

Parents and Friends of Ludeman Center

P.O. Box 754, Park Forest, Illinois 60466

www.ludemanpflc.org

Ludeman.PFLC@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER

2022

THE ELISABETH LUDEMAN DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER IS LOCATED AT 114 ORCHARD DRIVE, PARK FOREST, IL. 60466 AND THE TELEPHONE NUMBER IS 708-283-3000.

PAMELA HILL, PFLC PRESIDENT

PAUL KEIPERT, PFLC TREASURER

SARAH ROSS, PFLC CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

JOHN HALEY, PFLC VICE PRESIDENT

ANGIE KASKEY, PFLC RECORDING SECRETARY

The Parents and Friends of Ludeman Center mission is to advocate for the rights of all the loved ones of Elisabeth Ludeman Center. We will work with the center to provide quality of life enhancement for individuals with disabilities, and to act as a support organization for the family members and friends of the loved ones. We are an all-volunteer organization.

2022 VOR, Voice of Reason, Washington, D.C. Conference

[VOR Link: http://www.vor.net/](http://www.vor.net/)

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, VOR's 2022 Annual Meeting was held virtually on Zoom Sunday, June 12, 2022. Please visit their website, become a member, and support them in their efforts to raise awareness of the needs of our Developmentally Disabled loved ones. Their office is located in Elk Grove Village, Illinois.

What Can YOU Do?

Please reach out to your Legislative Representatives and Senators to express your opinion regarding various bills that will impact the Developmentally Disabled Community!

More on this topic that directly impacts the programs provided for our loved ones at the Ludeman Center later in this newsletter.

Search for your Legislators at this website: <https://www.commoncause.org/>

The Legislators that the Ludeman Center is represented by are:

Federal:

Senator Richard Durbin 202-224-2152 Senator Tammy Duckworth 202-224-2854

Representative Robin Kelly 202-225-0773

State:

Governor J.B. Pritzker 217-782-6830

Senator Patrick Joyce 708-756-0882 Representative Anthony DeLuca 708-754-7900

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

The Parents and Friends of Ludeman Center is a 501c (3) Non-Profit Organization All donations are tax deductible. Any and all donations are greatly appreciated. We accept money, time and talent.

Letter from the PFLC President

Dear Ludeman Center Parents and Friends,

First of all, I'm so glad to hear from you. You can contact me at the PFLC Website <https://ludemanpflc.org/> or email at Ludeman.PFLC@gmail.com. Any questions or concerns can be sent to me so we can support and direct you to the appropriate resources.

I'd like to remind you that we have a monthly conference call with Tim Montgomery, Interim Center Director. The details to join the call are included in this newsletter. We ask that you send us your questions prior to the conference call to Ludeman.PFLC@gmail.com. When joining the call, please feel free to ask questions – if you have a question, I can guarantee there are others on the call that have the same thought.

PFLC represents all individuals that reside at Ludeman. When the pandemic changed our loved one's lives, PFLC went into high gear to provide and support the needs of the individuals. We supplied iPads, TVs, Blu-ray DVD players, music, Bluetooth speakers, board games, crayons, coloring books, puzzles and other activities. The iPads were supplied to the Neighborhood Houses so you could video chat with your loved one.

We are currently working with the Activity Department to supply equipment for the Special Olympics training and competitions. The Special Olympic Bowling Team made us proud on August 6, 2022 – Gold, Silver, Bronze and 4th – 8th Place Ribbons came home! PFLC provided funds so the Special Olympians could enjoy a McDonalds lunch and outing to celebrate their success.

You will find in this newsletter a membership form. It is very important to renew your membership on an annual basis. Because of your membership and donations, we are able to provide this newsletter and activities that benefit the individuals that call the Ludeman Center home.

Since the pandemic, the PFLC Board has not been meeting in person. That didn't stop us! We have held our meetings remotely via conference calls to keep our promise to adhere to our mission.

