

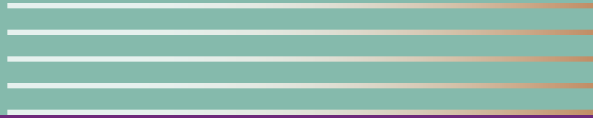
Legacy

Investing Today to Impact Tomorrow



Resident Gardening Volunteer Nancy Wolpert poses outside Hawthorn Cottage. Wolpert's expertise with flowers keeps the Cottages looking beautiful in the summer months. See page 6.

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A Grand Mission

The mission of the Grand Traverse Pavilions is to provide accessible, trusted and compassionate care that enhances quality of life for aging adults. As the region's first and only public, nonprofit Continuum of Care the Pavilions features:

- Long-term Skilled Nursing Care
- Short-term Rehab
- The Wellness Center: Inpatient and Outpatient Therapy
- The Cottages: Independent and Assisted Living
- Overnight Respite and Adult Day Services

Among the top employers in Grand Traverse County with over 450 employees, The Pavilions injects more than \$30 million into the local economy making a significant economic impact in our community. Grand Traverse Pavilions has operated financially self-sufficient for over 30 years and does not rely on allocation of county general funds or an operational millage while providing \$4.5 million worth of charitable care annually to some of the area's most vulnerable citizens.

With residents, participants, therapy patients, volunteers, and staff, Grand Traverse Pavilions is more than just a nursing home. It's a grand community of caring for generations.



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Legacy is a publication of the Grand Traverse Pavilions Foundation. If you no longer wish to receive mail from us or to change your contact information please contact Jessi at jweir@gtpavilions.org or call (231) 932-3018. We would also love to add you to our email list. Please share your email with us so we can keep you better informed of what's happening here at Grand Traverse Pavilions.

If you have a story idea for the Legacy magazine, we would love to hear it. Please submit story ideas to sonnabend@gtpavilions.org.



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Healthy Aging Communities



By Kory Hansen, Administrator/CEO

This May Michigan Senator Gary Peters and Arkansas Senator John Boozman teamed up to introduce bipartisan legislation to support healthy aging and age-friendly communities. The *Age-Friendly Communities Act* bill aims to amend the *Older Americans Act of 1965* by requiring federal agencies work together to develop a national set of goals on healthy aging and age-friendly communities. It is time for an update as the needs of aging adults has changed dramatically in the last 54 years. The rest of the

baby boomer generation will reach 65 by 2030, which means that 1 in every 5 residents will be retirement age.

While the legislation has a ways to go before becoming law, it is good to see legislators focusing on issues facing aging Americans including housing, transportation, employment, social and civic opportunities, volunteerism, and supportive services. As an organization with a mission that focuses on enhancing quality of life for aging adults, we look for ways we can support successful aging. It's why we worked to bring PACE to northern Michigan and why we have changed the focus of our Legacy publication to provide information useful to older adults and their caregivers.

Successful, healthy aging requires access to supportive services regard-

less of income. The Grand Traverse Pavilions works hard to ensure that all of our residents receive quality care, which includes providing \$4.8 million last year in unreimbursed care for some of our most vulnerable citizens. As we care for our residents, we also look for ways we can support and advocate for healthy aging for both them, and the other aging adults in our community. This includes offering volunteer opportunities that work for older adults and those with disabilities, hosting a concert series that is as accessible as we can make it, and supporting community initiatives and organizations that promote healthy aging and address the issues facing older adults. After all, our vision is to be the region's trusted partner and recognized leader for successful aging services.



This month marks 60 years since Grand Traverse Medical Care Facility, the flagship of Grand Traverse Pavilions, opened its doors. In that time we have been privileged to serve many amazing members of our community. Many of these individuals have been honored through the years through donations and memorial giving, allowing us to continue to care for the next generation of older Americans.

Memorial & Naming Opportunity	Gift Level Options	Lines/Characters
4" by 8" Engraved Brick in Pavilions Plaza	\$100	2 lines of 15 characters each
8" by 8" Engraved Brick in Pavilions Plaza	\$250	4 lines of 15 characters each
Living Memorial (Tree or planting)	\$500	3 Lines of 20 characters each
Park Bench	\$1000	3 Lines of 20 characters each
Picnic Table	\$2500	3 Lines of 20 characters each
Courtyard	\$5000	A personalized plaque

One of the ways you can honor a loved one's legacy is by supporting ongoing care for aging adults through the Grand Traverse Pavilions Foundation or by contributing to our Beautification project. Bricks, Park Benches, Picnic Tables, and more can be purchased in tribute to show your family's support of the Pavilions!

