

Norseland News

THE OFFICIAL MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF NORSELAND NURSING HOME



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 and announcements.

Announcements

ANNOUNCEMENT: INFLUENZA OUTBREAK

We have had a recent influenza outbreak within the building. Those who have influenza will be isolated to rooms for 7 days and must be free of fever for 24 hours before coming off isolation. We will have signage posted on front door to make visitors aware of current outbreak status. As always, if you are not feeling well, please consider postponing your visit. Thank you for understanding.

-Starr Onshus, RN
 Director of Nursing

Employee Highlights:

WORK ANNIVERSARIES:

- Tina Myhre, RN: 8 yrs.
- Jo Olson, CNA: 2 yrs.
- Peggy Stellner, Laundry: 17 yrs.

NEW EMPLOYEES:

- Marion Ligtenberg: CNA
- Laci Bunch: CNA
- Hailey Kelley: CNA - In Training
- Amanda Hoff: RN
- Kelvin Hanson: Maintenance Assistant
- Eric Polito: Cook

ANNOUNCEMENT: NEW CEO

Norseland Nursing Home is owned by the city of Westby and operated by Bethany St. Joesph Corporation (BSJ). The CEO of BSJ, Craig Ubbelohde, will be retiring after 41+ years in senior services administration. He has been with BSJ for 12 years. His last day will be Friday, March 29th. BSJ's new CEO Kim Gochanour will be starting in her new role on March 25th.

-Megan Arnold, NHA
 Administrator

Special Events



Bingo with Westby High School

Students from Westby High School will be coming to play bingo with the residents of Norseland Nursing Home on March 1st from 1:30-2:30PM. Thank you to Justin Running, High School Interventionist & Dean of Students for reaching out and coordinating this opportunity! We look forward to spending time with the students!



Reuben Special Meal

Our Recreation Therapy Department will be making homemade Reuben Sandwiches served with Cream of Potato soup on Thursday, March 14th for the lunch meal. Please sign up with Recreation Therapy Department if you would like to participate!



St. Patrick's Day Social

We will be celebrating St. Patrick's Day with Reuben dip appetizer and green punch while playing St. Patrick's Day themed bingo. Our social will be held on March 15th @ 2:00PM. Join us for an afternoon of fun!



National Oreo Cookie Day

March 6th is known as National Oreo Cookie Day! We will be offering Oreo Sundaes as a special treat to celebrate. Join us in enjoying a sweet treat and learning trivia facts about the famous Oreo cookie!

Community Engagement

Annual Easter Egg Hunt



Norseland Nursing Home will be partnering with the Westby Lions to host a city-wide Easter Egg Hunt on the lawn at Norseland Nursing Home on Saturday, March 30th @ 10:00am. If weather permits, older kids will be outside (ages 4+). All younger kids (3 & under) will be welcomed inside for an indoor Easter egg hunt. Residents will be ready to distribute eggs as well (think Trick or Treat style but with Easter Eggs!) Thank you Westby Lions for including us in this awesome community event!



St. Mary's Youth Group

A youth group from St. Mary's Parish in Coon Valley will be coming to play bingo with the residents on Saturday, March 9th from 2-2:45pm. We are excited to be welcoming youth from our community to offer intergenerational programming! We look forward to your visit!



Westby Kindergarteners

Norseland will be partnering with Westby Kindergarten classes to celebrate the first day of Spring on March 19th at 9:30am by playing Spring themed bingo! We always enjoy visits from our friends at Westby Elementary! Thank you Westby Elementary for partnering with us to offer this opportunity!

Special Thanks to our Donors

Tamsen Morgan

Thank you Tamsen for your generous monetary gift to our Recreation Therapy Department! Monetary gifts made to our Recreation Therapy Department allows us to continue offering unique and engaging experiences for our residents that wouldn't otherwise be possible. With your monetary gift, we will be bringing in specific entertainment to go along with our themed days throughout National Nursing Home Week. More details to come in the near future! Thank you for your generosity!



Ruth & Dave Amundson

Thank you to Ruth & Dave Amundson for your continued support of Norseland Nursing Home's Recreation Department. Your monetary gift will provide our residents with a new experience of a "Circus" themed day in July 2024. We will be bringing in a professional juggling and comedy show. We look forward to providing this opportunity for our residents and their families to enjoy together! Thank you for making this program possible!

In Memory of David Burkhalter

Thank you to Sharon Sharratt for your generous monetary gift in memory of former resident David Burkhalter. With your monetary gift, we will be providing a Christmas themed social to kick off the holiday season with showtune entertainment from Whitefish Bay, WI. More details to come as date get closer. Thank you providing this opportunity for residents and their families!



