



The Brook

Retirement Communities

www.BrookRetirement.com

Jan/Feb/Mar 2021

THE BROOK OF ROGERS CITY



Jacky Wenzel, RN

Hi, I'm Jacky Wenzel and I am a registered nurse and the clinical manager of The Brook of Rogers City! I was born and raised in Rogers City. My husband, Cody, and I welcomed our firstborn, Weston, into the world this year.

Throughout my nursing career, I have worked in assisted living, skilled nursing, and acute care. I am so excited to bring my experience and passion for taking care of your loved ones to my new role at The Brook!

In my free time, I enjoy spending time boating, kayaking, and enjoying Long Lake with my friends and family.



THE BROOK OF GRAYLING



Happy 100th Birthday, Marge!
—From your Brook family

THE BROOK OF HOUGHTON LAKE

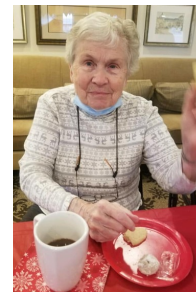


Nina Love

Nina Love is full of energy with great spirit and loves living at The Brook of Houghton Lake.

Nina just celebrated her 104th birthday!
Happy Birthday, Nina!

THE BROOK OF BIG RAPIDS



The residents at The Brook of Big Rapids have enjoyed the new cafe day so much that this event has been expanded to all of our Brook locations! Also, watch for the Hot Cocoa Bar and Ice Cream Shop that are also available during the month. This is a great way to catch up with your friends at The Brook.



GOOD LIVING KITCHENS

The Good Living Kitchen culinary team has rolled out a new winter menu, and we encourage everyone to try the delicious seasonal selections!

Remember to sign up for upcoming Valentine's Day and St. Patrick's Day celebration dinners.



WE LOVE OUR STAFF!

To honor the health care professionals, family members and friends who provide needed help and support, we celebrate 'National Caregivers Day' on the third Friday of February.

Thank you for providing such great care!



THE BROOK OF BIG RAPIDS

I can't even begin to thank all of you enough for the wonderful care and concern that you showed toward my mom, Joan Duquesnel, while she was at The Brook of Big Rapids. My mom loved all of you and told me often how grateful she was for how loving and caring you were toward her. The Brook became her home and she was very comfortable living there.

Thank you all, again, from the bottom of my heart. You are all AWESOME caregivers! Keep up the great work that you do!

Love,

Irene Kasbohm aka Joan Duquesnel's daughter

THE BROOK OF PORTLAND



Laurie Battin,
Business Manager

We are pleased to introduce Laurie Battin, the new Business Manager at The Brook of Portland. Laurie comes to The Brook with 22 years of experience in the medical field including working as an EMT, a nurse aide, and as a Human Resource Coordinator

In her spare time, Laurie and her husband have a farm where they rescue/raise draft horses and train them to work with soldiers with PTSD and Physical Disabilities.

Welcome to The Brook Family!

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

As Valentine's Day approaches, we'd like to take a moment to express our affection for our residents. Thank you for making our community such a great place to work.

WELCOMING NEW RESIDENTS

We are welcoming new residents and taking applications at this time at all of our Brook locations.

Call today to schedule a private or virtual tour at (989) 745-6500 or visit us at www.brookretirement.com



THE BROOK OF CEDAR SPRINGS



THE BROOK OF NEWAYGO



Kristen Fors,
Business Manager

My name is Kristen Fors and I am the new Business Manager for The Brook of Newaygo, as well as a Community Liaison for the southern region of The Brook.

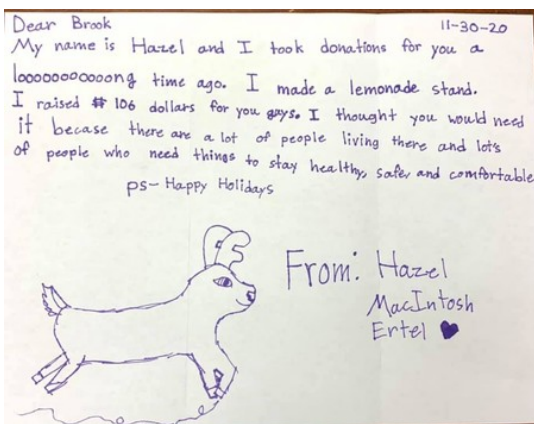
While I was born in Michigan, I have resided all over Eastern United States, growing up as a "military brat." My dad was in the Army for 20 years. I returned to Michigan 2 years ago.

The overwhelming support I have received from our executive team and the team and residents in Newaygo have made this exciting journey even more incredible.

I look forward to getting to know everyone.



THE BROOK OF GRAYLING



You might want to get a tissue out for this one. The Brook of Grayling received this beautiful note and thoughtful donation from Hazel MacIntosh Ertel, a local humanitarian, who is only 7 years old and in 2nd grade. Residents were each gifted a bag of goodies, compliments of Hazel, during The Brook Christmas party. They were all so excited, the afternoon was spent showing each other their gifts and enjoying each other's company.

What a wonderful young lady, that at such a young age, has so much to offer. This was a true definition of giving love and emotional support of caring. Thank you, Hazel, for making our Christmas brighter!



