



**Sunset Home**  
— Senior Living Community —  
Locally owned and operated since 1905

JANUARY 2023

# THE SUNSET OBSERVER



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## Country Living



Ruby Phillips grew up on different farms during her childhood. When her father was drafted into the military, they moved to a Nebraska farm to be closer to his brother's family. The farm had been abandoned for many years and was supposedly haunted. In actuality, the farm had been used by bootleggers and they wanted it to be "haunted" to keep people away.

*(continued on page 2)*



*Ruby and her husband, George.*

Ruby's uncle and his family were musically talented. They could sing and play the piano and guitar. When they got together, Ruby's mother had to do all the cooking while Ruby helped with the dishes.

Ruby distinctly remembers her time on the farm near Bloomington, Nebraska. Ruby and her brothers had many

adventures. "There were snakes--bull snakes and water moccasins," she says. "One water moccasin chased me." Fortunately Ruby had her dog around most of the time to help keep the snakes away.

One day, Ruby's father killed a very large bullsnake. He brought the neighbors over to see it. The bullsnakes liked eating prairie dogs and living in their holes.

Ruby's granddad eventually bought a farm just over the hill. She would see her granddad often, but her grandmother was mentally depressed. "She was always screaming and cussing. She was never happy. It was sad," says Ruby.

Ruby's mother sewed and Ruby also learned to sew. They sewed a lot of feed sacks. Ruby also remembers washing lots of dishes, "I can remember the big wash pan and I'd have to set it on the cook stove and heat the water and do the dishes. It was endless dishes."

Of course, they did not have a washing machine to do laundry. "Back then women didn't hang their underwear on the line. They kept it inside the other pieces of laundry when they hung it out," says Ruby.

"My mother was the most wonderful person," Ruby remembers. Her mother was short, maybe 5'2 and Ruby recalls her racing across the yard with Ruby's three younger brothers and doing cartwheels and handstands. She was also good at cooking and fixing things.

One day Ruby and her family went for a ride on the tractor. They were all hanging off everywhere. They didn't know dad was taking them to town and right down the main drag. "Mother was so mad at him," says Ruby. "Mud was flying off the tires and I had mud in my hair and on my clothes."

Ruby went to a country school that her dad helped move and set up. An old woman lived behind a curtain at the school and taught them for about a year until her daughter came and took over. They were both very strict. Ruby and her brothers were given a pony and they rode it to school.

Ruby made it through the eighth grade. She did not like school and was scared of going to high school because it would take her away from her familiar surroundings and into one of the big buildings.

When Ruby grew up she married George Phillips. George was in the military for several years and they raised five children. Ruby didn't like being in the big cities so she stayed home a lot and watched the children of other families. She has always felt most comfortable at home and not around a lot of people.

## Happening at Sunset...

**Fridays - 10:00 am**  
Fitness Fun!



**January 10 - 1:30 pm**  
Baking Blondie Brownies

**Wednesdays - 2:30 pm**  
BINGO!

**January 20 - 2:00 pm**  
Cheese Tasting



**January 5 - 10:00 am**  
Bird Trivia



**January 23- 1:30 pm**  
Celebrate Chinese New Year!

**January 6 - 2:00 pm**  
January Birthday Party!

Happy New Year!



JANUARY 2023



HOLIDAY



CHEER





# Hello, New Residents



**Duane Nelson**  
**Jamestown, KS**

Duane served in the Korean War. He likes watching young adults play sports like basketball and football. He admires their energy!



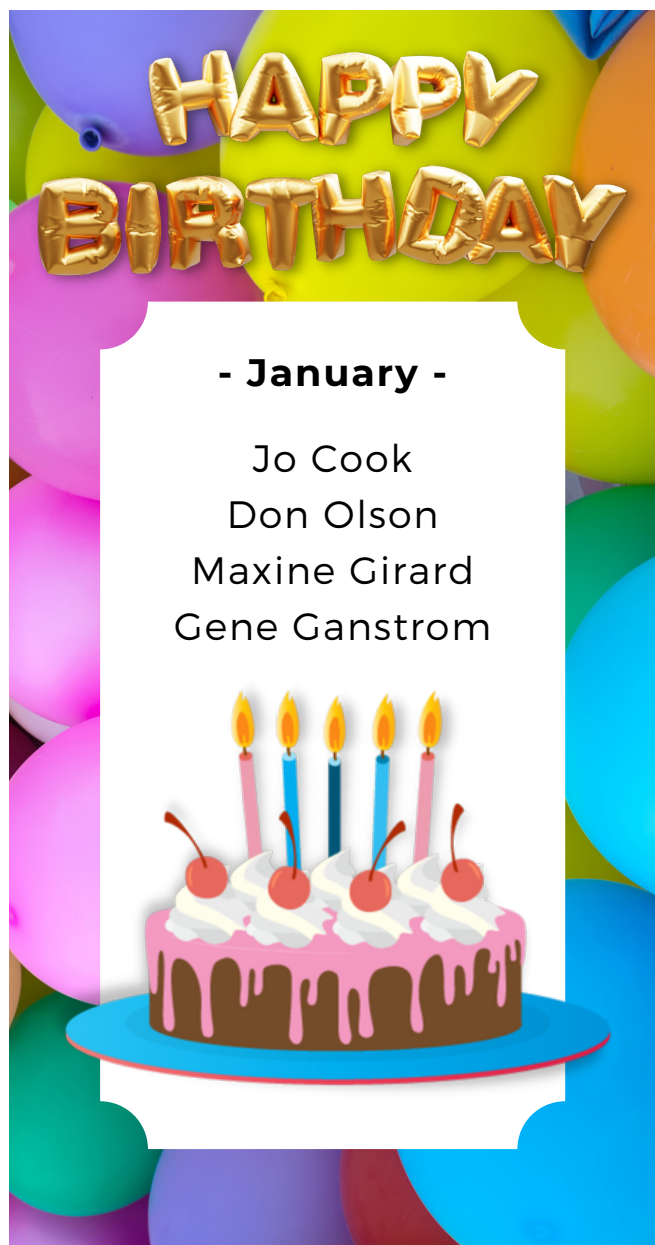
**James Peltier**  
**Concordia, KS**

James was a farmer and a welder. He likes to watch football and play cards.



**Dana Ketterman**  
**Concordia, KS**

Dana has three sons and adores her grandchildren. She ran a daycare when her boys were small and then worked at a hotel. Dana loves to read.



620 2nd Ave. | Concordia, KS 66901

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