

# News From The Haven

January/February/March 2024



**FUZZY CHICKS** arrived by USPS to Brandon Stoller and he shared their cuteness with all of us. Here he is pictured with Connie Wlos and Pat Hartman (right).



**MARTHA SMITH** works on a jigsaw puzzle with Rilla and Tryssa Plattner.

**BELOW:** Joelle and Isaiah Jones share a smile with Leonard Maupin.



**HENRY Steffen** and Katherine Steffen enjoy the Christmas party (at left).

**BELOW:** We appreciate the volunteers who keep our monthly hymn singing lively. If you're interested, it's held on the last Friday of the month.



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



# Reflections From Rick

—Rick Plattner, Director of Public Relations

Christmas is over and the beautiful carols we've been listening to are set aside for another year.

There is one hymn that continues to come to my mind and speak to me. It is the hymn entitled, *The Babe of Bethlehem*, written years ago by Henry Beer. I love this hymn because it connects the dots between the wonderful birth of Jesus, our Savior, and His journey to the cross.

There are several lovely phrases in this hymn that are worthwhile spending time in meditation.

In verse one, the hymnwriter laments, "Alas, how many only know the Savior as a child." It is so important to note that God came to earth in the person of Jesus. We recognize that He was perfect, without sin and that He was born of a virgin and laid in that humble manger. It was the beginning of the "good tidings of great joy." However, it was only the beginning.

Verse two reminds us that if we stop at the manger scene, "Our saving hope is all in vain." It tells us, "Tis not the manger, but the cross that sets the spirit free."

How thankful we are that while the Bible doesn't tell us

everything that happened in the life of Jesus, it tells us enough about how to live and how to touch God's hand and follow Him throughout life.

Verse three compels us to make the mental journey from Bethlehem to Calvary. The hymn tells us that it is there, "... men learn to know the Christ. For there, He bore man's sin." Perhaps, it doesn't leave us with the cheery feeling that the manger scene gives us. It is, however, essential that we exercise faith in the death of Jesus Christ and His shed blood.

As the final words of the hymn instruct us, "Then open wide the door of heart. And let the Savior in."

May He find entrance in all our hearts as we enter this new year.

\* \* \* \* \*

## GOOD SAMARITAN FUND UPDATE

Thanks for a blessed 2023 with your prayers and support. As we continue on into 2024, your assistance will continue to help the loved ones we serve to have a beautiful year. God's blessings!

# Note from the Editor: Updates

As of this issue of *News From The Haven*, we have transitioned our mailing list and are now only mailing the full newsletter four times a year to people who have requested to be on the mailing list.

A number of recipients have chosen to convert to the email version of *News From The Haven*. You can expect to receive that email four times a year.

Also the electronic version of *News From The Haven* is posted in a News-

letter Archive on our website [www.fairviewhaven.org](http://www.fairviewhaven.org).

There have been questions as to why we changed the way we mail the newsletter. The revisions of the mailing list were only intended to discontinue sending to those who are not all that interested in reading the newsletter.

**We are very happy to send the newsletter (mail or email) to anyone**

**who wishes to receive it.**

If anyone is NOT receiving *News From The Haven* and wishes to, please let me know. Email is best so I have a record to which I can refer: [fvhnewsletter1@gmail.com](mailto:fvhnewsletter1@gmail.com).

In December 2023, we sent out a mass mailing, including a "mini" newsletter entitled *Fairview Campus News*. This mini newsletter will be sent to our entire current mailing list twice a year.

It's been a complicated process to gradually transition the mailing list as people informed us of their preferences. I'm certain there have been some errors made along the way. I appreciate your patience and please let me know if there are any problems with receiving your newsletter.

Also, it is very helpful if you can **keep us informed of any future address changes**. When newsletters are returned to us because of address changes, a cost is incurred with each newsletter that is returned. If we are able to keep our address list up-to-date, we get less returns.

Thanks so much for your support!

—Sally J. Fehr, Editor  
*News From The Haven*



MEGAN WILDER (center) was honored at the LeadingAge national annual convention. Megan was chosen for this honor by the state of Illinois to represent all the great caregivers of Illinois. She is pictured here at the convention with Dave Blunier and Brandon Stoller. Megan is one of our stellar CNAs.

# Celebrated Centenarians!

## ISABELLE BAUER - 105 YEARS OLD

World War I had just ended in November and a terrible epidemic called the Spanish flu was sweeping the globe when Isabelle Lydia (Feller) Bauer was born. In December 2023, she celebrated her 105<sup>th</sup> birthday!

