

The Informer

January 6, 2023

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Scott Gruhn Named Director of Facilities and Operations

Effective February 1, 2023, Scott Gruhn, will become Mayflower's Director of Facilities and Operations. In this role, he will be responsible for all of Mayflower's Facilities, Foodservice, Housekeeping, and Laundry operations. Currently, Scott is Mayflower's Director of Foodservices.

Scott says, "I am pleased to be part of this consolidation of service-oriented functions. It will provide the efficiency for us to enhance the resident experience of living at Mayflower."

Scott grew up on his family's farm in the Rock Creek area and attended Grinnell public schools. He holds an Associate of Arts degree from Kirkwood Community College, Cedar Rapids. Scott began working in Mayflower Foodservice operations in 1987, had a seven-year hiatus with other culinary and entertainment organizations, and then returned to become Mayflower's Foodservice Director in 2000.

Among Scott's accomplishments at Mayflower have been the development and implementation of Open Dining in the Buckley Dining Room and the addition of Open Dining along with new preparation kitchen facilities in the Health Center and Beebe Assisted Living. Further, Scott has been responsible for the enhancement of Mayflower's Foodservices spaces and menus, including the "Food as Medicine" program, an undergirding of the Mayflower Well-Being offerings. His focus on creating active adult

experiences for residents will continue across the campus.

Scott serves on the Board of the Grinnell Historical Museum and is involved in the conversion of the former Uhlmann's Home Furnishings store to the new home of the Museum.

Scott can be reached at 616 Broad Street, Grinnell IA 50112; sgruhn@mayflowerhomes.com; or 641-236-6151 x206.

-Steve Langerud, Executive Director

Tripledemic Precautions

The infection rate in Poweshiek County for the three rampant viruses—COVID-19, flu, and RSV—is currently very high. We continue to ask for your vigilance in helping us to all stay well. This means, staying home if you are not feeling well. Face-masking, at your discretion. Maintaining appropriate distances and contact durations around each other. Zealous hand and face-contact hygiene.

If you suspect that you have contracted one of these viruses, call your doctor for guidance and possible testing.

The U.S. government is making available four free COVID-19 tests per household. If you have not yet ordered yours, you can do so at [this website](#).



Steve O'Connor Retires from Mayflower

On Friday, December 30th, Steve O'Connor retired as an employee of The Mayflower Community's Foodservices department. A professional photographer who operated his own studio for many years in Grinnell, Steve picked up the face mask and hair net and went to work three years ago at Mayflower to provide support during a difficult time of pandemic.

Now, after three years of service to Mayflower's independent living and healthcare residents, Steve decided it was time to retire. To honor his selfless service, residents of all areas of The Mayflower

Community came together to honor him at a reception.

The event was hosted by Mayflower's Community Life and Wellness department, Leslie Jaworski, Director, and Tracy Woolfolk and Cecelia Bagnoli, Coordinators. The food was prepared by Mayflower's Foodservices department.

-Leslie Jaworski, Community Life and Wellness Director

Mayflower Resident Donates Tapestry

While living and working in Cairo, Egypt from 1980 to 1982, Gene Rohr purchased a silk embroidered wedding shawl. A Grinnell native, Gene is a resident in Mayflower's Beebe Assisted Living. He shares that he bought the shawl and other textiles from an itinerate merchant named Amerigo who was originally from Colombia, South America and whose family engaged in the textiles trade.



At the time, Amerigo had just returned from a year-long buying trip to the Swat Valley, one of the tribal lands bordering Pakistan, Afghanistan, and China. It was crafted by a Muslim woman living in Pakistan's Swat Valley.

Gene has now donated the tapestry to The Mayflower Community where it is hanging in the Pearson Integrated Health Center. Gene is pictured there with it.

Recently, Mayflower resident, Beryl Clotfelter, introduced Gene to a friend of his who is an expert in hand-embroidered antique textiles. The friend recognized the tapestry from a photo Gene sent to him. The friend observed that these hand-made tribal textiles are unique in their origins and, therefore, because they cannot be copied, they are their own proof of identity. The expert described the shawl as "very valuable."

-Cecelia Bagnoli, Community Life Coordinator

Status of 60,000 Piece

Puzzle



“What a Wonderful World” by Dowdle.

Master Puzzler and
Owner: John Noer (712-431-
6685 or

johnnoer35@gmail.com)

Work Started: November, 2022

Puzzlers: John Noer (11). Arnie Adelberg (4). Cecelia Bagnoli. Tom Groth (2). Doug Brown (2). Lyle Kuehl and daughter Donna Kuehl-Forde and family. Jessica Hasenyager. Dr. Whitney Jensen. Georgia Langerud (2). Pat/Bonnie Lipton. Emily Moore (2). Rich Murphy. Hannah O’Polka (5). Karen Phillips.

Hiccups: One bag (1,000 pieces) had 19 warped pieces. And, after completion, one piece of one section was lost. John has written the company for replacement.

