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News & Views

March 2026

"May good luck be with you wherever you go,
and your blessings outnumber the shamrocks that grow.
May your days be many and your troubles be few,
May all God's blessings descend upon you,
May peace be within you, May your heart be strong,
May you find what you're seeking wherever you roam."



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

Most people know that Divine is a wonderful home because of our amazing staff, Sisters, and volunteers. But behind the scenes, another dedicated group of volunteers make a tremendous difference: the Divine Providence Home Auxiliary. Passionate about enhancing the lives of our Grandfriends, the Auxiliary focuses on the “extras” that go beyond daily medical, emotional, and recreational care. While our staff provide essential services in a safe and nurturing environment, many of the additional comforts and enrichment activities our residents enjoy require resources beyond government funding and operating budgets. This is where the Auxiliary steps in.

The Auxiliary’s biggest annual fundraiser is the November bazaar, but their work continues year-round through multiple revenue sources, including selling greeting cards and managing our gift shop. One of their most successful projects is the creation of handmade quilts. Each quilt is carefully stitched with attention to detail, making every piece unique. They are perfect for gifting or adding warmth and beauty to a home.

Thanks to the Auxiliary’s hard work and the generous support of our community, at their annual meeting in February, the Board was pleased to present Sr. Sharon with a \$20,000 check to fund “extras” for our residents. One purchase already benefiting both residents and staff is a Sara Steady resident lift, recommended by our therapy team. When using the device, instead of pushing up to stand the resident pulls up to stand. Pulling up can be easier for some residents and is a good transition tool from a lift with a sling to this type of lift that does not use a sling or a battery. This purchase leaves a substantial amount of funds remaining, and decisions on how to use them will be made in the future.

In addition to equipment, the Auxiliary donated \$4,100 to support bingo, entertainment—including musical groups and the beloved miniature goats—and discretionary funds for the activity department to enhance programs. Every year, the Auxiliary also pays more than \$6,000 to cover the entire cost of the residents’ cable TV package, ensuring that all Grandfriends can enjoy their favorite programs.

We are truly grateful for our dedicated Auxiliary group, whose efforts support our nursing home and enrich the lives of our residents. Their contributions are vital to our continued success and help make Divine a place where our Grandfriends thrive.



Divine Providence extends our heartfelt sympathies to the family and friends of:

Orpha Lendtt



While Orpha only spent a short amount of time at Divine Providence, she was quickly welcomed by the staff who cared for her. During her younger years, she married the love of her life, Arno, and together they had two children, Peggy and Dan. They lived on a farm where they worked hard and Orpha was a devoted homemaker. As the years went by, Orpha’s greatest joys were of seeing and spending time with her five grand children and eleven great grandchildren. Family meant everything to Orpha, and they were by her side in her last days. Faith also played a large role in Orpha’s life, being a dedicated member of St. John’s Evangelical Lutheran Church in Sleepy Eye.

Karen Schaefer



Karen held many titles during her life, but wife, mother and grandmother were the ones she loved the most! She married the love of her life, Kenneth Schaefer, in the summer of 1970. They were blessed with three children - Chad, Michelle and Nathan - who continued to bless them further with ten grandchildren! Over the years, Karen loved attending their sporting and school events, as well as having her whole family home for Christmas, where she spoiled them with her hosting abilities. She knew these blessings were her “prized treasures” in life! When she wasn’t spending time with them, or chatting with one of her five siblings over a good cup of coffee, Karen had worked at St. Mary’s Credit Union in Sleepy Eye, Citizens Bank in New Ulm and was the bookkeeper for Jake’s Pizza in New Ulm. She also enjoyed embroidery, playing bingo, doing crossword puzzles and going on casino trips with Diane!

It Could Be Your Lucky Day!

Our very first “Quilt of the Month” is a beautiful multi-colored floral pattern with a light green trellis background, so fitting for spring & St. Patrick’s Day!

A famous Irish saying says, “A good laugh & a long sleep are the two best cures for anything” & how lucky would you be to be sleeping under that beautiful quilt!

