

# RAYBROOK LIFE

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



## AUGUST 2025



"Life does not  
have to be  
perfect to be  
wonderful."

—Annette  
Funicello



## INTERGENERATIONAL MED STUDENT PROGRAM AT RAYBROOK

Holland Home and the Dementia Institute have partnered with Michigan State University to pilot an Intergenerational Student-in-Residence Program, with the goals of strengthening our organizational position as a leader in excellent dementia care and promoting medical student interest in the field of geriatric medicine. This pilot program was introduced to a representative focus group of Estates and Homes residents this past December and was met with overwhelming support. We are now proud to introduce our first student in residence,

**Kaylin Burton:**

- *First year medical student at Michigan State University, Grand Rapids*
- *Grew up with her family in Sault Ste. Marie and plans to get into geriatrics & rural medicine*
- *Will live in Estates 1 guest apartment from August 1, 2025 through June 2026*
- *Carefully vetted by MSU and Holland Home: background checks, interviews, orientation, etc. like other employees and volunteers*
- *Will spend 10-25 hours/month with Holland Home, mostly in Cook, getting to know and engaging with residents*

This program was designed specifically to contribute to Holland Home's mission. Please give Kaylin and this program a warm, Holland Home welcome in August!

*Questions or concerns, contact: Nate Munn, Tim Myers, Curt Gritters*

## RAYBROOK WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

We are looking forward to a new season of Book Club! We meet the last Mondays of September, October and November, and then resume in February, March and April. We meet at 7pm in the Estates II Gathering Place. **All Raybrook women are welcome.** Judith Markham has chosen the "Girl Who Wrote in Silk" by Kelli Estes for us to read in September. She will lead the discussion on September 29. June Huissen will lead in October and Phyllis Roelofs in November. Our library will provide three copies of each month's book for your reading. You can also purchase or borrow a copy. PLEASE sign out the library copies in the Book Club binder on the library desktop, NOT in the daily sign-out binder. The books will be in the left drawer of the desk. Return the books to the same drawer and add the returned date to the binder. If you've never joined us, you are most welcome to come, discuss or just listen.



*Contact Pat Guikema at 616-455-5308 with any questions.*

**Celebrating  
August  
Birthdays!**



### Estates I

04 Donna Bakker  
14 Harriett DeBoer  
19 Barbara Hampton  
21 Richard Hertel  
21 Jolene DeHeer  
23 Donna Anema  
27 Jay Kuiper  
29 Carol Gootjes

### Estates I

31 Nelson VanderLugt

### Estates II

01 Ula Calsbeek  
05 Jud Smeelink  
05 Marty Meyne  
12 Penny Dykstra  
13 Jane VanderHaagen

### Estates II

14 Marge VanderPloeg  
16 Kerrie Doezeema  
16 Jo Van't Land  
17 Bill Randall  
18 Pete Holstege  
21 Marilyn DeMeester  
21 Lynda Steensma

### Estates III

13 Judith Borck  
18 Bonnie Kruithof  
29 Joanna Meyer

### Homes

01 Marlowe Pranger  
03 Pat Nederveld  
05 Carolyn Huizinga

### Homes

08 Margaret Van Ryn  
20 Jan DeVries  
26 Mary VanHarn



# BUITEN WELLNESS CENTER



## CARDIO DRUMMING

**Monday, August 18 at 2:15pm in the Buiten Wellness Center**

Join the fitness team for "Cardio Drumming"- a lively and engaging fitness class where music meets movement. In this class, you'll use drumsticks on a stability ball to follow fun and easy-to-learn cardio routines. Movements can be done seated or standing.

## LIFE ENRICHMENT

### CALVIN CLASSIC

Holland Home is a proud sponsor for the Calvin 5k Run & Walk on Saturday, **September 27 at 8:30 am**. Sign up to run or walk with other Holland Home staff and residents! Register at [calvin.edu/classic](http://calvin.edu/classic) and enter the coupon code **RESIDENT** for a discounted price. Transportation will be available for Holland Home residents. Look for sign up sheets closer to the event date.

## FROM THE OFFICE



### RECYCLING REMINDER

Please dispose of all garbage in the garbage disposal chutes located on each floor or in the garbage dumpsters. All trash must be double-bagged and securely tied. This is to prevent the trash from spattering on the floors and walls, gross! Our facility services staff, 1st- floor residents (who must go into the trash rooms to dispose of trash), and our recyclers greatly appreciate this! Recycling containers are provided for you on the 1st floor in the receiving room (Estates I) and trash rooms (Estates II). There are detailed instructions for recycling and recycling guides located in the rooms for your information. All boxes must be placed in the receiving room (Estates I) and on self in the trash room on the 1st floor next to elevator A (Estates II). Please do not place in other trash rooms as these are smaller spaces and create safety hazards. If you notice concern in the trash room (for example trash on the floors or walls, overflowing recycling containers or dumpsters, etc.) please call in a work order at 616-235-2787. Thank you for doing your part in keeping our trash rooms and planet clean!

## \*\*\*NEW RESIDENT LIFE STORIES\*\*\*

### **DON & RUTH VANDER HORN - EST II - 4044**

*by Bev Eckhoff*



Don was born in Grand Rapids where he attended Union High School but did not finish. He worked for a masonry contractor after leaving high school and went into the Navy at 18 years of age, for two years. Later he opened his own business, "Vander Horn Masonry", which he ran until he retired. He also had a snowplow business, which he started in 1957 and ran for years. Don and Ruth met in 1961 at Tarry Hall Skating Rink in Grandville, married and bought their first home in 1963. They bought their second home in 1970 and stayed there until they moved to Raybrook in January. Ruth received her LPN degree through the nursing program at G.R.C.C. She worked at Holland Hospital and Grand Rapids Osteopathic Hospital. For one year she was a charge nurse at the Evangeline Home. Once they had children, she stayed home with them until they graduated and then went to work at Brown Manor (Holland Home) as an LPN for seventeen years. She moved on to Windsor Manor after that for seven years before finally retiring. Don and Ruth volunteered for World Renew after retirement for ten years. Ruth also volunteered at the Super Thrift Mission India in Northeast Grand Rapids for fifteen years, and only recently stopped volunteering a year ago. They have five children (one of whom passed away in January), fifteen grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. Special interests include spending time with family, biking, listening to books on tape, and Don also used to bowl on a team. They have multiple friends who live here. They put their names on the waiting list here at Raybrook and were ready when they received the call. Please help us to welcome Don & Ruth to the Estates II family!