

January 2022

Bell Tower Life

Bell Tower Residence | 1500 O'Day Street Merrill, Wisconsin 54452 | 715-536-5575 | www.belltowerresidence.org



Celebrating January

International Creativity Month

Black Diamond Month

Mentoring Month

New Year's Day
January 1

Bird Day
January 5

Make Your Dream Come True Day
January 13

Use Your Gift Card Day
January 15

Martin Luther King Jr. Day
January 17

World Snow Sculpting Championship
January 18–23

Compliment Day
January 24

Activity Professionals Day
January 28

Hello January! And a frosty greeting it is!

Did you know that the word “January” has its origins as being named after the Roman mythology god, “Janus”? Janus was described as the god of transitions, doorways, and new beginnings. Images of Janus show 2 faces – one looking backward, and one looking forward.

January and New Year's Day still have the tradition of new beginnings. We stay up until midnight (or go to bed long before) on New Year's Eve to say good-bye to the year that has ended. On January 1, the calendar turns over and we look forward to something new. A year has ended and a new one begun.

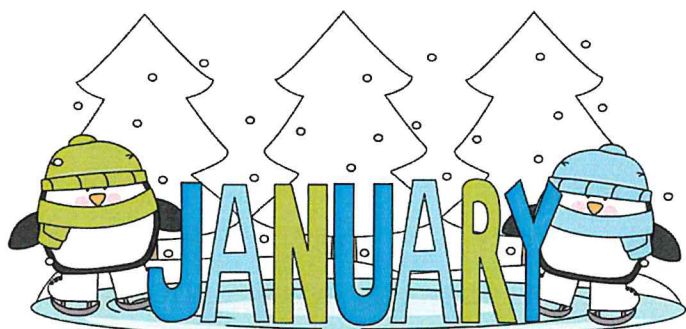
At Bell Tower Residence we are also looking forward to something new. Families and friends are able to visit their loved ones once again, and this has brought a lighter and brighter spirit to residents and staff alike. We are planning new activities and outings. We look forward to meeting many new friends. There is much to be said about the benefits of looking back at favorite memories, and reminiscing about the past. Some memories are happy, others are bittersweet. Traditions, holidays, laughter and love. Yet at the same time, we are transitioning through the doorway to a new beginning, 2022. Bell Tower Residence looks forward to another year of serving our residents, their families and the community.

Thank you for your continued support through 2021, and we look forward to seeing you in 2022.

Kris McGarigle, Administrator

Resident Birthdays

Charlotte Peters	January 4 th
Nancy Natzke	January 13 th
Ann Ravn	January 28 th
Faye Braatz	January 30 th



Employee Birthdays

Lisa Babock	January 1 st
Roxane Eggersgluess	January 5 th
Abby Smith	January 8 th
Teegan Ellis	January 10 th
Anna Westfall	January 11 th
Madison Cisewski	January 13 th
Nelimi Jirschele	January 25 th
Tony Grochowski	January 28 th
Paul Rosengren	January 31 st



Resident Anniversaries

LeRoy Ott	5 years
Pennie Beyea	4 years
Marti Hall	3 years
Betty Weix	2 years
Jeanne Krause	1 year

Employee Anniversaries

Holly Burgener	10 years
Allison Becker	3 years
Steve Annis	2 years
Ashley Cole	2 years
Sheri Heisler	1 year
Alice Penegor	1 year

A New Year's Prayer

May God make your year a happy one! Not by shielding you from all sorrows and pain, but by strengthening you to bear it, as it comes; not by making your path easy, but by making you sturdy to travel any path; not by taking hardships from you, but by taking fear from your heart; not by granting you unbroken sunshine, but by keeping your face bright, even in the shadows; not by making your life always pleasant, but by showing you when people and their causes need you most, and by making you anxious to be there to help, God's love, peace, hope and joy to you for the year ahead.



Welcome



Judy Alft moved in on December 1st.

Judy was born and raised in Merrill. Judy worked at Semco and when she wasn't working, Judy volunteered at the food pantry and her church. Judy enjoys watching television, puzzles and reading. Judy is most proud of

her family. Judy has three children, six grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Since retirement, Judy found joy in baking for others. Judy would make baked goods for Pine Crest Nursing Home residents. One of the hardest things for Judy since moving to Bell Tower is not being at home and having her dog, Cooper with her.

Philipp Cohrs moved in on December 6th.

