

The Mayflower Log



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KEEPING MAYFLOWER HEALTHY AND CLEAN

Almost 2200 windows.

Approximately two and a half miles of corridor.

About two football fields worth of common areas.

And 55 resident rooms in the Health Center, South Village, and Beebe.

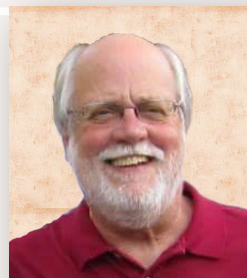
In all these spaces, odors and germs are the enemy. Housekeeping and Laundry are our defense!

The general goal for this department is described in the Mayflower handbook:

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Welcome New Residents



GUENTHER, Gerry
(* Nancy)



GUENTHER, Nancy
(* Gerry)



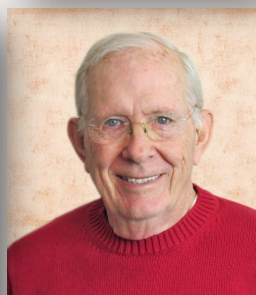
ANDERSON, Dennis
(* Joy Weeks)



MYREN, Bob (* Linda)



MYREN, Linda (* Bob)



VOGEL, Dick (* Sis)



VOGEL, Sis(* Dick)

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Maintain cleanliness of all Mayflower campus common areas.

Using their nine vacuum cleaners, nine cleaning carts, and gallons of environmentally safe cleaner, this 14-person staff wages a fierce battle to keep Mayflower residents safe, comfortable, and healthy.

They clean and sanitize not only the hallways and dining areas, but also the lounges and specialty rooms like the game room and the woodshop. Think doorknobs! Think handrails! They also do laundry for the Health Center and Beebe.

In addition, they clean and keep stocked the guest rooms so that Mayflower visitors have coffee and other basics available. The housekeeping staff is also responsible for cleaning the outsides of all the windows in both the spring and the fall. Residents can pay extra to have the staff clean the insides as well.

In fact, residents can request help from this department for special cleaning services, like cleaning high spaces or behind the refrigerator. Residents wanting such services are invited to contact Tammy Long to make an appointment; she will determine whether the staff can help or she will recommend outside help.

Besides these activities, the housekeeping staff collaborates with the nursing staff, facilities management, and

the dining staff to improve the lives of the residents, especially in Beebe and the Health Center. Like the nursing staff, members of the housekeeping staff are trained in HIPAA rules, and pay careful attention to standards of confidentiality.

Tammy Long, who has worked at Mayflower for nine years, supervises this department. Each staff member works 80 hours every two weeks, including one weekend. This schedule allows for frequent attention to Beebe and the Health Center. At Beebe, the rooms are cleaned once a week and laundry done twice a week. At the Health Center, rooms are cleaned every day, including weekends. If some residents begin to show flu-like



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WELCOME DENNIS ANDERSON - HTN 721 Park St.

Dennis Anderson was born in 1932 on a dairy farm near Evansville, MN, 150 miles northwest of Minneapolis. Dennis's Swedish immigrant grandfather had purchased the farm in the late 1800s. It is still owned by a cousin, who is a member of the Anderson family.

Dennis went to grade school and high school in near-by Evansville, MN, where he graduated in 1950 in a class of 20. He worked on the family farm all through high school and for several years after high school before going to the University of Minnesota to pursue a degree in Agricultural Economics, which he completed in 1964.

He married Darlene Otten from Mille Lacs, MN in 1965 and took a job with Cargill seed corn company, Inc. in the Twin Cities.

His career with Cargill brought them to Grinnell in 1969 as a seed corn associate at the Grinnell Cargill plant. He became the plant manager in 1980 and continued in that role until Cargill closed the Grinnell plant in 1987. After the Grinnell plant closed, Dennis worked as a crop hail adjuster for Grinnell Mutual for

several years before retiring in the fall of 2008.

