

April 2026 | Parkwood Highlands

# HIGHLANDS

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## *Happenings*

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**HIGHLANDS  
COMMUNITIES**  
Apartments & Townhomes 55+

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## PAST ACTIVITIES & RECREATIONAL EVENTS



## UPCOMING SPOTLIGHT EVENTS



### Smits Travel Presentation

**TUESDAY, APRIL 7TH AT 3:00 PM | BLDG 4 COMMUNITY ROOM**

Smits Travel is hosting Trip Talks, a casual event highlighting exciting destinations for upcoming 2026 trips, plus a sneak peek at plans for 2027.

**This event is free. RSVP by Monday, April 6th**



### Orange Shoe Dietitian

**THURSDAY, APRIL 9TH AT 3:00 PM | BLDG 4 COMMUNITY ROOM**

Orange Shoe Fitness is welcoming a registered dietitian to the team! Join us for a one-hour meet & greet featuring a fun recipe demo or hands-on activity, healthy snacks, quick nutrition tips, and a chance to learn about personalized counseling services.

**This event is free. RSVP by Monday, April 6th**



### Make Your Own Shadow Box

**TUESDAY, APRIL 21ST AT 2:00 PM | BUILDING 4 COMMUNITY ROOM**

Join us for a cozy craft event with shadow boxes, dried flowers, stickers, and fun stationery. All supplies are provided, and you're welcome to bring a small personal item to make your design even more meaningful. We can't wait to craft with you!

**\$15 per person. RSVP by Tuesday, April 14th**



### Kentucky Derby Mixer

**FRIDAY, APRIL 24TH AT 12:00 PM | BUILDING 4 COMMUNITY ROOM**

Sip mimosas and mint juleps, enjoy light apps, and show off your style in our Best Hat Competition. Join us for a lively, festive Derby celebration—fun, flair, and friendly competition await!

**\$10 per person. RSVP by Friday, April 17th**



### French Countryside Dinner

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29TH AT 4:00 PM | BUILDING 4 COMMUNITY ROOM**

Join us for a charming evening while you soak in the relaxed vibes. Bunzels will cater a delicious meal of au gratin potatoes, baked chicken, mini quiche, cheesecake, and baguettes. Enjoy rustic touches and warm company as we bring the relaxed beauty of the French countryside right to you. **\$17 per person. RSVP by Wednesday, April 15th**

*We look forward to having you join us!  
For a complete list of activities and events taking place  
this month at the Highlands, visit our Activity Calendar on pages 6 - 7.*

## RESIDENT REMINDERS



April in Wisconsin; where you can wear shorts, snow boots, and a raincoat all before lunch.



# Congratulations!

Who won \$100?



This month's winner of our \$100 lease renewal drawing is Sandy V.



### Muddy Season

#### PLEASE BE COURTEOUS

As we move into the warmer days of Wisconsin spring, things can get muddy quickly! Please remember to wipe your feet and your pet's paws before re-entering the building to help keep hallways and common areas clean. Thank you for helping us keep our shared spaces fresh and welcoming.



### Courtyard Entries

#### SAFETY REMINDER

Please note that if there is no sidewalk leading to the courtyard entry doors, these are not to be used as an exit or entrance, these are emergency exits only.

Thank you for your cooperation.

### Parking Lots & Thawing Ground

#### USE CAUTION

Spring thaw can cause soft ground, puddles, and shifting surfaces in parking areas, driveways, and sidewalks. Please use caution when navigating these areas. Please avoid cutting corners short and driving on any grass or unpaved areas. This helps prevent ruts and damage to the landscape as it gets ready to green up for the season.

### Spring Cleaning

#### THE EASY WAY

As the days get brighter and the air a little softer, spring offers the perfect excuse for a fresh start. A few simple resets—opening windows for a breeze, donating items you no longer use, or wiping down a shelf you walk past every day—can make your home feel lighter and more welcoming. Spring cleaning doesn't have to be a marathon; think of it as giving your space a gentle refresh. Even one small tidy-up can bring a big sense of accomplishment!

### Maintenance Is Everyone's Job

#### IT HELPS WHEN WE KNOW RIGHT AWAY

If you notice something that needs attention—burned-out hallway lights, a dripping faucet, a sticky door—please report it. Small fixes prevent larger issues and keep our shared spaces in great shape.