Philipp was born and raised in Merrill. Phil was a carpenter and business agent for Carpenters of Wisconsin River Valley. Phil also served in the Army. Phil and his wife Nancy have 3



children, two daughters and one son. Phil has six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. In Phil's free time he enjoyed snowmobiling, camping and going on vacation. Phil is more interested in reading, watching the Packers and visiting with family now. Since retirement, Phil has enjoyed his home life with wife, Nancy. Favorite vacations Phil took were to Costa Rica, Puerto Rico, Brazil, Hawaii and New Orleans. Phil was an active member in the community serving on the Lincoln County Supervisors Board at North Central Technical School. Hardest part for Phil moving to Bell Tower was leaving his home.



Lola Peroutka moved in on December 8th.

Lola was born in Cable, WI but has spent most of her life in Rhinelander. Lola worked at a newspaper office in Hayward and was a housewife. Lola has three children. One son lives in Merrill, a daughter lives in

Rhinelander and the other son lives in Madison. Lola enjoys reading, listening to music and watching movies. Lola was asked what she most enjoys about life and she replied with her family and finding things that make her happy. Lola wants people to know that she has a good sense of humor. Lola is happy to be at Bell Tower but does miss her home.

Nancy Cohrs moved in on December 6th.

Nancy was born and raised in Merrill. Nancy worked as a store clerk and a cashier. In her free time, she enjoyed going snowmobiling, camping and vacations. Nancy has two daughters and one son, all live in Merrill.



Nancy has six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. Since retirement, Nancy enjoyed home life with Philipp. Some of Nancy's favorite places to vacation were Costa Rica, Puerto Rico, Brazil, Hawaii and New Orleans. Nancy was involved in the community by taking part in the St. John's Ladies Aid and being a Girl Scout leader. The hardest part about moving into Bell Tower was leaving her and Philipp's home.

Arliss Kruit moved in on December 21st.

Joyce Huntington moved in on December 23rd.

NEW Update on Chapel Services

With new guidance, we are now able to welcome our residents' families back into the Chapel during weekly church services.

We have various churches throughout our community come into Bell Tower and provide worship to our residents.

If you or your family would like to attend a church service with your loved one, please contact Ashley Hilgendorf, Life Enrichment Coordinator ahead of time, if possible, so we can arrange proper socially distance seating for you.

January's Church Service Schedule is listed below:

Jan. 6th 11 a.m. St. John Lutheran Church
Jan. 7th 9:30 a.m. Catholic Mass
Jan. 7th 1:45 p.m. Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church
Jan. 9th 10 a.m. Catholic Mass
Jan. 13th 2 p.m. Highland Community Church
Jan. 14th 9:30 a.m. Catholic Mass
Jan. 14th 11 a.m. Our Saviors Lutheran Church
Jan. 16th 10 a.m. Catholic Mass
Jan. 20th 11 a.m. St. Stephan's United Church of Christ
Jan. 21st 9:30 a.m. Catholic Mass
Jan. 23rd 10 a.m. Catholic Mass
Jan. 27th 2 p.m. Trinity Lutheran Church
Jan. 28th 9:30 a.m. Catholic Mass
Jan. 30th 10 a.m. Catholic Mass

In the Spotlight



Hello, my name is
Ann Ravn

How old are you?
I am 91 years old.

How long have you lived at Bell

Tower? *I have lived here for 5 ½ years.*

Where were you born and where did you grow up? *I was born in Grand Rapids, Michigan and grew up in Merrill, Wisconsin.*

How many children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren do you have? *I have 5 children, 14 grandchildren and 25 great-grandchildren.*

What was your education? *I attended St. Francis Xavier for grade school, Holy Cross High School and Joliet College in Joliet, Illinois.*

What was your occupation? *When I was a teenager, I worked part-time at Livingston's Department Store. After I was married, I was a homemaker for a busy doctor and 5 rambunctious children.*

What is one of your favorite memories? *My wedding day on June 15, 1950 which began 68 wonderful years of marriage with my beloved husband Ole.*

What is your favorite activity to do? *Going to exercise class, watch Jeopardy, and follow Wisconsin Badger sports team.*

What is your favorite food? *Lamb roast and wild rice.*

What might someone be surprised to know about you? *I have no middle name and I learned late in life that my first name on my birth certificate is spelled "Anne".*

