

September 2024

The Homestead at Anoka



3000 4th Avenue, Anoka, MN 55303 | (763) 528-6500





Homestead Team

**Executive Director, RLC
Administrator**

Jeff Richardson 763-528-6404

Assisted Living Director

Tina Carey 763-528-6490

Medical Director

Dr. Lee

Director of Nursing

Brian Kniebel 763-528-6405

Director of Clinical Services

Sarah Korzendorfer
763-528-6491

Director of Social Services

Green, Stephanie 763-528-6449

Business Office Manager

Kathy Nordby 763-528-6451

Director of Culinary Services

Kris Trudeau 763-528-6410

Marketing Services

Susan Ekman 763-528-6406

Environmental Director

Jake Greenwaldt 763-528-6485

Chaplain

Scott Hillestad 763-528-6461

Life Enrichment Director

Kara Reiser 763-528-6463



We Shall Never Forget...



From Sea to Shining Sea

To commemorate Patriot Day, Sept. 11, memorial services and candlelight vigils take place across the country in remembrance of the innocent victims of the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Towers. U.S. flags fly at half-staff, and the country shares a moment of silence beginning at 8:46 a.m. (EDT).

Although the country mourns this loss, the spirit of the Twin Towers lives on. Steel from the towers has risen from the ashes and is now plunging through ocean waves as a U.S. Naval warship, defending American freedom. The Navy found the twisted steel to still be of significant strength, so parts of the Towers' remains were used in the new ship's bow stem.

Though state names are typically reserved for naval submarines, New York Governor George E. Pataki asked that this special surface warship bear the name "New York" in honor of the victims, heroes and courageous New Yorkers who immortalized that day. His request was granted. This ship will be the fifth ship of the U.S. Navy to have the name New York. Ironically, the keel of a previous USS New York (BB-34) was laid on Sept. 11, 1911, exactly 90 years before the World Trade Center attack.

Governor Pataki eloquently stated, "In September 2001, our nation's enemies brought their fight to New York. The USS New York will now bring the fight to our nation's enemies well into the future."

USA Begins With "United"

Ordinary Americans are extraordinary people. When we think back to the horror of Sept. 11, 2001, we also recall the valor and humanity that have brought healing to our nation. We may never agree on everything, but Americans can come together for Patriot Day, the annual memorial of 9-11. There are still victims to console, heroes to applaud and futures to build.



Western Daze With Music, Cow Play & Moo-Beer Floats!



Plenty of Hoedown Music With Cowgirl Lisa!



Olympic Homestead Games!

Our VOA Summer Olympics campus wide began with Independent Living Residents and their opening ceremony as we all sang the National Anthem with Chaplain Scott offering a prayer over our Olympians.

We preceded with the passing of the Olympic Torch with Vern who is 100 years old, living in the Independent Apartments, passing off to Chester who lives in the Assisted Living Apartments, who is 101 years old, and finally handing off the torch to our Long-Term Care Center with our last Centenarian, Gertrude, who is 103 years old! After music, prayer, and Olympic trivia, we enjoyed our special Olympic cookies and gave gold medals to our VOA Olympic Champions!



Competition, Games, Medal Honors and Awards



Everyone enjoyed taking pictures and posing by our Olympic Balloon Art that was displayed throughout the Senior Olympics!



Thank you to our Wonderful Olympic Volunteer Committee from Independent Living! These were special handmade cookies for our Senior Olympians!

Homestead Olympic Highlights



We honored an Olympic Hero with a display of Tim Somerville, an American curler from Coon Rapids, MN. He is a three-time Olympian, winning the bronze medal at the 1992 Winter Games as Captain of USA Olympic Curling team. Somerville's father, Bud Somerville, was also a highly successful curler. Bud was world champion in 1965 and 1974, on the 1992 bronze medal Olympic team, and the first inductee into the US Curling Hall of Fame. Tim's wife, Svetlana, works at The Homestead.

The Crowd Could Be Heard Yelling V-O-A!



Many attended the opening ceremonies throughout the campus - holding flags, treats and shouting "VOA"!



Senior Safety With National Night Out



National Night Out is a nationwide community event in which you can learn more about police-sponsored programs in your area, such as neighborhood watch groups, drug prevention and safety information.

Stay alert for potential scams when using the phone or Internet, especially when coming from unknown phone number or email address. Our residents received safety demonstrations and tips by Anoka Police Officer Dominguez. It was the perfect reminder for seniors and their caregivers to refresh themselves on essential safety advice. We provided our residents with wristbands, stickers and flashlights in support of our Police officers.

Employee Star of the Month!



Peggy Turi is a Health Unit Coordinator at The Homestead Long Term Care Center who celebrated her 1 year anniversary in June. Peggy was nominated by residents who wanted to highlight her for going above and beyond when providing resident care to ensure all of their needs are met.

Congratulations, Peggy, as your outstanding performance is an inspiration to us all here at The Homestead and we appreciate your amazing work! Thank you for always putting your best foot forward with your caring heart toward our Elders!

Do you see someone who goes above and beyond their normal duties? Honor them by filling out the card for Star of the Month!



Chaplain's Corner

“Where Was God?”

Most of us probably remember where we were and what we were doing when 9/11 happened. Major shocks do that to our systems. The attacks of 9/11, because of the loss of life and the damage caused, form the biggest act of terrorism ever on United States soil.

As we reflect 23 years later, how are we to think about it? Most of us have probably heard of 9/11 now being referred to as “Patriot Day.” It has become a “National Day of Service and Remembrance.” Some are calling it a “Do Good Day,” involving many service projects and groups of people getting together for the common good.

I applaud all of that, and yet, as Christians, we can still ask God how He wants us to view 9/11. Many people have asked the question after that day—*where was God?* When we ask that question, are we implying fault or negligence on the part of God? Consider this—we know God to be all-wise, everywhere present, all-powerful, and completely loving. So doesn't it seem likely that a bigger question is to ask ourselves, *“Do I believe that God is who He says He is?”*

Some say 9/11 was a call for national humbling, a wake-up call; that God was shaking the foundations of America and calling people to Christ. Anne Graham Lotz, the daughter of Billy Graham, said after 9/11 happened: *“God's got our attention now.”* There is something about the human heart, that when the heat is on, it softens us toward things of the Lord.

So how should we respond to national calamities or hardship in our lives? Disasters have the power to lead us into asking the ultimate questions of faith. Natural disasters give Christians the opportunity to prove that no earthly treasure can compare with the value of knowing Christ. I would encourage you to remember these verses: *“God is our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble”* (Psalm 46:1); and *“I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world”* (John 16:33). We have a God that understands, who suffers along with us, and loves each of us deeply. Chaplain Scott



many different lives.
one common goal.

At Volunteers of America,
we honor our diversity
by pulling together.
Learn more about the
many ways you
can join us.



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Come visit *The Bistro Café*, where everyone is welcome to join us for great food, fun treats and good conversation. Located in the Independent Living Building (3111 5th Ave, Anoka, MN 55303), The Bistro is open daily during lunchtime, 12:00 p.m.–1:30 p.m.