



Eye on Evergreen

Conversations with your friends and neighbors

Vol. 5 No. 14 March/April 2025

April Showers
Bring May Flowers..
....and More!



**THANK YOU
VOLUNTEERS**

Volunteer Appreciation
Week April 20-26



SAFETY FIRST: SEVERE WEATHER

Independent Living Severe Weather Alerts Procedure

Do You Know What To Do?



Severe weather season is around the corner. Time to make sure you have your Evergreen-issued weather alert radio and battery powered lantern handy. If you do not have either or both of these items, you can submit a maintenance request through Resident and Guest Services (920-233-2340), or the WorkHub found in the Resident Portal.

TORNADO WATCH/WEATHER ALERT

When the National Weather Service detects an area where conditions are right for a tornado, it issues a **TORNADO WATCH**. At Evergreen this is announced as a **WEATHER ALERT**. Although a tornado can strike without warning, normally several hours elapse between an **ALERT** and the time the storm reaches the area. Please follow these procedures during an **ALERT**:

- Have your weather alert radio on or keep tuned to a local radio or TV station.
- Have blankets, flashlights or Evergreen-issued lantern ready for use.
- Close all windows/drapes/blinds in your unit/apartment and remove items on window sills that could become airborne. Make sure to lock windows.
- Stay away from windows as much as possible.
- Put sharp objects and glass items in a safe place where they cannot be dangerous in case of high winds.
- Be prepared to go to the nearest designated Shelter Area if a **WARNING** is announced. (See Tornado Warning Section below for list of Shelter Areas)

TORNADO WARNING

This means a tornado has been sighted in the area and you need to go to the nearest Shelter Area immediately! **Shelter areas are Located:**

MANOR BUILDING – Lower level spaces such as lowest section of stairwells, restrooms, Behnke Center or any interior room with no windows.

COURTYARD APARTMENTS – Lower level spaces such as lowest section of stairwells, underground parking and storage areas, first floor storage spaces or public restrooms, or any interior room with no windows.

EVERGREEN HOMES – An interior space away from windows in your home, or a Shelter Area in the Manor Building.

EVERGREEN VILLAGE – An interior space away from windows in your home, or a Shelter Area in the Manor Building.



If you are in any other area of Evergreen and hear a **WEATHER ALERT**, take cover away from windows and in an interior space. If you happen to be outdoors and hear the tornado siren, go as quickly as possible to the nearest Shelter Area, unless it is the weekly test on Saturdays at noon.

Campus Notes

In mid-March the landscape around Evergreen remains dormant with brownish yellow patches of grass, barren beds, and stark black tree silhouettes against the sky. The February snow and heavy mixed precipitation in early March are still soaking into the ground while temperatures are gyrating back and forth between melting and freezing.

Still, the mallards are happy to find open water again, as the first robins and red winged blackbirds are arriving. And although our surroundings may appear empty and sad, new life is getting ready to spring forth in sheltered spots. A careful look reveals bulb plants breaking through the dark soil, bearing the promise of Spring bloom.

On a dark day in early March, a delegation of the Grounds Committee met with two representatives of the Audubon Society to survey the conditions of our existing nesting boxes for wood ducks, small songbirds, and owls in our Oak Savanna. Since the woods are currently bare of undergrowth, it was an ideal time for such an inspection. Some boxes need repairs, while others will have to be replaced. We also looked for additional spots that might be suitable as nesting sites. Regarding the best locations for waterbird boxes or measures for keeping predators away, we profited greatly from the Audubon ladies' expertise.

To enhance our woods as a bird habitat, our committee has already placed three new boxes in the Oak Savanna and is planning to add more shortly. Being a rare ecological island amid a densely populated area, the Oak Savanna is a sanctuary of peace and reflection, and hopefully an attractive home for more of our feathered friends.

