

The Messenger

Summer 2026



Changing of the Guard

We want to wish our dear friend Lisa Brock a wonderfully happy retirement! Lisa started volunteering at Orchard Ridge in 2000, teaching an exercise class in the old brick building twice a week. In 2009 she started working part-time in Activities in Memory Care on Fridays. You always knew when she was working...it sounded like a party was happening in the building! She had the gift of being able to walk into Memory Care, feel the vibe immediately and pick out who needed her attention the most at that moment. In 2014 she was offered the position of Building Manager at the Grove Independent Living. She took it and the rest is history! She has considered the job her calling and ministry, serving the residents with great compassion. Her flamingo themed retirement party was a blow-out! The Grove dining room was packed with residents and staff wishing her well and waiting in line for a hug. There was plenty of good-natured ribbing about her famous memos that were delivered door to door about such important things as cleaning up after your dog, not feeding the squirrels, being kind to new neighbors and all the other details that help keep a community civilized! Lisa shared some heartfelt words: " I have been honored, privileged, and blessed to work alongside an



Friends for 26 years-Lisa & Mike



amazing staff to guide, encourage, comfort, and inspire this Grove community. The relationships nurtured here at Orchard Ridge, both with co-workers and residents, are central to what has been a great adventure these past 26 years. We have done good work for so many."

The Building Manager position will be filled by Kayla McComb, who has been training with Lisa and learning the ropes at high speed. Kayla also started out as a volunteer and has now worked at Orchard Ridge for over 4 years in different roles but is excited for this new adventure. Like Lisa, she has a heart for the residents and unbounding energy. Orchard Ridge will carry on providing excellent care for all its residents, but we'll miss our friend!

New Board Members



Kristina Alexander



Derrick Phelps



Shawn Langenderfer

Orchard Ridge appointed three new Board members at the Annual Meeting. They all come with their own unique backgrounds, experiences and skills to serve Orchard Ridge and support the mission to provide a faith-based loving home that honors older adults.

Kristina Alexander has more than 15 years of experience serving seniors and their families through compassionate care, community outreach, and mission-driven leadership. She feels that joining Orchard Ridge's Board of Directors will allow her to contribute her experience, heart for service, and commitment to honoring the elderly in a way that reflects her professional background and personal values.

Derrick Phelps was inspired to serve on the Board of Directors after hearing Orchard Ridge being highly praised by someone already serving on the Board. He's especially excited to learn more about strategic and long-term planning, connect with people and build relationships.

Shawn Langenderfer has been looking for meaningful ways to give back to the community as she approaches retirement. She feels that Orchard Ridge stands out as a wonderful place that supports individuals as they age and appreciates the exceptional Christ-centered care provided to residents.

Orchard Ridge also acknowledged and thanked several members who transitioned off of the Board.

David Bobbitt, John Swallow, and Mike Wilson all served for 2 terms, using their talents for the betterment of Orchard Ridge and the residents.

Board of Directors

Luke Russell-President	
Rhonda Roth-Vice President	
Ann Farrar-Treasurer	
Lisa Rakes-Secretary	
Kristina Alexander	
Jody Azevedo	Mike Nail
Dr. Don Chisholm	Derrick Phelps
Gayne Clifford	Dave Teater
Shawn Langenderfer	Amy Voeller
Sarah McLain	Marc Wallace

Member Churches

American Lutheran Church-Newport	Our Savior Lutheran Church-Pinehurst
Anthem Hayden Church	Peace Lutheran Church
Calvary Lutheran Church	Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church
Canvas Church	St. George Catholic Church
Christ the King Lutheran Church	St. Luke's Episcopal Church
Community United Methodist	St. Pius Catholic Church
First Presbyterian Church	St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church
First Lutheran Church-Sandpoint	Trinity Lutheran Church-Coeur d'Alene
First Lutheran Church-Spirit Lake	
Lutheran Church of the Master	
New Life Church	

Resident Spotlight

Lew VanDeMark

You can walk into the Grove dining room any day at lunch, and you will see Lew in his black apron straightening chairs, bringing cups of water around, carrying trays for residents who can't carry them, clearing dishes and washing up...the list goes on and on. And you will definitely be greeted with a joke like, "What kind of people eat snails? The kind that hate fast food!" And you might think to yourself, "What a great employee! He takes his job very seriously." But that would only be partially correct as Lew is not technically an employee, but the most dedicated of volunteers!

