



NEWS

April/May/June 2011

*Spring is when you feel like whistling
even with a shoe full of slush.*

Blaine • Cottage Grove • Inver Grove Heights • White Bear Lake

News From Chippewa Falls

Hello and Happy Spring to everyone! The snow has melted and we're finally starting to see green grass again! Our wonderful furry friends are back after the cold winter we have had in the Chippewa Falls area. We're excited to start planting our flowers and vegetable gardens!

Our Chippewa 2 building had a wonderful time with the Music Makers this quarter! We would like say a big thank you to their group for coming to sing to our residents! Our tenant, Bernice Ivaska is a big part of this singing group so it was wonderful to hear her vocals with her special group she enjoys so much.

Kim and I are currently working on planning the upcoming spring picnic! We're still working out the fine details and will mail out specifics at a later date. We hope to see you all there!

We would like to say welcome to our new friends Leo Fisher, Evelyn Shilts, Sandy Zakrzewski, Pearl Campeau, Irene Carey, Carol Kaiser, Paul Roycraft, Lorraine Forster, Hazel Gram and Jerry Mulheron.

A big Happy Birthday goes out to Leonard Riesterer, Raymond Hughes, Mary Zech, Emma Morrissey, Marjorie St. Aubin, Rita Roth, Bernadine Hengst, Inez Christianson, Frank Walters, Pearl Campeau, Helen Boettcher, Hazel Gram, Elsie Spaeth, Helen Crossett and Delores Evans during this last quarter.

We would also like to take a moment to say good-bye to Clarence Fedie. Comforts of Home would like to thank him for serving our country and supporting our troops. The staff and Comforts of Home shared many memories with Clarence and will never forget him and his wonderful personality.

If you are interested in being a part of our team here in Chippewa Falls or seeking further information regarding your loved ones please feel free to contact Jackie Juan at 715-529-4725.



If you would like to submit anything for the Comforts of Home and White Pine Newsletter, please call Rhonda at 800/920-4725.

News From Inver Grove Heights

The cold and snow has not slowed the residents of Inver Grove Heights White Pine! We've managed to stave off the ho-hum of the winter months by staying active and creative. The winter months flew by as we exercised, danced and celebrated many special events. There was a great evening with the Super Bowl Party, and then Valentine's Day festivities brought hearts, flowers and treats! We enjoyed the fellowship and love of many family members and volunteers.

Local leadership groups have been in the buildings with their animal to visit our residents. They spend time conversing and letting the residents enjoy the antics of their dogs. We are so grateful for their enthusiasm and participation.

One Saturday residents spent a fun day with Hattie's Hats. Residents had the opportunity to try on and model glitzy, glamorous and practical hats at this fun event. Several residents traveled to South St. Paul and enjoyed a wonderful evening of song and dance performed by the Wisconsin Singers! What a great evening that was! Refining the art of pretzel making has recently been a goal of several residents while they did baking class with Louise.

As we welcome spring, we are ready to plant seeds in our grow room. This year we are hoping to plant an outdoor herb garden and fresh vegetables for our salad bar. Wishing all of you a warm and happy spring!

News From River Falls

After a long and cold winter, spring has arrived, according to the calendar anyway. Don't get us wrong we all love the snow but we are ready for spring, the green grass, beautiful flowers and strolls around the pond. As far as winters go this had to be one of the longest. We have been blessed to have many wonderful people here to entertain us this winter: Dale Blanshan sang and gave an amazing power point presentation on Abe Lincoln. He arrived in full character. His presentation was amazing, sharing a wealth of knowledge. Sharyl and Dave, Cowboy Jim and Lynn Brownell are also some of our favorite entertainers. The winter months didn't keep us down; we kept warm with exercise class daily. Some days we offer exercise class twice, offering to those who are more afternoon individuals. Many tenants have grown to love it and attend daily.

River Falls High School youth continue to be a huge part of Comforts of Home. Megan (one of our favorites), comes in every Saturday to play bingo; she is loved by all. SOS students arrive for Game Night on Thursdays. Speaking of volunteering, our community activity this past couple months was to help the RF Sr. Class party. Tenants stuffed 1000's of envelopes, cut newspaper for paper mach and helped with other decorating projects. Tenants have enjoyed interacting with the students around the community.

Our most recent outing was to the Ellsworth Cheese Factory. Tenants had the opportunity to taste many different kinds of cheese. The crowd favorite unanimously was the fresh cheese curds, nothing better than a squeaky curd! Many purchases made!

Happy Spring to all!