With the continued support of our community we will hopefully still be leading the way towards successful aging in another 60 years. For more information on supporting the Foundation or our Beatification project, please visit the Foundation tab of our website at gtpavilions.org/foundation.

Everything I know I've learned from the people I've worked with the last 26 years, the seniors.

Lori Wells: Advocate for the Aging

Where there is an initiative to improve the lives of older adults in northern Michigan, Senior Center Network Manager Lori Wells is probably involved. In addition to her work at the Senior Center, Wells was appointed to a three-year term on the State Advisory Council on Aging last February. The council is a 40-member advisory body to the Michigan Commission on Services to the Aging (CSA). Appointed by the CSA, members of the advisory council study aging issues and recommend policy to the Commission.

Joining the council is something that had been on her radar for a while, but having the time to do it had been an issue. Wells is excited to provide input and to work with others on the state level. "It helps me see the broader, bigger picture from a state perspective," says Wells. "And I'll have a voice in policy and direction of senior services in the future."

Wells is excited to get to work on issues critical to the aging population in our region. While there are many issues to tackle, housing is one important item on her agenda.

"Supportive housing is crucial. People are going to live longer; they are going to stay in their homes longer and I don't think we have enough support for them whether that be people coming into their home or family members that are able to take care them," says Wells. "Transportation, getting them to appointments, supporting them as they age is really important to me. Many people can't afford the supportive housing that is currently available so affordable options are important." Wells also serves on the Local Advisory Council for BATA, helping to improve transportation options for local seniors in that capacity as well.

Wells points out that there a lot of opportunities for healthy aging in this community. But there are many challenges for those with any sort of physical limitation or deficit. She notes that it is important for seniors to build networks of support before they need them,

whether it is through family, church, or civic groups, so that when they need help, they have someone to lean on.

Building networks is important, which is why Wells helped found the Bay Area Senior Advocates in 1993 as an extension of the Human Services Community Collaborative. What started as a senior services committee turned into a network of area nonprofits, community agencies, and businesses that serve older adults. The group just started meeting to coordinate services and grew into a coalition of over 100 professionals that collaborate and support seniors by providing information through the Ideas for Life Senior Expo and financial support for senior services in the region.

Providing support for seniors is one reason Wells loves her job "Every day I hear people say that the reason they got out of bed was because they were coming to the senior center or because someone there was expecting them. People there know their name; it's a place to belong. I love that we can make a person's day a little bit better."

Wells has seen a shift in her time at the Senior Center. When she started "75 was kind of old" but now people often don't start coming until they are in their late 60's. Many attendees have been a part of the Senior Center Network for a long-time, 20 to 30 years, a change from when Wells started at the center. The aging of the senior center population is one reason Wells started the 90 Over 90 Brunch through the Senior Center Network. The event has grown over the last four years. In 2019 over 100 nonagenarians attended the brunch which is held the first Friday in May at the Hagerty Center.

Wells has worked at the Senior Center since 1992 (minus a brief period where she helped establish the Intergenerational Community Center at Grand Traverse Pavilions), and worked in Nursing Administra-



Senior Center Network Manager Lori Wells.

tion at Bortz Health Care after college, so she has a long history working with older generations. This has led to being on the receiving end of some great advice over the years, some of which she jokingly says she can't share.

"Everything I know I've learned from the people I've worked with the last 26 years, the seniors. They've shown me how to age successfully. They've shown me you have a choice in how you age in many cases because I've watched people decide that they are going to be unhappy and not deal well with the cards that have been given them. I've seen people who've been dealt a much worse hand but have made other choices to make it better than what it had to be. So I know without a doubt that I will age better because of the time I've had with the examples around me."

BATA • COAST-ing Along

Have you heard of COAST? The Grand Traverse County Commission on Aging (COA) launched the COAST (Commission on Aging Senior Transit) with BATA in 2017 to provide dedicated door-to-door transportation for seniors in Grand Traverse County. The service is offered from 9 AM to 5 PM on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. The COAST will run weekdays, to offer service Monday through Friday, starting October 1.

