

Changes Come Over Time

Science and technology revolutionize our lives, but memory, tradition and myth frame our response - Arthur M. Schlessinger

“Technology”, a word that can scare a person to the point of never wanting to use it, or it can excite a person to wrap their mind around it and explore new possibilities. At Auburn Homes and Services we continue to explore these new possibilities that support and enhance the personalized care we provide to those in the community who put their trust in us for their care.

For more than a decade Auburn has invested in building a strong infrastructure that has given us the opportunity to implement new technologies that we believe will strengthen our ability to provide better care. Electronic health records, electronic prescriptions, point of care software and resident vital signs equipment that integrate directly to the health records are some of the many pieces of technology implemented to date. Another example is wireless sensors used in our memory care programs.

David, a resident in The Courtyard at Auburn, was utilizing our bedroom motion sensors. During the overnight shift we noted an increase in nighttime wandering. In using this information we were able to speak with the doctor and family regarding a medication adjustment. Because of this information we were able to better meet David’s needs and enhance his quality of life.

We continue to explore new and different technologies that directly and indirectly affect one’s daily well-being. We are currently working toward implementing different therapy programs such as music therapy. This is a program that goes beyond just listening to music. The 2014 documentary “Alive Inside” explores the power of music therapy for the elderly and those with dementia and Alzheimer’s disease. In the film, social worker Dan Cohen advocates using music to restore a sense of identity in patients whose memory loss often results in isolation and despair.

Relaxing, meditational music really calms Bob, who has dementia. One day a caregiver changed things up and put on a CD of American patriotic songs sung by the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. Bob perked up and was interested in all of the music, staying engaged for almost an hour. The staff was amazed. Studies share that “music is magic, a backdoor to the brain not affected by aging or dementia, using pathways to reach and stimulate one who is otherwise unreachable.”

Moving into the future, Auburn will continue to explore new technology and measure it against our mission of “providing care in the Spirit of Christ’s love”. Ensuring that it enhances not only the needs of our residents but the needs of the community.



Mike Senden, CEO/President



A Zest for Life is Recognized at the Leading Age Institute

At 91 years young, Jack proves that age is just a number and life is meant to be lived and not simply endured. Jack not only exercises his mind by putting together puzzles, but is also physically active lifting weights six days a week. He never misses an opportunity to hop on a boat or take in a Twins game at Target field. Jack cordially welcomes everyone that enters Auburn Meadows. Every day he greets the staff with a kind smile and words of encouragement.



Scan this QR code
with your phone to
view the video

Daily routines keep Jack engaged in the community at Auburn Meadows. Every morning Jack sits at the front desk in the lobby sorting through the morning newspapers for his delivery route and always greets everyone he passes along the way.

Jack is a trailblazer and advocate in the Auburn Meadows community. He believes that the only way to improve something is to step up and become part of the change. He recruits others to engage in activities whether it's playing a game of cards or a simple conversation. He is always the first person to speak up for his peers and make suggestions to improve their quality of life. From getting a sign that shows when the mail has been delivered to getting everyone to go out to eat at the best restaurants in town, Jack is a spearhead.

Jack Bell has a contagious zest for life and is an amazing role model for all ages young and old. It is an honor to have such a remarkable man residing at Auburn Homes and Services.

Auburn Homes and Services is honored and proud to announce that Jack Bell won the Spirit of Aging award this year at the Leading Age Institute of Minnesota. The Spirit of Aging award celebrates a resident that embodies the concept of positive and active aging. The candidates for this award display active aging by participating in activities that challenge the traditional stereotypes and also make a positive difference in the lives of other seniors. Jack was chosen to receive this prominent award from among 750 applicants. He received a standing ovation from the over 4000 professionals in senior care services at the Leading Age Institute held in St. Paul on February 10, 2016.



Jack Bell (center front) and Auburn Homes & Services staff

Two Easy Ways to Help Auburn Homes & Services



GoodSearch/Goodshop—One cent for every search you conduct using Goodsearch.com is donated to Auburn Homes & Services. You use GoodSearch exactly as you would any other search engine. Because it's powered by Yahoo, you get proven search results. The money GoodSearch donates to Auburn Homes & Services comes from its advertisers - the users and the organizations do not spend a dime.

What is Goodshop? We like to say that we have the most powerful coupons in the world. Not only do we provide the best shopping deals on the internet, but we also make a donation to the nonprofit or school of your choice for almost every purchase you make. That's right: when you shop with Goodshop you don't just save. You also give, at no extra cost.

