

Northern Lights

December 2011

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OTTERBEIN
SENIOR LIFESTYLE CHOICES

Lifestyle Community

NORTH SHORE

**9400 North Shore Blvd
Lakeside-Marblehead,
OH 43440
419.798.8203**



Enjoying the Gift

Now that Thanksgiving is over, we can truly say we are in the Christmas Season! I realize as I have gotten older that Christmas doesn't have that same magic as it once did. As a child I never had a worry in the world, I just knew it was Christmas and it was my favorite time of the year. I don't know what it was when I was a child that made Christmas so magical. The Christmas tree, with a mixture of home-made and store bought ornaments, was always placed in the same spot right in front of the picture window. Every year we would put a small plate of Christmas cookies and a glass of cold milk out for Santa, and then our dad would drive us around the neighborhood in the car looking at neighborhood Christmas lights. While we were out looking at lights we would hear reports on the radio that Santa had been spotted and we would watch the sky just in case we might spot a glimpse of him. While we were gone Santa always seemed to time it just right. When we finally got home from looking at Christmas lights my eyes would light up to see what appeared to me that the entire living room was filled with gifts that Santa had brought. Santa always took enough time to take a bite or two of the cookies and a swig of milk before he left for the next house. I would enjoy going Christmas caroling with my church friends and making home-made Christmas gifts for everyone in my family. I guess Christmas was so special because it only came once a year.

I am going to try this year to look at Christmas through my children's eyes. Stress less and laugh more. I am going to lick my fingers when I help the kid's frost cookies and sing loudly when a favorite Christmas song plays. But most of all, we are going to talk about the miracle of Christ's birth and what a tremendous gift He is to all that believe! Merry Christmas everyone!

Lisa Hart

GOD'S WAY

When God wants a great work done in the world or a great wrong righted, he goes about it in a very unusual way. He doesn't stir up his earthquakes or send forth his thunderbolts. Instead, he has a helpless baby born, perhaps in a simple home and of some obscure mother. And then God puts the ideas into the mother's heart, and she puts it into the baby's mind. And then God waits. The greatest forces in the world are not the earthquakes and the thunderbolts. The greatest forces in the world are babies. ~ E.T. Sullivan

DECEMBER WELLNESS ACTIVITIES

With Christmas quickly approaching, our thoughts of the delicious Thanksgiving meal we all enjoyed are nothing but a fond memory.

November held a lot of exciting activities such as our Antique Show, where residents allowed us to view and admire some of their priceless treasures. An appraiser was on hand to give a rough estimate of the value of some of those items. I'm sure there is no amount of money that could purchase Ginny Hoover's 85 year old doll buggy or Trudy's 65 year old baby doll. Yet it was fun to get a monetary value. Dick Hartley even drove his beautiful '31 Chrysler over to display!

A free fish dinner was supplied by the Elks for all of our Veterans, and Stein Hospice was on hand to present pins and inspire with patriotic songs. Hats off to Donna Phelps for supplying many tasty treats that enhanced our Veteran's Day program. Personal hand massages by Carmen in a spa atmosphere was an added treat for many Otterbein residents. Relaxing music, wonderful aromas and waterfall sounds produced a very relaxing experience.

December promises many more fun holiday activities, beginning with a day full of decorating our facility on Thursday, December 1. Everyone is invited to participate. Girl Scouts will be coming to participate in games, the Traver Family is coming to share their talents with a play, and the Annual Community Christmas Dinner will be held in Lakeside on Saturday, December 3. All of this is happening in the first week!

Please check your calendars daily as many entertainers, choirs and carolers will be performing for us this month. We will be offering two nights out to see the Christmas lights, a trip to see "The Messiah," lunch outings, and a memorial service to remember the special people we lost in the past year. We will also be having a formal dance to help us welcome in the New Year. A group of professional dancers will be here to invite some of our audience to join them on the dance floor. Let's end our 2011 on a high note. I Hope to see all of you there!

Till next time, be sure to keep Christ in Christmas!

Debbie Ray

Marketing Holiday Greetings

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Holiday Open House

Tuesday, December 13th the Marketing department is hosting the 2nd Annual Holiday Open House from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Enjoy the warm holiday spirit and hors d'oeuvres as you tour holiday-decorated patio homes located at 178 Betty Jones Drive and 9395 Hartley Way.

