

HERITAGE of Care

THE BETHESDA LETTER

BETHESDA HOME...independence, respect, dignity since 1899



A Brand New Home

There is something exciting happening in Goessel. It's been happening for about 2 years now but it's nearing completion. The excitement is the new singleplex with many upgraded options, a ton of storage, a newly designed entertainment room and a modern open concept design with a very nice traditional feel.

Mark Woelk and Galen Miller were instrumental in getting this project off the ground. The whole project was conceptualized with a goal of building a very nice, affordable living option. One of the ways that this was attainable was to utilize Mark's and Galen's expertise in design and finish carpentry work.



Mark Woelk and Galen Miller were instrumental in designing the singleplex.

"Voth Construction built the shell of the 1985 square foot home. Then Alderfer Drywall came in and did all of the sheet-rock work. After that, Gayle Funk of Living

Rooms by Gayle helped us with the interior design colors and fixture choices. When all of that was finished we were able to utilize our maintenance guys along with Galen and I to get much of the finish work done," said Woelk.

Miller has been doing construction work for many years and had even built his own home prior to coming to work for Bethesda. That expertise was a big factor in deciding to go this route. "We have been working on this house for a long time but

What's Inside?

- A Brand New Home on Campus
- Terri Bockhaus new book; "It's all about the Journey"
- In Praise of Seasons
- We're a Family
- Pete's thoughts on Philanthropy
- 20th Annual Sand Volleyball
- And more!



We invite you to visit our updated website
www.bethesdahome.org

Please send us your email address if you would like to receive the newsletter and other communications electronically.

Follow Bethesda's current news and resident activities on our updated Facebook page. "Like" us! We welcome your comments.



In Praise of Seasons



My favorite time of the year is fall. I love the changing weather, the cooler temperatures, the falling leaves, and the approach of Thanksgiving and Christmas. I think what makes fall in Kansas so great is the stark contrast to the heat and humidity of summer. Kansas may not be the vacation destination for most, but I think our

seasons are special. Hot summers make for a good fall, and cold winters make for a good spring.

Much like the seasons of nature, and the seasons of life, we have organizational seasons. Many of you are all too aware of the changing demographics in health care; the mergers, access to providers, costs, reimbursements, and the penalties. For those of you who are not aware consider yourself fortunate. As an example my grandmother who resides in a nursing home in a small community has seen 4 rate increases this year and is paying over \$8000 a month. As a grandson I understand the frustration, the questioning, and the amazement at such exorbitant costs. As an administrator I understand the regulatory changes, decreasing reimbursements, and substantial rises in insurance costs and benefit plans.

Along with the healthcare changes that often come with the beginning of the state fiscal year, or the insurance calendar year, is our season of staff transition. Bethesda's vision is to

be a regenerative community for all residents, staff, board and families. We come to feel like a cohesive group and staff change is always hard, but like other seasons a reality. This past week Amanda Church, our Director of Nursing made the decision to resign her role in order to stay home with their new son Braxton. It is certainly a blessing that Amanda can stay home with her children, yet we also mourn the loss of her time at Bethesda. Amanda's last day will be September 30.

After getting the news we began feverishly working to find a Director of Nursing. We are meeting with someone who comes with good experience as DON and is someone that Bethesda administration and front line staff have previously interviewed and were excited about. Hopefully things work out and we are able to have a seamless transition for all of our staff and residents.

Whether this finds you enduring the heat and humidity of summer either figuratively or literally, or the crisp cool air of fall, we thank you for the way that you are part of the life of Bethesda home. Thank you for your constancy of love and support amidst the ever-changing world around us. Thank you for the visits and volunteer hours. Thank you for your prayers and supportive encouragement. Thank you for your referrals of family and friends to be residents or staff, and thank you for your generous gifts. Bethesda has seen many seasons since its inception in 1899. It has weathered, and will continue to weather many changing seasons, guided by faith and supported with prayer.

