

## Administrator's Message- Jayna Groebner

This past month our staff coordinated and supported numerous outdoor visits that provided an opportunity for families and friends to connect with our Grandfriends. These visits helped reduce feelings of isolation and kept us connected with the outside world. We recognize the sacrifices that many have made during this isolation period and we value the critical role that families and friends play in our Grandfriends quality of life.

Recently the Minnesota Department of Health issued new guidance that will allow a family member or friend to be designated as an Essential Caregiver (EC) and be allowed onsite and/or in-room visits with their loved one. The Essential Caregiver program would allow designated individuals who provided care and support to their loved one before the pandemic to resume some of those activities. This caregiver would have to be approved by the resident and meet the criteria. This is a recommendation, not a mandate or a requirement. The EC would have to follow the same infection control policies as our staff and wear the same protective equipment. A mask and eye protection (goggles) must be worn during the entire visit. Movement would be limited in the home to the resident room or another designated area. The EC would not be able to take the resident out into the community except for an essential medical appointment, so walking around Sleepy Eye Lake would not be an option. The EC would need to stay 6 feet away from our staff and other residents, so unless the resident resides in a private room, the visit would need to be moved to another designated area.

For the most part the difference between an outside visit and an inside visit besides the obvious location is that the visitor would be able to get physically closer than 6 feet, but would need to wear a mask and goggles at all times.

We have worked so hard the past few months to implement and maintain infection control practices that have allowed us to keep COVID-19 out of our home and we are proud of our diligent efforts to prevent, control and mitigate this deadly virus. We intend to remain cautious in modifying our visitation policies to protect the health and safety of our staff and residents.

To protect the health and safety of our residents and remain COVID-19 free, we will not be implementing an Essential Caregiver program at this time. We are actively monitoring the presence of COVID-19 in Brown County and will assess our decision on a weekly basis to decide when we can safely implement the program in our home. As more and more businesses have opened, Brown County is beginning to see an increase in the number of positive cases of COVID-19. We cannot deny the deadly impact this virus has on high-risk vulnerable populations. We must do all we can to protect them and our dedicated staff.

When we do decide to implement the program, we intend to take a staggered approach. Our first step would be to identify anyone who was providing physical care before the pandemic which would be a small number since our staff provide cares. Next, we would identify residents who could benefit from an EC visit for psychosocial health. Criteria used for this determination could be based on a mood assessment or physical changes such as weight loss, decrease in appetite, or sleepiness.

In the meantime, we will continue to offer window visits, outside visits, virtual visits, and compassionate care visits (if appropriate). We encourage you to take advantage of these visitation opportunities while we continue to monitor and assess opening our setting to Essential Caregivers.

# Motorcycle Parade



Nursing staff, Alicia Zuhlsdorf supporting the June 30th motorcycle parade.



Mary Sellner enjoying the motorcycle parade





Outdoor Rosary outside the Angel Courtyard with the Braulick & Martinez families



Learning about fishing



Katie Bertrand in the Red, White and Blue parade.





Those in attendance at the Red, White, and Blue Parade witnessed the debut of Divine's trishaw called the Chat. This specialized tricycle has an electric assist, and can hold two Grandfriend passengers and a rider pilot. The design of the trishaw makes it an easy pedal for the pilot. Just ask Sheila Sellner who became our Chat's first pilot!

The Chat provides an opportunity for Divine's Grandfriends to experience a bike ride free of their usual mobility limitations. The purchased Chat arrived from Copenhagen, Denmark via our approved grant from the MN Department of Human Services and an organization called Cycling Without Age. Cycling Without Age is a non-profit organization that takes the elderly and less abled citizens out for free bike rides on specialized bicycles called trishaws. This program has grown rapidly throughout the world and is now represented in 42 countries.

When our crate arrived months after the initial order date, we were hesitant to unwrap it! No one was sure how many pieces needed to be assembled, or what damaged pieces we might find from the crate's oversea travel. We were pleasantly surprised and relieved at how well our Chat had endured its voyage and the minimal maintenance needed.

It was fitting for the Chat to be a part of the Red, White, & Blue Parade because it represents what all ages can do for one another; spreading small-town care and spirit! We're excited to offer trishaw rides around our campus and look forward to expanding the program.