“One of the biggest challenges for our seniors is access to reliable and affordable transportation,” said Cindy Kienlen, Director, Grand Traverse County Commission on Aging. “Partnering with BATA to provide dedicated rides to COA members offers an opportunity to save seniors money, encourage increased ridership and reduce the complexity and staff

resources required with our previous transportation voucher system.”

To utilize the COAST service seniors must be a member of the Grand Traverse County COA. Grand Traverse seniors 60 and older can become COA members at no cost by calling 231-922-4688. Once a member of the COA seniors can reserve rides up to two weeks in advance by calling BATA at 231-941-2324.

“We are excited to partner with COA to provide this valuable service to seniors in our community,” said BATA Executive Director Kelly Dunham. “We hope seniors will take advantage of this dedicated transportation option for health and wellness activities especially as winter weather heads our way and inclement conditions make it harder to travel.”

The COAST is just one way in which BATA is helping solve senior transportation issues. In addition to the COAST service, seniors qualify for a 50% reduced rate on regular BATA routes. The free Bayline service is also a great option for seniors as it allows riders access to a variety of businesses and medical services in Traverse City.

The COA is also finding more ways to help older adults navigate the region without driving by participating in a panel discussion with BATA, COAST, LYFT, a local cab company, and users about a variety of transportation options for seniors. Called “Round Round Get Around, I Get Around” the free event will be held on Wednesday, October 30, at 4 p.m at the Traverse City Senior Center. Interested attendees must pre-register by calling (231) 922-4911.



Older Workforce A Golden Opportunity

Editor's note: This article originally ran as a Forum piece in the Opinion section of the December 7, 2019 edition of the Traverse City Record-Eagle.



Deborah Allen
Chief Development and
Community Engagement Officer

A local economic outlook breakfast featured a renowned economist who provided insights on the future economy and workforce.

His key premise to addressing the looming workforce shortage was hiring rehabilitated felons. I support rehabilitation for everyone who wants a second chance in life if they work hard and contribute to society.

However, his presentation made me realize our society overlooks another segment of the population.

A vast number of aging adults could be valuable resources to filling positions in retail, service industry and light manufacturing. I asked him if, since aging adults will make up the largest segment of our population over the next two decades, shouldn't we consider them as a way to augment our workforce?

His reply stunned me.

He mentioned the stigma attached to hiring aging adults, including their higher health care costs and limitations with modern technology. The implication was that hiring aging adults has a more negative stigma in the eyes of our society than hiring felons.

I realized he accurately reflected the thoughts of many in our country. We tend to devalue our elders.

There are 10,000 people turning 65 every day, a reality referred to despairingly as the "silver tsunami." This trend will continue through 2030 as

the baby boomers reach retirement age. For the first time in our nation's history there will be more people over the age of 65 than K-12 children.

Our aging nation sees the impact in our current workforce.

We must find ways to be more creative about our labor force, but we must also think about ways to be more resourceful and respectful in engaging our elders. If we are giving second chances, we should start with those who have successfully reached retirement age, versus assuming they can't contribute to society in a meaningful way.

To further validate the significance of engaging our newly retired workforce, the article "US aging trends are more alarming than we thought" published in *The Hill* confirms that declining birth rates and increasing death rates among the 25-44 non-Hispanic white men and women from suicides and drug overdoses contribute to what "now looks like the size of the future middle-aged cohort may fall short of prior projections. Should these trends continue, the implications are ominous as the proportion of the overall population that is elderly will grow even more rapidly as the labor force shrinks."

Many retirees in our community with proven track records, impressive resumes and solid work ethics have valuable skills to offer. Most retirees want to enjoy the flexibility of working a few hours or days a week to supplement their income and keep their mind and body active while contributing to society. In reality, this could offer significant savings to employers who hire individuals who don't require costly benefits.

This may not be ideal for all employers or for labor-intensive positions. But retirees offer a large group of individuals who have the expertise and soft skills that employers are looking for and could serve as excellent mentors for younger and inexperienced workers – including rehabilitated felons.



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Volunteers with Experience

On any given day at the Pavilions or the Cottages, you can catch a volunteer in action helping out. On average volunteers donate about 1,000 hours each month. While the age range varies from 5 to over 90, a large percentage of our volunteers are retired older adults looking for an opportunity to give back and stay connected with their community. Studies show that older adults who volunteer are less likely to feel isolated or depressed and more likely to feel useful, capable, and confident while helping keep them active for longer.

