

Celebrating

September

3rd—9th

National

Housekeeper's

Week

4th

Labor Day

10th

**Grandparent's** 

**Day Social at Bell** 

**Tower Residence** 

10th-16th

National Assisted

Living Week

23rd

Walk to End

Alzheimer's at

Marathon Park in

Wausau

## SEPTEMBER 2023

A NEWSLETTER FOR RESIDENTS AND FRIENDS at BELL TOWER RESIDENCE

# A Season of Reflection

Reflections. When I think of reflections, I think of the sky and the clouds echoed in the water beneath. I think of quiet moments lost in thought, reflecting on the path down which life has taken me. I think of the reflection as I look in the mirror and see my own eyes looking back, wondering what others see as they look at me. Reflections. Looking back, looking forward, images of what is or what has been.

September 10-16, 2023, we celebrate National Assisted Living Week, with the theme being, "Season of Reflection." As we begin our week with a Grandparents' Day celebration, we look forward to hearing the stories that the elders share with the young. Amidst popcorn, music and a petting zoo, we know new memories will be made, to be reflected upon for years to come.

No matter what stage of life you are in, whether the mind is sharp or the edges have started to blur, take a moment in September to reflect. Reflecting shows us where we've been, the persons we once were, and still are deep inside. Reflecting guides us to look ahead as the memories and lessons from the past show us the way to go. Reflecting brings order to what can be a confusing time. Stories of childhood, first loves and families. The touch of favorite clothing, familiar voices that reassure us.

At Bell Tower Residence, we take a special moment to consider this season of reflection in the many blessings we have through our staff, residents, families and volunteers. Relationships that span years and decades, generous hearts, hard-working hands, joyful and thankful smiles—all looking back at us. Our "Bell Tower Family" truly is a reflection of all we are.

Kris McGarigle Administrator

## Staff Birthdays

3rd—Jamie H. 11th—Dawn I. 25th—Alysian K. 30th—Lori A.



# BELI RESIDENCE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23RD MARATHON PARK IN WAUSAU **EVENT OPENS AT 8:30AM OPENING CEREMONY AT 9:40AM** WALK STARTS AT 10:00AM

REGISTER VIA THE QR CODE BELOW OR WITH A PAPER REGISTRATION FORM FOUND ON THE CNA TASKFORCE BOARD IN THE BELL TOWER LOBBY

FOR MORE INFORMATION **CALL ALLISON** 715-539-1403

Staff

Anniversaries 1 year—Akeela C. 2 years—Tracy H. 2 years—Delainy F. 2 years—Journey B. 4 years—Linda P. 16 years—Arick B.

# Welcome to Bell Tower!



Colleen B. PCW



## JOIN THE BELL TOWER TEAM IN THE WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S!





# GRANDPARENTS DAY SOCIAL



PRESENTED BY BELL TOWER RESIDENCE A KICK OFF TO NATIONAL ASSISTED LIVING WEEK

> JOIN US FOR LIVE MUSIC WITH THE JIM PEKOL BAND & A PETTING ZOO FROM GRAMPA'S FARM

> > 1500 O'DAY STREET **MERRILL, WI 54452**

# SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH

**1PM TO 3PM** 



### Resident Birthdays

22nd—Nancy C. 22nd—Leory O. 22nd—Mary W. 25th—Florence J.

Resident Anniversaries

RESIDENCE

2 years—Ruth S. 8 years—Judy C.

# Improving Connections With Your Loved Ones Using Technology You Already Have.



Thanks to the generous efforts of Paul Grinde of Antiao, residents of Bell Tower and their families will have the option to connect via video chat on the Amazon Echo 5 Devices. These devices were provided to Bell Tower during the Covid 19 Pandemic to allow residents to visit with their loved ones during the visitation restrictions. Now that the pandemic has ended, these Amazon Echo devices are serving a new purpose in assisting residents with physical and cognitive impairments who struggle to answer the phone stay connected to their loved ones. The Amazon Echo Devices are about the size of a smart phone, and allow family & friends to "drop in" and video chat with their resident without them having to pick up the phone. Don't wait until communication becomes an issue, visit with your loved one regularly with the assistance of these wonderful devices!

