

June 2023

Normandy Connection

The Normandy Care Center, 22709 Lake Rd. Rocky River, Ohio 44116, (440) 333-5400



Leadership Team

Administrator
Emily Connolly

Admissions & Marketing
Whitney Dillman

BOM & Billing
Jeanne Kucinski, Lynn Rhoades

Dietary Manager
Kathy Halderman

Director Of Nursing
Fabian Mediavilla

Facility Rehab Coordinator
Lauren Browske

HR Director
Melissa Cervone

Housekeeping & Laundry
Liz Eisom

Life Enrichment Director
Cindy Hadley

Maintenance Director
Corey Lindsey

Medical Records & Central Supply
Mary Lou Diaz

MDS
Kim Kinney

Social Service Directors
Ginny Moes, Rya Laurel

Staffing Coordinator
Shiaa Robinson

Unit Managers
Cindy Oliver
Janice Gibson
Christie Thacker



Our resident for the month of June is Gayle Olbrysh. One of four children, Gayle was born on November 20th, 1950, at Fairview Hospital in Cleveland. She lived with her brothers Gary and Tommy, and her sister Kathy. She went to school in Parma and graduated in 1968.

After graduation, she worked for a trucking company as a secretary, and operated the old-fashioned phone bank in the office. She also worked for lawyers at a title company.

Gayle has two children, Adam and Mikki. She has 3 beautiful grandchildren, Adam's son Hunter, and Mikki's two children Aiden and Avia, who she loves dearly!

Gayle came to live at the Normandy seven years ago. She has made this place her home, her room is filled with artwork and crafts she has made with the activity department, and a "wall of fame" with pictures of her many friends she has made here.

She is vice-president of Resident Council, and very active in all activities offered here, especially bingo, live music performances at the parties, arts and crafts, rosary and going outside in this beautiful weather. She inspires her fellow residents to come to functions, and has made many close friends in her time here.

She loves to go out with her sister Kathy on the weekends, especially if it involves Olive Garden! Gayle's favorite food is Italian. She loves all music, especially Van Morrison. Gayle greets everyone with a smile, and her positive attitude and infectious laughter endears her to residents and staff alike! Her motto is "ready, willing and able" and her life reflects her resolve and energy.

Congratulations to Gayle - and thanks to her for all she adds to the Normandy family! Her motto is "ready, willing and able" and her life reflects her resolve and energy. Congratulations to Gayle - and thanks to her for all she adds to the Normandy family!

Nurse's Week & Nursing Home Week Fun!!



Picnics Too!!



Staff Birthdays

Malaico Lusane 6/1
Carmen Cosme 6/4
Clair Firestos 6/9
Cindy Hadley 6/10
Jeannie Kucinski 6/14
Gia Falbo 6/15
Tina Murphy 6/18
Angel Phillips 6/18
Susan Rusnov 6/19
Michael J Pachniuk 6/25
Tiwanna Whitt 6/27



Sylvia Jackson-Nix 6/1 (1yr)
Suzanne Humpal 6/14 (2yrs)
Linda Bucher 6/15 (2yrs)
Merita Alla 6/25 (2yrs)
Shannon Goard 6/3 (4yrs)
Gab'brielle Norfus 6/3 (4yrs)
Ana Rosario 6/8 (8yrs)
Cindy Oliver 6/11 (11yrs)

Resident Birthdays

Kathy Lauricella 6/6
Jo Radice 6/7
Joyce Maurer 6/13
Margi Masel 6/15
Susan Fringer 6/17
Patricia Trunk 6/22
Rosa Vega 6/24

The Ghosts of Thailand

Each June, the city of Dan Sai in Thailand holds its three-day ghost festival known as *Phi Ka Thon*. The festival commemorates an ancient journey taken by Prince Vessantara, an incarnation of the Buddha in one of his past lives. The legend states that the prince gave up everything he owned and disappeared to take a great personal journey. He was gone so long that everyone thought him dead. When he returned, alive and in good health, the village was so happy that it threw a party so boisterous that it could wake the dead. That party is remembered today as Phi Ka Thon, a festival fit to wake ghosts and spirits.



The festival begins with a parade of villagers dressed in elaborate and hand-painted ghost masks and costumes. Music, dancing, and boisterous games create a raucous revelry that is an attempt to wake the spirits. The masks often take hours to complete. Where it was once considered bad luck to keep the masks after the festival was over, the artistry has made them valuable collectors' items.

Phi Ka Thon is part of the larger Buddhist festival of *Bun Phawet*, a merit-making festival. Merit-making is an ancient and important Buddhist practice. *Merit* is the belief that performing good deeds and prayers creates a beneficial and protective force, leading to good fortune, helping individuals on the path to Enlightenment, and even helping the dead adjust to their new lives. During Bun Phawet, Buddhist monks who have spent a year devotedly meditating are finally and honorably ordained. Villagers pay their respects to the monks and create merit by offering gifts of food and money trees. Merit is also shared with the spirits and ghosts roused by the festival celebrations.

The final day of the festival is when the monks give sermons to the villagers, reciprocating the merit that they had received and preparing for another year of prayer and meditation.