News From Baldwin

We are ready to pack up the snowshoes and bring out the umbrellas. Even though the reflection of the sun off of the snow will be missed, we are looking forward to the sound of the rain and feeling the warmth that the sunshine brings. Rachel is anxiously waiting to start her garden. We can't wait to see what she is planning, whatever it is, we know it will be good. Jackie keeps us all so busy. It is amazing how fast time flies when we are having fun. We are so blessed to have her as part of our family, especially with her musical talent she shares with us. Nothing warms the heart like watching Mary dance wearing her infectious smile. We are anxious to get outside and enjoy the new life that nature brings. We are so lucky to have such beautiful surroundings to enjoy all

of summer. We have been looking so forward to Spring we feel it is worthy of a celebration. We have been busy this month planning our spring fling to share with the community, friends and family. We would love you to join us in the celebration. The Spring Celebration will begin at 2:00pm April 23, 2011. Bring the kids as we have heard word that the Easter Bunny will be joining us that day. We will kick off the party with an Easter Egg hunt with prizes and other games for the kids. The Easter Bunny expressed that he would love to have the children take pictures with him. Not only will the Easter Bunny bless us with his appearance, but I hear that Elvis will be in the building. Elvis will be joining Dr. Stoeckler for entertainment that will begin at 4:00pm. They did such a tremendous job at the Halloween Party I think the Easter Bunny will have some competition that day. And of course, no celebration is complete without food and treats. We are looking forward to celebrating this time with your families and especially to hear the laughter of the children, it doesn't get much better than that. We would like to express our best wishes to Lila Dean as she is relocating to be closer to her husband, we will miss her dearly. Jackie is already wondering who is going to help her carve the Turkey next Thanksgiving as Lila's husband Tom was a big part of our family also and he too will be missed.

News From Cottage Grove

It's been a long winter! However we have kept busy with lots of fun events! In January, A'Chaired Harmony (one of our favorite entertainers) shared beautiful music to ring in the New Year.

Love was in the air at our Valentine's Celebration. Another of our favorites, Les Blake serenaded us with old love songs and country favorites.

Everyone at White Pine was Irish on St. Patty's Day! We had a hoppin' Happy Hour. Goodies and Green beer were enjoyed by all.

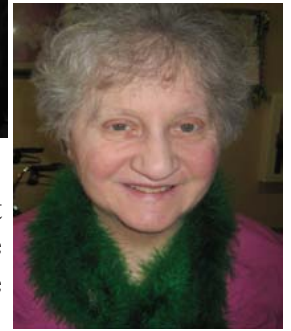
We are very excited about having a local artist who is visiting twice a month to teach our residents how to paint and to use water color pencils. One of residents, Sandy, made a work of art. We think she is a natural.

We have been quite busy getting ready for the newest addition to our White Pine family. Our new memory care building opened April 1st. We are very excited to be able to serve more families and to build wonderful relationships.



News from Blaine

Wow, can you believe we can finally see the green grass! It has been a very long winter for all of us and we are so excited to be able to go outside and be in the sunshine. There is so much excitement about being able to start new projects and outings this summer. With the help of families, staff and residents we are getting ready to put some flowers out in our front porch and possibly put in a garden this year. Our fabulous new cook, Eric, has been a welcome addition to our family. He takes the time to listen to our residents to find out what they like to eat and the dining experience through this process has really improved (he also has some really great hats). We just got a Wii game and that has been great fun too. Residents have had so much fun making their character to play the game. Irene K. wanted to make sure she could have nice red lipstick on her character. We have had lots of fun with dancers, singing with Bob, and shopping. Going out for lunch in the community has been very popular this winter. Despite the cold weather residents wanted to go, sometimes having as many as three carloads going at a time. Holidays have also been a lot of fun. Residents played a fun "Pot O Gold" game with pennies for St. Patrick's Day with green hats and boas! We have also had a huge interest in Bean Bag Toss. This game is led by one of our wonderful residents, Sandy Packingham. This is a not your ordinary Bean Bag Toss mind you, we have some real pros at our house. Maybe someday there will be a senior cup for Bean Bag Toss! Hope everyone has a very safe and fun filled summer.



News from Menomonie

Welcome Spring 2011! Finally after a snowy and cold winter we are warming up! Despite the cold and snow we managed to have a great time with several different events. We kicked off our New Year with a New Year's Eve party, which entailed an evening of bingo, snacks and a good time. When February soon rolled around we indulged in a home cooked prime rib dinner for Valentine's Day. To follow, we had a great celebration of Mardi Gras, where Wesley Nelson and Marge Norris became our King and Queen! The fun didn't end here....

We went all green for St. Patty's Day, and just kicked off the Spring season with our beach party. We had a blast with our friends from the Village at White Pine and welcomed the new residents.

Looking forward to warmer weather and outings yet to come!!



News From Frederic

Wow, can you believe it is April already? Thank goodness as everyone is ready for the great out-of-doors and all it has to offer! Our residents celebrated Valentine's Day with a wonderful breakfast which included heart shaped pancakes. We played heart bingo and Larry Fisk's Barber Shop Quartet serenaded our residents with love songs of the past. St. Patrick's Day was "green" and a fantastic Irish meal was devoured.

