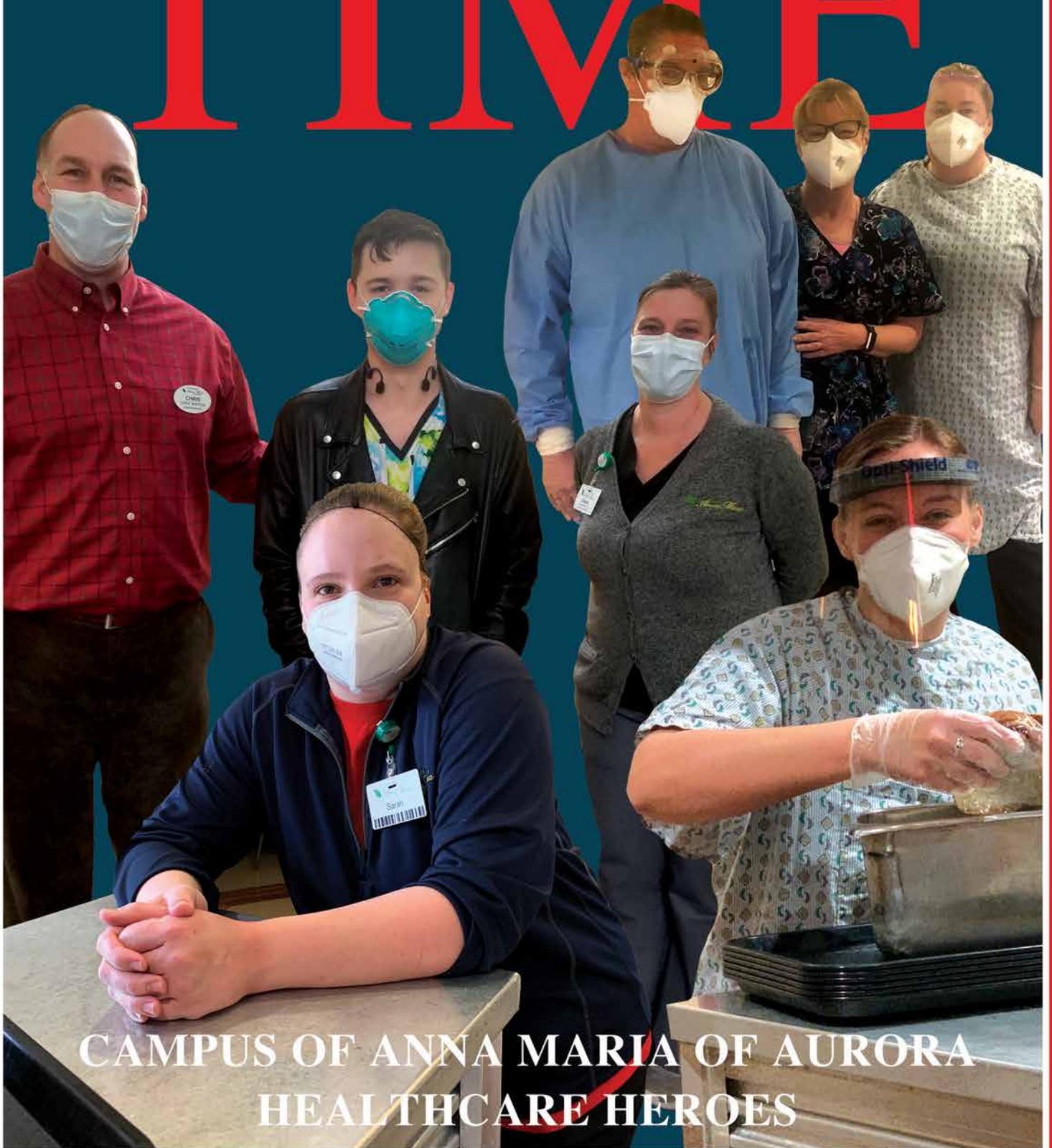


PERSONS OF THE YEAR

TIME



CAMPUS OF ANNA MARIA OF AURORA
HEALTHCARE HEROES

DEAR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS:

