



# Morrow Home Messenger

Quarterly newsletter of Morrow Memorial Home • Sparta, WI • (608) 269-3168

SPRING 2006

## Michael's Message

### Nursing Homes - Waste or Safety Net

Governor Doyle in his recent State of the State speech missed a wonderful opportunity to thank Wisconsin nursing homes. Instead of showing appreciation for serving our oldest and sickest Wisconsin residents, he criticized nursing homes. He said, "Measured in dollars or measured in dignity, it (nursing home care) is government waste at its worst . . . and it must change."

He could have correctly said, "Thank you nursing homes for being the safety net for our most vulnerable citizens until less costly options could be funded." Before he found alternatives, nursing homes were often the only option. When your landlord says, "You can't live here. It is not safe for you." When your doctor says, "You can't go back home." When your children say, "We are at wits end. We don't know what to do." And when even your spouse lowers their head, sobs and speaks quietly, "I just can't care for you". When everyone else says "No, we can't help you." nursing homes say, "Yes, come, we'll care for you". Nursing homes have truly been the safety net for many.

Nursing homes respond affirmatively to our Lord's call to serve. In Matthew 25, often labeled the Final Judgment, Jesus comments on how we serve His people. In summary, He asks, "Who will be there to care for me?" Nursing homes respond, "We'll be there."

Waste is defined as "to spend or use carelessly; to squander; to allow to be used inefficiently." We cannot be called waste when there have been no other alternatives. When our State finally found the resources to serve some nursing home residents in less costly settings, Morrow Home was quick to respond. We were the first Monroe County assisted living program to participate in the Community Relocation Initiative. In February we moved two people out of an area nursing home and into our Homestead assisted living apartments. We are now in the process of discharging two of our own nursing home residents; and we then will admit them into our affordable assisted living.

At Morrow Home, our caregivers have committed collectively over 500 years of Christian care in serving the area elderly. In spite of our Governor's comments, Morrow Home will continue to serve His elderly in all stages of their life journey. Jesus compels us to serve, and we will continue our "Christian Tradition of Caring."

In Christ,  
Michael

## THANK YOU

By the time you read this, our Governor will have signed legislation to increase Wisconsin nursing home reimbursement by 1.4%. While this falls far short of our needs, many many people communicated to the Governor and their legislators about the need to properly fund nursing home care. Your elected officials heard your voices. Thank you for your advocacy.



The Morrow Home Olive Branch Special Care Household accepts a beautiful Thomas Kincade painting from the June family in memory of their mother, Erna June. Pictured L-R are Sally and Dennis June, Michael Bonello, Executive Director, Christine Vian, Therapeutic Recreation Assistant Director, and Don June.

## Reflections By Marie Rienks, Tenant - Homestead Apartments

As I start my sixth year as a resident of Morrow Memorial Home's Homestead Apartments, my mind goes back to reflect on the first five years.

In the beginning people asked me if I didn't miss my home where I had lived for 54 years.

"No," I said, "Not when I now live in a better and more pleasant place."

What I do NOT miss is having to pay taxes, insurance, fuel, electricity, water and sewer bills, maintenance of an older home, lawn care, snow removal, shopping, cooking for one, and having to eat alone.

Having an experienced head dietician planning three balanced meals seven days a week provides the nutrition needed to maintain ones health.

Experienced activity staff provide a wide range of programs and entertainment, and area ministers conduct services once a week or more.

A person, although living independently, need never feel alone. Coffee hours, card playing, and craft classes are always available.

Yes, reflections are good for us all.

About the author: The oldest of four children, Marie graduated from high school in 1928. Due to the depression she was unable to go on to college so she roomed with a family in Sparta and cared for their young daughter. Marie was then able to take all the commercial/business courses at the high school since this young girl's father was the business education instructor. Marie then came to work as the secretary at Sparta High School and gave them 25 years of dedicated service. After retiring in 1976, she went on to be the first president of the Sparta Alumni Association. Marie loved secretarial work and still remembers how to transcribe her shorthand and can type 60 words per minute.

Thank you, Marie, for sharing.



