

# THE SUNRISER

## Walk to End Alzheimer's: Sunny Hill Style

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Lonora Gashi, CNA and resident Lois Saindon finish the 1 mile loop.

The first group of wheelchairs and those pushing them stepped off at 10 a.m., stopping briefly to mug for a camera before heading out to complete their walk.

Residents and others participated in Sunny Hill Nursing Home of Will County's 1-mile Alzheimer's walk, enjoying temperatures in the 70s and an occasional light breeze.

The Friday, Sept. 21, walk, ahead of the Oct. 6 Will County walk at Rock Run Forest Preserve, was the brainchild of Charlotte Mather, Admissions and Marketing Coordinator, and Danette Krieger, Activities Director.

"I'm always amazed at the things that Administrator Becky Haldorson and her staff do with the residents," said Will County Executive Larry Walsh. "They do so much to keep the residents active and a part of the communities the seniors helped build."

"We've thought about doing a walk here at Sunny Hill for years," said Mather. "We wanted to get more of our residents involved."

She said it was getting harder on the six to eight residents who would attend, requiring them to get up early to get to the annual walk on time. In addition, the last few years were a little cool and drizzly, making it uncomfortable for Team Sunny Hill members in their wheelchairs.

In comparison, 40 residents participated in the Sept. 21 event. Each resident was pushed in a wheelchair by a staff member, volunteer or family member on the nearly 1 mile route around part of the Health Department, behind Sunny Hill and down and around the parking lot and back in the front door.

Some, like Ursula Markowicz, who has called Sunny Hill home for almost a year, had never seen the

backside of the building. After her lap, she stayed outside near Mather.

"I loved it," she said. "I just like getting out."

Markowicz is already looking ahead to 2019. "I hope (they do it again),"

Halfway through the walk, on the backside of the facility near a wooded area, there was water and juice for those wanted some and for the first hour – cheerleaders!

Pam Terry, a job coach with the Joliet Central Transition Center, said she brings a group of young people ages 18 to 21 to Sunny Hill twice a week.

"We come to Sunny Hill every Wednesday and Friday and do activities. This is our job today," she said as Destiny McDonald beeped a horn and Noah Baker pointed the way while shouting encouraging words. Gabe Galicia, Erika Vallejo and Erika Gutierrez also cheered the walkers on.

Mather explained the Sunny Hill event was an open walk, meaning participants could go at any time between the set hours of 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. That made it easier for those who wanted a leisurely breakfast or early lunch. It also made scheduling easier for those who accompanied the residents.

Before anything was scheduled, however, Krieger pushed a resident in a wheelchair to ensure that it was a safe route for the walkers.

"That's the most important thing – our residents' safety," said Mather.

Between donations at Sunny Hill, online contributions and the 50/50 raffle, for which dedicated residents had sold tickets for the two weeks leading up to the event, Team Sunny Hill raised \$1,000 for the Alzheimer's Association.

Pictured: Resident Tom Boyd and his daughter, Vicki start the 1 mile walk.



Article by: Tammy Reiher, Public Information Officer, Will County Executive Larry Walsh's office



SUNNY HILL  
Nursing Home of Will County

Join us on  
October 28th at the  
Joliet Renaissance Center  
for our  
50th Anniversary Brunch  
"Solid Gold & Glorious"

Sponsored by  
Friends of Sunny Hill

Tickets available online  
at <https://friendsofsunnyhill.com/home/special-events>  
Or inquire at reception.

Spirit of Community Caring  
Award will be presented to  
**Larry Walsh,**  
**Will County Executive**

## Sunny Hill Administration:

**Administrator** *Becky Haldorson, LNHA*  
**Assistant Administrator** *Maggie McDowell NHA*  
**Director of Nursing** *Debbie Stanko, RN*  
**Assistant Director of Nursing** *Maureen McIntyre, RN*  
**Assistant Director of Nursing** *Edita Evans, RN*  
**Assistant Director of Nursing** *Kathie Miner, RN*

**Director of Finance** *Shelly Felkins*  
**Director of Social Services** *Jackie Palmer-Hosey*  
**Admissions/Marketing Coordinator** *Charlotte Mather*

