

The Founders Club

A special re-dedication and ribbon-cutting was held on Saturday, July 22nd at The Founders Club, the former Sheboygan Senior Community. The day was the 31st anniversary of the passing of Donald R. Schmitt, former president of Jos. Schmitt & Sons Const. Co., Inc. Steven and Reed Schmitt, along with Reed's wife Terri and two daughters, Erin and Christine, recognized their father/grandfather in a tribute to one of his "legacy construction projects" originally built in 1970 with two major additions in 1981 and 1996. The Founders Club is a dorm-style housing project to address the growing need for workers in the hospitality industry (Blue Harbor, Kohler Hospitality & Osthoff Resort) as well as interns and co-op students for many of our growing, successful local companies including Acuity, Alliant Energy, Johnsonville, Kohler Company, Nemak, Sargento, Sartori and Vollrath Company. It represents a \$5 million investment by the brothers and continues their commitment to ensure that none of their father's legacy projects be demolished during their lifetime as well as recognizing the "founders" of some of Sheboygan's most successful companies. In 2009, Steven and Reed purchased the former Sunny Ridge Nursing Home originally built in 1970 along with 3-outlots from Sheboygan County. They sold the 6-story building to Real Estate Equities Development of Eagan, Minnesota who worked with Jos. Schmitt in converting the abandoned County-owned nursing home into the Taylor Park Senior Apartments. The brothers will continue to find similar development opportunities to pay tribute to their father's incredible local construction legacy and to provide work opportunities for their highly-skilled and dedicated workforce.