

# NEWSLETTER

## May 2026

Ecumen Meadows, 1801 Collegeway, 507-372-7838



### This Issue

|                                 |     |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Executive Director's Desk ..... | 2   |
| New Residents .....             | 3   |
| Life In Our Community .....     | 4-5 |
| Events .....                    | 6   |
| May Celebrations .....          | 7   |
| A Poem to Share .....           | 8   |
| Notice Board .....              | 9   |
| Bus Fundraiser .....            | 10  |
| Laughing Matters .....          | 11  |
| Monthly Puzzle .....            | 12  |

# Executive Director's Desk

**Hello Residents, Families, and Friends,**

Welcome to May- a time of renewal, warmth, and meaningful connection.

With Mother's Day approaching, we pause to celebrate and honor the mothers, grandmothers, and special individuals who have given so much of themselves through love, care, and guidance. The impact of their kindness and support continues to be felt in the lives of those around them each and every day.

This month also reminds us to slow down and appreciate the moments that make our days special-sharing a smile, enjoying conversation, and spending time with those who matter most. It is these simple, heartfelt connections that truly make our community feel like home.

We hope this newsletter brings a sense of comfort, joy, and togetherness as we embrace all that May has to offer.

Warm wishes,

*Elena Heronimus, Executive Director*

## May Trivia

The Month of May. May is named for the Roman goddess Maia, who oversaw the growth of plants.

Zodiac signs: **Taurus & Gemini**  
Birthstone: **Emerald**  
Flower: **Lily of the Valley**

## Quote of the Day

*A mother's love is the quiet strength that stays with us forever.*

# New Residents

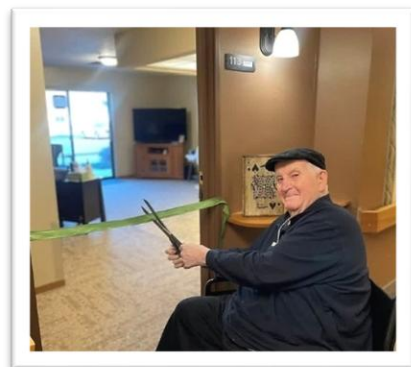


Let's give a warm Meadows welcome to our new neighbors, Bob and Mary Lutmer!

The duo joins us from nearby Adrian, bringing with them a wealth of stories and a very impressive family tree, including 5 children, 12 grandchildren, and 9 great-grandchildren!

Before retiring, Bob spent 21 years keeping the roads safe with the Nobles County Highway Department. Mary has a pretty incredible career story of her own: she originally took a job at Krohn Drug Store in Adrian, intending to stay for just two years, but she ended up staying for over 24! She likely would have kept going if the business hadn't been sold.

Welcome home, Bob and Mary!



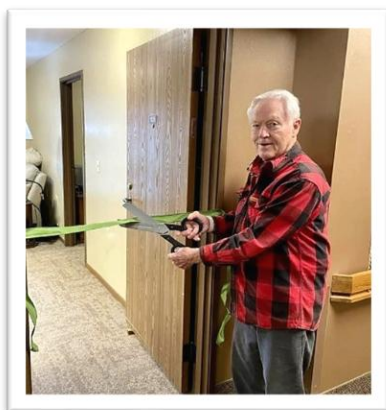
Welcome to the family, Harvey Bourquin!

We are so excited to introduce our new neighbor! Harvey joins us from just down the road in Brewster, where he has lived most of his life.

Talk about a hard worker - Harvey spent 45 years at the Worthington Rendering Company! During his long career with the company, he did pretty much every job there at least once!

Harvey is also a family man. He's the proud father of six and a doting grandpa to eight! He loves to play cards, too, so if you're up for a game of Pinochle or 500, Harvey is your guy!

We're thrilled to have you here, Harvey! Welcome to our Ecumen Meadows family!



Big move for a man who knows a thing or two about property, Les Johnson!

After a 40-year career laying carpet and managing 70 (wow!) rental properties, Les is officially trading in his acreage for a new home base.

Les is an avid outdoorsman who loves fishing and hunting and is a proud supporter of Pheasants Forever. He is passionate about preserving a good habitat for wildlife. He's also the proud patriarch of a growing legacy, including his three children, 13 grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

Congratulations on the ribbon cutting, Les! After decades of providing homes for others, we're so happy to have you here and hope you love your new place!

# Life in Our Community

---



Some very special guests - Mrs. Ahlers' 5th-grade class - stopped by to help us celebrate Earth Day! We planted Marigold seeds in pots that we decorated together. We had a great time and can't wait to watch these flowers - and new friendships - grow!

