

News From The Haven

March/April 2023



ABOVE LEFT: A farewell to Lila Fehr (second from left) as she moves on to another career after eight years on the senior leadership team. With Lila are Brandon Stoller, Emma Dunahee and Dave Blunier.

ABOVE RIGHT: Marguerite Lorch makes a careful move in a game of Jenga.

AT LEFT: Laura Knapp enjoyed a golf cart ride this fall with her daughters (L-R): Kristi Knapp, Kanda Steffen and Kaylene Butikofer.

**DON'T MISS THE FLYER
INSIDE! OUR NEWSLETTER
FORMAT IS CHANGING!
CONTACT SALLY FEHR IF YOU
HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT IT.**



PULLING TAFFY was one of the fun activities at our Winter Frolic. Pictured here at front are: Suzanne Bahler and Ethel Wiegand. The second pair of pullers are Dixie Steidinger and Trish Steidinger. And, at back, are Joan Zehr and Amy Zehr. See more on page 4.

An Apostolic Christian community where choice is valued, growth is encouraged and life abounds.



Reflections From Rick

—Rick Plattner, Director of Public Relations

GOOD NEIGHBORS

In several places in the Bible, Jesus teaches us that we should love our neighbor as ourselves. Once Jesus was asked by a lawyer, "Who is my neighbor?" As He shares the parable of the Good Samaritan, we read that the religious leaders of the day passed by a beaten man who needed aid. Then came a Samaritan man who cared for the poor soul in need. We have no reason to believe the Samaritan even knew this needy person, but he opened his heart and wallet to provide for him. Jesus said we should do likewise. That was His teaching on what it meant to be a good neighbor.

With that thought in mind, it would appear that Fairview Haven is on the right track in creating our Good Neighbor Team. We seek to serve and provide for all our residents (all across our Fairview Haven campus), our teammates, and our community. This has led us to participate in working with local food banks, creating healing blankets, involving ourselves in hurricane relief, ringing bells for the Salvation Army, providing Christmas cheer to those in need, packaging soup for Haitian relief, and working with the Alzheimer Association. In addition, we have tried to share our cheer and appreciation to the many agencies that provide civil services to our community, including local healthcare workers, schools, and our wonderful city employees. We are thankful to be able to make a difference to those around us.

In March, we are adding a new aspect to our Good

Neighbors program. We are making plans to have a basic food preparation and meal planning training with teammates who are interested. It will be a hands-on class which we think can really help the participants in putting truly tasty and nourishing meals on their tables. Every participant will leave the class with a prepared dish or two. It would be our hope that through donations we might even be able to send home a sack of groceries from time to time.

If anyone would be interested in participating as a learner or a helper, please see anyone of our Good Neighbor Team (Sally Fehr, Anna McKeon, Crystal Miller, Barb Hall, Trish Steidinger or Rick Plattner). If you would like to come alongside us by donating, please contact Rick. Donations would be tax-deductible. Thanks for your prayers and support!

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GOOD SAMARITAN FUND UPDATE

The Good Samaritan Fund continues to be a need and focus at Fairview Haven. Inflation and the high cost of providing care continues to challenge many of those we serve. As we know, the State of Illinois provides for those in need through the Medicaid program, but the funds fall far short of the actual cost of care.

Thanks for those of you who pray for us regularly; it is a tremendous blessing. If you can assist us financially, that is also appreciated. God's blessings on all our dear supporters!

The SCOOP at SERENITY

AT RIGHT: Margaret Haney and Ruth Wessels created little snowmen.

BELOW LEFT: Ada Christensen enjoys the New Year's Eve party.

BELOW RIGHT: Frosting cookies are (L-R): Ernie Hofmann, Esther Gerber, Dave Blunier, Janice Nussbaum, Joyce Blunier and Judy Anliker.



Leading Age IL awards

Fairview Haven nominated several of our team members for the LeadingAge Illinois Honoring Excellence awards. (See more info in Dave's Desk column on page 8.) Following are the essays written for the nominations:

MEGAN WILDER—WINNER OF 2023 HEART & HANDS AWARD

A CNA who does their job well is worth a lot, but a CNA who consistently goes beyond those expectations is priceless. We are blessed to have within our organization the future recipient of the 2023 Heart and Hands award.