What I like most about living here? *Kindness shown to me by the staff.*

**“New Year’s
marks a **NEW**
beginning,
NEW people
to meet,
NEW
adventures to
enjoy and
NEW
memories to
create”**

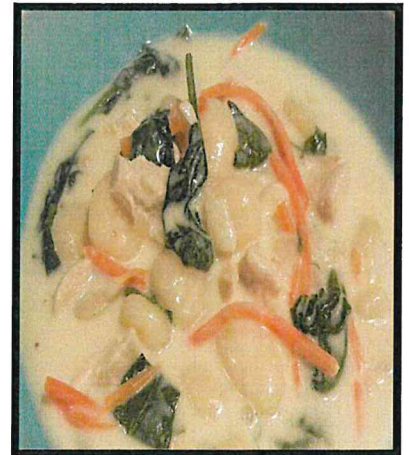
2022

Restaurant-Style Chicken and Gnocchi Soup

Prep: 20 mins
Cook: 40 mins
Total: 1 hr
Servings: 8

Ingredients:

4 tablespoons butter
4 tablespoons olive oil
1 onion, finely chopped
½ cup celery, chopped
2 cloves garlic, finely chopped
¼ cup all-purpose flour
1 (32 ounce) carton chicken broth, or to taste, divided
1 (16 ounce) package gnocchi
2 skinless, boneless chicken breast halves, cubed
1 (10 ounce) package frozen chopped spinach, thawed and drained
1 cup shredded carrots
½ teaspoon dried parsley flakes
½ teaspoon dried thyme
1 quart half-and-half
Salt and ground black pepper to taste



Directions:

Step 1

Heat butter and olive oil in a saucepan over medium-high heat. Sauté onion, celery, and garlic until onion is translucent, about 5 minutes. Whisk in flour and stir until the mixture becomes thick and light golden brown, about 2 minutes. Remove from heat.

Step 2

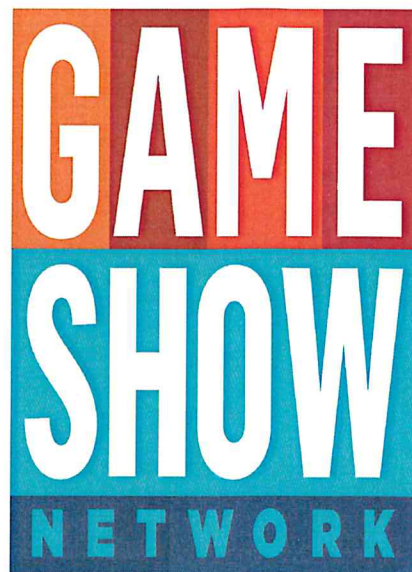
Bring 2 cups chicken broth to a boil in a pot. Cook gnocchi in the boiling broth until they float to the top, 2 to 4 minutes. Transfer gnocchi to a plate and reserve the broth in the pot. Place chicken in the broth and return it to a boil. Cook until chicken is no longer pink inside, about 7 minutes. Transfer chicken to a plate.

Step 3

Stir spinach, carrots, parsley, and thyme into the saucepan with the flour mixture and place over medium heat. Stir in half-and-half and bring to a boil. Cook until starting to thicken, about 3 minutes. Add 2 cups chicken broth. Bring back to a boil and simmer until soup is thick and smooth, 10 to 15 minutes.

Step 4

Stir gnocchi and chicken into the soup and season with salt and pepper.



We extend our prayers and support to the family and friends of **Rose Marie Plautz** who died Saturday, December 4, 2021. Rose had been a resident at Bell Tower since September of 2021.

Rose Marie (Luedtke) Plautz, 85, passed away peacefully surrounded by her family on December 4, 2021 under the care of Aspirus Comfort Care and Hospice at Bell Tower Residence in Merrill.

Rose attended grade school at Adams School-Town of Berlin. She graduated from Wausau High School in 1954. Rose married Arthur Plautz on January 14, 1956.

Rose Marie is survived by her twin sons, Bryan A. (Linda) Plautz of Merrill, WI and Bruce R. (Marcia) Plautz of St. Cloud, MN, grandchildren: Brandon (Jody) Plautz of St. Cloud, MN and Briana (Tina Weaver) Plautz of Kansas City, MO, great grandchildren: Aubrey and Kinzley Plautz of St. Cloud, MN Kellyn and Quinn Plautz-Weaver of Kansas City, MO, and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by husband, Arthur Plautz and sisters, Elvira (Ervin) Hoeft and Bernice (Norman) Wettrau.

Was employed at Merrill Candy until her marriage and then became a stay at home mom.

Rose was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church, Merrill and a member of the Ladies Aid.