As winter descends upon the North Shore and the Christmas season draws near, the Marketing Team is busy with growing our community, and finalizing the 2012 schedule of events. We will be celebrating our traditional holidays. We're planning a Valentine's Day luncheon and a St. Patty's day luncheon (on our campus this year). We will be offering a wide variety of Lunch and Learns that are both educational and entertaining. We welcome your suggestions and ideas.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year filled with health and happiness.

Lisa, Robyn and Jody





Please SUPPORT *Otterbein North Shore* by shopping in the GIFT SHOP located near the main entrance. We have **wonderful Christmas holiday ornaments, cards and other items**, including exclusively hand-crafted shirt savers (designed and made by Anna Glasmire) in holiday patterns.

Look for **Christmas ornaments and other holiday gift items**, **HANDBAGS**, *jewelry* (always!) and much more.

And, of course, our best seller ~ the nicest, most inexpensive greeting cards in Ottawa County.

SHOP TODAY! Thank you.

The Joy of Unselfish Giving

Time is not measured, by the years that you live
But by the deeds that you do, and the joy that you give

And each day as it comes, brings a chance to each one
To love to the fullest, leaving nothing undone

That would brighten the life, or lighten the load
Of some weary traveler, lost on Life's Road

So what does it matter, How long we may live
If as long as we live, we unselfishly give.

Helen Steiner Rice

Charitable Gift Planning – Enjoying the Gift

Our *Wellness* theme for December is “*Enjoying the Gift.*” This could be interpreted two ways, couldn’t it? Most of us enjoy receiving a gift, whether it’s a birthday, anniversary or Christmas gift, it doesn’t matter, we enjoy it. Maybe the most significant gift of all is the gift of giving. **Studies show that giving boosts your spirit, contributes to good health, and brings happiness to others.** I hope you will consider *Enjoying the Gift* of giving to Otterbein North Shore this holiday season. Below are some ways you can make a contribution. But, first please join me in thanking the people listed here for being donors to ONS for ten **consecutive** years. They are **JOHN & DIANA CRAIG, DICK & DOROTHEA HARTLEY, ROLAND JACOBS, JO JUETT, JENNIE KYLE, BOB REDD, LUCILLE SMITH, ART SODERBERG** and **DON YAussy**. Thank you very much.

TREE OF HOPE – Last year we raised nearly \$6,000 for the Tree of Hope, which benefits our Benevolent Care ministry. This program supports individuals at Otterbein North Shore that have outlived their financial resources through no fault of their own. If you received a letter from us about the Tree of Hope, it may have had the wrong return envelope with it – addressed to Cridersville. Egads! We’re not quite sure how this happened, but please know that **1)** you can drop off your envelope here, or **2)** if you use the envelope, it will still get credited to ONS; or **3)** you can mail your gift to 9400 North Shore Blvd., Lakeside-Marblehead, Ohio 43440. Please consider a gift and watch for your ornament on the Tree of Hope that is in the lobby. Many thanks to **MYRTLE LUTTERBEIN** for helping me decorate the tree. Debbie Ray and I are planning a ceremony toward the end of December to honor all of those who have passed away this year and to recognize Tree of Hope donors. It will be held in the Hearth.

CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY – This is an excellent way to make a larger charitable contribution, and receive an **income for life** at the same time. **And, this is the perfect time to do it, because the rates are going down on January 1, 2012.** A chart with current and upcoming rates is included in this newsletter for your review. There are also great tax benefits. Nearly half of the donation is a tax deduction. If you make a gift of more than \$10,000 we will add a leaf with your name on it to the Giving Tree in the lobby. Please contact me if you would like to see an illustration of a Gift Annuity in your name, based on your current age. Throughout Otterbein Homes there are people who do a Gift Annuity every year. Thanks to **GRACE APP, FOREST CARTER, BOB JONES, JO JUETT, JENNIE KYLE, HELEN & JOHN ROFKAR,** and **DON YAussy** who are members of the *Cornerstone Society* because they created a Gift Annuity for Otterbein North Shore.

