Vol. 11 No. 12

#### **Our Mission**

Rooted in Christian Faith Caring for Each Other Serving the Community

#### **Our Core Values**

Teamwork, Respect, Integrity, Commitment and Love

#### **Board of Directors**

Jerry Miller - Chair

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Eagle Crest South La Crosse 791-2700

Eagle Crest North Onalaska

779-1700

**Bethany Riverside** 

406-3900

**The Willows** 

406-3980

**Bethany On Cass** 

796-1091

**Bethany Heights** 

526-2635

**Hearten House I** 

784-4511

**Hearten House II** 

784-4522

Hearten House III

526-6796

**Bethany Town Homes** 

779-1720

#### **Winter 2019**

# Eagle Crest South Expansion Opening Spring of 2020

Construction on our Eagle Crest South Phase II addition is running pretty close to schedule despite the recent weather conditions. We are 6 months into our 18-month construction timeline and the precast ground floor has been installed, walls are going up and the building is beginning to take on more definition.

The shaded area in the image shown displays the existing Eagle Crest South community, introduced in 2015, while the expansion is divided into 5 different areas labeled A, B, C, D, and E. Building codes for licensed healthcare facilities are very strict and the areas labeled A, B, C, D, and E each have distinct building code requirements.

The Phase II addition will connect to the existing Eagle Crest South community in two separate locations, allowing the building to function as one, with easy access to the amenities in our extraordinary Town Center, the hub of the community.

One new amenity coming soon is the octagon-shaped botanical garden that will serve as the crossover link from area "A" to the existing building. Enclosed in glass with sunshine coming in from all directions, the botanical garden will offer seating areas and a variety of plants and flowers to enjoy. The 2nd crossover link is labeled area "E."

Bethany Lutheran Homes is investing \$6.6 million in equity contribution into our expansion to keep the cost of living at Eagle Crest affordable to most people. In designing our Eagle Crest communities, we strive to offer a life enriching experience where everyone has opportunity to be involved in their favorite hobbies, meet new people and try new things. As a non-profit organization, donations are very important. I ask that you consider making Bethany Lutheran Homes a part of your annual giving plan. Thank you to everyone for your support of our mission to serve as an extension of the family when you have a need.

#### Visit bethanylutheranhomes.org for weekly construction updates and photos.



Underground Parking Area



Ground Floor of Area D ~ Pre-Cast Walls



Area A ~ 1st Floor

Have a wonderful winter season!

Todd D. Wilson Chief Executive Officer



Area A ~ 2nd Floor





### Bethany Heights Townhomes - Making Connections on Juniper Lane

Although I am unsure who named our newsletter "Connections," one thing has remained the same – Bethany Lutheran Homes prioritizes & deeply values the "connections" we make every day. We connect with residents & their families, employees, donors, spiritual care providers, healthcare professionals and the community. Whether it's a simple hello, or helping guide & support families through the next steps for their loved one - we understand and appreciate the gift in every connection we make!

On Juniper Lane in Holmen, AWESOME connections are made amongst the "Juniper Jollies," residents living within our twenty townhomes near Evergreen Elementary. In 2016, two couples from the townhomes enjoyed each other's company and felt it would be great to include and get to know their neighbors. Before long, monthly garage parties and outdoor gatherings were planned in the spring, summer & fall, and together, they celebrate birthdays and anniversaries, enjoy potluck meals and stay connected. Ruth, the organizer of most events, sends monthly emails, makes phone calls and drops off notes at residents' homes to keep them in the know! The Jollies sing songs, share life stories, laugh A LOT and play games. Grade-schooler Taylor Hanson has been crowned the "Juniper Jollies Princess" and wears her sash & crown at every gathering where she assists with setting up, serving neighbors and is always happy to lend a helping hand and a big smile. Her grandparents live on Juniper Lane, and the gatherings wouldn't be complete without her.

The "Jollies" typically don't gather in the winter due to space constraints, however the staff at Bethany Heights, our assisted living community also on Juniper Lane, has offered space in their bistro to host this group of about 16-20 neighbors, creating yet another way to connect with the residents living there!