Marie Reinks

## MaryCrest Musings By Russ Williams

What a difference a few seconds can make in life. In early December, I sustained a very bad fall that has necessitated my moving to an assisted living apartment at MaryCrest. My phone number is the same but I now reside at 401 S. Water Street, Apt. # 110 – visitors welcome.

With my change of abode, I got to thinking about laws, rules, and regulations. We all live by them all our lives. There is a saying that the rules are made to be broken – but when? I have a little Christmas story that shows the dilemmas that we sometimes face.

Little Mathew had two sisters that were in a Christmas program at church last December. At three years old, he still felt that he should have a part in it. With the help of Grandpa Jim, he learned a short poem and was allowed to participate. Grandpa became his coach and Mathew knew just how to go on stage when introduced, and he had his lines down perfect. Then came the day and his eventual introduction. He marched manfully on stage, faced his audience and began – he stopped. No amount of coaching would get him to continue. He was mute. Afterwards Grandpa asked what happened when he had been rehearsing so well. Mathew replied, "I just remembered I wasn't supposed to talk in church!"

We face such decisions day-by-day. Do we follow speed limit signs or "go with the flow", many times much over the posted limit?

Life is much different at MaryCrest than at Parkview's independent living. Except for a noon meal and a half-hours cleaning each week, the tenants at Parkview are independent and their life line is a call-button. (I really made use of it when I fell.) Here we are assisted to a much greater extent. The help at MaryCrest is available for a great number of requirements and needs, and staff is on duty here twenty-four hours a day. There are four levels of assistance, depending on what is needed. Since the tenants here are less mobile, many programs are offered to keep minds and bodies busy.

The apartments at MaryCrest filled rapidly after it was open for tenancy until only four or five remain out of twenty-four. There is a small amount of turnover at MaryCrest but the new tenants far outnumber those who leave. I have found many new friends among the tenants and "assisters."

So I moved. To me, home is where my family and possessions are. I am "settling in" well at MaryCrest.

Until next time, keep a smile on your face, Russ.

# Mildred Knudtson, Featured Resident

By: Amy Leis, Universal Care Worker MaryCrest Assisted Living



Mildred Knudtson

“Down on the farm,” lies the heart of our own country gal, Mildred Knudtson. Not only raising all that comes with farm life, but finding a place for the children too was a daily love chore for this special lady. From the farm to the “Grapes of Wrath” traveler, she would go where no gal would go for the love her husband and her family.

Mildred always made things fun. After packing up three kids, ages two, three, and four, into a wagon and pulling it to a shady spot by the creek for a picnic, she made radish sandwiches seem like “food fit for a king.” At home she had to come up with games to keep the little ones busy while she milked the cows by hand. One of the games she recalls is having the children hide a straw in the cracks of the barn walls; she would search with her eyes until she found all the straws.

Mildred could do any job a man could do, including getting under control a team of run-a-way horses or making little desks, tables, and barns out of scrap lumber for the children for Christmas when there wasn't enough money for store bought gifts.

In 1953, Gerald got a job with Overguard Road Construction.

Mildred didn't believe in a young, good-looking husband being on his own so she bought a 25 foot trailer (it was later traded in for a larger one) and packed up the kids (there were now four) and followed him from job to job, from the West Virginia Turnpike to Wichita, Kansas. When Gerald would move to a new job, Mildred would load the kids up and take off by herself across the country, the last time from Michigan to Kansas, then from Kansas back to Elroy, WI in 1956. Since by that time there were two kids in high school and one in junior high, Mildred felt it was hard on the kids to change school, sometimes two or three time a year, so that is where they stayed until 1965 when they bought a small farm just north of Sparta on highway 27. Mildred could once again pursue her love of the outdoors. She maintained a huge vegetable garden, selling vegetables from the back of her pick-up truck on the streets of Sparta, getting up before daylight to pick her corn so it would be fresh for the customers. Everyone knew she had the best corn in town. She was a “truck farmer” from 1965 into the 1980's. She started selling on the corner of S. Water and Main Street for many years until the city passed an ordinance and she had to move to the market square. She didn't like this as she missed the activity of Sparta's main street.

Gerald was still working for Overguard at this time and usually gone all week so Mildred was in charge of the farm and the children. Mildred was not a farmer's wife - she was a farmer. At this time she started raising feeder pigs. She even won an award for the most feeder pigs sold over a period of time. When Gerald was home, he would make breakfast while Mildred was feeding her pigs and cleaning the barn.

