2026 NKV HOLIDAY MEAL

THURSDAY
DECEMBER 10TH
11:00 OR 1:00
****LIMIT OF 2 GUESTS PER APARTMENT****

2026 MAGGIES HOLIDAY MEAL

THURSDAY
DECEMBER 17TH
11:30
****LIMIT OF 2 GUESTS PER RESIDENT****

2026 Holiday Meal

We're excited to invite our residents and their guests to our 2026 Holiday Meal on Thursday, December 10th, with seating times at 11:00 or 1:00.

RSVP cards have been delivered to your front porches.
Please return to the front desk by November 18th.

Maggie's Place will host its own Holiday Lunch on Thursday, December 18, at 11:30 and RSVP's can be called in to the Concierge at 515.232.1000.

We are excited to celebrate together!



Knowledge @ Northridge

Tuesday
November 10th
2:30 - Main Building Chapel

Dr. Jonathan Sturm

Morrill Professor of Music History, Iowa State University
Concertmaster, Des Moines Symphony

ALL are welcome
3300 George W. Carver Ave.

Jonathan's performances have taken him to Cuba, Russia, Germany, South Africa, and numerous US cities.

KAYLA'S KORNER

As we enter the holiday season, we are reminded of the importance of family, friendship, and the joy found in spending time with those who mean the most to us. From all of us at Northridge Village, we wish our residents, families, and team members a holiday season filled with love, laughter, peace, and special memories. Thank you for being part of our Northridge Village family. May your holidays be merry and bright, and may the new year bring happiness, health, and joy to all!



The Villager

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF NORTHRIDGE VILLAGE
November 2026

New Residents

- Bill & Judy Howard - Commons

New Employees

- Olivia Hanig - Housekeeper
- Taylor Decker - CNA
- Penny Jennings - Culinary Aide
- Madison Ollia - CNA
- Yaretzy Maldonado Silva - Care Partner
- Lakiya Jones - Life Services Coordinator
- Emma Schmitt - Care Partner
- Tarah Bhave - Care Partner
- Abilene Schmidtke - CNA

Employee Anniversaries

- Mel Haman - 5 years
- Kim Podhajsky - 2 years
- Ethan Litterer - 1 year

Birthdays

- Gary Mahood - 2nd
- Harlan Mueller - 3rd
- Dar Erickson - 4th
- Beth Strickler - 4th
- Mary Kay Johnson - 7th
- Carolyn Brockman - 8th
- Ruth Ann Robinson - 9th
- Betty Jenkins - 10th
- Donna Lorenzen - 12th
- Joyce Huisman - 18th
- Don Taylor - 18th
- Vern Greimann - 27th

THANK YOU FOR SERVING OUR COUNTRY & PROTECTING OUR Freedom

October Highlights



QUESTION OF THE MONTH

“IF YOU COULD REVAMP THE TRADITIONAL THANKSGIVING MENU, WHAT WOULD YOU SERVE?”

Ruth Ann: “I would probably stick to the same. But if I had to change it would be roast lamb or roast beef. Those are family favorites. I don’t think many people would say they prefer roast lamb though.”

Carl: “Take away turkey and dressing and have oyster stew, homemade bread and green bean casserole! But I really wouldn’t change it, I like it all!“

Eileen: “Duck instead of turkey!”

Romaine: “Some kind of chicken. For sweet things I’d have Milky Way candy bars!”

Danyell (Hair stylist): “Steak and baked potatoes! There’s nothing wrong with a big‘ol juicy steak for Thanksgiving!”

Madison (Culinary): “Beef pot roast instead of turkey! Take away apple pie and add key lime pie!”

Norma: “Add more vegetables that are overcooked. I like the turkey and mashed potatoes!”

Sierra (AL Director): “I’d rather have ham. Our family tradition is my aunt making mandarin orange jello salad – we must have it! Yum!”

Arlo : “Ham is better! Keep the corn and sweet potatoes!”
Zach (staff): “Not a turkey fan! I’d have ham! Turkey is always dry no matter how you cook it!”

Glenn: “I wouldn’t change a thing! Have to have roast turkey!”

Jim D.: “I don’t eat mashed potatoes, but I would add squash.”

Sharon: “Beef stew and cherry pie!”

Bree (culinary): “I don’t like green bean casserole! Prefer having ham instead of turkey!”

Sylva: “I’d make roast beef instead of turkey. We’d have sweet potato casserole with pecans and green rice (broccoli, rice and cheese whiz). No pumpkin pie but instead pecan or chocolate cream pie!”

Arden: “Keep the turkey and not change anything!”
Rollie: “Gotta have turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy and pumpkin pie!”

David: “I’m a traditional guy!!” Sylva, his wife: “He eats what’s on the table!”

Shirley Shaw: “I don’t like turkey; chicken and for sure sweet potatoes!”

Dick & Darlene's Love Story: 75 Years of Faith, Family, and Forever



Dick and Darlene’s love story began simply through church youth groups as teenagers in neighboring towns. By Darlene's sophomore year and Dick's junior year, their connection grew through shared church activities, movie dates in Fort Dodge, and trips to the Iowa State Fair.

After two years of dating, Dick proposed shortly after Darlene graduated high school. He bought her a diamond ring—which her mother wouldn't let her wear until graduation day—along with a cedar chest that remains in the family today. Darlene often joked that she "got two presents out of him that way."