CELEBRATING 5 YEARS



Lisa Trudell, MBA,
VP of Accounting

Lisa Trudell, MBA, is our VP of Accounting and has been with The Brook Retirement Communities for 5 years. She is one of the "behind the scenes" employees at the corporate office, but a very integral part of

the team.

Lisa has 3 awesome kids and enjoys spending time with her family and friends.

Thank you, Lisa, for being an essential part of The Brook Retirement Communities.

THE BROOK OF CHEBOYGAN



Looking fine at 99! Jean Buchannan is a real fashionista at heart, as you can tell from her photo! She's always smiling and has a great sense of fashion. Jean was born in Pontiac, Michigan, and later moved with her husband to Cheboygan, Michigan, where they raised their family. Jean worked at the UAW, Black Lake Education Center in Onaway for many years in housekeeping and culinary services.

Jean said that she either had to paint every room in her house or move to The Brook, and she has been a resident at The Brook of Cheboygan for almost 6 years now. She is very active and likes to play bingo, puzzles, enjoys exercise and baking goodies for the staff!

Happy Birthday, Jean!



CELEBRATING 5 YEARS



Andrea
Wright,
CALD

Andrea first began working at The Brook of Cheboygan as an administrative assistant.

She was

then promoted to business manager at The Brook of Gaylord before coming back "home" to The Brook of Cheboygan as the current business manager. Andrea and her husband, Eric, have 3 beautiful daughters, Claudia, Ella and Lily. Andrea is also a very talented professional photographer and serves as the current President of the Bishop Baraga PTO. Andrea enjoys summer time boating, decorating and cooking! Congratulations & thanks, Andrea, for serving the residents, staff and families of The Brook for 5 years!

BIG RAPIDS - Sarah Sease, LPN

14595 215th Avenue

(231) 592-1000

BOYNE CITY - Victoria Johnson, RN

701 Vogel Street

(231) 582-4300

CEDAR SPRINGS - Diana Olsen**Nancy Robbins, LPN**

4170 Solon St. NE

(616) 696-9555

CHEBOYGAN - Andrea Wright, CALD**Cynthia Biggins, LPN**

11965 Townline Road

(231) 268-3400

GAYLORD - Jalyn Milliken, RN

900 Hayes Road

(989) 732-6200

GLADWIN - Lisa Stein, LPN, CALD

1201 W. Cedar Avenue

(989) 426-8700

GRAYLING -**Beth Golnick, LPN, CALD**

503 Rose Street

(989) 348-8900

HOUGHTON LAKE - Pam Wilcox, LPN, CALD, CDP

8815 Knapp Road

(989) 422-7200

NEWAYGO - Kristen Fors/Nancy Robbins, LPN

318 Cooperative Center Drive

(231) 652-9800

PORTLAND - Laurie Battin

102 Rindlehaven Commons

(517) 647-4790

ROGERS CITY - Morgan Hall, MBA**Jacky Wenzel, RN**

715 S. Third Street

(989) 734-2400

ROSCOMMON - Melissa Fik, LPN, CALD

195 State Street

(989) 275-4000

WEST BRANCH - Jacquie Farrand, RN, CALD**Rakesha Bellville, LPN**

646 Court Street

(989) 343-1400

CORPORATE OFFICE -

2375 S. I-75 Business Loop, Grayling, MI 49738

(989) 745-6500

CEO - Sandy Altman-Elliott, BSW**Operation Specialist - Mary Jo Stringham, RN****Executive Assistant - Kat Hoffman****VP of Marketing - Kimberlee Pappas, CALD****VP of Accounting - Lisa Trudell, MBA****Maintenance Supervisor - Marty Ruegsegger****COVID-19 Vaccine Updates**

We are thrilled to share with you that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved Pfizer's request for emergency use authorization (EUA) of its COVID-19 vaccine. This is incredible news and something worth celebrating in what has been a challenging year.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently recommended that long term care residents and staff be included at the highest priority level for the first distributions of this vaccine.

The COVID-19 vaccine will soon be available to all residents and staff. We are moving forward with our plans and will provide additional details soon. In the meantime, we need your consent for the pharmacy to administer the vaccine. Completed consent forms need to be returned your Brook manager. There will be no costs to get the vaccine, and you can review the EUA fact sheet here.

The elderly have a much higher risk for getting very sick, being hospitalized, or dying from COVID-19. The vaccine has been shown to provide a great deal of protection against serious illness due to COVID-19. **The more residents and staff that get vaccinated, the better we can protect our community against potential outbreaks and save lives.**

This vaccine has gone through testing and clinical trials to ensure it meets the highest safety standards. It also is safe to get if you already had the virus. The health and safety of our residents are always our top priorities, and we are confident this vaccine is a much better option than the risk of getting this virus.

And you can rest assured that we will continue to take all necessary precautions after the vaccine is administered, including wearing personal protective equipment and conducting regular testing, to ensure the safety of our residents and staff. We will also work with public health officials to determine how and when to adjust our policies for visitations and social activities and keep you updated.

There is a light at the end of the tunnel. We are hopeful that the vaccine will be a lifesaving turning point in the fight against COVID-19. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us with any questions. You may also visit www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines to learn more about the vaccine.