Written by

Shelly Rae Zinniel



## Corporate Culture - St. Louis Guanella

There are many, many things we used to take for granted that we simply can't do now, or at least we think twice before doing them. The new coronavirus has us rightly concerned and apprehensive about everything from vacationing to running errands. But of all of the things that have changed, spending face-to-face time with the people we love is often the one we miss the most.

As this time of restricted visiting in long-term care settings wears on, it reveals ever more clearly the wisdom and goodness in the desire of St. Louis Guanella to create a sense of "family" within the Homes he established and those that would be established by his congregations of Sisters and Priests / Brothers. Because of his conviction that God, our loving and Provident Father, created each of us to be His dear and precious children – members of His own family – St. Louis Guanella envisioned a community where all would live in loving concern for others.

One of our goals here at Divine (and in all of our "Guanellian" houses) is to help our staff develop that sense of genuine care and heart-felt concern for the well-being and happiness of each of our residents. In part this includes adapting our routines to honor residents' preferences and choices, greeting each person with a smile (yes, you can see a smile even when someone is wearing a face mask), and offering a little extra "TLC" when someone is feeling down or anxious. It may not seem like much, but simply knowing that someone cares can often lift one's spirits and make a difficult day seem bearable.

This is our Corporate Culture; this is the spirit of St. Louis Guanella. St. Louis Guanella died in 1915, just a few years after visiting the United States, so all of the people who knew him personally have now passed on. But they left us many delightful stories about their impressions and memories of him.

As one story goes, a small fire had erupted in a chimney of one of Fr. Guanella's care homes. Several men rushed to the scene with buckets of water to help put out the fire. Not knowing the difference, one Special Needs resident arrived with the bucket of wine the Sisters had prepared for dinner. With his lumbering gait, this dear man arrived after the fire was already out. Seeing his disappointment at being too late to help, Father Guanella praised the resident's efforts and thanked him heartily for bringing a drink for all the workmen who put the fire out. He called sent someone to get some drinking glasses and soon praises resounded from everyone for the "help" the special needs resident gave that day.

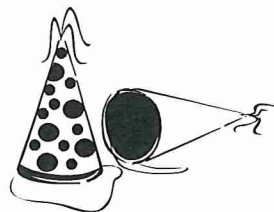
Yes, there are many things we can't (or hesitate to) do these days. But a kind word, a smile, and a little word of acknowledgement can still bring joy to our own lives and the lives of those around us. We thank our staff for living the spirit of St. Louis Guanella and being the ones to bring this love to our residents during these difficult times. St. Louis Guanella, pray for us.



# AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Employees: Michelle Augustin, Macayla Lyman, Judy Havemeier,  
Michael Wegner, ShellyRae Zinniel

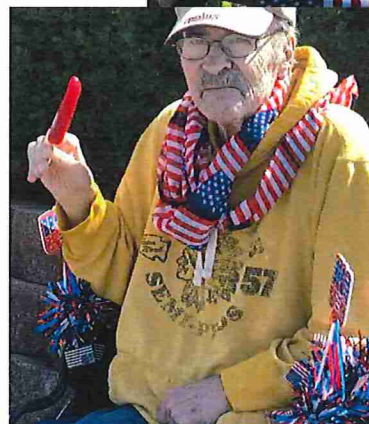
Residents: Joan Richert, Helen Rieger



## 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

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Enjoying treats at the Red, White and Blue parade



## Memorials

**Bernice Eckstein** from Cliff/Bernette Schumacher

**Frances Heyman** from Cliff/Bernette Schumacher

**Lucille Burdorf** from Darlene Hintz, Marlene Jenson

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## Thank You

**Thank you** to Annette Johnson's grandson, Chad Schaefer for the donation of air freshners

**Thank you** to SleepyEye Ace Hardware for their flower donation

**Thank you** for the Garden lilies sent to us in memory of Rosemary Rothman

**Thank you** FFA members for sending us cards of encouragement

**Thank you** Leading Choice Helpers for your donation to Lake Villa Maria in memory of Barb Vickery

**Thank you** to Denise Kalkhoff for the bingo donation to Lake Villa Maria

**Thank you** to Dorothy Eckstein for a donation

**Thank you** to Marie Dauer for chapel money for candles

**Thank you** to Robert/Joleen Hoffmann for their donation

**Residents and staff enjoying the red, white and blue parade.**

