

# Norseland News

THE OFFICIAL MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF NORSELAND NURSING HOME



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## Employee Highlights

### WORK ANNIVERSARIES

Lori Brown, CNA: 12 yrs  
Theresa Brueggen, Dietary Aid: 13 yrs  
Sue Haakenson, Cook: 7 years  
Grace Hoff, CNA: 2 yrs  
Gabby Olson, CNA: 1 yr  
Janae Short, Dietary Manager: 4 yrs

### NEW EMPLOYEES:

Julie Dobush: HIM

## Announcements

As we close out another year, I want to take a moment to reflect on the past twelve months and express my heartfelt gratitude to our residents, families, and staff. This time of year always reminds us of the importance of connection, kindness, and community—and I'm proud to say those values shine brightly here every day.

### A look back at 2025

This year has brought both challenges and achievements. We've continued to focus on providing exceptional care, and creating a warm, welcoming environment for everyone who enters our doors. I want to thank our staff for their hard work, dedication, and compassion—they are the heart of everything we do.

### Looking Ahead to 2026

As we prepare for the year ahead, our focus will remain on quality care, teamwork, and continued growth. We're exploring new programs and opportunities to enhance residents' daily lives and strengthen staff support.

### A Message of Gratitude

To our residents—thank you for the joy, laughter, and stories you share each day.  
To our families—thank you for your trust and partnership.  
And to our staff—thank you for showing up each day with dedication and heart.  
From all of us, may your holidays be filled with peace, health, and happiness. Here's to a bright and hopeful New Year!

**-Angie Viau, Administrator**

## WE ARE HIRING

### Available Positions:

- CNAs (PMs) - **\$2500 sign on bonus**
- Nurse (LPN or RN: Days or PMs) - **LPN \$10,000 sign on bonus | RN \$20,000 sign on bonus**
- Van Driver - on call position

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

# Special Events



## *Classic Christmas Showtunes & Norwegian Treats*

We will be hosting a Christmas social with classic Christmas showtunes entertainment by Lucy and His Lady on **Dec. 3rd at 10:00am**. This program was made possible by donations made in memory of Orlan Holte. Thank you to the generous donors: Harlan & Delores Melby, Dennis & Pam Olson, Betty Barstad, Tim Iverson, and Orlan Holte family. We will also be serving traditional Norwegian baked goods by Kvarnstrom's Bakery. This was made possible by donations made by Bland Clinic in honor of Dr. Calkin's retirement. We look forward to a festive afternoon of getting into the holiday spirit!

## *Christmas Worship Service*

Pastor Amanda Schultz Garcia and Pastor Alyssa Weaver will be coming together to lead a Christmas Worship on **Dec 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00am**. Residents will have the opportunity to receive communion. We look forward to a morning of worshipping together and celebrating the Christmas season!

## *Christmas Party*

We will be hosting our resident Christmas party on **Tuesday, Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00am**. Two Sisters (Jean Geier and Mary Beth Smith) will be here to perform. **Santa** will be here to deliver gifts while residents enjoy gourmet cupcakes from **Cupcake Lane**. Gifts were graciously donated by **Holiday Helpers** and **Westby Untied Methodist Church**. Cupcakes were made possible by donations made by **Bland Clinic** in honor of Dr. Calkin's retirement. We look forward to celebrating!

## *Christmas Meal*

Norseland will be serving a traditional Christmas meal including lefse donated from the Norseland Auxiliary. Christmas meal will be served at noon on Dec 25<sup>th</sup>. All meal tickets cost \$5 and need to be purchased by **Dec 17<sup>th</sup>** at the front desk. Please let nursing department know if you plan to take your loved one out of the building instead.



# Community Engagement



## *Norseland Auxiliary*

The Norseland Auxiliary will be helping **decorating for the holidays** on **Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>** and **Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>**. They will also be providing each resident with a **haircut gift** from Cheryl's Norse Styles as a Christmas gift. We are thankful the Norseland Auxiliary and all they do serve our residents and their families.