Soon the daffodils and other ephemerals will be pushing up among the tall trees in the Oak Savanna, reminding us of the annual rebirth of our natural world. We are thankful for Evergreen's silvan surroundings which keep us in touch with the rhythm of seasons, and ultimately with the rhythm of life.



Dogwoods



River




Bird House



First Growth

-Barbara B.

Just for Fun: Can you find the “Eye” on Evergreen? In each issue of “Eye On Evergreen,” an eye is hidden somewhere. Can you find it?  **Happy Hunting!**

COLLECTIONS & TREASURES

Courtyard resident Barbi McPhee didn't so much collect her beautiful rosemaling pieces as receive them. Her son, a professor at the University of Minnesota, and his wife, a metalwork artist, live in an area where many Norwegians and other Scandinavians settled in the late 1800's. As a result, Norwegian folk art that makes a perfect gift and can be readily found. After she received her first rosemaled gift, Barbi, an artist in her own right, developed an affinity for these designs. She loved their flow and the joy they reflect.



Greta Aberg and Barbi McPhee

Rosemaling is a Norwegian word that literally means “rose painting”. It began in Norway in the 1700's as a rural response to the highly decorated Baroque or Rococo styles of decorating popular with the upper classes in the cities. Rural people wanted the status of painted objects in their homes, too. Rosemaling is done on wood. Motifs are stylized, either symmetrical or asymmetrical. Florals are incorporated in many designs, not all roses.

Barbi now has five pieces in her collection, all received as gifts from her family and on display in the Isom Fireside Lounge near the Door 1 entrance.

Barbi, a native of San Marino, CA, spent much of her adult life in Houston, TX. Her late husband Clyde, a mechanical engineer, worked there as a plant manager at Gates Rubber Company. Barbi stayed home to raise their children, was an active community volunteer and pursued her own artistic interests, especially fine needlework and quilted creations. The McPhees retired to Arkansas, where Clyde pursued his passions of fishing and modern jazz. Happily for the latter, their home was near Bentonville, where Walmart's Walton family heavily invested in the city's cultural offerings, attracting top jazz and other musicians. After Clyde died, Barbi's children urged her to move to a smaller place close to one of them. Her daughter Misty, a professor of conservation biology at UW-Oshkosh, checked out and then recommended Evergreen. She moved first into an Evergreen Home about five years ago and now lives in the Courtyard.

Sharing the display case are items loaned by, and in some instances painted by, Manor North resident Greta Aberg. Greta is full Norwegian on her father's side and part Norwegian on her mother's side. She said she was raised with rosemaled items around her. They were treasured gifts among family members for special occasions like weddings, christenings, etc. She cherishes such a gift, received when she and her first husband, who died at a young age, married in 1958. When she remarried, her second husband was also Norwegian, and they had the pleasure of travel to Norway, Sweden and Denmark in 1999. They also visited Norwegian cultural celebrations in his hometown, Decorah IA, as well as Stoughton WI, at which she picked up rosemaled items. Some were found in thrift shops.

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COLLECTIONS & TREASURES cont.



Greta is artistic and took a two-year course in the art of rosemaling. She learned about the different styles of design and importance of the antique red, blue and other colors traditionally used. Now, she says, different artists have used a less traditional approach, incorporating brighter hues. Some of her pieces are included in the Evergreen display. A favorite piece, on her living room wall, was too large to display but is shown here. Greta commented on the steadiness of hand needed to paint the long swooping curves of the design, which is now beyond her body's ability.

Thank you, Barbi and Greta, for sharing your collections with us!

-Alyson Z.

Writer's Group

Several years back, we had a FANTASTIC idea! We decided to organize a "Writing Group" for Evergreen Residents. This is a group that meets the **3rd Monday of every month at 1:00 P.M. in the Garden Terrace Lounge** (up the ramp from the GardenSide Dining room).