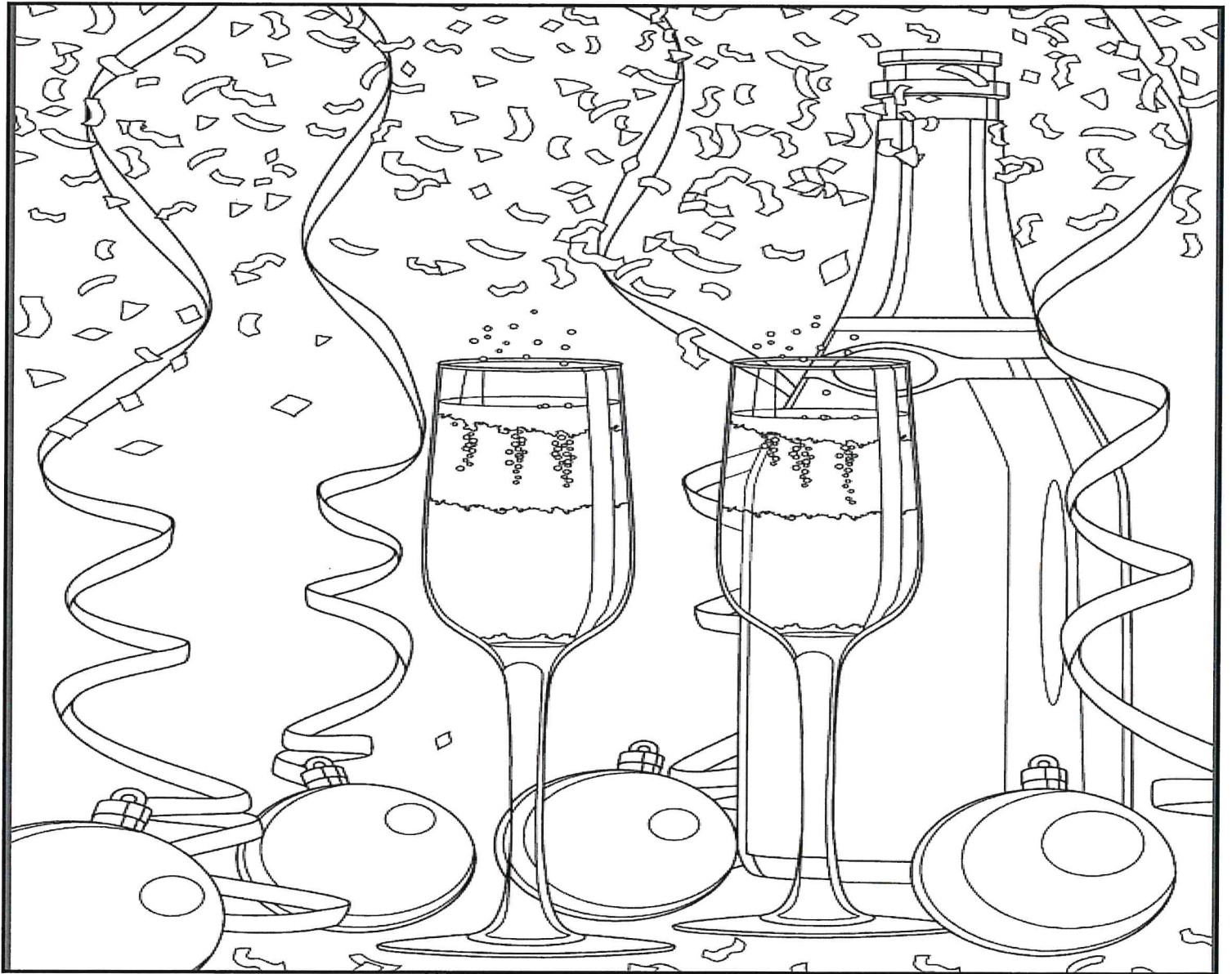
Rose enjoyed playing cards and trips to the casino. She also enjoyed watching Wisconsin sports especially the Packers and Brewers. Rose was an avid reader and spent many hours at the library. She enjoyed daily lunches with her McDonald's group and an occasional dinner at the Loading Zone. Her favorite TV channels were Hallmark and the Game Show Network. Rose and Art enjoyed many trips touring the United States.