Our CNA is so in tune with her residents and their individual nuances, she often knows exactly what they need without a word being spoken. We have a resident with advanced dementia, who rarely speaks. They have a rich relationship filled with communication, regardless of few spoken words.

She takes the time for the little things. She knows who would want a warm blanket at a certain time, who would be excited to go on an extra walk around the facility, who would want a bag of popcorn and a soda while they watch TV in the afternoon. We tell new team members during orientation that they should try to anticipate residents' needs, before they need to use their call light to ask for it. Our CNA demonstrates what that looks like in real life. Her residents don't need to call for the little things, because she knows them deeply and anticipates their needs.

Recently, our Heart and Hands CNA, on her own time, went along with a resident to a wedding in the resident's family. This resident needed a lot of care and would not have been able to participate in the wedding without the assistance of our CNA but was able to enjoy the event to her fullest potential with her help.

A former supervisor of this CNA states that "she has never been overheard to vent or complain about her residents or coworkers. She just gets along with everyone. She does have a very high standard for the care she gives, and the care others give, but she never talks bad about anything or anyone."

Her current supervisor describes her

as "always willing to go above and beyond. She pays attention to the small details that mean a lot to our residents, which makes our residents, and their families, trust her explicitly to provide their care. She puts her heart into each task here and it does not go unnoticed."

One resident claims: "She knows exactly what I want and need. I don't even have to tell her!" and a resident's son says she is "absolutely tops!"

Nearly every evening, our nominee is seen leaving well after many of her teammates. She doesn't mind getting off late if it means she took the time to give resident-centered care. Her conscientious approach to her tasks demonstrates how much she loves what she does and the residents we serve. We feel that, although many CNAs would be strong contenders for the LeadingAge 2023 Heart and Hands award, a facility would be hard pressed to nominate a more deserving candidate.

EMMA DUNAHEE—WINNER OF 2023 RISING STAR AWARD

Our Rising Star possesses many qualities worthy of being nominated for

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this award. Just over 12 months ago, she took on a very challenging role within our organization. Her commitment to our residents, our team, and the organization is on full display each and every day. She arrives to work with a smile, and she goes home with a smile. When discussing situations that would put most people on the path to early retirement, our Rising Star enthusiastically states that she loves the challenge.

Anyone who questions the age or experience of our Rising Star only does so until their first interaction with her. Although only a few months post-graduation and still getting her bearings as a floor nurse, our Rising Star willingly stepped into a vacant leadership role as our DON and quickly took the bull by the horns. Through a challenging and antagonistic survey experience, a COVID outbreak, and the staffing shortages plaguing the long-term care industry, our Rising Star proved herself to be calm in the face of calamity, firm and steadfast in the face of adversity, and confident in the face of uncertainty.

Inheriting a team dealing with "COVID-fatigue" as the ongoing pandemic

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LEADING AGE nominee, Dale Wessels, and award winners, Megan Wilder and Emma Dunahee.

☺ Welcome to Fairview Haven ☺

Fairview Estates dwellers **Velda Huette** and **Gladys Koehl** have come to Fairview Haven.

Nancy Hauptli came back to Fair-

view Haven after residing at Serenity Villa for a time.

We welcome **Joanne Aupperle** to Angel Avenue. She is from Gridley.

Eunice Stork joined the Fairview Haven family recently. Eunice lives in Roberts.



WE BEAT the winter blues with a Winter Frolic in January.

ABOVE: Ethel Wiegand gives some great tips for taffy pulling to pullers Dixie Steidinger and Trish Steidinger.

AT RIGHT: Carol Nussbaum, Emma Dunahee and Deb Millsap wait for the tasty lunch.

BELOW: Volunteers Janelle Rassi and Myrna Zehr serve up soup while Ullena Offenbacker, Dianna Kester, Colleen Walter, Heidi Reiners and Sheila Powers fill plates.



WE HAD several rounds of a Cake Walk throughout the day with prizes.

ABOVE: Dorothy Rudin chooses a prize from Melina Mora. At back is Don Smith.

BELOW: Duane Kilgus, Barb Hurt, Anna McKeon and Martha Meister are competing in the Cake Walk. Velda Huette is seated at back observing.



In Loving Memory Of . . .