We celebrated the birthdays of Eleanor Pottie, Ellen Jepsen, Allan and Geri Connel, Einar Anderson and Donald Danielson. A very special Happy Birthday goes out to Clareese Marek who celebrated her 100th birthday. It was a week of anticipation and excitement for her. The newspaper did a full page article on her and her family and friends tried to surprise her with a wonderful open house celebration, but somehow Clareese figured out what was going on. What a wonderful day that was for her!

So now spring is finally here! Spring is a special event and this year even more so after the long, long winter that has now passed. The ice is finally gone, the birds are singing, the grass is greening, the sun is shining.... Well three out of four isn't bad. This is a great time, especially if you have a river or lake near by. The water is the clearest blue and the wild life is returning. Everyone has a huge case of spring fever and we all are ready to soak in as much sunshine as possible! There is a lot to look forward to and it is a favorite part of year for many, and why wouldn't it be? We are looking forward to sitting on our front porch and all that the season has to offer.

We would like to take a moment to say goodbye to Melvina Sorenson, Harold Owens and Christine Akerlind. Although gone from our sight they will forever remain in our hearts.

We also would like to say thank you and goodbye to Pastor Andy. Pastor has taken a new position in Arizona and we wish him and his family all the best!

So until next time, from our house to yours, we wish you love, happiness and health!

News From St. Croix Falls

Happy spring to all!!! Tulips, Daffodil and Crocus, are showing their faces, which we were so excited to see. But the snow storm on March 23rd covered them up again. OH what a storm!!

There are many activities happening here. 63rd Wedding anniversary party for Betty and Warren Norlander and many birthday parties. Celebrating birthdays in January were Margaret Frey and Curtis Nelson; February were Harry Jensen, Bernice Eldridge and Beatrice Johnson; and March was Dorothy Edgell. Happy birthday to staff Jeanna, Linda, Barb, Leona, and Susan. A big welcome back to Activity Barb.

We can't forget about the GREEN BAY PACKERS WINNING THE SUPER BOWL we celebrated the day watching the game with party snacks and drinks. Everyone think nice weather - hope it comes soon. Good health and happiness!



“What you all do is fantastic!”
Joyce Brosius Family

News from White Bear Lake

Another Winter has come and gone here at White Pine in White Bear Lake. With the snow gone and summer weather back again, we are trading in our warm sweaters for shorts and t-shirts and getting outside to enjoy the weather. Last month we made our first trip of the season to Jimmy's, a local restaurant that puts on a special meal for us once a month that a group from our building attends. It was a great way to kick off the season and get into the spirit of fun that summer puts us all in. Along with the first visit to Jimmy's, we have been spending the last remaining days of winter partying the cold months away and enjoying each other's company at our Valentine's Day and St. Patrick's Day celebrations. Kristy, once again, did a wonderful job of transforming our building with the decorations for each holiday that she made along with the residents. St. Patrick's Day proved to be particularly memorable thanks to a visit from Jack Frost, a leprechaun that performed for us at our building who made his own unique musical instrument that you would have to see for yourself to believe. It was fantastic. And while we've had a lot of fun over these last few months we are reminded to be thankful as we appreciate our warm weather returning to us once again. In the coming months we will be enjoying the sun, cheering for our Minnesota Twins and exercising our green thumbs. As the days get longer and the memories of snow fade, we continue to enjoy our days together and cherish the memories made here at White Pine in White Bear Lake.



News from Hudson

We are ready to sing and dance with the rain as we anxiously await for what the rain will bring. The birds have already been very active entertaining us with their singing. As always these past few months seem to fly by. We have been having so much fun thanks to our new addition to our family, Anna Zeuli. Anna has joined our family and has already won our hearts. When you see her she is always wearing a smile and fills the air with warmth and vibrance. Anna is our new activity director here in Hudson. Anna has been very busy getting ready for summer. She is anxiously waiting to get everyone out and busy in the warmth of the sun. We feel so lucky that we have found her as she has become a great asset to our home. Welcome Anna!! Here in Wisconsin we had to have a Super Bowl bash as we are so proud of our Packers. The game was so fun to watch. Go Packers. The love filled the air as the couples had a nice romantic dinner on Valentine's Day. So much romance in fact, we had to spread the events into the next day with entertainment and celebration. St. Patrick's Day was complete with green beer and green treats, including edible grass! Our classy side has expanded, our tea parties are now complete with homemade decorative hats made by our ladies. This social gathering is so enjoyed it is fun just to watch. We have been busy planning our fund raisers for our annual Alzheimer's Walk. We had great success last year with the garage sale that we have decided to brave it again this year. The garage sale will be May 6-8 in Nelson WI as part of the great 80 mile garage sale extravaganza. This is a good time to get rid of some of those belongings that are no longer of use or want and for a great cause. We look forward to spending time with family and friends. Look for our upcoming events when you visit as we enjoy sharing time with all of you.