Besides her pigs and vegetable garden, she also managed to have beautiful flower garden. Anyone traveling Highway 27 between Sparta and Cataract will remember her flowers. She shared her flowers freely and people would stop often to pick bouquets for their special occasion. She was known as the “Iris Queen” by the truckers that traveled the highway.

Through her flowers, vegetable garden, truck farming, and being an “Avon Lady”, Mildred met many new friends and she treasures the relationship and memories. She always has a smile and a kind word for everyone. When she asks “How are you?” she is not just making conversation, she genuinely cares and is interested in how you are. Mildred, you truly are a special lady. Thank you for sharing your story.



## Unto Life Eternal

Nov. 1, 2006 - March 9, 2006

Ullastina Tjaden  
Juanita Deverell  
Evelyn Richey  
Sheryl St. Martin  
Richard Hem  
Shirley Smith  
Fern Newburg  
Allan Johnson  
Mary Muraski  
Mildred Christopherson  
James Davis  
Myrtle Smith  
Muriel Augustine  
Hugh Sanders  
Dorothy Toohey  
Mary Semrau  
Bonnie Dutton  
Patricia Capra

# Donations, Memorials, and Contributions

The generosity and friendship shown to Morrow Memorial Home & Apartments has once again touched our hearts.

At the present time, we have two main goals for the near future. Hopefully, we will be the recipient of grant funds to be used toward the purchase of two handicap-accessible vans that will not only serve our residents and tenants, but also be available to transport the public to church services. Donations generated from the Christmas Plea and other designated gifts that may be received will be used toward Morrow Home's portion of the purchase of these vans.

Methodist congregations in the Norwalk area have made a special effort to seek funding for an additional mechanical lift to be used here at our Home. Since a mechanical lift costs approximately \$4000, any donations to achieve the goal would be greatly appreciated.

*From November 10, 2005 through March 9, 2006, Morrow Home & Apartments have received donations and memorials from the following:*

**In memory of Maybelle Cole** from Robert & Barbara Sutton, Floyd & Pat Nelson, and Taylor & Pam Page

**In Memory of Adolph Haugland** from Gordon and Leola Hutson

**In memory of Perle Brey** from Margit Jacobs

**In memory of Ruth Niedfeldt** from Hilbert Niedfeldt and Ruth's family to be used for the Olive Branch

**In memory of Marj Winterfield** from Una Prescott to be used toward the gazebo

**In memory of Helen Johnson** from Joann Bennett, and Gordon & Leola Hutson

**In memory of Juanita Deverell** from Carol & John Kennedy, Jordan & Dido Nash, Lloyd & Betty Grandprey, Mark & Denise Halverson, Kenneth & Phyllis Reichert, Stan & Jean Hays, Chuck & Pat Bredlow, LaViolet Knoll, Terry & Pam Rainwater, and Robert Deverell to be used for gazebo furniture

**In memory of Evelyn Richey** from Jean Cox and Lauren Humphrey

**In memory of Fern Newberg** from Ken & Shirley Snow

**In memory of Shirley Smith** from Evelyn Riley-O'Hearn and Marcella Clemmerson

**In memory of Myrtle Smith** from Mr. & Mrs. Willard Pfuhl, Marie Rienks, Vern & Jackie Kasten, and Lita Vanderwall

**In memory of Alan Johnson** from Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Jandt, Ronald Peterson, Kersten Drake, Ruth Peterson, and John Gillesby

**In memory of Mildred Christopherson** from Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Jandt, Mr. & Mrs. Harley Jenkins, Lois Schauf, Mr. & Mrs. Bill Yahnke, Mr. & Mrs. James Schilling, Helen Larson, and Mr. & Mrs. Duane Hobson

**In memory of Hugh Sanders** from Linda Olson, Mr. & Mrs. Gary Hofer, and Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Boltik

