

## Administrator's Message- Jayna

We are so thankful that we have had another month to prepare for the Coronavirus. During this time, we are closely monitoring the latest information from the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and we are working with Brown County Public Health and our provider partners, Sleepy Eye Medical Center, Allina, and Carris Health-Redwood Falls to strengthen our preparation for a possible outbreak of Coronavirus at our facility. As we all know, this virus spreads easily, especially among older populations so we must be prepared.

I would like to discuss some of the plans we have in place that prioritize the health and wellness of our Grandfriends. As stated last month, we continue to monitor staff for illness symptoms and take their temperatures before they enter the building. We have clear protocols for staff to stay home and not come to work or leave work if they are ill or symptomatic. All staff are wearing facemasks to prevent spreading the virus before exhibiting any symptoms

Twice a day all residents are screened for symptoms of cough, fever, shortness of breath, or sore throat and their temperature is recorded. We are currently keeping two resident rooms empty so we can quickly move and isolate a resident showing any symptoms even if it happens during the night when fewer staff are available. All new admissions are quarantined for 14 days which means they stay in a private room with a private bathroom. All resident meals are served in their rooms with staff available to help those that need assistance with eating or more supervision. Residents are wearing cloth face masks if they come out of their rooms. We have been blessed with many donations of cloth masks.

It is important for you to know our staff have always been trained in infection control practices and follow established protocols based on that training, but we are also using surveillance to monitor for compliance and then educate staff if needed.

Housekeeping is busy cleaning and wiping down frequently touched surfaces more often. All equipment such as lifts are cleaned before being used for a different resident.

All visitor restrictions continue except for end of life care. Although our Grandfriends and staff are coping well, we need to consider the long-term effect of social distancing. We are putting a lot of effort into making sure our Grandfriends do not become isolated in this time of visitor restrictions, no communal dining, and no group activities. While we are practicing physical distancing, we are keenly focused on engaging our residents with our staff and each other through daily routines and individual activities.

We will continue to update you on important news or emerging issues. As we navigate this challenge, we remain focused on providing exceptional care and service for our Grandfriends.

## Corporate Culture - St. Louis Guanella

As with most things these days, the Novel Corona Virus has led to a shift in direction for our Corporate Culture page. We had been looking at the life of our Founder, St. Louis Guanella, as presented in the pictures on the wall across from the Activity Room at Divine. We'll get back to that someday, but for as long as visitors are not permitted to enter the Home, it seems like a good time to change our focus.

St. Louis Guanella was a catholic priest in the diocese of Como, a large city in Lombardy, North Italy – today one of the regions hardest hit by the COVID pandemic. Fr. Guanella died in 1915, having suffered a stroke a few months before his death. On the third anniversary of his death, the Sisters had planned to gather from the various cities of Italy for a memorial Mass but were unable. The plans they had made were put to a stop by another pandemic: the Spanish Flu. It was a pandemic that lasted nearly two years and took far too many lives.

While the anniversary of St. Louis' death was an important event for the Sisters, doing whatever they could to prevent the spread of the pandemic to the residents they cared for was a greater priority. Today we are facing similar events. Although many people are feeling the financial burden and sense of isolation caused by the virus, most of us don't know anyone personally suffering from its deadly sting. This, coupled with the nicer weather and yearning to get back to a normal pace of life could lead us to dismiss the seriousness of our global situation.

In Italy, seven of our Sisters have died so far of the coronavirus. They were all elderly and being cared for in our Retirement Homes. Here in Minnesota, as of Wednesday April 22, 156 nursing homes have had the virus affect either residents or staff, with 771 residents becoming ill. We have been blessed not to have any cases so far here in Sleepy Eye, either at Divine or the Care Center. But we need everyone's help to continue to keep our Grand-friends safe.

We love to see all of you here for window visits. Window visits are safest when the window is closed and you talk to your loved ones on the phone. If you stop by their room and the window is open, please stay at least six feet away. Outdoor visits are likely to catch on as you see our Grand-friends out in the courtyards on warm days. Even outdoors, social distancing is very important. The minimum distance we should keep is six feet – and perhaps a little more if the wind is blowing. Healthy guests are welcome to shout out a hello, but please remember to stay at least 6 feet away from our gates and fences. We are asking you to share in our Corporate Culture of keeping others safe, even at the cost of personal sacrifice. So please do come. We don't want you to stay away entirely – just six feet!

