

Norseland News

THE OFFICIAL MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF NORSELAND NURSING HOME

Norseland
N
Nursing Home

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Employee Highlights

WORK ANNIVERSARIES

Ella Hayes, CNA - 2 years

Dawson Anderson, CNA - 1 year

Rita Johnson, Housekeeping - 7 years

Natalie Miller, CNA - 2 yrs

NEW EMPLOYEES:

Kate DePoole, RN - Direct of Nursing

Announcements

At Norseland Nursing Home, we truly value the opportunity to share the special moments, celebrations, and everyday experiences that make our community feel like home.

Our newsletter has always been a wonderful way to keep residents, families, and friends connected to the life and activities happening at Norseland.

In an effort to thoughtfully share the many activities, events, and memories throughout the year, we will be transitioning our newsletter from a monthly publication to a quarterly publication.

This change will allow us to create more comprehensive seasonal editions that highlight resident stories, special events, community outings, holidays, and the many meaningful moments shared at Norseland.

We are incredibly grateful for the continued support, encouragement, and involvement from our residents, families, volunteers, and community members. Thank you for taking the time to follow along with the happenings at Norseland and for being such an important part of our community. We look forward to continuing to share updates, celebrations, and joyful moments with you in each new quarterly edition.

-Angie Viau, Administration

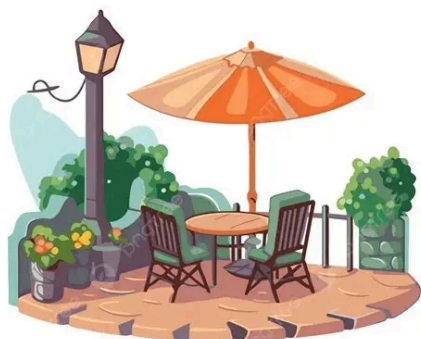
WE ARE HIRING

Available Positions:

- CNAs (PMs)
- Dietary Aid
- LPN/RN

Apply today at: bsjcorp.com/employment/

Special Events



Volunteer Outdoor Visits

We are excited to warmly welcome Margie Snopek, our Recreation Therapy volunteer, who will be joining us every other week to host outdoor patio visits with our residents. Her visits will offer a wonderful opportunity to enjoy fresh air, meaningful conversation, laughter, and companionship in the comfort of our outdoor space. As the beautiful weather arrives, we look forward to gathering together on the patio, soaking up the sunshine, making new memories, and enjoying all the joy that time outdoors can bring.

UTV Outings



We're excited to bring out our UTV for another summer season! Our Recreation Therapy team offers a variety of outings, including trips to local restaurants, scenic drives through Timber Coulee and Amish Country, picnics in the park, and more. Our accessible UTVs allow residents to enjoy these adventures from the comfort of their wheelchair, making it easier for everyone to get out and explore the community. Be sure to check our weekly recreation calendar, posted throughout the facility and on our website, for upcoming outing opportunities. We look forward to a summer filled with fun, adventure, and great memories!

Sweet Valley Artisans

On Tuesday, **July 22nd at 10:00am**, residents will have the opportunity to enjoy an outing to **Sweet Valley Artisans**, a wonderful local small business featuring a variety of talented artisan vendors. Residents can browse unique handcrafted items, support local artisans, and enjoy a leisurely shopping experience. To make the day even sweeter, there will be time to visit **Valley Fudge & Candy**, where residents can indulge in delicious treats and satisfy their sweet tooth. We look forward to a fun afternoon of shopping, community connection, and sweet memories!



Community Engagement

New Rosary Volunteers: Jim & Kristyn



Norseland Nursing Home is pleased to welcome new volunteers Jim and Kristyn to our community! Beginning this summer, they will be **leading rosary services** on the **1st and 3rd Wednesday** of each month, offering residents a special time for prayer, reflection, and fellowship. We are truly grateful for their generosity and willingness to share their time and faith with our residents. We look forward to the warmth, comfort, and companionship they will bring to Norseland.



Syttende Mai Parade

Residents of Norseland Nursing Home enjoyed a wonderful day celebrating Syttende Mai as they attended the annual parade riding in our accessible UTV. Residents had the opportunity to take in the festive atmosphere, wave to community members, and enjoy the sights and sounds of this special local tradition. It was a fun-filled outing that brought smiles, laughter, and great memories for everyone involved. We are grateful to be able to provide opportunities like these that help our residents stay connected with the community and enjoy meaningful experiences together.