As always, the health and well-being of our residents / your loved ones is our primary concern, as we are continuing to follow the guidelines and recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), **Ohio Dept. of Health (ODH)** and the Portage County Health Department. Even though the state of Ohio is beginning a phased “opening” in May, the “no visitation” directive will not be lifted in the near term. We are aware of how difficult this continues to be for our families, **and we will continue to assist with FaceTime so at least virtual visitation is possible.** Please contact our activities department to set up an appointment to Skype / Face Time with your loved one. **We have had some families doing “window visits,” where they are talking to their loved one through the resident’s window. We understand the importance of seeing your loved one in person—we just ask that you keep the window or exterior door closed for everyone’s protection. Also, we have many resident rooms/apartments that are in locations not safe to walk to around the building. Please contact the front desk so we can arrange a location that is safe for you and your loved one.**

Please check the Anna Maria Facebook page, as well as our website, for general updates, pictures, and campus news. **Along those lines, we have been sending out emails to update families on any overall COVID status changes. If you are the primary contact for your loved one, and you have not received an email, please send an email to jporemba@annamariaofaurora.com,** so that we can update your contact information. Of course, we would be contacting the responsible party directly with any changes of condition with an individual resident.

We appreciate your patience and cooperation during this chaotic and uncertain time. If you have any questions, please contact administrators Aaron Baker or Chris Norton, who will be happy to discuss any concerns you may have. Let’s continue to work together during this difficult time. Thank you.

RESIDENT PROFILE

VIRGINIA “GINGER” OTCASEK

Just tell them “Ginger sent you!”

Ginger was the second youngest of four girls, born and raised in the very rural town of Hillside, PA (about 22 miles southwest of Scranton). The family struggled to make ends meet, as their father, a steelworker, did not always maintain steady employment. Dad, mom, and the four girls lived in a small house with only four rooms: two bedrooms, a living room, and a kitchen. If it appears that a room is missing, you are correct. The house lacked indoor plumbing, and the family used an outhouse.

While in high school, Ginger worked for Pennsylvania Bell, a job she really enjoyed. Ginger traveled to Cleveland to visit relatives where she was introduced to a family friend, Charles Otcasek. The two became friends and often corresponded by mail. In 1954, following graduation from Derry Township High School, Ginger and her family moved to East Cleveland, purchasing a house with – indoor plumbing! Once settled, Ginger and Charles could finally begin a real courtship. About one year later, the two married. Luckily, Ginger was able to obtain a transfer from Pennsylvania Bell to Ohio Bell, where she worked until baby #1 was born.

While Charles was busy working at the General Motors Fisher Body Plant, Ginger was busy at home raising her children. Ginger and Charles were blessed with six children in 10 years – two boys and four girls. Ginger enjoyed her time at home with her children for 28 years before suffering a brain aneurysm. She was hospitalized for 69 days but, thankfully, with a lot of hard work and prayers, Ginger recovered and “back on her feet” and in good health about a year and a half later.

With the children grown and her health good, Ginger began working at a pharmacy where her daughter, studying to be a pharmacist, was completing an internship. After a few years, a better opportunity came along, a special order buyer for Curtis Industries. She enjoyed this job immensely and even joined the company bowling league. Ginger remained at Curtis until her retirement.

With six children, 11 grandchildren, and 10 great-grandchildren (and another on the way), family has always been Ginger’s #1 priority. She enjoys knitting, canning foods, and baking. One of her favorite trips? A cruise with her daughter and son-in-law.

About eight years ago, while dining at the Coffee Cup Café in Bedford, Ginger struck up a



conversation with two women at the next table. They became fast friends and still get together for lunch every week (well, up until a six weeks ago – Coronavirus halted lunch). Their favorite restaurants? Chicago Deli in Solon, and Bob Evans in Bainbridge. When dining at one of these establishments, just tell them “Ginger sent you!” Pretty certain the waitress will share a couple of funny stories.

EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH

MARCH / APRIL



Brenda Sizemore



Jillian Andrikanich



Sue Lanese



Tristan Mathis

ANNA MARIA

Congratulations to our March Anna Maria Employee of the Month, **Brenda Sizemore**, Housekeeping. No matter how busy she gets, one will always find a pretty smile on Brenda's face. She takes much pride in her work, and cares about the cleanliness of our facility. She's reliable, patient, kind, and most of all, a genuine team player. We are proud to bestow this honor on Brenda. Congratulations and keep up the good work!

