

# Park River Estates Care Center Newsletter February 2012

## February 2012

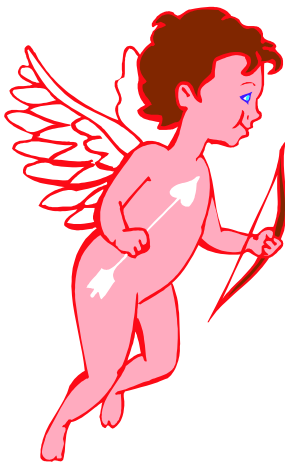


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***Happy Valentines Day!***  
***February 14***



## From Your Administrator...

By Tom Pollock

**Voter ID Referendum.** The Minnesota legislature is drafting a bill that would place a referendum on the ballot for the public to vote on if ALL voters need a photo ID or not. After the last election, questions were coming up about voter fraud. The days of bringing in a utility bill to prove where you live would be gone. I think everyone wants to make sure that there is no voter fraud in order to assure an accurate election. However, there is a catch (surprise, surprise!). The referendum would require a photo ID for ALL voters including those who want to complete an absentee ballot. What if your driver's license is expired or you do not have a photo ID at all? And, what if you cannot get to the clerk of courts due to your medical condition? The answer is, you cannot vote. I, along with our state association, believe this is wrong.

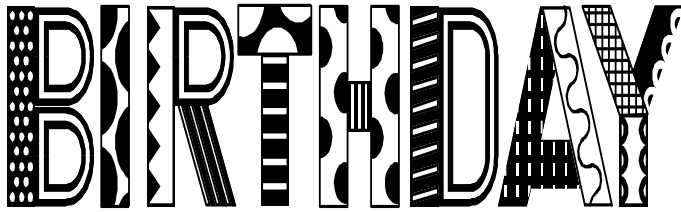
Another fly-in-the-ointment is that if a patient comes here for short-term rehab and it happens to be during the time of the election, you have to vote in your precinct and not here because this is not your permanent address. This also relates to the absentee ballot.

What is the solution? Please contact your legislator and tell them about this issue. Tell them that nursing home residents, whether short or long term, will not be able to vote. Can staff vouch for the resident stating that they live here? The answer is no. Tell them that it is a constitutional right for a person over 18 to vote. There should be no voter fraud, but passing the referendum as currently written will eliminate many elderly voters. There should be exceptions. People living in long term care settings are not the ones committing voter fraud.

**Senator Ben Kruse will visit us.** Our local State Senator Ben Kruse will make his first visit to Park River Estates on Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9:00 am. I have been trying to get an appointment with him to visit us since last fall and he finally has some time. The purpose of his visit is to see what we actually do in caring for our patients and residents. I believe it is easier to cast an informed vote when you have some personal knowledge of what goes on with a program up for discussion and a vote.

# February Birthdays

**Happy Birthday** to the following residents who celebrate their birthdays in February:



Harry Schoen	February 04
Pearl Orrie	February 13
Claus Smith	February 18
Tillie Snyder	February 18
Bev Pavcik	February 20
Ursula Vetter	February 21
Eunice Steckman	February 21
Marilyn Cotton	February 24
Angelo Manos	February 27

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## Hello...and Goodbye!

Welcome to **Ora Talley, Phyllis Holmstrom, Dora Schmidt, Karen Bovy, Marjorie Nelson, Clarence Bahr, Donna Anderson, Lester Clyne, Carl Anderson, Michael Auger, Fern Vertnik** and **Virgil Peterson** who arrived this month. Please greet them!

And “Best Wishes!” to **Margaret Folke, Ward Wilkins, Larry Carlson, Margaret Heille, Veldon Buerkle, Richard Jost, Carol Langlie** and **Marguerite McGinnis** who were discharged this past month and to **Cynthia Scipioni, Gary Schulte, Albert Lompfrey, Robert Purdes, Janet Martinson, James Meyer** and **Shirley Sorenson** who were with us for a short time.

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## Resident Council

The meeting was held on Tuesday, January 10, 2012 at 3:00 p.m. President Mel Bruggeman called the meeting to order. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Twelve members were present.