Westby Elementary School

Throughout the 2025–2026 school year, Norseland Nursing Home and Westby Elementary School District collaborated to provide intergenerational programming that benefited both Norseland residents and Westby Elementary students. Activities included a Trick-or-Treat event, themed bingo, Global Play Day, Christmas caroling, a Zoozort animal presentation, and the Syttende Mai student parade. We have truly enjoyed the time spent together and appreciate the meaningful connections that were created throughout the year. We look forward to continuing this wonderful partnership in the future. Wishing all Westby Elementary students, staff, and families a happy, safe, and enjoyable summer!



Special Thanks to our Donors

In Memory of Harlan Friske



We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to Leona Friske and Cindy Lindvig for their generous monetary gift given in memory of Harlan Friske. Harlan had a special love for live music and enjoyed gathering with others for parties and special events. In honor of his memory, and thanks to this thoughtful donation, we are pleased to host **Christmas Classic Showtunes with Ludy and His Lady** on **December 2 at 10:30 a.m.** We are deeply appreciative of this meaningful gift, which allows us to celebrate Harlan's life in a way that reflects the joy he found in music and friendship. We look forward to sharing this special event with our residents and families.

In Memory of Marion Bekkum



Our sincere thanks to **Corrine and Brian Hanson** for their generous gift to our Recreation Therapy Department in loving memory of Marion. Your thoughtfulness and kindness help us continue creating meaningful, engaging experiences for our residents and their families. We are deeply grateful for your support and for honoring Marion's memory in such a special way.

In Memory of Jackie Nelson



A heartfelt thank you to **De Anne Nelson** for your generous monetary gift made in memory of your mother, Jackie Nelson. Your thoughtfulness and generosity are truly appreciated. Thanks to your donation, our Recreation Therapy Department will be able to treat residents to a special **Ice Cream Sundae Social** in celebration of June Dairy Days on **June 12th at 2:00pm.** Events like these provide opportunities for residents to gather, socialize, and enjoy a fun afternoon together. We appreciate your generosity.

In Memory Of....

Norman Sidie



Oct. 2, 1929- May 24, 2026

Norman Sidie, age 96, of Westby, WI passed away on Sunday, May 24, 2026, at Norseland Nursing Home. He was born on October 2, 1929, to Leslie and Sylvia (Hanson) Sidie on the family farm in rural Vernon County near Purdy. He lived there with his parents, older brother Vern and his Scottish immigrant grandfather Robert, who was a stone mason and who built their house that still stands today.

Norman attended the Brown and Plainfield Grade Schools and graduated from Westby High School in 1947. While he was in high school, he was elected President of his Junior Class and Junior Prom King. He lettered in football, basketball and baseball. When Norman was sixteen years old his father passed away unexpectedly and from that day on, he had to manage the family farm that was located on the near west side of Westby where today's high school and gymnasium are located. Soon after that Norman was able to acquire a hay baler and jeep, which he used to bale hay for many area farmers during the late 1940's and early 1950's.

On June 2, 1951, Norman married Shirley Sagmoen in the Westby Coon Prairie Lutheran Church. The couple raised five children on their dairy farm just outside Westby on Highway 27, where the entire family was active in the Coon Prairie 4-H Club and Bar W Riders Horse Club.

Norman was a loyal fan of all his children's and grandchildren's music and sports activities. He was a huge fan of all Westby Norseman Sports and was a lifelong fan of the Milwaukee Braves, Brewers and Bucks along with the Badgers and the Packers. When Norman was in the barn milking his Jersey cows, you could be assured there was a baseball game playing on the barn radio. He was a lifelong member of the Westby Coon Prairie Lutheran Church and served in various roles in the church.

Norman was a hard worker and one of the nicest people you could hope to meet. Everyone who knew him will miss his gentle nature and impish grin.

Norman is survived by his wife, Shirley, of 75 years and his children: Steven (Tom Larsen) Sidie of Milwaukee, WI and Galesburg, IL; Wayne (Laurie) Sidie of Turlock, CA; Ann (Tom) Gibbons of Coon Valley, WI; Julie Lee of Red Wing, MN; and Kathryn Burigsay of Castro Valley, CA.

