



John Clarke

SENIOR LIVING

TRUSTWORTHY - RESPONSIVE - UNITY - SERVICE - THRIVING



March 2025

Dear John Clarke Community,

We are delighted to report that our Department of Health Survey and Certification Inspection and Life Safety Survey on February 24th – 26th resulted in ZERO deficiencies for the nursing center! This accomplishment is extraordinarily rare these days. The staff at John Clarke are to be commended for their continuing commitment to excellence.

Early this month, I will be testifying at the State House in support of the Governor's Budget. Many of you know that two years ago, the State passed a law requiring nursing homes to provide a minimum number of direct staffing hours per resident per day. While we are all very supportive of ensuring that each resident receives the care and support needed, the law that passed is very flawed. First, the staff identified as "direct care" does not include our Occupational Therapy Assistants or any of the recreation staff nor the medication technicians. Each nursing home and each resident is different – a resident who requires two people and a special lift to get up in the morning require far more hours than a person who can walk, bathe and toilet themselves. Secondly, the law built in devastating penalties for noncompliance. Nursing homes will be penalized 200% for the difference in cost of the wages and benefits for the first offense (calculated quarterly); 250% for the second offense and 300% for the third offense. Three consecutive violations will result in the denial of Medicaid payments or denial of admissions.

Using the data we have available; John Clarke is facing a fine of \$208,029 fine for Quarter 2 of 2024. When annualized, that fine will increase to \$1,092,151.78. We simply do not have the funds to cover this and are at risk of closing if these fines are enacted.

When presented with the potential fines to nursing homes around the state, Governor McKee put a moratorium on the penalties. This year, he has made some changes that are included in the Budget that include broadening the definition of direct care staff; providing a waiver process for nursing homes that show good faith efforts to hire/recruit staff based on the acuity (needs) of the residents in individual nursing homes; and develop a penalty provision that will not bankrupt us.

Please help us by asking your senators and representatives to support the Governor's budget.

On a happier note... We have been recognized as a Finalist for the Newport Chamber of Commerce's Business in Excellence award! Notification of award winners will be made on the 7th.

We have many wonderful activities this month including Irish Step Dancing! Please see the calendar enclosed with details.

Warm Regards,

Joan M. Woods, CEO



March 5th
Ashes will be given at 10:00am in the Chapel
by Fr. Hemp

Chaplain's Corner

God in Nature

The Daffodil

The other day I had a memorial service for one of our residences in the Chapel. The family brought in some beautiful flowers. One of the types of flowers was the daffodil. It brightens the chapel so much after what has been a long cold winter.



I did a little research on the flower and found some of the following facts. The official birth flower for March is the daffodil, also known as a jonquil or narcissus, symbolizing new beginnings, happiness, and joy, as they often bloom in early spring.

Here's a more detailed look at the daffodil:

- **Symbolism:** Daffodils are associated with new beginnings, happiness, and joy, fitting for the arrival of spring.
- **Appearance:** They are known for their vibrant, trumpet-shaped blooms and cheerful appearance.
- **Colors:** Daffodils come in various colors, including yellow, white, orange, and pink.
- **Blooming Season:** They bloom from early to late spring.
- **Other Names:** Besides daffodils, they are also called jonquils or narcissus.
- **Uses:** Daffodils are popular in gardens, yards, parks, and containers worldwide.
- **In Wales:** The daffodil is a national emblem in Wales, symbolizing hope and is associated with St. David's Day, celebrated on March 1st.

The shape being like a trumpet reminded me of what the Bible tells us in Romans 1:20 “For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.”

As we enter this new month and as Spring gets closer, I pray you may find joy and happiness in the beginning of each new day that God gives us.

Jim Davis
Chaplain JCSL



Daylight Savings Time begins again on Sunday, March 9th, when most Americans will spring forward an hour at 2 a.m. local time. When does the time change again? You won't move your clocks back until November 2nd, when daylight savings time (sometimes erroneously called daylight savings time) end for the year.

Purim, March 13th

Purim is a Jewish holiday which commemorates the saving of the Jewish people from Haman, an Achaemenid Persian Empire official who was planning to kill all the Jews in the empire, as recounted in the Book of Esther. Haman was the royal vizier to King Ahasuerus.



Monday, March 17th!

First Day of Spring Wednesday, March 20th



CHEF'S CORNER

IRISH APPLE CAKE

Cake ingredients:

- 1 ¼ cups flour
- 1tsp. baking powder
- 1tsp. cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp. kosher salt
- ½ cup unsalted melted butter
- 2 tsp. vanilla extract
- 2 large eggs (room temp.)
- 3 granny smith apples peeled and sliced thin
- 3Tbsp. milk

Streusel Topping:

- ¾ cup all purpose
- ½ cup granulated sugar
- ¼ cup old-fashioned oats
- 1 tsp salt
- ½ cup cold cubed butter

Streusel: In a mixing bowl whisk together flour, sugar, oats and salt. Using your fingers, mix the cold butter into the ingredients until well



combined and work it until you can form a dough ball. Cover and refrigerate for at least 15 minutes.

