### NEWSLETTER FOR RESIDENTS AND FRIENDS FEBRUARY 2023

### t BELL TOWER RESIDENCE

2nd Groundhog's Day

3rd Go RED for Women Day

14th Valentine's Day

20th President's Day

21st FAT TUESDAY

22nd Ash Wednesday



Whether you love winter or feel like you could do without it, there is no getting around winter in Wisconsin as long as you're here. Winter gives us the chance to enjoy cold fresh air and beautiful snow, but it can also be challenging in many ways. There are a few ways you can help an older person or someone with dementia navigate safely through these colder months.

Stay warm, safely. Dressing in layers makes it easier to adjust to temperatures. Sweaters that can be put on or taken off going outdoors or in. Thermal layers such as "long underwear" provide an insulating layer outdoors or in a drafty room. Someone with dementia may not notice how temperature changes affect them. It is especially important to make sure they are dressed appropriately for weather.

Slips and falls can be catastrophic for the elderly. If they must go outside in slippery conditions, remind them to "walk like a penguin!" Small, careful, slow steps are best and use a cane and walker if needed.

Studies show the symptoms of Alzheimer's Disease and dementia may worsen in the winter or even present for the first time. Check frequently on your loved ones and don't "brush off" symptoms of memory loss or confusion. Be extra attentive to safety needs, making sure they are warm and not at risk for getting lost outside.

Have fun! Yes, we need to stay safe but the winters can get awfully long without some fun. When the roads are clear, take a drive, Visit old neighborhoods or favorite farms, drive through the parks, watch for wildlife. Deer and eagles are plentiful this time of year. Have a movie night or game night. Make some hot chocolate and popcorn and settle in for some favorites. Find ways to be social. Winter can be an especially trying time of the year and getting out to socialize is one way to beat the blues. Go to the Merrill Enrichment Center, church or out to dinner. For those at Bell Tower Residence, we keep up with our outings and activities all through the winter.

At Bell Tower Residence, we work hard to provide our residents with care for their unique needs while providing a warm and comfortable home. Our activities provide opportunity to meet new and old friends and make those winter days just a little warmer. Here's to our residents, families, staff and volunteers who make Bell Tower Residence such a wonderful place to be.

Kris McGarigle Administrator

5th—Sam B.

5th—Angel F.

6th—Nicole G.

8th—Tammy H.

15th—Morgan W,

23rd—Tracy H.

27th—Paula S.

### BELL TOWER RESIDENCE



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years—Paige H.





Alan Parsons, PCW



American Heart Association. The American Heart

Association's signature women's initiative, Go Red for Women, is a comprehensive platform designed to increase women's heart health

for women, heart health

awareness and

serve as a catalyst for change to improve the lives of women globally.

It's no longer just about wearing red; it's no longer just about sharing heart health facts. It's about all women making a commitment to stand together with Go Red and taking charge of their own heart health as well as the health of those they can't bear to live without. Making a commitment to your health isn't something you have to do alone either, so grab a friend or a family member and Go Red with us by wearing red clothing on Friday, February 3rd at Bell Tower!







Donna Jaeger, CNA Cindy Ducharme, PCW

# VALENTINE'S DAY LUNCHEON

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH AT NOON IN ASSISI HALL

## LIVE MUSIC WITH CARL JACKSON FROM 12-2

PRIME RIB CARVING STATION SALAD BAR BAKED POTATO STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE

Please note this luncheon will take place of the noon meal and is open to residents only.



4th—Arliss K. 13th—Betty H. 15th—Norma H. 17th—Joe Z. 25th—Lorraine R. RESIDENCE 1 year—Totsy K. year—S. Mary Angela 2 years—Joyce W. 3 years—S. Joelle 3 years—Tom L. 6 years—Charlette S. 7 years—Kathy S.