HEARTH & ASSISTED LIVING RENOVATIONS – There are big plans for these areas for the end of 2011 and throughout 2012. We have done a little nit-picking at them to try to give them a more updated look, but it’s been determined through board strategic planning and

research that in order to move forward, especially with our marketing efforts to bring new folks to live here, we must renovate. Many thanks to **JANE BAKER** for a big boost to this project. The decorating committee (**DOROTHEA, JANE & LUCILLE**) will be meeting with Sarah King from Herman's Furniture to review some ideas for making these areas warmer and more inviting. Our goal, as I'm sure yours is, is to attract more people to move in, while making your home more appealing to all of you. We'll have much more on this in 2012.

PARTNER GIVING – The following employees of Otterbein are donors through payroll deduction – THANK YOU to Sue Apling, Karen Christiansen, Darcy A. Clinton, Lisa Cutcher, Ashley Davenport, Ryan Duffy, Lisa Hart, Sheila Helline, Julie Henn, Cecelia Holmes, Tammy Huskey, Kim Jones, Robyn Karbler, Carol Kubit, Alona Martin, Jessica McCormick, Judy Oleksa, Barbara Radebaugh, Debbie Ray, Jamie Roberts, April Ross, Vickie Soski, Jody Strickling, Destiny Taylor, Sandy Walton, Wes Walton, Toby Wagoner, Judy Wheeler and Elizabeth Williams.

DID YOU KNOW? Individuals 70 ½ years old may make a direct transfer from their qualified IRA to Otterbein. It counts towards any **mandatory** withdrawal. There is no charitable deduction; however, it is not taxed.

DID YOU KNOW? A great way to leave a bequest to Otterbein North Shore is to make Otterbein North Shore beneficiary on a life insurance policy. Please let me know if you have done this, or if we are in your will, so I can add a cup and saucer to our china cabinet in the lobby, and add you to our list of Heritage Society members.

Barbara Radebaugh

The Marblehead Bank

Dear Residents and Staff:

The holidays are upon us. Everyone is busy decorating, gift shopping, card writing and making plans for the New Year.

I, too, am making plans for the future. I will be retiring from The Marblehead Bank in February 2012. This was not an easy decision on my part. Not only do I enjoy working for The Marblehead Bank, I love being here at Otterbein North Shore. I have made many dear friends while being here and will miss each and every one of them when I leave. However, I must admit I'm looking forward to spending more time with my husband and my family, and even do a little traveling.

I don't know who will replace me at this time but I will definitely keep you posted. In the meantime, Happy Holidays to each and every one of you.

Andi ~ The Bank Lady

Otterbein North Shore Wish List



- **Aviary** upkeep
- Raised garden **beds**
- **Campfire** site enhancements
- A walk in **cooler** for dietary
 - A **greenhouse**
- A six-passenger **golf cart**
- A **putting/chipping green**

What else do we need to attract new residents?

What else would enhance your lifestyle here at Otterbein North Shore?

We need financial support for all of the above. Please contact Barbara Radebaugh if you are interested in helping with any of these projects.

Reminder:

Do you have a funny story or cartoon that you would like to share with everyone? Please turn into Denise in the front office and she will make sure to include them in the up-coming edition of the Northern Lights.



HURRY!
Act Before Gift Annuity Rates Go Down!

Set up a charitable gift annuity with Otterbein Homes now
before January 1, 2012 and receive higher rates!

After that date the American Council on Gift Annuities, which sets the rates paid to annuitants, will reduce annuity rates for new annuities as much as 0.8%. For example:

Current Higher Rates	New Rates (After January 1, 2012)
One life	One life
70 years old 5.8%	70 years old 5.1%
80 years old 7.5%	80 years old 6.8%
90+ years old 9.8%	90+ years old 9.0%
Two life	Two life
75/75 5.7%	75/75 5.0%
85/85 7.4%	85/85 6.7%

Whatever your age, if you act now you will lock in a great rate for your lifetime – and, in the case of a two-life gift annuity, for both lives.

Call today for your rate and a personalized illustration for annuity payments:

Barbara Radebaugh at North Shore ~ (419) 798-8203

P.S. There are great tax benefits too! Typically nearly half of your donation is a tax-deduction.