GoodShop (formerly Goodsearch) provides a database of digital coupons from more than 32,000 merchants including Amazon, Target, Staples, Best Buy, etc. The company has partnered with 113,000 nonprofits and schools and shares commissions earned from purchases at participating stores with the shoppers chosen cause. As of September, 2015 more than \$11 million has been donated.

So, who can I help when I GoodSearch/Goodshop? Everyone. Goodshop is connected with over 114,000 nonprofits and schools, which means that you can shop for Auburn Homes & Services.

How can I get started? Head on over to the GoodShop pick a cause page and choose Auburn Homes & Services. Once you've signed up for a Auburn Homes & Services and chosen the stores you love to shop at, the rest is history. Sit back, relax, and, of course, shop. Remember, the more friends that you get involved, the more that will be raise for Auburn Homes & Services



Amazon Smile is a simple and automatic way for you to support Auburn Homes & Services every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com. The added bonus is that **Amazon will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to Auburn Homes & Services.**

You can find the link to AmazonSmile on our website. Simply click on the box to get started. You can use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. On your first visit to AmazonSmile you need to select Auburn Homes & Services to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. Every eligible purchase you make will result in a .05% donation to Auburn Homes & Services. Donations are made to Auburn Homes & Services by the AmazonSmile Foundation.



What can I do to help? Where is your greatest need?

We give great thanks to family, friends, and employees who have asked these questions and have made gifts and/or volunteered their time to Auburn Homes this past year. The people of Auburn Homes have been blessed by your partnership during this past year. We say partnership in a very real sense, because it is only with your support and participation in the work of the Foundation that we are able to accomplish anything!

Here are some of the major projects completed this year with your support through the Foundation:



Merrill and Shirley Ekstrom on our new bus.

Budget support for each of our four **Life Enhancement programs**
Sliding glass doors for the Ekstrom Chapel/Celebration Room at
AHS Meadows

Glide swing in the Garden of AHS Chaska campus

2 new **lifts with slings** for Auburn Manor and Courts

3 defibrillators, placed in Auburn Home, Meadows and Courts

Blanket warmer oven for Auburn Home

Renovation of Marvel Heath Chapel & Fireside Room
on AHS Chaska campus

Remodel of the Rehabilitation Room of Auburn Manor

Landscaping and Patio for the main entrance
of AHS Chaska campus

Lighting and plants for the Garden in the AHS Chaska campus

Rock water fountains with American flag and lighting for
the patio of Auburn Home

Large screen TV with sound bar for The Courtyard at Auburn

Quiet room space and furnishings ordered for The Courtyard

New tables and chairs for the Auburn Manor dining room

New handicap-accessible bus for all AHS residents

Your participation and support have made possible some very remarkable accomplishments. Amazing as those accomplishments shared above may be, they don't include everything that was accomplished because of your 113 memorial gifts, 67 gifts-in-kind, or your wonderful Shining Star Gifts.

Every gift has impact and helps create the positive, nurturing culture for which Auburn Homes and Services is known. Your partnership helps us go beyond what is possible within our annual budget, to where we are able to more fully "serve our seniors in the spirit of Christ's love."

Thank you to each of you who participated with the Foundation as a volunteer and/or donor, to help make such a positive impact on the lives of both our amazing residents and our staff.

"It's not how much we give but how



Wonderful Support through the Shining Star Program

"Lisa is so caring and does a thorough job. She has good ideas to make things better for mom."

"I wish to honor Tracy because of her dedication to the residents of both the Chaska and Waconia campuses."

"For the love, friendship and care of my husband."

"All staff in memory care are awesome to my mom. They are always smiling and helpful."

"For the chaplain's caring concern in times of stress and grief and her availability whenever she's needed."

"Understanding and kindness for both myself and my husband."

"She is very responsive and attentive to my mother's needs. She pays attention to details for the residents and makes suggestions where needed. I so appreciate her and trust her to take care of my mother."

There is a unique and personal story for every "Shining Star" recipient. The Shining Star program recognizes and thanks an individual who has provided care that was not only great, but personal and exceptional; someone who provided care that "made your day", "touched your heart", or "calmed a concern". It is a program whereby residents and/or family members can give a gift to Auburn Homes and Services in honor of their special "Shining Star(s)".

This past year 27 Shining Star gifts were received. Through those 27 gifts, 42 employees and one full department were recognized for their thoughtfulness, special acts of kindness and the outstanding care they provided.

Your "Shining Star" is honored with a Shining Star pin, a constant reminder to them of your thoughtfulness. They are also recognized in front of their peers during one of our regular "stand-up" meetings and in our employee newsletter, "The Buzz". Each award is recorded in their permanent employee record.

