



## Fun Times in Assisted Living

May 21, 2021 Edition

### COVID STATUS

We are proud to announce another week being COVID free for both staff and residents. Stay safe everyone!

Please check our website for the most up-to-date information:

[www.oddfellows.com/covid-19](http://www.oddfellows.com/covid-19)



*“I bent until I damn near broke. But that’s the think about resilience . . . It shows up just as your soul begins to cry and catapults your strength into overdrive?”  
~Alfa*

### ZOE ZOE

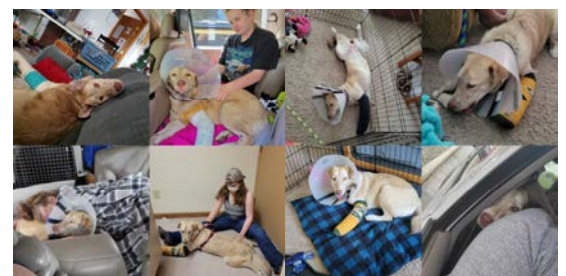
I LOVE animals, and the bigger the better. So, when my husband decided that we needed a new puppy, it didn’t take much to get me on board. We found this adorable Husky/Lab cross. She was a perfect ball of fluff. All sweet and gentle. We brought her home and named her Zoey.

We learned quickly that Zoey was a really good actor. Inside that perfect, gentle little ball of fluff was an opinionated, loud powder keg of chaos! Not one day has been boring since Zoey came into our home. I was thinking this morning about how much she has taught us.

Six weeks ago, our precious little ball of fluff played a game of keep away with my daughter and I and was hit by a car. She was lucky to have only fractured her front leg, it was a bad break and required some specialty surgery but she is healing. It’s as she’s been healing that we’ve learned the most from her. I’ve been hurt myself and I’ve worked with people throughout my career who have had fractures. I’ve never seen someone embrace their injury so quickly and learn to work with it as I saw in this crazy pooch. It took all of a few hours on day one for her to figure out how to move around with her cast. From there she realized she could use it as a club, which makes a great whacking stick for her big brother (our big dog). She mastered stairs within days. Even tried to fly one day trying to catch up to big brother. That wasn’t super successful and earned her an extra dose of pain medicine. But no matter what we’ve thrown at this pup she’s kept conquering every challenge.

Zoey is stubborn and opinionated. Yells at me every morning until I find her antler to chew on. But even during her most painful moments when we were picking her up off the road, not once did she snap or growl. She just turned her head into my arm. She knew we were trying to help her. Why can’t we do that? We get grumpy and snappy, we give in to our pain. If a 9-month-old puppy can figure it out, we can to! We can embrace our broken parts (our bones or our hearts) and figure out how to work within our brokenness. Resiliency, is the key. We can heal! We will heal, with time and compassion we will all heal!

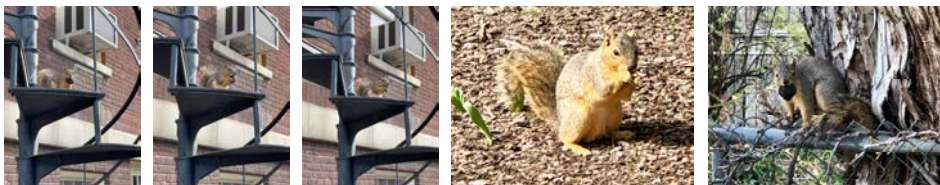
Blessings,  
Kari Randall, MSW  
Assisted Living Director



## THE SQUIRREL WENT BERZERK



My first day at Odd Fellows happened in the spring four score and . . . yep, it's been a while. But on my first drive here I had to stop like 6 times. First for the ducks waddling across the road and next for the squirrels. Never have I seen an entire neighborhood work together to protect such tiny creatures. Every time I see one it reminds me of the song "The Mississippi Squirrel Revival" by Ray Stevens. It's about a boy who brings a squirrel to church. If you are bored someday, take a listen, it's hilarious. Until then, take care of our squirrels, they are special to us. Our squirrels even play bocce 😊



## FOR THE LOVE OF BOCCE

We love our Bocce Ball! I think you might have noticed over the past year; we really love our Bocce Ball. But I can honestly say, this week was a first. Not only do we have dedicated players, but our fans are top shelf for sure! We had people wrapping up in blankets this week just so they could watch. Now that is love of the game right there!