If interested in joining the Norseland Auxiliary, please reach out to Ange DeWinter in Recreation and she will be happy to connect you with the Norseland Auxiliary as they are always looking for new members.

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



## *Westby Elementary Christmas Caroling*

We will be welcoming the Westby 1<sup>st</sup> graders to sing Christmas carols on **Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am**. This program is offered as a part of our ongoing partnership with Westby Elementary school. We look forward to singing along to Christmas tunes with our special friends!



## *Elizabeth Carpenter Photography*

**Elizabeth Carpenter Photography** will be donating her time and photography talent for our **"Portraits with Santa"** event. Residents and their families are welcomed to visit on **Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am** to get a professional Christmas photo with Santa and their loved one. If you plan to attend, please **RSVP by 12/8** with Ange DeWinter in our Recreation Department so we know to be expecting you.

**Email: adewinter@bsjcorp.com**

**Phone: 608-634-5605**

# Special Thanks to our Donors

## *Norseland Auxiliary*

Thank you to the Norseland Auxiliary for their generous donation of televisions for our resident rooms. This thoughtful gift supports both our residents and their families, ensuring that bringing a TV is one less thing to worry about during the admission process. We are truly grateful for their continued support and dedication to enhancing the comfort of our facility. Thank you Norseland Auxiliary members!



## *Something For Seniors*

**Oakwood Realty LLC is organizing a donation drive with a variety of items that will be utilized residents of local area nursing homes. Items include:**



**Oakwood  
Realty LLC**

- Lip Balm, Fragrance-Free Lotions and Soaps,
- Scented Body Sprays, Shampoos & Conditioners
- Men's & Women's Electric Shavers
- Men's & Women's Deodorants
- Effervescent Denture Cleaners,
- Non-Slip, Anti-Skid Socks and Diabetic Socks,
- Flushable Personal Wipes
- Blankets, Wash Cloths, and Towels,
- Jigsaw Puzzles (fewer than 300 pieces each),
- Craft Supplies, Acrylic Paints, and Paint Brushes,
- Large Print Books, Crossword Puzzles, and Word Searches
- Coloring Books, Crayons, Colored Pencils
- Paper Stationary and Postage Stamps
- Card Games & Board Games
- Room Deodorizers/Air Fresheners



**Items can be dropped off to designated donation sites:**

- ADRC of Vernon County in Viroqua
- St. Mary's Catholic Church in Viroqua
- Nelson's Agri Center in Viroqua
- Dollar Tree in Viroqua
- Viroqua Food Co-op
- Hansen's IGA in Westby
- Valley Market in Coon Valley



# In Memory Of....

*Sue Jensen*



April 3, 1948 - October 28, 2025

Susan L. (Parker) Jensen, age 77, of Westby, died on Tuesday, October 28, 2025, at Norseland Nursing Home. She was born April 3, 1948 to Cecil and Janice Parker. She graduated as salutatorian from Viroqua High School and earned her Bachelors Degree in Education from University of Wisconsin - La Crosse. She taught school for several years and then became the Vernon County Disability Coordinator. She loved people of all abilities.

At 18 months of age, she contracted polio and wore a metal brace for the rest of her life on her left leg. As a young adult, she was diagnosed with bipolar disorder. As a mature adult, she was challenged by Post-Polio Syndrome and MS. Despite these challenges, she continued to seek to make people laugh with her numerous, somewhat "shady" jokes.

She is survived by her son: Jay (Amanda) and his children: Madysan and Karl; her sister, Mary (David) Eggen; nephew, Justin (Jessica) Eggen and their children: Philip, Claire, Lillian, and Leo; her favorite aunt, Deloris Olson, and her favorite cousins: Mark, Rachel and Rhoda Olson.

The family would like to thank Norseland Staff and St. Croix Hospice for excellent care. A Memorial Service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 8, 2025, at Vosseteig Funeral Home in Westby. Visitation will be held from 10:30 a.m. until the time of the service. A graveside service will follow at Bethel Lutheran Church Cemetery. Online Condolences may be expressed at [www.vossfh.com](http://www.vossfh.com).