Quilts are also great gifts with so many bridal showers, baby showers & graduations coming up this spring! This stunning quilt, along with almost 40 others are available to view on our Divine Providence website:

www.https://divineprovidencehome.org/

Finally, the luck of the Irish is inspiring us to lower the prices once again so please take a look & give us a call if you would like to see a few up close! We would be happy to help!



Thank You

- Thank you to DPCH Auxiliary, Clarice Bruckbauer Pilon, Denise Johnson, Lucy Moldaschel, Charles Longworth, Jim Beck & Myla Doss, Jodi, Liz & Katie Wild, Collette Irlbeck, Marge Weiss, Phyllis Schouvieller, Fr. Paul Schumacher, Delores Spaeth, Irene Schwartz, Steve & Karen Appel, Gretchen Hesli, Valerie Fahrendorff, Lori Vereide, Tricia & Steve Schreiber, Joan Grausam, Mary Lou Mathiowetz, Myrtyce Remus, Dr. Robert & Sharon Rubey, Neil & Rose Mangen, Brenda Schroepfer, Tony & Joyce Hoffmann, Myron & Cathy Seidl, Cecilia Senkar, Bev Gilliland, Bernette & Cliff Schumacher, Lisa & Tom Pelzel, K.V. Murthy, Tom Larson, Chuck & Mary Beth Botz, Bev Ibberson, Jeff & Lisa Gulden, Fred & Kathy Braulick, Jerry & Linda Haala, Loren & Jeanne Ludewig, Errol "Nip" & Rita Hauser, Joe, Cindy, Justin & Lauren Steffl, Steve & Colleen Zeig, Cathy Haala, LeAnna Windschitl, Shelly, Jolly & Liz, Bernadette Hoffmann, Rae Mudick, Greg & Mary Gangelhoff, Brad & Becky Sellner, Mary Jane & Kathleen Huberty, Rita Pyan, John & Eileen Hirsch, Mike & Brenda Walden, Jody & Vicky Beltz family, Mary & Jerry Sellner, Steve & Lois Hillesheim, Ann & Russ McCabe, Kay Jo Marti, Sharon Glotzbach, Bill & Kris Eckstein, Patty & Jerry Kopel, Sue & Jeff Gazich, Kay & Mark McGuire, Patty & Dean Anderson, MaDonna Sellner, Cheryl & Kelly Blick, Jan O'Marron, Dan & Christine Hoffmann, Mike & Tina Losleben, Daryl & Lois Helget, Jim & Mary Sommerfeld, Katie Reynolds, Rita & Bob Weiss, Rosie & John Schwartz, Darlene & Kenny Tauer, Linda Schroepfer, Kathy & Jerry Laabs, Mark & Mary Lou Steffl and GL & MJ Bloodgood for their donations in memory of Darleen Carroll
- Thank you to Shirley Hornick for her donation in memory of Arlene Havemeier
- A special thank you to Deb Parker, Service Director of the Minnesota Knitters Guild, for the generous donation of multiple hand-knitted mittens. These beautiful creations were used in our mitten-themed memory and movement games, bringing smiles, stimulation and joyful activity to our grandfriends. Their time and talent warms our hearts!

LUCKY

Employees:

Katie Bertrand, Seth Tessmer, Candy Regules-Castorena, Faith Freidrichs, Karen Beech, Timothy Rivera & Tai Schultze

Residents:

Kathleen Wichmann, Lois Sveine & Caroline Welsch



Maintenance

Employee Spotlight Carlos Martinez



How long have you worked here? **Going on 5 years**

What does your job entail? **Making sure everything is working properly and fix anything that is broken. Also cutting grass or moving snow.**

What inspired you to to work in a nursing home? **Maintenance position - something I always wanted to do.**

What is your favorite part of the day at Divine Providence? **Knowing that I'll come to work and do something different. Also getting to see that everyone's in a good mood and work with staff that's always in a good mood.**

What's your favorite memory while working at Divine Providence? **Coming to work and do what I love - fixing stuff and being outside mowing. Also the company's parties we have every year and great staff!**