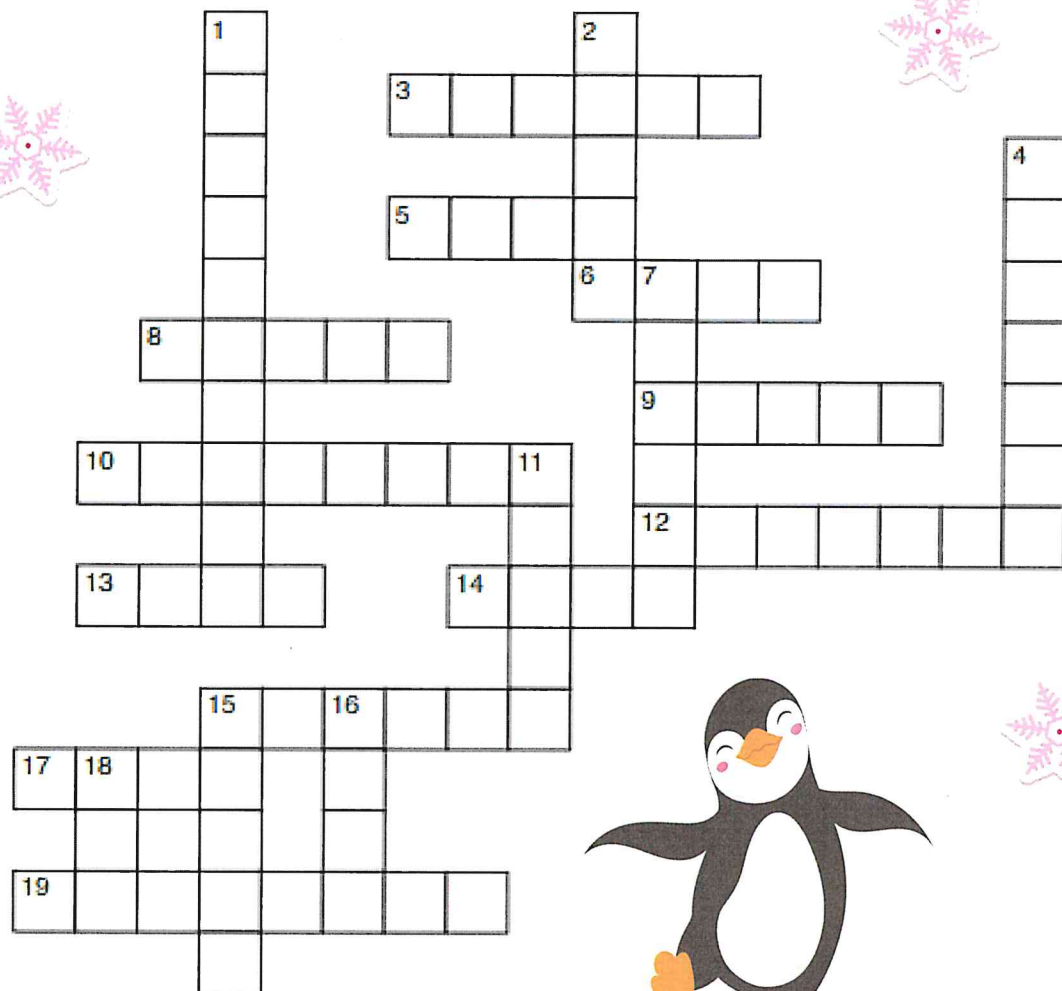
Rose's family would like to thank the Bell Tower staff and Aspirus Comfort Care and Hospice for the wonderful care given to their mother.

In lieu of flowers, please direct memorials to Trinity Church or Trinity radio broadcast. Rose listened to this all the time and it was a blessing for her to have it.

A funeral service was held on Monday, December 13, 2021 at 11:00 am at Trinity Lutheran Church in Merrill. A visitation was held on Monday, December 13, 2021 from 9:00 am until the time of service also at the church. Interment at Merrill Memorial Park Cemetery.

Waid Funeral Home and Cremation Service is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences are welcomed and may be made at www.waidfuneral.com





ACROSS

3. Suit that resembles a penguin
5. Disney's penguin movie, *Happy* _____
6. Move through water
8. Body of water
9. Dark color
10. Arm-like appendages
12. Largest type of penguin
13. Bird bill
14. Feathered friend
15. Swaying walk
17. Penguins' favorite food
19. Plumage

DOWN

1. Continent with penguins
2. Penguins' sleeping spots
4. Penguin fat
7. Like penguin feet
11. Go downhill on stomach
15. Light color
16. Descend into the water
18. Frozen water