We are a congenial bunch who get together to share our thoughts, stories, memories, and/or anything we would like to write down. It is led by Edie Norenberg and often she guides us with a writing prompt for inspiration. There is **NO** expectation of epic poetry or the great American novel, but of course... who knows? Every meeting is mind stirring, fun and full of discussion. Please join us, won't you? You can find our stories in multiple binders located in the Thomas Neta Library. Please feel free to read some of them! Don't forget to check out one of the many autobiographies written by Evergreen residents as well. All are interesting and worth the read.



-Edie N.

Any questions, contact Edie Norenberg @ (920) 237-6221

**Write it on your calendar,
Or write it on your shoe, but,
don't forget to be there, we'll save a seat for you!**

THIS AND THAT

Library Books and Manila Envelopes

Did you know that the manila envelopes used for library books are reused? If they are in good shape, please return them so they can be used again. These manila envelopes can be returned to the orange cart or Resident and Guest Services.

The Paine

One of many treasures found in Oshkosh is the Paine Art Center and Gardens, located at 1410 Algoma Boulevard. Spring is springing and flowers are blooming, a perfect time to visit the Paine. Not a member? Did you know you can receive two free passes per accommodation from Resident and Guest Services? A pass is necessary to enter and enjoy the Paine. Just one of many perks of living at Evergreen!



Resident's Council

Do you have the second Monday of the month, 9:30 AM on your calendar? If not, please make note of this very important meeting of the Residents' Council. What? And Why?" you may ask. This is where residents learn about what is going on at Evergreen – such as: a review of previous month's meeting, Treasurer's report, various committee reports, the Residents' Council President's report, and CEO Ken Arneson's report. Staff members may introduce themselves or news about their areas. Prior to each monthly meeting, residents receive an Agenda in their mailboxes. Please plan to attend and learn about what's going on in our community.

Work Orders

A reminder about submitting work orders: Resident & Guest Services staff can help you submit a work order, or show you how to get your own account to enter your work orders. Work orders are addressed on a first come first serve basis and by priority level – Emergency, Rapid and Regular. Please do not stop staff in hallways or call Maintenance directly. This only delays the work orders they have scheduled for the day. Questions? Call Resident & Guest Services at 920-233-2340.



Coming Attractions

Volunteer Appreciation

A note to the many volunteers at Evergreen, mark your calendar for the annual volunteer appreciation event scheduled on April 29th. Watch your mailboxes for more information.

Kentucky Derby

May 3rd is the Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs in Louisville. Can't make it there? Come celebrate in the festivities here at Evergreen. We'll begin by having a "Hat Making Event" on Thursday April 24th at 1:00P.M. You can create your very own hat to wear to our Kentucky Derby Event which is being held May 1st at 1:30 P.M. in our Behnke Center. Wear your hat (guys & gals) while sharing in the fun festivities! This is a first at Evergreen so you won't want to miss it!! May the best horse win!



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

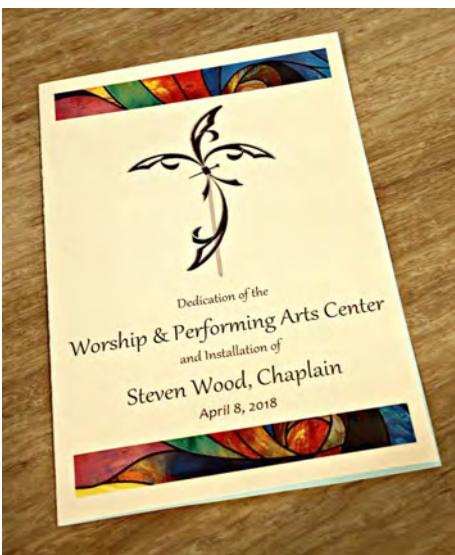


There is truth to the statement “Time flies” as I discovered looking through some old files. I came across the program for the Dedication of the Worship & Performing Arts Center and Installation of Steven Wood, Chaplain – April 8, 2018.