**Director of Nutrition Services** *Julie Cherrington, LD/RD*  
**Food & Nutrition Services Manager** *Stephanie Bennett*  
**Director of Environmental Services** *Ray Vicha*  
**Director of Life Engagement** *Danette Krieger*  
**Maintenance Supervisor** *Bill McFarland*  
**Director of Human Resources** *Renee Herbst*

## Nursing Department

**MDS Coordinator** *Marbe Flores, RN*  
**MDS Nurses:**  
*Joanne Crowder, RN* *Lori Chancey, RN*

## Nursing Supervisors:

**Skin Care** *Grace Bambule, RN*  
*Vivian Bibber, RN*

## House Nursing Supervisors:

*Marizza St. Onge, RN* *Maria Lacsamana, RN*  
*Mardy Mon-Alon, RN* *Alicia McLaughlin, RN*  
*Evangeline Ba-ad, RN* *Munawar Gill, RN*  
*Ferdinand Cantor, RN* *Milan Boril, RN*  
*Ruth Eromosele, RN* *Jennifer Calma, RN*  
*Margarita Flores, RN* *Raymond Wertelka, RN*  
*Mary Abraham, RN*



## The Sunriser

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Family Members and Community Friends of  
Sunny Hill Nursing Home of Will County

For more information, offer suggestions  
or submit materials,

contact **Maggie McDowell, Assistant Administrator**  
**815-774-4375**

## ADMINISTRATOR'S CORNER

*Dear Family Members, Volunteers and Community Friends:*

*Summer may be ending, but Sunny Hill residents and staff are still out on the patios enjoying the beautiful seasonal changes. So much work has been done to keep the flowers and grounds in shape – thank you to the Friends of Sunny Hill and our other community volunteers (especially KSKJ and the University of St. Francis Alumni). Enjoy every day outside while you can, you never know when winter will show up.*

*As we always experience with the change in temperatures, please remember that it is a challenge to decide when to switch from air conditioning to heat. We are turning the air off at night and back on for a short period of time on the warmer days. That has seemed to work for us in the year's past. Just be patient as we decide on a daily basis of how to control the building temperature.*

*Holiday events are being finalized and we look forward to another calendar full of seasonal entertainment and decorating, with visits from Santa himself. The Friends of Sunny Hill will again sponsor the Holiday Craft & Gift Bazaar which will be held on Friday, November 16th and also, please mark your calendars to join us at our annual holiday event, "Home for the Holidays" to be held on Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup>. This is our special celebration just for you and your loved one.*

*We will be sending out a special calendar for December events in late November so that you can mark your calendars and be sure not to miss all of the fun happenings here at Sunny Hill.*

*Just a reminder that as the weather starts to cool down to make sure you take your loved one's summer clothes home to store for the winter. All of our rooms are limited with closet space and it is helpful to staff to not have to "squeeze" the hangers in and have the clothes smashed and wrinkled. Thanks for doing this!*

*Also, remember that we can not store any cardboard boxes in our resident's rooms. Please make sure that boxes are removed immediately.*

*On behalf of myself, Sunny Hill's Administrative Staff, Will County Executive Larry Walsh and the Will County Board, wishing you and your loved ones a great fall.*

**Becky Haldorson, Administrator**



## **MEMORIAL GIFTS**

*The following Memorial Gifts have been received by either The Friends of Sunny Hill or Resident Council. The Families and Friends of these Residents are in our thoughts and Prayers.*

**CHARLIE ANYS**

*Maureen McIntyre*

**GLEN NARDUCCI**

*Ramona V. Branchaw  
Diane Budzinski  
Joseph & Barbara Madden  
Jennianne Marcum  
Thomas Narducci*

**ROSE MARY RONSHAUSEN**

*Michael & Mary Jane Beran  
Angela Bukovatz  
Jeff & Kathleen Farren  
Wayne & Lori Foresta  
Alan & Nancy Greml  
Thomas & Marlene Liska  
Tom Pipal & Diana Hall*