The Andersons lived for many years at 1833 Spencer Street in Grinnell and Darlene worked at the Donaldson Company in Grinnell from 1971 to 1997. After retiring they continued to live there, but annually spent several winter months in Rockport, Texas, from 1998 to 2014.

Dennis's wife Darlene died Jan 19, 2016, after 50 years of marriage.

Joy Weeks moved to 721 Harwich Terrace in 2014 after her husband of 38 years, Bill Weeks, passed away in 2012.

Without their long-term spouses, Joy and Dennis began seeing each other regularly. They were married on Nov 12, 2016, in a traditional ceremony in the United Methodist Church in Grinnell, with family members and many community friends in attendance. They now live comfortably in their attractive Harwich Terrace home and are enjoying their life together as newlyweds and part of the Mayflower Community.

Luther Erickson

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symptoms, the staff increases the cleaning to two or three times a day, in an effort to keep germs from spreading.

Tammy's immediate supervisor is Director of Dining Services Scott Gruhn. She and her staff work closely and amicably with many other departments—cleaning up after remodeling work is done, increasing attention to sanitizing surfaces when there is an outbreak of illness, working around the meal schedule to keep the dining halls clean. Tammy often helps Scott with catering; she says that the two

of them work well together. As the dining department moves into an open schedule in the future, the housekeeping staff will keep the cleaning schedule flexible, seeking to allow maximum use of the space while also keeping it clean.

So the next time you see a member of the housekeeping staff vacuuming the hallway or wiping down the handrail in your corridor, cheer on these defenders who fight for our health, comfort, and safety.

Judy Hunter

WELCOME GERRY and NANCY GUENTHER - HTN 721 Park St.

Gerry is happy to talk; Nancy is less enthusiastic. But both the Guenthers (pronounced "Ginther") have fine stories that reveal vivid, varied, and purposeful lives.

Nancy grew up in Ada, WI, which had 80 people then and has 80 people now. Her father was a foreman with the Kohler Company, and her mother sold Avon products. Nancy explained that though house calls were hard for her, she sold lots of shampoo and toothpaste. Ada had one of Wisconsin's last one-room school houses, and Nancy "closed it." She fondly remembers her third grade teacher, who came to visit with a kitten in his pocket. Luckily, her mother loved cats. To help pay for college, Nancy picked raspberries from the 350 feet of plants her family grew. They had to be harvested every other day.

Nancy and Gerry met in high school. When Nancy went to Oshkosh State University to major in art and elementary education, Gerry joined the Air Force. He was stationed in Crete, where he fell in love with the culture.

On their honeymoon, the Guenthers got a letter about an archeological dig in Iran, and for 4 months, they became part of this project. They found the Iranian people "incredibly gracious" and "steeped in poetry."

During this time, according to Gerry, he and Nancy were hippies. They planned to go around the world, but ended up island hopping in the Aegean. Each island, they agreed, had its own personality. A loaf of bread, a jar of honey, and a bottle of wine made for fine dining. The experience "colored their experience of the world."

Luckily, neither Nancy's or Gerry's parents seemed worried by their children's "driftlessness." Eventually, Gerry went to college (UW-Oshkosh, where Nancy had gone) with plans to become a librarian, but he soon changed to Geology and then to Earth Science Education. The couple moved to Portage, WI, where Gerry taught Earth Science in Junior High School. He loved teaching and loved the students—"once he figured out what 'normal' was." For 13 years, he took a class of eighth graders—8 boys and 8 girls—to one of the national parks in the summer.

Nancy worked with Head Start and a program called "Even Start," which allowed parents to work toward a GED, and to have an occasional night out. In addition, she worked at the library in a family resource center and drove a bus for a program for 4-year-olds—which also involved "washing toys."

The Guenthers are not strangers to Grinnell. Their daughter Emily, who runs the College's Liberal Arts in Prison program, and her husband Jordan Scheibel, who operates Middle Way Farms, have been important residents for over a decade. Nancy and Gerry also have a son, Joel, who does research in alternative energy in Emeryville, CA.

