

Administrator's Message- Jayna

Sleepy Eye is a wonderful community to work, live and operate a nursing home. Thanks to the Sleepy Eye Servicemen's Club Charitable Gambling and the City of Sleepy Eye, we have a new view from our windows that overlook the lake. The lake with its wonderful sunsets has always brought peace at the end of the day, but now we also have new flag poles along the shoreline to add to the tranquil setting. Each pole has a United States Flag at the top and then either the Minnesota, City of Sleepy Eye, or branch of the military flag below.

The Servicemen's Club has been generous to our home in the past too by helping us purchase equipment for our staff and residents. Last year, they helped us purchase five Virtual Reality (VR) headsets that residents can use to travel to places like a beach in New Zealand or attend a concert in Minnesota without ever having to leave home. How great that our residents can still travel even during a pandemic when traveling is discouraged. A few years ago, they helped us purchase two new med carts for our nursing department. Since medical equipment is so expensive, the Divine Providence Auxiliary also helped with that project.

The Auxiliary relies on their annual November Bazaar for the bulk of their fundraising that they use to support free Cable TV for our residents and equipment for the home. This year the traditional Auxiliary Bazaar is cancelled, but the committee will still be sending out raffle tickets. Many charitable organizations have had to modify or cancel their events this year. We will sure miss all the families and friends that gather in our home during the Bazaar and support our mission, but will also take comfort in residing in such a caring community.

Gratitude for Divine Providence Staff

Endowment Fund Update

October is here, which means we should have been celebrating our second annual Thank You Mass and dinner for our major benefactors (those who have given \$1,000 or more in the past few years). The event started last October following a tremendous outpouring of generosity for our Gratitude for Staff Endowment Fund. In looking for a way to thank all of our donors, we decided upon a Gratitude for Benefactors evening, including all who donated to the Gratitude Fund or directly to Divine Providence Home or Lake Villa Maria. With all of the social distancing requirements, it wasn't possible to host the event this year, but we look forward to resuming the new tradition next fall.

Speaking of our Gratitude Endowment Fund, it has grown to a little over \$74,000 to date! The fund was started just two years ago at the prompting of some grateful families who noticed the loving care their family members received while at Divine. Our staff generally aren't allowed to accept gifts, so their idea of an endowment fund provided the perfect way to acknowledge the dedicated people who provide that care. We are grateful to all of you who have helped this fund to grow so quickly, giving a perpetual reminder to our staff that their dedication to our Grandfriends is noticed and appreciated.

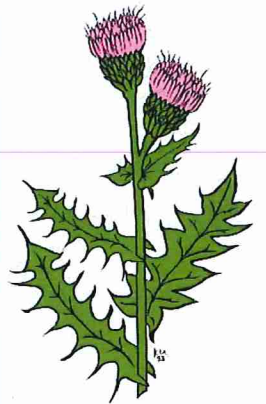
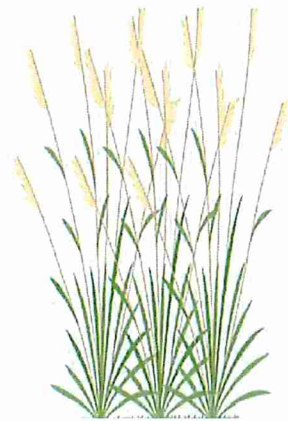
On another note, you may have heard that some of our Grandfriends have started gathering in the Dining Room at noon to share their meal together. We are only allowed to seat one person per table, so it's not the home-like environment we try to foster, but it is a step in the right direction. Our thanks to the Kitchen Staff for developing and carrying out the plan to get hot meals to everyone in the four-corners of the nursing home – and now the Dining Room, too!



Enjoying our celebration of ice cream with homemade waffle bowls, and multiple ice cream flavors from MN-EIS from New Ulm.



Sleepy Eye Trinity Lutheran Church Confirmation Class Service Visit



Home Improvements

With our roof project completed, most of our Home Improvements projects this month will be relatively small. We're sprucing up a few areas – some weather-worn doors need to get painted and some bushes need to be trimmed. The ceiling tiles that revealed the leaks in the roof are slowly getting replaced and we're hoping to finish that up soon. There is also a dream to replace the sign at the north entrance but plans are still in the making for that project.

