



# Amy Johnson Residence

**Newsreporter XXXVI  
Number 2**

**March/April 2019**

## Thank You Friends

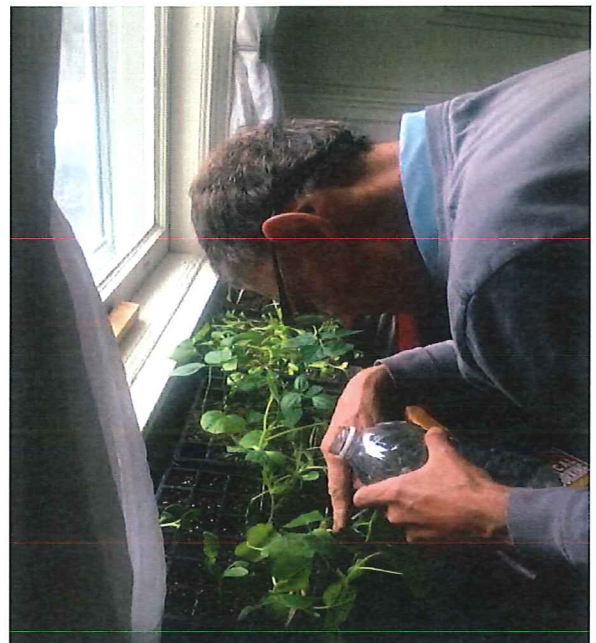
We are so grateful for the caring and gifts that we receive from so many. Our thanks to: Amelia Fotsch for reading a play with us, Betsy and Lucille at Lowertown Foods for the cards and stamps, Kathy and Dale Kenyon for the pictures and updates from their travels, Duane Jagiello for serving us communion, Sandra and Tony Menke for the delicious cookies and the sand and seashells from the beach in Florida, Monica Ehman for bringing the bread and good cheer on what otherwise, is a Monday! Finally, special thanks to Cookie McDonough for her kindness and care of us, and the beautiful Easter baskets filled with treats she lovingly makes for the residents.

## March and April

It seemed for awhile that winter was never going to leave, so we had to get creative in March and April to keep ourselves from getting dragged down into the inevitable 'cabin fever' of late winter, early spring in Minnesota. One day, we allowed only sunny summer songs for music appreciation. At times, we dragged our hands through the sand, and picked up the shells in the box on the end table by the couch in the living room. Anything to remind us of a new season ahead. We did spring artwork with lots of colors and a new motto to set our attitudes. We planted seeds in trays by the south window and watched the beautiful green life emerge.



Our group art reminder hanging in the dining room.



Dan J. tending to the start of the AJR garden.

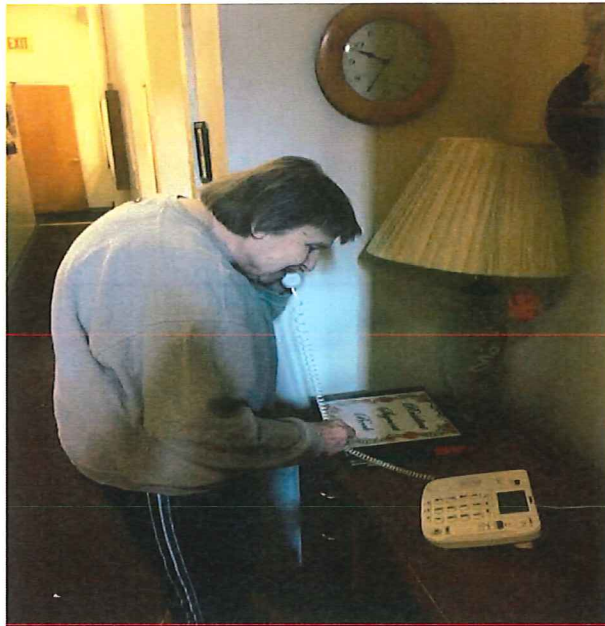




'Mini beach' in the living room.



"Wheel of Fortune!"



A call first thing in the morning, just to say 'hi' or 'thinking of you', brightens the rest of our day!

## Activities

We had fun these months, adding two new games, *Name Five*, and *Wheel of Fortune* for the Wii video. In the first, participants have to name, say, five Al Pacino movies or five states that border Missouri. The second, well, it's just like the TV show we faithfully watch each evening at 6:30 PM, except Pat and Vanna are virtual, and the thousands of dollars and trips to Costa Rica are mythical.