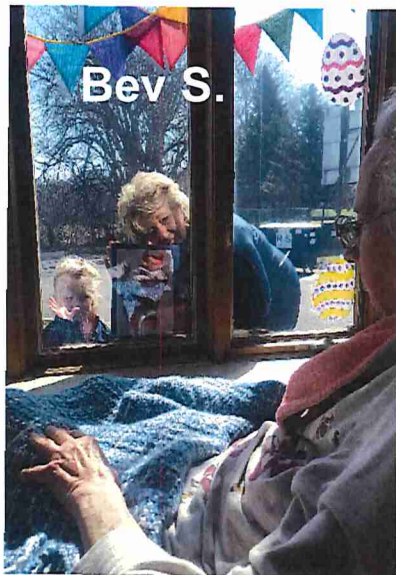
## Window Visits at Divine



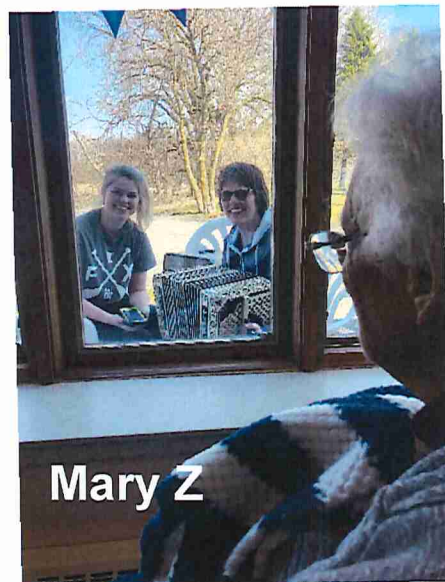
Betty L.  
with a note  
for her  
husband



Easter Time  
Chicken Races



Bev S.



Mary Z



## Home Improvements

With the on-going Stay at Home order, we haven't been up to many Home Improvements lately. That being said, we have still been seeing some improvements.

Spring is an improvement in itself (even if you like winter!), but with the thawed snow appears the twigs and dead leaves that protected the gardens through the cold months. Thanks to some wonderful volunteers, they have been disappearing day after day, revealing lovely green grass and the first sprouts of day lilies and other flowers. Our volunteers have also been busy cleaning out gutters and sweeping sidewalks for us. Our deepest gratitude for their hard work and "behind the scenes" service.

We can't work on any indoor projects for at least as long as visitors are not permitted entry, but we are hoping to get a start on some needed outdoor work, namely the roofs. With a one-story building that spans nearly a quarter mile, we have a lot of roof! In recent years, we've replace the roof from St. Mary's street as far as the north end of the Mall (from the Lake Villa Maria apartments, through the Café and Fireside Room, the Chapel and the Mall). The biggest section still in need of replacement is over the residence part of the Nursing Home. The building went up in 1993 and the roof has held up fairly well. But it is time...

We requested bids last spring but other projects took precedence. This year, with no indoor projects able to be done, we are revisiting the bids and looking seriously at starting this work. It's unlikely we'll begin before our next News Letter is out, but life has been unpredictable lately, to say the least, so you just never know.

## Gratitude for Divine Providence Staff Endowment Fund Update

We've been blessed not to have COVID affect any of our residents or staff yet, and we are praying it will stay that way. One of the measures we are taking to minimize the risk of introducing it here is to require all new residents (and old ones, if they are returning from a hospitalization) to remain in isolation in a private room for 14 days.

The State expects us to approach them as if they have COVID since the first symptoms might not appear for up to two weeks. This means wearing full "PPE" (masks, gowns, safety glasses and gloves) every time we enter their room, even if just to say hello. Our staff don't flinch. When help is needed, help is given – with a smile that can be seen despite the face mask.

We want to thank all of you who have shown your gratitude to our staff during this challenging time through your gifts of chocolate bars and other packaged treats, as well as flowers, cards, kind words and well-wishes. And, of course, thank you for your continued contributions to our Gratitude for Staff Endowment Fund.

May God bless you now and always.