Congratulations to our April Anna Maria Employee of the Month, **Jillian Andrikanich**, PTA (Family Tree Rehab Services). Jill is a wonderful addition to our therapy team. Her friendly yet firm approach to allowing each of her residents to reach his or her full potential is amazing and effective. One family couldn't say enough about Jill "...she is the most positive of the therapists...upbeat attitude...sense of humor...absolute pleasure to work with...she is an asset to Anna Maria...pushed my dad to keep moving..." Congratulations, Jill, and keep up the good work.

KENSINGTON

Congratulations to our March Kensington Employee of the Month, **Sue Lanese**, STNA. Sue was nominated from a family member. The family member stated "Sue is a wonderful caregiver that treats our mother with dignity. Her smiling and joking makes for a pleasant visit and a happy mom. She communicates well and shows genuine concern for her well-being. Also, she keeps us informed on her needs. Best of all she has our mom on a regular schedule which is so important." Sue, thank you for all you doing for our residents on a daily basis. You are appreciated!

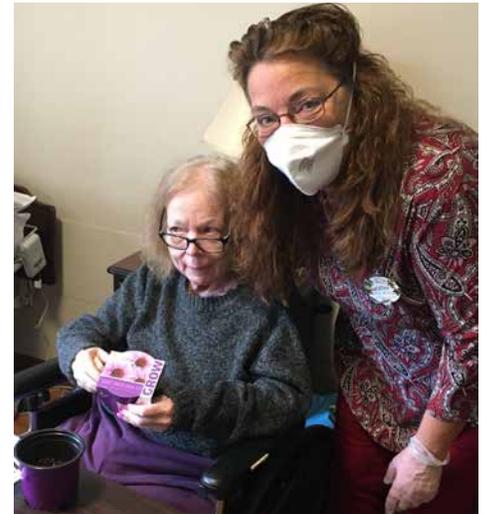
Congratulations to our April Kensington Employee of the Month, **Tristan Mathis**, STNA. Tristan is a ray of sunshine on a cloudy day. He truly goes above and beyond every day he works. Tristan understands what it means to be a team player, and will assist his fellow coworkers at any time, no questions asked. If help is needed, Tristan is there. We so appreciate his dedication to our residents. Congratulations, and keep up the good work.

ANNA MARIA / KENSINGTON

LET IT GROW... LET'S SOW...



Activities Supervisor, Amber Reed (right) assists Miriam C. with a sunflower



Activities Asst., Kathy Metzger (right) assists Edith A. with coneflower seeds



Norma K. picks a daisy



Marjorie O. along with Hospitality Aide Brianna

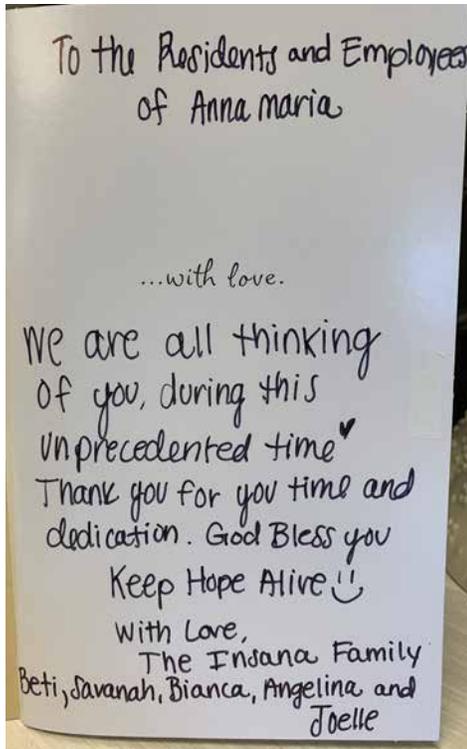


Tim S. gets a helping hand from Activities Supervisor Amber

Kensington at Anna Maria residents celebrated Earth Day by planting seeds in preparation for our summer garden. Strawberries, basil, tomatoes, sunflowers, coneflowers, and daisies were lovingly planted in starter cups, watered, and now watched for signs of sprouting. Summer garden, get ready, cuz here we come!