We all laughed one morning during one of the early rounds we played, when Patty Metty walked in late, glanced at the TV screen with only 7 letters of the puzzle filled in, and casually solved it, saying, "Oh, human potential." We had our closest finish in dart competition ever, with Kathleen edging out Tim, 134 to 133, and St. Joan of Dart coming in 3rd with 131. Wanda continued her winning ways in *Farkle*, and for a prize, got to choose where we went for resident choice outing. She, of course, picked MacDonald's on treat day for ice cream cones.

We had a discussion about our mortality on Ash Wednesday, and in a ritual, remembered the ways we have said goodbye to various loved ones, including our animal friends. We rubbed ashes on each other's foreheads saying, "From dust you came to dust you shall return." One resident was out that morning and didn't get the ashen smudge on their forehead. Another generous soul leaned their forehead in and said, "Here, you can have some of mine." On Saint Patrick's Day we celebrated with a party and read poetry, remarking on the Irish gift for gab and brilliant way with words. Another morning, our activity director's goddaughter, an aspiring actress, came in and read the play, *The Princess and the Pea* with us. One movie we watched was *Free Solo*, the Oscar winning documentary about the man who climbed El Capitan without ropes. Our palms were sweating and breathing heavy just watching!





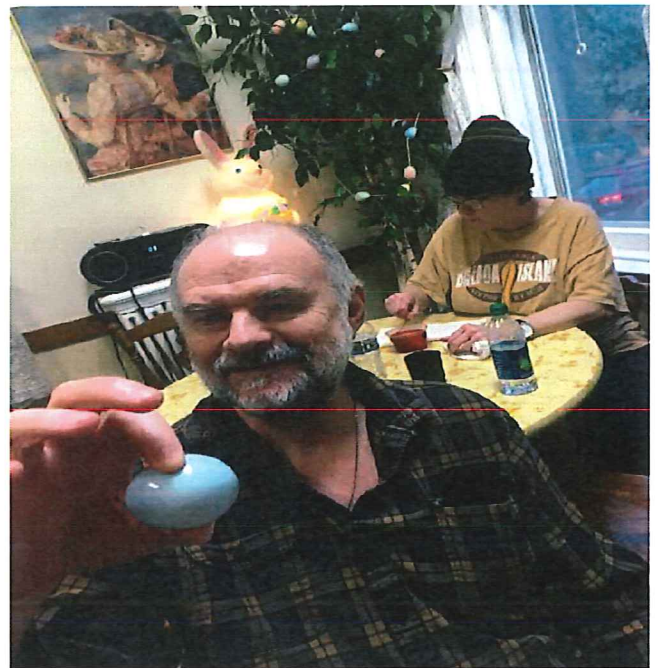
We do love our animals and they love us.



Pat explaining that her Matisse-like painting is about movement.



Reading a play with high school student Amelia.



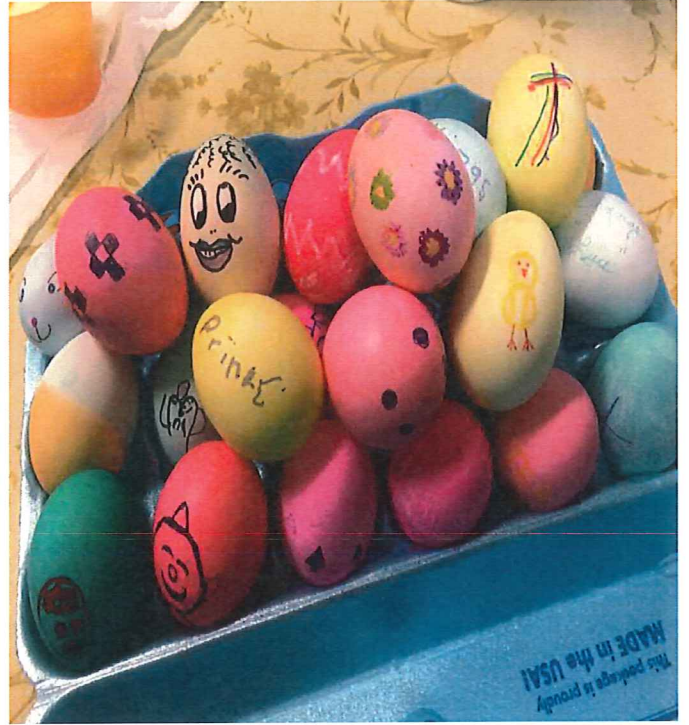
Dan Z. pleased with the results!

The other movies we watched were *Jesus of Nazareth* for Holy Week and *Dead Poet's Society* to continue our discussion of poetry. We painted spring art to lively up the dining room and dyed Easter eggs to hunt for in the living room and hallways.





Luanne stenciling, Mike goes with blue.



Easter eggs, one in memory of the musician Prince.



There's one, Marilyn!



Cookie's customized Easter basket for Cheryl.





St. Patty's Day party!

