



March-April 2011

ShareCare™ of Leelanau Inc. *Connector*

Neighbors helping neighbors—Promoting independent living in members' homes.

**231-386-2273 (CARE)
POB 153 · 211 S. HIGH STREET
NORTHPORT, MICHIGAN 49670**

**info@sharecareleelanau.org
www.sharecareleelanau.org
MONDAY-FRIDAY · 9:00AM to 4:30PM**

The mission of ShareCare is for members to achieve the highest quality of life and independence attainable in their own homes for as long as possible.

ShareCare promotes confidentiality in all matters of privacy. Everyone involved with the organization is requested to respect all aspects of confidentiality whether they are personal, medical, or financial.



Help us help you...



In order to serve you better, please make sure your contact information (ie: your children's phone numbers and email addresses) are up to date.

Also, please notify Anne and Deb if you have changes in your health status or living arrangements.

Br-r-r-r-r! It's still cold, which means it's still soup weather. ShareCare has soup packets available for your soup kettle (\$8 ea). We'll even deliver it to your door. Give Sue Landes a call at 386-5618 to order.



April showers bring May flowers...

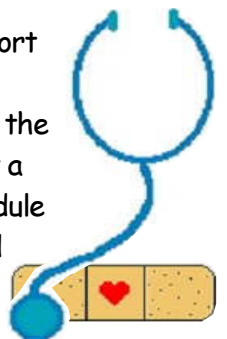
...and ShareCare volunteers ready to help you get ready for summer. Volunteers can do projects such as taking lawn furniture out of storage, removing storm windows, trimming bushes, sweeping garage floors, or getting canoes to the lake. You name it, and within reason, the volunteers are ready to do it! If you'd like help, please call the office: 386-2273.



**Thu, May 12
Fri, May 13**

Last year's group of volunteers had a great time! Besides having the satisfaction of knowing they'd made a difference in members' lives, they enjoyed lunch together at a local restaurant. Please call the office if you would like to volunteer.

From Anne: In an effort to be as efficient as possible while traveling the county, I'm going to try a slightly different schedule this year. Having added an hour a day to Tuesdays and Thursdays, I'm hoping to make most of my house calls on those days. As I do now, I will continue to lump visits by geographic location to keep mileage to a minimum, but please know that I can be flexible if something unexpected crops up on a Monday, Wednesday or Friday.



Donors Share Their Passion for ShareCare—Betsy Wilson, President

In an effort to keep improving our caring for you, ShareCare is launching an extensive fundraising campaign. We want to provide our members with the most comprehensive services attainable in our mission to keep you comfortable and secure in your own homes for as long as possible.



To do this, we anticipate changes that will affect our budget. With our surge in membership and geographic expansion, we feel the need to add more hours to Anne Kelly's schedule. Also, we know that accidents and illness seldom fall in a 9-5 time period so we want to expand our after-hours and weekend on-call nurses program. Equally important, we would like to increase our endowment to ensure the security of ShareCare for the future. Dues, enrollment fees, and fundraising events cover about half of our budget. The other half must come from the generous donations of our members.

The Development and Fundraising Committee has given this a lot of consideration, and anticipates launching the following programs:

- Publicly acknowledging our consistent and most magnanimous donors.
- Publishing an annual report, listing all donors.
- **ShareCare Neighbors Forever:** Those who make cumulative gifts of \$5,000 or more over the years. These donors, listed annually, remain on this published list in perpetuity.
- **ShareCare Circle of Friends:** Those who pledge \$500 or more every year to sustain our organization.
- **ShareCare Legacy Society:** Those who are grateful for ShareCare's positive influence in their lives, and want to ensure that others may benefit from ShareCare's assistance in the future. In a simple, positive way to acknowledge gratitude, Legacy Society members include ShareCare in their wills.

At the annual meeting in May, these fundraising efforts will be explained in greater detail. Until then, if you have any questions, please call the office and Deb will direct you to a member of the Board who will be able help you.

Paid Advertisement

LAW OFFICE

WILLIAM F. HENDRY III

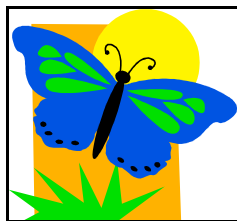
Attorney at Law

- Wills
- Trusts
- Probate

231-386-9600

106 Waukazoo Street
Post Office Box 392
Northport, MI 49670

wfhlaw@sbcglobal.net



In Fond Memory
Avel DeGraff-Glen Arbor
Ruth Thomas-Northport

**Sales
People
Needed**

If you're interested in selling **Connector** advertising, please call the office.

A whole lot of luv'in' going on!

Below are the volunteer stats* for 2010:

- Driver miles: 20,304
- Driver hours: 1443
- Friendly visitor hours: 89
- Respite care hours: 70
- Handyman hours: 76

*Reported hours. **We know you do more!!!**





Welcome New Members!

Berniece & Paul Hallstedt-Northport
 Mary Merwin-Northport
 Carol & Steve Chambers-Leland
 Char & Bob MacEachran-Suttons Bay
 Katharine & Robert Roberts-Leland
 Ken Scott-Suttons Bay

As of 2/3/11

Helpful and Interesting Web Pages

The National Family Caregivers Assoc. goo.gl/tWSye	educates, supports, empowers and speaks up for caregivers
The MI Office of Services to the Aging goo.gl/f9L1d	provides sources on aging to Michigan seniors
Medicare.gov goo.gl/8jecE	health management, Medicare basics, resource locator, help & support
Medicare Rights Center goo.gl/Z3Ha3	helps people understand their rights and benefits and to navigate the Medicare system
National Institute of Health www.nih.gov	seeks knowledge about the nature and behavior of people and applies it to enhance health, lengthen life, and reduce the burdens of illness and disability

Transportation Notes—Larry Hauser, Chair

ShareCare Driver of the Day drivers are required to take a driving safety course. We recommend the AARP course. This inexpensive course is specifically aimed at drivers of a certain age (ours). Long time drivers have until October 31 to complete this requirement. Newer drivers have three years from their inception dates. Upon request, ShareCare reimburses its volunteer drivers for the cost of this class.