BUTTERFLIES

Butterflies are God's confetti; thrown upon the Earth in celebration of His love (K. D'Angelo) - What perfect timing! the Insana Family (Beti, Savannah, Bianca, Angelina, and Joelle) of Chesterland dropped off beautiful tissue-paper butterflies to distribute to our Anna Maria residents. The butterflies certainly brought a smile to many a face. Thank you, Insana family, for this wonderful gesture of kindness and love. Our residents loved them.



Genevieve M.



Phyllis B.



Marlys A. enjoys her butterfly as well as the sun on her face



Betty P.



Genee H.

GETTING READY FOR SPRING...



Frankie P. puts the finishing touches on her rabbit

Stained glass cross...beautiful!



What a cute rabbit Norma K.



Stained glass rabbit (a red rabbit?)



Another beautiful cross



Judy O.'s daffodils



Eleka A. and her daffodil bouquet

“The world’s favorite season is the spring. All things seem possible in May.” (Edwin way Teale). While social distancing has certainly hindered many of our activities, luckily, crafting is not one of them. Our Kensington at Anna Maria residents do like to craft! In preparing for this great season of spring, residents crafted stained glass pictures to brighten the windows, along with paper daffodils to brighten the mood. Thank you to our wonderful activities staff for going above and beyond in their creativity.

MUSIC ALWAYS WARMS THE HEART



John Pearson, one of our regular entertainers, thought of a creative way to entertain at Kensington at Anna Maria. How about playing his guitar and singing through the window? Though he needed to sing a little louder, his beautiful music could be heard loud and clear through the windows. Thank You, John, for warming the hearts of our residents with your music. Much appreciated by all.

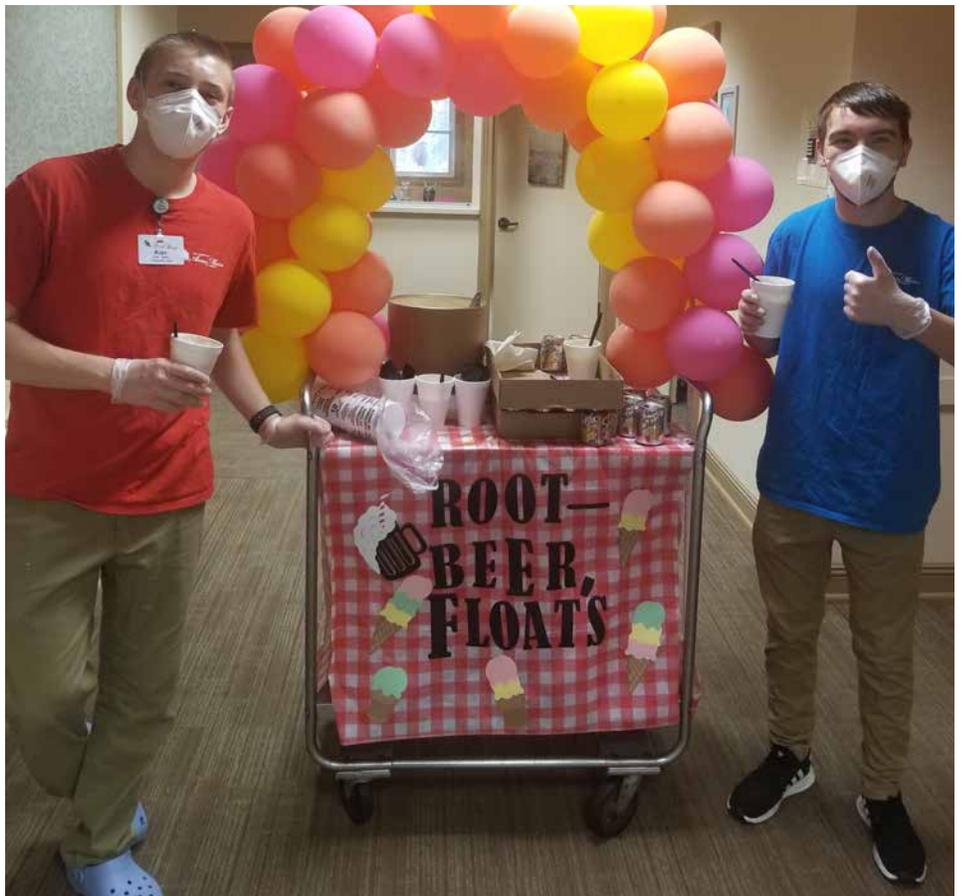
WE LOOK GOOD, YES WE DO!