### **“HOME IS WHERE THE HEART IS” CAMPAIGN DONORS**

*Randy & Sharon Aneloski  
Robert L. Anzelmo  
Evelyn L. Barbee  
Raymond & Kathleen Becker  
Lynn Behringer  
Cynthia A. Bierman-Slavish  
Brian Boland  
Judith A. Bumbalo  
Richard & Angeline Burke  
Vera Busch  
Daniel & Marilyn Campus  
Audrey J. Churnovic  
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Charles Imfeld  
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Paula A. Jackson  
Kathleen A. Johnson  
Christine Johnson  
Phyllis J. Keca  
Angela Keller  
John Kincaid  
David & Terri Kincaid  
Steven R. Kline  
Joliet Noon Lions Club  
Janice M. Marszalek-Pacente  
Karen McCullough*

*Virginia A. McDonald  
Robert K. McEvilly  
Joseph J. Mikan Jr.  
Frank & Cheryl Murphy  
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Martin A. Passolano  
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Elaine Smith  
Donna J. Snaidaut  
Gordon Steib  
Raymond Stoiber  
David & Peggy Stoiber  
James J. Trolia  
Mark & Celeste Turk  
Susan Z. Wietlispach  
Geraldine K. Wurzburger  
Joseph Yandura  
Margaret Zagoda*



## **S.T.A.R. Spontaneous Thanks and Recognition**

*The following staff members have joined the ranks of those who are going above and beyond the call of duty and providing the best care possible to our residents and Sunny Hill. Department Heads, Supervisors and Family Members have nominated these employees since July 2018*

**Life Engagement**

*Roger Bentley  
Betty Iwen*

**Environmental Services**

*El Baterbonia  
Jenneice Holman  
Karyn Swick (2)*

**Food & Nutrition**

*Kristi Wilkinson  
Dan Willis*

**Maintenance**

*Tyler Bargas (3)*

**Nursing**

*Stacy Bargas (2)  
Holly Deubelbeiss (2)  
Graciela Duarte  
Christina Galvin (2)  
Sandra Gonzalez  
Rebecca Hurley  
Tami Hutchison  
Vanessa Jones  
Lisa McCullum  
Rey Mercado  
Monicka Mister  
Cindy Plese  
Carol Richards  
Carla Rygula  
Lynette Samuel  
Chandra Vidales  
Minda Williamson  
Tiffany Wing*

421 Doris Avenue  
Joliet, IL 60433

Phone: 815-727-8710  
Fax: 815-774-4379  
Email: [sunnyhill@willcountyillinois.com](mailto:sunnyhill@willcountyillinois.com)  
[www.willcountyillinois.com/sunnyhill](http://www.willcountyillinois.com/sunnyhill)

**Find us on facebook !**  
Search Sunny Hill Nursing Home and “like” us today.  
You will find the most current information on what’s  
happening here at Sunny Hill.

We need your e-mail address! Please stop by reception or call  
us at 815-727-8710 with your information.

## **SUNNY HILL’S WISH LIST!**

100-300 Piece Large Piece Puzzles  
Yahtzee Games  
UNO Card Games  
Small Paper Plates red, green and pink  
Electric Mixer for Kitchen  
13 X 9 baking pan  
Birthday Cards  
Holiday Napkins  
Command Hooks—assorted sizes  
Holiday Wreaths for Resident Doors

## **CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS**

Please join us for any or all of the following events. You are ALWAYS welcome!

### **October**

1 John Boda  
13 Birthday of the Navy  
16 Vern and Vern Classic Country Rock  
18 Mo Beat Blues  
20 Sweetest Day  
24 New Lenox Dulcimers and Oktoberfest  
28 Solid Gold and Glorious 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Brunch and fund-raiser for Friends of Sunny Hill  
31 Halloween Happenings with The Moonshiners

### **November**

6 Election Day  
6 Operation Christmas Child Box Filling Group  
7 Bob Kalal Entertains  
15 Ryan Peterman Entertains  
16 **HOLIDAY BAZAAR and BBQ lunch sale, bake sale and gift sale**  
21 Dallas Stamberger Entertains  
23 Light Up the Holidays Parade Sunny Hill bus in the parade  
29 Larry Brandolino “Rockin’ Lar”

### **December**

4 Peace Lutheran Church Ladies Ensemble Perform  
8 **Home for the Holidays Resident and Family Holiday Gathering**  
15 Harvest Bible Church Caroling  
24 Sunny Hill Gift Deliveries  
31 New Years Eve Big Band Celebration with the Swingset Big Band in 2019!!

