We want to thank APEX for working with Sanborn to complete this much need maintenance to our parking lot.



In our spotlight this month I was asked to introduce myself to you all. I am Lisa Laidlaw and I am the writer of the Sanborn Gratiot Memorial Home newsletter. I have been with Blue Water Developmental Housing since November of 2022. I started as the Office Coordinator and this past August/September I transitioned into the accounting department as the Accounts Receivable Clerk.



I came to BWDH with many years of experience after holding positions at various companies such as accounts receivable, accounts payable, human resources, office management and an administrative assistant. I love a challenge, so working in accounting is a great position for me.

When I am not at work, I enjoy spending time with my husband, Will, and my two children, Brooke (20) and Liam (11) and our two dogs, Lucy and Scooter. I am also a care taker for a close friend of mines mother. After he passed away, she had no family in the area to take care of her so I told her I would help her in any way I could as I had known her for about 26 years. I like to visit with friends, spend time with my extended family and do household projects like DIY ideas I find on HGTV.

I come from a large family where I am the second oldest of 4 kids. I spend as much time as I can with my siblings, my parents and my nieces and nephews. I love to cook so I host most of our families get togethers which means I'm cooking for an average of 25 people each birthday or holiday and I wouldn't have it any other way! A little inside information, I am the master cake cutter for all birthday cakes in my family. I am the only person allowed to cut and distribute the cake. What started out as a joke years ago, has now become our family tradition!





BLUE WATER  
DEVELOPMENTAL  
HOUSING INC.

# Watch the Detroit Red Wings and support

Blue Water Developmental Housing, Inc.



January 11 @ 7 pm

\$130 per ticket | Section 101

(not including transaction fee)

Little Caesars Arena

2645 Woodward Ave Detroit, MI 48201

SCAN  
ME



Purchase your tickets beginning today.

\*Only 250 tickets available.

Order online by scanning QR Code.

If you have any questions please contact:

Ashley Lueth - lueth@bwdh.org | 810-388-1200

**Hop on the party bus and enjoy your ride to and from the game.**

If you purchase a ticket and would like to ride on the party bus, contact Ashley Lueth to secure your spot; limited to the first 56.

First 150 to purchase a ticket will receive a swag bag.

All purchases will receive a t-shirt to wear at the game and an entry into a basket drawing.

Proceeds from the fundraiser will benefit Blue Water Developmental Housing, its employee education fund and/or its employee emergency fund.



*Save the  
date*

2024

SANBORN GRATIOT  
MEMORIAL HOME  
DUELING PIANOS FUNDRAISER

MARCH 8, 2024

Alexanders Banquet Facility

Tickets Available at a Later Date

Mark Your Calendar!!



# Fundraisers and Events



## 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 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!



Be sure to follow us on social media!  
Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn!



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](https://www.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!



### Contact Us

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

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".

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.

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).

*Make a Difference!*  
**DONATE**

### 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)