

# News from the Nook!

## AT A GLANCE



MAY 12, 2024



NURSES WEEK  
MAY 6 - MAY 12



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## FROM THE DESKS OF THE CO-PRESIDENTS: JULIE SIMPKINS & GREG ECHOLS

We are continuing to highlight all of Gardant's teams that help guide our mission into fruition. Another group that plays a vital role in the Gardant organization is the ACT Team. The ACT team provides support to all Executive Directors and their teams.

An Executive Director plays a pivotal role that leads all community operations while providing care and safety to our resident population. Gardant leadership led by Rod Burkett, Chairman, identified a need to reduce Executive Director turnover while increasing retention and satisfaction. This led to the ACT Team that formed in October 2020. In the last three and a half years, the ACT Team and its various sub-committees have met as a group over 100 times. The ACT Team has presented at Executive Director Retreats, Staff Meetings, Holiday Parties, and Orientations.



The ACT Team was challenged to reduce Executive Director turnover by less than 20% each calendar year. In 2023, we nearly met the challenge that has only inspired us to push forward and achieve the optimal outcome continually. We've received a lot of support from Gardant and our peers and know we share in the successes found this far and will continue to see moving forward.

### ACT Purpose Statement:

Your ACT Team is a collaborative, interdisciplinary team of leaders who are committed to serving community Executive Directors, alongside all key stakeholders through providing compassionate, intentional, and thoughtful support to ensure high-level outcomes and experiences.

If you wish to learn more about the ACT team you can email them at [ACTemail@gardant.com](mailto:ACTemail@gardant.com)



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# IN THE NEWS



## ABOUT THE MONTH OF MAY

**RICK BANAS, VP OF DEVELOPMENT AND POSITIONING**

On May 14, 1796, the smallpox vaccine was developed by Dr. Edward Jenner, using a new procedure of injecting a milder form of the disease into a healthy person to build immunity.

Flornce Nightingale was born on May 12, 1820. She received worldwide acclaim for her devotion to nursing, the development of modern nursing procedures, and emphasizing the dignity of nursing as a profession.

Wild Bill Hickok was born on May 27, 1837 in Troy Grove, Illinois, a village in LaSalle County, which is home to Heritage Woods of Ottawa, a Gardant-managed affordable assisted living community.



On May 21, 1881, the American Red Cross was founded by Clara Barton.

Irving Berlin was born on May 11, 1888. Although he could not read or write musical notation, he became one of our greatest song writers. Among his best known songs are “God Bless America,” “There’s No Business Like Show Business,” “Puttin on the Ritz”, “White Christmas”, and “Oh! How Hate to Get Up in the Morning.”

Frank Capra was born on May 18, 1891. He best known for the films “It’s a Wonderful Life” and “Mr. Smith Goes to Washington.”

On May 5, 1961, Alan Shepard became the first person from the U.S. to be launched into space.



Mother’s Day is May 12. Did you know that West Virginia was the first state to officially adopt the second Sunday of May as Mother’s Day.

May is Older Americans Month, Get Caught Reading Month, Barbeque Month, Salad Month, and Blood Pressure Month.

Nurses Week is the week of May 6 through May 12. Emergency Medical Services Week is the week of May 19 through May 25.



# WELLNESS



## **NURSES WEEK** **CHRISI KARCZ, VP OF CLINICAL SERVICES**

Since 1896 the American Nurses Association (ANA) has promoted the Nursing profession. In 1953, recognition of Nurses Day was requested in the United States.

It was not until 1974 by Proclamation of the White House and President Nixon, National Nurses week was declared. National Nurses Week now begins every year on May 6 and ends on May 12, Florence Nightingale's birthday. Florence Nightingale is known as the mother of Nursing.

According to Nursing and Midwifery Studies (2015), Florence Nightingale is the founder of modern and professional nursing. In 1854, during the Crimean war, Florence and thirty-eight other nurses went to assist British soldiers. Upon arrival, Florence used her mathematical knowledge to collect data regarding soldier deaths. She then implemented clean environments, clean water, and fruits, significantly decreasing soldier mortality with improved hygiene and reduced spread of disease.

In 1860, Florence established the first nursing school in the world guided by the following principles: Confidentiality, Building trust, Observation and Communication Skills. She wrote many books, the first "Notes on Nursing" in 1860 is the first book written on Nursing education. Nightingale is recognized for changing nursing to a respectable profession. She was known to be a great humanitarian and scientific figure.

Happy birthday, Florence Nightingale!  
**Please join us in recognizing our Nurses and Nursing staff across all communities who make a difference every day.**  
**Happy national nurses' week!**



## **RECIPE CORNER**

### **NO-BAKE CHOCOLATE OATMEAL COOKIES**

- 2 Cups Sugar
- 1/2 Cup Margarine
- 1/2 Cup Milk
- 3 Tbs. Unsweetened Cocoa Powder
- 1 Pinch Salt
- 3 Cups Quick Cooking Oats
- 1/2 Cup Peanut Butter
- 1 tsp. Vanilla Extract

#### **Directions**

1. Bring sugar, margarine, milk, cocoa, and salt to a rapid boil in a saucepan for 1 minute.
2. Add quick-cooking oats, peanut butter, and vanilla; mix well.
3. Working quickly, drop by teaspoonfuls onto waxed paper and let cool.