Some of us “old timer” residents may remember the W&PAC being under construction. Finally, the big day arrived to officially dedicate it, and meet, greet and install Pastor Steve Wood as our Chaplain.

Since then, the W&PAC has been re-named the Arline L. Sitter Worship & Performing Arts Center. We have access to worship services of various denominations, memorial services, funerals and weddings. We enjoy musical events, guest speakers, LIR programs, and so much more in this beautiful room with its lovely stained glass windows.

Congratulations, Pastor Steve! Thank you for serving Evergreen residents with religious services, prayers and comforting words when needed.



A VIEW FROM THE VILLAGE

The Village Annual Chili Lunch

On Tuesday February 25th, the residents of the 1000 building hosted the Annual Chili Lunch. This is an event that has been celebrated for many years and hosted by a variety of Village groups.

On this day, 35 very hungry residents entered the Behnke Center looking forward to a lovely lunch. Along with the chili, the menu included a fruit cup, corn bread with honey and a delicious lemon dessert. Available condiments were, cheese, sour cream, onions, and of course Wisconsin pasta. To add to the choices, Doug Austin, 1140 building, brought his famous Texas chili which means chili with NO BEANS. He was pleased that he had none to take home but did manage to taste a small cup for himself.

Many residents from the 1000 Building were helping out, serving beverages, offering seconds, and helping with the cleanup. Watching them work, you wouldn't think they were of "a certain age" as they were as nimble and quick as the Eveready Bunny, ready to help and ready to please. It was another very successful Village get together.



Chairpersons
Mary Weddig and Rachel Benton



Maribeth Nussbaumer, Joan Anthony, Doug Austin



A Buffet Style Lunch

Continued on next page...



A VIEW FROM THE VILLAGE cont.



Village Lunch at the Pizza Ranch

On Thursday March 20th Village and Homes residents were treated to an afternoon at the Pizza Ranch in Oshkosh. The event was hosted by Village Building 1080 residents and was the first off campus outing since September 2024. The weather was lovely for the first day of spring and 30 plus residents were present. Most everyone ordered the Senior buffet which included pizza of course, broasted chicken, and all of the available sides including salad, and garlic bread. The meal ended with sweet dessert pizzas and vanilla custard. Sunshine representative Meg Potempa (see picture) was in charge of planning the get together but stated that almost all of the 1080 residents were involved. It was a delightful early lunch and I had the best chicken I think I have ever had. Take-out is available but needs to be ordered since we were told that they do not take any food from the buffet table but make it all from scratch for each order. Their take-out chicken is surely on my list for a future dinner!! A good time was had by all.



**Meg Potempa,
Sunshine Representative
& Becky Black, Helper**



Joan Cason & Carol Jones



Rose Metz & Barbara Bowlus



-Vicki M.

What Are You Reading?

Ken Biendarra, a Courtyard resident, knew his late friend John Sheehy was a prolific reader, and asked him to recommend a historical novel. The response was “anything by Ken Follett.” Ken recalled that recommendation when he chose *Fall of Giants*, Follett, Ken. Dutton/Penguin Group NY 2010. It is Book One of Follett’s World War I “Century Trilogy.”



The book begins at the start of World War I with the assassination of Archduke Ferdinand of Austria. It follows five families in five countries, some of whose lives become intertwined, creating a complex narrative that can be a challenge to follow. Ken found parts of the book very scary and deeply moving. He noted that it is an “adult” novel, i.e. explicit when presenting romantic situations. He wouldn’t recommend it to a young person for that reason. In reading about the buildup to and start of World War I, Ken saw disturbing parallels to recent times, especially the history of the Jews in Europe.

Ken highly recommends the book for the serious reader, adding that it is easy to read. His takeaway from the book is that history is very interesting if one takes the time to dig into it, and that we learn about ourselves through history. He looks forward to reading *Winter of the World* and *Edge of Eternity*, which complete the trilogy.