**In memory of Juanita Moravec-Forrestal** from Megan Forrestal.

**In memory of Alycmarie Mikkelson** from the family of Victor Mikkelson

*Other donations received:*

From **Thrivent Financial** for the gazebo, From **Joan Kepa** for the canopy at Parkview, From **Western Insurance Services** for resident activities, For the mechanical lift fund from **Mr. & Mrs. Mel Brinkley, Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Rose, Mr. & Mrs. Dale Noth, Mr. & Mrs. Al Szepi, and the Immanuel United Methodist Church of Norwalk**, From **Karin Jandt** and **Dorothy Kronberg** for the van fund, From **Christel Cooper** toward flowers for the gazebo

*Christmas gifts received, unless otherwise designated, will also be used toward the van fund. We appreciate all the support. Donations were received from:*

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Aney given **in memory of Swede Aney and Helen Aney**, Emily Axelsen, Forest Bacon, Mr. and Mrs. George Baker, Jeanne Baumbach, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Beck, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Bonello, Virginia Bowers, Rev. & Mrs. Douglas Brandt, Betty Bruring **in memory of Marj Winterfield**, Elizabeth Burnett, Constance Crooks, Ruby Culpitt, Mr. and Mrs. Phil Davis, Mr. and Mrs. James DeVoe, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Donahue **in memory of Lois Donahue**, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Dunaway **in memory of Hilda Jones, Eileen Jones, & Marj Winterfield**, Mr. and Mrs. James Edwards, John Evans **in memory of Josephine Evans**, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Faile, Mr. and Mrs. Nello Felton, Frances Field, Julia Forde, Mr. and Mrs. Dean Forschler **in memory of Christine Erickson**, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Foster **in memory of Thelma Bennett**, Mr. and Mrs. Phil Foth, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Garves, Mr. and Mrs. David Geyer, June Goodenough, Mr. and Mrs. Lane Goodman, Raymond Grovesteen, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Hansen, Lincoln Hartford, Dr's Hemmerich and Stebbins, Thomas Hemstock Sr., Harry Hendersin, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Hendersin,

*(continued on p. 5)*

*(continued from p. 4)*

Mr. and Mrs. David Hendricks, Helen Herrman, Stanley Herrman, Elaine Hoag, Velma Hockenberry in memory of Owen Mashak, Mr. and Mrs. David Houser **in memory of Florence Mantzke**, David Hurd, Arlene Hutson **in memory of Evelyn Richey**, Mr. and Mrs. Kerry Isensee, Lois Jandt **in memory of George Jandt**, Gabriel Janusheske, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Jerome, Mr. and Mrs. John Johnson, Wayne Jones, Allen Joyce, Mr. and Mrs. George Kapanke, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Kastberg, Mr. and Mrs. David Kemp III, Mr. and Mrs. David Klinge **in memory of Margaret Klinge, Elva Schorr, & Minnie Wallace**, John Kress, Dorie Kwarczynski & Ed Jalloway **in memory of Bert & Ruby McIntyre**, Bonnie Lange **in memory of Viola Lange**, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Larson, The Larson Foundation – Jackie Springer & Virginia Seielstad, Beverly Laufenberg, June Lawrence, Mr. and Mrs. Durward Lawrence, George Lundy, Barbara Lunenschloss, Forrest Mades, Marvin Maier, Cathy Malzacher, Arthur Manson, Rev. and Mrs. Richard Maser, Joan McCoy, Mecca Shrine, Beverly Meissner, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Mitchell, William Morgan Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Don Mulry, Mr. and Mrs. John Munson **in memory of Melva Roberts**, Gladys Nauman, Ann Newman, Mr. and Mrs. Dean Olson, Delores Olson, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Olson, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Oswald, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Paul, Ruth Peterson, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Peterson, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Pitsch **in memory of Marj Winterfield**, Avis Quackenbush, Dr. Pat Raftery, Nina Rhodenhizer, Barbara Rice, Mr. and Mrs. Gerhard Robien, Jr. **in memory of Pauline McKean**, Rockland UMW, The family of John Rudkin **in memory of John Rudkin**, Virginia Ryckman, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Schmidt, Mr. and Mrs. Herb Severson, Rex Slayton **in memory of Marjorie Davis**, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Slotten, Marian and Carroll Smith, Jacqueline Springer, Mr. and Mrs. Williams Stevens, Rev. and Mrs. Bill Swan, Col. & Mrs. George Taylor Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Earl Tichenor, Mr. and Mrs. Lorraine Tichenor, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Tichenor, Gordon Tjaden, Tomah UMW - Shirley Langwell, Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert VanDinter **in memory of Ethel Janusheske**, Mr. and Mrs. Ray VanKirk, Mr. and Mrs. James VanWychen, Anthony Vinohradsky, Beverly VonRuden **in memory of Irma Schmitz**, Donald Wedin, Lorraine Winchel, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wise, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wood, Peggy Woodworth, Barbara Zucco

