



FEB  
2025

# Taking Flight

## BIRTHDAYS

Marilyn B. (48th Circle)	1	Mohamed Omar (CR D)	21
Richard Riley (Harmony)	6	Annette Cheng (Glenpaul)	23
Fumba Dukuly (Humble)	8	Bobbi Garcia (Haven)	23
Vivian Eshun (Sheridan)	8	Naima Haro (CR D)	23
Mariam Hersi (Haven)	9	Olanrewaju Monayjo (Portland Ave)	23
Nikki S. (Haven)	9	Kazzim Oshodi (Stacker)	23
Markena Neal (Portland OH)	11	Aishah Adeyera (11th)	24
Paige Parvey (Zen)	11	Mustapha Musa (Troseth)	24
Guy C. (17th)	12	Dickson Ladipo (Wentworth)	25
Tameka Goodlow (Skycroft)	13	Larrisa S. (Troseth)	25
Dawn M. (In-Home)	13	Ngwollichu Titiahonjo Deric (York)	25
Dorine Ongmoukong Makan (Heath Services)	13	Alicia Wren (Aurora)	25
Angela E. (Skycroft)	19	Sadia Bashir (48th)	27
Grace Wells (In-Home)	19	Gale T. (Portland OH)	27
Tom A. (17th)	20	Natt Jaleiba (Harmony)	28
Mimi Johnson (Hope)	21		

## ANNIVERSARIES

Nancy Kundayo (Thomas)	1	Marlene Robinson (11th)	6
Marc Ouelette (Maintenance)	1	Anne Perry (1250 Hoyt)	7
Alennie Samuels (Troseth)	1	De’undrae Wells (29th)	7
Jonah Sleweon (Hope)	1	Sandy Sabey (In-Home)	8
Kayla Clark (Glenpaul)	2	Samuel Dennis (17th)	10
Yemmy John-Kolawole (Glenpaul)	2	Ariana Hall-Richmond (Hope)	12
Vickie Johnson (Thomas)	2	Nnamdi Osuagwu (1489 Hoyt)	12
Juanita McKizzie (1489 Hoyt)	2	Darolyn Gray (Development Officer)	13
Mercy Shu (Troseth)	2	Eric Hemme (Program Director)	14
Alexis White (Haven)	2	Amarech Tulu (Skillman)	16
Nasra Suldun (91.5)	4	Anna Horn (1489 Hoyt)	25
Deb Monk (HR Director)	5	Jeff Hager (Program Director)	41

## DISCOVERING TALENTS THROUGH KARAOKE AT HARMONY

Dedicated staff at Harmony always think outside the box with a driven, person-centered approach to finding strategies to help clients discover their talents and skills. One of the talents was introducing Harmony’s Karaoke and Talent Night, held every Friday from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. The conversation with clients about the karaoke project was welcomed with much enthusiasm. They immediately envisioned themselves performing on stage and taking control of the microphone. It was an incredible moment. Karaoke started with only Harmony’s clients (four) and invited clients from Wentworth, Haven, and Xerxes’ homes. The activity also creates the opportunity for former and current clients to reconnect with each other, a moment that thrills everyone.

Tina made her first debut when she sang the song “I Am Not Okay“ by Jelly Roll. Before she could sing, she gave a reason for choosing the music. She says that although she had so many mental challenges, she is resilient and not disabled. Adam did a country song by Kenny Rogers called “The Gambler,” Stacey did “Family Affair” by Mary J. Blige, and Derian performed his Bally dance, illustrating his flexible body movements and skills. After the fourth event, the thirst for more participants increased, and Harmony couldn’t accommodate the crowd. As a result of this thrilling desire, the event has been moved to Plato every first and third Thursday of the month, beginning March 2025. Come and join the fun...HARMONY STRONG! — *Natt Jaleiba*



# WORDS OF LOVE FOR SPOKEN WORD & POETRY CLASS

On Valentine’s Day, we welcomed Rock the Mic class #2 to the Plato campus along with our COMPAS teaching artist, Desdamona. Clients included Chris from Harmony; Tina, Betty and Paula from 1250 Hoyt; and Scott from In-Home. Our first class was dedicated in memory of Patty from Wentworth House. Des performed one of her own pieces, “Ode to the Potato Chip.” We worked on several short writing assignments and had an opportunity to share with the group. Chris has already been working on many poems and shared a beautiful tribute to her mom. We are looking forward to sharing more wonderful work from our aspiring artists. — *Darolyn Gray*

## Thinking About My Mama

by Christina from Harmony House

Mama, you were so special to me  
You been through a lot over the years  
I wish you were here  
I think about you all the time  
Mama, you supported me throughout life  
You are now in heaven resting  
I am living your dream, diamond art and sports  
Mama, you will always be remembered  
I promised to be a good child.



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## Taking Flight

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Please email us your changes to mailing address or email address: [Contact.Llirizarry@wingspanlife.org](mailto:Contact.Llirizarry@wingspanlife.org)

# A ROOM FULL OF HEARTS AND SMILES FOR LADIES DAY

Highlighting our core value of “fellowship,” our In-Home staffers Eleaisha and Marian did another great job leading Valentine’s weekend crafting at our Plato Office. Thank you to all staff who helped clients create beautiful Valentine’s to share with each other or with family and friends. Kaylla from Glenpaul House was especially excited for the bingo game that followed crafting; she was among the winners and was so happy to find the perfect stuffed animal prize. Staff served a delightful lunch of strawberry lemonade, soft shelled tacos and cupcakes. Hearts and tummies were full! — *Darolyn Gray*

