

Merrimac Network News

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Merrimac News

By: Margaret Evans

As most of you know by now, Evan passed away on January 14, 2006. Thank you for the love and support you have shown me and my family the last few months. It means a lot to me. You know Evan thought the world of you all. His love for seniors and the desire to bring assisted living to rural communities all across Texas and Oklahoma was what kept him going the last few months. His health was an issue to us but it never got in his way when it came to doing his job for you and your communities. He was a trooper in every way. His great sense of humor and his love of life was his gift to all of us. I do miss him terribly, but I will do my best to keep our tradition of Merrimac going in the future. Please feel free to call me, as always, if you ever need any help in your special endeavors of life with your seniors. Love to you all.

Margaret

Legacy Assisted Living

Dalhart, Texas

Congratulations to Leroy Schaffner, Loree Elliott and Tammy Parker for a job well done. Legacy is officially open for business. They had their grand opening reception on Thursday, February 23rd at 4:00 P.M. The attendance was great at approximately 300 people. They currently have 3 residents and have 21 more ready to move in. Be sure to stop by for a tour whenever you are in the neighborhood! Go to our website to see pictures www.merrimacgroup.com

The Whitestone

Comanche, Texas

I am so proud of Kay Montgomery. She now has 26 residents in her 24 unit building and still one more unit available. This is the most for her. She still has a staff of 11 and 2 part timers. Kay did go up on her rent for the first time effective April 1st by \$100. The residents were all expecting it and did not have one complaint.

Kay is now in the league with Nelda in Bowie in that she also has a centurion living at The Whitestone. They had a big 100th Birthday Party for him with friends and family attending. Keep up the good work Kay!

“Apprentice yourself to nature. Not a day will pass without her opening a new and wondrous world of experience to learn from and enjoy.” Richard W. Langer

The Seasons

Perryton, Texas

I had the pleasure of being in Perryton last week for a Hospital Board Meeting. The hospital is considering a remodel of its ER and several other departments. I got to stay at The Seasons and as usual it was a delight. Their respite room is very comfortable. Jean currently has 25 residents. She still advertises and has tours going on all the time.

While I was there last week, Gayle had some of the residents doing their exercises and of course they have their Bible Study groups and much, much more. There is always something going on at The Seasons. By the way, Jean said if you could send RAIN they would greatly appreciate it!

Park View Manor

Wellington, Texas

Park View Manor is in the process of getting their license changed from a Large A to a Small B with DADS. I visited them last week to make sure they were ready to call for their inspection. Except for a small hole in a closet ceiling, they are ready. Sherideen will send a letter to DADS once that is repaired and then wait for her inspection. After they get their license changed, they are considering upgrading their call system, adding carpet to areas of the building that don't have it and also some light fixture changes. We will have a Re-Grand Opening once these upgrades have been done to invite the community of Wellington in and see the new look. Sherideen is also going to set up her Respite Room as soon as possible so that she can start filling up her building. She is on the right track.

The Fountains

Sweeny, Texas

Unfortunately I haven't been to Sweeny

lately but Crystal tells me she has had a tough 7 weeks. She had 4 residents pass away in that time period. So she is down to 11 residents right now. She is doing a lot of marketing. She attended an AARP meeting in Bay City and spoke about The Fountains. She even invited them all to lunch and for a tour. Hopefully she can get more in soon. Meanwhile, they have just had a raised Vegetable bed installed at The Fountains in one of their courtyards. The residents are planting eggplant, tomatoes, etc. If fact, if they can get the hospital guys to build them another one they will.

The residents are also making Easter Baskets to sell as one of their fund raisers. They already have 6 orders. If this goes anything like their bake sale, they will do well. Keep up the good work!

Willow Grove Assisted Living

Pharr, Texas

Gloria Garcia and Dr. Tony Deluna have their loan approved and are waiting on the Architect/Contractor to complete the drawings. As soon as that is done, construction will start. We are planning a big Ground Breaking Ceremony to kick off the event. We will also start the pre-leasing efforts and marketing in the valley. There is not a lot of assisted living units in the area and this one should be very well received. We look forward to the challenge.

Heritage House

Rotan, Texas

Heritage House has been open since June of last year. As of now, they have 12 residents with 4 more slated to move-in in the next few weeks. Carla has only been there since October and is doing a great job in filling her building so quickly. We have heard good things about The Heritage House in Rotan.

Country Elegance

Stamford, Texas

Well Paula Bennett is close to having a completed building. She says she is only 2 months away. In spite of that she already has 16 residents ready to move in to her 14 unit assisted living community. Congratulations to Paula and her marketing efforts. We will keep you posted on their progress.

The Woodlands

Eastland, Texas

That's right - ***The Woodlands*** - is now officially named. This project is about to go out for bid. The construction documents are being completed as we speak. We have several good contractors ready to bid on it. Hopefully we can start construction the first of May. Then the fun will begin. We plan on having our Ground Breaking Ceremony soon. I will keep you posted on that. We also have a list going of potential residents at this time. We already have about 10 on that list and will get more as construction begins.

The Orchard

Woodville, Texas

Betty only has one apartment available in Woodville. They have 39 residents. The thing most on their mind now is waiting for the surveyor. You all know how that feels. Good luck Betty with your survey. I am sure everything will be OK.

Haskell, Texas

In Haskell, we are waiting on USDA to give their approval and issue the letter of conditions. We have given them all the information they have requested. We have been told the application has been sent to

Washington for approval. We have our Congressmen helping further our cause. Since both Stamford and Rotan are basically full, it seems to us that USDA would be ready to help Haskell in their efforts to bring assisted living to their community as well. We will keep you posted.

Independence Hall

Bowie, Texas

Nelda just had her annual inspection and passed with flying colors as always. She immediately went on a 10 day much needed vacation. She is back now and back in the groove. Nelda has 31 residents and is full. Her centurion will be 102 in April.

Arbor House

Weatherford, Texas

Tammie O'Connor is the manager at Arbor House in Weatherford. She has both Independent Living and Assisted Living Residents in her community and currently have a total of 56 residents. They are always busy doing some sort of activity. They were successful in getting their Assisted Living License changed from an A to a B and now Tammie can keep her residents as they "age in place". All is well in Weatherford.

Providence Place

Woodward, Oklahoma

Good news in Woodward! They have selected their contractor and should close their USDA loan soon. They expect to have their Ground Breaking Ceremony in about 30 days. Finally, off and running. Good luck!

"Gardens are the result of a collaboration between art and nature."

Penelope Hobhouse

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More Merrimac News!!

The annual TORCH Rural & Community Hospital conference is scheduled for April 5-7th in Dallas. Every year in conjunction with the conference Evan and I would host an "Early Bird" Golf Tournament. Well, this year, I am hosting it in Evan's memory. We are currently registering golfers and looking for Tee Box Sponsors. If you know anyone who would like to participate in either way, please have them call me or go to the website for the registration forms.

In other news, TALA is having their annual conference and trade show also in Dallas on August 23-25th. This is a good way to get your needed CEU's for the year. We are also hosting a Merrimac night for all our Managers to get together. Hope you can make it.

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