Born on Dec. 3, 1918 in Cissna Park, Isabelle "Is" is the daughter of William and Minnie (Barth) Feller. She was the second of nine children. Her brother, Richard Feller, lives in Abington. She had one sister, Rosella Bucher, and six other brothers, Willis Feller, Arthur Feller, Marvin Feller, Charles Feller, Kenneth Feller and Glenn Feller. They are all deceased.

Isabelle grew up on a farm in Cissna Park with all her siblings. Her father was a farmer and a truck driver. Her mother kept the home and cared for the children.

Is achieved a master's degree in education and became a teacher. She has fond memories of teaching children, starting in a one-room schoolhouse in Cissna Park. Later, she taught in Chicago and Paxton.

Is married George Bauer on June 27, 1948 in Watseka. He was a banker. The Bauers had five children: Lonnie Bauer of Tucson, AZ, Gwen Steffen of New Paris, IN, Lindy Bauer of Pagosa Springs, CO, Betty Kaupp of Gridley and Sherman Bauer of Champaign. There are 12 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren.

Some traveling experiences Is enjoyed over the years included trips to Europe, Nicaragua and Hawaii. Isabelle is a member of the Apostolic Christian Church and her faith is meaningful to her. She enjoys listening to spiritual music, sermons and audiobooks.

George passed away in 1996. In later years, Is lived in Tucson, AZ. She loved the warm



ISABELLE BAUER

## GLADYS KOEHL - 100 YEARS OLD

In 1923, Calvin Coolidge was president and the Soviet Union had just been established when Gladys Louise (Maurer) Koehl was born.

Gladys was born Dec. 9, 1923 in Peoria to Alf and Clara (Heinold) Maurer. She was the second oldest in a family of nine children. Her youngest brothers, Howard Maurer and Larry Maurer, are both from Arizona. Deceased siblings are Ray Maurer, Dorothy Hoffman, Helen Zimmerman, Donnie Maurer, DeLoris Thomas and Wilma Honegger. Her parents were farmers.

Gladys attended school up to her freshman year of high school. Her favorite school subject was reading.

When she was 16, Gladys went to work at the sewing factory in Fairbury. She stayed in town during the work week and, on Friday, her dad would pick her up to join the rest of the family on the farm for the weekend. She worked as a seamstress at the factory for eight years, until her marriage in 1948. She says she enjoyed working there and helping her parents out financially. From this experience, she became an excellent seamstress and sewed dresses for many family members.

Gladys married Virgil Monroe Koehl on March 21, 1948. Gladys and Virgil were farmers near Fairbury. They were blessed with six children: Marsha (Chuck) Albritton of Hudson, Mary (Ben) Daily of Towanda, Jim (Diane) Koehl of Cropsey, Jerry (Tami) Koehl of Bloomington, and Joe (Marie) Koehl of Tucson, AZ. A daughter, Nancy, passed away at 4 months old. Gladys has 12 grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren.

In 1981, the Koehls retired from farming and moved from the farm to town.

Gladys enjoyed traveling to Europe in 1983 on a tour with others from her



GLADYS KOEHL

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

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## ☺ Welcome to Fairview Haven ☺

Fairview Estates dweller **Ruth Metz** came to Fairview Haven. We welcome her to Blessings Way.

**Nick Kaeb** moved from Fairview Estates to Blessings Way.

We welcome Fairview Estates resident **Eleanor Honegger** to Daffodil Drive.

**Esther Bahler** came to Angel Avenue. Her husband, **Walter**, resides

in Fairview Estates.

**Myra Farney** was here for a brief time and has returned to her home in Cissna Park.

Joining us from Serenity Villa is **Marguerite Lorch**. She is residing in Angel Avenue.

We welcome Fairbury resident **Mary Slagel** to Blessings Way.

**George and Donna McCue** from Fairbury moved into Angel Avenue.

**Joan Tredennick** came from East Haven Condos to Blessings Way.

Chatsworth resident **Mary Ann Barnhart** came to Angel Avenue.

**Marjorie Johnson** from Chenoa joined our Fairview Haven family and is residing in Daffodil Drive.



DINING SERVICES team display the Hungarian cuisine. At front: Lori Ifft. Second row (L-R): Cheryl Pennington, Sara Diriczi, Bonnie Oelschlager, Shay McDonald. Back row at right: Isabel Barnes and Dawn Shepherd.