Joy Zimmerman, 92, of Fairbury and formerly of Forrest, passed away Monday, Jan. 16, 2023. Joy came to the Fairview Haven family in 2018. Her funeral was Jan. 20 at

Trinity Lutheran Church in Fairbury. Survivors include her children, Scott (Nancy) Zimmerman of Colleyville, TX; and Jill (Tom) Rock of Roberts; five grandchildren; one step-grand-

daughter; 12 great-grandchildren; and four step great-grandchildren. Joy was a homemaker. She was a member of the Trinity Lutheran Church.



Party Line

I'M FINE

Today I said "I'm fine," not once
But five times altogether
When people asked, "How are you?"
Then made small talk of the weather.
And so I hid behind my mask.
The one I'd worn a while,
I set in place my bravest face
And dressed it in a smile.
And that was how the day went
All "I'm fine" and talk of rain.

Until somebody asked me how I was.
Then asked again.
They asked if I was truly fine
And I said I was not,
And they said they were sorry
That they couldn't do a lot.
But then they sat beside me
While I spoke the truth at last.
They listened and they held me
As the tears slipped through my mask.

And where, before, I'd felt I should
Maintain this brave façade,
I realized there was much to gain
By letting down my guard.
See, though my load was still the same,
It now was not as heavy
Because sitting and offloading it
Had helped a bit already.

Today they asked, "How are you?"
And I told them I was fine.
'Til someone saw behind the mask
And asked me one more time.
And though they may have felt
That there was little they could do.

They'll never know how much it meant
To tell someone the truth.

-Becky Hemsley

WORDS

Keep a watch on your words, brethren,
For words are wonderful things,
They are sweet like the bees' fresh honey;
Like the bees, they have terrible stings.

They can bless like the warm glad sunshine
And brighten a lonely life,
They can cut in the strife of anger
Like a cruel two-edged knife.

Keep them back if they are cold and cruel,
Under bar and lock and seal
For the wounds they make, my brethren,
Are always slow to heal.

May peace guard your lips forever,
From the time of your early growth,
May the words that you daily utter
Be only the words of truth.

-Author Unknown

This world wants you to spend your precious time and money fighting the aging process and desperately trying not to take up too much space, when you could be spending both on adventures, new experiences and spiritual journeys. All of which you will share with your loved ones, inspiring generations to come. Don't be fooled. You are not here to preserve, to mummify yourself in life, you are here to live. It's your stories, your advice and your love which will last long after your death. Your body has a shelf life but your soul does not. Wear your body out in the most beautiful ways. It was always meant to be so. -Donna Ashworth

If you have any poems or short inspiring articles to contribute for *Party Line*, please send to Sally Fehr (sfehr@fairviewhaven.org) or drop them off at the Social Service office. They will be printed as space is available.

Personnel Profiles

Leslie Lowery has been an LPN on the Fairview Haven nursing team for a year. Previously, she worked here as a CNA.

Leslie says: "I really enjoy the relationships that I get to form with the residents."

Leslie was recently married to Dan Lowery and they live in Chatsworth.

In her spare time, Leslie likes reading and spending time with family and friends.

LESLIE LOWERY



Thoughts from Dave's Desk ...

Dave Blunier, Administrator

"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end." Jeremiah 29:11

God's Word is loaded with promises like this verse found in Jeremiah. I'm no Bible scholar, but I don't believe one could find a promise from God that we will experience no change. There's no promise that our hearts won't be broken, that we won't go through challenging times.

In fact, I have found that it is in these times, promises such as this one in Jeremiah 29:11 or Philippians 1:6

"...He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ", bring me the most hope. As I experience challenges and obstacles, I recognize how weak and feeble I am and how desperately I must rely upon Christ and the Holy Spirit to carry me through. In the end, He will accomplish great things if we can trust Him through the trials of change.

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Presently, our Board of Directors and Senior Leadership team is working with a consulting firm to assess the operations of our campus and develop a path forward to maintain the relevance of our ministry here at Fairview Haven.

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vance of our ministry here at Fairview Haven.

I don't believe that there is doubt in anyone's mind that Fairview Haven is a leader in senior services. God has used this ministry to touch lives and bring glory to His name. My prayer is that we can continue to be that leader as we face difficult decisions about staffing, finances, funding, and quality initiatives (such as infection control, resident rights and dignity, etc.)

