

MIKE OOSTENDORP - EST II - 3048

by Bev Eckhoff

Mike was born in Luctor, Kansas. His education earned him his BA and MA degrees, and his occupation was teaching. Mike married Betty Triezenberg, who passed away in March of 2008. They had two children, Michelle Oostendorp and Natalie Bauman. They have neither grandchildren nor great grandchildren. Special interest includes sports, travel, gardening and building. Mike moved to Raybrook in consideration of his age and health, as well as to be near the children. Mike resides in Estates II, Apartment #3048.



ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS DAY, APRIL 23, 2025

by Nate Munn, Director of Estates & Homes

As the first faces greeting residents and families in the Estates Office and Health Centers, being a high-quality administrative assistant is not just about excellent customer service, impeccable organization, and proactive problem solving, it's about forming meaningful connections with those residents and families, accomplished with an unwavering willingness to assist them with a myriad of questions and requests. Raybrook's Estates and Homes are blessed with four such ladies who embody each one of these words, as well as Holland Home's mission day in and day out. Whether it's scheduling appointments /reservations, prioritizing health and wellness, or assisting with questions about technology and services, our administrative assistants serve with excellence and compassion and are truly a blessing to residents in Raybrook's Estates and Homes. They are:

- Danni Ortiz – Estates Office
- Renee Scheele – Estates Office
- Sam Faluso-Simon – Health Center
- Carissa Vugteveen – Vibrant Living



Please join me in expressing gratitude to and for our AA's on April 23, 2025!

NEW MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR

by Nate Munn, Director of Estates & Homes

Garren Carrel has transitioned on to different opportunities and is no longer Raybrook's Maintenance Supervisor. However, we are very pleased to announce that our own **Randy Tyler** has accepted the position! Randy has served at Holland Home for 20 years, including long stretches at both our Fulton and Raybrook Campuses, and is well-known from the connections he forms with both residents and staff through genuine warmth and humor. This quality, along with serving with excellence, resulted in Randy being recognized as Raybrook's Employee of the Year in 2024. Please join me in congratulating Randy on this well-deserved new position and wishing him the very best in his new role.



RAYBROOK LIFE

A Monthly Newsletter for Raybrook Estates & Homes
A Vibrant Way of Living

INSIDE THE ISSUE



APRIL 2025

PG 2
Fitness/
Volunteer Services/
Life Enrichment

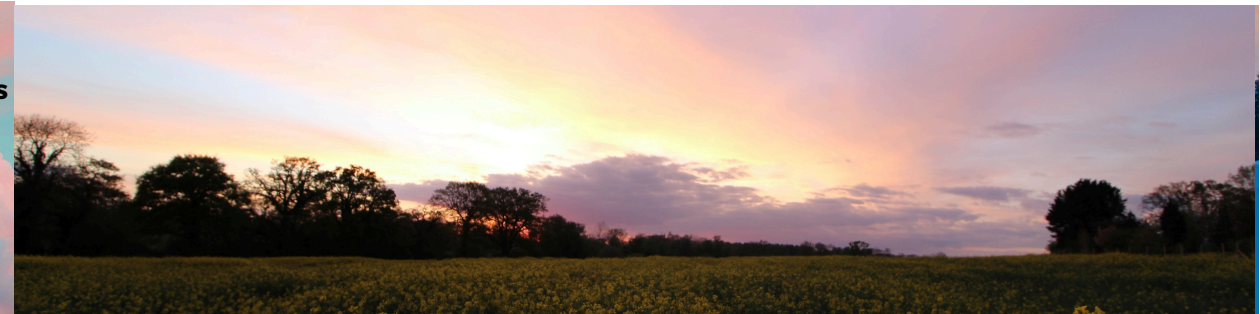
PG 3
Office/
Raybrook Purls

PG 4
Resident Stories

INSERT
None

**"This is the day
that the LORD has
made; let us
rejoice and be
glad in it!"**

Psalm 118:24



DEMENTIA INSTITUTE - SAVE THE DATE

Teepa Snow, world-renowned dementia expert, will be speaking on Navigating the Journey of Dementia on Thursday, May 29, 7 p.m., at the **Calvin University Covenant Fine Arts Center**. Holland Home's Dementia Institute is hosting her. **Attendance is free.**



A CARING THOUGHT

by The Raybrook Care Committee



What do we need when going through grief, anxiety about illness, worries about loved ones, or other difficult times? Do we need good advice about what to do? A Scripture passage of assurance? A sympathy card? A word of cheer? These actions do convey love and caring at appropriate times. Frequently what is most helpful when we're going through moments of pain and suffering is that someone is with us. Someone who is accepting, listening, and just there. At Raybrook we care about our neighbors, but we may often hesitate, asking "Of what use am I if I don't have advice or something to say?" In his book COMPASSION, Henri Nouwen reminds us that it's a mistaken notion in our society that to be "useful" we have to "do" something. Just being there and listening to someone is often very comforting. Although it may seem like you're not "doing anything," in fact, the result often is strengthening and healing for the other person. The RCC encourages you to listen and just be there for others. Also, if you would like someone to especially listen to you (confidentially) and to "walk alongside" you as you deal with a difficult challenge, feel free to contact one of us on the RCC. Look for our new brochure on each unit's bulletin board or contact Anamarie Joosse 616-942.8996.