## Thank You, Sara!

We were blessed to have Sara Diriczi from Hungary spend several months here at Fairview Haven assisting in laundry, housekeeping, dining services and activities. She had many experiences while here in the U.S.

Before she left, Sara and our dining services team made a Hungarian meal for all of us and we enjoyed sampling her cuisine, including zserbo golyo, gyumuolcsleves, paprikas krumpli, makos bejgli and langos. Thanks, Sara, for helping us and spending time with us!

**A Message From Sara:** From the first day at Fairview Haven, I didn't feel like a stranger, in spite of the fact that I came there without knowing anyone. It was not difficult to feel at home. I was surrounded by love and appreciation.

The staff and the residents are amazing; there was always a good atmosphere. I had some hard moments because of the language, but everyone was very patient with me and tried to help me. Many people made my days better, without even knowing it, with a smile or a short conversation. I have made a lot of friends and had unforgettable experiences, for which I am very grateful!

Although I had some hard days, the hardest was the last day when I had to say goodbye to this place. I will always think back with gratefulness to the three months I spent there!

## In Loving Memory Of . . .

The funeral of Fairbury resident **George Steidinger**, 90, was held Friday, Oct. 6, 2023. George passed away on Oct. 1. George had lived at Fairview Haven since 2019. Surviving are his children, James (Marlene) Steidinger of Fairbury, Duane (Debbie) Steidinger of Peoria and Kay (Geoff) Bucher of Washington; ten grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; three sisters, Vera, Edna and Alice Steidinger of Fairbury; one brother, Joseph W. (Dorothy) Steidinger of Forrest; a sister-in-law, Anna Steidinger of Chatsworth, and numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews. George was a veteran from the Korean War era, a lifetime area farmer and a member of the Christian Apostolic Church, Fairbury.

**Judy Yoshiko Kemp**, 91, of Fairbury passed away Wednesday, Oct. 25, 2023 after having lived at Serenity Villa since 2020. Her funeral was Oct. 30 at Forrest Apostolic Christian Church where she was a member. She is survived by her children; Joyce (Louis) Yonker of Bloomington, Robert 'Bob' (Mandy) Kemp of Fairbury, and Betty Kemp of Sumter, SC; six grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; two sisters, Kazuko

Satonaka and Reiko Kawase, both of Japan; and several nieces and nephews in the U.S. and Japan. Judy was previously employed at the Coil Factory and PAFCO. Judy left her family and homeland of Japan in 1958. She followed her career military husband from base to base with most of the years spent living and raising her family in Forrest.

Funeral services for former Strawn resident **Ruth Edelman**, 90, of Fairbury, were held at the Forrest Apostolic Christian Church on Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2023. Ruth passed away on Nov. 10, after being part of the Fairview Haven family for about a year. Surviving her are two sons, Warren (Cindy) Edelman of Fairbury and Dennis Edelman of Strawn; one daughter, Barbara Edelman of Bloomington; three brothers, Arthur Steidinger and Ronald (Lucille) Steidinger, both of Fairbury; William Steidinger of Bloomington; one sister, Louise Menold of Sabetha, KS; two granddaughters; one great-grandson and one great-granddaughter. Ruth was a homemaker and a member of the Forrest Apostolic Christian Church.

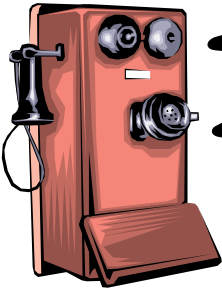
Lifetime Cissna Park resident, **Lucille Knapp**, 88, passed away Fri-

day, Nov. 17, 2023. Her funeral was Nov. 29 at the Cissna Park Apostolic Christian Church. She came to Fairview Haven in 2019. Lucille is survived by two brothers, Wesley (Judy) Knapp of Cissna Park and Aaron (Charlene) Knapp of Rankin, and several nieces and nephews. Lucille worked as a secretary and was a member of the Cissna Park Apostolic Christian Church.

Funeral services were held Monday, Nov. 27, 2023 at the Fairbury Apostolic Christian Church for **Patricia Hartman**, 96, of Fairbury. Pat passed away Nov. 22. She joined the Fairview Haven family in 2012 when she moved into Fairview Suites. She is survived by her daughter, Donna (Dale) Banwart and her son, John (Rosemary) Hartman, both of Fairbury; ten grandchildren; 45 great-grandchildren; 22 great-great-grandchildren; and two sisters-in-law, Joann Hartman of Bloomington and Betty Hibner of Naperville. Pat worked at Dave's Supermarket and Walton's Department Store, as well as being a farmwife. She was a member of the Fairbury Apostolic Christian Church.