Senior services in America will experience major changes in the days ahead as we assess the best way to meet the needs of our seniors. Your prayers are always appreciated as we navigate these changes.

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Photo Puzzler



"The picture of these lovely ladies is my mother, Ida Kaisner, and sisters, Janet Farney, LouIda Steffen and Alma Jean Schmidgall." -Leon Kaisner of Peoria

Evelyn Yoder of Fairbury knew her aunt Ida Kaisner and cousins, Janet, LouIda and Alma Jean.



"The older lady is Don's dear grandmother: Ida Kaisner. Her three daughters are Don's aunts, Janet Farney, LouIda Steffen and Alma Jean Schmidgall. Have had lots of special memories with all of them." -Don and Leona Kaisner of Fairbury

"The

ladies in the photo puzzler are mother, Ida Kaisner, and daughters (L-R) Janet Farney, LouIda Steffen and Alma Jean Schmidgall." -Trish Steidinger of Fairbury

"From left to right, Janet Farney, LouIda Steffen, Alma Schmidgall. Mom is Ida Kaisner. All Kaisner girls." -John Stork of Forrest

"Janet Farney, LouIda Steffen, Alma Jean Schmidgall and their mother, Ida Kaisner, are the ladies in the photo puzzler." -Rosemary Koehl of Forrest

"Those pictured in the Photo Puzzler are Ida Kaisner in the

front with Janet Farney, LouIda Steffen and Alma Jean Schmidgall." -John and Sally Schaffer of Fairbury

Clues: This special family group was celebrating the lady in the center who, in 1993, was chosen as Senior of the Month at Fairview Haven. The lady's daughter (at left) once served as administrator at Fairview Haven and later resided here. At back left are a couple of the celebrated lady's cousins who also have been residents of Fairview Haven. At back and right are great-grandchildren and grandchildren, most of whom still live in the Fairbury area. We hope to get lots of guesses!!

Please send your guesses to: Editor, *News From The Haven*, 605 N. Fourth, Fairbury, IL 61739; or e-mail to sfehr@fairviewhaven.org or drop off at Social Services.



On the Bulletin Board: Joe Stuckel

In this issue, we introduce you to one of our Cissna Park board members **Joe Stuckel**.

Joe and his wife Amber (Kaeb) have five children: Corryn (6), Miles (4), Eben (3), Silas (2) and Clara (8 months). Joe is a farmer. He enjoys farming and teaching Sunday School.

Joe says, "I've always felt when visiting loved ones at Fairview Haven that it is a very special place. Since being on the board, I have an immense appreciation for the great effort of our administration, staff, volunteers, residents, families and supporting congregations that make it the special place it is."



JOE AND AMBER STUCKEL FAMILY

New Faces!



We welcome the following members to our team: Cynthia Schopp and Brittni Gerdes, Serenity Villa caregivers; Neva Rohrer, Connections caregiver; Allison Moreland, dining services assistant; Melissa Banwart COTA; Jessica Hageman, physical therapy assistant.

Memorial Fund Report

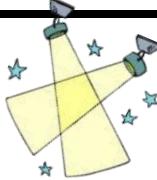
Contributions were received in the past few months in memory of:

- Mary Ellen Goold • Linda Grandon
- Dennis Steidinger • Larry Lancaster
- Lorraine Eymann • Duane Schneider
- Joy Zimmerman

FARMERS MARKET

**on the front patio -
Wednesdays from 8 am
until noon (or until sold
out) starting mid-May**

Volunteers in the SPOTLIGHT ...



WE LOVE traveling to Cissna Park annually for delicious dining hosted by Janie Waldbeser (left) and family. At right is Janie's mother, Joann Edelman, who helped with the meal last fall.

Hobby Corner

Featuring the hobbies and interests of residents



Dick Jacobs enjoys spending time with his family. Here he is pictured with his daughter, Debbie Johnson, at a meal hosted by the Chenoa Christ Community Church.

DAVE'S DESK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

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We are sad to report that Lila Fehr has felt directed to a different path. Lila has served many years at Fairview Haven in many different roles. She has excelled in every area God has chosen to use her and, while we are sad to see her leave her role as Director of Senior Services, we are thankful she is choosing to remain active as a PRN (as needed) nurse at Serenity Villa.

