

# Norseland News

THE OFFICIAL MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF NORSELAND NURSING HOME



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## Employee Highlights

### WORK ANNIVERSARIES

Patti Bollinger, RN - 14 years  
Alyssa Brown, Receptionist - 1 year  
Amber Neuhaus, Housekeeping - 4  
years

### NEW EMPLOYEES:

Madison Kolbo - Dietary Aide  
Elizabeth Rutten - CNA

## Announcements

As we move into November, I want to thank our residents, families, and staff for their continued support and understanding as our census continues to grow. We know that sharing a room can sometimes be an adjustment, and we are thankful for everyone's kindness, flexibility, and willingness to work together to make Norseland welcoming and comfortable for all.

Flu season is officially here and our nursing staff has been working on administering vaccines to residents and staff who chose to receive them. We appreciate everyone who took that important step to help keep our community healthy.

We're also excited to share that we are in the process of transitioning from ECS to PointClickCare (PCC) for our charting system. This change will help streamline documentation, improve communication, and ultimately enhance the care we provide. Our staff are doing a wonderful job learning the new system, and we appreciate their patience, teamwork, and commitment during this transition.

We also want to acknowledge the recent news that Quartz Medicare Replacement will no longer be covering Vernon County. We understand that this change is both unfortunate and challenging for many. Please know that the Vernon County ADRC, along with Norseland's social worker and administrative team, are available to assist residents and families with questions and to help explore coverage options moving forward. We encourage anyone affected to reach out for guidance or support.

Wishing you all a warm, healthy, and joyful November!  
-Angie Viau, Administrator

## WE ARE HIRING

### Available Positions:

- CNAs (Night & PMs) - **\$2500 sign on bonus**
- Nurse (LPN or RN: Days or PMs) - **LPN \$10,000 sign on bonus | RN \$20,000 sign on bonus**
- Nursing Support Assistant

Apply today at: [bsjcorp.com/employment/](https://bsjcorp.com/employment/)

# Special Events

## Thanksgiving Meal



Our dietary department will be serving a traditional Thanksgiving meal on **Thursday, Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>** for the **noon** meal. The Norseland Auxiliary furnished homemade lefse! If you plan to join your loved one for the Thanksgiving meal, please purchase your meal ticket at the **front desk** by **Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> (cost is 5\$)**. Additionally, if you plan to take your loved one out for the holiday, please notify nursing staff so we can accommodate your loved one. Happy Thanksgiving!



## Thanksgiving Bingo with Westby Elementary

Westby Elementary 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders will be visiting Norseland on **November 25<sup>th</sup>** from **1:30pm - 2:15pm** to play Thanksgiving Bingo with the residents. We look forward to an afternoon of sharing smiles and laughter! Thank you Westby Elementary for your dedicated community engagements efforts.



## Veteran's Day Program

We will be welcoming the **Westby High School Chorus** for a special **Veteran's Day program** for all residents to enjoy. This program will be held in the Norseland dining room on **Thursday, Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am**. A special thank you to Tara Lyons, Chorus Director for including Norseland in Westby High School's community engagement efforts! Residents and staff always enjoy visiting with the students!



## Thanksgiving Worship Service

We will be hosting a Thanksgiving worship service with Pastor Amanda Schultz-Garcia from Trinity Lutheran in Cashton. This service will be held **Wednesday, Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am**. Thank you Pastor Amanda for nourishing our spiritual needs!

# Community Engagement

## Westby United Methodist Church



Thank you to the members of Westby United Methodist Church for offering to purchase, wrap, and deliver gifts to 9 residents at Norseland! Gifts will be delivered by Santa at our Christmas Party on **Tuesday, Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00am.** Thank you for making our Christmas season extra special!

If any community members, local businesses, or organizations are interested in purchasing Christmas gifts for our residents, please reach out to Ange DeWinter in Recreation Therapy to be provided with a detailed wish list on behalf of residents.

**adewinter@bsjcorp.com | 608-634-5605**

## History Alive Project

Thank you to the History Alive Project for your generous donation of decorative pumpkins for each dining room table. The History Alive Project is a local historical organization in Westby that continues to provide historical educational programming and informational trifold for all to enjoy. Previous materials include: One Room School Houses, Norwegian Traditions and Immigration, Syttende Mai, Westby Ski Jump, and History of Tobacco Production. Thank you for continuing to include Norseland Nursing Home in your community engagement efforts!