## Contributions To Our Home

**CLOTHING:** Beverly Shiroda, Berdella Butzler, Carol Buswell, Vera Winchell, Mary Jane Hem, Sara Keller, Bea Morgan, Cheryl Kremmer, Willard Pfuhl, Lillian Jensen, Linda Olson, Douglas Semrau, Wallace Dutton, Christine Capra.

**MAGAZINES AND BOOKS:** Larry & Delores Adams, James Wells, Joyce Graewin, Beverly Meissner, Phil & Doris Foth, Ed Holtz, Norman & Barb Yahnke, Lori Knott, Wayne Wegner; Eileen Gajewski; Kathryn Ludeking; Patricia Vinslauski; Debbie Overdahl; Beth Deppe; Chris Williams.

**FURNITURE:** Rebeckah Lodge, Wooden Alter for Olive Branch; Carol Buswell, chair; Vera Winchell, dresser and TV; Sara Keller, TV; Kerry Isensee, TV trays, 2 stands, pictures; Doug Semrau, lamp and rocker recliner.

**MISC.:** Evelyn & Darla Heuer, book of crochet patterns; Geralyn Garza, sock aids; Beverly Shiroda, blankets, lap robes, large picture and decorations; Carol Buswell, crafts; Leta Larkin, 78 records; Nancy Tenner, Ensure Plus; Vera Winchell, cordless phone; Isham Valley Homemakers, men's socks, knick knacks and hand lotion; Bonnie Ludeking, handmade fleece pillows and perfume; Joan Cook, magnifying glasses and belts; Sally Cluth, handmade lap quilts; Mary Nading, jacket, men's slacks, shoes; Sparta Material Quilt Guild, 3 quilts; Sara Keller, pictures; Judy Felland, lap robe; Bea Morgan, misc. items; Barb Thurston, bottles of men's aftershave and a man's shaver; St. Mary's Nursing Home staff, Christmas Village for MaryCrest; Willard Pfuhl, telephone; Gabriel Janusheske, music tapes; Wehrs family, gift for staff; Kamie Ebert and Norwalk Clovers, Valentine's Day cards; Wallace Dutton, Christmas cards, artificial flowers; Christine Capra, VCR and misc. items; Dee Low, cash gift to Culinary Services; St. John's Episcopal Knitting Ministry, 5 handmade afghans.

**NURSING HOME EQUIPMENT:** Vera Winchell, Sara Keller, Kerry Isensee, and Christine Capra walkers; Linda Olson and Bea Morgan, electric lift chairs; Willard Pfuhl, electric chair

**TREATS:** Phil & Doris Foth, cupcakes for staff; Jeannette Berg & family, candy for staff.

**FLOWERS AND PLANTS:** West Beaver Creek 4-H, 2 barrels planted full of flowers; Chris DeGarmo, 2 plants; Paul & Cindy Solberg and Sparta Floral staff, poinsettia plant; Mary & Dennis Knoll and The Greenery staff, poinsettia plant; Dave & Nancy Hendricks, 2 poinsettia plants; Trinity Lutheran Church, poinsettia plants.

# New Financial Options for Assisted Living

by Julie Anderson, RN, Director of Assisted Living

As part of the 2005 - 2007 Biennial Budget, Governor Doyle included a proposal that gave elders and people with disabilities the opportunity to relocate from nursing homes. This new program is called the Community Relocation Initiative. Residents of nursing homes have a choice of long-term care providers, even if Medicaid is the primary pay source. Residents can choose to remain in the nursing home, have their care needs met at home, or move into an assisted-living setting. Under the Community Relocation Initiative, Medicaid funding may be available through the Wisconsin Community Integration Program II (CIPII) waiver.