Eric Schrag, CEO

Pete's Thoughts on Philanthropy

When we go through difficult times, the choice is ours to either get caught up in what we have lost or to be thankful for what we have left. Most of us have far more left than what most people around the world had to start with. Thanksgiving is a choice - it's a matter of your heart to be thankful to God. Giving is a response - it's a matter of your heart to be grateful for what God has given to you. I encourage you to place your gift in the enclosed return envelope toward a specific cause or where most needed. "Stewardship is God's way of raising people, not man's way of raising money."

-Pete Flaming

In Memory Since March, 2016

Lenora Woelk	3/12/16
Virginia Voth	3/21/16
Anita Curl	3/22/16
Alan Rambo	4/15/16
Jerry Stegall	4/23/16
Susie Schmidt	5/22/16
Thelma Hiebsch	5/22/16
Lawrence Bullinger	6/09/16
Alice Schmidt	6/23/16

“Home” continued from page 1

that has allowed us to save some money since we could keep some of the work in house during normal work hours,” said Miller. “We would bring in the maintenance guys when it was rainy or wet and they could help us with staining trim or doing other prep work.”

The overall goal of saving money while still keeping the quality of the home high has been attained. Walking through the singleplex, it feels like a model home that was built with many of the amenities you would find in any new housing development.

Quartz counter tops and custom cabinets from Creative Wood Custom Cabinetry in Goessel finish out a beautiful kitchen that would provide a place to cook and entertain large groups of family or friends if needed.

Many people have inquired about this home as a living option and it will likely not stay empty long given the features it has to offer.

“From the beginning it was the Board of Directors’ goal to begin to provide a more up-to-date option for housing,” said

Woelk. “The next generation of people who are reaching the minimum age (to move in) of 63 are asking for things now that haven’t been available in the past. The last duplex was built in 2003, and our board felt that it was time to begin steps to offer some more updated options for living.”

The outside front of the house has pillars with stone work that accents a beautiful layout and floor plan. As you move through the house you feel the spacious rooms were designed so that grandkids and families would have more room to enjoy each other’s company when needed. The entertainment room is up front and just off of the main living area, providing a separate room for watching movies or for a home office space.

While they worked on some of the finishing touches at the singleplex, Woelk and Miller realized just how efficient the home was.

“The utility bills were much lower than anticipated for a space of this size. It is a very well built and efficient home,” said Woelk.

The master bedroom features a private bathroom with a walk-in shower that is all on one level with no transitions or steps. The spacious bathroom is a great feature. The master bedroom also provides his and her walk in closets with plenty of space.

The guest bedroom boasts another ample sized room with a bathroom to the side of it as well.

This home provides the best of both worlds for couples who are looking to downsize while still being able to entertain and host guests.

Offering an oversized two car garage with space for a work shop and a safe room storm shelter, this home has so much to offer couples who want to maintain hobbies and continue to have the amenities they have come to love, while still downsizing a bit.

The covered patio on the back of the house is just icing on the cake. “We are still looking at options for that. It could even become a screened in porch if needed,” said Woelk.

“That’s the great thing about this home, it is brand new and could be customized, to a certain extent, to meet the preferences of the new residents.”

The anticipated date for the home to be finished is this fall. If needed it could be ready in as little as two to three months. The future tenant will be able to help in picking out appliances.

For more information contact Eric Schrag, Sara Hiebert or Pete Flaming at Bethesda Home. You can call 620-367-2291 or email them at eschrag@bethesdahome.org, shiebert@bethesdahome.org, or pflaming@bethesdahome.org. See the back page for more images of the new home.



The backyard and patio provide ample space for entertaining.



This open concept provides plenty of room for family meals and gatherings.



Custom built cabinets by Creative Wood Custom Cabinetry add a finishing touch to this magnificent kitchen.

20th Annual Sand Volleyball Tournament



Taking a break from directing the tournament, Pat Flaming and Jason Peters were all smiles.

Threshing Days happened in Goessel like it always does the first weekend in August. The Threshing Days Sand Volleyball tournament was again a resounding success. This was the 20th year for the tournament with 12 teams participating.