---



Our wonderful Resident Assistant, Angela, stopped by the Meadows today to introduce us to the newest member of the family - her beautiful 3-week-old baby boy, Briggs! Our team members and residents took turns getting baby snuggles. It was a special reminder of the family bond we share here.

*Welcome to the world, little one! We are so happy for you, Angela!*

---



Our community was full of smiles during our annual Easter Egg Hunt! We loved seeing the children and grandchildren of our residents and team members hunting for treats and making memories. The highlight? A very special visit from the Easter Bunny! Check out the photos below to see all the "egg-citing" moments from the day. Happy Easter!

---

# Life in Our Community ...continued



## April Monthly Birthdays

We have so many extra-special people to celebrate this month, and we did just that during our April birthday party! Celebrating a birthday at the Meadows this month are (standing L-R) Marissa, Al, Don, Cheryl, Les, Jessica (sitting L-R) Rodney, Kathy, and Vern, along with (not pictured) Ken J., Sofia, Elise, Rose, Cynthia, Ken T., Margo, Jose, Carol C., and Ellen. Please join us in wishing our dear friends a very happy birthday!



## Vegas Happy Hour

Our dining room was recently transformed into a gambler's paradise for a Las Vegas-themed Happy Hour! We really hit the jackpot with the decor; between the iconic Strip skyline, casino props, and an "Elvis in Lights" sign—complete with a life-sized cutout of the King—it was clear we weren't playing around.



The afternoon featured the perfect headliner in Cindy Anderson. A self-described former "lounge lizard," Cindy proved she still had an ace up her sleeve as she reminisced about her college days playing piano at the Biltmore Motor Inn in Fargo. She raised the stakes with a setlist of classics from Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis Jr., and Elvis. A highlight of the show was her special rendition of "Fever," which she dedicated to a very special guest, David Rutzen. David and his wife ran the home daycare where Cindy's daughter grew up, so naturally, she considers him a royal flush of a friend! While the music flowed and cocktails were poured, Kurt decided to double down on the snacks and made a "chicken run." He returned to the Meadows with 10 buckets of KFC just as Cindy was finishing her performance. We capped off the afternoon by feasting on fried chicken and cream puffs—a delicious ending that proved when it comes to fun, our community always goes all in!





# May Celebrations

## Resident Birthdays:

Pat Sherack ~ 3rd  
Jeanne Kirchner ~ 5th  
Marilyn Greve ~ 20th  
Jan Smrcka ~ 26th  
Joyce Broesder ~ 28th  
Joyce Ebbers ~ 29th



Please join us to celebrate the Birthdays in the South Dining Room on Thurs. May. 14<sup>th</sup>, at 3 p.m.

## Employee Birthdays:

- Alondra M ~ 28th

## Employee Anniversary:

- Xavier S ~ 8th ~ 2 yrs.
- Maria G ~ 13th ~ 1 yr.
- Ashley P ~ 13th ~ 1 yr.
- Brandon T ~ 22nd ~ 3 yrs.
- Natya K ~ 27th ~ 1 yr.



Happy Work Anniversary to four incredible members of our team! Together, this group represents 14 years of dedicated service to our community.

Please help us celebrate:

♥ Tina (1 year): Resident Assistant Tina has a huge heart for people and animals alike! She rescued two stray cats and their litters from our courtyard, ensuring they all found forever homes. She's also a talented photographer who loves nature and hiking at the Pipestone National Monument.

♥ Mel (4 years): As a Dining Assistant, Mel's favorite part of the day is spending time with our residents. She's also a busy mother of two who loves staying active with long walks outside. In her free time, she enjoys crafting her own coffee, lattes, and matcha, finding joy in every sip and step!

♥ Kelly (8 years): Kelly loves that her job "feels like home," and we love having her! When she's not whipping up something delicious, she's likely outdoors hiking or keeping up with four kids and three cats.

♥ Liliana (1 year): We also want to shout out our Resident Assistant, Liliana! She isn't in the photo because she's at home snuggling her brand-new 14-day-old baby girl. This is Liliana's second child, and we are so happy for her and her growing family!

Thank you Tina, Mel, Kelly, and Liliana, for the heart and hard work you bring to our team every day!

# Poem to Share

## Mother o' Mine

Rudyard Kipling

If I were lost on the farthest hill,  
Mother of mine, my mother so dear,  
I know whose heart would seek me still,  
Mother of mine, forever near.

If I were swept by the darkest sea,  
Mother of mine, my guiding light,  
I know whose tears would find their way to me,  
Through endless days and longest nights.

