



# Monthly Newsletter

Aug. 2020



## I SCREAM FOR ICE CREAM

The ice cream truck was a so much fun! Due to a donation to our activities group from Allan & Lois Riveland, Oak Creek treated residents and employees to ice cream and popsicles. It brought smiles to everyone's face! Along with the ice cream and popsicles everyone experienced a bit of nostalgia as we reminisced and shared stories about childhood memories. We also blew some bubbles and had a lot of laughs. Thank you Edna and Tresa for helping make pennant banners and decorations.



## INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

The 4th of July was a blast! We started off the evening was an All-American dinner of hot dogs, chips and watermelon. After supper many of the residents went to the patio where we had daytime fireworks with screaming turtles, egg laying chickens and poppers. We played bean bag toss and guessed at Wheel of Fortune. After dark, Shane, his wife Lucy and their son Nash, set off a wonderful display of fireworks while the residents clapped and cheered.



## TREATS FOR HELPING HANDS HUMANE SOCIETY

Last month our cooking class made dog biscuit treats for the Helping Hands Humane Society. We baked Peanut Butter & Bacon Bites and Great Pumpkin Treats. The ladies rolled out the dough and used bone shape cookie cutters. We delivered the dog biscuit treats we made to Helping Hands on Tuesday, August 4th. They were happy to get them, and the dogs will be excited to receive a yummy treat!



# RESIDENT OF THE MONTH



**PHILLIP "POPS" EMPERLEY**

## POP'S FAVORITES

Dessert: Cherry Pie

Flower: White Orchid

Color: Black

Movie: Gone with the Wind

Actor: John Wayne

Singer: Elvis



Phillip "Pops" Emperley was born in Fort Scott, Kansas to Doyle and Alice Emperley on September 28, 1948. Pop's came from a large family of five brothers and two sisters, Bill, Craig, Roger, Stan, Brian, Beverly, and Nancy, he was the 4th oldest. Pops father was a drafting engineer for HydroTool and the family moved around often. Pops graduated High School from Carbondale, Kansas. When he was in elementary school they lived in Branson, Missouri and Pop's, as a boy, can still remember being awed by the beauty of the Marvel Caves.

All hail to Pops, a Topeka taxicab driver for over 7 years. This man knows his way around the city. Pops also worked as a janitor at the Kansas State Arsenal, then owned and operated his own commercial janitorial service for five years. A heart attack at the young age of 55 slowed him down considerably.

Pops was married previously, but Shirley was the love of his life. He married his beautiful bride on December 28th, 1996. They spent 24 wonderful years together before Shirley passed away on January 28th, 2020. This was just a month before he came to live with us. Pop's misses her every day and always will.

Pop's has three sons from his previous marriage, Brad and Kent live in Topeka with their families and his youngest son, Shawn, lives in Ohio. Pops has 3 grandchildren, 2 boys here in Topeka, and Isabella, the youngest lives in Ohio.

Pops, Shirley and the boys all loved to fish and spent many happy hours at the lake with a picnic lunch and a pole in the water. Pops loves to ride motorcycles. His best friend, Craig and he often enjoyed day trips to Lake Pomona and the surrounding areas. He rode a Honda Twin Star for many years before trading it in on a Kawasaki. Then on day his front tire blew out and Pops skidded 300 yards before sliding to a stop. He ended up in the hospital where they pulled asphalt from his arm. That was the end of Pops motorcycle riding days! In his younger days, Pops liked to hot-rod around in his 1969 Pontiac Firebird. It was gold with a black top, was really fast and he loved burning the tires on it.

Pops likes to bowl, and was good at it, winning competitions and prizes throughout the years. Another hobby Pops enjoyed when he was younger was putting together model car kits, before his vision dimmed and it became hard to see the small pieces. Nowadays, you can often find Pops playing the slots or maybe a game of Solitaire on his computer. He's also trying his hand at the paint-by-number on the computer.



## August Birthdays

Larry Matney - August 2nd

Tisha Razo – August 6th

Alice Beems – August 12th

Barbara Berry – August 24th

## August Events

Tue. August 11, Resident Council,  
Dining Room

Wed. August 12, Resident Council,  
TV Room

Fri. August 14, Red Hat Society  
luncheon, “Food from around the  
World”

Tue. August 18, Wheelchair Wash

Fri. August 28, Birthday  
Celebration



**OAK CREEK**  
— SENIOR LIVING —

**We are excited you have  
several new employees and  
want to welcome them to our  
Oak Creek Family!**

Brandon Boyd, CMA  
Elizabeth Hernandez, CMA  
Elizabeth Neal, CMA  
Haley Warbritton, CMA  
Katrina Day, CMA  
Taylor Butcher, CMA  
Tiana Phelps, CMA  
Melissa Lewis, LPN, RCC,  
Director of Nursing

**Welcome to our crazy,  
wonderful world.**

## Until We Meet Again

There were tears all around as when we said goodbye to Sydona on her last day Friday, July 31st. We are all very excited for her to go to Emporia State University and complete her Nursing degree. Of course, she'll be popping in to see us every few months. The residents want to say “Thank You” for all the smiles and hugs. We love you Sydona.





## A Big Welcome To Our New Residents



Joe Polk, Room #30. When you get a chance, take a minute and get to know him. He's quite the talker and loves his lottery tickets. Joe's also become a big help cleaning up the TV dining room. Thank you, Joe. We're so glad you're here and we appreciate your help.

Linda Bahret, Room #3. Linda has just arrived and we can assure you, she is going to be a lot of fun. She is looking forward to getting out-and-about playing bingo, doing crafts and just hanging out and visiting with the girls.





**Employee of the month: Aug. & Sept.**  
**Dakota Boren—CMA**

Dakota has been with Oak Creek since August 2019.

Dakota is a resident favorite, with her sweet personality and gentle ways. She is excited to start Nursing School at Washburn Technical College in August and further her career in a field she loves. Dakota became a CNA at 16 years of age and a CMA at 18. Being a CNA is the first and only job she's ever had. Dakota says "I find my job very rewarding because I enjoy caring for my residents."



Dakota was born in Manhattan, Kansas on April 23, 1999. She shares a miniature Australian Shepard named Lucario with her long-term boyfriend, Riley. In her free time Dakota enjoys taking care of her plants, cuddling with her dog and binge watching her favorite shows on Netflix.

**Some of Dakota's favorites:**

Flower: Daisy  
Color: Purple  
Food: Lasagna

Dakota loves to try new recipes and take Lucario on walks.

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