CELEBRATING APRIL BIRTHDAYS!

<u>Estates I</u>	<u>Estates II</u>	<u>Estates II</u>	<u>Estates II</u>	<u>Estates III</u>	<u>Homes</u>
19 Wendy Huizinga	01 Jim Hoek	17 Doris Bates	26 John Natelborg	04 Al Mulder	03 Mary Ann Brassler
20 Phil Quist	07 Beth Hutchings	17 Mary Cremer	29 Barb Boersma	23 Kathy Loker	03 Karen Schuitema
28 Carolyn Meppelink	09 Amy Ritsema	17 Don VandenBerge	30 Pat Guikema	23 Lorry Tigchelaar	30 Wendy Blankespoor
	09 Lois Veldkamp	18 Carol Dalebout		29 Elizabeth Griffin	
	10 Marilyn Grant	19 Roger Boerema			
	13 Sid Greidanus	19 John VanderPloeg			
	16 Ethel Baum	20 Nancy Naber			

BUITEN WELLNESS CENTER

“PUMP IT FOR PARKINSONS”

April 10 in the Buiten Wellness Center



Get ready to lace up your sneakers and move with purpose to help raise awareness of the benefits of exercise for those living with Parkinson's disease. Come down to the Buiten Wellness Center anytime on Thursday, April 10, hop on one of the NuSteps, and record your steps on the provided sheet to help contribute to the nationwide goal of 25 million steps!

VOLUNTEER SERVICES

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

With the many events and activities that go on throughout campus, volunteers are needed. From concerts in the chapel, to bus trips to Meijer Garden, Special Event volunteers help residents from higher levels of care with fastening seatbelts and holding doors or finding seats and enjoying the music. This is a nice opportunity to pick and choose what you want to sign up for, and we are always looking for volunteers.

Another volunteer opportunity that is being explored is - the DeVos residents are looking for someone to lead a men's monthly Bible study. This is just once a month obligation and in a small group setting.

If either of these interests you, please contact Sharon VanDoorne at 616-235-5717 or email sharon.vandoorne@hollandhome.org.

LIFE ENRICHMENT

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

Game Nights in Estates I and Estates II - Have you joined one of the reoccurring resident-run game nights offered in both Estates I and Estates II? These nights include various games of interest to those attending. In Estates I, you can enjoy various games as well as Bingo on the first Friday of the month. In Estates II, you can enjoy various board AND/OR card games.

Estates I Club Room: Tuesdays and Fridays at 7:00pm

Estates II Gathering Place: Wednesdays at 7:00pm

(except for the 3rd Wed of each month when the monthly Hymn Sing takes place at the same space and time.)



IT'S TIME FOR GOLF

Join the fun and tee off with the Holland Home Resident Golf League starting **Tuesday, May 6** at The Pines Golf Course, 5050 Byron Center Ave, Wyoming, MI 49519. Open to women and men, the league plays a nine-hole, four-person scramble. Cost per person: \$24 (includes cart). Please arrive by 8:45 a.m. each Tuesday. **Golf every Tuesday from May 6 – September 16.**

Contact *Tony Louwse (Estates I) (616) 990-0431* or *Keith Meyering (Holland Home Staff) (616) 235-5460* for information.



RAYBROOK PURLS, CARING FOR YOUR CREATIONS

By Donna Caldon

An insightful article from the October 23, 2024, issue of Knitting for Charity: Knitting Nuggets Newsletter shared expert advice on how to properly care for knitted items before giving to family or donating. Regardless of whether you are knitting for grandkids or to donate, the good news is that most creations don't need washing before gifting - with a few exceptions. Experts emphasized that all knitted donations should be free of pet hair or mold. While using new yarn, this is not typically a concern. Older yarn should be checked to ensure that it does not have a musty odor. Older yarn made of wool can attract moths, and should be carefully examined. If necessary, gently wash items before gifting them, using unscented detergent and avoiding fabric softeners. This is especially important for young children, as fabric softeners can increase the risk of allergies. Proper drying is crucial—damp hats or other knitted items can develop mold. So, if you have washed or blocked an article be sure it is completely dry before gifting. Infant blankets do not require washing before donation unless they have been exposed to smoke or pet hair. Pet hair and cigarette odors are significant concerns. Studies have shown that tobacco residue, known as “third-hand smoke,” clings to fabrics and surfaces and cannot be fully removed through washing, posing health risks to children. More information on this topic can be found on the March of Dimes website. Raybrook Purls, have free yarn, available to all members knitting for our charity projects. Most of our yarn is purchased new, but occasionally, we receive donated yarn. Rest assured, group leaders carefully inspect all donated yarn before adding it to our stock, so there should be no concerns about improper yarn.

Join Us! The Purls meet every Monday at 1 PM in the Ell Lounge. New members are always welcome and desired. **Save the Date! Spring Party April 28, Guest speaker Jen Timmer. Come for fun and information.**

FROM THE OFFICE

GARAGE SPACES

EST I & EST II Residents; are you not using your garage parking space and could use a little extra cash? Vacating your parking space entitles you to a refund. If you are interested in vacating a purchased or rental spot, please contact *Danni Ortiz in the Estates & Homes Office at 616- 235-5006* or by email danniele.ortiz@hollandhome.org to get more information or to start the vacate process.