In Memory Of....

"Those who touch our lives stay in our hearts forever."

Beth Cary



April 20, 1935 - Feb. 19, 2024

Beth E. Cary, 88 of Westby, WI, passed away peacefully Monday, February 19, 2024 at Norseland Nursing Home in Westby. Beth was born April 20, 1935 to Earl and Elva (Smith) Thomas outside of Ontario, WI. She married Jerald Cary on September 19, 1953.

Beth and Jerald raised five children on the farm where they instilled the values of hard work, being kind and helpful to family, friends and neighbors. There were lean years and better years, but always good years and good times. They raised the usual farm crops of hay, corn and oats. They even did pickle and strawberry patches. When raising tobacco Beth fed the crew every day, to some that may sound like a lot of work, but Beth loved to bake and cook.

She always grew a large garden and canned much produce from it. She would find innovative ways to preserve food for the winter, including using a wringer washing machine to churn their own butter. This was during an NFO milk strike in the 1960's. The butter rose to the top and the leftover "whey" was fed to the pigs so it was a dual purpose.

After the kids were grown and moved off the farm, Beth and Jerald moved into the village of Cashton.

Beth went on to school at WWTC in LaCrosse and earned a degree in dietary management. She then served as the dietary manager at Norseland Nursing home until retirement.

Bernice Schroeder



Sept. 20, 1919 - Feb. 20, 2024

Bernice Frances (Kenworthy) Schroeder, age 104, passed away peacefully at Norseland Nursing Home in Westby, WI, on February 20, 2024. She spent the last four weeks of her life in their excellent care and that of St. Croix Hospice.

Bernice was born the second child of Juliette (Nale) and John Kenworthy on September 20, 1919, in Stark Township of Vernon County, Wisconsin, growing up on an 80-acre hillside homestead on South Jug Creek. She graduated from La Farge High School in 1937, and from Vernon County Normal School in 1939. She taught for seven years in rural schools in Vernon County including Otter Creek, Rockton, and Jug Creek where her duties included not only instruction but at a time when teachers carried in water and built fires before the students arrived.

On October 21, 1946, she was united in marriage to Charles Harvey Schroeder and for the next 24 years they operated Schroeder Brother's Mink Ranch in Stark Township, La Farge, WI. They retired from the fur business in 1969, when the property was claimed by the Federal Government for the Kickapoo Flood Control Project, an endeavor that was never completed. They remained in the Kickapoo Valley, building a retirement home overlooking the majestic hills and she moved to Viroqua shortly after her husband's death. The last 14 years she lived independently in the Bethel Birchwood community with her beloved cats, Cali and Heidi.



Bernice Schroeder

Continued...

Bernice had a great sense of community and service. She was a member of the La Farge United Methodist Church where she taught Sunday School for many years and the United Methodist Women. She was instrumental in the building of the first medical clinic in La Farge and physician procurement, a member of the Star Valley School Board and was an award winning 4-H leader for the Kickapoo Rustlers. Bernice also served on the Vernon Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees, Hospital Foundation and Hospital Auxiliary, Douglas Mental Health Services Board, Bethel Home Foundation, and the Historic Viroqua Temple Theater (ARTT). This year, she was recognized as a 50-year member of the Order of The Eastern Star Viroqua Chapter No. 35.

Her passion for preserving history, especially the history of the land, is reflected in her life membership in the Vernon County Historical Society where she served as a volunteer. She lobbied for recognition of the former Kickapoo landowners who were displaced with the failed flood control Kickapoo Dam project which was halted due to environmental and monetary concerns. Their memory is now preserved at the Star Valley Memorial site that she co-founded on the Kickapoo Valley Reserve. This site contains many perennials that were relocated from the original home locations in which she had a hand in transplanting most of them. She was instrumental in establishing the KVR Community Garden located at the Visitor Center where she worked tirelessly as a volunteer which bares a plaque with her name inscribed as "Gardener and Friend".

Bernice defined herself through love of nature and the land and the bounty it has to offer. From hunting deer and turkeys to planting thousands of trees to reforest a 70-acre parcel of pastured land she called "Schroeder Woodland" embodied her passion and joy to pass to future generations.

"Our Deepest Sympathy"

To send our deepest sympathy
Just doesn't seem like enough.
We know how your grief must
burden you,
How this time must be so
rough.

But try to believe in your heart
of hearts,
That your pain won't last
forever,
That sadness will lighten a
little each day,
and you'll eventually feel much
better.

When that day comes, your
memories
Will focus on the good, not the
bad.
Instead of feeling burdened by
tears,
You'll cherish the happy times
you had.