In January 2006, Homestead Assisted Living became certified by the State of Wisconsin and thus eligible to receive CIPII waiver funds. Morrow Home also became the first Monroe County organization to participate in the Community Relocation Initiative. We are excited to be able to provide the community with another option for elder care. There are some specific guidelines for this program, so we encourage our tenants to contact Julie Anderson or Megan Forrestal at Morrow Home (608) 269-3168. More information is also available at the Monroe County Department of Human Services (608) 269-8600.

## Farewell Wishes



Josie Cote, who has faithfully served Morrow Home since 1972 in many capacities will be moving to Michigan. The staff and residents here will truly miss this great lady and we wish her the best in her future endeavors.

## New To Our Home

*We are happy to welcome the following people to our Morrow Home Family (November 1, 2005 to March 11, 2006)*

Donald Clay	William Whitehead
Virgil Schmieder	Doreen Heimke
Carol Sousek	Donald Rommel
Grace Hammon	Raymond Felland
Harriet Kroeger	Virginia Dent
Geraldine Janusheske	Virginia Zietlow
Miles Schroeder	Florence Richmond
Dorothy Meyers	Mary Thielker
Frances Antony	Catherine Dahlby
Eva Brown	Evelyn Clark
Andrew Quackenbush	Edith Sullivan
Mary Rice	Alzina Hanson
Franklin Brown	Elnora Spielman
Violet Sayers	Harriet Kroeger

*We are proud to have provided service to the following people who have returned home or to another setting:*

Helen Benedict	Catherine Knoll
Elinor Ziegler	Elizabeth Dill
Mae Carlson	Thomas Sullivan
Phil Foth	Carol Ragsdale
Herbert Larson	Evelyn Olson
Edna Miller	Eloise Fletcher
Veronica Schanhofer	Marlene Wells
Ella Lyngstad	Helen Hibbard
Charles Morrison	Gordon Hanson
Steven Abbott	Leta Larkin
Carol Sousek	

## New Tenants

### HOMESTEAD

Evelyn Schotten	Irene Suhr
Laura Suhr	Audrey Williams
Leta Larkin	

### PARKVIEW

Joan McCoy	Vera Siekert
Gladys Nichols	

### MARYCREST

Walt Riley	Russ Williams
Helen Schwarz	

**Check out our new website:  
[www.morrowhome.org](http://www.morrowhome.org)**

# Joel Krueger, Success Story

by Eileen Ripley, Director of Environmental & Linen Services

Joel Krueger came to Morrow Home through the school-to-work program when he was a senior at Sparta High School in 2003. During this time, he worked under the direction of Don Borreson in the Maintenance Department. Joel was busy at various jobs such as breaking down cardboard boxes for recycling and helping me with housekeeping duties.

When Joel called after graduation and asked Don if he could come back and volunteer, Don and I agreed. When he called and said he wanted to come back and volunteer a third year, I agreed to take Joel under my wing in Environmental and Linen Services. Joel helped put shipments away, stocked supplies, did sweeping and mopping, put MSDS labels on products, and assisted me in many other ways. One day he asked me if he could learn how to do the laundry here at Morrow Home. Joel did so well learning how to run the washers and dryers that he is currently employed here part time. He is working for us on weekends; helping with the busy time in the laundry. He also has helped when I have needed someone during the week.

I am so proud of this young man. Every day he volunteered he would ask me, "Eileen, do you still have my application?" He has certainly come a long way. His

hard work and dedication while volunteering paid off for him. He always wanted to have a job here at Morrow Home, and he now has that. WAY TO GO JOEL!!!!!!!!!!!!