When asked about life at Bethany Heights Townhomes, Ruth is quick to share the positives in living in this cozy neighborhood – Maintenance free living, two-bedroom apartments with an attached garage, and amazing retired and semi-retired neighbors, each with a story to share. Juniper Lane is part of a fun, growing neighborhood in Holmen. Neighbors drive by on their way to and from work and always honk their horns, slow down and say "hello," Children deliver May Day baskets and provide entertainment when playing in the park or walking to and from Evergreen Elementary.

If you happen to be driving down Juniper Lane and see a large gathering at one of our Bethany Heights Townhomes stop and say hello – you won't be disappointed!

Heather Edgington, Bethany Height Townhomes Manager





## Now is your chance to make Eagle Crest South your home! **ACCEPTING RESERVATIONS**

from those 55 and Better for our Senior Apartments! **OPENING SPRING 2020** 





# EAGLE CREST SOUTH IS EXPANDING

Attend an Informational Meeting to learn more & reserve your new home!

# Open House Informational Meetings

Tuesdays at 9:00am or Noon

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Auditorium of Eagle Crest South 622 Bennora Lee Court, La Crosse RSVP to Dana at 608-791-2702 or dbistodeau@eaglecrestlife.org





## Supporting our Team and Each Other

At Bethany Lutheran Homes, we not only take care of those who live here, but also those who work here. Providing a positive work experience and work-life balance is crucial in today's workforce and at the top of our "to-do" list. Our flexible scheduling allows our employees to attend school or work additional jobs, while our every other weekend and every other holiday policy ensures they have time for friends, family and other activities outside of work.

We constantly review our wages to ensure we are competitive in the area, provide affordable benefits to full time and some part time employees, and offer 401(k) to all employees planning for their future. As a servant lead organization, we invite your ideas to continue to make Bethany Lutheran Homes the best place to work!

Our Tuition Investment Program offers scholarships to our employees attending college while working at Bethany Lutheran Homes. In 2018 we have awarded over \$50,000 in tuition incentives, as each student employee is eligible to receive up to \$3000 per year. Contributions to our Tuition Investment program can be made to help sustain Bethany Lutheran Homes' legacy in the community. Please contact Dana, at 608-791-2702, if you are interested in supporting our student employees.

### Tuition Investment Program

#### Kenzie

I am attending Western Technical College in hopes of pursuing my dream of becoming a nurse...I chose to work for Bethany Lutheran Homes because a family member really liked living at the Willows. When it came time to look for my first CNA job I jumped at the chance to work for this company and here I am, 2 years later, and still loving what I do! I love interacting with the residents, hearing their stories and helping! They are so humble and grateful for all that we do for them.

The Tuition Investment Program...has helped me reduce my student loans and pay for books or different supplies for the next semester. I would recommend any college student that works for Bethany Lutheran Homes to apply...it really made a difference and I could not be more thankful!

#### Vanessa

I work at Eagle Crest South and am a senior in my fifth year at UW-L, hoping to become a Health Education Specialist who works with adolescents and Sexual Education, with a future goal of becoming an RN and public health nurse. I started working with Bethany Lutheran Homes to enter the health field and because I took an appreciation of BLH's core values, Teamwork, Respect, Integrity, Commitment and Love. I love listening and helping every resident feel taken care of and special. I have benefited from the Tuition Investment Program for 2 semesters which has relieved the financial burden on my family as three of my siblings are also in college. It has given me peace of mind, allowing me to focus on being a good caretaker and student.



Kenzie and Donna enjoying each other's company at Eagle Crest South



Vanessa and Joyce share a moment together at Eagle Crest South

## **Employees Supporting our Scholarships**

Kathleen Banasik Dana Bistodeau Colleen Bonsack Donna Brogan Andrea Byrne Steven Cook Cindy Craig Jane Deml Hannah Fort Todd Garves Cathleen Grinde Tammy Haefs Keri Krueger Elizabeth Kvistad Haley Martin Lori Mikshowsky Donna Miller Kermit Murray Carin Myhre Elizabeth Olson Shelly Olson Carla Potter Diane Rochester Debra Stanhope James Stenulson Vickie Stevens Lisa Thill Myrna Townsend Todd Wilson Susan Wyland

### A Donation to Bethany Lutheran Homes is a Great Investment in the Community. THANK YOU to those who support us...

In Memory of Marie Dougherty Eugene & Betty Linse In Memory of Esther Gamroth Jerome Haines & Sherry Reck-Haines In Memory of Lillie Heintz Pamela Heintz In Memory of Evie Magin Jeffrey & Barbara Sutton In Memory of Marilyn Dunham