Directors Jason Peters and Pat Flaming were the founders of this tournament that has been a fund-raiser for Bethesda Home every year. After all these years, they have found that working together, enjoying some good sand vol-

leyball and helping out Bethesda is a lot of fun and a very satisfying way to spend a weekend. Sand Volleyball dollars raised come to \$19,641 total. This year the total came to \$1635. Many projects have been funded with money raised from Sand Volleyball. Some of these have been walking path lighting, a sit to stand lift, nursing care equipment, a bus garage, and the Meadowlane storage shed.

Thanks Jason and Pat for 20 years of hard work and support of Bethesda Home!



“It’s all about the Journey” Terri Bockhaus



Terri Bockhaus in her element with Norma Martinez

Terri Bockhaus, Director of Physical Therapy, has been at Bethesda Home for 34 years. She provides the residents with the care they need to recover from injuries as well as maintain mobility and stay fit.

If you asked her 34 years ago if she thought she’d be publishing a book, she would have said no. And she would certainly not have imagined that the book would be about riding motorcycles. But that’s exactly what she has done.

The book idea came about because Terri had been writing for the Goldwing Road Riders Association newsletter. People enjoyed reading about her adventures on her motorcycle so much that she decided a book would be the best vehicle to chronicle all of the trips and events she had been attending.

Terri began riding motorcycles as the result of an accident that happened in 2004. She was riding with her husband Steve when it happened.

“We had the accident before we had much training and a lady T-Boned us at an intersection. If we had been taking the training we should have had, maybe we could have avoided the accident,” said Bockhaus.

“The purpose of this book, was that I really wanted to break through the biker stigma and to promote safe motorcycle riding,” said Bockhaus. “The safety issue was propelled to the forefront of my mind after the accident.”

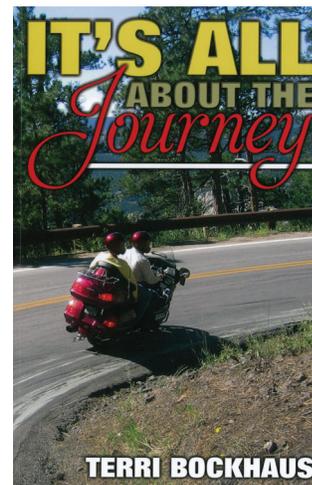
The accident began the process of recovery for both of them. After they

had fully healed, Steve decided to purchase a new motorcycle and wanted to sell the old one. After not having any luck selling it, Terri decided she would go ahead and get her license, take a class and learn to ride on her own.

After riding her own bike for awhile she eventually joined up with the Kansas Twisters Motorcycle Drill Team. The team likens what they do to the equivalent of square dancing while riding motorcycles. Videos of her group performing can be seen on You Tube and searching for Kansas Twisters Motorcycle Drill Team.

When asked if there are any connections between Bethesda and motorcycle riding, she mentioned that she came across a photo of the Goessel Mens’ Motorcycle Club of 1912. Some of the members of that group would have been some of the fathers of the current residents at Bethesda. The group rode smaller Harley Davidson motorcycles and dressed in white dress shirts.

For those who would like to learn more about Bockhaus’s book or even purchase a copy, there will be a book discussion group in the Chapel on Sept. 19 at 7:00 p.m.



We’re A Family at Bethesda

What is it like to stay in Bethesda Home? Elaine Schroeder says; “I found out in July that it is like joining one big family. I knew from an outsider’s view that the care was good, as I had observed the care given my mother-in-law. I found out from an insider’s view that the care is superior. It is one thing to give good care to residents. It is, however, another thing to care for residents as though they were members of your own family.

My short stay due to foot surgery meant I could not put weight on my right foot. Physical situations that could

have been demeaning simply weren’t because of the loving attitude of the caregivers. The person was never lost in the personal care.

Further, I observed that there is a program or activity to fill any interest, hobby or need. Great care is exercised to learn where an individual’s interests, abilities and desires might mesh with other residents and staff.

A good family includes every member in decisions, joys and sorrows of life and this is what happens at Bethesda Home.”

BETHESDA



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