As **Old Business**, Park River Estates purchased fans for the Severe Weather shelter areas. The fans will be placed in those areas this spring. Thanks to the Safety Committee for taking care of this request.

As **New Business**, Diana Olson informed council members of upcoming events.

**Safety Concerns:** There were no safety

concerns at this time.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 14, 2012 at 3:00 p.m. in the Chapel.

Diana Olson,  
Social Service Dir./Recorder

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The **Family Council** will meet on Tuesday, February 14, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. in the Resident/Visitor lounge

# Resident Council Foundation

The Park River Estates (PRE) Resident Council Foundation Board met in January.

The Foundation approved sponsorship of the Sweetheart Dinner and the Coronation of the King and Queen of Hearts in February, providing entertainment for the dinner and flowers for the coronation.

They have also approved the purchase of a loveseat and chair for the Resident/Visitor Lounge. Plans are underway to make the room more homey and inviting.

The Board approved the purchase of a large flat

panel TV for the Fireside Lounge. This will be mounted at a height to be more easily viewed.

The projection TV presently in the Fireside Lounge, and a lift chair and glider chair from the Resident/Visitor Lounge will be sold at a Silent Auction, proceeds going to the Foundation. (Watch for more details on this.)

The PRE Resident Council Foundation accepts donations and memorials at any time throughout the year. For further information, contact Vicki Petersen, PRE Resident Council Foundation President.

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## Activity Planning Meeting

An Activity Planning Meeting was held January 11, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. in the Welcome Room. Eighteen residents and four Activity staff were in attendance.

### January Events:

#### **Bingo:**

- \* North Star Lions Bingo – 1/04 @ 2:00 p.m.
- \* Lioness Bingo – 1/17 @ 2:00 p.m.
- \* Lucky ‘Leven Bingo – 1/19 @ 7:00 p.m.
- \* King of Glory Bingo – 1/31 @ 7:00 p.m.

#### **Special Music:**

- \* Don Schoen – 1/07 @ 2:00 p.m.
- \* French Creek Gospel Band – 1/10 @ 2:00 p.m.
- \* Bill Cagley– Birthday Party – 1/18 @ 2:30 p.m.

### February Events:

#### **Bingo:**

- \* North Star Lions Bingo – 2/01 @ 2:00 p.m.
- \* Lucky ‘Leven Bingo – 2/16 @ 7:00 p.m.
- \* Lioness Bingo – 2/21 @ 2:00 p.m.
- \* King of Glory Bingo – 2/28 @ 7:00 p.m.

#### **Special Music:**

- \* Don Schoen – 2/04 @ 2:00 p.m.
- \* Shirley Spanhanks - Birthday party – 2/15 @ 2:30 p.m.

- \* French Creek Gospel Band – 2/28 @ 2:00 p.m.

#### **Other:**

- Sweetheart Dinner (for married couples) – 2/13 @ 12:00 noon. (Watch for an invitation.)
- Coronation of the King & Queen of Hearts – 2/17 @ 2:30 p.m.

Residents were asked how they liked the Christmas Tea. Most said they really liked the Tea. One resident was upset with how Santa passed out the treats.

Residents were asked for comments and suggestions. One resident said that he really liked the live music. There was discussion about Lunch In, and the activities of movies, bowling and marbles.

A family member asked about the annual Car Show, and if we would have it this June. Due to the new parking lot, a meeting will have to be held with the organizers to see if it will work.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for March 2012.

# Chaplain's Corner

The New Year 2012 is one month old, and gives one a chance to reflect on incredible people who have crossed our paths. The name Buckminster Fuller, (1895–1983) came to my mind, although my college literature teacher Dr. Paul Scanlon had a big impact on me. But Buckminster had a public presence. In November of last year, I had the wonderful opportunity to deliver a paper at Notre Dame about my friendship with “Bucky.”

Hailed as "one of the greatest minds of our times, R. Buckminster Fuller was renowned for his comprehensive perspective on the world's problems. For more than five decades, he developed pioneering solutions that reflected his commitment to the potential of innovative design to create technology that does "more with less" and thereby improves human lives. Born in Milton, Massachusetts, on July 12, 1895, Richard Buckminster Fuller belonged to a family noted for producing strong individualists inclined toward activism and public service. "Bucky," as he came to be called, developed an early understanding of nature during family excursions to Bear Island, Maine, where he also became familiar with the principles of boat maintenance and construction. You'll recall we spent eight weeks studying Engineering at FUN-U, courtesy of Princeton University, so in a way we have a connection with Bucky's mind.

