



Villa St Francis

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The Villa Voice
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Who we are

Villa St. Francis is a community-based residence which carries on the compassionate, 150-year tradition of the Felician Sisters. Within a friendly, caring and faith-centered environment, quality independent and assisted living and respite care are provided for seniors.

What we do

Villa St. Francis is recognized as a resource and advocate for seniors, their families and the community. Responsiveness to the needs of a changing population is a hallmark of our service and care.

Our Mission

Villa St. Francis is dedicated to providing quality, resident-focused living where dignity and self-worth are valued, lives are enriched and relationships are celebrated.

from the administrator

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter as the new Administrator of Villa St. Francis. I am honored and privileged to be able to continue the Felician Sisters' proud tradition of compassionate commitment to senior living and care giving.

This is a perfect time of the year to say "out with the old and in with the new" and a perfect time of the year to introduce our newsletter, *The Villa Voice*, to our friends and neighbors.

We hope this newsletter will provide tidbits of interest to senior adults and their families as well as **information** about what's happening here at the Villa.

Our residents have many compelling stories to tell and we'd like to share some of them with you.

You can also look forward to hearing about educational, informative and fun



events here at the Villa ranging from trends in healthy living to our annual ice cream social and holiday parties.

Our residents look forward to a healthy, productive and fun-filled 2006 and we all wish the same for you, your family and friends.

Sincerely,

Linda Krause
Villa St. Francis Administrator

down memory lane

Bill Haines is one of our newer residents and like most of us, has worked hard his whole life.

Bill was born and raised in farm country in Dobie, WI about six miles from Rice Lake where Bill's parents owned a farm. Bill worked on the farm along with his six brothers and sister and learned the value of hard work and sweat equity early in life.

As a teen, he helped construct barns in neighboring communities working long days without the aid of modern conveniences such as power tools or cement mixers. Bill says he can "credit my good health to the hard work I learned to do as a teen."

Saturday nights spent at several big dance halls in the area topped off his week.



Bill Haines of Villa St. Francis

Bill remembers Sunday as a day for church and playing ball with teams formed from surrounding communities.

Working continued to be important for Bill his entire life and he provided a good life for his wife, Verna and their three daughters, working many years at the Ladish Company in Cudahy, starting out in the heat treating and forge shop, eventually retiring as a supervisor in 1979.

news & views

Let's face it. Food is an important issue for most everyone and particularly for residents in a senior living community. Taste, flavor, texture, chew-ability, eye appeal and wholesomeness seem to be universal considerations.

At the Villa, our full-time registered dietician, Ruth Gilles, ensures that our residents' preferences as well as dietary constraints are addressed on a regular basis.

Ruth frequently reviews the menus offered. She confers with different groups of residents who provide their opinions and suggestions.

Resident committees frequently taste new foods and offer their comments and suggestions before Ruth introduces new menu items to all the residents.



The last taste testing in December featured three different types of tacos—hard-shelled, soft-shelled and pita bread tacos and the taste-testers gave them an enthusiastic thumbs-up. Resident tasters appreciated the “variety and the meat, sauce and cheese was tasty.”

Some had never sampled a taco before and reported “this is great.”

Residents enjoy their work on the taste testing committee saying, “It’s a good opportunity to try new things and have some real impact on our daily menu choices.”

profiles in caring

We are pleased to introduce Sr. Barbara Marie Brylka, our new, full-time pastoral minister. Sr. Barbara coordinates all of the many spiritual care services and programming offered here at the Villa. Her goal is to offer an important and continuing service to our residents and their families.

Sr. Barbara says, “I want our residents and their families to feel comfortable with me and to know and understand that I am here to serve them and their needs—from the social to the spiritual and everything else in between especially those issues involving change which can be a challenge for some people.”

Recognizing the need to be sensitive to the diversity of cultures and faiths in our community, she strives to put the aging process into a positive framework as a vital and vibrant part of the process of life.

Welcome Sr. Barbara.



Sr. Barbara Marie Brylka

the Villa's new look

At the top of the first page of this newsletter you may have noticed the Villa's new logo. The dove, a common symbolic element for the Felician Sisters and their ministries, represents the Holy Spirit and serves as a symbol of peace and transformation. The two doves nested together embody the formation of a home in the spirit of community and Villa St. Francis promotes the active lifestyle and engagement of our residents in a faith-based community.

Words of Wisdom

"Do not let what you cannot do interfere with what you can do."

*John Wooden
Basketball Coach*

Upcoming Events

*Please RSVP to
Karen at 649.2899*

Falls Prevention

Monday
January 9, 2006
2:00 – 3:00 pm
Villa St. Francis

Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group

Tuesday
January 17, 2006
7:00 – 8:00 pm

Stress Management

Friday
February 3, 2006
2:00 – 3:00 pm
Villa St. Francis

ID Theft

Tuesday
March 7, 2006
2:00 – 3:00 pm
Villa St. Francis

What they're saying

"Villa St. Francis is a great place and gives me first-class service. I'm so glad to be here."