**Marvin Russell**, 85, of Fairbury, passed

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



# Party Line

## QUOTES

*Contributed by Mary Anne Young*

-The family that prays together stays together.

-Al Scalpone

-Happy families are all alike; every unhappy family is unhappy in its own way.

-Leo Tolstoy

-Home is where you are loved the most and act the worst.

-Marjorie Hinckley

-The love of family and the admiration of friends is much more important than wealth and privilege.

-Charles Kuralt

-Soup is a lot like a family. Each ingredient enhances the others; each batch has its own characteristics; and it needs time to simmer to reach full flavor.

-Marge Kennedy

-A man travels the world over in search of what he needs and returns home to find it.

-George Moore

-Educate your children to self-control, to the habit of holding passion and prejudice and evil tendencies subject to an upright and reasoning will and you have done much to abolish misery from their future and crimes from society.

-Benjamin Franklin

-Home is people. Not a place. If you go back there after the people are gone, then all you can see is what is not there anymore.

-Robin Hobb

-Courage is grace under pressure.

-Ernest Hemingway

-Life makes fools of all of us sooner or later. But

keep your sense of humor and you'll at least be able to take your humiliations with some measure of grace. In the end, you know, it's our expectations that crush us.

-Paul Murray

-You are born into your family and your family is born into you. No returns. No exchanges.

-Elizabeth Berg

-Your worst days are never so bad that you are beyond the reach of God's grace. And your best days are never so good that you are beyond the need of God's grace.

-Jerry Bridges

-All things of grace and beauty such that one holds them to one's heart have a common provenance in pain.

-Cormac McCarthy

-Above all the grace and the gifts that Christ gives to his beloved is that of overcoming self.

-Francis of Assisi

-Man is born broken. He lives by mending. The grace of God is glue.

-Eugene O'Neill

-Grace is an ability to give as well as to receive and be thankful.

-C. Joybell C.

-The answer must be, I think, that beauty and grace are performed whether or not we will or sense them. The least we can do is try to be there.

-Annie Dillard

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

**Margaret Kaskavage** has been part of the Fairview Haven team for 16 years. After 15 years of working in dining services, she started recently as homemaker at Serenity Villa.

She says her supervisor, Lori Ifft, noticed signs of her getting burned out and offered her the position at Serenity Villa. When she transitioned over there, she says she was welcomed with open arms and hearts.

Margaret says: "I enjoy the camaraderie with the team and residents and neighbors. I can remember way back when I first started, some didn't think I would last

longer than a month. 16 years later, and they aren't here anymore, but I am!" Margaret is known for her sense of humor. She tells this experience: "A neighbor at Serenity Villa always asks me, 'Did you get a lot of spankings as a child?' I said, 'I've had my fair share.' She asks, 'So what does your mom think now?' She shakes her head and we laugh and she says, 'Don't ever change!'"

Margaret has been married to Pat Kaskavage for 30 years and they live in Forrest. Their children are: Steven, Troy (Lacey), Andrew (Heather), Kevin (Jazmin) and Kyle (Alison). There are 8 grandchildren. Margaret's mother is Linda Anderson. Her father, Neil Anderson, passed away.

Margaret enjoys sitting around a campfire with their neighbors, Aaron and Tammy, dinner dates with their kids and listening to audiobooks.



MARGARET KASKAVAGE

# Thoughts from Dave's Desk ...

Dave Blunier, Administrator

Greetings from Dave's Desk!

*Except the LORD build the house, They labour in vain that build it: Except the LORD keep the city, The watchman waketh but in vain.* —Psalm 127:1

As another year on the calendar rolls past us, we look back in awe, inspired by the work of God in our ministry here at Fairview Haven.

In 2023, our team of 200-plus employees were blessed to serve 138 residents on our campus. Additionally, 76 clients were reached through our Connections Home Services. Our ministry partners contributed around \$600,000 through the year which was the exact amount we needed to maintain our five-star quality of care. We were able to accomplish several upgrades including a much needed major overhaul of our dining room (it still had the original flooring), remodels of several rooms and apartments and upgrades to several HVAC systems to name a few.

Fairview Haven's mission statement is "an Apostolic Christian community where choice is valued, growth is encouraged and life abounds." While

Fairview Haven is well known for the excellent care offered to our loved ones and the family during the dying process, our mission is not one of a hospice facility where we only provide assistance for the dying. Generally speaking, people do move onto our campus in the later years of life, however, we have people living throughout our campus at a wide variety of ages and care needs. Regardless of age or how much care a person may need, it is our mission at Fairview Haven to provide abundant life from the time the person moves on our campus until the last breath.

