



The Neighbors
of Dunn County

NEWS FROM THE NEIGHBORS

MAY - JUNE, 2017

National Nursing Home Week 2017—May 14-20th

Every year, we have special activities planned as we celebrate National Nursing Home Week. This year we are extra excited as we have chosen the theme “Generations of Caring” as we also celebrate the 125th Anniversary of Dunn County providing care and services for the community. The Dunn County Asylum opened in 1892. Over time, the name has changed and new buildings have been built, but our mission has always remained the same: “Our kind and caring staff promise to provide the community with efficient, quality nursing services within a safe and comfortable environment.” Throughout the week we will honor our staff, volunteers and residents with special activities. We are also hosting a Community Wide Open House and a fundraiser to give us a chance to give back to the community who so generously supports us. A complete schedule of activities can be found on page 3 of this newsletter and on our website (neighborsdc.org).

News from The Culinary Department:

When bringing any food or drink items into the facility, please check them in with staff. We need to ensure proper food handling, temperatures, storage, dating and labeling. Please feel free to ask questions, and you're always welcome to stop by the Dietary Department located in the Central Building.

Thank you, Culinary Mentor



Mother's Day 2017

Mother's Day Social

Sunday, May 14th

3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

all houses serving

Cheesecake and Coffee



Father's Day 2017



FATHER'S DAY SOCIAL

Sunday, June 18th

3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

all houses featuring

“Build your own Sundaes”



Dunn County
Health Care Center

National Nursing Home Week 2017
“Generations of Caring”
May 14 -20, 2017

Sunday, May 14th: Mother’s Day

3:00 p.m. – Cheesecake and coffee in all houses

Monday, May 15th: Kick off with the Community

10:00 a.m. - Balloon lift-off with kindergarten classes
from Oaklawn Elementary

- Reading of Proclamation
- Intergenerational games in each Neighborhood

Tuesday, May 16th: Neighborhood Competitions

10:00 – Family Feud in EAST Neighborhood

1:30 – Bunco in WEST Neighborhood

Staff Appreciation

- Casual dress day
- Treats in breakrooms throughout the day

Wednesday, May 17th: 125th Anniversary Celebration

2:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Historical display, speakers, tours and refreshments

Thursday, May 18th: Historical Presentations by Sofi Doane

9:30 – East 10:15 Central 11:00 – West

Volunteer Appreciation

3:00 – 4:00 p.m. in Brickenridge Community Room

**Friday, May 19th: Community Fundraiser for the Dunn County
Historical Society**

10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. – Lunch in Community Room



From the Administrator's desk...

It excites me to see the leaves springing forth from their buds on the trees – finally. Spring has arrived! Spring reminds me that at around this time last year, UW-EC's Center for Health Administration and Aging Services Excellence (CHAASE), bestowed upon me the honor of being their 2016 Distinguished Alumni. This year marks my 25th year of being a long-term care administrator. I'm very glad to be here. Next month on May 17th we are going to be celebrating Dunn County's 125th year of providing long-term health services to our community! As President of the Wisconsin Association of County Homes, I can attest that not many county homes have these celebrations anymore. There are about 35 county-owned nursing homes remaining in Wisconsin, but the ones remaining are fantastic facilities for each of their respective communities. We hope you feel the same about The Neighbors of Dunn County. Please come out on Wednesday, May 17th from 2-6 p.m. and join us in this celebration of "*Generations of Caring since 1892!*"

As President of WACH, part of my responsibility is to engage our member homes and their administrators in ensuring that our facilities are sufficiently reimbursed from the Wisconsin Medical Assistance program. Wisconsin has dropped to the worst in the country in terms of reimbursing nursing homes their costs. I am happy to report that our local Senator, Sheila Harsdorf and other Representatives support the Governor's recommendation for a 2% increase in our nursing home reimbursement rates over the next biennial budget. Some of our residents and families have also made their feelings known about ensuring that our legislators support improved nursing home reimbursement. Thank you and please do not stop reminding our legislators about this important issue. The next budget hasn't been approved yet.