One program that greatly benefits our residents is the Senior Companion program run by Catholic Human Services. The five senior companions who serve our residents put in almost 300 hours a month with our residents. Senior Companion volunteers are 55 or older and are trained by the staff and volunteers at Catholic Human Services.

“Senior Companions serve as advocates, supporters, and friends to older

adults who are frail and isolated,” says Ashley Redinger, Volunteer Program Coordinator for the Foster Grandparent and Senior Companion Programs at Catholic Human Services. “Senior Companions help their clients stay connected to their communities and spending time together as friends.”

“The residents really look forward to the extra time and attention that they receive from our Senior Companion volunteers,” says Pavilions’ Life Enrichment Coordinator Linda Burton. “They do more than just socialize; they help with activities that enhance the quality of life of the residents from playing games to getting outdoors. They become really good friends over time.”

Prior to being assigned to clients, volunteers must complete 20 hours of pre-service orientation/training, receive a physical, and undergo background checks. Continuous training is provided for volunteers on a monthly basis. For more information on the program, visit their website



Cottages Residents help out at the Community Garden.

at www.catholichumanservices.org/senior-volunteer-programs.

In addition to Senior Companions, the Pavilions has a variety of volunteers who help with activities and events. Whether it is visiting residents one-on-one, helping with social activities or outings, or putting on a church service, our volunteers help ensure our residents stay connected to the community. These volunteer opportunities are listed on our website at www.gtpavilions.org/volunteer-opportunities.

The benefits of volunteering are not lost on our residents. They not only greatly appreciate the volunteers who come to help them, they help out when they can. Our Cottage residents help out with gardening both at the Cottages and at the TC Community Gardens and have done other volunteer projects including filling Easter Eggs for a community Easter Egg Hunt and decorating bowls for the Empty Bowls fundraiser for Food Rescue of Northwest Michigan.



Senior Companion Nancy gives residents manicures as part of her senior companion duties.

How to **WIN** at the Game of LIFE



Dennis Prout, CFP®, RMA,
Master Elite Advisor

It takes approximately 10,000 hours of hard work to perfect a skill, according to Malcolm Gladwell, author of several books, including *The Tipping Point*. It occurred to me this summer that I've been a financial advisor for more than 34 years! That means I have had approximately 25,000 meetings since I started in the business in 1984. As much as I'd like to say that

I've perfected financial planning, well, that simply isn't true. The economy changes from day to day and makes measurable changes decade by decade. What I have mastered (I think) is the ability to observe others. Most of my time with people has been a practice in listening. I want to know what their hopes

for the future are, and I want to help them dream. I thought it might be helpful for you to learn a little about what I have observed of those who are the most successful when it comes to the "Game of Life."

- **LISTEN** to both the good and bad news. Clients who have asked to hear the worst-case scenario tend to deal with the market downturns and the volatility in their own accounts easier. It doesn't mean that they aren't disappointed, it simply means that they are prepared for what I like to call "reality." Hearing the truth up front is what will help you plan and make choices to diversify.
- **PIVOT** and remain flexible. Clients who have been able to change their plan, whether it be where they live, how quickly they can retire (even if forced into an early retirement) or change their spending habits, are better off in the long run.
- **FACE** the possibility of both LIFE and DEATH. Clients who plan to live forever while also planning for the unexpected exit tend to have more peace. Either way, you want to leave your family members with a plan and not years of unraveling the mysteries of your accounts and/or wishes.
- **SEEK** advice from advisors. Clients who have sought the advice of professionals and built a network tend to pay more upfront for services but can be better off in the long run. Having a solid network also gives your family a place to go should the unexpected happen to you.
- **CREATE** friendships. Clients who create friendships with both their family members and community seem to have a sense of security by way of relationship. You can do this by volunteering, joining social groups or simply deciding not to "check out" once you retire. This may seem like very basic advice, but I encourage you to be diligent in connecting with others.

The older I get, the less I tend to give financial advice (how ironic?), because I believe that life is about attitude. To quote another great writer, Charles Swindoll, "The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it."

Be well, pivot often and stay close to the ones you love.

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Cottages Residents Celebrate with 'A Spark of Creativity'

Residents of The Cottages: Assisted and Independent Living at Grand Traverse Pavilions will celebrate National Assisted Living Week September 8-14. This year's theme, 'A Spark of Creativity', is geared to encourage everyone to get their creative juices flowing—whether it's residents trying out new things, or caregivers exploring innovative ways to improve care and community life. Cottage residents will get their creative juices flowing with special activities including cookie decorating, art projects, music, and a resident art show.