We often find there is a major misconception that people shouldn't move to the campus of Fairview Haven until they are absolutely in need. And we have found that this misconception often delays people from getting the best care that they can get in a timely way, which can have a devastating impact.

(I do understand that, from a cost perspective, we want to maintain living at the most economical arrangement as long as possible. This is why it has been so important for the Administration and

Board of Directors to continue exploring options for lower cost environments.)

When people live in an environment that is less than adequate in providing for their safety and care needs, their overall health and safety is at risk. And, while moving to a level of care suitable for current needs will not guarantee that an incident will not occur, it diminishes the risk significantly.

Also, we have often experienced that caregivers (typically spouses) who are trying to maintain a living arrangement and provide care will frequently suffer consequences to their own health.

As you consider moving someone to a different level of care, you should also consider the wellbeing of the caregivers involved in that person's care. Typically, we observe that transitioning a person to a higher level of care will improve the health of the caregiver. With the burdens of daily care and responsibilities alleviated, the spouse/caregiver is able to support and spend quality time with the person.

Additionally, we often find that it is optimal to transition loved ones who have memory issues or dementia to a higher care

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

## Photo Puzzler



Kevin Huette responded to this photo: "Regarding the Photo Puzzler, it won't win me first prize but I can get three out of four! My grandmother Martha Koehl, aunt Bernice Cox and aunt Carol Koehl. A very special group of ladies."



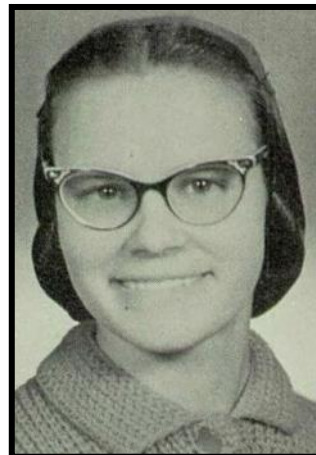
Gloria Ebach from Fairbury says: "Thank you for the picture you put in the News From the Haven of my family: Bernice Cox (my mom), Aunt Carol Koehl and Grandma Koehl."

Seated in front are: Ella Scharlach and Martha Koehl and standing in back are: Carol Koehl and Bernice Cox. This photo is from Christmas 1980.

**Clues:** This couple lived in the Forrest area until recently moving to Fairbury. They have a daughter, a son (who is deceased) and two grandchildren. They are well

known in the Fairview Haven community, as current neighbors, long-time volunteers and the lady is a retired team member. Both of them had parents who lived in Fairview Haven.

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





Wow! We have had a wonderful summer and fall here. We had some fun outings and some delicious food! It doesn't seem to matter what age we are, we all like to eat and be entertained.

I would like to encourage everyone to come share your talents, We have lost some great musical volunteers.. For many years, Lloyd Bachtold sang often for us and traveled with us to sing at gatherings we attended. Maybe some of you could become a regular volunteer. The residents often request evening entertainment (or any time when it is convenient for you.)

I recently received a text asking if a teacher could bring her students in for piano recital, Yes! That was my answer. We love children and music; share them

please!

We also love seasoned children that are now adults. Betty Wiegand often called me "kid." My "kid" days are long gone, yet, to her, I was a kid and she made my day when she said, "You're just a kid." So bring your talents in to share and you too can feel the love here and be a "kid" again.

If music is not your talent, you can share whatever talents you have, like woodworking, sewing, gardening, crafts. Or maybe you're a great cook.

The residents enjoy home-cooked meals in the activity room, especially during the colder weather. It gives them a chance to eat with different people in a different environment and experience different tastes.

Whatever your talent, give me a call or email and let's brainstorm a little to see what we can plan.

## New Faces!

We welcome the following members to our team: Tosha Edwards, Fairview Estates caregiver; Katie Cavanagh, Robin McPherson, Ava Elliott, Becca Moser and Mandi Foster, Connections caregivers; Isabel Barnes, dining services; Kyle Stoller, maintenance; CNA Clara Haas; and RNs Gina Johnson, Katelyn Petersen, Michelle Reilmann and Katie Ziller.