# LIFESTYLE



## LET'S CELEBRATE!

### RESIDENT BIRTHDAYS:

Jim	5/02
Betty	5/09
Charles	5/14
John	5/14
Gerald	5/15
Helen	5/17



## A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Brandy Scheer

“What sunshine is to flowers, smiles are to humanity. These are but trifles, to be sure; but scattered along life's pathway, the good they do is inconceivable.”

-Joseph Addison

Heritage Woods of Minooka is indeed filled with sunshine and smiles this month! The new paint on the walls and the new flooring have brightened our spirits as much as it has the physical space, and we are happy for the growth we see inside and outside of the community and ourselves. If you want to help our garden grow, please spend some quality time with your family members, friends, and neighbors outside; our front porch and back patio are perfect places for socializing. If you want to get your hands a little dirty, then please join us at our planting party on Tuesday, May 14 at 10am. We would love your company! Here's to a wonderful month of sunshine and smiles!

## COMMUNITY PARTNER IN THE NEWS

Minooka High School Geometry in Construction Class

Special thanks to teachers Mr. Tucker and Mr. Gnat and all of the students in their Geometry in Construction class. They designed and created flower boxes and passed them out to the residents.

Their gifts and company were much welcomed!



## REMINDERS

As the weather warms up please be mindful of the temperature control units in the common areas. The windows and air conditioning units in the hallways and common areas are maintained by the staff and are part of a larger system, so adjusting one unit or opening a hall window could have a bigger effect than you realize. Let's all enjoy a safe and comfortable Spring!



# LIFESTYLE



# H O R O S C O P E

## **AQAURIUS (1/20 - 2/18)**

FOCUS ON EXPERIMENTING, CREATING, AND EXPLORING THIS MONTH AHEAD

## **PISCES (2/19 - 3/20)**

YOUR CONNECTION TO YOUR LOCAL SPACE OFTEN SIGNIFIES WHAT 'HOME' TRULY MEANS TO YOU

## **ARIES (3/21 - 4/19)**

CONTRIBUTE YOUR UNIQUE TALENTS AND ENERGY, AND IN RETURN, RECEIVE THE WARMTH OF MUTUAL CARE AND SUPPORT

## **TAURUS (4/20 - 5/20)**

EXPECT A SURGE OF REFRESHED ENERGY AND ENTHUSIASM TOWARDS EXCITING NEW ADVENTURES

## **GEMINI (5/21 - 6/20)**

NURTURE YOUR SPIRITUAL PRACTICE AND CARVE OUT TIME FOR INTROSPECTION AND HEALING

## **CANCER (6/21 - 7/22)**

STRIKE A BALANCE BETWEEN SOCIALIZING AND INTROSPECTION

## **LEO (7/23 - 8/22)**

CHASE NEW DREAMS AND CARVING OUT YOUR LIFE'S LEGACY

## **VIRGO (8/23 - 9/22)**

THINK ABOUT SHAKING UP THOSE OLD BELIEFS AND EMBARKING ON A JOURNEY TO EXPAND YOUR LIFE'S PRINCIPLES

## **LIBRA (9/23 - 10/21)**

TAKE SOME TIME FOR YOURSELF AND DELVE INTO THE DEPTHS OF YOUR PAST FOR HEALING

## **SCORPIO (10/22 - 11/21)**

LIFE IS ALL ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS—THE CONNECTIONS THAT SHAPE YOUR SENSE OF SELF, PAST AND PRESENT

## **SAGITTARIUS (11/22-12/21)**

YOUR WELL-BEING IS THE TRUE TREASURE TROVE

## **CAPRICORN (12/22 -1/19)**

PURSUE YOUR CHALLENGES WITH PLAY INSTEAD OF SERIOUS DETERMINATION

## **UPCOMING EVENTS!**

### **Planting Party!**

Join us Tuesday, May 14 at 10 am to help us plant all of our new flowers and vegetables! Bring gloves and a smile!

### **Lightways Hospice Guild Card Party and Luncheon!**

Wednesday, May 15 from 11:30am-2:30pm at Cantigny Post #367 VFW in Joliet. Residents are free. To purchase tickets please call (630) 689-8883.

### **Celebration of Seniors/Grundy County Senior Expo**

Wednesday, May 22 from 10am- 2pm at Jennifer's Garden in Morris. Booths,lunch, bingo, and entertainment! Register at (815) 941-3121

### **Community Bingo!**

Wednesday, May 29 at 2pm in our dining room. Prizes, fun, and great company. Free and open to the public!

# FUN & GAMES

## MOTHER'S DAY

Find the words in the grid. When you are done, the unused letters in the grid will spell out a hidden message. Pick them out from left to right, top line to bottom line. Words can go horizontally, vertically and diagonally in all eight directions.

A M K I S S O T M O D S I W  
H E G N I R P S F F O R S A  
M E M O R I E S R M E L S A  
R E G C A R D M E M L A D E  
S S R E W O L F O A O F F T  
E D A N D E I H C M A R E D  
R E N N E W S S A M A N R A  
E D D E C C H I I L R Y O U  
M D M I I R H L E M E N D G  
E S O L R R Y E O E T T A H  
M E T P S P F T R O S F U T  
B N H D L Y H I N I I I T E  
E H E E M E R D T N S G Z R  
R L R L R Z G T L R D H T Z

Adore  
Call  
Card  
Cherish  
Daughter  
Family  
Flowers

Friends  
Gift  
Grandmother  
Home  
Kiss  
May  
Memories

Mother  
Offspring  
Pride  
Remember  
Sister  
Wife  
Wisdom

# ANSWERS

## MOTHER'S DAY

HIDDEN QUOTATION  
BY  
Victor Hugo