Lew was born in upstate New York and spent much of his early life moving between parts of the Midwest, Texas, and California before eventually settling in North Idaho. While attending college, he worked as a radio DJ, an experience that helped him land a full-time on-air position in Dallas, Texas, after graduation. There, he worked as both a DJ and production director, editing audio in the days before digital technology by manually cutting and splicing

tape. His background in radio production eventually led him to a position at an advertising agency in San Diego, where he worked until the company relocated to Seattle. While there he saw an extension course for stand-up comedy being advertised and thought that could be a fun opportunity! He completed an 8-week course and then the whole class performed at a local comedy club. He prides himself on the fact that he was able to do 5 minutes of material and no one dragged him off the stage! He encourages, "If something interests you, try it. You never know until you try it."

Lew pictured with Emerson,
Grove Resident Manager



Eventually, Lew began a relationship with a woman whose dream was to open a bed-and-breakfast near Athol, Idaho. Pursuing that dream brought him to North Idaho, where the two owned and operated the bed-and-breakfast for many years before eventually parting ways. Around that time, someone mentioned Orchard Ridge to Lew, and he decided to apply for an apartment in the Independent Living community. He was accepted and moved in November of 2014. Right away he noticed that the Kitchen staff struggled to serve all the residents their meals in a timely manner, so he jumped right in and started helping out. He reasons, "This is home and you help at home!" Pretty soon he was a regular fixture in the dining room, rushing from table to table helping in whatever way he could. Since then, he averages 4-5 ½ hours of working in the dining room every day. His friend, Bill Kelly, saw that willing helpfulness in him and roped him into becoming the assistant resident manager. That job entails being on call whenever the Resident Manager needs to be out of the building. For instance, Lew goes to his

church (Christ the King) early so that the Resident Manager and his family can get to church also. So far Lew has clocked over 11,000 hours volunteering in that role and has proved himself to be invaluable!

When asked what he would say to anyone looking at Independent Living, his advice is to get an application in early as Orchard Ridge is one of a kind, a unique and special place so it usually has a waiting list. He says the Grove is quite the cross-section of society and if you move in you have the opportunity to make many good acquaintances and some really great friendships. He is proud and happy to be part of the community and to contribute his time and efforts to his fellow residents.

Legacy Giving

Orchard Ridge has several ways that you can give that are guaranteed to make a long-term impact! We have endowment funds set up at both Innovia Foundation (\$90,000) and Idaho Community Foundation (\$60,000) to ensure that Orchard Ridge can care for many more generations of seniors who need charitable care.

What is an Endowment Fund?

It's a fund where the original gift...

- Is invested to grow over time,
- With only the set distribution allowance spent from the fund annually,
- So the fund will exist to support the organization forever... and ever.



Orchard Ridge can also accept gifts of assets, many of which can provide significant tax benefits such as:

- IRA & Qualified Retirement Plans
- Life Insurance
- Stock Transfers
- Charitable Remainder Trust
- Real Estate

We invite you to consider including us in your will or estate planning. Even a small percentage of your estate can grow into a significant contribution, doing immense good when combined with the generosity of others. Contact Holly at 208-664-8119 for more information about legacy giving.

Orchard Ridge's Annual Butterfly Fundraiser

- Where: Private Residence on Coeur d'Alene Lake via the Coeur d'Alene Cruise Boats
- When: Tuesday, August 11, 2026 5-9pm
*Boat will be boarding behind the CDA Resort at 5pm and leaving at 5:30pm, with a 8:30pm boarding to return by 9pm
- What: Cruise, Dinner, Musical Entertainment, Fundraising Paddle Raise, and a Butterfly Release
- Why: To raise funds to support our resident programming and charitable care for residents who have exhausted their financial resources



RSVP and buy your tickets now by calling Holly at (208) 664-8119

Tickets are \$105 each to commemorate our 105th anniversary



Flower Memorials: In Memory or Honor of...