God has provided for us by calling another individual to fill Lila's role at Serenity Villa. Joelle (Bachtold) Jones will be assuming the role of Director of Assisted Living in early March. You may remember Joelle from her time here as a CNA at Fairview Haven and caregiver at Serenity Villa from 2017-2021. After graduating from nursing school, Joelle took a job at OSF and, when she heard of the opening here, felt called to pursue the opportunity.

We believe Joelle will be an excel-

lent fit to our organization embracing our mission and the culture here at Fairview Haven.

Part of Lila's role at Fairview Haven was to oversee our home care services (Connections). We are pleased to announce that Arla Wheeler will be taking on the role of Director of Home Care. We've been blessed to have Arla as a part of our team for a while now and look forward to seeing the great things she will accomplish as Director.

* * * * *

I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate Emma Dunahee and Megan Wilder as recipients of LeadingAge Illinois Honoring Excellence awards. LeadingAge Illinois is one of the largest and most respected associations of providers serving seniors in Illinois. Each year at the annual conference, LeadingAge Illinois honors eight individuals working in senior services through the Honoring Excellence Awards. (See more in the article starting on page 3 of this newsletter.)

This year, we will be traveling to the annual conference in Schaumburg

where Megan Wilder will be recognized as the recipient of the Heart and Hands Award. This award is given to an individual who embraces person centered care/services through efforts that go beyond those normally considered within the position's job description. If you have ever experienced care delivered by our CNA, Megan, you will agree that she is a perfect candidate for this award.

Emma Dunahee will be recognized as the recipient of this year's Rising Star Award. This award recognizes an individual who has demonstrated an extraordinary performance within their first 24 months of employment. The person will routinely go above and beyond what is expected. Again, I don't think anyone would argue that Emma fits this description perfectly.

We will have a Facebook live, Wednesday, March 8 around 8 AM to watch the presentation of the awards.

So many of our team would be worthy of these awards and it is difficult to narrow it down to nominate one person per award.

Fairview Haven Newsletter Team

EDITOR:
Sally Fehr

MAILING:
Dixie Steidinger
Dianna Kester

PRODUCTION:
Lorene Boner
Marilyn Fortna
Pat Hartman
Nick Kaebe

Nick Kaebe
Laura Knapp
Lucille Knapp
Martha Meister
Elda Mae Rieger
Dorothy Rudin
Alice Steidinger
Edna Steidinger
Colleen Walter
Marjorie Witzig

VOLUNTEER VOICES

TRISH STEIDINGER, Volunteer Coordinator



The Signup Genius has been sent out to those volunteers who notified me that they are interested in adopting a landscape area here at Fairview Haven to keep it looking nice this year. Many of our areas are adopted, but we still have some waiting for that special someone to care for them. If you'd be interested in this volunteer opportunity, please contact me.

So many volunteers come through our doors in a year's time! Some volunteers may not come through the doors but help outside or behind the scenes. In any case, we could not give the care we do to those who dwell on our campus without the help and support of our volunteers. To show our appreciation, we are planning a **volunteer appreciation breakfast** on

Saturday, April 15, 2023, from 8-10 AM in the Fairview Haven maintenance shed.

This appreciation event is for adult and student volunteers. We are planning for a Saturday, hoping our student volunteers will be able to attend. There will be some drawings and appreciation gifts, along with some delicious breakfast options, so if you are one of our volunteers, please mark your calendars and come have breakfast with us!

If you are interested in joining our volunteer team in any capacity, or have questions about becoming a volunteer, please contact Trish at 815-692-6726, 815-848-5599 or tsteidinger@fairviewhaven.org.

In Loving Memory Of . . .

Joy Zimmerman, 92, of Fairbury and formerly of Forrest, passed away Monday, Jan. 16, 2023. Joy came to the Fairview Haven family in 2018. Her funeral was Jan. 20 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Fairbury. Survivors include her children, Scott (Nancy) Zimmerman of Colleyville, TX; and

Jill (Tom) Rock of Roberts; five grandchildren; one step-grand-daughter; 12 great-grandchildren; and four step great-grandchildren. Joy was a homemaker. She was a member of the Trinity Lutheran Church.