## JOYLYN MEYER

Joylyn 'Joy' K. Meyer, age 74, of Merrill, passed away peacefully on Friday, January 6, 2023, at Bell Tower Residence in Merrill, while under the care of Aspirus Comfort Care & Hospice Services. She was born on June 12, 1948, to the late Alfred E. and Elaine M. (Kohnke) Boettcher in Merrill, WI. Joy attended and graduated from Merrill High School with the class of 1966. She had worked at Church Mutual Insurance Company in Merrill, as well as Merrill Area Public Schools as a secretary before her retirement. Joy was a lifelong member at St. Stephen's United Church of Christ in Merrill, serving on the church council as a past president and a member of the choir, as Joy was passionate about singing. She is remembered as a wonderful wife and mother and will be missed by many.

Joy is survived by her husband: David Meyer, sons: Jody of Merrill, Jeremie (Michelle) Meyer of Oconto Falls, granddaughter: Julia (Bryce) Meyer of De Pere, great granddaughter: Amelia, step-granddaughter: Ashley, step-grandson: Brandon, sister: Sandra Prueser and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents and infant son: Jonathan.

The family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the staff at Bell Tower Residence and Aspirus Comfort Care & Hospice Services for their support, care and love shown to Joy and her family. In loving memory of Mary Lou Milner

Mary Lou "Mernie" Milner, age 96, passed away on Wednesday, December 14, 2022, while residing at Bell Tower Residence, surrounded by her loving family and under the care of Aspirus Comfort Care & Hospice Services. Mary Lou was the oldest of 4 children born to the late Ray A. and Helene C. (Wyss) Galipeau on December 1, 1926, in Merrill. She married her first husband, Donald Lambrecht on September 5, 1946, and divorced before he passed away on September 5, 1975. She then met Albert Milner and exchanged marriage vows on June 28, 1980. They enjoyed being snowbirds together, and went to La Feria, TX for 12 winters. Sadly, he passed away on July 28, 2012. Mary Lou worked as a telephone operator in her earlier years, before becoming a lead bookkeeper at Merrill Federal Savings and Loan for 20 years, until her retirement in 1984. She was always a very organized and neat lady. Mary Lou was an avid bowler to say the least! Her family was made up of bowlers and she was able to teach her children the skill. She was on a variety of leagues and participated in the Channel 7 Pin Busters Tournaments. Mary Lou looked forward to her time spent at the cottage on Long Lake in Weyerhaeuser, WI, a place close to her heart. She was very devoted to her family and was a woman of strong Catholic faith, consistently saying her Rosary. She was talented with needlework, as well as painting ceramics. Mary Lou was an incredible cook and baker and would enjoy hosting family events where she was able to make her delicious meals. She always had a smile on her face when her family was around, they were the light of her life. Mary Lou will always be in the hearts and minds of her family and friends.

Mary Lou leaves behind her children: James (Diane) Lambrecht of Jenison, MI, Mary (Gary Dengel) Cota of Wausau, WI and Karen Mootz of Wausau, WI, grandchildren, whom she adored: Jennifer Wehr of Turner, OR, with her daughters: Delaney and Cassandra, Tony (Leah) Mootz of Duluth, MN, with their son: Davin, Gregory (Jenna Krueger) Cota of Whitefish Bay, WI and Miranda Mootz of Minnetonka, MN, step-daughter: Patricia (Jack) Jackson of Wausau, WI, step-son: Donald Milner of Eau Claire, WI, step-grandchildren: Christie & Rob Peterson, Alissa & Brian Burnside, Coty Sedgwick, Kale & Morgan Greig and Keisha Jackson, sister-in-law: Pennie Beyea, brother-in-law: W. Dan Zimmerman, as well as many nieces, nephews and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents, husbands: Donald Lambrecht and Albert Milner, siblings: Betty (Norman) Skare, Loretta Zimmerman, and Ray (Lois) Galipeau Jr., son-in-law: Daniel Mootz and granddaughter: Melissa Cota.

In lieu of flowers, family requests that donations be directed towards the Bell Tower Residence Activity Fund. Family wishes to extend their sincere appreciation to the incredible Bell Tower Memory Care staff for their kindness and care shown to Mary Lou and her family during her stay there.