He is survived by eight grandchildren: Emily (Tony) Betschart and Leah Sidie both of Modesto, CA; Haley (Dan) Solem of West Des Moines, IA; Brenna (Tristan) Gibbons of Madison, WI; Tanner (Lexi) Gibbons of Westby, WI; Jack (Kathleen) Lee of Bloomington, MN; Alyssa (Derek) Ulvenes of Red Wing, MN; and Gunnar (Vina) Burigsay of Toluca Lake, CA.

Norman is also survived by his three great-grandchildren: Penny Betschart of Modesto, CA; Finn Solem of West Des Moines, IA; and Charlie Renee Ulvenes of Red Wing, MN.

He is also survived by his niece Pam (Pete) Benzing of Rockland, WI and numerous cousins and friends.

He was preceded in death by parents Leslie and Sylvia Sidie/Skjolden; brother Vern Sidie; sister and brother-in-law Evonelle and George Wyman; mother and father-in-law Alice and Lester Sagmoen; son-in-law Charles Lee and son-in-law Michael Burigsay.

A funeral service will be held on Monday, June 1, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. at Westby Coon Prairie Lutheran Church. Pastor Alyssa Weaver will officiate. A visitation will be held from 10:00 a.m. until the time of the service. Norman will be laid to rest at Country Coon Prairie Lutheran Cemetery with a meal to follow at the church. Online Condolences may be expressed at www.vossfh.com.

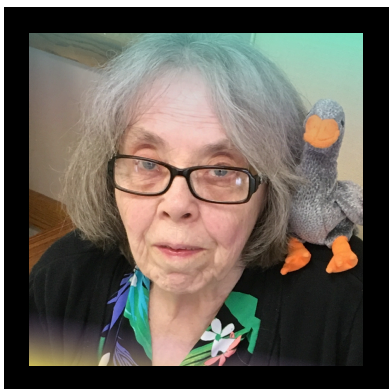
In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Westby Coon Prairie Lutheran Church, the Westby Area Fine Arts Foundation or the Norseman Booster Club.

Norman's family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the staff at Norseland Nursing Home and St. Croix Hospice for their excellent care and kindness.



In Memory Of....

Marion Bekkum



Dec 23, 1938 - May 4, 2026

Marion Bekkum age 87, of Westby, WI, passed away on May 4, 2026 at the Norseland Nursing Home. She was born December 23, 1938, in LaCrosse, WI, the daughter of Otto Milnor and Caroline Bekkum.

Marion graduated from Westby High School in 1956. After graduation, she worked full time as a babysitter in Westby and later moved to LaCrosse and worked as a nanny.

After a couple of years, she moved to Minneapolis and began working for the department store, Young Quinlan. She worked in the shipping department and specialized in gift wrapping. When the store closed, she went to work for Neiman Marcus. She also worked in their shipping department but was known as the expert in gift wrapping. She produced many beautifully wrapped presents for the customers and her family throughout her career. In 2004, Marion retired from Neiman Marcus. While in Minneapolis, Marion enjoyed singing with the Nina Grieg Singers. She also was their treasurer for many years. She traveled extensively with the choir and also enjoyed traveling with friends on bus tours throughout the country.

In 2014, she moved out of her condo in Minneapolis and moved in with her sister, LaVonne in Fennimore, WI. For the past 10 years Marion has lived in the Norseland Nursing Home. She enjoyed attending all activities at the residence. She especially enjoyed playing Bingo, and she had quite a collection of stuffed animals. She liked to be where the action is and loved to greet visitors at the front door. Marion always had a kind word for all of the residents and staff.

Marion is survived by her brother, Eldon (Martha) Bekkum and her closest cousin, Lisa Aalgaard and her family. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her sister, LaVonne Bekkum.

We appreciate and are grateful to the entire staff at Norseland for the love and care which Marion was given.

Memorials for Marion can be given to the recreation department at Norseland Nursing Home to benefit the residents.

A Quiet Goodbye

Some lives arrive like morning light,
Soft and steady, warm and bright.
They fill our days in simple ways,
With stories shared and familiar
praise.

We learn their smiles, their favorite
chair,
The little things that show they're
there.

A greeting given, a hand held tight,
A comforting word in the fading light.
And when the time comes to part,
An empty space remains in the heart.
Though halls grow quieter than before,
Their memory lingers at every door.
For kindness given is never lost,
Nor measured by time or counted
cost.

The love they shared, the lives they
touched,
Remain with us and mean so much.
So we pause with gratitude and grace,
Remembering a cherished face.
And though we grieve and say
goodbye,
Their spirit lives as days go by.