## GLADYS KOEHL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

church. Family reunions in Michigan at Lake Side Inn were a tradition for her. Gladys' hobbies include: making dolls, sewing, quilting, reading, bingo, listening to music, hymn singings and seek-n-find puzzles. Gladys was a longtime volunteer at Fairview Haven, folding laundry, quilting and hosting birthday

parties. Gladys belongs to the Forrest Apostolic Christian Church and church activities have been an important part of her life.

In 1995, Virgil died suddenly from heart failure.

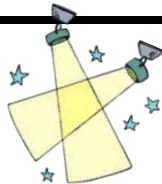
Gladys came to the Fairview Haven community when she moved into East Haven Condos. She later lived in Fairview Estates and now resides in Blessings Way.

## ISABELLE BAUER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

climate there and, still today, loves to sit in the sunshine. Her daughter, Betty, says: "Mom documented that her philosophy of life is: Keep Learning, Loving, Laughing, Laboring, Leaving (leaving behind emotional baggage and old hurts), Longing (delight yourself in the Lord), and Leaning (on God for everything).

## Volunteers in the SPOTLIGHT ...



LORI LEMAN is one of our dedicated water passers. We appreciate all who help with this so the residents can have ample fresh water.

## Hobby Corner

Featuring the hobbies and interests of residents



Leda Thacker shares her talent of playing guitar.

**IN MEMORY**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

away Monday, Dec. 18, 2023. He resided at Fairview Haven since 2017. His funeral was Dec. 22 at the First Baptist Church in Pontiac, where he was a member. He is survived by his children, Patricia 'Patty' (Jack) Wiser of Fairbury, Sandy (Chuck) Painter of Chenoa, Julie (Les) Amdor of Chenoa and Merry Lynn McCue of Lexington; brother, John Russell of Pontiac; nine grandchildren; and ten great-grandchildren. Marvin farmed in the Graymont area his entire life. He also worked for OSF St. James as a security guard and drove a school bus for the Graymont School.

A graveside service was held on Wednesday, Dec. 27, 2023 at Graceland Cemetery in Fairbury for **Alberta 'Bert' Adreon**, 97, of Fairbury. She passed away on Dec. 19. She lived in Fairview Estates for a brief time. Survivors include her son, Gary (Marsha) Adreon of Sun Prairie, WI; a daughter, Cindy (Dick) Sippel of Ormond Beach, FL; five grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; two

great-great-grandchildren; and a sister, Joanne Ressler of Normal. Alberta worked as a bookkeeper in the banking industry.

Funeral services were held for **Eunice Stork**, 80, of Fairbury and formerly of Roberts, at the Fairbury Apostolic Christian Church on Wednesday, Jan. 3, 2024. Eunice passed away Dec. 30. She joined the Fairview Haven family in February. She is survived by her children, Ann Stork, Bill (Shay) Stork, Barbara Stork, Lorrie (Rex) Shambrook, all of Roberts; Michael (Marie) Stork of Bloomington, and Karie (Mark) Edelman of Fairbury; ten grandchildren; four siblings, Anna Mae Fehr, Dorothy (Joe) Steidinger, Donald Fehr and Lucille (Ronald) Steidinger. Eunice was a homemaker and a member of Fairbury Apostolic Christian Church.

**Joyce Crews**, 96, of Fairbury passed away Dec. 30, 2023. She came to the Fairview Haven community in 2015. Her funeral was Jan. 6, 2024 at First Baptist Church, Fairbury. She is survived by two daughters, Sharon (John) Kennedy of Ocean View, DE and Barbara (Ron) Reynolds of Pueblo, CO; one son, Steve (Mary Beth) Crews of Fairbury; a special brother-

in-law, Jerry (Sybil) Crews of Merced, CA; six grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren and 12 great-great-grandchildren. Joyce was well-known in the area as she worked at many area retail merchants during the 1970s and '80s.

The funeral of Fairbury resident **Betty Wiegand**, 99, was held Thursday, Jan. 4, 2024 at the Fairbury Apostolic Christian Church. She passed away Dec. 31, 2023. Betty moved into the Fairview Haven community in 2018. Survivors include a son, Brian Wiegand of Fairbury; four grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; 11 great-great-grandchildren and a special niece, Mary Bachtold. Betty was a homemaker, a member of Fairbury Apostolic Christian Church and a long-time volunteer at Fairview Haven.