About your family: **I'm married to Idalia, the love of my life. We have 4 children - 2 girls and 2 boys - and a dog. Priscilla is the oldest, she's 22 years old. Jazzibelle is 20 years old, CJ is 18 years old and Adan is 15 years old. Dallas our pet is 6 years old. We love to spend time together like watching movies, eating outside in restaurants together.**

A fun fact about yourself most people don't know: **I'm scared of heights, but I love riding rollercoasters 😊 LOL!**



Athlete of the month

Virginia Herring

Virginia was nominated for Athlete of the Month due to her dedication to improve her overall health. Virginia noticed that her balance wasn't as good as it used to be and talked with therapy about being seen. Therapy completed an assessment, and it was noted that she was a high fall risk due to her overall weakness. She continues to work hard and has improved greatly since starting therapy. Virginia keep up the great work, we are so proud of you!





Marj

I think it's nice when a guy notices that you've dressed up. It's nice to be complimented.



Georgie

The most important things in a relationship are patience and forgiveness. If I had to give one piece of advice to a young couple, I'd say that there are going to be a lot of bumps in the road. That's why you have to be patient with each other.



Adeline

The secret to a happy marriage is doing things together and never alone. Patience is one of the most important things in a relationship. A couple more important things includes reminding each other you do love them, listening to one another, and continuing to do things together.



Lois

Be kind to one another, it's easy to take each other for granted.



Verna

As a couple you should agree with one another. If you don't, you will have to talk it out.



Agnes

Remember to be kind at all times because you never know that would have really been the time you wish you did. You never know how long you have with one another.



Etien

Do what's expected of you and behave yourself. I dated my wife for 6 months and gave her a ring and that was it.



Irene

Don't fight with each other; learn how to get along!



Lavon

A secret to a happy marriage is to not ever lose the connection and don't take it for granted. You only get once chance at it. Always remember to remind each other you love them. Always be honest and laugh with one another.



Bev

Make a home and make home important. Make sure you laugh together.



Betty

One thing to always remember is always compromise with each other. Try not to always correct your partner. An important thing to try is to forgive each other. Something that keeps love strong is patience.

love thoughts from the grandfriends



Rose

Valentine Card Making



Betty & Verna



Gladys

Joann



Marj



Shirley & Edmee

Mitten-themed Memory & Movement Games



Carol



Marion



Marj



Lavon



Lois



Ronda



Bev

The grandfriends received Valentine votives made by the St. Mary's 9th graders



Marion



Kathleen & Santi



Lorelai



Adeline

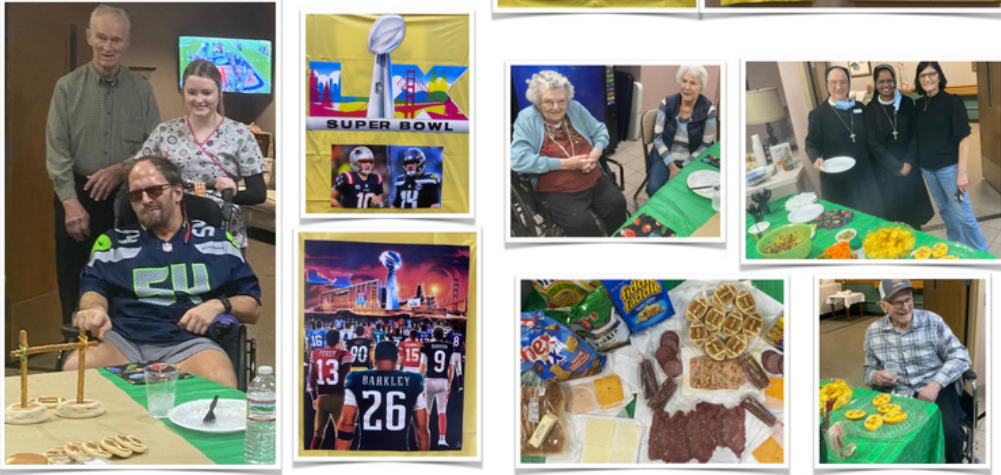


Shirley



McKenzie & Pat

Brad's Super Bowl Party



The Miss Sleepy Eye Royalty and Candidates came to visit!