Though our hair salon is shuttered, our dedicated staff continues to make certain our residents look their best, every single day. Katie Geiser (Staff Development) took the time to curl Betty Post's hair (growing longer, just like everyone else's hair). Genee Hawkins was treated to a manicure by Justyne Moore (hospitality aide). Don't our gals look wonderful?

ROOT BEER FLOATS

“Okay, he either said, ‘move to the back of the throat,’ or he ‘wants a root beer float.’” Dory – Finding Nemo. So cool and refreshing! Who doesn’t love a root beer float? Kensington at Anna Maria residents were treated to old-fashioned root beer floats, and enjoyed every last drop. P.S. Did Marlin (main character “fish” in Finding Nemo) actually want a root beer float?



THE SKY IS THE DAILY BREAD OF THE EYES (RALPH WALDO EMERSON)



(Aaron Baker, Administrator at Anna Maria, holds loaves of freshly baked bread). Izolda Gutuescu, the dietary manager at our sister facility, The Atrium at Anna Maria, was recently busy in the kitchen baking lots and lots of homemade bread. Those of you familiar with Izolda know that she is a fabulous baker (fabulous with a capital “F”). She dropped a few loaves off at Anna Maria for our health-care heroes to enjoy. And that we did. Izolda says, “Bread is Life!” Thank you so much!

OUR SWEET VIRGINIA GHARKY

WE LOVE HER DEARLY!

Anna Maria resident Virginia Gharky always has a kind word for everyone, and we always have plenty of pickles for her. Virginia receives outside dialysis three times a week, and our dietary staff makes certain her lunch contains plenty of pickles, her favorite! May God continue to bless our Virginia, as we love her dearly.



SHINY HAPPY PEOPLE



HR Assist. Tiffany Closson strolls down a hallway



Scarlett A. with an orange balloon



Carol O.'s balloon matches her shirt



What a beautiful picture of Jane B.



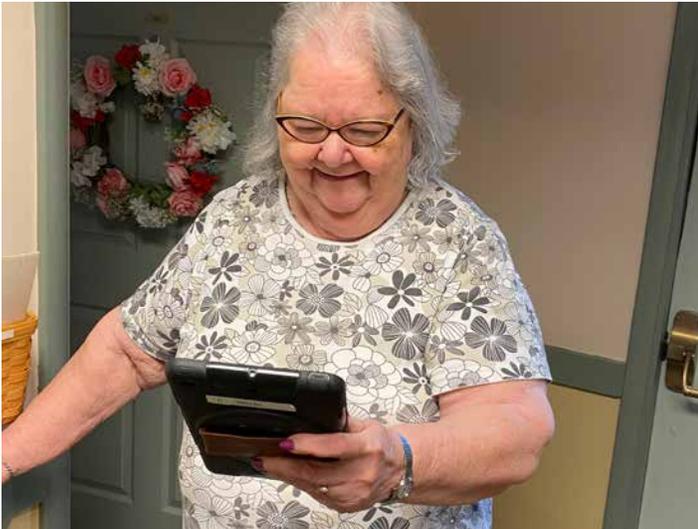
Red balloon for Phyllis B.

All aboard...the Happy Train! Though the past month has been extremely difficult, we do our best to keep our residents' spirits up. Management here at Anna Maria boarded the "happy train" and made a special delivery to our residents: a "happy face" balloon. No sure what was bigger: the smiling balloon or the smiles on our residents' faces! We hope the "happy train" comes around again really soon.



ASSISTED / INDEPENDENT LIVING

FACETIME FUN WITH FAMILY



Ginger O. – what a great smile!



Activities Asst. Jazmin helps Kay W. with a FaceTime call



Martha H. is thrilled to see her loved ones



Marge O. Skypes with daughter Kathy

That smile on Ginger's face speaks for itself as she takes advantage of the technology of Skype to have a conversation with her loved ones. Yes, Skype and FaceTime visits have been a lifesaver for our residents as the best means of keeping in touch with family. If you'd like to arrange for a virtual visit, please contact the activities department (Anna Maria 330 562-6171 or Kensington at Anna Maria 330 562-3120).



HEY, BOWIE IS NOT SOCIAL DISTANCING!