L- R Don Borreson, Joel, Eileen Ripley

Welcome  
*Spring*

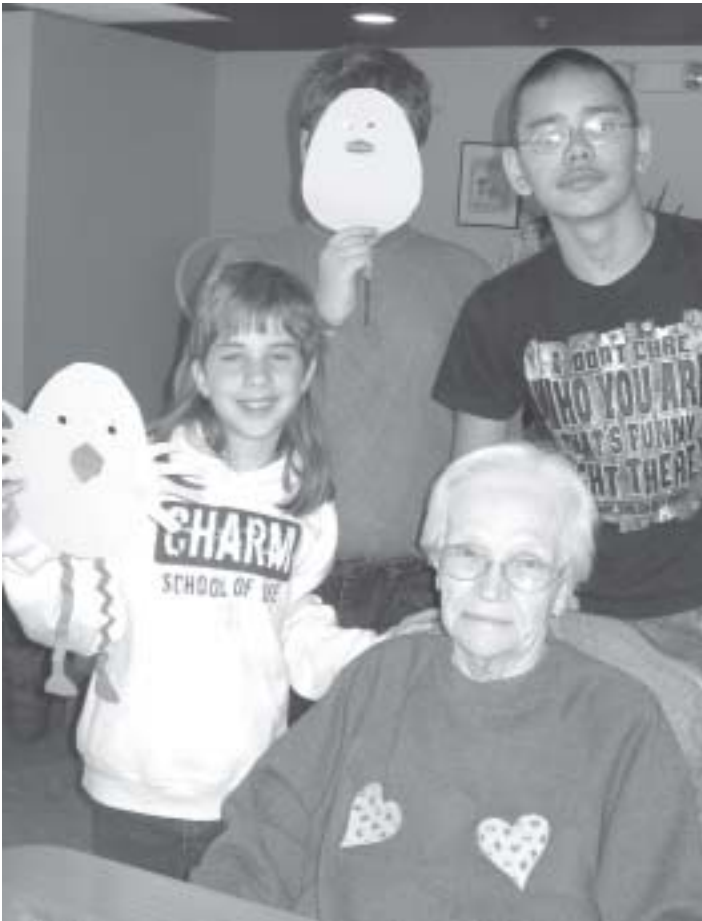


# Grandparent Program at the Morrow Memorial Home and Apartments

Meadowview Intermediate School Denise Young's 4<sup>th</sup> grade  
and Nancy Luckasgon's 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes.

Thank you teachers, volunteers and students!





# Morrow Memorial Home 2006 Valentine's Day Tea

By Mary Bosman, BSRT, Director of Therapeutic Recreation

Valentine Tea's have been a part of Morrow Home's tradition since 1966. Our 40<sup>th</sup> annual Valentine's Tea took place this year on Valentine's Day at Morrow Home. The beautiful decorations and culinary delights set the stage for an afternoon of pure enjoyment. Chris DeGarmo sang like an angel before the program got started and Jan Larson played beautiful background music during the luncheon.

This year's King of Hearts is Gus Gustafson and Doris Nading is the 2006 Queen of Hearts. At the head table this year, in addition to King Gus and Queen Doris, was our 2003 King Donatus Anderson, 2004 King Vern Geier, 2005 King Charles Schorr and 2005 Queen Zora Welch as well as all of their guests. Duties of the King and Queen consist of hosting various Morrow Home events, riding in the Butterfest Parade, and being year-long ambassadors representing Morrow Home.

This is an exciting year for the King and Queen and one totally unique to their generation's normal. The numerous celebrations that we often take for granted were not available to many in their generation. A time to feel and be treated special is important to us all.

The Kings and Queens enjoyed their guests for sure, but Gus had a special surprise. He phoned his

daughter in West Virginia telling her his good news and she and her family drove to Wisconsin to help him celebrate this special honor. That's good family support!

The Valentine Tea not only recognizes past and present royalty, it also honors all Morrow Home residents and tenants who have reached 90 years of age. Each year, new inductees receive special attention. In keeping with tradition, this year's inductees were honored with corsages or boutonnieres and a plaque acknowledging their accomplishment. The following residents and tenants were inducted this year into the Golden Nineties Club: Betty Glasheen, Anne Hayes, Evelyn Schotten, Irene Suhr, and Laura Suhr, from the apartments; and Donatus Anderson, Eva Brown, Lucile Christenson, Evelyn Clark, Matt Dinger, Dorothy Meyers, Evelyn Olson, Andrew Quackenbush, Rosina Schmitz, Erna Schneller and Adeline Wenzel from the nursing home. These sixteen individuals join Morrow Home's other twenty-eight Golden Ninety Members.

The Valentine Tea is a day that's full of flowers, music, special treats, poetry and good company...just like Valentine's Day should be!