Bucky entered Harvard University in 1913, but he was expelled after “excessively socializing” and missing his midterm exams. Following his expulsion, he learned to modify and improve manufacturing equipment. Fuller returned to Harvard in the autumn of 1915 but was again dismissed. From 1917 until 1919, he served in the U.S. Navy, where he demonstrated an aptitude for engineering by inventing a mechanism to save the lives of pilots. As a result of his inventions, Fuller was nominated to receive officer training at the U.S. Naval Academy. In 1926, when Fuller's father-in-

law, James Monroe Hewlett, developed a new method of producing reinforced concrete buildings, he and Fuller patented the invention, earning Fuller the first of his 25 patents. In 1927, after the construction company failed, Fuller was unemployed and contemplated suicide, but he had a remarkable realization. Deciding that he had no right to end his own life, he concluded that he had a responsibility to use his experiences and intellect in the service of others. As a consequence, he spent nearly two years in deep contemplation about the universe and how he could best contribute to humanity. One of Fuller's lifelong interests was using technology to improve human housing. After inventing an easily built, air-delivered, modular apartment building, he designed the Dymaxion House, an inexpensive, mass-produced home that could be airlifted to its location. The word "dymaxion" was trademarked in Fuller's name. Based on the words "dynamic," "maximum," and "ion," it became a part of the name of many of Fuller's subsequent inventions. The word became synonymous with his design philosophy of "doing more with less." His inventions included the Dymaxion Car, a streamlined, three-wheeled automobile which could make extraordinarily sharp turns; and compact, prefabricated, mass-produced homes used during World War II to shelter radar crews in severe climates. I love the quotation from this innovative genius: “Faith is much better than belief. Belief is when someone else does the thinking.” More in March.

(Mark your calendars: Wednesdays in February at 9:00AM, FUN-U will meet in our chapel to explore Pushkin's Eugene Onegin, a Princeton University course, see Paris videos. Wednesday, February 22, 9:30AM Ash Wednesday in our chapel.)

Chaplain +Peter Riola

# Our Sympathies...

Our sympathies go out to the families and friends of **Edith Anderson, Mabel “Judy” Boelter, Elaine Jones** and **Louise Sando** They will be remembered at the Memorial Service on Sunday, February 5, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. in the Chapel.

**Edith Vivian “Edie” Anderson** was born April 11, 1922.

Edith came to Park River Estates Care Center on September 21, 2011 and passed away on January 4, 2012 at the age of 89. She is preceded in death by parents John & Sofi Gustafson, husband Irving and son Steven, and is survived by sister Alice, daughters Cheryl (Skip), Judy (Jerry), Linda (Larry), Nancy (Greg) and Becky (Terry), son Jeffrey and daughter-in-law Mary, 16 grandchildren, 28 great-grandchildren, one great-great granddaughter and many other loving nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

**Mabel “Judy” Boelter** was born September 15, 1919.

Mabel came to Park River Estates Care Center on December 6, 2011 and passed away on January 14, 2012 at the age of 92. She is survived by sons Darel (Joanne) and Michael (Susan), grandchildren Darel, Pattie, Sarah, Derek and Cassie, great-

grandchildren Abby, Allie, Anabel, Amelia and Adalyn, brother Tony (Judy) and many nieces and nephews.

**Elaine Jones** was born March 10, 1944.

Elaine came to Park River Estates Care Center on January 12, 2012 and passed away January 15, 2012 at the age of 67. She is preceded in death by son Richard, parents Herman & Dorothy Dehnel and step-father Richard, and is survived by loving husband Wally, children Sherri (Steve), Michelle (Mark), Mike (Michelle) and Sue, 19 grandchildren, one great-grandson, sister Joann (Don) and many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

**Louise Sando** was born March 27, 1921.

Louise came to Park River Estates Care Center on January 11, 2012 and passed away on January 22, 2012 at the age of 90.