## Vernon County Awards

Norseland Nursing Home is honored to be nominated for the **Non-Profit Excellence Award** with the formal award ceremony on **Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>** at Venue in the Valley in Coon Valley. Winners of various award categories will be announced live at the banquet. Thank you to those that took the time to nominate and recognize Norseland's dedicated efforts in serving our residents and their families. We appreciate your continued support!

### NON-PROFIT EXCELLENCE AWARD

- |  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Driftless Curiosity                        | RedLou Library                |
| Driftless Humane Society                   | Sleepy Hollow Ice Cream Truck |
| Driftless Wisconsin Tourism                | Tabby Town                    |
| Fourthstream                               | VARC                          |
| Kickapoo Valley Acoustic Music Association | Viroqua Plastic Free          |
| Norseland Nursing Home                     | Wisconsin Beard Brothers      |
| Sharing Peer Support Group                 | Youth Initiative High School  |

# Special Thanks to our Donors



## *Rita Kotek - Lap Quilts*

Thank you Rita Kotek of Bangor for your thoughtful donation of lap quilts for residents to utilize on the accessible UTV, when out of the building for appointments, and when outside visiting with our pet therapy chickens and peacock! We appreciate the sharing of your time, talent, and materials with the residents of Norseland!

## *E & B Barns*



Thank you E & B Barns, a local carpentry business specializing in custom barns, sheds, and hunting blinds, that donated an insulated hunting blind for our pet peacock to utilize throughout the winter. A peacock showed up at Norseland Nursing Home about 2 months ago. After several attempts of trying to find its rightful owner with no avail, Norseland has "adopted" the feathery friend. Residents, families, and staff have LOVED watching him as he enjoys peaking through facility windows. Thank you E & B Barns for your generous donation and providing a structure so that ALL may continue to enjoy our friendly peacock.



## *Guided Painting Program*

We hosted a guided painting program with local artist Barb Larsen during the month of October. Residents had the opportunity to paint a fall gnome with guided step by step instructions. Everyone had so much fun! Be sure to stop by our CNA station where their artwork is beautifully displayed. This program was made possible by donations to our Recreation Therapy Department.

# In Memory Of....

*Sharon Walker*



Nov. 29, 1936- Sept 28, 2025

Sharon Ann Walker, age 88, of La Farge, found peace on Sunday, September 28, 2025, at Norseland Nursing Home. She was born on November 29, 1936, to John and Grace (Shell) Geddes. Sharon graduated from Hillsboro High School with the class of 1955 and married Jerry Walker on March 14, 1959. She cherished her family the most. Before her legs couldn't hold her any longer, she and Jerry were longtime members of the Wisconsin Country Music Association and danced their way around the floor gloriously. Sharon was committed to being a stay-at-home mom and taking care of her family. She was a faithful member of the local churches. Sharon was also the head election inspector for the Village of La Farge for many years.

Left grieving as they hold her memory in their hearts are her husband, Jerry Walker; her children, Randy (Jeanne) Walker, Cindy (Bob) Clausius, Tim (Kim) Walker, Kip (Kris) Walker, Pam Walker, and Jill Walker; her grandchildren, Casey, Collin, Carter, and Cale Clausius; Brandon Walker and Brittany Quinn; Kade and Kolby Walker; Kinsey Wilkin; and two bonus grandchildren, Olivia Leis and Nick Hammer.

She was blessed with several great-grandchildren and is further survived by her sisters-in-law, Cleota Caldwell and Linda Geddes; other relatives and friends.

Sharon was preceded in death by her parents; her sisters, Hope (Milford) Knight, Doris (Clarence) Wipperfurth and her brother, Jack Geddes.

Gone from our sight but never from our hearts.

In lieu of flowers, memorials to the La Farge Free Methodist Church, La Farge Ambulance, or the La Farge Senior Citizen Meal Site.

## Our Deepest Sympathies

By Kelley Ropper

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.