Excitement building for a year of celebration – Otterbein turns 100 in 2012

There are a myriad of things to celebrate in life, but an anniversary of 100 years doesn't come around every day! Otterbein Senior Lifestyle Choices is excitedly looking forward to marking a century of service to older persons and fondly remembering its beginning as a home for children and elders.

A kickoff gala for a year of recognition is planned for April 28, 2012, with a theme of "A night of celebration ... A century of making a difference." Otterbein's purchase agreement was Oct. 15, 1912 with the transfer of title on March 5, 1913.

This event, which begins at 5:30 p.m. at the Manor House in Mason, is black tie optional and will feature dinner, recognition and entertainment. Tickets are \$50 per person, or \$400 for a table of eight. Reservations will be accepted starting Feb. 1. Please contact Debbie at (513) 933-5433 for additional information.

In January, a 100-day countdown to the gala will begin on www.otterbein.org.

Several months ago, committees were formed at each community and those members are busy planning events at each location where the anniversary will be celebrated throughout the year.



From the Director of Health Services

It's hard to believe that I have been part of the Otterbein family for 5 weeks now. Where has the time gone? These past few weeks have been filled with so many fun and memorable times, but what I have enjoyed most is meeting and getting to know the wonderful and interesting people who live and work at Otterbein North Shore. Prior to working here I had several occasions to visit North Shore and always felt a strong sense of community. I am happy to say I have not been disappointed. So I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all who have been so kind and welcoming to me. It is a joy to be part of the Otterbein family.

Sandy Walton

Maintenance

As you all know, snow will soon be covering the grounds here at North Shore. In order to help make the snow removal go smoothly we have a plan to help make things easier. For all apartment residents, please note that we will be removing everything from your patios to help with this process. If you have questions or concerns, please let us know. Also for the patio home residents, we will be cleaning around your entry ways by hand this year, so please remove anything that you can, or ask us to do so. As always, please remember not to use extension cords outside to prevent any hazards from arising. Let's all have a safe winter season!

Around the Town Opportunities

Saturday, December 3, **Christmas dinner at Lakeside** – 5:30pm
Monday, December 5, **Wal-Mart shopping** – 1:30pm
Wednesday, December 7, **lunch at CIC** – 11:45am
Tuesday, December 13, **Bassett's shopping** – 1:30pm
Wednesday, December 14, **Christmas Lights Trip** – 6:00pm
Thursday, December 15, **Lakeside Potluck** – 11:30am
Friday, December 16, **Men's breakfast at the Galley** – 8:30am
Monday, December 19, **Wal-Mart shopping** – 1:30pm
Wednesday, December 21, **trip to Sawmill Creek** – 6:00pm
Tuesday, December 27, **Bassett's shopping** – 1:30pm
Wednesday, December 28, **lunch at the 2nd Street Diner** – 11:30am
Every Sunday, **Lakeside Methodist Church** – 9:45am



MERRY CHRISTMAS

HOLIDAY DESSERTS

**AVAILABLE FROM THE OTTERBEIN
NORTH SHORE KITCHEN**

419.798.8203 EXT 111

8:00AM-4:00PM

PUMPKIN ROLL—\$7

AVAILABLE FROZEN OR READY TO EAT

HOMEMADE PECAN PIE—\$9

HOMEMADE CHOCOLATE PECAN PIE—\$10

**DESSERTS ARE AVAILABLE BETWEEN DECEMBER 5 - DECEMBER 23
ALL ORDERS MUST BE PLACED 24 HOURS IN ADVANCE
TO ENSURE FRESHNESS**

WINTER DELIGHTS

W Winter brings us dazzling delights, sights and sounds. Harken! Deep in the forest tiny critters abound, skittering around on the dense snow-covered ground. Winter brings us treasures to behold. The foliage of the valley provides for the critters a safe refuge from the cold.

I Icicles shower us with an iridescent light and yonder, look! See brave sculptures chipping away through the long winter night.

N “Noels” being sung by a choir clad in cold weather attire of Christmas colors red and green – a winter delight – their voices crisp and keen enraptured in singing their songs of joy.

T Trees of Christmas adorned with shimmering lights, silver bells, and golden stars, presents galore, and toys to warm the heart of every girl and boy.