The Guenthers think highly of the Mayflower, and, partly due to Emily's urging, plan to move when their home is ready. They will be welcome additions to the Mayflower Community.

Betty Moffett

WELCOME BOB and LINDA MYREN - E 9.

I spent all morning with Bob and Linda, and I still feel like I barely scratched the surface. The Myrens occupy a lovely corner apartment in Edwards that has been carefully remodeled for them to accommodate a full sized oven and refrigerator. This was their first order of business before moving in, as they do a lot of cooking together. But that is not all they have done together over the past 57 years of their marriage.

They are also a "clergy couple," something that was so unusual in the early years of Linda's entry into ministry that she had a difficult time finding a church in Iowa that would hire her. This led to many years of both of them moving around, working in different churches in sometimes very distant towns. They found a position together toward the end of their ministry at the Little Brown Church in Nashua, IA, the tiny church made famous by the large number of weddings performed there and a popular song, "The Church in the Wildwood."

They both say they would like to write a book about their experience at the Little Brown Church in the vale, and I would love to read such a book. They had so many hilarious experiences there that still keep them smiling. There was the woman who forgot to bring her leg to her wedding. There was once a very quick ceremony due to the arrival of a new family member after a trip to a local hospital. And best of all might be the couple who flew in from France because they once met a "happily married couple who got married there and they wanted to be married in the same place."

When I asked them what brought them to Mayflower, they answered that they

knew many people from their years in the UCC church statewide, and since moving here they can count around 30 people that they have known throughout their time in ministry in Iowa that now live here in Grinnell. Bob says that when their kids were teens, they could go anywhere in Iowa and get help if they needed it from a UCC person who knew their family. So this is, in fact, a way of "coming home."

Bob and Linda have four grown children, Steven, Lori, David, and Bobbi Jo, all married professionals - a minister, a psychologist, a computer chip designer, and a teacher. They have 8 grandchildren and are expecting their second great-grandchild in June. Their children are spread around the country, but Bobbi Jo lives in Gilman.

In spite of all the Little Brown Church stories, the Myrens are in agreement that one of the most meaningful times in their combined careers was when they served the Cheyenne reservation in South Dakota with a total of four churches that

ministered to the Sioux tribe. They also cherish the many church camping and canoe trips they took with so many UCC ministers, families, and youth.

I hope all Mayflower residents have a chance to sit down with Bob and Linda, listen to their stories,

sample some of their homemade baked goods, see their beautiful new apartment, and just get to know some "pioneers" in equality and ministry. The Myrens include an invitation to the community to come see their new home. I would encourage you to do just that.

Karen Phillips



WELCOME DICK and SIS VOGEL - WS 302

My husband, John, who was a reporter with the Grinnell Herald-Register, came to know Dick Vogel long before I'd met him and his wife, Sis. Back in the 1970s, there was an embezzlement case that also involved a kidnapping. Dick was then the Poweshiek County Attorney. So John and Dick had several conversations about the case.

Later, in the mid-1980s, my oldest daughters and the Vogel's two oldest sons became good friends in high school, and remain friends to this day. I eventually did meet Sis and Dick and had already decided they were very nice people, although we never really socialized together—too busy raising children and working. But I learned a good deal about them during our interview and I'm very happy to introduce them to you.

Dick was born and raised in Grinnell. Sis came from East Moline, IL. She crossed the Mississippi to attend Marycrest College and met Dick, who attended nearby St. Ambrose College. After graduation, Dick entered law school at The University of Iowa. When he finished school, the Vogels moved to Grinnell where Dick joined his father's law office. Including his stint as County Attorney, Dick remained in the law firm for 13 years. In 1978, he was appointed to the Eighth Judicial District Court of Iowa by Governor Robert Ray. Dick was one of six judges who circulated through 10 counties hearing cases. By the time he retired in 2009, Dick had been on the bench for 31 years and has now been a member of the Bar for more than 50 years.