*** ACTION ALERT! *** I need to mention that some of the services at the Ludeman Center are no longer available. Cornerstone has been such a wonderful partner that provides the off-site day program as well as the on-site programs. The on-site programs include the laundry, janitorial, and gardening training. Sadly, due to Illinois state funded budget cuts for these services, Cornerstone can no longer provide services to our Ludeman individuals. Cornerstone will continue to provide services to individuals that live in the community. ***

*** Please reach out to the Legislators that represent the individuals that live at the Ludeman Center, as well as your own, and express your dissatisfaction with funding cuts for vital training programs at Ludeman. Information to contact the Ludeman Center Legislators are included on this newsletter's first page.

Looking for a way to help out PFLC? Pay your dues, donate when you can, get involved – we are an all-volunteer organization. Join the PFLC Board – we are sure you have new ideas to enhance the programs that support the Ludeman individuals. Donations are always accepted. Even \$5.00 helps our programs. Keep in touch with us on our website and email address.

Our PFLC Memory Garden has begun construction. This will honor the individuals and Ludeman staff that we lost to the pandemic. Thank you, Lizzy S. for such a wonderful project – you are truly one in a gazillion!!

Thank you for your time, thoughts, and generosity,



Pamela P. Hill
PFLC President

AUGUST 17, 2022

Dear Parents and Friends Member,

We hope all of you are well and have enjoyed a wonderful summer with its longer days and warmer temperatures. It's that time of year when we ask you to renew your membership to PFLC and if possible, to include an additional donation along with your membership fee.

After two years of a pandemic many things at Ludeman are improving. The dentist office is now updated, fully operational and serving Ludeman residents, in good part due to a generous donation from PFLC. Activities for residents are starting up again with movie nights, dances and outdoor activities. 32 residents participated in Special Olympics Bowling and PFLC sponsored lunch at McDonalds for them after the event. We are also looking forward to restarting our annual though scaled-down Fall FunFest this September - an outdoor celebration for all the residents.

If you have been on Ludeman grounds recently you have no doubt seen that major construction work is well underway replacing water mains to all the buildings which will be followed by all new roads, curbs, parking lots, and walking paths at the Center. With major capital improvements happening to the grounds, PFLC is looking to augment those with improvements to make Ludeman outdoor spaces more appealing and enjoyable for residents and their families. We are working to raise funds for adaptive playground equipment from gliders to swings to outdoor musical instruments.

In addition, PFLC is working collaboratively with the Center and with youth volunteers to create a Memorial Garden, a place to reflect and remember all the brave staff who daily cared for our loved ones throughout the pandemic. This special area will also honor those staff members and residents who lost their lives during those very difficult days.

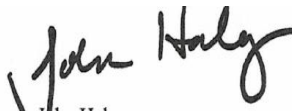
As you can see, we have many ambitious plans none of which we could even think to accomplish without your continued support. During good times and bad, you have remained remarkable in your dedication and generosity toward PFLC and our Ludeman residents.

The PFLC board is made-up entirely of volunteers. We are parents, siblings and guardians of Ludeman residents. We sincerely thank you for maintaining your PFLC membership and ask if you are able to do so at this time to include an additional donation. Thank you for all you have done and continue to do. You are difference-makers.

Truly,



Pam Hill
PFLC President



John Haley
PFLC Vice-President

PFLC 2022 Events and Activities

The Ludeman Center Activity Department has been providing activities for the Ludeman residents for quite some time. Because of COVID-19, activities had to be planned that would meet the strict guidelines for centers like Ludeman. Some of the activities provided in the Gym include Art Therapy, Movie Night, Karaoke Night, Game Night, Paint and Sip, Yoga, Music Therapy as well as Team Sports Games, and Sporting Events.

Off-Campus events include Thornton Township Dances, Park Trips, and Popsicles in the Park. The Activity Therapists also conduct in-house activities to keep the residents engaged.

