

Fall Issue  
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## From The Desk of Steve Rosedale...

### *Exciting times!*

At a recent gathering of our Home Office team I announced the promotion of Kena Minnick, my Vice President and Chief Operating Officer to the position of President and Chief Operating Officer. It was a momentous occasion and an exciting change for both myself, Kena, Charlie and the rest of our team. Kena has earned the respect of everyone she works with. Her leadership has brought CommuniCare to become the employer of choice, improved our World Class care and put meat (steak) on the financial plate. The major change organizationally is that the finance department now reports directly to Kena as well as the rest of the operations. It gives us an opportunity to better integrate financial and programmatic functioning.

These changes position us to grow and improve our operating efficiencies at every level. As always, in the end, it is our people, both staff, residents and family members who will benefit the most as we pursue our mission of World Class People providing World Class Service and generating World Class Value. *Congratulations and our best wishes from the CommuniCare family.*

## Famous Quotes

"People demand freedom of speech to make up for the freedom of thought which they avoid." --*Soren Aabye Kierkegaard* (1813-1855)

"Only two things are infinite, the universe and human stupidity, and I'm not sure about the former." --*Albert Einstein* (1879-1955)

"In the End, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends." -- *Martin Luther King Jr.* (1929-1968)

"I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work." --  
*Thomas Alva Edison* (1847-1931)

"The optimist proclaims that we live in the best of all possible worlds, and the pessimist fears this is true." -- *James Branch Cabell*

"An inconvenience is only an adventure wrongly considered; an adventure is an inconvenience rightly considered." -- *Gilbert Keith Chesterton* (1874-1936)

# Focus On...

*“I Believe...”*

*By Kena Minnick, President and COO*

There are times in life that it is important to reflect on what we believe in. This is such a time in my life. I have accepted the responsibility of being the President and Chief Operating Officer of CommuniCare and I do so with great honor and humility. This was not an easy decision because it is a **life** commitment.

As a leader, I feel that every decision I make directly impacts the future of this company that supports well over 3,000 employees and their families, and cares for nearly 3,000 residents on any given day. This is an awesome responsibility that I take very seriously.

I try to instill in our leadership the fact that when we make a decision as an Administrator, Director of Nursing, Business Office Manager, Department Head, etc., **that** decision ultimately controls our ability to provide a paycheck that supports a family or pays daycare or puts a child through college. Our decisions impact lives in a very personal way. To me, CommuniCare is a living entity that provides for my healthcare and feeds my family. This is a labor of love for me and I am **passionate** about leading CommuniCare to greater profitability and success because I believe...

- I believe in the values of our company and our mission to reach out with our hearts to touch another heart and make a difference in their lives.
- I believe in the importance of creating homes where people want to live and employees want to work.
- I believe we hire and promote the best and the brightest professionals in long term care.
- I believe in the goodness of the CommuniCare Family.
- I believe it is righteous to ensure the financial stability of CommuniCare so that our company is here to take care of our grandparents and our children.
- I believe that CommuniCare is fast becoming a truly *World Class Company* that is the provider and employer of choice in the areas we serve.
- I believe there is nothing we can't achieve if we believe that we can.

## Calendar of Events

### OCTOBER

15<sup>th</sup> – National Mammography Day [www.acr.org](http://www.acr.org)

16<sup>th</sup> – National Boss Day

16<sup>th</sup> – Sweetest Day

23<sup>rd</sup> – Make a Difference Day [www.usaweekend.com/diffday](http://www.usaweekend.com/diffday) A national day of helping others

17-23<sup>rd</sup> – National Healthcare Quality Week [www.nahq.org](http://www.nahq.org)

17-23<sup>rd</sup> – National Infection Control Week [www.apic.org](http://www.apic.org)

19-25<sup>th</sup> – National Pharmacy Week [www.aphanet.org](http://www.aphanet.org)

19-25<sup>th</sup> – Pastoral Care Week [www.pastoralcareweek.org](http://www.pastoralcareweek.org)

24<sup>th</sup> – United Nations Day

24-30<sup>th</sup> – National Respiratory Care Week [www.aarc.org](http://www.aarc.org)

31<sup>st</sup> – Daylight Savings Ends

31<sup>st</sup> - Halloween

*Breast Cancer Awareness Month*  
[www.nbcam.org](http://www.nbcam.org)

*National Dental Hygiene Month*  
[www.adha.org](http://www.adha.org)

*National AIDS Awareness Month*  
[www.ppsinc.org](http://www.ppsinc.org)

*National Liver Awareness Month*  
[www.liverfoundation.org](http://www.liverfoundation.org)

*National Brain Injury Awareness Month*  
[www.biausa.org](http://www.biausa.org)

*National Physical Therapy Month*  
[www.apta.org](http://www.apta.org)

## Share Corner *from Our Facilities*

### **Regency Manor Corner**

*“Anything Can Happen”*

*By Greg Carson, Regency Manor*

About three weeks ago I was sitting in the admissions office, talking to Mary Jo, Andrea, Kathy Lyons, Jill and Marsha, it was a Friday and about the end of the day and several of us were playing softball that evening for the Regency team. As we were talking a resident's family member stuck her head in the door and started saying that she was upset about having to come in and sign more admissions paperwork. It was actually Dialysis paper work, but none the less she was kind of getting on Mary Jo and Jill about coming back. She was not really unhappy and was kind of kidding around a little so I opened my big mouth and I said "oh we just really wanted to see your pretty face back in the facility that's why we got you back in the building." Well this woman starts saying something to the effect that "Oh now you're going to get it, here comes 280 pounds of TNT." Needless to say this was a rather large African American woman who starts kind of running toward me. Before I knew what happened, she came over and sat right on my lap. We were all laughing and I was kind of speechless and I certainly got what I deserved. Mary Jo and some of the others were kind of worried that I might not be able to play softball that evening but I was fine, but rather embarrassed. My staff had a wonderful time at my expense and so did my family. You just never know what might happen day to day in a nursing home. So watch out for big women wearing bright green dresses.