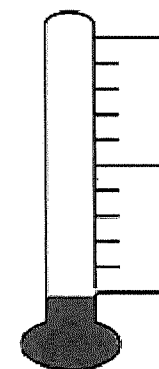
### With Gratitude to our donors from April

Memory of Irene Tauer from Gary/Laureen Tauer,  
Marlys Schmitt

Memory of LaDonna Havemeier from Jay/Ellen  
Van Cura

Sheila Schmid

**\$1,000,000**



**Total to date:  
\$58,000**





Marge S. working on an  
Ester Word Search



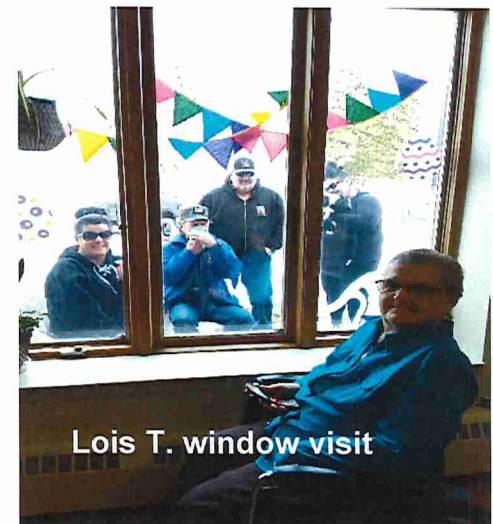
Helping Hands:  
Harry H (right) and Cindy and  
Kallie (below) do the "Spring  
Cleaning" for the Courtyards



John V. window visit



Marie celebrating her birthday



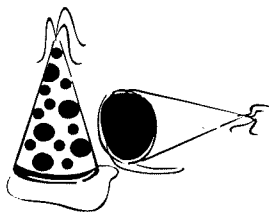
Lois T. window visit



## MAY BIRTHDAYS

Employees: Brian Frechette, Jeanne Ludewig, Patty Rosenhammer, Randy Renner, Jared Beltz, Hannah Gomez, Arian Saenz, Susan Meyer, Brianna Polesky, Geri Swenstad

Residents: Monica Geschwind



## Memorials

Veronica Johanneck from Kathy Manley, Delores Haas

Bob Mickelson from Ann/Russell McCabe

Irene Hauser from David/Christine Rosenhammer, C/T

Pippert, JoAnn/Tom Green, Scott/Judith Surprenant,

Anne Suh/Alan Hauser

## Directory

Facilities Director.....	Sr. Rhonda Brown
Pastoral Care.....	Sr. Bernadine Ugolini
Administrator.....	Jayna Groebner
Director of Nurses.....	Michelle Augustin, RN
Social Services.....	Shirley Hornick, LPN
Activity Director.....	ShellyRae Zinniel, ADC
Business Manager.....	Sue Thram
Dietary Manager.....	Donna Sellner, CDM
Environmental Services.....	Randy Renner
Health Information Services/HIPAA.....	Deanna Marshall, LPN
Lake Villa Maria Housing Mgr.....	Audrey Milbrett

Divine News & Views is a monthly newsletter issued by Divine Providence Community Home and Lake Villa Maria Apartments, Sleepy Eye, MN. The News & Views editor is JoAnn Saffert

## Thank You

Audrey/Ken Schons - donation for treats for staff

Mathiowetz Construction-donation of money

DPOCH Auxillary - donation of money

Tom/JoAnn Green -donation of money

Pat/Ann LaCourse-donation for Easter Flowers/ staff treats

Caroline Welsch-donation for Easter Flowers

Marie Dauer-donation for chapel candles

Hardees-breakfast for staff

Tom/Lisa Pelzel-treats for staff

Marie Dauers family-treats for staff for Marie's birthday

Bernadett Berger-prayer and holycards for residents and staff

Napa Auto-boxes for gloves

Susan Walker, Patty Haala, MN Dept of health, Rebecca Rahn,

Beth Davis, Myrtyce Remus, Gladys Steffensmeier, Cathy

Williams, Sr. Bernadine for making and/or donating cloth face masks

## WISH LIST

We have been blessed to have many generous friends who made it possible to purchase necessary items to enhance the lives of our residents. Thanks to all who have contributed.

### Please consider our following needs:

WellnessVR	\$5,000.00
2 Vital Signs Monitors	\$2,825.00 ea