Residents are participating in Special Olympics Fall Events. Staff and residents recently competed in Bowling, and proudly represented Ludeman. There were Gold, Silver, and Bronze Medals won as well as ribbons for 4 – 8th place. Go Team!!!

Teleconference Parent/Guardian Meetings with Ludeman Interim Center

Director Timothy Montgomery

COVID Updates (As of Wednesday, 8/17/2022):

- Ludeman Center remains in outbreak status as of 8/22/2022. At this time there are 6 residents and 5 staff that tested positive with COVID-19.
- Ludeman Center is awaiting information for the next Omicron COVID-19 Booster. A permission form will be sent to parents and guardians to sign and return to administer the vaccine. The Ludeman Center continues to encourage everyone to get fully vaccinated.

Monkeypox Virus – Health Management (As of Wednesday, 8/17/2022):

- No cases have been diagnosed at the Ludeman Center. The Center is monitoring for any symptoms of Monkeypox. The Ludeman Center is actively educating staff and instituting protocols for identifying and preventing contact with the virus as well as sanitation and medical treatment protocol.

ELDC Monthly Center Director's Conference call with Parents & Guardians:

- Every 3rd Wednesday of the month; 1:30pm – 2:30pm
- Please contact the Center Director's office in advance at 708.283.3006 if you need the call-in number and access code for the Meetings

The Next Scheduled meeting is Wednesday, September 21, 2022 at 1:30 P.M (CST)

Stimulus \$\$\$

By now your Ludeman loved one has more than likely received their CARES Act stimulus checks in their Ludeman Trust Fund Account. If you didn't receive it, information is available on our website, <https://ludemanpflc.org/>. If you are unsure if your loved one received a stimulus check...

You can find out by calling 708-283-3097. Visit the Parents & Friends of Ludeman Center website that has a link to the latest information regarding the CARES Act stimulus funds.

Heads Up: You Will Receive a Letter and Perhaps Phone Calls

Please be aware that all guardians of Ludeman residents will be receiving letters in the next month or so informing you of placement options beyond the SODCs for your loved one. If you are satisfied and happy with your loved one's current placement at Ludeman Center you can ignore this letter as well as any follow up calls in this regard.

This outreach to you will happen annually from now on. Be aware that any such written or verbal outreach of this kind should only be directed to you, the guardian - never to your Ludeman resident without your direct consent.

If you would like to do more to make clear your desire that your loved one remain at Ludeman Center, you can do what many guardians have already done - write a letter stating so and ask that it be included in their file.

ELDC Dental Care – Someone You Should Know.....



Elisabeth Ludeman Center
114 N. Orchard Drive
Park Forest, Illinois 60466

March 28, 2022

Parents and Friends of Ludeman Center (PFLC) Elisabeth
Ludeman Center
P.O. Box 754
Park Forest, Illinois 60466

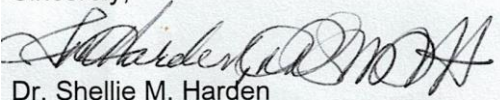
To the Parents and Friends of the Elisabeth Ludeman Center,

On behalf of the Elisabeth Ludeman Center Dental Office, I want to extend a sincere thank you for your generous and thoughtful gift of a new dental chair and oral care delivery system. We recognize that the Group could have elected to utilize funds in a multitude of other ways.

However, you chose to help fill a need in Dental Services. This extraordinary act of kindness will positively impact the lives of all Ludeman individuals. Because of this, we are humbled and forever grateful.

The new chair and attached unit will equip one of two treatment rooms that have also been upgraded to simulate negative pressure environments. The new chairs and safety features will facilitate our continued pursuit of providing the best care possible in a safe environment. The people of Ludeman deserve this and it is the dedication and hard work of PFLC that helps us in this pursuit.

