

## Administrator's Message- Jayna

Finally, state and federal guidance that limited visitation in our home has been revised. As a result, we can safely relax some of our visiting rules. While visitation is greatly expanded, there are a few distinct exceptions tied to unvaccinated residents and residents with confirmed COVID-19 infections, or in quarantine.

Fully vaccinated residents can now choose to have close contact (including touch) with visitors as long as both are wearing a well-fitting face mask that covers the mouth and nose. Witnessing families hug again for the first time in a year is a wonderful boost to our resilience. While all the zoom calls and greetings through windows this past year were so much appreciated, there is nothing like a hug to release anxiety and sadness that comes with being isolated.

Visitation locations now include the resident's room if the resident does not have a roommate. Families have expressed great joy to be able to visit in our Grandfriend's room again. We are grateful too because we rely on families to decorate resident rooms, exchange winter for spring clothing, or take home other items that are no longer needed. Our housekeeping staff have kept the rooms clean, but our families help keep them tidy.

Now we will not automatically have to stop indoor visitation for two weeks if we have a new case of COVID-19 among residents or staff (Outbreak). Instead visitation can resume after one round of facility wide COVID testing. Indoor visitation is still possible, as long as transmission is contained to a single area of the facility.

While this is encouraging news, we are still in a pandemic and need to take precautions such as limiting the number of visitors in our home, screening visitors for illness, monitoring for facemasks, practicing hand hygiene, and social distancing from other residents, staff, or visitors. Because of these infection control requirements at this time, the front door is still locked and we are asking visitors to make appointments to schedule their visit.

For the past year, if a resident wanted to leave the home for a non-medically necessary outing they had to quarantine in their room for 14 days upon their return. The new guidance allows residents who are fully vaccinated to come and go without the need to quarantine upon return.

It has been a difficult year, and this is one step closer to normalcy. Vaccinations have paved the way for these reunions. As vaccination increases and COVID-19 cases decrease, we look forward to more visitation and social interaction among residents, friends, and family.



Sr. Adeline and Elaine Stueber doing some fun St. Patrick's Day painting!

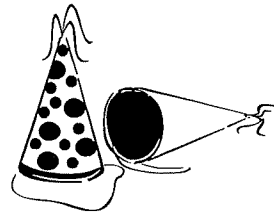


# APRIL BIRTHDAYS

# Home Improvements

Employees: Casi Giese & Rachelle Zinniel

Residents: Marie Dauer, Evelyn Mathiowetz, Aut Seidl, Richard Helget



## 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

Happy Easter!

With the nicer weather here (and hopefully here to stay), we are looking forward to more home improvements this month.

The blinds are up in the residents' dining room. Despite the lessening of restrictions for visiting, we are still only permitted to have one resident at each table in the dining room, whether for meals or activities. There is still no hint from the department of health or the CDC as to when this restriction might be modified. In the meantime, as many residents as possible are enjoying the lake view for breakfast, lunch, bingo and other activities.

The shower repairs are well underway so we are hopeful that this project will be completed this month. We are also getting more of the resident rooms repainted and spruced up. Our census is still averaging just under 40 residents. With lighter visiting restrictions we are expecting that this will change soon, so want to get the rooms ready to welcome the new Grandfriends who will come our way.

Spring will also bring a sprucing-up of our north courtyard doorway. The shrubs that have grown there for a dozen or so years will retire, opening the way for expanded access to the living room window. The plan is to install a cement patio that will enable visitors and entertainers to come closer to the window and interact more engagingly with our Grandfriends. This will be a boon to those who don't like the outdoors!

Additionally, although we are permitted to welcome visitors on a wider scope, we are still not permitted to welcome live music entertainment into our Home. Fortunately, some of our entertainers are able to perform outdoors in the courtyard. The open patio will allow us to welcome the musicians to come closer to the windows, enabling residents to enjoy the show from the living room and courtyard-facing bedroom windows. This will also allow us to welcome other outdoor visitors – such as youth, church and school groups – when future flu-bugs or other challenges keep us from welcoming visitors indoors.

As always, we are so very grateful to all who through their prayers and support help us to continue to improve our Home here at Divine. God bless you.



**Making Shamrock Snack Treats**



## Gratitude for Divine Providence Staff

### Endowment Fund Update

Our Gratitude for Staff endowment fund has been growing for almost two-and-a-half years now. We shared a little information about Endowment Funds last month and have a bit more information to share this month:

#### **What is a perpetual endowment fund?**

A perpetual endowment fund is an investment fund that provides stable, continuous financial support to Divine Providence Home forever. The fund's principal is never spent. It is legally protected and grows through prudent investing.

Each year, we receive a financial distribution from our fund. We have the option to use it for staff compensation or to reinvest it in the fund.

#### **Who manages the fund?**

Our fund is stewarded by the Catholic Community Foundation of Minnesota (CCF). CCF is the largest Catholic community foundation in the country. As a professional steward of charitable assets, CCF will provide diligent oversight and ensure our endowment is invested in accordance with current laws and best practices—and in alignment with our Catholic faith.

Our sincere thanks to all have made our Gratitude for Staff Endowment Fund possible and who continue to support our staff and our Home in so many ways. Easter Blessings to you!

Our deepest gratitude to our benefactors in March:

**Sr. Audrey Goldschmidt**

Memorials

**Ray & Lorraine Rothmeier** from Alan & Betty Wilhelmi

**Donny Hirsch** from Elizabeth Zwaschka

**Patricia Reynolds** from Joe & Irene Maertens

**Alfred Schmitz** from Irene Schwartz

**Dennis Sellner** from Linus & Shirley Hoffmann, Barb Windschitl,  
Dale & Jackie Schroepfer

**Velma Hoffmann** from Irene Hauser

**Roman Braulick** from Fred & Bernadette Hoffmann

**Keith Moldan** from Annette Johnson family

**Fr. Hackert** from Gary & Marilyn Vait, Adam & Beth Kosel, Dennis  
& Kathy Helget, Tom & Lisa Pelzel

We are always pleased to add to our mailing list the names of others who may be interested in Divine Providence Community Home. You may add them by completing the form below. If you or someone on the list, no longer wishes to receive it, please let us know.

Please send News & Views to

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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

Thank You

\*Thank You to the Stark 4-H Club for "Day Brightener" cards, we love the Happy Mail!

\*Marie Dauer for donation for Chapel candles

\*Marge Weiss for donation for Easter flowers

\*Alan & Elizabeth Wilhelmi for donation for Easter flowers in memory of Ray & Lorraine Rothmeier

Family Council

DPCH wants to hear from family members interested in forming or learning more about a family council. Many nursing homes have one and they accomplish many good things for the resident. Meet as you wish. We will provide the space for you to meet. All we need is 3 and we can call it a family council. Can be friends, or other family members of residents; maybe they would like to join. Please cut out and mail the completed form to: Divine Providence Community Home, ATTN: Shirley Hornick, 700 3rd Ave NW, Sleepy Eye, MN 56085 or drop it off the next time you are at the home.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Going bananas on National Banana Pie Day!



Dorothy & Kat creating Spring Art



Aut and his new Spring "chick!"



READY,  
AIM,  
FIRE!