Why is this important? Nursing homes throughout Wisconsin are facing a work-force crisis such that some facilities are not able to admit residents due to a lack of adequate staff. Being less able to compete adequately with wages and benefits in our current economy, nursing homes are struggling to recruit and retain staff with their limited resources. So, local nursing home services with adequate staff will only come with sufficient reimbursement through the legislature.

Our ability to staff The Neighbors has so far been good and the recent Consumer Information Report for Nursing Homes of 2016 shows The Neighbors has good retention rates of RNs, LPNs and CNAs compared to State-wide averages although; it is difficult to fill open positions. We have not had to turn any potential residents away due to a lack of adequate staff, but we've also had several recent retirements and expect more to come. Still, the care and services provided by our kind and caring staff result in Medicare.gov rating our facilities as 4 and 5-star facilities (among the Top 20% in the country). All of this is being done against a backdrop of increased regulations known as "Mega Rules," pressure to improve financial performance, doing well on our state survey inspections of the facilities and continuing to embrace the leading edge of best practices for ensuring high quality care. Despite the challenges, I continue to remain excited and optimistic for the future of The Neighbors – mostly due to the great teamwork exhibited by our wonderful staff.

Over the course of 2017, the following items are some of the issues The Neighbors will be working on: pharmacy services, physician services, marketing, financial analysis, staffing adjustments, fundraising, a market feasibility study and development of a new, Memorial Garden on the west end of our campus to begin this summer. More information will be forthcoming on our Memorial Garden for which you, a family member or friend can either memorialize a loved-one who has resided at The Neighbors or even memorialize your own gift/donation to The Neighbors.

I hope our planting season is a good one and that our summer is enjoyable, safe and warm. Let us not forget our Mothers (May 14th), 125th Anniversary (May 17th), our Armed Forces (May 20th) or those who have gone before us this upcoming Memorial Day Holiday (May 29th). Please know that you can call on me with any questions or concerns at 715-231-4564. Thank you!

Anthony Manzella, Community Mentor/Administrator

We would like to take a moment to recognize all the wonderful nurses and nursing assistants working at The Neighbors.

Our residents depend on you every day, and we thank you for your dedication to providing quality care to the individuals we serve!



National Nurse's DAY—May 6th
National Certified Nursing Asst. Day—June 15th



June
is
Dairy
Month!

DARE TO COMPARE DAIRY'S
Nutritional **VALUE**

It takes 3 cups of cooked *broccoli* to equal the calcium in 1 cup of *milk*.

An 8-ounce serving of *low-fat plain yogurt* contains 490 milligrams of potassium; about the same as a *banana*.

An ounce of *hard cheese (like Cheddar)* contains 8 grams of protein; an *egg* contains 6 grams.

An infographic on a dark blue wooden background. It features a glass of milk next to broccoli, a banana next to a cup of yogurt, and a white egg next to several cubes of cheddar cheese. The text provides nutritional comparisons for each.

Join us for lunch as we raise money for the
Dunn County Historical Society...



Friday, May 19th

10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

at The Neighbors of Dunn County—Central Community Room

lunch for \$6.00:

Taco Salad, Drink & Dessert

Wednesday, May 17th

2-6 p.m.

125th Celebration

ANNIVERSARY



Join us for a historical display, special guest speaker, tours, food & refreshments!

Spring and Summer Outings



Now that Spring has officially arrived, the staff and residents are eager to add some more outings to our activity schedule. In addition to our weekly trips to the Senior Center, our monthly shopping trip, and mystery trips; we are planning fishing trips, a trip to Turtle Lake Casino, picnics, trips to the Fair, the movie theatre, and some simple joyrides through the country side. Any family members who may want to come along should contact the Life Enhancement staff for more information. All outings are listed on the monthly calendars. You can pick up a copy of the monthly activity calendar at the nurses' station, or they are also posted on our website: www.neighborsdc.org

Volunteer Opportunities...

We are looking for volunteers for the following positions:



- Gardening/planting activities
- Assisting with Outings
- Gift Shop worker
- Library Upkeep

Contact Sally at (715) 231-4589 for more information.



The Neighbors
of Dunn County

Generations of caring since 1892

2901 Forbes Avenue

Menomonie, WI 54751