It is our honor to be able to serve and care for your loved ones. We look forward to the future when each person will be able to enjoy the new chairs. Once installed, we hope you will be able to visit and see your gift in service. Again, thank you for your benevolence.

Sincerely,

Dr. Shellie M. Harden
Elisabeth Ludeman Center Dentist

"I can no other answer make but thanks, and thanks, and ever thanks."

- Sebastian, *Twelfth Night* (Shakespeare 3.3)

The Ludeman Center Water Main and Roads Construction is Underway!

After a delay brought about by the need to re-map utility lines, and a quarry strike that prevented material deliveries for the construction, the Contractor has resumed water main installation. That project delay will unfortunately also delay the start of the road replacement project. The plan, if needed, will be to patch the roadway potholes as needed for the fall/winter season.



The PFLC/Ludeman Center Memory Garden Construction is Underway!

The Parents and Friends of Ludeman Center (PFLC) was approached by a high school student who wanted to do a project that would be a permanent fixture at the Ludeman Center. You see, her brother lives at Ludeman and she is so grateful that Ludeman takes such good care of him. The Memory Garden was launched!

The Memory Garden is located where the Ludeman Administration Buildings are located by the horseshoe driveway area when you first drive onto the Center property. Work has already begun, and it is anticipated that the project will be complete by the end of this year.

If you come to the Center, be sure to take a peek at the progress – it involves a large group of volunteers that are nothing short of AWESOME! Thank You Miss Lizzy for such dedication to the work you are doing with your army of youth volunteers!



PFLC Website News – www.ludemanpflc.org

Please be sure to visit the PFLC Website. We post information on the happenings at Ludeman as well as links to important information the Ludeman Administration has requested we pass on to you.

Don't Forget!

You can also contribute to PFLC by selecting the Parents and Friends of Ludeman Center and adding us to your Amazon Smile account. It doesn't cost you anything extra - Amazon donates \$.05 based on your purchases!

For Your Convenience

PFLC Accepts Donations on PayPal!

Parents and Friends of Ludeman Center

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ludeman.pflc@gmail.com

PFLC MEMBERSHIP FORM 2022/2023

Mail To:

Parents and Friends of Ludeman Center

Membership 2022/2023

P.O. Box 754

Park Forest, IL 60466

NAME: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ **STATE:** _____ **ZIPCODE:** _____

PHONE#: _____ **EMAIL*:** _____

ADDITIONAL EMAIL*: _____

**To ensure your privacy, PFLC collects and holds your email address only for the express purpose of sending you PFLC information.*

2022/2023 Annual Membership dues are \$20

Membership runs from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023

Is this a membership renewal or are you a new member?

I'm renewing my membership.

I'm becoming a member for the 1st time.

Membership Dues:

\$20.00

I am enclosing an additional donation(s):

PFLC General Fund *Supports our Mission

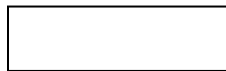
\$35 \$75 \$100 Other amount: \$ ___

My check is enclosed and made payable to **Parents & Friends of Ludeman Center.**

PFLC is a 501c(3) Non-Profit Organization. Membership dues & donations are tax deductible.

**The PFLC mission is to advocate for the rights of all the residents of Elisabeth Ludeman Developmental Center, to work with the Center towards quality-of-life enhancement, and to act as an all-volunteer support organization for the family members and friends of the residents.*

**Parents & Friends of Ludeman Center
P.O. Box 754
Park Forest, IL 60466**



Thank you just does not say enough about the wonderful, kind, and generous individuals, companies and organizations that have supported our organization and the Ludeman Center throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. It does take a village, so most of all, our humble thank you to the Administration, Staff and Direct Care Ludeman resources that have cared for our loved ones throughout this difficult journey.

PLFC would like to express our heartfelt condolences to the families that have lost their loved one and the staff that lovingly gave their time and talents and dedicated their lives to the care of our loved ones that reside at the Ludeman Center. There is a special place in our hearts for all of you.