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Life is a Beautiful Ride



The Grand Traverse Pavilions is excited to add the Duet Cycle as an activity for some of its residents! The Duet Cycle is a modified tandem bicycle that has a fully functional detachable wheelchair in the front which is controlled by the cyclist. The bike was obtained through grant funds from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Civil Money Penalty Grant Program (CMP) to support activities that improve the quality of life for residents in skilled nursing facilities.

Select residents will be chosen to participate in the Therapeutic Biking Program. The purpose of the program is to improve the quality of life for residents. Therapeutic activity can reduce depression and fall risk while offering improved access to nature, leisure activity, cognitive stimulation, social interaction, and vestibular stimulation with use of the Duet Cycle. This allows a wide variety of users, when approved by nursing and therapy staff, to participate including those with significant physical or cognitive limitations.

The cycling takes place on the paved bike/walking paths located behind the Pavilions allowing access to the beautiful grounds in a way that our residents have not experienced before. Those who have ridden bikes in the past, but are now unable due to physical and mental decline, will experience a leisure activity they had previously experienced great joy performing. The program will increase social interaction between staff volunteers and the residents. Strong social relationships are an important aspect for quality of life!

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation presents **\$50,000 for PACE**

Grand Traverse Pavilions Foundation received a \$50,000 grant on July 19 courtesy of the **Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation**. The grant funds will be used to help bring PACE, the Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly to northern Michigan and will help train staff to adhere to PACE standards.

The Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation gives more than \$2 million each year in grants to improve research quality, cost and access to health care. Though the work of this organization is diverse and reaches various communities throughout the state, the primary focus of the BCBSM Foundation



Audrey Harvey, Executive Director and CEO of the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation, and Deborah Allen, Chief Development and Community Engagement Officer for the Grand Traverse Pavilions Foundation, address the crowd at the July 19 Check Presentation Ceremony.

is to enable other organizations, researchers and health care experts to improve the overall health of Michigan residents. This is done through five targeted grant programs: investi-

gator initiated, physician investigator, community health matching, request for proposal and student award programs. To learn more, visit: www.bcbsm.com/foundation.

CONGRATULATIONS

Grand Traverse Pavilions' employees are our most valuable asset. Their longevity demonstrates ongoing commitment and dedication to providing the best possible care to our residents each and every day.

Congratulations to our employees celebrating milestone years of employment in 2019.

30 Years of Service*

Peggy Baranski, Assistant Director of Nursing
Linda Burton, Recreational Therapist
Carol Gordon, Senior Accounts Technician
Tracy Thompson, Custodian

20 Years of Service

Janet Couitts, Housekeeper
Mathew Donner, Cook
Kelli Fisher, Certified Nurse Aide
Robin Godfrey, Certified Nurse Aide
John Jacobs, Financial Management Director
Deborah Maclaine, Certified Nurse Aide
Catherine McCorry, Cook
Katheryn Shrift-Ackerman, Speech Language Pathologist
Amanda Wright, Server
Lhara Zywicki, Licensed Practical Nurse

15 Years of Service

Emily Ball, Financial Management Assistant
Mark Baranski, Assistant Director of Nursing
Brooke Brown, Certified Dietary Manager
Darcey Gratton, Executive Assistant
Mary Hansen, Continuous Quality Improvement Coordinator
Raye Yanska, Licensed Practical Nurse

10 Years of Service

Crystal Bartlett, Certified Nurse Aide
Mackenzie Houle, Certified Nurse Aide
Sandra Potrafke, Certified Nurse Aide
Kristen Semeyn, Physical Therapist
Jeffrey Valentine, Residential Services Coordinator

5 Years of Service

Janine Armstrong, Certified Nurse Aide
Joshua Brown, Registered Nurse
Lisa Brown, Child Care Assistant

Jena Capriccioso, Human Resources Assistant
Michelle Crow, Information Systems Technician
Darlene Ditlow, Server
India Draper-Smith, Registered Nurse
Dorrine Fulk, Cook
Erica Harpe, Registered Nurse
Steven Johnson, Server
Christina Kackman, Registered Nurse
Josh London, Utility Worker
Austin Meggison, Launderer
Michael Mumford, Registered Nurse
Rachel Passmore, Certified Nurse Aide
Kelsey Prielipp, Certified Nurse Aide
Drew Spencley, Certified Nurse Aide
Marylou Tyson, Certified Nurse Aide
Andrew Volz, Universal Worker
Benjamin Walters, Certified Nurse Aide
JoAnna Wildermuth, Certified Nurse Aide
Alyssa Ziemba, Certified Nurse Aide

*Started as an employee of Grand Traverse Medical Care Facility, predecessor to Grand Traverse Pavilions.

