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News & Views

February 2025

Divine Providence
Community Home
700 3rd Avenue NW
Sleepy Eye, MN 56085
(507)794-3011



Divine Providence Community Home
ENRICHING LIVES THROUGH QUALITY SERVICES AND CHRISTIAN CARE



A note from the Administrator- Jayna

Holidays

A common and popular employee benefit is holiday pay. Unlike some businesses though, we cannot close the doors for the day and give everyone the day off, so it is necessary for some of our employees to work on a holiday. In fact, many employees work every other holiday. Divine for many years has paid our employees double their regular hourly rate when they work a holiday and will continue to do so. The designated seven holidays including New Years, Easter, Memorial Day, 4th of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas have also been a constant, but this year four additional holidays are required by a new law for Minnesota nursing homes.

During the 2023 legislative session the Nursing Home Workforce Standards Board was created in law to conduct investigations into working conditions in the nursing home industry and adopt rules establishing minimum employment standards reasonably necessary and appropriate to protect the health and welfare of nursing home workers. One of the first actions by this new board is the Holiday Pay Rule that determined nursing home workers who work on 11 state holidays need to be paid at least time and a half. Luckily, the board did allow the exchange of holidays from the list to alternative days if most of our employees agreed, so our employees voted to add Easter and remove Juneteenth celebrated on June 19th.

This past month one new holiday was added with Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebrated on the third Monday of January and this month, Washington's and Lincoln's Birthday celebrated on the third Monday of February was added. The other holidays added later this year will be Indigenous Peoples Day, the second Monday in October and Veterans Day on November 11.

While we believe our staff deserve these additional holidays, our concern is that the state mandated this benefit, but did not include any funding to pay for it. As most know, our rates are set by the state based on cost, but it takes about two years for the costs to get in the rates. Also, there is a pending litigation of the new holiday pay rule and a court decision could reverse the new rule. In the meantime, you will notice a few less staff in nonessential areas on these new holidays similar to weekend staffing. For example, the business office is closed on holidays.

Snowballs were putting a chill in the air as the residents tried to keep them from rolling off the parachute



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Edmée Paredes

Activities Assistant



How long have you worked here? 14 months

What does your job entail? Assist in the little things that make the residents happy- including visiting with them, and taking them for a bike or van ride

In terms of success, which accomplishments are you most proud of?

I am proud of the connections that I am able to make with the grandfriends and empathize with them with a smile on my face.

What is the best part about working at Divine? To have Jesus in the chapel and be able to stop by anytime!

Who are some of your biggest inspirations at Divine? Some of my biggest inspirations are Beth & Shelly Rae. They go the extra mile for the grandfriends and they are always looking for ways for the grandfriends to feel loved and taken care of

About your family: My husband, Victor, he is totally passionate about his job at Schwartz Farms. My youngest son Josemaria is full of energy and is a lot of fun to hang out with. My middle son Santi loves baseball and is a quiet person. Lucia is a junior and keeps us from here to there. She is a very artistic young lady and she is also deeply involved in FFA.

A fun fact about yourself most people don't know: When I was little, I used to take naps in our dog's kennel and my parents would spend so much time looking for me!

Thank you

- St. Mary's School Kindergarten and 4th Graders for their shared artwork
- St. Mary's 4th and 5th Graders for a fun morning of games with the Grandfriends
- Shared piano music performed by Nora Coulson
- Holly Simon and Guitar Students for sharing their musical pieces
- St. Mary's School Juniors for portraying their chosen saints
- St. Mary's School 9th Graders for helping us prepare for Valentine's Day with treats and 1st & 2nd Graders for sharing songs
- Mary Jo Hoffmann on behalf of Koozie Group for donating fleece blankets

Memorial Received In Memory of Cletus Franta:

- Rosemary Franta

Memorial Received In Memory of John Klotz:

- Ruth Hillesheim

Memorial Received In Memory of Margie Broich:

- Gwen Broich

Divine Providence extends our heartfelt sympathies to the family and friends of John Klotz.



A native of New Ulm, John grew up and returned home after serving in the United States Army. During his school years, he was an avid athlete and earned the City Athlete of the Year award. He continued his sports career on a football scholarship at South Dakota State University for one year before ending due to injury. After this, John was stationed in Germany while he served in the U.S. Army. He was a husband to Judith and had 2 children. He worked in construction and for various companies, until he retired. John's hobbies included mushroom hunting and family time. At Divine Providence, one of John's favorite pastimes included bird watching.



John Klotz



In this picture, Gladys F. has just completed 25 more rosaries that were blessed and ready to be given to the St. Mary's second graders who are preparing for First Holy Communion. Gladys started the St. Raphael Mission Rosary Makers June 1, 1998. Initially, Gladys and several other women gathered the necessary supplies and mailed the completed rosaries for worldwide destinations. At 90 years of age, Gladys has been a part of making 49,367 rosaries and continues to independently make rosaries in her room.



Ginny & Verna

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK ACTIVITIES



Etien



Aut



Florence & Irene