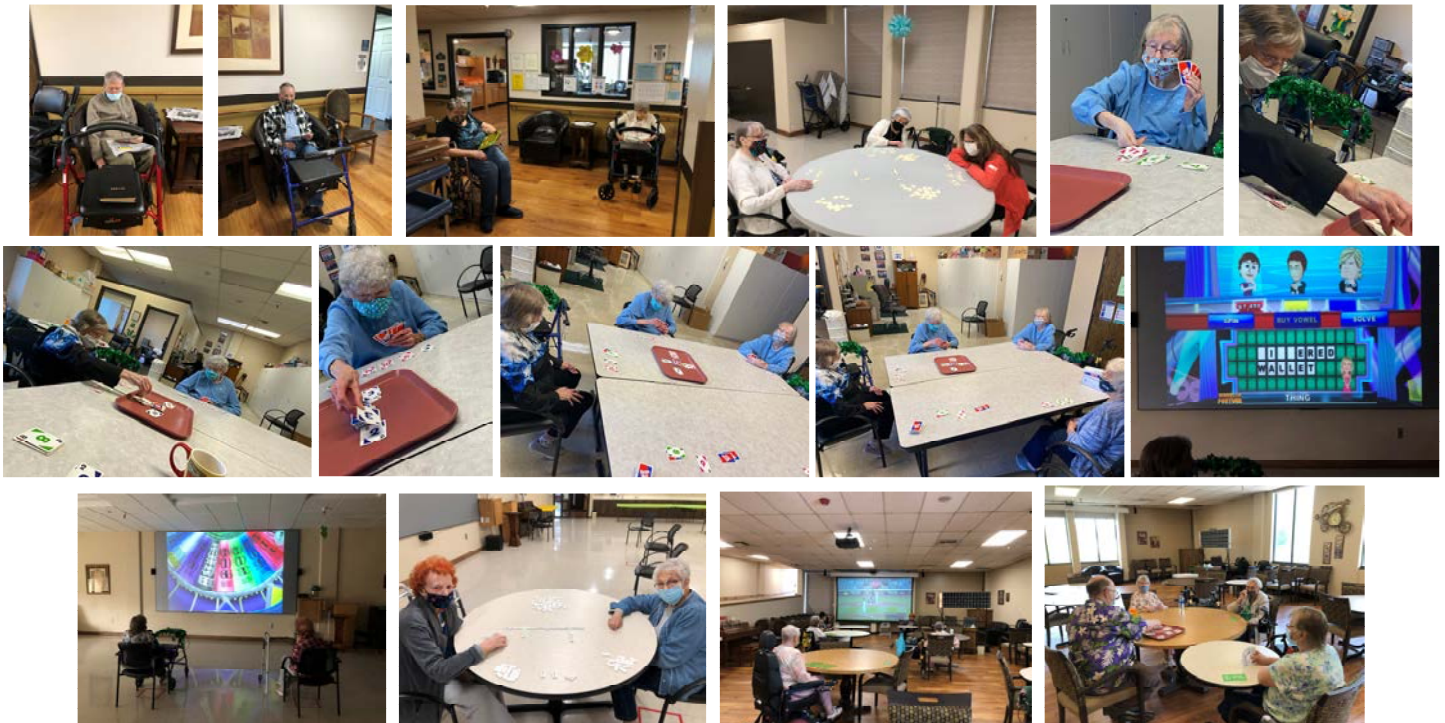
## THE FAMILY TABLE

These pictures remind me so much of the table at my house growing up. There's a little cooking happening, a little game playing, some good jokes, maybe a stretched story or two. But more than anything, there is love and friendship. Tables have always been a place to gather, predating the 16<sup>th</sup> century. It's heart warming to see the mission of the table continues to exist today.



## I WIN

Games are spectacularly fun. But do you remember you were young and games were only fun if you won. Somewhere along the line it became just as much, if not more fun, just to play. To laugh, tease, banter, even throw out a few good-natured barbs. Games bring people together, regardless of which game it is. We have so many different game groups. Our residents are gamers!! And its all in good fun 😊



## CANDID CAMERA

Candid photography catches people as they really are. I've often said, after looking at a really good candid photo, that you can see a person's true self. You can see the sparkle in their eyes, the way their smile quirks, so many things. Enjoy with me a few candid pictures we've snapped at random. See if you can find the sparkle in their eyes 😊