Get Ready for LIFE

The Grand Traverse Pavilions Foundation is excited to announce the details of their second annual fundraiser: The Grand Event: LIFE. The event is based on Hasbro's The Game of LIFE®, which most baby-boomers remember fondly from their childhood. This ticketed event will allow participants to play the game with a chance to age successfully. The game will feature various local businesses, like Event Grand Sponsor, PNC Bank, with each offering valuable prizes to the LIFE participants.

"We are envisioning as many as 250 participants playing the Game of LIFE with their family and friends at the event and having the opportunity to win great prizes," says Deborah Allen, Chief Development and Community Engagement Officer for the Grand Traverse Pavilions. "The Game of LIFE fits so well into our vision of successful aging. Players strive to navigate through 'LIFE' with the end goal to achieve a happy and healthy retirement. Funds raised from the event will be utilized to support Grand Traverse Pavilions special projects to ensure area seniors have the ability to age with grace, independence and a sustained quality of life."

The Grand Event is held each year on the Saturday prior to Grandparents Day, the only National Holiday established to honor our elders. This adult (over 21) game night will be held at the Grand Traverse Resort & Spa on Saturday, September 7, 2019 starting at 6:30 pm. Hosting the event on Grandparents Day weekend, while featuring playing a game that focuses

on successful aging, works well with the Pavilions' mission "to provide accessible, trusted and compassionate care that enhances quality of life for aging adults."

The aging of the baby boomer generation has resulted in what is being called a "silver tsunami" with 10,000 baby-boomers turning 65 every day in our country. "The Pavilions is preparing for an unprecedented number of aging adults in our region," says Kory Hansen, Administrator/CEO of Grand Traverse Pavilions. Most people don't realize how quickly our region is aging; within the next year one-in-five people in Grand Traverse County will be over the age of 65.

The one thing that most aging adults have in common is that they want to maintain a healthy quality of life well into their retirement years. "The Grand Event: LIFE is a unique opportunity to engage the community and area businesses with a shared goal of supporting and honoring our elders," says Allen. "With great opportunities for fun, laughter, and some amazing prizes, we expect it to be a wonderful

event." Adults are encouraged to form teams and play LIFE in support of a worthy local charity whose mission is to care for the needs of our region's aging adults.

Proceeds from the event will be shared between the Grand Traverse Pavilions Benevolent Fund, in support of the nearly \$4.5 million in charity care provided by the organization annually, and in support of establishing the Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) for our region.

More information on the event and our sponsors can be found at our website, www.gtpavilions.org/grand-event-life. Adult tickets for the Grand Event start at \$100. Corporate Sponsorship levels start at \$1,000 and up. Sponsors of the event garner great exposure to hundreds of local residents, supporters and participants. Interested sponsors can reach out to the Grand Traverse Pavilions Foundation for more information at (231) 932-3018 or email Jessi at jweir@gtpavilions.org.

*Special permission to use the Game of Life trademark was granted from Hasbro, Inc.



A Season to Remember



As the 2019 Concerts on the Lawn Series draws to a close, it will be one for the record books. We started our biggest season opener ever featuring local favorite Dominic Fortuna. July brought our biggest crowd ever for the Petoskey Steel Drum Band, breaking their previous record of 5,000, with an audience of over 6,000. This was a season of hit performances and we are thankful for the support of our community and our sponsors. Please consider thanking our sponsors by supporting their businesses.



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Butch Hauser Named Lifetime Leadership Award Winner

Grand Traverse Pavilions and the National Cherry Festival were proud to name Butch Hauser the 2019 Lifetime Leadership Award Winner. The award honors individuals for decades of leadership, volunteerism, and service to their community.

“We are honored to sponsor the Lifetime Leadership award each year,” says Deborah Allen, Chief Development and Community Engagement Officer of Grand Traverse Pavilions. “We are especially excited to honor Butch, in light of her contribution to improving the lives of area seniors through her volunteer work.”

