

# Village Voice

January Quarterly 2021

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I hope everyone enjoyed the holiday season and was still able to find joy in different ways than years past. I have been worried about my daughters and them missing out of childhood memories of the holidays with all the COVID changes. However, per usual I worry for nothing, as they both told me Christmas morning, "This is the best Christmas ever!"

The hot topic everywhere right now is the COVID-19 vaccine. Valley View Village and Cassia have taken a pro stance on the vaccine. We recommend that everyone do their due diligence to promote safety and health and get the vaccine. Valley View Village is fortunate that the state and federal government will be providing the health center and assisted living residents/staff with the first dose of the vaccine on January 10th. If you or your loved one does not reside in the health center or in assisted living, and would like to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, please reach out to your primary care physician. The vaccines are not something that we are able to order or purchase at this time. They are currently being administered through government contracted pharmacies.

Our health center was recognized by Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for exceptional infection control procedures during the pandemic. The health center also had three infection control focused surveys through the state of Iowa during this time, and was found to have no deficiencies or concerns each time. I am so proud and thankful for our staff in the health center and the assisted living. Their dedication to follow the rules and keep everyone safe is why we have fared so well during this pandemic. If you see any one of them, please thank them. They deserve it.

Here's hoping that 2021 is far better than 2020! Check out my article in Iowa Living magazine for some obtainable goals for this next year. We look forward to coming together again as a community!

God Bless,

Stephanie Proper

Executive Director/Administrator



Happy New Year from my family to yours!  
Stephanie, Rob, Isabelle, and Lily

Happy New Year!  
Alexis & Ellie Grace  
My first grandbaby!



HAPPY  
New  
YEAR



## **WELCOME New Tenants!**

Charlotte Decker– 1C  
Nancy Tull– 1D  
Jeffrey Decker– 2C  
Bill Adams– 3D  
Craig & Mary Burton– 15C  
Bud & Janice Collins– 17B  
Bill & Linda Callison– 21B

Ray & Barb Bettis– 108A  
Patrick & Sandra Luft– 303A

Tom Crosier– AL-1408  
Bertha Heathcote– AL-1412  
Adele Smith– AL-2405  
Joan Evans– AL-3412

**Whew! We have been busy!**



## **Happy December Birthdays!**

*Birthstone: Turquoise  
Flower: Holly*

**Thank You**  
Leo & Marguerite Renaud  
for our beautiful  
2021 Calendars!

**Thank You!**



**Happy 102nd Birthday, Helen!**

## **Independent Living vs. Assisted Living**

We frequently have questions come in regarding services offered. At this time, this is a snapshot of services available to each level.

### **Independent and Assisted Living Offer**

- Maintenance Free Living
- Utilities Included (electric, water, trash)
- Lawn Care
- Transportation available for shopping
- Community wide Chapel service– when able
- Community events– when able
- Pet friendly
- Access to skilled/rehab care/physical therapy
- Meals– Plans available for IL & Meals included in AL

Valley View Village does not offer catered or enhanced style support services for our independent living community. We do support, value, and respect your full independence and ability to manage every day living. There are many non-medical home health agencies in the area that can assist with almost all of your daily needs, so you can remain independent in your apartment as long as possible. You have freedom of choice to use these agencies and self manage these services.

As a reminder, if you are having any issues or concerns, management will address them with the parties listed on the lease. Valley View staff are not allowed to help IL tenants up from a fall. We also do not offer wellness checks. 911 or non-emergency must be called in these situations.

### **Assisted Living Offers**

- Independent living apartments with in-house support services– if needed
- Personalized service plans– not everyone requires, needs, or wants daily services. Assisted Living tenants are still independent.
- Emergency response pendant
- Package delivery to your door
- Wellness checks- if requested
- Social/Emotional support– group or one on one activities
- State regulated care guidelines for your safety and security
- Light weekly housekeeping included
- 3 meals per day with social opportunities– when able
- Coordination of care with your medical team– if needed
- Medication management services– if needed
- Assistance after a fall
- Assistance with health emergencies
- Technology assistance– within limits
- Part time or intermittent care– if needed

If you would like to see a full packet of everything offered at Assisted Living, please request a tour packet from the front office or call Alexis at 299-1740.

## **Friends as Neighbors!**

Our referral credit promotion is still on! Did you know you can receive \$1,000 for your referral to Valley View Village? It is ok to toot your own horn and reach out to me if you are sending a potential tenant our way. If your referred friend/family member signs a lease and moves in, you will receive \$500 their 3rd month and \$500 their 6th month of living here! A referral form must be completed.

**Call Alexis with questions! 299-1740**





Every person's life has an interesting story to tell or a song to sing. Valley View Village is full of such people! What follows is a brief summary of the interesting life song of Valley View resident, Harriett Burns. Harriett, now 92, was born on a farm two miles north of Wellsburg, Ia and is the youngest of eight children, and the last surviving sibling.

She attended both elementary and secondary school in Wellsburg. When Harriett was 17, she began working as a bookkeeper for a local implement store. That same year, her good friend talked her into going on a blind (for her and her soon to be husband) double date and was married later that same year to John for 35 years.

In 1964 Harriett and John opened Burns Grocery, better known as "Little John's Superette" by locals, in Steamboat Rock, raising three daughters along the way. Sarah, Rosie, and Mykle (who lives just three blocks from Valley View) keep her well supplied with sweets and visits during normal times! When her husband John passed at the young age of 58 in 1981, Harriett kept the store running for another 10 years before deciding that she was ready for a new chapter to begin.

Thus began a new season in Harriett's life. Harriett had friends who had worked at Yellowstone Park for several years and talked about what a joy it was to work there. So, she decided to give it a go and for the next 20 years she would live and work at the Yellowstone Lake Hotel in Yellowstone National Park between Memorial Day and Labor Day, while residing at her home in Iowa during the offseason.

She began working as a maid, but was soon promoted to porter. She insists that this "promotion" was due to the fact that she could never figure out the correct way to make the beds. As a porter, she tended to the needs of the clientele. At this time, there were no phones in the rooms so messages had to be hand delivered. She also worked as a waitress in the hotel restaurant which overlooked majestic Yellowstone Lake. She loved it! "It was so beautiful...just lovely," she says. She used to enjoy sitting in the ballroom listening to the string quartet play into the night. Over the years, she has met the King and Queen of Norway, Jimmy Carter, and others of note.

Harriett and her husband were long time members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church located two miles northeast of Wellsburg. She keeps a beautiful snowy-night picture of this church front and center in her room. Harriett deeply loves, and is very proud of her church. And for good reason! Her great, great uncle donated the land on which the building now stands, after returning from the Civil War in 1865. Previously the church folks had moved from house to house. This church is where Harriett was baptized, confirmed, married, taught children's SS and served on the Church Council. Buildings can hold very special memories indeed! They may be constructed with bricks, wood, plaster, and glass but the memories are indestructible.

Harriett is a bird lover extraordinaire! The walls of her room are filled with pictures of birds, common and rare alike. She keeps a detailed diary of the numbers and species of birds that she has seen over the years and is always eager to talk about ornithology.

Here are some beautiful photos of Harriet Burns, a kind, hospitable and interesting Valley View treasure, whose song and story continues its melodious tune. - **Chaplain Mike Evans**