Locally, the AARP Driver Safety Class will be offered monthly, at the Grand Traverse County Commission on Aging office, 520 W. Front Street, Traverse City, beginning in April. All classes are Thursday and Friday, from 8:30AM to 12:30PM. Phone (231) 922-4688 to reserve a place. Seating is limited. Offering dates:

- April 28 & 29
- May 19 & 20
- June 23 & 24
- July 21 & 22
- August 25 & 26
- September 22 & 23
- October 20 & 21
- November 17 & 18

To take the course online, start by going to <http://www.aarpdriversafety.org>.



Answer to last month's quiz: The recommended safe following distance is 3 seconds' worth. Note when the vehicle in front of you passes a fixed point, and then count the seconds before you pass that point (don't use your watch!).

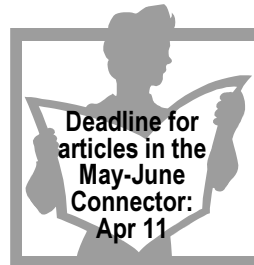


Home Away From Home

The Munson Manor Hospitality House is a "home away from home" for family members who face the added stress of traveling during a loved one's hospitalization.

The lovely facility, located behind Munson, is also available for patients and their caregivers who must provide their own lodging during outpatient treatments and procedures. Or for consideration is that getting to Traverse City the night before an **EARLY** morning appointment could make the day of a procedure less stressful.

Cost range is \$30 - \$55. Special room payment arrangements are available to those in financial need. A reservation is advised by calling (231) 935-2300.



HELP WANTED: Transportation Committee members "at large" (meaning you're not on the Board). Help advise SC on transportation issues. Attend a meeting once or twice a year. E-mail lshauser@aol.com if you're interested.

Save The Day!

Mark your calendar for Tuesday, May 10 and plan to join us at ShareCare's annual meeting. Look for details in next month's Connector.

We offer our thanks to Northport Highlands for letting us host the Northport Member Party in their lovely facility. Everyone seemed to enjoy the afternoon, which was a nice chance for current members to meet new members, and the break from the winter doldrums didn't hurt... Suttons Bay and Leland parties will be held this month too.



Lest our Region 4 members (south end of the County), feel left out, we want you to know that next fall we are launching a membership drive in your area. If you know of someone in this part of the county who would enjoy being a member of ShareCare, please let Deb know. **We'll celebrate our current and new members after the drive.**

RSVP Clarification—Deb

I received a phone call from Kate Kerr, Volunteer Coordinator for RSVP (Retired Seniors Volunteer Program), who recently contacted some SC volunteers who seemed a little unclear about our relationship with RSVP. Let me try to clear up things for you.



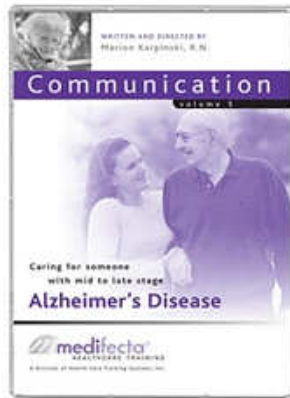
RSVP, a United Way program, provides SC drivers with supplemental insurance when they drive members to appointments. In return, I report SC's driver miles and volunteer hours to RSVP, which boosts their stats for writing and receiving grants, which is how they are funded.

Since I report SC miles and hours to RSVP, you don't have to. That being said, I learned that RSVP can use any volunteer hours that you give to a non-profit organization. Recently, RSVP sent out time sheets to all volunteers but they came in a United Way envelope., which was confusing. While filling out and returning the forms to RSVP isn't a requirement for volunteers, it's hugely important to support RSVP in any way we can. Turning in time sheets is one way to do this.

MISSING VHS TAPE: "Communicating with Someone with Early to Mid-Stage Alzheimer's & Other Dementias".

Donated originally by Jan Wander.

Anne uses this tape frequently as a teaching tool for families and caregivers of people with dementia. A DVD version is available on-line for \$139.00 (www.medifecta.com) or at a 20% discount (\$111.20) by phone (call Tammy or Lisa, 888-846-7008). Some VHS tapes are still available for \$49.50. Anne would like one of each, if possible, so please let us know if you are interested in donating either one of these.



All SC drivers register with RSVP. Forms are filled out, returned to the SC office, and faxed to RSVP where a quick driver license background check is run. While volunteers are desperately needed in Grand Traverse and Leelanau Counties, it's up to individual volunteers as to whether or not the TC RSVP office can call them for volunteering or if they just want to volunteer for SC. There is a box on the enrollment form for drivers to indicate their preference.

I hope this clears things up for you, but if you still have questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to give me a call (386-2273).



Show You ← Care! →

Signs like this are available for display in your yard. Not only does your \$10 donation help fund

the project, having you show support for our fine organization is the best advertising we can get! Call Deb for more info.



Contentment

Barbara Schneidewind

Oh, I'm in love with now and here,
 For I have done with yesteryear,
 Nor seeks my soul that distant clime
 In some tomorrow year in time.
 My heart embraces each today,
 Where I can walk and talk and play
 And work and mediate and pray
 And share with you
 The things I do
 Whenever you may want me to.