Twenty-one years ago, Hauser responded to an ad in the paper



Butch finds out she won the Lifetime Leadership Award with her friends at the Area Agency on Aging of Northwest Michigan.

for a volunteer position at the Area Agency on Aging of Northwestern Michigan to be a counselor with the Medicare and Medicaid Assistance Program. She became certified in the state-wide program in order to provide free, unbiased, health ben-

efit counseling services to Medicare beneficiaries. One of the first MMAP counselors in the state, she is the longest serving volunteer MMAP counselor in Michigan.

Hauser is a volunteer at heart, active with local churches and organizations throughout the region. With husband Dave Hauser, she has worked to help protect and preserve 3,500 acres of Nature Preserve on Lake Skegemog. She is a regular volunteer for community events including the NMC Bar-B-Q, Thanksgiving and Christmas Community Meals. She has also worked on several Habitat for Humanity projects throughout the years.

“She has made it her life mission to be a part of something bigger than herself,” said nominator Sarah Stroven, MMAP Regional Coordinator for the Area Agency of Aging of Northwestern Michigan. “She is more than deserving of every acknowledgement and praise for her work.”



Butch Hauser speaks to the crowd after receiving her award at the Lifetime Leadership Breakfast on July 1 at 9 AM at the Elks Lodge in Traverse City.

Pavilions Announces **CNA Wage Hike**

Grand Traverse Pavilions is taking a dramatic step in addressing the shortage of Certified Nurse Aides (CNA) in northern Michigan. As of August 4, the Pavilions increased the starting wage for CNAs to \$17 an hour, an 11.6% increase.

“CNAs are important because they are really the backbone of everything we do,” says Kristen Packard, Director of Nursing. “Every part of care we deliver involves CNA care. This is why we took this step to encourage more people to consider a career as a nurse aide.” Certified Nurse Aides provide direct care for residents including personal care and grooming, rehab and restorative care, and human interaction.

In addition to the increased hourly wage, benefits available to Pavilions employees include health, dental and vision coverage, paid time off, a longevity bonus, retirement plans, and on-site reduced cost employee child care. CNAs can work 8 or 12 hour shifts. The Pavilions is currently hiring for afternoon and evening shifts for CNA positions. “We are hopeful that increasing the wage will help us attract and retain CNAs that are committed to providing the high level of care the Grand Traverse Pavilions expects,” says Diane Mallory, Director of Human Resources. “We are fortunate to have dedicated staff with many long-time employees many of whom are on track to retire within the next few years. Preparing the next genera-



tion of caregivers to help us continue to provide quality care is important to our future as an organization.”

Those interested in pursuing a career as a CNA can apply for the Pavilions CNA training class that starts October 21. The 17 day class runs Monday-Friday 6:30 am to 4:00 pm. “The class is offered free to individuals with the expectation that they will work in a full-time position upon completion of the training,” says Jamie Wilson, Director of Certified Nurse Aides. “Once they complete the class, they can start working with residents the next day while they prepare to take the certification exam.”

For information on employment opportunities at Grand Traverse Pavilions, visit our website at gtpavilions.org/jobs.

Are you over 70½?

Individuals over 70 and a half years of age can make a charitable rollover gift from their individual retirement account (IRA). Your gift will count toward the required minimum distribution and will not be taxed. Please consider this opportunity to support programs and services for less fortunate elderly in our community by contacting the Grand Traverse Pavilions Foundation at (231) 932-3018.

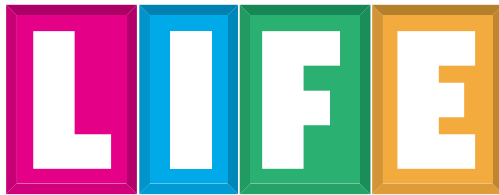


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PLAY LIFE! WIN PRIZES!
SUPPORT SUCCESSFUL AGING IN OUR REGION!

Join us on **Saturday evening, September 7, 2018** at the Grand Traverse Resort & Spa, for a one-of-a-kind event as we play the Game of Life. Those who successfully navigate the game could win valuable prizes!

Proceeds will support low-income, high-risk aging adults in our region. For more information visit our website at gtpavilions.org/grand-event-life or call the Grand Traverse Pavilions Foundation at 231.932.3018.

Tickets go on sale August 1, 2019. Sponsorship opportunities are still available.