Your charitable gift will be directed to our undesignated fund to be used in the facility and area of your "Shining Star". Your recognition and thanks validates the wonderful work being done by a caring staff.

If you would like to recognize a "Shining Star", brochures are available at the reception area in each of our facilities or online at www.auburnhomes.org.



ow much love we put into giving."

“Tis the Season”

Sold Out Festival of Trees Event!!

“Tis the Season” was the theme for our 4th annual Festival of Trees event held at the Oak Ridge Conference Center, Chaska. Over \$93,000 was raised and, for the first time we had a “sold out house” as 234 people joined us for a wonderful evening of fun and fellowship with a purpose.

The gala is the premier event of the year for Auburn Homes and features beautiful designer decorated Christmas trees, an elegant dinner, live and silent auctions, wine raffle, dancing, and an amazing Fund-A-Need auction.

The first purpose of the Festival of Trees is to raise funds to support the Life Enhancement programs for each of our facilities in both Chaska and Waconia. These programs have daily impact on the quality of life for our residents, helping them:

- *maintain their independence, individuality and dignity as they age;
- *stay involved, active and growing;
- *enrich their lives by bringing them experiences that keep them young at heart;
- *enhance their sense of freedom and enjoyment of life;
- *create lasting, shared memories.

The goal of our Fund-A-Need auction this year was to help purchase a new handicap-accessible bus. With \$60,700 raised in a leadership campaign this past summer, the Fund-A-Need auction raised over \$31,000, that evening! This amazing response enabled us to purchase the new bus and expand our transportation program.

The new bus arrived in the beginning of February. You will see it, with its unique wrap logo, transporting our residents to all kinds of exciting activities and events.



People’s Choice Award Winner

“Let it Snow”

Designed by Karen Hallquist,
The Flower Mill Design & Gifts



Doll house built by Dick Hunter and other residents of Auburn Meadows, Waconia

A very special thanks to Yetzer’s Home Furnishings and Floor Coverings as our 4-year Diamond sponsor! A sincere thank you to all our event sponsors. Thank you to all who were in attendance or donated to this important event.

The support generated through Festival of Trees helps Auburn Homes and Services continue to provide the high quality, personal care, given to our seniors in the “Spirit of Christ’s Love.”

Please indicate the area you would like your gift to benefit:

- Auburn Home in Waconia—Skilled Nursing
- Auburn Manor, Chaska—Skilled Nursing
- Auburn Courts, Chaska—Assisted Living
- The Courtyard at Auburn, Chaska—Memory Care
- Auburn Meadows, Waconia—Assisted Living
- The Gardens*, Chaska—Outdoor courtyard
- Chaplaincy Endowment Fund
- Interested in Deferred Gift Planning information

Please indicate the amount of your gift:

- \$50
- \$75
- \$100
- \$500
- Other _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____ Email: _____

Email: _____ Telephone: _____

This gift is in **Memory** of in **Honor** of _____

Acknowledge to: Name _____

Address _____

City	State	Zip	Email address
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Please make checks payable to: Moravian Care Foundation

Mail to: 501 N. Oak Street, Chaska, MN 55318

We are honored to receive your gift which is a charitable tax deduction.

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Going Green

In our efforts to increase efficiencies without compromising quality we have eliminated the remittance envelope from this newsletter. We are looking to further streamline our efficiencies by moving to online newsletters and enhancing our social media for more of our informational pieces. We are asking that you provide your email address to us if you would like to continue to receive our newsletter via email. You may send your email information to us either by filling out the above form and mailing it or email: kfredrich@auburnhomes.org with your email address and request for the newsletter to be sent to you digitally.

Donors who wish to offer their support can simply cut off and fill out the above form and return it to us with a check.

Or you can donate online at: www.auburnhomes.org



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Coming Events

Volunteer/Donor Thank You Dinner, for all Auburn volunteers and donors will be held on *Tuesday, April 26th* on our Chaska campus, 501 N. Oak St., Chaska.

The Auburn Care Auxiliary will be holding their **Spring Boutique** on *Friday, May 13th and Saturday, May 14th* in the Chapel/Fireside area on our Chaska campus, 501 N. Oak St., Chaska.

Call to Care Golf Classic, *Monday, July 11th*, at Deer Run Golf Club, Victoria, MN

For other daily events happening at Auburn Homes and Services check out our activity calendars on our website:

www.auburnhomes.org

Auburn Homes and Services
Visit us on our website
www.auburnhomes.org

Foundation Office952-361-0320

Auburn Manor/Auburn Courts/The Courtyard at Auburn.....952- 448-9303

Auburn Home in Waconia952-442-2546

Auburn Meadows952-442-6600

Talheim952- 361-0310