Awww, here's Bowie, our in-house therapy dog, giving some love to Kay McCarty. Unfortunately, Bowie's visits have been suspended temporarily. We miss you, Bowie!

LENTEN FISH FRY

Good thing our assisted and independent living residents attended one of the first fish fries of the Lenten season at Holy Angels Church in Bainbridge before the coronavirus shutdown took effect. This is always a good time, and the group usually enjoys a few of these fish fries during the Lenten season. Let's hope a group gathering like this can occur again one day.



BETTY'S NEW BIRD FEEDER

Betty Silla peeks outside her window as her son and daughter-in-law install a lovely new bird feeder outside her window. Window visits have become quite popular now as it's a great way for families to "social distance" with their loved one.

A CREATIVE APPROACH TO MAIL DELIVERY

What a clever idea! Lisa McFarland, AL/IL Activities Director, has been utilizing a remote control car to deliver the mail, along with a social distance smile! Contactless delivery at its finest!



Marlys B. loves the new delivery service



Joe V. receives some mail – hopefully no bills!



Lisa McFarland on her way to the next stop

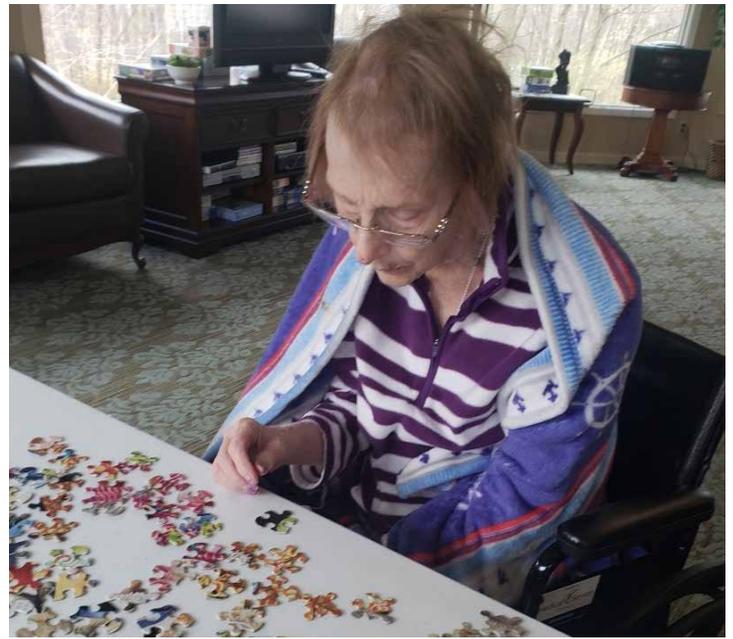


A SPECIAL DELIVERY OF HOMEMADE MASKS

Velta Lauge, a friend of AL / IL Activities Director Lisa McFarland, dropped off a supply of homemade masks for our staff in the assisted living area. Though staff is required to wear an N95 mask, these beautiful mask can be worn over the N95 or outside of work. Thank you so much! The masks are beautiful and much appreciated

PUZZLING ABOUT A PUZZLE

Puzzles have become all the rage now during this quarantine. Passes time, and certainly good brain therapy. From difficult to easy, we have a nice supply of puzzles for our residents to use. Here is Jane Anderson attempting what looks like a puzzle with many small pieces! Good luck Jane!



WE MISS EVERYONE!



A big “hello” from our assisted / independent living staff. We miss everyone and look forward to being together again one day.

FAITH IS GREATER THAN FEAR

About Normal

Right now,
I don't know what Normal is
Anymore.
That's because Normal has been changing
So much,
So often,
Lately.
For a long while of lately.
I'd like Normal to be
Okayness.
Good health...
Emotional health,
Medical health,
Spiritual health.
I'd like Normal to be
Like that.
I'd like Normal to stay,
Like that.
For now though,
I know that Normal won't be normal
For a little while...
But somehow,
Sometime,
Even if things are not Normal,
They'll be okay.
That's because I believe
In the great scheme of things,
And Life.

May 2001

Momentous Reality

The next century, the next millennium
Is being made, now, Today, each
second.
We could be working towards
World peace, living as one spirit.
Or, we could be working towards
Disaster, chemical and nuclear
wars.
The harmony, and existence of
the future
Depends on the harmony and
existence
Of each individual here, today.
We must be brave going into the
future.
We must remember to play after
each storm.
We must not live in fear of bad
things
Blocking our way or overcoming
our optimism.
If we can work together to face
the future,
If we can unite as one,
Then our future will look, and be,
very bright.

