

In-Touch

Newsletter



In-Home Care | Independent Living | Assisted Living

May - June 2024

Theresa Pichelmeyer, EdD, RN
CEO

It is with great sadness that we share the passing of Frank Kearny, Chairman of the Valley VNA Board. He has been a guiding member of the Board since 1996, serving as Chair twice during that time. Frank truly believed in the mission of VNA: Providing Quality Choices for Senior Living. He was here when the Alexandrite Apartments opened as well as the Assisted Living residential facility. He has been instrumental in the planning and fundraising for our current remodel of the Assisted Living more than 25 years later.

I have had the pleasure and challenge of working with Frank for 18 years here at Valley VNA. He brought me on as the Administrator of Assisted Living and then approved my role as President/CEO in 2010. I say pleasure because I always knew he supported me and had my back, even when we didn't always agree. But we listened to each other and learned. I say challenge because he never let me get too comfortable in this role, always nudging me to do more to care for our clients/residents and seeking new opportunities for the organization.

His passing is a huge loss to not only Valley VNA but also to this community and to me personally. I counted him not only as a boss, but as a mentor, and most of all, a friend. He will be greatly missed.

The Walk to End Alzheimer's will take place Jewelers Mutual Group on 9/14/24. Join Valley VNA's Walk team, it is always free to register and free to attend. Register now to join the Valley VNA Team! bit.ly/3w7mWGk

Spotlight on Resident Rights #7

We respect and support our residents in exercising their rights. The Department of Health Services has established a list of resident rights for Community Based Residential Facilities (CBRF) in the state of Wisconsin. Over the course of several newsletters, Valley VNA will highlight some of these rights. A full list is located in your Resident HANDBOOK

Right to participate in the planning of care and treatment, to be fully informed of resident's care and treatment and of care and treatment options, and to refuse any form of care or treatment unless ordered by a court. [S.50.09(1)(n), Stats. and DHS 83.32(3)(j)]

Meetings to discuss care and treatment (called care plan meetings or ISP meetings) are scheduled annually or when there is a resident change in condition. If you have questions about care options, contact Angela Franz, Administrator, or the RN Clinical Consultant.

Since March 2023, Valley VNA has collaborated with the Neenah Public Library to create an intergenerational storytime. It takes place on Tuesdays at Valley VNA starting at 10:00 am in the KCC. Since this storytime is for everyone, we encourage you to come join us with your friends, families, and neighbors! This is such a special program to us to get residents and community members to interact.

Angela Franz

Executive Director of Independent Apartments & Assisted Living

We are excited to be entering the final phase of our remodel project in our Assisted Living. Our final phase is in Sapphire, unfortunately, this phase will be the most disruptive for traffic flow for all of us as Sapphire is what connects us to our middle building and Alex. While Sapphire is under construction, we will be limiting all foot traffic through the dining room, we will have a safe walkway through when needed however we will be using alternative routes whenever possible. This final phase is expected to take about 6 months to complete, we hope that we will be wrapping up by the end of October.

We are asking that all family and visitors park and enter the door closest to their loved ones and not come through the front entrance if you are visiting the Assisted Living. Emerald has two entrances doors #3 & #5, Coral has two entrances as well that you can access by parking in the back parking lot, doors #7 & 10. Sapphire residents in rooms S1-S12 will remain in their apartments and can use Coral door #10, if you have a FOB you will have access to the doors closest to your loved ones' room. If for some reason your FOB does not open an entrance you are using, please stop by the front desk and we can fix that for you. If you have any questions about this, please do not hesitate to reach out, we appreciate everyone's understanding as we navigate this project.

We have switched over to a new vending machine company, BE's Refreshments, for our staff breakroom. We are also adding a vending machine in Coral Ct. The vending machines are available for residents and visitors. BE's will be providing two machines, one with refreshments and one will be a market-style machine with food items to purchase. There is a separate pay kiosk for market items and forms of payment are debit/credit card, Google/Apple Pay or you can set up a cash card and/or download the app. Instructions will be posted, but if you have any questions please stop by the front desk and we can assist.

Friendly reminder that if you are ordering items and having them delivered on weekends, we do not have staff sitting up front at the desk. Staff will check the front entrance a couple of times a day for any items, but there is a chance that something could be left out all weekend. If you can choose a weekday delivery that would be best. For large items that you may be ordering (for example new furniture items) our front door is 35 inches wide, so anything delivered in a larger box the delivery company will need to unbox and bring into the building. If you have any questions about this please call the front desk at 920-727-5544 and we will be happy to help.