

A few special Activity Department programs this month:

- Join us for Mediterranean guitar music by Ben Abraham at 2:30 p.m. on January 12.
- Encourage your family member to attend the Resident Council Meeting set for January 13 at 10:30 a.m.
- The Zonta Club of Kenmore will hold their monthly Bingo party at 7:00 p.m. on January 16.
- We'll kick-off Activity week with a magic show by Dave Jeffers at 2:30 p.m. on January 23.
- Join us as we close out Activity week with a party with entertainment by David Stockton at 2:30 p.m. on January 27.
- We'll celebrate January birthdays with Music Lyle Stang at 2:30 p.m. on January 30.

Outings Include:

Monday, January 9 at 11:00 a.m.—Lunch at IHOP.

Monday, January 16 at 1:30 p.m.—Bon-Ton Shopping

Monday, January 30 at 11:30 a.m.—Joe's Crab Shack Lunch

Many more events are scheduled for January. Check the Activities Calendar in the Sparkler, or visit the Family & Friends section on www.schofieldcare.org

Questions, Suggestions or Concerns?

Contact the Administrator at 716-874-1566, ext. 311.

Family Focus

Sprinkler System Installation to Start in January

We anticipate that the project to install a fire suppression sprinkler system throughout the entire facility will begin in January.



every room in the facility, each resident will need to be out of their room at some point.

We will keep residents and families updated on when and where the workers will be. Our goal is to make this process as easy as possible for our residents.

Currently, under old regulations, our building only has sprinklers in certain key areas. New regulations require that all nursing facilities have a sprinkler system in all resident rooms by August 2013.

There will be some inconvenience and “dust,” but in the end it will be worthwhile, adding an extra layer of safety for our residents, employees, volunteers and visitors.

This project will require some inconvenience for our residents, visitors, volunteers and staff. Because workers will need to install the system in

Our staff will keep you updated on our progress.

Resident Accounts at Schofield

Schofield maintains a Resident Trust Account where all of the resident personal accounts are pooled together. This is not Schofield's money, it is completely separate from our accounts.

We record all deposits and withdrawals from each individual resident account. From time to time, a resident will “overdraw” from their account. Because we do not want to inconvenience (or embarrass) the resident, we try to be lenient and accommodate when a resident account “goes in the red.” However, when this happens the resident is really borrowing from others whose money is in the account.

We ask that responsible parties and residents please keep a positive balance in your account. If contacted by Finance that the account is overdrawn, please ensure that the account returns to a positive balance.

If you have any questions about the Resident Accounts, please contact our Finance department.



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Happy New Year!

Wishing all of the families and friends of Schofield's residents a happy, healthy and safe New Year. We appreciate your faith and confidence in us, and thank you for entrusting your loved one's care to our team.

Getting Ready for Tax Time

New York State allows a partial credit against personal income tax for the amount of the assessment imposed on a residential health care facility and paid directly by an individual.

You would need to claim the credit using New York State form IT-258, *Claim for Nursing Home Assessment Credit*.

We encourage you to discuss this with your tax advisor to determine if you qualify for the credit.

DASH's Tapes Add Up

Thanks to all who take the time to bring in receipts from DASH's Markets. We have received over \$8,000 since we began participating in this program 5 years ago. They give us a generous \$3.50 for every \$100 of receipts. Keep the receipts coming! Proceeds support our Volunteer recognition events and Activities programs for residents.

Helping Prevent the Spread of Infection

With the onset of winter, more instances of infectious diseases (colds and flu) among Schofield's residents are likely to happen. Schofield Residence will initiate our Outbreak policy when more than 15% of the residents on a unit are affected by the same type of signs and symptoms.

When this happens, we encourage residents on the unit to remain in their rooms, we cancel group activities, and we have residents eat their meals in their rooms. This is all done to prevent the spread of infection throughout the unit and the facility.

We post signs at the Reception desk when an outbreak occurs, stating either that the outbreak is on the first or second floor (or both). When you see these signs, please check with an employee at the nurses station regarding the resident you are visiting. The employee will let you know if it is okay to visit, and inform you of any precautionary measures that you can take.

If you are unable to visit, our nursing staff will keep you aware of the resident's condition. We also discourage visitation if you are ill (fever, cold symptoms, cough, sore throat, etc.), as many of our residents have weakened immune systems and are unable to easily fight off illnesses.

Hand washing is the single most important way of preventing infection. You, as a visitor and/or family member, can help prevent infection here at Schofield through hand washing. Hand washing can also keep YOU safe from colds, flu and gastric upsets since many viruses are passed from hand to hand.

Notes & News

- Schofield's Adult Wellness Center is on hiatus for January, however you are invited to register for our first program of the year "Beat the Pack."

If giving up smoking is one of your New Year's Resolutions, join us on Wednesday, February 1 at 2:00 p.m. Did you know that it takes the average smoker 8 to 10 attempts before they can quit smoking for good? Join us as we discuss the health benefits of quitting smoking and some tips and ideas for you to try – even if you have tried to quit smoking before. If you are an ex-smoker, feel free to join us and share your experience. You might help someone quit today! Register at 995-3851.

- Our Activities department sends their thanks to everyone who sup-



ported our Holiday Basket Auction. With your help we raised over \$1,500 to be used for Activities programs for our residents' enjoyment.

Thanks to all who purchased tickets, and to everyone who donated baskets and items for the baskets.

- Thanks also to everyone who participated in Operation Santa Claus and the Salvation Army Gift of Warmth Drive. You helped to spread much joy to people in need.
- Look for a special auction in January to benefit the Schofield Foundation. We'll be auctioning off a "Night on the Town" package featuring a \$50 gift card for the 31 Club and a voucher for two tickets to a Buffalo Philharmonic concert!