Cake: Preheat oven to 350.

Grease and flour a 9-inch cake pan then line bottom with parchment paper.

In a medium mixing bowl, whisk together flour, baking powder, cinnamon and salt.

In a large mixing bowl, whisk together melted butter, sugar, and vanilla.

Add one egg at a time whisking well until all eggs are incorporated.

Add Flour mix to butter mix in 2 steps alternating ½ the milk and mix and fold until combined then the other half of mix and milk fold until combined.

Spoon batter into the cake pan then evenly top with apple slices. Crumble up the streusel and top the cake.

Bake for 60-70 minutes until golden brown and cool on a wire rack for at least 10- 15 minutes then turn onto a plate remove the parchment flip back over onto the wire rack cooling completely.

Slice and serve with a scoop of some good vanilla ice cream and top with a little warm Baily's Irish Cream.

Enjoy and Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Chef Scott

Every step
in March
feels like
hope sprouting.



WALKING THE WINTER BEACH

Gone the near-nakeds glistening with lotion; gone the children in perpetual motion.

Gone are the surfer dudes along with their boards, gone, at last, all those vacation hoards.

Our beach is back from summer's surfeit of glee no lifeguards, no parking fees, now it is free. Free again for the dogs to roam as they scamper about in the cold green foam.

Now an old lady can stroll with her cane, stopping to rest when her legs are in pain.

Joggers in jackets can go for a run Loping past strollers enjoying the sun. Seashells still lie, intact, in the sands safe now from souvenir-seeking hands.

Our beach is reclaimed by the young and the old, No matter the weather, no matter the cold.

The beach in the winter, I like it the best,
Go take a walk, take the Winter Beach Test.

VLB 1/7/19



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Phillip Amaral, March 1st

Kenneth Williams, March 2nd

Journey Dupont, March 4th

Tony Chatowsky, March 8th

Dolores Santos-Coull, March 6th

Sandra Ratcliffe, March 10th

Randy Whitehead, March 13th

Kaitlyn Parascandolo and Wilfredo Guinguing, March 17th

Scott Hahn, March 18th

Marilyn Lindh, March 23rd

Peyton Lynas, March 25th

Zodian Matthews, March 26th

Lilly Carter, March 31st



We are LUCKY
to have wonderful supporters!

John Clarke Senior Living celebrates its 45th anniversary this July!

Thousands of people have lived on our campus ... and we have enjoyed providing compassionate care to each and every one of them whether it was for a short time while they were recovering from an illness or surgery or those who make **John Clarke** their forever home.

We're excited to be embarking on a renovation project which will provide our facility with the needed assets to move forward into our next 45 years of improving the lives of those we serve with respect, compassion, and kindness.

The first step in renovating our Nursing Center (which has all of its original systems and equipment), is the installation of a new generator which will provide nearly **6 times** more kilowatts!

Right now, if we experience a power outage, only one in five outlets are available, televisions and other entertainment options would not have power. That problem will be solved when the Electrical Room and generator are upgraded.

Also planned for renovation this year is our Nurses Station.

Will you make a donation to help us implement these important upgrades?

John Clarke Senior Living is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization that can accept donations to fund projects and programs. We're thankful to those people and organizations who made a donation in February including:

**Tub to Shower Conversion Project
in the Apartments:**

Katherine Pitzer

**Donations to Valentine's Campaign
supporting Renovations in the Nursing Center:**

In Memory of Marylou Schlip

Anonymous

In Memory of Joan S. Malkovich

Kara Malkovich

In Memory of Clara Motter

Pattie Aswad

Activity Fund Donation

Lorraine Winthrop and Emma Virgadamo

**Donations In Memory of
Carol Silverbush**

Sara Romer

February Donation

John Thorpe

Grant

Funding for a new industrial washing machine in the Nursing Center by:

**The John Clarke Trust,
Bank of America Trustees**



St. Patrick's Day Word Search



P O T O F G O L D B E E T S L
O S F R A C H G C U I V E L U
S O H B O W S C L O V E R E W
T A M A R C H R A D O W S P I
L R U C M U C K Y L O E P R A
U C W I K R A I N B O W K E Y
K A T R S G O N D U R L U C K
T H E T G O S C P L E R P H A
C T O I R N T D K O G M R A I
C O R N E D B E E F R C A U R
E T I R E L A N D O S H E N I
W O W N N D O W T L K Y D O S
L E A I S T H P A R A D E T H
T R A D I T I O N R O P C E D
A P A T R I C K M A F C T H A



CLOVER
COINS
CORNERED BEEF
TRADITION
GREEN
IRELAND
IRISH
LEPRECHAUN
LUCK
MARCH
PARADE
PATRICK
POT OF GOLD
RAINBOW
SHAMROCK