E Enjoyable, these winter sights and sounds, ice skates twirling on the frozen pond sharing with winter a mutual bond.

R Regal, royal, snow-laden evergreens that stand in magnificent stance.

We will find joy and delight in a wonderful winter, but come spring, we will welcome April showers and May flowers.

Happy Holidays! From the desk of Kim Jones

**The gift I enjoy most is the gift of love and
friendship from all of you!**



Reindeer's Story at Christmas

According to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, while both male and female reindeer grow antlers in the summer each year, male reindeer drop their antlers at the beginning of winter, usually late November to mid-December.

Female reindeer retain their antlers till after they give birth in the spring.

Therefore, according to EVERY historical rendition depicting Santa's reindeer, EVERY single one of them, from Rudolph to Blitzen, had to be a girl.

We should have known... ONLY women would be able to drag a fat man in a red velvet suit all around the world in one night and not get lost.



Father Christmas Calls

Alex was five; all his Christmas presents were always signed, 'from Father Christmas.'

A little while after Alex had opened all his presents on Christmas morning, we became aware that he was looking quite down in the mouth for no obvious reason.

'What's the matter, Al?' I asked.

'Ummmm, 'replied Alex slowly, 'I really hoped that you and Mummy would give me something for Christmas.'



Christmas Spirit

It was just before Christmas and the magistrate was in a happy mood. He asked the prisoner who was in the dock, 'What are you charged with?'

The prisoner replied, 'Doing my Christmas shopping too early.'

'That's no crime', said the magistrate. 'Just how early were you doing this shopping?'

'Before the shop opened', answered the prisoner.



Trust Him?

On the Sunday before Christmas Reverend Billy Graham was walking down Highland Street in Mt Holly, North Carolina on his way to see a parishioner. However, he wanted to post a parcel urgently so he asked a young boy where he could find the post office. When the boy had directed him, Reverend Graham thanked him and said, 'If you'll come to the Church this evening, you can hear me telling everyone how to get to heaven.'

The boy replied, 'I think I'll give your sermon a miss. If you don't even know your way to the post office, how will you lead me to heaven?'



The Beast in 2-E

A Christmas Story by Jackie Clements-Marenda (donated by Marilyn Infield)

Computers aren't my thing, but my children insisted I get on Facebook. I was grateful for it when Mrs. Moran tracked me down and "friended" me. Back in Brooklyn, when I was a child, Mrs. Moran, a former showgirl, made every holiday in our building an extravaganza – especially Christmas. She cast all the kids in the building in her very own Christmas pageant.

As I confirmed her friend request, my mind drifted back to the year I turned seven. My brother, Thomas, and I were making our way up to Mrs. Moran's apartment for our first rehearsal. "Oh, please, let me be an elf!" I said. Elves got to wear striped pants and pointy shoes and be as silly as they wanted. Whoever played Mary had to be serious and sad about not finding any room at the inn. Mrs. Moran insisted we had to become the part we played, so I wanted to play something fun.

"Well, you might get to be the donkey," Thomas said.

I hoped no. Last year's donkey had tried to carry a rather hefty Mary on his back and collapsed.

"Too bad we can't have real animals anymore," I sighed as we reached the second floor. "Just because that dog from 3B made a mess on the carpet."

"Maybe the Beast will be in the show," Thomas said. He glanced down the hall that led to the man's lair, otherwise known as apt. 2-E.

The Beast, as we kids called him, had only lived in our building for a few months, but he'd captured all our imaginations. Nobody ever saw him come in or go out. There was no name on his mailbox. He had no visitors. His blinds were always shut. The only sign of life was the grocery bags that appeared in front of his door. And the scary noises we heard above our heads at night, like something being dragged across the floor. Thomas said it was the Beast making a meal of his latest victim. Just thinking about him gave me goose bumps. Thomas and I ran the last few steps to rehearsal.

The Santos boys got to be the elves. Thomas was the donkey. I got the worst part of all: the angel. The angel had to appear heavenly and make a speech about Jesus. No somersaults, like the elves. Instead, of a hat with bells, I had to wear a wire hanger halo covered with tinsel.

"Remember, you must become an angel," Mrs. Moran told me a few weeks into rehearsal. "It's your job to tell people that God loves them. Just think of all the people in the world who are lonely or hopeless."