One family of A Bell Tower resident shares their experience with the device.....

"Our family loves having use of the Echo 5 at Bell Tower. It's been wonderful to have the option to visit with Dad in such an easy way! We used to do video calls on the computer, which was great, but a bit more complicated for everyone to set up and use. The "Echo Box", as we call it, is as simple as initiating a call from a family member's tablet or phone, and all Dad has to do is talk with us. He's much happier when he can see us on the box versus just talking on the phone and the audio quality is very good. We are so very grateful to Paul for providing this technology to Bell Tower. It has been a blessing in so many ways – a true "game changer" for family communications!"

For more information on these devices, or to set one up, please contact Allison, Director of Life Enrichment at 715-539-1403 or afierek@carriagehealthcare.com.



Mark James Weix Sr., age 82, of Merrill, passed into eternal rest from natural causes on Friday, July 21, 2023 at Bell Tower Residence, where he and his wife, Betty, resided. Mark was born on August 23, 1940 to the late Emil and Kathleen (O'Malley) Weix in Medford, WI. He married the love of his life, Betty Schewe, on June 10, 1961, at St. Roberts Catholic Church in Merrill.

In his youth, Mark enjoyed participating in sports, hockey, football and baseball. The highlight of his youth sports participation was having attained Wisconsin All State Football Guard from Merrill High School. He attended and graduated from Merrill High School with the class of 1958. As the years passed, he enjoyed coaching Merrill youth and his sons in Merrill Youth Tackle Football. He later went on to enjoy seeing his sons participate in the sports he loved and supported the booster clubs for wrestling and football. Mark was an active member of the Silver M Club. achieving a Golden M. He relished knowing each of his seven sons are or would become a member of the Silver M Club. Fishing, hunting and teaching his children to enjoy the outdoors and planning summer vacations all over the United States kept him busy. He looked forward to his hunting trips to Montana with the Waids and going to the hunting shack, the "Newood Hilton".

Mark grew up in the canning business, with his father's business being the Oconomowoc Canning Company. He would take his family to visit the many canneries throughout Wisconsin. Mark worked up to three jobs to support his growing family. During his working career, he took great pride in working from a bank teller to a vice president of a bank. Mark would take tremendous joy in being able to help people make wise investments, obtain loans and give financial advice. He was employed at Citizens American Bank, M&I Bank and retired from River Valley State Bank.

Mark was a member of St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church and participated in various community volunteer clubs including the JC's. Optimist, Knights of Columbus and the Silver M Club. He also enjoyed his time at the Waid Funeral Home coffee clutch. Mark looked forward to his regular "drive-by's" of his children's homes!

Mark loved his family, and was very proud that each of his ten children had graduated from college and had a degree. He had a deep commitment to his catholic faith, and was a fierce supporter of the Merrill community. He was a fun-loving and supportive man that will be missed by family and friends.



# SIERRA MOORE CULINARY AIDE



"SIERRA GOES ABOVE AND BEYOND HER OWN DIETARY DUTIES AND CONSISTENTLY EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS WITH HER CHEERFULNESS. COMPASSION AND RESPECT FOR THE ELDERS UNDER OUR CARE. SHE NOT ONLY TAKES PRIDE IN HER WORK BUT WILL ALWAYS ENGAGE IN CONVERSATION WITH OUR RESIDENTS. SHE STEPS IN TO HELP WHENEVER NEEDED AND IS A VALUABLE ASSET TO BELL TOWER RESIDENCE.

-BECCA RASMUSSEN, CNA

August 23, 1940 – July 21, 2023



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.

1500 O'Day Street Merrill, WI 54452 715-536-5575 info@belltowerresidence.com

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

### Phone: 715-536-5575

Email:mmeier@carriagehealthcare.com