With the weather cooling down, our "outdoor visits" may go back to being "window visits." We added a cement pad outside the Sleepy Eye Room windows to make it easier for families to sit by the windows. Anyone who remembers the mud there last spring will enjoy this "improvement." The cement won't make it any warmer, but at least it will be neater!

Our biggest jobs for October are more "behind the scenes" tasks. Our heating system is aging and parts of it need to be replaced. Like last month's project (the new make-up air unit for the kitchen), it's nothing anyone will notice, as long as we get the job finished before it turns cold!

Once visitors are allowed inside again, we might be able to move forward with our plan to improve the sound system in the Living Room. For many of our Grand-friends, hearing is a challenge at the best of times. Now, with all resident activities need to be socially distanced, it can be even more of a challenge. We've been using our Karaoke as our microphone and speaker, which works reasonably well for a tight-packed group. But with social distancing, residents sitting farthest away aren't always able to hear what's going on "up front." The sound system would place speakers in the ceiling throughout the Living Room, bringing quality sound to everyone.

There's no telling when we'll be able to move forward with our Shower Room improvements, or other upgrades that are long-overdue. We keep taking one day at a time, and praying for an end to COVID.

Corporate Culture - St. Louis Guanella

Founder's Day! October 24th. I'm not sure how they figure it in secular corporations, but for us, Founder's Day is the day St. Louis Guanella left this earth to enter the eternal embrace of his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. In Catholic circles, we would call it his "Feast Day."

It was in 1915 that Father Guanella left the family he had gathered around himself to care for the poor and orphaned, the elderly and the disabled. There was no rejoicing that year, nor probably in the first years after his death. But he had assured the Sisters, Priests and Brothers that since the works belonged to God, God would take care of them.

Now, 105 years later, the works of God that started through the inspiration of St. Louis Guanella are going strong in many parts of the world. Our Sisters and Priests have homes for the elderly in Italy, Switzerland, Romania, Chile, and right here in the US. In Asia, Africa, South America and Mexico, we run schools for children and homes for adults with Special Needs; workshops and clinics for the poor; help for families in need and many other works. Each mission was founded on Fr. Guanella's conviction that God is truly our Father, and we are His children – "members of the household of God." That makes our Founder's Day is a cause for celebration everywhere.

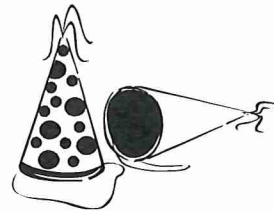
For the past 10 years, we had the joy of having Bishop LeVoir lead us in our celebration here at Divine Providence Home. Each year, he came to celebrate the Mass in in our Chapel and to share in a meal prepared by our wonderful kitchen crew. His presence as the leader of our diocese brought special blessings to us all and to our Home. We are grateful for his pastoral kindness and that he shared our love for St. Louis Guanella.

This year with the Bishop's retirement, our celebration will be much simpler, including a Mass with everyone socially distanced, and a special meal for the residents and staff. Since the visitation restrictions remain, we sadly cannot invite you to join us this year. We eagerly look forward to welcoming you back to join us next Founder's Day!

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Employees: Patty Berkner, Sophie Gustafson, Kathy Moldaschel, Kevin Montemayor, Monica Rehbein, Sue Thram, Brittany Yerty