### Step Into Spring!

#### JOIN WALKING CLUB TODAY

Join our Walking Group - every Thursday at 9:00 AM. We'll meet in the Community Room before heading out to enjoy fresh air, blooming flowers, and good company. Whether you're looking to stretch your legs, make new friends, or simply soak in the season, we'd love to have you. Let's welcome spring one step at a time!



### Annual Shred Event

#### APRIL 3RD - APRIL 28TH

Our annual shred event is back! Safely dispose of your sensitive documents by dropping them in the secure shredding bins located in Building 2's Multipurpose Room or Building 4's Community Room.

#### FEATURED EVENT

### Story Night & Cocktail Social

#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15TH AT 3:00 PM BLDG 4 COMMUNITY ROOM

Join us for an easygoing evening of shared wisdom and heartfelt moments during our regularly scheduled cocktail social. We want to know what the best advice you've ever received - we'll provide gentle table prompts, light snacks, and a welcoming space where everyone can reflect and share at their own pace. No pressure—just good conversation, warm company, and stories that inspire. We'd love to have you there! **\$5 per person. RSVP by Wednesday, April 8th**



Spring is the season of muddy shoes, happy moods, and neighbors reappearing from hibernation.

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

# HIGHLANDS COMMUNITIES APRIL 2026 ACTIVITIES

			1	2	3	4
			<b>PASSOVER BEGINS</b> 1 pm Cribbage 6:30 pm 3-13 Card Game	9 am Walking Group 12:45 pm Dominoes 6:00 pm Rosary	<b>GOOD FRIDAY</b> 8:30 am Coffee & Puzzles 1 pm Poker 1:30 pm Knitting Group 6:30 pm Bingo	1 pm Sheepshead 7 pm Royal Rummy  National Love Our Children Day
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<b>Easter Sunday</b>	10 am Orange Shoe Fitness 1 pm Marbles 6 pm Sheepshead	10 am Bible Study 12:30 pm Sheepshead 3 pm Smits Travel	8 am Buildings 4 & 5 Breakfast 1 pm Cribbage 6:30 pm 3-13 Card Game	<b>PASSOVER ENDS</b> 9 am Walking Group 12:45 pm Dominoes 3 pm Orange Shoe Dietician 6 pm Rosary	8:30 am Coffee & Puzzles & Treat 1 pm Poker 6:30 pm Bingo	1 pm Left, Right, Center & Penny Drop 7 pm Royal Rummy  National Pet Day
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<b>National Grilled Cheese Sandwich Day</b>	10 am Orange Shoe Fitness 1 pm Marbles 6 pm Sheepshead	12:30 pm Sheepshead	1 pm Cribbage 3 pm Story Night & Cocktail Social 6:30 pm 3-13 Card Game <b>Monthly Fire Alarm Testing</b>	9 am Walking Group 12:45 pm Dominoes 6:00 pm Rosary	8:30 am Coffee & Puzzles 1 pm Poker 1:30 pm Knitting Group 6:30 pm Bingo	1 pm Sheepshead 7 pm Royal Rummy  World Heritage Day
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
<b>National Cat Lady Day</b> <b>National Dog Parent Appreciation Day</b>	10 am Orange Shoe Fitness 1 pm Marbles 6 pm Sheepshead	10 am Bible Study 2 pm Make your Own Shadow Box	<b>EARTH DAY</b> 1 pm Cribbage 6:30 pm 3-13 Card Game	9 am Walking Group 1 pm Meet the Author 2:30 pm Dominoes 6:00 pm Rosary	<b>ARBOR DAY</b> 8:30 am Coffee & Puzzles & Treat 12 pm Kentucky Derby Mixer 6:30 pm Bingo	1 pm Left, Right, Center & Penny Drop 7 pm Royal Rummy  Hairstylist Appreciation Day
26	27	28	29	30		
<b>Get Organized Day</b>	10 am Orange Shoe Fitness 1 pm Marbles 6 pm Sheepshead	12:30 pm Sheepshead	1 pm Cribbage 4 pm French Countryside Dinner 6:30 pm 3-13 Card Game	9 am Walking Group 12:45 pm Dominoes 6:00 pm Rosary		

## JUST FOR FUN



If April had a motto in Wisconsin, it would be: "Hope for sunshine, plan for slush."



### Fun Facts About Rainbows

Rainbows occur when sunlight passes through raindrops, bending (refracting), reflecting inside the drop, and exiting at a different angle. This process splits the light into its different colors: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet.

A rainbow is actually a full circle, but we usually only see an arc due to the ground blocking the bottom half. And yes—double rainbows are real! They form when light reflects twice inside the raindrop, creating a fainter, reversed second arc.