-Bob Mann, Mayflower Sales & Marketing Director



Christmas Carolers

Christmas Carolers from the Central Iowa Christian School (Grinnell) sing to residents in Mayflower’s Health Center while Katie Hoisington listens.

Sharing Hanukkah at Mayflower

With Hanukkah being observed from Sunday, December 18th through Monday, December 26th, The Mayflower Community honored this high Jewish festival with two events on Friday, December 16th. Hanukkah reaffirms the ideals of Judaism and commemorates, in particular, the rededication of the Second Temple of Jerusalem by the lighting of candles on each



day of the festival.

Our Zoom guest was Adam Hinden from Virginia, a friend of Mayflower Community Life and Wellness Coordinator, Cecelia Bagnoli. He shared the traditions his family celebrates during Hanukkah, including the lighting of the menorah, special foods, and the games they play. Adam answered residents' questions while bagels, cream cheese, and gelt (chocolate coins) were served.

In Beebe Assisted Living, residents talked with him for an hour. Then, Health Center residents enjoyed asking him questions and hearing his stories.

In addition, Health Center residents, Phyllis and Rudi Munitz, shared their Jewish family Hanukkah traditions, experiences, and symbols. Rudi displayed his grandfather's menorah and some symbols of the Jewish faith. Residents enjoyed listening and learning about the Jewish traditions. This was followed with a Hanukkah trivia game and music from the "Fiddler on the Roof" soundtrack. The party lasted for more than an hour and a half. It was well-attended and lots of fun.

-Leslie Jaworski, Community Life and Wellness Director

Lyceums



Upcoming Lyceums

Thursday Evenings 7:00pm

Carman Center

Mayflower Residents Only



Ryan Gruman & John Landkamer *A French Horn & Piano Collaboration*

Thursday, January 12, 2023
Carman Center 7:00 PM



Shults & Company Perform at Mayflower

On Thursday, December 15th, one of Grinnell's most well-known musical groups, Shults & Company, performed for the weekly Mayflower Community Lyceum gathering. Led by retired music teacher and schools administrator, Frank Shults, the group is composed of local vocalists and instrumentalists. Included was pianist John Landkamer, Mayflower Harwich Terrace patio home resident. Shults & Company has been performing for charitable

causes since 1995.

Mayflower's Lyceum events are musical or educational presentations in the tradition of the ancient Greek facility where Aristotle established his institution for popular education, which provided discussion, lectures, and concerts. At Mayflower, programs are offered for residents every Thursday evening in the Carman Center.

-Leslie Jaworski, Community Life and Wellness Director

Changing Face of Worship at Mayflower

Beginning in January 2023, Grinnell's Mayflower Community will change the way it offers worship services to residents and guests. For many years, somewhat curtailed during the pandemic, Chapel services have been offered every Tuesday morning. Led by local clergy or other persons of faith, the 30-minute service included a message, songs, and meditation or prayer.



As of the end of December, that methodology will change. The second to last service on December 13th was led by retired pastor and former Mayflower chaplain, Len Eberhart. The message was the presentation by the musical trio of pianist Joyce Wubbels, violinist Diane Eberhart, and guitarist and vocalist, Gene Wubbels. The Wubbels are Mayflower residents. All four participants are pictured.

Beginning the first week of January, Mayflower will offer Weekly Devotions on Tuesday mornings led by resident, Rev. Bonnie Lipton. This will be a devotional time of quiet reflection and focus on God. The gathering will be from 11:00 to 11:40am in the Mayflower Carman Center. Bonnie shares that, "There will be no homework!"

On Thursday, January 5th, resident, Rev. Anne Sunday, will lead the first Bible study. Meeting from 11:00 to 11:40am on Thursdays in the Mayflower Buckley Dining Anchor Room, the gathering will be an informal discussion and time of contemplation about various Bible passages following the "New Common Lectionary." Always, the

objective will be to answer the question, "How does this passage connect to my life?"

Founded in 1950 as a ministry of the Congregational Church (now the United Church of Christ), The Mayflower Community was initially established to provide "home" for retired clergy who could not afford their own housing when having to vacate parsonages. Times have changed, but the mission is the same: To provide a vibrant, purposeful, and compassionate community of older adults." Still affiliated with the United Church of Christ, The Mayflower Community is an ecumenical community where all faith values are honored.

-Pat Lipton, Spiritual Life Committee Chair and Bob Mann, Mayflower Sales & Marketing Director



Treasure Chest

Toy Sewing Machines

We are willing to bet that many of you enjoyed children's sewing machines while growing up. Here is your chance to re-enjoy during the months of January and February. Our new Director of Facilities and Operations, Scott Gruhn, and his wife, Vicki (mostly his wife's collection), have a collection of toy sewing machines that they are willing to share with us in the Treasure Chest curio cabinet. Please come and enjoy.


For information about the Treasure Chest, contact Doug or Ginny Cameron (236-4544), cameronv641@gmail.com or Janis Peak (236-8993).