They came to visit with the Grandfriends, help decorate their windows with hearts, and bring them to Chapel.



The Divine Providence Auxiliary met in February to review their year. They had a wonderful turnout at the Fall Bazaar in November, which allowed the Auxiliary to donate a substantial amount back to Divine Providence! We are beyond grateful to the Auxiliary for all they do, including making and selling their beautiful quilts, hand towels and so much more!



During Catholic Schools Week, students from St. Mary's stopped by to play games with the Lake Villa Maria residents, as well as sing songs for them!

For Divine Providence's Employee Christmas Party, many attended the Deuces Wild Dueling Pianos performance at the Sleepy Eye Event Center. Sr Sharon, Sr Ann & Sr Samala got noticed by the band and helped lead "How Great Thou Art"



OUR NEEDS AT DIVINE PROVIDENCE

As of February 28th, we have received \$127,176.00 for our annual appeal. Our biggest project this year is raising funds for the remaining window replacements. We are incredibly grateful for all the generous donors that are helping us maintain our building, grounds, and purchasing necessary items to enhance the lives of our residents!

Please consider our following needs:

Handicapped Van	\$70,000.00
Window Replacement	\$382,000.00
Window Blinds for Resident Rooms	\$4,300.00
Sun Awning for North Courtyard	\$8,000.00
Automatic doors for ambulance entrance	\$7,000.00

Please consider Divine Providence Community Home with a bequest gift in your Will or Estate Plan, a Life Insurance Policy, or an IRA Rollover. It is an opportunity to strengthen the legacy of caring for those who are most vulnerable, and keeping them safe.

Shop for Cards, Gifts, and Quilts at DPCH!

Visit the Auxiliary gift shop filled with religious gifts, handmade quilts, pot holders, embroidered dish towels, baby gifts and more! Cards are available for \$1.00 in the main lobby for any occasion.

A complete listing of quilts available with sizes and pricing is available on the website under the "Quilts for Sale" tab at:

divineprovidencehome.org

Proceeds benefit the Auxiliary which supports Divine Providence.

DIRECTORY

Facilities Director.....	Sr. Sharon Williams
Administrator.....	Jayna Groebner
Director of Nurses.....	Michelle Augustin, RN
Social Services.....	Shirley Hornick, LPN
Activity Director.....	ShellyRae Zinniel, ADC
Business Manager.....	Sheena Hoffmann
Dietary Manager.....	Sharon Liese
Environmental Services.....	Randy Renner
Health Information Manager/HIPAA.....	Alexa Crim
Lake Villa Maria Housing Manager.....	Gina McKeown

Website: divineprovidencehome.org

Facebook: Divine Providence Community Home

A note from the Facility Director - Sr. Sharon

SPRING FORWARD

It looked like it was coming for a few days there but can it actually come soon enough to suit most of us? We got way too spoiled these past two years with very moderate weather. The fish houses came off the lake, after 3 houses having sunken partially into the lake, and a sighting of swans and Canadian geese have appeared there in their place. Those swans are so beautifully white! They nested last year in the waters behind us.

March brings us many events, having Lent begun with Ash Wednesday already behind us. Then Sunday, March 8 begins Daylight Savings Time again and the loss of that wonderful one hour of sleep.



On the heels of that comes two of our favorite and beloved Saints: St. Patrick and St. Joseph, grateful that neither fall on a Friday this year! Both hold such great prominence in both our festivities and devotion. March 25 brings the Feast of the Annunciation that announces the future coming birth of Jesus. Then, almost immediately we flow into Palm Sunday, March 29, Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem. What a great month for preparations in our spiritual lives, to once again re-focus our personal, family, and community priorities. Lent is that moment, period for reflection, where we can put into place those changes we need for our "attitude adjustment."

It is also time again to begin thinking of our Annual Appeal! Over the past years, this program has helped tremendously to assist us with upgrades in items for both the residents, as well as the facility structure itself. Shortly you will be receiving this year's Appeal. Our gratitude in advance for whatever you may discern in your giving abilities.