

## SIMPLY UNIQUE

When you are staring at a foot of snow it may be difficult to picture the snowflakes; you just see snow. Much the same way we feel when walking into a room filled with a large group of people that we do not know. With so many of us around here, no one is going to notice our differences unless they care enough to look closely. We tend to see the mass and not the individuals. Like a single snowflake you occupy a unique place in time and space. We are all similarly unique in this space-time way.

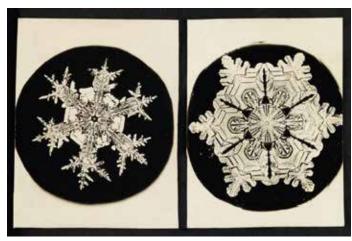
Learning how snowflakes are formed, along with their similarities and differences, is fascinating. Every snowflake is made up of hydrogen and oxygen molecules that freeze onto a speck of dust or pollen forming a six-sided crystal. Interestingly, 75% of a human being is composed of hydrogen and oxygen, the same elements as in a snowflake. But here's where the magic happens. The things that shape each snowflake, it's unique size, branching, complexity and beauty are the conditions it travels through on the way from heaven to earth.

The fate of a snowflake is decided by the temperature, humidity, wind speed, and the things it crashes into along the way. Some flakes will float to the ground beautiful and intact. Others arrive broken or misshapen. Isn't that true of all of us? But thank goodness we're not like snowflakes that simply fall from the sky. As human beings, we have the power to make choices along the way! Each of us is influenced by the conditions through which we age including genetics, geography, society, and culture, as well as the choices we personally make. The unique circumstances and conditions of our life are what mold us into the unique person we become.

"We are not powerless specks of dust drifting around in the wind, blown by random destiny. We are, each of us, like beautiful snowflakes unique, and born for a specific reason and purpose." - Elisabeth Kubler-Ross

As far as anyone can tell, no two snowflakes have exactly the same shape. To prove this assertion would require gathering vast numbers of snowflakes and then comparing their shapes. No one has reported having done that. However, many photographs have been taken.

In 1885, equipped with both his microscope and a camera, Wilson "Snowflake" Bentley made the first successful photograph of a snowflake. Bentley was a pioneer in "photomicrography," the photographing of very small objects, especially of snowflakes. From that first photograph in 1885, Bentley photographed more than 5000 snow crystals until his death in 1931. From gathering this large collection of snowflakes, Bentley learned that every single snowflake was unique. A couple of his photos are shown below.



Each of our minds is predisposed to see either similarities or differences. When considering uniqueness, it may be easier for you to think that snowflakes and humans are equally unique. Others may more easily focus on the differences.

Just as snowflakes can be so quickly changed by conditions around them, so can we. The temperament of a society can so easily cause us to focus on our differences which can divide us. rather than appreciating the greater similarities that can serve to make us stronger and bring us together.

Just like a snowflake, each of us is unique. There isn't another one like you in the world. Others are no better, just simply unique. No one can see or experience things from your viewpoint; it is your own unique history and personal journey. You are simply unique!

No human being is the same; we are like snowflakes, none of us are the same but we are all COOL" - Pharrell Williams

#### **FIVE WISHES**

**Conversation Guide for Individuals and Families** Thursday, Dec. 1st - 9:00 A.M. **Burnstein Auditorium** 



What are the two things that are guaranteed in life? Death and taxes! Neither are fun subjects to talk about, but in both cases, it is best to be prepared! Do you have questions

concerning Advance Directives, Hospice, Hospice Houses or other End-of-Life issues? Julie Anderson, the Community Liaison from Miller Hospice, will be here to answer questions as well as to help you fill out your very own Advance Directive using the Five Wishes booklet. There is no charge to attend, booklets will be provided. Please feel free to bring friends with you. Sign up by the mailboxes.

#### **Holiday Light Tours**



This year, there will be three different Holiday Light Tours. The first tour, on December 6th, will be a walking tour for Independent residents at the "Christmas Chute" in downtown Sapulpa. This tour will involve walking along a beau-

tifully decorated three block area. (There will not be a lot of seating areas available.)

The second tour, on December 14th, (Assisted Living) and the third tour, on December 22nd, (Independent Living) will be driving tours. Cookies and hot cocoa will be provided upon the return of each tour.



#### Thursday, Dec. 8th 1:30 p.m.

Current exhibits include Biblical Micro Calligraphy Art; Earth, Hand & Fire; and Next Year in Jerusalem. Please sign up by the mailboxes.



#### **Centennial Birthday Celebration**

#### Thursday, Dec. 15th at 1:30 pm **Burnstein Auditorium**

Join us in celebrating Mr. George Krumme's 100th birthday! Cake and punch will be served.



## **TCC Signature Quartet** Friday, Dec. 9th—10:30 A.M.

Cider, cocoa and classics. Warm up your day with a special morning performance by musicians from the TCC Signature Quartet. Holiday music and more.



## Celebrate 2023 New Year's Party Thursday, Dec. 29th , 7:00—9:00 pm **Burnstein Auditorium**

We will be kicking off 2023 early. Dance the night away with big band, classic jazz and more with Stephanie Oliver & Friends. We will end the evening with a champagne toast to an exciting new year of possibilities!

## **HEALTHCARE CONNECTION**

#### Memories with Mizel!

Mizel students joined residents this month for a special Kabbalot Shabbat Service under the Sukkah as well as 1:1 reading in the Dining Room.











## December HC Birthdays:

Ann C. 3rd Paul R. 10th Claudia G. 15th

David K. 16th Sue W. 17th Sandra B. 25th

# Holiday Sweater Day!



#### **Zarrow Pointe Library Fund**

We recently received a generous donation to establish a Library Fund which can be used to make improvements to our library. Newer and more relevant books can now be purchased along with the addition of a Large Print section. We will also be obtaining subscriptions to a few periodicals such as the large print Reader's Digest.

Our library, located off the lobby of Zarrow Manor is accessible 24 hours a day, and includes a media center where you can browse the web or check your email. There is also a digital video magnifier available.

If you would like to make a donation to our Library Fund you may do so in our business office

We would also be interested in donations of any large print books that you may have. Check with our activities office if you have questions.

## **Brightening the Days of Others**

Thank you DeAnn Harris for making a difference for our health care residents by making fresh flower arrangements for them. It is a glimmer of light in their day!





Suggested read for December: "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn", by Mark Twain

> Interested in reading and discussing popular books? Monday, December 12 @ 3:30pm Zarrow Manor Library