*Myra Hoff*



March 22, 1931 - Nov. 11, 2025

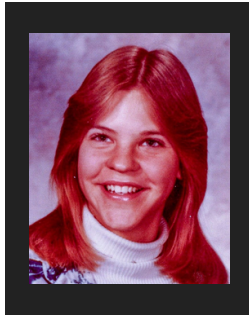
Myra L. Hoff, 94 of Chaseburg died Tuesday November 11, 2025 at Norseland Nursing Home in Westby surrounded by her loving family. She was born March 22, 1931 to Helmer and Olga (Running) Midtlien at a farmhouse in Norskedalen. She was baptized April 19, 1931, confirmed June 24, 1945. Myra and Virgil Hoff were married on August 19, 1950 at the Middle Coon Valley Lutheran Church after Myra said to Virgil "Are we getting married or what?". The couple farmed near Chaseburg their entire life. She proudly received her GED in 1991 along with her sister Arlene, which was one of her proudest achievements. Myra was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother who fiercely loved her family and friends. Her faith guided her through all of life's challenges including losing her son, husband, grandson, and daughter.

Myra was an active church member of Middle Coon Valley Lutheran Church with choir, teaching Sunday School, WELCA, quilting and the Rachel Circle. She was also a member of the Chaseburg Chasettes. Myra enjoyed painting pictures, coloring, dancing, Polka music, baking and making lefse. Her family would tell you she had the best lefse recipe and she loved sharing both the recipe and the many cherished memories of making it with her loved ones. Myra loved playing cards, and taught each one of her grandkids how to play King's Corners and tried to teach them Euchre. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday November 15, 2025 at the Middle Coon Valley Lutheran Church. Rev. Meg Eiben Hoversten will officiate with burial in the church cemetery. A visitation will be held from 9:30 a.m. until the time of service. The Seland Funeral Home is assisting the family. Condolences may be given at [selandsfuneralhome.com](http://selandsfuneralhome.com). Memorials may be given to the MCV WELCA for Quilting Fund or the Middle Coon Valley Choir.

The family would like to thank the Emplify Health Hospice staff, especially Dr. Kyla Lee and nurse Jason Mowery and the Norseland staff for their compassion and excellent care.

# In Memory Of....

*Mary Roningen*



Jan 26, 1963 - Nov. 13, 2025

Mary Rose Roningen, 62 of Coon Valley, died Thursday November 13, 2025. She was born January 26, 1963 in Black River Falls to Durwood and Rose Mary (Roskos) Roningen. She attended Westby High School. In 1978, Mary sustained a spinal cord injury in a motorcycle accident. She was lovingly cared for at home by her parents the last 47 years.

Mary loved horses. She had a favorite loving horse, Frisky. She also loved her cats, playing guitar, watching game shows and listening to classic country music, especially Randy Travis.

She will be greatly missed.

Survivors include her mother, Rose Mary; 3 sisters Suzanne (James) Reget of Appleton, Kathleen Reinhart of Chaseburg and Barbara Steiger of Onalaska; many aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her father, Durwood in 2020.

A funeral mass will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday November 19, 2025 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Coon Valley. Rev. Joe Richards will officiate with burial in the church cemetery. A visitation will be held at the church from 10 a.m. until service time. The Seland Funeral Home is assisting the family.

Condolences may be given at [selandsfuneralhome.com](http://selandsfuneralhome.com).

## Seasons of Grief

Grief comes in  
seasons, much like  
the year,  
Sometimes it's  
winter, stark and  
clear.

Other times it's  
spring, with hope  
anew,

Or summer, when  
memories flood  
through.

Then fall arrives, with  
its golden hue,  
A gentle reminder of  
missing you.

Seasons change, as  
they're meant to do,  
But my love remains,  
forever true