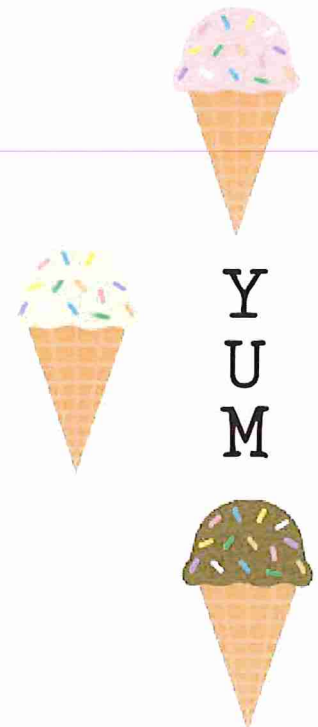
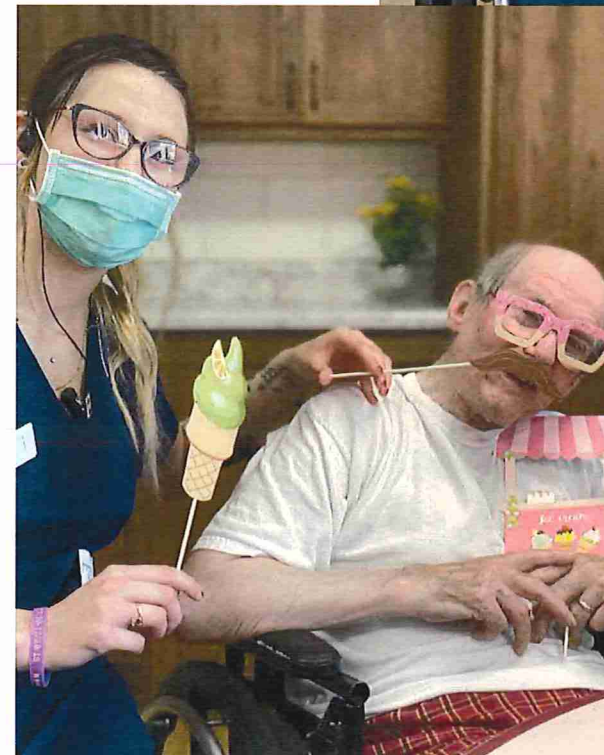
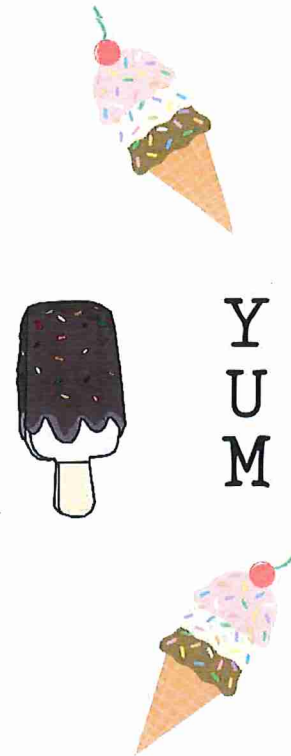
Residents: Elaine Stueber, Deb Hillesheim, Beverly Schroepfer, Gladys Feser, Judy Farrell



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 Casi Giese



Thank You

*Mike Weiss for the donation of fresh produce

*Lyle Fischer for your donation of a garden-ready, monster of a watermelon!

*Frank Ziegler family for their fresh sweet corn donation

*Bernette Schumacher for donation of carrots

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Lorraine Roiger, Rita Sabatino and John Vait family and friends.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen



Memorials

***Lorraine Roiger** from Ken & Karen Schaefer

***Doris Schroepfer** from Neil & Rene Mangen and Suzanne Brown

***Mary Ziegler** from Mary Ziegler family

***Rita Sabatino** from Ken & Karen Schaefer

***John Vait** from Joe & Pam Burrage, Robert & Joleen Hoffmann, Marie Dauer

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:

3 wider beds	\$2435.00 each
Replace welcome sign	\$4000.00

On behalf of the Divine Providence Auxiliary, Myrtyce Remus has volunteered to sell the many beautiful quilts, fleece blankets, baby gift sets, pillow cases, etc. they have made directly from Divine Providence Marion Conference Room by appointment only. You can reach her at 701/429-3657. Please enter the building using the Marion Conference Room door, facing south. There will be signs posted.

Anyone interested in volunteering some time to embroidering dish towels for Divine, please contact Mary Sommerfeld at 507/380-2865. Towels will be provided.

As of August 3rd, 2020, the Regional Ombudsman assigned to our nursing facility is Ms. Sylvia Hasara. Contact information for Sylvia is listed below:

Sylvia Hasara
Regional Ombudsman
PO Box 1022
Lakefield, MN 56150
Phone: (507) 662-6652
Fax: (507) 662-5644
sylvia.hasara@state.mn.us