I recited my lines again, but my eye drifted to the Santos boys. One of them was doing a handstand.

On the night of the pageant I stood stiffly in our living room as Grandma Josie adjusted my halo. Thomas galloped around braying, donkey ears flopping. He'd become a donkey. I still didn't feel like an angel. "The Santos boys get to give out presents for Santa," I said wistfully.

"You think too much about Santa and not enough about God," Grandma Josie said around the pins in her mouth. "Santa rewards the good. God loves us all. He never turns his back on anyone. If he sees someone in trouble, he sends an angel to help. Santa's elves don't do that."

I squirmed under her gaze. "Santa gives presents," I said.

"God's gifts are greater than Santa's. They never get old or break. Some of his gifts you don't even see."

We were interrupted by a horrible scraping overhead. I jerked my head up so fast my halo fell off. "Another victim," Thomas said solemnly. "Perhaps the Beast is really an alien!"

"Or a vampire!" I said.

"I will talk to your parents about the kinds of movies they let you watch," said Grandma Josie. "You get to the lobby."

We joined the rest of the cast: shepherds in bathrobes, sheep in woolly sweaters, candy canes wrapped in ribbons. Mrs. Moran went from one child to the next, reminding us to live our parts completely.

We performed our first song while our parents took pictures. Then we moved upstairs to the second floor. Six corridors branched off from the central area, each one leading to a single apartment. "Some of our tenants can't come out for the show," Mrs. Moran said. "So I'm going to send some of you to individual apartments."

Please not me, I thought, but she was already pointing.

"Jacquelyn, you will go to 2-E."

The children gasped.

"Be an angel," Mrs. Moran said, giving me a gentle push. Thomas waved as if this might be the last time we ever saw each other. I stepped into the corridor that led to 2-E. It felt darker and colder than the other hallways in the building. It also seemed a mile long. The ceiling light buzzed ominously above my head. My footsteps echoed on the floor while the voices of the other children grew distant. I reached the metal door at the end of the hall. There were not decorations hanging here, just a big peephole shut tight.

My hand shook as I reached up to press the doorbell. *One, two, three, four...* If he didn't answer be the time I counted to ten I could tell Mrs. Moran nobody was home. *Seven, eight, nine...*

Snick. The peephole slid open. A big round eye regarded me from the other side of the door. The Beast! I wanted to run, but something held me still. *You must become an angel*, I heard Mrs. Moran say in my head.

I opened my mouth, but the sight of that beastly eye made my mind go blank. I forgot my lines, so I said the first words that came into my head. "I am an angel of God," I said. "It's my job to tell you that God is not like Santa. He never turns his back on anyone. He loves you and you're not alone. God bless us, everyone."

Behind me, in the lobby, the other kids sang "Silent Night." I joined in where I stood, making up in volume what I lacked in pitch. The eye at the peephole never moved. I turned and ran back to the lobby. Maybe I had quoted my grandmother and Charles Dickens instead of Mrs. Moran's speech, but I had faced the Beast in 2-E and lived to tell the tale.

My family moved not long after. I never saw Mrs. Moran again—until she found me on Facebook.

"That Christmas show was so much fun," Mrs. Moran said when the two of us met for a reunion lunch.

"Except the year I had to face the Beast," I said. "The man in 2-E."
"He was a hero," Mrs. Moran said. "John lost his leg in World War II, he saw terrible things. Today people would say he had Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome and agoraphobia. I used to buy him groceries. He was a good man, not a monster."

I put down my sandwich, no longer hungry. "We kids told such terrible stories about him," I said. "He must have been so unhappy living there."

"Actually, John had one of the best moments of his life in our building," Mrs. Moran said. "He never tired of talking about the night an angel girl came to his door and told him that God loved him and he wasn't alone."

Maybe I hadn't ever understood Mrs. Moran's method acting. But that night I had become an angel. God saw someone in trouble and sent me to tell him he wasn't alone.



Birthdays

December

Jo Juett - 4

Ralph Cook - 5

Ed Kolarek - 9

Carol Beckler - 14

Ada Peters - 14

Bill Hall - 20

Jane Baker - 22

Martha Tubbs - 22