Wangu

Nancy L. (Strobel) Natzke, age 85, of Merrill, passed away peacefully surrounded by family on Tuesday, December 20, 2022, at Bell Tower Residence. Nancy was born in Merrill on January 13, 1937, to Edward and Nettie (Mathison) Strobel. She graduated from St. John Elementary School and Merrill High School with the Class of 1955. After high school, she furthered her education at the Lincoln County Teacher's College and graduated in 1958. She taught at many schools over her career. On June 20, 1959, Nancy was united in marriage to Jerry Natzke at St. John Lutheran Church in Merrill. After their wedding, they moved to Milwaukee and started their family. They lived in southeastern Wisconsin for 35 years, before returning to Merrill in 1995. As a young girl, Nancy enjoyed swimming and skating. She had a love of music throughout her entire life, including drums, playing piano, and singing in church choirs. She enjoyed many different sports – softball, bowling, and golf, and was an avid Packers fan. She enjoyed the outdoors, especially camping with her family and snowmobiling and ATV'ing on her own machines. Nancy had a great love for animals, especially her many dogs and horses. She volunteered at the School Forest, Reading Buddies, and Bell Tower. Nancy is survived by her husband, Jerry; children, Jeffry (Laurie) Natzke, Juli Natzke, Jodi Natzke, and Joel Natzke; grandchildren, David (See) Natzke, Bryan Hoerning, Marc (Lauren) Leitner, Erin (Cody) Wedde, and Abigail Natzke; great-grandchildren, Kenleigh, Joanna, Evan, Greg, Raven, Jacob, Eli, Emma, and Liam; brother-in-law, George (Nancy) Natzke; sisters-inlaw, Carol (Greg) Zoellner and Sandra Hamlin; and other relatives and friends. Nancy was preceded in death by her infant daughter; grandson, Jason Hannon; parents, Ed and Nettie Strobel; sister, Mardelle (Larry) Dotter; in-laws, George and Myrtle (Henson) Natzke; brother-in-law, Jim (Bonnie) Natzke; and nephew, Jay Natzke.

Nancy's family would like to thank the staff at Bell Tower for the tremendous care and support they have provided to Nancy and the entire family over the past eight years.



In loving memory of ola Peroutka

Lola Erma Peroutka, age 93, of Merrill, Wisconsin, formerly of Rhinelander, died on January 11, 2023, in Merrill. She was born on July 8, 1929 in Cable, Wisconsin the daughter of Emil and Pansy (McMillan) Radloff. She was raised in Cable and attended schools there graduating from the Cable High School in 1947. On October 18, 1952 she married Daniel Peroutka and they were blessed with nearly 55 years of marriage. Daniel preceded her in death on February 3, 2007.

After their marriage they lived in Eau Claire, Wisconsin until moving to Rhinelander in 1961 where she has lived since. Lola was a quiet lady who loved her Lord and her family. She was a member of the St. Mark Lutheran Church and she enjoyed gardening.

Lola is survived by her daughter Kathy (Ralph) Chavez, her sons Michael (Donna) Peroutka and Gary (Ann) Peroutka, her grandchildren Jason Peroutka, Andrea (Craig) Weber, Katelyn and Benjamin Peroutka, Cody, Samantha, Tyler (Jacci) and Kyle (Heidi) Chavez, her great grandchildren Evelyn, Isabella, Parker, Taylor, Maddy, Gage and Brooklynn, nieces, nephews, other family and friends. In addition to her husband she was also preceded in death by her parents, her sister Lily and her brothers Frank, Bernard and Paul.



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Set on 12 beautifully landscaped acres with over 68,000 square feet of living and common spaces, Bell Tower is a friendly assisted living community where residents feel at home and live life well with purpose and dignity. We offer private apartments, religious services, activities, outings, delicious home-cooked meals and our caring and compassionate staff are always nearby to help.

For more information or to schedule a tour, please reach out to our Admissions Coordinator, Mikaela Meier.

Phone: 715-536-5575



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