Mayflower Residents Association

MRA January Forum
Tuesday, January 10th. 2:00-3:30pm. Kiesel Theatre

Four Giants of the 20th Century
By Ed Van Gorder



At the next Mayflower Residents Association monthly Forum, Ed Van Gorder, PhD, a grandson of Grinnell legend, Henry Spaulding, will be the speaker. He will share his long-standing interest in the life histories and religious views of four legendary people: Albert Einstein; Helen Keller; Martin Luther King, Jr.; and Albert Schweitzer.

Dr. Van Gorder explored his doctoral minor field in the Department of Philosophy at Stanford University. After serving as superintendent of K-12 schools, Ed concluded his career by teaching for twenty-five years at Hawaii Pacific University in Honolulu, where he was an Associate Professor of Management and Mathematics and served two terms as President of the University Senate.

Dr. Van Gorder explains his presentation with this quote, “I intend to describe the faith of four twentieth century giants. Because of their demonstrated character, intelligence, and accomplishment, each of the four I have selected is highly regarded within the historical community. Each has written and published multiple volumes. Each has had multiple volumes written and published about them. Three received a Nobel Prize. On what do these four disagree? On what do they agree? Is there a trend?”

Time for another round of “life-long learning” at Mayflower.

-Gerry Guenther, Forum Committee

Mayflower Transition Treks

Mayflower independent living activity since last listing:

Moved In:

- Jennifer Williams Brown from Grinnell and Laura Williams and Chris Matheos from Van Nuys, California to Watertower Square #301. Jennifer currently living in the apartment. Laura and Chris have not yet moved.
- Carmen Raffety from Watertower Square #204 to Beebe #103
- Heidi Lauritzen from Iowa City to 630 Park Street

Moves Pending:

- Lynn Cavanagh from Grinnell to 725 Park Street
- Wayne and Susan Glenn from Pittsburg to Pearson #211

- Greg and Pam Thielmann from Arlington VA to Watertown Square #204
-

Armchair Travels
Mayflower's Kiesel Theatre
2:00pm on Thursdays



Below are the upcoming virtual "trips."

January 12th

- No "trips"

January 19th

- U.S., Missouri, Sacajawea
- South Africa, Cape Town

January 26th

- France, River Cruising
- U.S., New England Ghosts

-Shane Estes, Resident

Kiesel Theatre Movie
Saturdays, 2:00pm.

January 7th: *Letters to Juliet* (2010). In Verona, Italy (the beautiful city where Romeo first met Juliet), there is a place where the heartbroken leave notes asking Juliet for her help. It's there that aspiring writer Sophie finds a 50-year-old letter that will change her life forever. As she sets off on a romantic journey of the heart with the letter's author Claire, now a grandmother, and her handsome grandson, all three discover that sometimes the greatest love story ever told is your own. PG. English subtitles. 105 minutes.

January 14th: *The Iron Lady* (2020). Oscar-winning Meryl Streep delivers the definitive portrayal of Margaret Thatcher, the enigmatic, highly controversial figure who became the first and only female Prime Minister of England. A biographical epic, this is also the surprisingly intimate journey of a "common" grocer's daughter whose social ambition and steel will, along with the love of her husband and confidant, propelled her to unprecedented power in a world dominated by men. PG-13. English subtitles. 105 minutes.

January 21st: *Hello Dolly* (1969). In turn-of-the century Yonkers, New York, an ambitious young widow with a penchant for matchmaking (Barbra Streisand) has an idea for the perfect match: tight-fisted, local merchant Horace Vandergelder (Walter Matthau), and herself! As she tries to win his heart, we're treated to one of the most musically entertaining, hilariously underhanded plots in film history. G. English subtitles. 2 hrs/28 min.

January 25th: *Same Time Next Year* (1978). Oscar-winner Ellen Burstyn and the ever-popular Alan Alda star in this sweet romantic comedy tracing the unique 26-year relationship between two people who happen to be married to other people. When Doris (Burstyn), a young housewife from Oakland, and George (Alda), an accountant from New Jersey, meet by chance at a rural California inn, they embark on an affair that brings them together on the same weekend, in the same place, for the next 26 years. As time passes, events in their personal lives impact their special once-a-year romance in this heartwarming comedy. PG. English subtitles. 2 hours.

Residents' Birthdays

Gail Smith on January 5th
Merle Zirkle on January 5th
Paul Torno on January 6th
Sue Dimit on January 7th
Marvel LaCasse on January 8th
Rich Murphy on January 10th
Dorothy Palmer on January 12th
Rick Ramsey on January 12th
Jan Peak on January 14th
Emily Moore on January 16th
Jeanette Budding on January 19th
John Martinek on January 20th
Jean Perri on January 20th

Informer Publication Schedule

Submission deadline: January 13th for publication January 20th
Submission deadline: January 27th for publication February 3rd
Submission deadline: February 10th for publication February 17th

Submission deadline: February 24th for publication March 3rd
Submission deadline: March 10th for publication March 17th
Submission deadline: March 24th for publication March 31st

Find more of *The Informer* online [here!](#)



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Mayflower
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