- Steve Allen by Doneda Allen
- Flo Anderson by Jon & Chris Anderson
- Gerry Bauerle by Greg & Susan Bauerle
- Darrell Belstad by Shirley Belstad
- Lela Bullard by Mike & Betsy Bullard
- Jim Burns by Shirley Belstad
- Jane Clifford by Gayne & Jo Clifford
- Kaufman Family by Barb Bradley
- Bradley Family by Barb Bradley
- Gay & Eula Grimes by Greg & Susan Bauerle
- Dorothy Gustafson by her kiddos
- Dorothy Gustafson by Danna Gustafson
- Ray Halbhuber by Barb Halbhuber
- Ken & Gerry Hance by Greg & Susan Bauerle
- Steve Hance by Greg & Susan Bauerle
- Evelyn Hayes by Phil & Mary Hayes
- Don Hoffman by Doris Hoffman
- Ruth Hooten by Ron & Georgean Coleman
- Ruth Hooten by Bob & Jackie Jewett
- Cokie Hough by Wendy Eaton
- Paul Hunt by Pamela Hunt
- Marilyn Jennings Jones by Patsy Sorenson
- Harry Johnson by Lois Johnson
- Ed & May Johnson by Doug & Eileen Johnson
- Marion Keating by Margaret Fedje
- Marion Keating by Karen Cook
- Bill Kegley by Mike & Diane Kegley
- Ray Kincheloe by Sarah McLain
- Darlene Lenz by Robin, Pete, Kelly & Nephews
- Mark Lewis by Dolores Lewis
- Vernon & Gisela Mathisen by Dan & Linda Green
- Verna Meredith by Steve & Laurie Meredith
- Fred & Nathalie Mitchell by Edward Mitchell
- John & Carol Mustacich by Anonymous
- Joanne Roberge by Roberge/Hixson Family
- Jack Shinn by Shinn Family
- Patricia Sinclair by Suzy Sinclair
- Caroline Smith by Woody and Debra Clouse
- 2nd Lt. George D. Smith by Mike Halpern
- Beulah Strobel by Sharon Strobel
- Kristy Thode by Doneda Allen
- Rosella Tucker by Leslie & Deborah Frank
- Don Ziegler by Doneda Allen

Memorial Gifts

- Marge Colwell by Patricia Sweet, Marc & Nancy Sue Wallace, Steve & Beverly Berntson, Donna Favor, Brad & Janice Baldwin, Cathleen Kast, Susan Berntson, Rebecca Echart, Janet Guns
- Betty Esterl by Suzanne Schmidt
- Uncle John Gilligan by Anonymous
- Dorothy Munson by Mark & Heather Bowlby
- Gary Pigman by Polly Parisot



Estate Sale Volunteers

We're not even halfway through the summer season yet and the Estate Sale Group has already put in 2,100 volunteer hours and made over \$19,000, which is more than all of last year! At this time the group has 15-20 active volunteers involved in prepping and staging the household items and then running the sales in the community. They genuinely enjoy working together, having a lot of laughs during the process. They take great pride in the way they present lifelong treasures and ease the moving/down-sizing process for the family. And they love that what they do benefits Orchard Ridge and the residents. This year the big focus for fundraising is on replacing furniture in the Memory Care unit so that residents and their families can enjoy functional, comfortable furnishings that meet their particular needs and the group is proud of being able to help with that need! It makes their hard work all that much sweeter, knowing it is for such a good cause.

Sales are advertised on Orchard Ridge's Facebook page and in the Nickel's Worth publication.



ORCHARD RIDGE

Senior Living

Estate & Moving Sales

A service provided by the Orchard Ridge Volunteers

In an effort to raise funds for charitable care at Orchard Ridge, the Volunteers provide the service of organizing and managing your estate sale for the cost of a suggested donation.

Services Include:

- Inventory
- Advertising & Signage
- Pricing
- Conducting Sales
- Sorting

Enjoy peace of mind and share in the generated revenue, with the added blessing of knowing you are supporting a good cause!

For more information contact Holly at Orchard Ridge (208) 664-8119

Business Sponsors



MAGNUSON • McHUGH • DOUGHERTY
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS



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Personal Sponsors

Gayne & Jo Clifford
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Assisted Living/Memory Care

624 W. Harrison Ave.
CDA, ID 83814

www.theorchardcda.org

(208) 664-8119

Independent Living

Grove- 702 N. Highway 95, CDA
Arbor- 700 N. Highway 95, CDA