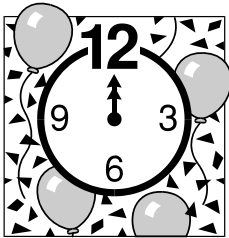




**PARK RIVER ESTATES CARE CENTER**  
**JANUARY 2012**  
**NEWSLETTER**

**January 2012**



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*Happy New Year!*



**From Your Administrator...**

By Tom Pollock

**Follow up to “Additional parking up front??”** Last month I informed you that we had contacted the City of Coon Rapids about obtaining additional space up front for parking. We did receive a visit from Marc Nevinski, City of Coon Rapids Community Development Director on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Mayor had given Mr. Nevinski our letter and asked him to visit us in order to get the details. He said that he thought something could be worked out. They have made similar arrangements with other businesses having the desire to utilize city land. In the meantime, we will continue to plow the lot for ample parking.

If you do park in the area just north of the main entrance, we ask that you walk on the sidewalk for your own safety. Thank you.

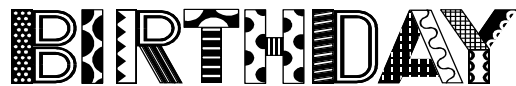
**What starts on January 24, 2012?** If you said that the 2012 MN Legislative Session begins that day, you would have been correct! The last budget forecast reflected a surplus. It wasn't huge but it still was a surplus. We will have to see if that trend continues. I had attended a couple of fundraisers for both the DFL & GOP in December and I was told right away that there won't be additional money for nursing homes/senior services AND we should feel good that our payments were not cut. I stated to the legislators, “We get paid \$19/resident /day less than what our cost is and I'm supposed to feel good?” I further reminded them that our employees have not received a raise in 4 years and I am supposed to feel good about that too? The problem is that the state of MN controls 80% of our funding. On a per hour basis, the state of MN pays less than minimum wage. Please contact your legislators and tell them how important it is to attract and retain quality caregivers. Just ask them if they have even been in a nursing home, assisted living or transitional care unit. If the answer is no, how can they make proper decisions about our fate if they never had visited a nursing home, assisted living or transitional care unit?

**Deductibles/Co-pays for 2012** Finally, I want you to know the changes for 2012 regarding deductibles/co-pays. The Medicare co-pay for days 21-100 is \$144.50/day; the Part B premium is \$99.90/month and the deductible is \$140. For those of you on Medical Assistance (Medicaid), the monthly allowance is \$92.

# January Birthdays

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

|                |            |
|----------------|------------|
| Thelma Swenson | January 11 |
| Luella Zahler  | January 16 |
| Helen Rice     | January 27 |
| Joyce Greene   | January 27 |



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## Hello...and Goodbye!

Welcome to **Margaret Folke, Ward Wilkins, Larry Carlson, Mabel "Judy" Boelter, Ursula Vetter, Margaret Heille, Veldon Buerkle, Janet "Tillie" Snyder, Richard Jost and Carol Langlie** who arrived this month. Please greet them!

And "Best Wishes!" to **Edward Hustad, Donald Olsen, Kenneth Johnson, Chester Mady, Gertrude Larsen, Hazel Melander, Lars Lodoen and Marilyn Anderson** who were discharged this past month and to **Lucille "Lu" Aasved, Mary Carlson, John Hilden, Eugene Peters and Frances Anderson** who were with us for a short time.

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## Resident Council

The meeting was held on Tuesday, December 13, 2011 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**, the council members would like to thank everyone for their donations to Toys for Tots.

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

Diana Olson reminded council members to let nursing staff know if you are going out for the holidays, and also that reservations are required for guest meals for the holidays as there is limited space

available.

**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, January 10, 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, January 10, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. in the Resident/Visitor lounge.

# Holiday Decorating

Our heartfelt “Thank You!” to a number of employees who decorated Park River Estates this holiday season: Brianna D. (reception desk), Heidi H. (business office), Dana Lee L. (housekeeping), Kyleigh P. (reception desk), Sheryl B. (laundry) and Renee M. (activities). Thanks also to the Dietary Department for decorating the main dining room, and to the Therapy staff for decorating the Therapy room. The facility looks very festive!



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## Resident Council Foundation Honored

The Park River Estates (PRE) Resident Council Foundation is a nonprofit organization and is recognized as 501 (c) (3) by the IRS.

Its sole purpose is to enhance the lives of the residents of Park River Estates Care Center, and has done so by providing entertainment each month and making purchases such as large print hymnals, plants, flowers and benches for the grounds, patio furniture and umbrellas, ice machine, bookcases for the library, electric fireplace, a safe sidewalk on the south grounds, and various activity supplies to make life better for our residents.

The Foundation also sponsors the annual Sweetheart dinner, Coronation of the King & Queen of Hearts, Volunteer Recognition Event and Family Picnic.

The main fundraising event for the Foundation has been the annual CareFest Auction. Traditionally, proceeds from the auction have been split

between the Foundation and the Care Providers of MN (CPM) Foundation for scholarships for persons pursuing a career in long term care. Over the past several years, our Foundation has donated over \$20,000 to the CPM Foundation.

The PRE Resident Council Foundation was honored for its work and contributions at the CPM annual convention on November 16, 2011. The Chairperson’s Choice Award is presented to an individual or organization in appreciation for their years of service to the long term care profession and their impact on the lives of residents and their caregivers.