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Courtyard resident **Jan Nash** is Chair of the Evergreen Neta Library Committee, and a retired librarian. She regularly scans book reviews looking for possible new Library additions, and last year spotted *After Oz*, McAlpine, Gordon. Crooked Lane Books, NY 2024. She thought the book – but another Oz retelling focused on what happened after Dorothy returned home to Kansas and told her conservative family and neighbors about a strange colorful land with talking creatures and flying monkeys – had a clever plot and put it on the Neta Library’s “Watch For” list. After Courtyard resident Susan Hegedus recently recommended it to her, the book moved to the “Wish List” and is now in the Neta Library. Jan followed Susan’s recommendation herself and read it.



Jan noted that since author Frank Baum published *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* in 1900, the story has fascinated our culture. She cited the 1939 classic *The Wizard of Oz* film starring Judy Garland and last year’s blockbuster *Wicked* as examples.



The book takes a turn after young Dorothy Gale, missing for four days after the tornado and found curled up with her dog Toto in a pumpkin patch, bursts into tears and says, “I didn’t mean to kill the witch. How could I know that water would make her melt!” Then a townswoman is found murdered, with her body looking melted because she was partially covered with lye. Dorothy is accused of the murder, changing the story to a mystery.

While Jan read *After Oz*, she was impressed by the imagination of the author and drawn in by the intrigue of the story. She said it keeps you guessing, and is full of twists, turns and surprises, including the ending. Jan strongly recommends the book.

-Alyson Z.

Home Cookin' at Evergreen!

The groundskeepers are busy working in the gardens of Evergreen, which will soon explode with color. Oh the tulips!! Spring is here! The fields will soon produce the fresh vegetables we so dearly love, one of the first being asparagus . How about using up some of that leftover Easter ham with these tender green spears to prepare a quiche?



Mike & Sue Fuller and Jeanette & Wayne Wallace

Mike & Sue Fuller and Wayne & Jeanette Wallace joined me as the taste testing team to sample this savory little pie. We enjoyed the sunny afternoon sharing the quiche as well as Sue's delicious coffee cake. We also learned a bit about each other's background. Mike worked as a food broker and, as a result, traveled extensively throughout the country, while Sue raised their 4 children. Wayne and Jeanette, originally from Nebraska, came to live and work in Oshkosh, Wayne as a professor in computer science, and Jeanette as preschool teacher. Everyone agreed the quiche recipe was worthy of inclusion in the Eye on Evergreen.

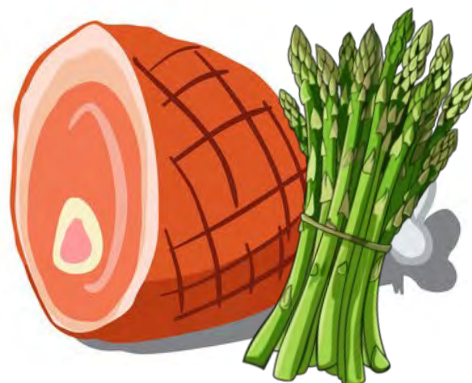
-Pat B.

Ham and Asparagus Quiche

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| 1 (9 inch) baked pie shell | $\frac{3}{4}$ cup half and half |
| 2 cups fresh asparagus tops (Cut into 1 inch pieces) | $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. nutmeg |
| $\frac{1}{2}$ cup diced deli ham | $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. onion powder |
| 1 cup shredded Gruyère cheese | $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. salt |
| 2 large eggs | $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp pepper |

Steam asparagus 2 to 3 minutes until just tender. **Do not overcook.** Sprinkle asparagus and ham over pie crust. Sprinkle cheese over top.

In a bowl, beat eggs, half and half, nutmeg onion powder, salt and pepper until well combined. Pour egg mixture over top of cheese. Bake in preheated 375 degree until filling is set, about 35 to 40 minutes. Cool on wire rack for 15 minutes before slicing.



2025 So Far: From Winter Wonders to Spring