### Back Then In History

April 22, 1970 marked the first Earth Day, when over 20 million Americans rallied to raise awareness about environmental issues. Sparked by growing concerns over pollution and conservation, Earth Day united people across political and social lines. The event helped lead to the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency later that year. Now a global movement, Earth Day continues to inspire individuals and communities to protect and preserve our planet.



## Top Ten

### RAINY DAY ACTIVITIES

Rainy days can be cozy and relaxing with the right mood and a little creativity indoors. They are also a great time to reset and relax with your favorite snack and music.

1. Watch an old favorite movie
2. Bake cookies
3. Declutter a closet
4. Build a blanket fort
5. Listen to a podcast
6. Do a craft
7. Write a letter
8. Practice yoga
9. Try a new playlist
10. Take a nap

*Rain Reset!*

## WHAT'S COOKING

### Spring Mix Salad

This easy green salad features a fresh spring mix tossed with a bright, homemade lemon balsamic dressing. Crisp, colorful, and full of flavor, it's a simple way to add freshness to your table. Whether you're serving it alongside a hearty entrée or enjoying it on its own for a light lunch, this salad is the perfect complement to any meal.



### INGREDIENTS

#### Salad Dressing:

- 3 tbsp balsamic vinegar
- 2 tbsp fresh lemon juice
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1 tsp kosher salt
- ½ tsp black pepper
- ¼ cup extra virgin olive oil

#### For the Salad:

- ½ red onion, thinly sliced
- 5 oz spring mix
- 1 cup cherry tomatoes, halved
- 1 medium cucumber, peeled and sliced
- 2–3 small radishes, sliced
- ½ cup sunflower seeds, pumpkin seeds, walnuts, or sliced almonds
- ½ cup crumbled goat cheese or feta (optional for vegan)

**STEP 1:** Whisk all dressing ingredients together in a bowl.

**STEP 2:** Soak red onion slices in hot tap water for a few minutes, then drain.

**STEP 3:** In a large bowl, combine spring mix, tomatoes, cucumber, and onion.

**STEP 4:** Drizzle dressing over and toss gently to coat.

**STEP 5:** Top with seeds and crumbled cheese. Serve immediately.

**MAKE-AHEAD TIP:** Store dressing and salad ingredients separately in airtight containers up to 2 days; toss just before serving. Once mixed, salad stays fresh up to 1 day but may wilt.

Source: FoolProofLiving.com

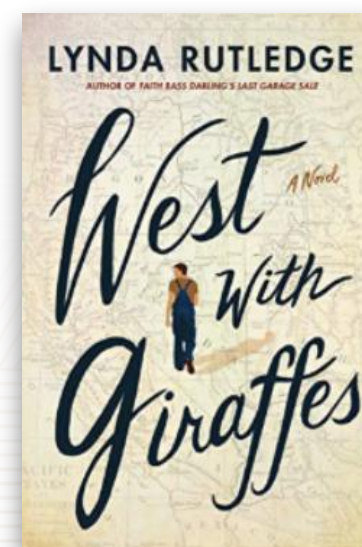
*Healthy & Delicious!*

## Shelf Indulgence

### THIS MONTH'S BOOK RECOMMENDATION

#### West With Giraffes by Lynda Rutledge

Inspired by a true story, this charming historical novel follows two giraffes and the unlikely trio escorting them across Depression-era America. The road trip is full of unexpected friendships, small-town encounters, and heartfelt reflections. Told with wit and wonder, it's an easy, satisfying read for fans of quirky history and animal stories.



## CONTACT INFORMATION



## Resident Portal

Make rent payments. Pay online, check the status of your payments, review your payment history, submit maintenance requests and view event invitations.

Our resident portal is an online tool for you to be able to take care of some things without having to wait for the Resident Services Office to open. It's easy, it's convenient and it's designed with you in mind.

Need more information? Contact us today!