LEADING AGE

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sucked hope and joy out of long-term care, our Rising Star breathed it back in with every breath. When our Rising Star is at work, there is no fear that we cannot make it through whatever challenges are ahead. Her positive attitude motivates the team. As stated by a team member, "When she is here, it doesn't feel like we can't do it."

Even the most senior and experienced of the more than eighty nurses and CNAs our Rising Star leads have come to respect and adore her. Another team member describes our Rising Star as "very knowledgeable, she really hit the ground running. But she is very humble, she always deflects praise and compliments back to the team, rather than taking credit for herself."

Unafraid of adversity, our Rising Star has tackled daunting, though necessary, changes to our organization. Previously, our staffing was organized based on location, rather than acuity. Our care team was assigned to hallways, and only to those residents who lived on those hallways. Recognizing an opportunity to better care for our residents, our Rising Star is using an acuity-based system to assign the care of our residents so that each assignment group is balanced, and teamwork is promoted. This, along with implementing documentation tools that capture resident-centered preferences, is one more piece of evidence reflecting our Rising Star's commitment to providing the best experience to the residents we serve through her tireless efforts to ensure continuity of care. We all know that it is the "little things" that make the residents' day, and our Rising Star's goal is to make sure anyone caring for our residents knows what those "little things" are.

On occasion, there are individuals who assume they can bulldoze our Rising Star, but what they find instead is a backbone of steel if their wishes are not in the best interest of the residents.

Unfortunately, long-term care is not an attractive field for many new nurses. However, our Rising Star has had a passion for geriatrics since volunteering

as a young girl at our facility. Interacting with our residents back then was the catalyst that set her on the journey into healthcare, and ultimately into the role that she is so completely fulfilling within our organization. She is proof of how planting a seed someday brings forth abundant fruit.

Regardless of best intentions in scheduling, life happens to our team members, and there are shifts with holes that cannot be filled. Our Rising Star can regularly be seen, day or night, working the floor as a nurse, or often even as a CNA, with an attitude of such joy to be giving care that it inspires the rest of the team. A fellow team member stated, "She is always willing to stop what she is doing and help, regardless of the task, and with a positive attitude. She continually strives to find areas to make improvements for our residents' quality of life, and that benefits the team."

Not one person can question our Star's work ethic, commitment, initiative, leadership, or her ability to be a team player. With all that is in us, we nominate our Rising Star for the LeadingAge 2023 Rising Star Award.

DALE WESSELS—NOMINEE FOR THE STRIVE & THRIVE AWARD

Whenever problems arise, those who are able to creatively problem-solve and think outside the box for solutions prove themselves to be valuable members of the team. We are blessed to have an innovator on our team who we wish to nominate for the LeadingAge 2023 Strive and Thrive Award.

This individual regularly approaches challenges and problems from a different perspective than many would and seeks out solutions that are effective

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and permanent. Although his primary responsibility lies in building maintenance, he also takes ownership of things that are outside of his purview, because his primary goal is the comfort and well-being of our residents. He is a strong advocate for changes that will enhance the living environment of our residents, and he picks up on the little things that make each resident unique.

We have a resident who always wore a certain hat every day. When that resident was no longer capable of independently dressing himself, our nominee advocated to ensure that the resident was still dressed as he always dressed himself, including the hat he always wore.

Our nominee's supervisor states, "He is definitely an out-of-the-box thinker. He comes up with a lot of solutions. And he is 100% about the residents."

Another team member said, "He is always coming up with ideas to fix problems and he really cares about the residents."

We recently had a resident who was having some difficulty. Our nominee led an effort to develop a solution and fabricated an accessory to help the resident who was thrilled and appreciative beyond belief.

In another example, a resident was having difficulty standing up without his feet sliding on the floor which caused him to be at risk for falls. Our innovator used non-slip adhesive strips to make the floor in his room a safe, textured surface and allowed the resident to safely stand without his feet sliding. He then diligently followed up regularly to inspect the adhesive strips and replace any if the edges

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GOOD NEIGHBORS OF FAIRVIEW HAVEN team was nominated for Leading Age Community Action award. Pictured from L-R are: Anna McKeon, Rick Plattner, Barb Hall, Crystal Miller, Trish Steidinger and Sally Fehr.

Scenes From The Home...