Sis stayed at home until all four of her children were in school full time and then plunged into work in human services. She worked for the Department of Human

Services, the Council on Aging, Mid-Iowa Community Action and did a plethora of volunteer jobs. On a different track, she worked for Grinnell College and the Diet Center. Sis said, whether it was public or private endeavors, the best part of working was the people she met.

When they retired, the Vogels began skipping Iowa's winter climate by going to the Texas coast. It was there that they both got into kite making and flying. They are now real experts and lead kite-flying festivals frequently. They joined the American Kite Flyers Association and once went to an international festival held in Paris. In Grinnell, they inherited community kite-flying activities from the late Rev. Dan Ogata and have led several kite-making sessions in schools and other organizations here and elsewhere. They both say it's great fun to be on a beach with a few kites and watch families drift over to them and get involved in flying the kites. Dick and Sis will be participating in the Rotary Club's kite festival in September. The Vogels fly all kinds of kites but their favorites are BIG kites. Sis sews the material and Dick uses his knowledge about aero-dynamics to spar, bridle and fly them. Dick describes himself as a "sport" kite-flyer. He enjoys flying a two-line sport kite with a 120 ft. tail.

One last thing. Dick gave Sis a gift of a 7,000 pound rock, which now sits at the south end of Watertower Square, where they moved to the third floor. Sis told Bob Mann she wouldn't move without her rock. It's a granite rock with rose quartz and has an official pedigree written by their son, Greg, who is an archeologist/geologist. Go have a look at the rock and then say "Hi" to the Vogels next time you see them.

Alice Breemer

PRESERVING HISTORIC CHARACTER of DOWNTOWN

For many Mayflower residents, the proximity to downtown is one of Mayflower's most appealing features. Banks, post office, library, shops and businesses are within walking distance or a very short car ride.

Recent improvements to the facades of a group of historic buildings have made the business district even more attractive.

With the help of a \$500,000 grant from the Iowa Economic Development Authority, the exteriors of 16 structures on Broad Street, Fourth Avenue and Main Street were renovated and restored in order to preserve the downtown's historic character. Much of the business district is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

In addition to the state grant, the city contributed \$500,000, and owners of the properties paid 20 percent, or about

\$240,000. Work started in 2015 and was completed late last year.

The architectural firm RDG Planning and Design of Des Moines examined old photos and written records to come up with design ideas. To gain state approval for the work, the architects were required to show historic photos next to the proposed designs to make sure the changes were historically accurate.

Participating building owners were involved in choosing colors and other design elements. Tenants also had input.

One of the most striking restorations was at 815 Fourth Avenue, the location of Hamilton Travel. Initial work on the building revealed that many of the original features such as historic woodwork and glazing had been covered up years ago with cement stucco. Removal of the stucco revealed a storefront that re-creates a bygone era.

Discovering original elements in a building is a thrill for restoration architects. Naura Godar, an RDG architect who worked on the project, said the design team found more original elements than they anticipated. "It was so special to find historic wood, steel and glass under the metal panels and wood covers," she said.

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1900s



2017

BROAD ST. between 4th Ave and Commercial St.



Nonprofit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Grinnell, IA
Permit No. 130

LOG Staff

Alice Breemer; Luther Erickson; Judy Hunter; Selva Lehman; Betty Moffett; Karen Phillips; Mary Schuchmann

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To fully appreciate the restorations, be sure to look UP. Much of the lovely ornamentation, now more visible, is near the tops of the buildings.

City Manager Russ Behrens said reaction to the project has been "overwhelmingly positive." He said the city is now working to capitalize on the fresh look and find businesses to fill some of the empty spaces in other parts of the business district.

Godar feels the new facades contribute to a historically significant downtown. "Grinnell is a beautiful town, with great appreciation for historic architecture. It was an honor to work with both a city that 'gets' the need to respect our collective history and with the building owners that are true stewards of these glorious structures."

Mary Schuchmann