If I were broken in body and soul,  
I know whose love would make me whole,  
Mother of mine, constant and true,  
Always my strength, my way back through.



# Noticeboard

## **VAN SCHEDULE**

Van service is available Monday through Friday,  
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

To arrange transportation to an appointment, you  
must call the front desk at **507-343-7147**.

**All ride requests must be scheduled  
24 hours in advance.**

**Please Note:**

**Wednesdays from 8:15 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. are  
reserved for the weekly shopping trip.  
Do not schedule appointments during this time.**

## **NEW TEAM MEMBERS**

A warm welcome also goes to the people who joined  
our team in the past few months!

We hope that you enjoy your time here!

- Kendra S – RA
- Tayla X – RA
- Tiana X – RA
- Ashley M – RA
- Myesha J – RA
- Joy G – Housekeeping

## **BEAUTY SALON**

**Monday & Tuesday**

from **8 a.m. – 3 p.m.**

The beauty shop phone number is

**507-343-7148** All appointments are made with Joyce.

## **IN MEMORIAM**

To the families and friends of our late residents – may  
you be comforted by the knowledge that your loved  
ones are at peace.

- **Marge Zarn**

## **Lobby Carts**

Just a quick reminder—when you're  
finished using the carts, please return  
them to the lobby so they're available  
for others. Thank you so much for  
helping keep things running smoothly!



## **Guest Meals**

Just a friendly reminder: if you are  
planning to have a guest(s) for a meal,  
please give the kitchen 24 hours'  
notice. You can pay for the meal at the  
front desk with Caryn. Guest meals are  
\$15.

## **Always Available Menu**

When filling out your menu for the next  
day, be mindful that the kitchen  
members need a final count to prepare  
the meal. Changing your meal choice  
right before the meal can throw the  
count and time to prepare the meal for  
all residents.

## **Ladies Salad Luncheon**

All Meadows ladies will dine in the  
South Dining Room on May 7th. If you  
choose not to attend, a tray from the  
luncheon will be delivered to your room.

# Bus Fundraising News



Momentum is contagious, and so is the excitement, as we've been the recipients of some large donations! The Worthington Regional Health Care Foundation awarded us \$21,000 as a result of their April meeting. The foundation delivered the check in person, updated their website about the donation, and will take photos when we have the vehicle on the premises. This vote of confidence in our mission is very uplifting and made a vast difference in us achieving our goal.

Most recently, we received the happy news that Interstates Incorporated of Sioux Center, Iowa, awarded Ecumen Meadows' transportation fund two donations. One was funded by its employees and the other by their foundation. These gifts totaled \$1,250 and were the direct result of Elena Heronimus' husband. Along with a couple of other donations that we have received, our present grand total is \$76,082.

Absolutely fantastic response and support from present residents and team members, former resident families, community members, community organizations, and businesses. During the next few weeks, there will be a continuation of what has been happening behind the scenes. Connections have been ongoing for the purchase of our new vehicle by the Ecumen leadership team. Next steps will include selection, purchase, tax, license, insurance, and customization. Involved and important, our best interests are at the heart of each decision. Our enthusiasm will be hard to contain as we receive the vehicle and plan our community-wide celebration. Thank you seems inadequate, but we are so very grateful for your continued belief and support in helping us meet this huge need. We can see the finish line! Many thanks in helping us to reach it.

Ecumen Meadows Fundraising Committee  
Elena Heronimus  
Marissa Marten  
Cheryl Dinsmore  
Denise Erwin

# Laughing Matters



## Counting Cats with Johnny

Teacher: "If I gave you 2 cats and another 2 cats and another 2, how many would you have?"

Johnny: "Seven."

Teacher: "No, listen carefully... If I gave you two cats, and another two cats and another two, how many would you have?"

Johnny: "Seven."

Teacher: "Let me put it to you differently. If I gave you two apples, and another two apples and another two, how many would you have?"

Johnny: "Six."

Teacher: "Good. Now if I gave you two cats, and another two cats and another two, how many would you have?"

Johnny: "Seven!"

Teacher: "Johnny, where in the heck do you get seven from?!"

Johnny: "Because I've already got a freaking cat!"



# Word Search

## MOTHER'S DAY



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

Love  
 Grandmother  
 Chocolates  
 Forgive  
 Help

Role  
 Cook  
 Brunch  
 Roses  
 Gifts

Model  
 Mother  
 Cuddle  
 Memories  
 Sunday

Read  
 Family  
 Hugs  
 Kisses  
 Flowers

Support  
 Console  
 Bake  
 Nurture  
 Special