Their practical wedding featured Darlene in an altered version of her sister-in-law's dress and a cozy reception in the church basement. Instead of a lavish honeymoon, they took a short trip to Fort Dodge and Omaha before returning to work. Soon after, they settled in Ames, built their first home with their own hands, and raised their two sons, Dan and David.

"Coming to Ames was the best thing for us and our family," they said. "We loved it from day one."

Both dedicated their careers to education in Ames and at Iowa State University. In retirement, they enjoyed traveling, including an eleven-country European trip with their lifelong double-dating friends.

Through seventy-five years of marriage, they faced disagreements over raising their sons and managing finances, but they lived by a steadfast rule: never go to bed angry.

"We would disagree, but we would never let it go," they said. "We always settled it before bed."

"Don't go to bed mad, because it never gets better by morning."

Dick laughingly admits, "I gave in."

"We never let it get too serious."

"I don't think we ever thought about separating. We always stuck together."

"We both enjoy doing things to help each other."

Looking back on a lifetime filled with children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, Darlene credits their joy for their longevity.

"Absolutely," she said. "I never dreamed I would live to my 90s."

Their seventy-five years together stand as a testament to faith, family, hard work, and the simple commitment of choosing each other every single day. ❤️

November 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30 Catholic Gathering- CH 10:00 Sunday Church Service Live Stream- HCD Daylight Saving Time Ends	2 9:30 Exercise 10:30 1:1 Visits 3:00 Bingo	3 9:30 Exercise 10:30 Pet Therapy 2:00 Paul & Paula Program: The Ghost Army- CH 2:30 Rosary- PHCD	4 9:30 Fitness Fun 10:30 Chapel & Communion 11:30 Resident Council Meeting- HCD 2:30 Music w/ Birdy Young- HCD	5 9:30 Exercise 11:00 Learning Hour: Iconic America: National Symbols- HCD 3:00 Music w/ Vintage Cafe- ILD	6 9:30 Exercise 10:00 Men's Group- CC 2:30 Nail Grooming- HCD	7 TBA: Time & Channel Iowa State vs Baylor Iowa vs Northwestern **Happy Birthday Mary Kay Johnson!**
8 9:30 Catholic Gathering- CH 10:00 Sunday Church Service Live Stream- HCD 2:00 Henson String Studio Students- ILD	9 Library Pickup Today! 9:30 Exercise 10:30 Sing Along 2:00 Pearle Vision- CMR 3:00 Bingo 3:00 Music w/ Dave Watson- ILD	10 9:30 Exercise 10:30 Pet Therapy 2:30 Knowledge at NRV: Jonathan Sturm DSM Symphony Concertmaster- CH 2:30 Rosary- PHCD	11 9:30 Fitness Fun 10:30 Chapel 2:00 Veterans Day Program w/ Chuck Achter- ILD Veterans Day	12 9:30 Exercise 11:00 Learning Hour: Jazz: A Ken Burns Film- HCD 2:30 National Happy Hour Day Social Hour- HCD	13 8:00-9:30 Hearing Unlimited- AL 2nd Floor 9:30 Exercise 10:00 Men's Group- CC 4:00 Music w/Joan & Denton Ketels- ILD	14 TBA: Time & Channel Iowa State vs Cincinnati Iowa vs Purdue
15 9:30 Catholic Gathering- CH 10:00 Sunday Church Service Live Stream- HCD	16 9:30 Exercise 10:30 1:1 Visits 3:00 Bingo	17 9:30 Exercise 10:30 Pet Therapy 2:30 Rosary- PHCD 2:30 Baking with Aubry: Bread in a Bag- HCD	18 9:30 Fitness Fun 10:30 Chapel 3:00 FNB Resident Appreciation Holiday Get Together- ILD **Happy Birthday Joyce Huisman!**	19 9:30 Exercise 11:00 Learning Hour: The Secret World of Sound: Nature Like You've Never Heard Before- HCD 2:30 Neil Hewitt- ILD	20 9:30 Exercise 10:00 Men's Group- CC 3:00 JDS Trio- ILD 5:00 Iowa State vs UCF on FS1 CH 24	21 TBA: Time & Channel Iowa vs Illinois
22 9:30 Catholic Gathering- CH 10:00 Sunday Church Service Live Stream- HCD	23 9:30 Exercise 10:30 Sing-Along 3:00 Bingo 3:00 Music w/ Ron Smith- ILD	24 9:30 Exercise 10:30 Pet Therapy 1:30 Armchair Travelers: Egypt- CH 2:30 Rosary- PHCD 2:30 Nail Grooming **Happy Birthday Don Taylor!**	25 9:30 Fitness Fun 10:30 Chapel 2:30 Turkey Hunt Shooting Game- HCD	26 	27 9:30 Exercise 10:00 Men's Group- CC 11:00 Iowa vs Nebraska on CBS CH 8 2:30 Board/Card Games (Uno, Rummikub, and Yahtzee)- HCD	28 TBA: Time & Channel Iowa State vs Kansas State
29 9:30 Catholic Gathering- CH 10:00 Sunday Church Service Live Stream- HCD	30 9:30 Exercise 10:30 1:1 Visits 3:00 Bingo					

Northridge Village: Health Care Activity Calendar
www.northridgevillage.com *Calendars Subject to Change*

HCD- Health Care Dining CH- Chapel ILD- Independent Living Dining CC- Coffee Cafe OME- Outside Main Entrance
PHCD- Private Health Care Dining ALD- Assisted Living Dining CMR- Community Room