### **Grande Pointe Corner**

*“Renovations”*

*By Missy Schaefer, Grande Pointe*

Grande Pointe is proud to announce our grand "re-opening" of 20 more skilled nursing home beds and our newly renovated 16 bed hospice unit in our assisted living. Our new 20 beds used to be part of our AL rooms, which we converted into ten private rooms and five semi private rooms. These are equipped with brand new furniture, electric beds and look like suites with carpeting, bathrooms with showers and wallpaper. They also have their own phone, TV with cable, bay window and individual AC unit. Our hospice wing caters to the AL population with us also accepting high acuity residents as well. I am very proud of our team and how they have handled the transition from maintenance to nursing. Thanks for everybody's support!

### **Pine Valley Corner**

*“Queen For A Day”*

*By Claudia Ledenican, Pine Valley*

About one year ago, Pine Valley resident, June Schieb, saw a photograph of a woman in a limo in the paper. June told us that she had never been in a limo and wondered what it would be like. June is now 76 years old and recently celebrated her 38<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a resident of Pine Valley Care Center. To mark this event the staff, with the preceding conversation in mind, made June “Queen for a Day.”

June’s day began with our beautician doing her hair. Then her aide helped her dress and do her makeup. She then received a wrist corsage and a tiara fit for a “Queen.” While June was being pampered her guests began to arrive. Some were from nearby, while others came from Michigan to share in her special day. June was then brought to the lobby to wait for her surprise where she was greeted by all of her guests. It was not until the limo driver introduced himself that June realized what was in store.

The itinerary for the day included a limo ride through the surrounding area and a lunch at Swenson’s Restaurant. At Swenson’s June did not even need a menu to order. After the waiter asked “her majesty” what she would like she quickly replied “a cheeseburger and a chocolate coke.” June had a very special day that she will not soon forget. Thank you to everyone who made June’s dream come true.

# Share Corner (Cont.) *from Our Facilities*

## Pine Grove Corner

*“Residents Go On Vacation”*

*By Marie Habicht, Pine Grove*

Pine Grove was recently blessed with a sum of money, donated for an activity to bring pleasure to our residents. A vacation was arranged for four of our residents, to spend three days at Baypoint Marblehead, Ohio, a gated, waterfront resort/marina community. The residents chosen: Sabrina who has lived with us since the 70's and is now thirtysomething, Gary who has the same history, Tom and Cliff who have each lived with us for a few years. None of these young people have ever been on a vacation, and a night away from Pine Grove has usually meant a hospital admission.

The Pine Grove "vacation team" was: Sal Rossi LPN, Carla Steele Hab Aide, Candy Douglas Clinic Coordinator, Brenda Dean Housekeeper/Hab Aide, and myself, Marie Habicht LPN, Nurse Manager. The reservation was made for September 7-9, and the committee meetings were held. Joe Repich, and Terry Yarnell at Greenbrier were our food/beverage suppliers, and we were ready to go. None of us counted on Hurricane Frances to intervene, but it did change the shape of our excursion, not necessarily for the worse. This was an experience that none of us will ever forget! Sal, Carla, Brenda, Candy and myself were

filled with a lot of emotions during this little trip, we were certainly humbled, and honored to be our residents' escorts! They saw, did, and lived as they have not in a very long time...or have never experienced at all.

Our cottage was spacious, well appointed, nicely situated, and had a lake view from every room. We were amazed by the 6-9 foot waves on the lake, and enjoyed hearing the waves hit the shore at night. We ate in, we ate out, we played games, we lounged on the floor, we went shopping, and we

went to the African Safari (where animals like zebra and giraffes come up to your car). We had a fire at night in our fire pit and roasted marshmallows. Most of all, we (the staff) were almost overwhelmed by the pleasure and awe in our residents' eyes. This had to be one of the most satisfying and most important things that I have ever done in my career! This should, and hopefully will be an experience that all of our residents at Pine Grove will experience as time goes on.

## Green Park Corner

*“Festival of Trees Light the Way for Alzheimer’s Research”*

*By Suzanne Huffman, Green Park*

Green Park Senior Living Community’s 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Festival of Trees and Auction is just around the corner, so start planning to spend the evening of Thursday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> from 6-9 p.m. with family and friends enjoying the “Sights of the Season.”

This event will actually begin the week of November 21<sup>st</sup> as we welcome your donations of decorated artificial trees of all shapes and sizes. These “artistically designed” trees will be displayed in the Residential Care Facility during the week of Thanksgiving and will be sold by silent auction the night of December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

During the night of the Festival, you will be invited to enjoy appetizers and beverages, place a silent bid on your tree of choice and/or for a minimum donation of \$5.00 you can have an individual or family photo taken in front of our beautiful Christmas display.

The primary benefactor from donations collected this year will be the St. Louis Chapter of the Alzheimer’s Association.\* For more information on reservations for the evening or donations, please call Debbie Taylor, Director of Community Relations at (314) 960-7652 or Green Park at (314) 845-0900.

\* Green Park’s Alzheimer’s Special Care Unit is under renovation as we are adding additional beds expanding the total special care community. Watch for the Grand “Re-Opening” in the near future.