**Memorial Fund Report**

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

- Evelyn Yoder
- John L. Eymann
- George Steidinger
- Larry Lancaster
- Lucille Knapp
- Ruth Edelman
- Custer Stevens
- Mary Ellen Goold
- Nora Rivera
- Lynn Bryant
- Glenn Fehr
- Mary Bane
- Pat Hartman
- Elaine Schmid
- Darlene Stahl



## Fairview Haven Newsletter Team

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**VOLUNTEER VOICES**

TRISH STEIDINGER, Volunteer Coordinator



As we begin a new year, I'd like to remind all the volunteers to please log your hours no matter the capacity in which you volunteer. There are volunteer logs in the entryway at Serenity Villa, at the reception desk at Fairview Haven and in the business office hallway of Fairview Haven. If your volunteer time does not bring you in to Fairview Haven or Serenity Villa, you are welcome to text me the total hours you volunteered for a specific situation. I

think we are still not getting all the volunteer time logged, so if you could help me with this, I'd really appreciate it! We thank each one of you for all the time you volunteered in 2023 and wish you all a blessed New Year!

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](mailto:tsteidinger@fairviewhaven.org).



SINGERS from the Prairie Mennonite church in Arthur, IL, have come to sing for us recently. We appreciate the efforts they make to come all that distance!



**DAVE'S DESK**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

setting earlier in the process. The person has a much easier transition as he/she is able to acclimate to the new environment in earlier stages when cognitive capabilities are more intact. As a person progresses into later stages of dementia or increased memory issues, it becomes much more challenging to adapt to a new living arrangement.

Late transitions can lead to increased confusion, aggressive/combatative behavior, compromised dignity, safety concerns and health issues.

If there is one thing that I have learned over my lifetime, it is that, while we human beings are a lot alike in many aspects, we are all uniquely created and what works for one person may or may not work for the next person. I say this to make it clear that those of us working at Fairview Haven/Serenity Villa do not have all the answers as to when you or your loved one should make the decision to move to a higher level of care.

On the other hand, experience has taught us and we have witnessed so many situations where someone has experienced tragedy or a difficult transition that could have potentially been different had that person moved earlier. And, while we have seen some situations where a loved one made a decision to move too early, that is a rare circumstance.

\* \* \* \* \*

“Oh, I didn't know your mom (or your dad or family member) was *that bad?*” This is a comment that is often said when people hear that someone has moved into Serenity Villa.

If you have ever had that thought, we'd like to share a different perspective. Likely, the person and/or family caregivers are actually being proactive in the decision to move to Serenity Villa. They are assessing the future and recognizing that they could possibly prevent more difficulties by earlier intervention.

It is most advantageous to consider moving into Serenity Villa: 1) when the person has adequate cognition to help make the transition less difficult; and 2) when a caregiver is expressing the feeling of being overwhelmed or experiencing burnout, frustration, and minor health concerns.

My final thought is this: I wish we would change the way we often look at people living with dementia. The tendency can be to view them as a burden or as not worth much. People living with dementia have much value and deserve the same dignity and respect as anyone else. In some cases, they find it difficult themselves to preserve their dignity and that is why we have places like Serenity Villa to help them.

Serenity Villa is a beautiful, safe haven where our loved ones live an abundant life in a cozy environment surrounded by people who love them.

Come visit or volunteer—there are valuable lessons to be learned from visiting with any older people. Let's recognize the value of all people and educate ourselves about their unique needs. Please help us dispel any stigma related to aging or dementia by expanding education and awareness.

When we understand the profound value that God places on any human life, we will also cherish and value each person, regardless of needs, diagnoses or age.



*In loving memory of  
loved ones on our  
campus who have  
gone to rest in the  
past year ...*

01/16/23 Joy Zimmerman  
03/02/23 Joan Steidinger  
03/04/23 Phyllis Rich  
03/06/23 Art Walter  
03/06/23 Janice Nussbaum  
03/18/23 Donna Neldner  
03/25/23 Marilyn Fortna  
04/07/23 Anna Kaeb  
04/17/23 Martha Meister  
05/08/23 Esther Gerber  
05/18/23 Marjorie Alt  
06/08/23 Doris Steidinger  
06/29/23 Wanda Coyne  
07/09/23 Duane Kilgus  
07/19/23 John Nance  
08/26/23 Donald Broquard  
09/06/23 Mary Bane  
09/09/23 Ada Christensen  
10/01/23 George Steidinger  
11/10/23 Ruth Edelman  
11/17/23 Lucille Knapp  
11/22/23 Patricia Hartman  
12/18/23 Marvin Russell  
12/30/23 Eunice Stork  
12/30/23 Joyce Crews  
12/31/23 Betty Wiegand



VAL KAISNER and Dave Steidinger and (at right) Jim Walter and Jeremiah Rinkenberger attended the Christmas party together. More Christmas party photos are on the following pages and on the Fairview Haven Facebook page.

