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**Highland Health Care Center Honors Its Nursing and Facility Staff for Providing High-Quality, Compassionate Care**

***Facility Events Celebrate Both “National Nurses Week” and “National Skilled Nursing Care Week”***

**HIGHLAND, Ill. (May 24, 2023)** – Highland Health Care Center, in Highland, honored its nurses during [National Nurses Week](https://www.nursingworld.org/education-events/national-nurses-week/history/) for the vital roles they have played during the past year in providing compassionate care to facility residents.

Then, the following week, all of the facility’s staff were celebrated for delivering high-quality care to hundreds of Illinois’ seniors and individuals with disabilities during [National Skilled Nursing Care Week](https://www.ahcancal.org/Education-Events/Pages/NSNCW.aspx).

National Nurses Week begins each year on May 6 and ends on May 12, Florence Nightingale's birthday. While nurses are appreciated throughout the year, this week is designated for special events to mark the contributions they make to their community.

Right after National Nurses Week is the annual observance of National Skilled Nursing Care Week, May 14 to May 20. Established in 1967 by the American Health Care Association, the celebration week this year adopted the theme “Cultivating Kindness,” recognizing the compassion provided at skilled nursing facilities when improving health and strengthening human connections.

“Watching the countless acts of kindness that take place every day in our center, I am both grateful and amazed by our staff, who seem to personify compassion as well as competence,” said Katie Liszewski, CEO/administrator of Highland Health Care. “Not only is our skilled nursing care facility committed to providing a high level of care for our residents at all times, but our staff is especially sensitive to residents’ need for one-on-one social connections.”

Highland Health Care Center marked the two, week-long celebrations with several special activities:

* On May 8, the staff was greeted by the St. Louis Cardinals’ very own Fredbird mascot
* The facility held a spa day for all its nurses. It included a visit from the team at Massage Therapy and Bodywork by Karen, who made this day so special for the Highland nurses.
* Celebrations included a barbeque for all staff, and a visit from the Tropical Sno Truck with frozen snacks.

**About National Nurses Week**

To acknowledge the contributions of nurses and call attention to their working conditions, the International Council of Nurses established May 12 as International Nurses Day in 1974. The celebration was extended to a week a few years later, and National Nurses Week was officially born in 1994. Sponsored and promoted by the American Nurses Association, the week-long event highlights the crucial contributions that nurses make to the community.

**About National Skilled Nursing Care Week**

National Skilled Nursing Care Week recognizes the essential role of skilled nursing care centers in caring for America’s elderly and disabled. The week-long observance starts each year on Mother’s Day and is celebrated through the following Saturday.​

**About Highland Health Care Center**

Highland Health Care Center is a 128-bed skilled nursing facility located in Highland, Ill., just 30 minutes east of St. Louis, Mo., in Madison County. The center is accepting both short-term and long-term skilled nursing care residents. Highland Health Care is also contracted with the St. Louis Veteran’s Association. For more information, please contact Jennifer Cross at (618) 654-2368 or visit our website at [www.highland-hcc.com](http://www.highland-hcc.com).

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**Photo Caption**: Highland Health Care Center honored its nursing and facility staff during National Nurses Week and National Skilled Nursing Care Week in May for providing compassionate care and connection to residents. The St. Louis Cardinals’ mascot Fredbird stopped by to join in the fun.