CHRIS COLEMAN and his mother, Joan Steidinger, were featured in video spots created by Paul Garcia to recognize our LeadingAge award winners, Emma Dunahee and Megan Wilder. Watch for the videos on our YouTube channel.

ABOVE RIGHT: Jerry Brandt presents Christmas gifts to our veterans on behalf of the local Legion post. Here he recognizes Leonard Maupin.

BELLOW RIGHT: Theresa Thomas and Anna McKeon show how to Get Fit with Friends at the In Motion Fitness Center. Join us for monthly classes at 1 PM on the first Tuesday of the month.



VALENTINE Kings and Queens were crowned at the Valentine's Day party. From left to right are Edith Clausen, John Nance, Phil Hilti and Marge Mishler. Crowning them is Connie Wlos. We also enjoyed Valentine Bingo.

LEADING AGE

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started to curl up.

Team members also benefit from our nominee's attention to detail and commitment to excellence. He noticed a team member's vehicle tires were low on air, so he checked the pressure and then inflated all four tires to the proper pressure, simply because it needed to be done, and done right. When asked what motivated him to do this for the team member, his reply was, "Because they are an asset to the organization."

Without doubt, our nominee has demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to excellence. He is the embodiment of vision, initiative, and creative problem solving. For these reasons, we feel he is the perfect candidate for the 2023 Strive and Thrive Award.

LILA FEHR—NOMINEE FOR THE LEADERSHIP IN ACTION AWARD

We all know there is a big difference between a leader and a manager. Not all leaders in the workplace are managers, and certainly not all managers are leaders. In our organization we have a leader who completely embodies the definition of leadership as stated by Forbes magazine that a leader "...maximizes the efforts of others, towards the achievement of a goal."

Our leader has held many positions within our organization throughout her career. She has been a CNA, worked on the business side, went back to school to become a RN, served as our Director of Nursing, and as our Director of Senior Services. She currently invests most of her time in the daily operations of our memory support services. As she did in all other roles here, she pours her heart and soul into her team and residents.

Our leader is committed to creating and maintaining a self-led team. She works hard to balance her own problem-solving abilities with growing and developing those same skills in the team she leads. This collaborative leadership style has built a team that feels empowered to use the knowledge and skills they possess to make decisions that benefit the residents they care for and the team members they work with. Team members hold each other accountable for high quality care and task completion.

The truest test of a leader's ability to inspire those they lead is to ask those people for their opinion. Across the board, her team describes her in such terms as:

"She works hard to find solutions that allow the residents to enjoy life to their full potential. She loves implementing new ways to help staff learn about caring for residents with dementia. She is al-

ways willing to support staff who may be dealing with difficult personal issues in life as well!"

"She has been a light here for many years. She can always see problems from every viewpoint and comes up with creative solutions and tries to make everyone's lives easier. I have never in my thirty-one years of life met someone with so much love, care, support, smarts, peace, and happiness to do what they do. She is a light in everyone's day, whether residents, their family, employees, or random people on the street. I am grateful to have her in my life, and as my boss!"

"She is great at answering questions from us and jumps in to help whenever and wherever needed. She shares her nursing skills and is a great mentor who positively impacts our team."

"We were CNAs together many years ago, so she isn't just a co-worker, we are lifelong friends. She is always willing to help me out. She is so understanding and supportive of her fellow employees."

Under this individual's leadership, our memory support team has blossomed into a vibrant group of people who are able to recognize each other's contributions and have a good understanding of how their own strengths, weaknesses, and personality types affect the team dynamic. Our leader has invested a significant amount of time in training her team in these areas and our team is better able to effectively resolve conflict and communicate.

A true leader advocates for their team. Not a week goes by without this individual bringing a suggestion or idea for a program, a benefit, or a solution that makes her team members' jobs or even personal lives easier. Her commitment to her staff goes beyond the workplace. If she is aware, she works hard to ensure that her employees who are struggling at home have enough to eat or have a safe place to go.

For her exemplification of leadership, we nominate our individual for the 2023 Leadership in Action award. There is a saying that happy staff leads to happy residents. Our leader builds a team who feel cared for, and therefore are better able to care for others.

GOOD NEIGHBOR TEAM— NOMINEE COMMUNITY IMPACT

Our organization has a committee with the sole focus of having a positive impact on our community and benefiting those beyond just our own team and residents we serve. The team members who participate in this committee are constantly on the lookout for opportunities to serve outside our core mission.