**DON'T FORGET Our In Motion Fitness Center New Year's Special! Get the month of January FREE to start building your new healthy fitness habits.**



# Scenes From The Home ...



DIANE RIEGER and Leonard Maupin enjoy the Christmas party.

AT LEFT: Marcella Meyer and Julianne Wellwood stroke a visiting bunny.

BELOW LEFT: Ethel Wiegand, Alta Kilgus, Colleen Walter and Roberta Meyer process a large mailing. Thanks for your work!!

BOTTOM LEFT: Showcasing their creativity by painting pumpkins are (L-R): Edie Clausen, Marjorie Witzig, Alta Kilgus, Melina Mora, Pat Hartman, Lucille Knapp, Ethel Wiegand and Dorothy Rudin.



ANNA McKEON and Barb Hurt were friends at the Christmas party as were Dianna Kester and Dorothy Rudin (below).





CHRISTMAS Friends pictured here are (top left): Kathy Honegger and Clay Eisenmann; (top right): Callie Eisenmann and Jim Abbey; (far left): Julianne Wellwood and Edie Clausen; (at left): Kyla Stephens and Melba Zimmerman.



AT THE Christmas party are (above): Crystal Miller and Karen Leman. BELOW:: Mary Morris and Connie Wlos. BOTTOM: Deb Millsap and Dolores Pokarney.

CURTIS ORCHARD was an autumn destination for (L-R): Ernie Hofmann, Leonard Maupin, Karen Hildreth, Judy Anliker and Joyce Blunier.

BELOW: Roasting hot dogs are (L-R): Ernie Hofmann, Joyce Blunier, Ruth Wessels, Alayna Nussbaum, Roger Arends (back), Judy Anliker and Brandon Stoller (hidden).



# FAIRVIEW HAVEN

605 North Fourth St.  
Fairbury, IL 61739  
www.fairviewhaven.org

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## THE LAST LAUGH ...

Two men are on opposite sides of a river.  
The first man shouts, "How do you get to the other side of the river?"  
The other man yells, "You *are* on the other side of the river!"



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

### JANUARY

04 - Mary Morris  
06 - Ethel Wiegand  
09 - Nancy Hauptli  
10 - Gwen Stork  
29 - Edie Clausen

### FEBRUARY

07 - Joanne Aupperle  
09 - Elda Mae Rieger  
10 - Ruth Wessels  
11 - Marge Mishler  
12 - Velda Huetter  
17 - Donald Fehr  
28 - Joyce Crews  
28 - Joyce Blunier

### MARCH

08 - Keith Moser  
11 - Alice Steidinger  
13 - Thelma Maier  
14 - Roberta Meyer  
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.

### **EMPLOYEE BIRTHDAYS :**

JANUARY — Debbie Vaughan (1); Teri Arteman (9); Christy Raby (9); Mariah Steidinger (9); Jeremiah Rinkenberger (11); Jennifer Teubel (11); Crysta Stork (12); Katie Haas (13); Leslie Lowery (15); Melina Mora (16); Emma Rabe (16); Kimber Edelman (17); Mallory Steidinger (17); Taylor Wiedmann (24); Laurel Aberle (27); Katie Ricketts (29); Julie Rabe (30).

FEBRUARY — Kyla Stephens (1); Beth Bork (4); Rick Plattner (5); Lauren Hoselton (9); Kyle Steidinger (11); Michelle Ciulla (12); Nelly Brand (14); Destiny Rothert (14); Jeana Waibel (17); Excel Harris (18); Taryn Rodriguez (21); Katie Ziller (21); Diane Hockenberry (22); Susan Shiflett (22); Audrey Leman (23); Bella Mekarski (24).

MARCH — Eric Bowen-Guzman (1); Isabel Barnes (6); Alayna Nussbaum (6); Bonnie Oelschlager (7); Keith Steidinger (7); Megan Wilder (7); Crystal Miller (9); Kaylee Skaggs (14); Arla Wheeler (14); Crystal Boner (17); Kiersten Niles (17); Keshia Buscher (20); Donald Welborn (20); Michelle Reilmann (23); Desirae Bowden (24); Shelby Weaver (26).

### **” CLOSING QUOTE**

Be more concerned with your character than your reputation because your character is what you really are while your reputation is merely what others think you are.  
—John Wooden