Even though the future seems far
away,
It is actually beginning right now.
And while we are living in the
present,
We must celebrate life everyday,
Knowing that we are becoming
history
With every word, every action, every
moment.
Because we, today, are the history
of tomorrow,
We must ask ourselves each day
What we are doing that may have
An influence on the future.
It really won't be for many years that
The future will indicate if something
we said,
Or if something we did or did not do,
Had an impact on a single individual,
Or if it trickled out to touch the
whole world.

February 2000

Martha Wagner, one of our independent living residents, is an avid reader and has quite a collection of books. While perusing through a book of poetry written by a young boy named Mattie Stepanek back in 2000 (20 years ago), she came across two poems that are reflective, quite accurately, of our current situation with the coronavirus pandemic. The author, Matthew J.T. Stepanek, a poet and peacemaker, published seven best-selling books of poetry and peace essays before his passing at age 13 in 2004.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!



The Campus of Anna Maria of Aurora cannot even begin to thank our community, families, friends, and even strangers for their outpouring of love and support during this difficult time. From encouraging emails, letters, cards, pictures, posters, food, desserts, homemade masks, hand sanitizer, and the list goes on... We are forever grateful for this support of our "healthcare heroes." We are here for one reason: to provide top-notch care to our residents, and your support makes a tough job all worthwhile. THANK YOU!

ON THIS DATE...

04

1970

Four Kent State University students were shot and killed by National Guardsmen who opened fire on a crowd of students protesting Richard Nixon's decision to invade Cambodia (this year marks the 50th anniversary of this historic event)

ON... 25

APRIL

we celebrated the 50th anniversary of Earth Day, a day to find ways to make the planet a cleaner and safer place to live. Did you know...



MAY CALENDAR

02

The greatest and most exciting two minutes in sports, The Kentucky Derby, won't take place on May 2, but instead on Saturday, September 5, due to concerns of the coronavirus.

**Recall the excitement of last year? For the first time in the history of the Kentucky Derby, the horse that crossed the finish first was not the winner. What horse was eventually deemed the winner?

08

1886

Coca-Cola is introduced to the public



As of December 2019, there were 7.75 billion people living on Earth – China leads the way with over 1.4 billion; India a close second with 1.3 billion. The United States? Third, with approximately 330 million – Trivia: What's the least populated country?

Earth is the only known planet with breathable oxygen, which makes up 21% of the atmosphere

Earth is the only planet with a name not derived from Greek mythology. Instead, it's derived from Old English and German

Thanks to the efforts of editor/office manager Joann Poremba, Anna Maria recycles. What's the largest contributor of our recycling? Cardboard...

21

1881

The American Red Cross is founded. Blood is needed now more than ever – please visit redcrossblood.org for information on local blood drives



25

1977

The first Star Wars film is released



Mother's Day! Treat mom to a day filled with lots of love!

Memorial Day. It's a day to celebrate, honor, and remember military personnel who have lost their lives protecting our country.



Cinco de Mayo! Support your local Mexican restaurant and order some delicious carry-out! Tacos and guacamole anyone?

You won't catch your favorite Indy drivers zooming around the racetrack at the 104th Indianapolis 500 as yet another sporting event is postponed due to coronavirus concerns. Date TBD (possibly August).



MAY BIRTHDAYS

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 Hazel Donat	4 Etelka Alapi	5	6	7	8	9
10 Tim Srnka	11 Nellie Torpey	12 Christine Bock	13	14 Joyce Eleck	15 Diana Haney	16
17	18 Robert Paulus	19 Betty Boyce	20 Jace Whitt	21 Judy Oskowski	22	23 Margree Scott Frankie Peace Leroy Breeler
24	25	26 Shirley Dublin	27 Marlene White Robert Keslar Violet Hartman	28 Shirley Kall	29 Orlean Roberts Genevieve Mustin	30 Edythe O'Hara
31 Robert Davis						

Muriel Bergman
Happy 102nd!



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- Personal Care
- Meals and Light housekeeping
- Errands and Grocery shopping



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