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

# Chaplain's Corner

It is a fine and a comfortable thought, this New Year of 2012, to find ourselves in the immediate Presence of Almighty God. I especially move into this New Year with the memory of Martha square in my mind. In a way, I am heartened by the thought that Martha is praying for us and has taken her seat at the Heavenly Banquet.

As St. Matthews said, when we have been lying prostrate before Him, confessing our secrets, and humbly waiting for pardon and grace as it may please Him to grant us: when, by His especial grace and favor, the world out of sight has been made more than usually present to us: when we have been carried up to heaven, and down again to the deep, with the sense of His heavenly encouragement, and our own deficiencies: we may well feel afraid to return to our ordinary feelings, and mix ourselves up with earthly matters. And yet, so it is: the condition under which we live, part of our task and burthen in this present world: the corruptible body must press down the soul and the earthly tabernacle; the cloud of temporal anxieties must weigh down the spirit, that interest us of many and high things. Here then the remembrance comes in of our Lord's most loving and compassionate behavior, such as Saint Matthew and his friends on earth: how He not only accepted their feelings of sorrow, their high and severe sacrifice of themselves, when He called them, and they, by a mighty effort left all, rose up and followed Him: but also continued with them in their after-life, through all ordinary times and occasions, when there was nothing uncommon to excite them. Levi made Him a great feast in his own house, his farewell-feast, on giving up his property: and there came many publicans and sinners, and sat down with Jesus and His disciples: and He did not withdraw Himself, but stayed with them in their innocent refreshment. They were not all the time actually engaged in holy services, in prayer and confession: they were taken up, as others might be, in providing for their earthly wants. Still our Lord stayed with them. He was there, as long as they did not drive Him away. He was there to

cherish in them every faint beginning of good: to breath over their household and familiar thoughts a deeper meaning, a spirit of warning and exhortation: to reprove those who would discourage them by pride or censoriousness, to convince and remind them, in every way, that He came not to call righteous persons, but sinners to repentance. They were not to shrink from Him, though they knew themselves to be sinners, He called them to repentance.

We see how all this applies to us, to all whom Christ has called, or is always calling. Suppose one swallowed up, like Levi, in some gainful business, or living on from day to day just according to the pleasure of the moment. He hears Christ speaking to him: his heart is deeply smitten by the call to forsake all, and follow his Savior: he cannot be easy without seeking for a better happiness than any which his past life promises him. What are we to do? How can we make the most of the merciful invitation of his good and gracious Savior?

First and chiefly, let us once for all forsake, not only the sin, which most effectually separates us from Christ Jesus, but also everything which would put us in great danger. Saint Matthew not only forsook all negative desires and inordinate love of riches, but he likewise gave up at once the business of a publican, which was continually tempting him. He left his office called "the receipt of custom," his papers and bills, his heaps of money, and all the matters, which had earlier taken his full attention. He parted with all of them entirely, he turned his whole mind and heart, his eyes and his hands, toward Christ. So, this New Year we turn to the Lord and live for the Lord, for the betterment of our families and the United States of America to the end that we will join those who have gone before at the Heavenly Banquet. No matter what we hear in the public square, Jesus is Lord, and we turn our lives toward a happy and faithful life. We commit our lives to God and each other. Happy New Year!

Chaplain +Peter Riola

# Our Sympathies...

Our sympathies go out to the families and friends of **Dottie Browning, Marjorie Mathieu** and **Leah Lawson**. They will be remembered at the Memorial Service on Sunday, January 1, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. in the Chapel.

**Dorothy “Dottie” Browning** was born August 10, 1921 to Stanley and Marie Malkowski in Dancy, Wisconsin.

Dottie married Ray Browning on November 18, 1944. To this union, nine children were born. Dottie worked as a Food Service supervisor at the State Hospital. In her leisure time, Dottie enjoyed listening to old-time music and doing embroidery.

Dottie came to Park River estates Care Center on September 2, 2009 and passed away on November 29, 2011 at the age of 90. She is preceded in death by her parents, husband Ray and daughter Kathy, and is survived by children Janet (Richard), Jane, Joyce, Linda, Stanley (Jackie), Betty (Jeff), J.B. (Barbie) and Anita, 23 grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren and 4 great-great-grandchildren.

**Marjorie Mathieu** was born July 12, 1924 in Minneapolis, Minnesota to Walter and Maybelle Melin.

Marjorie married Richard “Bud” Mathieu on October 23, 1942. To this union, four children were born. Marjorie worked as a secretary, and in her leisure time, enjoyed flower gardening, cooking, playing the piano and traveling.

Marjorie came to Park River Estates Care Center on December 17, 2004 and passed away on December 1, 2011 at the age of 87. She is preceded in death by her parents and husband Bud, and is survived by children Lin (Steve), Tom (Jane), Charlie and Rick (Kris), 7 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

**Leah Lawson** was born January 28, 1921 in Maple Grove, Minnesota to Harry and Celia Hastings.

Leah married Kenneth Lawson on April 8, 1949. To this union, four children were born. Leah worked for the Anoka-Hennepin School District for many years, and in her leisure time, enjoyed knitting, playing cards and reading.

Leah came to Park River Estates Care Center on April 7, 2011 and passed away December 8, 2011 at the age of 90. She is preceded in death by her parents, husband Ken, a brother, sisters, grandson Christopher, mother-in-law Florence and son-in-law Walter, and is survived by children Jacki (Jerry), Kenna, Sharon (Pete) and Tom (Cindy), 9 grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren and one great-great-granddaughter.