## Main Office

Mon - Fri, 10am-4pm  
Phone: (262) 288-9165  
Fax: (262) 432-0678

13800 W Park Central Blvd,  
New Berlin, WI 53151

### COMMUNITY DIRECTOR

**Carol Gurgul**  
Parkwood@ardenpropertygroup.com

### ASSISTANT COMMUNITY MANAGER

**Adam Loose**  
Parkwood@ardenpropertygroup.com

### LEASING

Mon - Fri, 9am-5pm  
Phone: (262) 288-9165

### LEASING SPECIALISTS

Tammy Peterson

### MAINTENANCE

Mon - Fri, 8am - 4pm  
Phone: (262) 288-9165  
Evenings & Weekends EMERGENCIES  
(AnSer)  
(800) 263-6148

### MAINTENANCE TEAM

Lee Spitz, Jacob Parks

### HOUSEKEEPING TEAM

Sandy Wierzba, Sherry Hart

## Community Engagement Coordinators

**Gloria Mungen**

**Nancy Evans**

**Karen Meyers**

### Celebrate Moments that Matter

**ENJOY MEANINGFUL MOMENTS TOGETHER**

This April, we'll Celebrate Moments that Matter with a month of connection, creativity, and shared stories. Each event will give our community a chance to slow down, express gratitude, and enjoy meaningful moments together.

#### Join Us Each Week For:

**Orange Shoe Fitness** - Stay active by joining our group exercise class designed to help individuals of all ages build strength, flexibility, and balance. **Mondays at 10 am** in the Community Room.

**Coffee Hour** - Join us for warm drinks and great conversation **every Friday at 8:30 am** - comes with a treat on the 2nd & 4th weeks.

**Spring Scavenger Hunt** - Join us each week at Coffee Hour in April for a fun scavenger hunt with prizes! Don't worry—items won't be hidden too far, so everyone can join in on the fun.

## Onsite Services

### Bible Study

**BUILDING 4 COMMUNITY ROOM**  
**First & Third Tuesdays 10 am**

### Rosary

**BUILDING 4 COMMUNITY ROOM**  
**Thursdays 6 pm**

*Get Outside!*

### Meet the Author

**TUESDAY, APRIL 23RD AT 1 PM**  
**BUILDING 4 COMMUNITY ROOM**

Join us for a special visit from Michael T. Sullivan, author of *The Congdon Brothers*. He'll share insights into the Congdon brothers' Civil War experiences and will have copies of his book available for purchase. Don't miss this engaging look into history!

**This event is free. RSVP by Thursday, April 16th**



## Local Services

### Spectrum or AT&T

**HOTLINE**  
Spectrum: (855) 757-7328  
AT&T: (800) 321-2000

### WE Energies

**HOTLINE**  
(800) 242-9137

### New Berlin Senior Taxi

**PHONE**  
(262) 814-1611

### New Berlin Police Department

**PHONE - NON-EMERGENCY**  
(262) 782-6640

### New Berlin Senior Club

**PHONE**  
(262) 754-1706

### New Berlin Public Library

**PHONE**  
(262) 785-4980

### Pet License

**PHONE (262) 797-2448**

A pet license can be obtained at: New Berlin City Hall 3805 S Casper Drive, New Berlin, WI 53151. Monday through Friday 8 am to 4:30 pm.

# CHECK IT OUT

## Community Newsletters Online HIGHLANDS HAPPENINGS

You can view this edition of your Highlands Happenings newsletter and newsletters from our other Highlands Communities simply by visiting their respective websites. Each website has a "Newsletter" page where you'll find current and archived newsletters. Start reading online today!



## Help Us To Better Help You RESIDENT SERVICES OFFICE VISITS

To ensure we can address your needs promptly and thoroughly, we kindly ask for your support in two ways:

### For in-person visits:

- Please schedule an appointment whenever possible.
- If visiting without an appointment, limit conversations to 5 minutes or less for non-urgent matters.

### For non-urgent questions:

- Submit detailed requests via email or voicemail. This helps us respond efficiently and identify common topics for future resources.

These steps allow our team to dedicate focused attention to walk-ins and appointments while managing essential behind-the-scenes tasks that benefit our entire community.

Thank you for partnering with us to enhance service for all residents.

*We appreciate your understanding  
and cooperation!*

## Arden Property Group Portfolio of Communities HIGHLANDS COMMUNITIES AND PARAGON PLACE PROPERTIES

Interested in learning more about other communities in our portfolio? Visit our website at [ArdenPropertyGroup.com](http://ArdenPropertyGroup.com).

Know someone who may be interested in moving to the Highlands Communities or Paragon Place Properties, refer them to any of the properties in our portfolio to earn a Refer A Friend bonus.

### Highlands Communities 55+:

Brookfield	Appleton
Menomonee Falls	Neenah
Mequon	De Pere
New Berlin	Winneconne
Franklin	Weston

### Paragon Place Properties:

Madison  
Middleton

We appreciate your referrals and look forward to meeting your friends & family!