Once a need or opportunity is identified, this committee coordinates the pro-

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cess where our team members, and sometimes their friends and families, are able to volunteer and participate in these opportunities that benefit both their own community and beyond.

Following is a sampling of what our team is able to do to positively impact our community and others:

-Blanket knotting by our staff and residents. The blankets are provided to those in need.

-A large van packed with food and other basic necessities was driven to Florida with a team member to help her daughter, and her neighbors, whose lives were devastated by a hurricane.

-Volunteer opportunities packaging food at a local food bank.

-Christmas Cheer, in which food and other gifts are collected and wrapped to be distributed to local families facing financial hardship at Christmas time.

-Our team fills many of the bell-ringer slots for the Salvation Army's local Red Kettle Drive every Christmas season

-Christmas caroling to former residents. Strong relationships are built between team members and residents, and even though they are able to return home, they are still part of the family.

-May baskets for former residents

-Coordinating with a local faith-based ministry to package meals to be shipped overseas to impoverished countries

-Alzheimer's awareness and fundraising for the Alzheimer's Association

-Food and hygiene gift packages distributed to 150 local children in need

-Meals provided to local Police, EMS, and Fire personnel to thank them for their service to our community

-Teacher Appreciation gifts for local teachers

-Volunteering at an outreach mission that helps local women who are survivors of human trafficking or exploitation

-Appreciation meals for staff at the hospital who are as burned out with COVID as we in long-term care, to say, "Thanks! Keep up the good work!"

While many of these, or similar, acts of service are provided by various other organizations and individuals, we feel our committee and organization is unique in the level to which these contributions are made to our community. Our team members personally donate many of the food and other items distributed to those in need and provide countless hours of volunteer labor to achieve the positive impact that we are able to have on our community and beyond. It is to recognize our team members and their unquenchable desire to be part of something larger than themselves, rather than to simply boast about our organization's accomplishments, that we nominate our committee for the LeadingAge 2023 Community Impact Award.

FAIRVIEW HAVEN

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THE LAST LAUGH ...

Humpty Dumpty didn't have a very good summer.

But he had a great fall.

Contributed by Rick Plattner



HAPPY BIRTHDAY !

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 11 - Alice Steidinger
- 16 - George Steidinger
- 23 - Eunice Rich

It is the policy of Fairview Haven to give equal opportunity to all qualified persons without regard to race, color, religion, sex, marital status, disability, national origin or age.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| 01 - Carol Nussbaum | 22 - Ruth Metz |
| 04 - Ken Weerts | 22 - Leonard Maupin |
| 07 - Judy Anliker | 24 - Leda Thacker |
| 17 - Edna Steidinger | 26 - Eunice Stork |
| 18 - Phil Hilti | 27 - Judy Edelman |
| 20 - Marjorie Witzig | 28 - Glen Waibel |

EMPLOYEE BIRTHDAYS :

MARCH — Eric Bowen-Guzman (1); Julie Hunt (3); Brittni Gerdes (4); Abby Bergstrahl (6); Alayna Nussbaum (6); Bonnie Oelschlager (7); Megan Wilder (7); Crystal Miller (9); Kyle Stoller (9); Lori Roth (11); Arla Wheeler (14); Crystal Boner (17); Keshia Buscher (20); Donald Welborn (20); Desirae Knave (24); Shelby Weaver (26).

APRIL— Sarah Steidinger (2); Lisa Gillespie (3); Jane Rosendahl (3); Sandra Schneider (3); Tana Schulz (4); Brandon Stoller (5); Susan Steinsultz (6); Melody Wiedmann (6); Sabrina Kestner (8); Dale Wessels (12); Sara Eggenberger (13); Megan Forster (16); Neva Rohrer (16); Julie Carter (17); Lila Fehr (20); Bobbie Lusk (22); Nina Welps (22); Sophie Bachman (23); Leanne Bahler (23); Kaeli Marthey (23); Anna McKeon (25); Jennifer Lessman (26); Lisa Monge (29).

“ CLOSING QUOTE

Silence in the presence of evil is itself evil.
Not to speak is to speak,
not to act is to act.

-Dietrich Bonhoeffer