## March and April Outings

Attendees to **MacDonald's** for treat day were: Lee, Cheryl, Lucille, Wanda, Mike, Dan Z., Yeng, Joan, Kathleen, Pat, Tim, Patty, Marilyn, Carla, Brian, and Margaret.



Tim and our newest resident, Yeng in Viking's purple with former activities director, Monica.

The reunion took place at **Muddy Paws Cheesecake Factory**. Joining on this outing were: Joan, Brian, Patty, Luanne, and Kathleen. When Monica first met Yeng, she kiddingly said, "I don't like you ... because you're wearing purple and not green and gold." Monica is unfortunately a Packer's fan.

Kathleen, Joan, Cheryl, Tim, and Yeng went to **Best Steakhouse**.



Steve, Lucille, Pat, and Joan help Marilyn celebrate her birthday with bread sticks and salad at the **Olive Garden**.



Johanna, Yeng, Patty, Margaret, Cheryl, and Kathleen at **Minnehaha Falls**.



Carla, Lucille, and Kathleen made their quarterly pilgrimage to **Pusch Salon** to get pampered and beautified. Where else do you get espresso with your hairstyle?

Not at **Great Clips**, where Dan Z., Tim, Lee, Peg, Luanne, Steve, Brian, Joan, Marilyn, Margaret, Yeng and Pat D. get extra special service, nonetheless!

**Library** goers were: Rick, Marilyn, Joan, Cheryl, Lee, Margaret, Yeng, and Pat.



The boys take a butter burger selfie at **Culver's**. Mike, Brian, and Yeng in the house.

Filling out the month's eating excursions were: Wanda, Carla, Brian, Mike, Dan Z., and Patty at **Golden Corral** and Lucille, Marilyn, Pat D, and Luanne going to **Great Moon**.

Margaret, Luanne, and Pat had coffee and a cookie while shopping for books at **Barnes and Noble**.

Rosie, Johanna, Joan, Kathleen and Patty searched for treasures at **Goodwill**. Lee, Brian, Luanne, Joan, Yeng, Johanna, Kathleen did the combo shopping at the Woodbury **Walmart** and **Dollartree**. Our regulars to **Target** and **Starbuck's** are: Luanne, Pat D., Marilyn, Patty, Kathleen, Johanna, and Yeng,



"Do you like it here?" The answer from Wanda is always a hug.



Residents practice a severe weather drill.

## Inspirational Thought

"Be kind to all, for everyone you meet is fighting a difficult battle."

- Ian Maclaren



## Happy Birthdays

April 22nd - Marilyn LaBarre has been a resident of Amy Johnson for 29 years. She enjoys reading, writing novels, and going to the library. Her favorite restaurants are: Culver's, Great Moon, and Red Lobster, although, this year she celebrated at The Olive Garden.

April 26th - Mike Regnier has been a resident of Amy Johnson for 19 years. He enjoys all kinds of sports, going to Cinco de Mayo and Grand Ole Days, and having afternoon coffee after the hard work he puts in the kitchen. He relaxes by watching TV.

## Honduras News

We continue to listen and watch with interest the conversations about our southern border, and the growing stream of political refugees from Central and South America. We have had conversations about what we think are workable solutions (besides walls) to the growing instability of our world's climate and populations. We do our small part by putting our bingo quarters and loose change in the piggy bank for the faith communities in Honduras. We have raised more than 150 dollars the past two months.



## Environmental News

Make an effort to eat more simply and vegetarian one day a week.

**Roaming Reporter wants to know ...** (In honor of the Oscars) What is an important movie in your life?

**Rosie** - *South Pacific*

**Rick** - *Gone with the Wind*

**Lucille** - *Jesus of Nazareth*

**Pat D.** - *The Legend of Shenlong*

**Brian** - *Grapes of Wrath*

**Cheryl** - *Doctor Zhivago*

**Lee** - *The Good Earth*

**Dan J.** - *Star Wars*

**Wanda** - *Oklahoma* and *Carousel*, I like them both!

**Luanne** - *Murder on the Orient Express*

**Dan Z.** - *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*

**Steve** - I like horror and science fiction, but I'd have to say *The Greatest Story Ever Told*

**Kathleen** - *The Sound of Music*

**Johanna** - *Where Angels Go, Trouble Follows*

**Margaret** - *The Blair Witch Project* and *The Lion King*

**Peg** - *The Passion of the Christ*

**Mike** - Let's see, I can't think of any

**Marilyn** - *Exodus*

**Joan** - *Beethoven*

**Tim** - *Animal House*

**Patty** - *The Song of Bernadette* is good

**Yeng** - *Once Upon a Time in China*, a Jet Li fighting movie