Peg Lyga

Susan Dummer & Sandra Loock Karolyn Collins Michael & Susan Schwartz Paul & Linda Dunham Peggy & David Harrison

*In Memory of Ruby West* Eugene & Betty Linse Jack & Barb Peplinski Charles & Linda Rudrud Jerry & Linda Glocke

Stephen & Mary Jane Fritz Meri Sue Erdmann Kevin & Angela Strangman Michael Hussey & Patricia Gaynor-Hussey Nance Klapper Martin & May Callaway

James & Kathleen Filkouski Rebecca Bacon Carl & Renae Kabat

#### Tuition Incentive Program Fund ~

Ernie & Sally Micek Robert & Gretchen Burns John & Ardus Cleveland

In Memory of Adelaide Nichols to benefit Eagle Crest South employee scholarships

Greg Teff Shannan Stephens

Dr. Daniel & Cynthia Ellenz, D.D.S.

James & Dianne Felland Patrick & Joanne Stephens Jason & Kelley Bahr Gerald & Patricia Eichman Jane & Paul Steingraeber Kathleen Pishaw

#### Brian Bush

Fayemarie Alvarado

In Memory of Rosemary Poellinger to benefit Eagle Crest South employee scholarships

Kathleen Pishaw

#### Legacy Fund ~

Dave & Barb Skogen Mary Groeschner

Arcadia Community Chest, Inc

#### **Employee Appreciation Fund** ~

Greg Lamprich Don & Jackie Meyer Kimberly & Steven Yancey Coon Valley Lutheran Church—to benefit Bethany on Cass

#### Capital Fund ~

Alden & Helen Lien

Stephen & Katherine Webster Pastor Ted & Marlene Dewald

Mary Jo Werner Dale & Jody Walter Ernie & Sally Micek Jack & Judith Rusch **Dyanne Brudos-Thornton** 

#### General Donations ~

Gundersen Medical Foundation Coulee Bank Mindoro Lutheran Church WELCA English Lutheran Church of the Holy

Help Bethany Lutheran Homes continue providing quality, compassionate care in the Coulee Region. Donations are gratefully received and tax deductible up to the extent allowed by law.

Name	
Address	
Payable to: Mail to:	Bethany Lutheran Homes, Inc. PO Box 2468 La Crosse, WI 54602-2468
☐ This gift is in honor of	
☐ This gift is in memory of	
<ul> <li>□ Capital Fund - Supports major projects such as Eagle Crest developments</li> <li>□ Legacy Fund - Supports activities and special events, and enhances amenities &amp; technology for our residents</li> <li>□ Tuition Incentive Program Fund - Supports our recruitment and retention program</li> <li>□ Employee Appreciation Fund - Promotes employee appreciation. Special requests are always welcome!</li> </ul>	



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## Great People...Great Care!



We are humbled and honored to have been nominated by the community for "Best of La Crosse County" in four categories!!

Best Apartment Complex..."Eagle Crest Communities"
Best Assisted Living ..."Bethany Lutheran Homes"
Best Retirement Complex..."Eagle Crest Communities"
Best Nursing Home..."Bethany Riverside"

### CONGRATULATIONS BETHANY RIVERSIDE Ranked "Best Nursing Home" By US News & World Report



In 2018, Bethany Riverside, our rehabilitation and transitional care center behind Gundersen Health System in La Crosse, received a 5-star rating by the department of Medicare and Medicaid and has since been recognized by U.S. News and World Report as "Best Nursing Home," the highest rating received amongst all Skilled Nursing Facilities in the Coulee Region. "High Performance" ratings were awarded based on quality, routine care received for treatment of chronic conditions or short-term rehabilitation stays following

a hospitalization for surgery, heart attack, stroke, or injury. The data used to determine "high performance" ratings included nurse staffing ratio, excellent health inspections, positive patient outcomes, therapy minutes received to reach patient-centered goals, few facility complaints, and quality care.

Bethany Riverside ranks highest at a 62% success rate in discharging residents back to their home, offering physical, occupational and speech therapy seven days a week, getting you back on your feet fast!

Call April Crowder, Admissions Director, for more information about Bethany Riverside, our award-winning rehab and transitional care center, at 608-406-3939.