This was my last big party to plan and oversee at Morrow Home, as some of you may already know. My



Betty Glasheen

husband, Roger, and I are finally following through with our dream to live without snow and ice. We are moving to Florida at the end of March along with our dog Bear. Morrow Home has been a very important part of my life for the last 16 years. I will miss my job, the staff, and of course, the tenants and residents. I am proud of my staff and know they will continue with the quality programming for which we have become known. My prayers will remain in support of all the good people at Morrow Home and the many good things that occur here.



King Gus Gustafson and Queen Doris Nading



L - R Irene Suhr and sister Laura Suhr



Pictured above is Mary Bosman, right, and her mother, Elsie Greeno, left, taken in 2003. Mary was pleased and thankful her mother could spend her final days at Morrow Memorial Home.

# Alyce Johnson, RN

Where do I begin? It just doesn't seem possible that this May 2<sup>nd</sup> I will be marking 23 years of service to a great group of people at Morrow Memorial Home. The changes are unbelievable - not only with the new buildings, renovations etc., but with nursing as a whole. In the early days one nurse could do all the medication passes, treatments, charting, calls to doctors etc. on both First and Second Floors! And, there was always time left to spend with residents.

I have so many good memories of the past and yes, of more recent years too! I believe with all my heart that we who take care of the elderly must realize that it may be "us" someday. We treat our residents with the respect they so deserve.

Throughout the years I have learned much. I am still learning each day. There have been many up and downs in my 23 years of service at Morrow Home. But, through it all, I have been given support from all who surround me. Without lots of advice from superiors, co-workers, and friends, I may have thrown the towel in long ago. It is truly a privilege to be a part of this organization. People who feel that the paycheck is the main reason they are working should stop and think about that. If this is the main reason, one should not be in this type of setting. Each year that word, "retirement" pops up a little more often. I have cut back on my hours, but am just not quite ready to call it quits.

My family consists of six children, seven grandchildren, and several grand-dogs and grand-cats. All the children are married and live in Wisconsin except the youngest, Steve, who lives in Tacoma, Washington. I try to visit him a couple of times each year (I love to fly) and we do keep

in contact via the phone. I am too stubborn to get a computer so we could e-mail each other. I have two sisters, both younger than I. My sister Barb and I do a lot together. We usually go out to eat weekly, and play the penny slots – I just have fun!

The years at Morrow Home have truly been rewarding professionally and personally. So many great friendships have developed over time. I hope that I have been an asset to the organization and have been able to set an example to the younger generation. It has, and is, a great privilege to be a member of the "team". May God continue to bless all of us to enable us to give the best care to those who chose to live within our apartments and our nursing home.



Alyce Johnson, RN



Alyce at "other" times





# Morrow Memorial Home & Apartments

*"A Christian Tradition of Caring"*

331 S. WATER STREET • SPARTA, WI 54656  
(608) 269-3168 • FAX: (608) 269-7642  
[www.morrowhome.org](http://www.morrowhome.org)

Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Sparta, WI  
Permit No. 130

## The View from Parkview By Dolores and Janell Hendersin - Parkview Tenants

As you noticed, Russell Williams has transferred to MaryCrest; his wit, exercise program and pool playing are sadly missed by staff and tenants. Virgil Schmieder has transferred to the Morrow Home Nursing Home. Virgil's family hosted a magnificent party for tenants and friends. A beautiful decorated cake was served and his family presented him with a shadow box containing his WWII honors and mementos.

The park lights sparkled for us during the Christmas season. Inside were many stunning door hangings. Four trees, each with an individual look, were also displayed. The dining room was decorated with beautifully dressed tiny dolls donated to all the tenants by Joan Kepa. The Morrow Home Auxiliary provided us with a party of laughs, games, puzzles and bountiful treats.

January brought our first new tenants in quite some time; Joan McCoy was followed by Gladys Nichols and Vera Siekert. We hope they are enjoying their new apartments.

We enjoyed a fun afternoon of Bingo, then a supper of Darrell's chili, Kathleen's chicken soup, and Michael's banana bread making it harder to return to our apartments



due to caring the extra pounds and the bingo prizes.

Theresa (our house mother) and her husband Michael enjoyed a week in Cancun, Mexico celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary.

By the time the next issue of the Messenger is published, we should be able to give you an update on our flower gardens and the other wonders of warmer weather.