

Winter 2019





Santa, All I Want for Christmas...



Once again, the residents of the Eastern Star Masonic Retirement Campus (ESMRC) had the opportunity to create new memories with family, friends and employees. Turn the pages of this magazine to see the photos that record the events and happenings over the recent holiday season.

Happy New Year to All!

My loved one needs care, but does not have enough money

What does a family do when their loved one needs a safer environment, but cannot afford to pay for the much-needed care? This is a dilemma that more and more families are facing. What they are finding is that it is becoming nearly impossible in the Denver metropolitan area to find appropriate housing for low-income seniors who need assistance.

The ESMRC Marketing Department receives many calls a day from families trying desperately to find housing for their low-income parent/loved one. Our community accepts Medicaid, but the community has a very long wait list. Most often, I can not help these families, except to refer them to the Area Agency on Aging, 303-480-6700. Denver, and most cities, do not have nearly enough affordable housing for seniors.



Above: Memory Care Director Jonathan Hoyt joins a resident for a meal.

Legislators are somewhat aware of this problem, but have other issues that they feel are more important than affordable senior housing for those who need assistance. This is a problem that can only be fixed by having constituents tell their legislators that low-income seniors do not have a place to live if they need care. Denver is in a crisis situation on this issue.

What you can do is find out what your loved one's financial picture looks like? The more money you have to work with, the better your planning can be.

I advise my clients to work with elder-law firms that can help you plan much better for the upcoming lack of funds. There are ways to plan that can stretch your dollars further and create medicalcare trusts that can help pay for medical care when it is needed.

You may call Diane or Debra for referrals to elder-law firms, 303-756-9489. You can also call the Area Agency on Aging, 303-480-6700, for assistance with housing, health care, transportation, Medicare options and more.

> Diane Martini **Director of Marketing**

Eastern Star Masonic Retirement Campus: 303-756-9489 2445 South Quebec Street, Denver, CO 80231-9924

Larry Lillo, Executive Director Pati Sawyer Boex, Fraternal Relations Director Jennifer McLaughlin, Business Manager Marcie Hall, Nursing Supervisor Jonathan Hoyt, Director of Memory Care Jane Adams, Life Enrichment Director Diane Martini, Director of Marketing

Martha Valdez, Resident Services Director Debra Kirsten, Sales Counselor Jerry Haynes, Dietary Director Gary Lavoie, Maintenance Supervisor

Grand Lodge Office 719-623-5340 **Grand Chapter Office** 303-759-5936

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Editor: Lynn Donaldson, 303-766-8649, LynnNeu@comcast.net

Continued family support for residents with dementia helps

When someone close to you is diagnosed with one of the many forms of dementia, it can initiate a trying time for the affected individual and family members and other loved ones. As the dementia progresses, your loved one begins to change such that you may find it difficult to spend time with them in the same fashion as you once may have. Oftentimes, family and friends will stop visiting

their loved ones as frequently. Sometimes visits come to a stop altogether.

In the advanced stages of dementia, it can be especially difficult to find the visits with your loved one meaningful.

Let me be the one to assure you that these visits are meaningful, to not only your loved one, but their caregivers as well.

One of the most beneficial ways to cope with your loved one's dementia is to educate yourself on the disease itself. We are all familiar with the term dementia, but there are more than 100 different forms of dementia that are currently identified, and each one progresses in a unique pattern. It is

important to have a physician who is familiar with the various forms of dementia provide a specific di-

agnosis for you and your loved one. This will help you when



researching the disease, and identifying what changes you can expect to see.

Many people have also found it help-

ful to read and listen to the testimonies of others who have had loved ones diagnosed with dementia. Hearing how others have coped with family members or friends dealing with the disease in the past can often provide a sense of comfort or relief for those who currently have a loved one living with dementia.

- Jonathan Hoyt



Community Shred-a-thon

Hosted by ESMRC and the International Order of the Rainbow Girls Littleton Assembly #5 10 am-noon Saturday, May 4 2445 S Quebec St Denver 80231



BRING old checks, credit card offers, mailings, medical records, tax forms, pay stubs, etc.

Please do not bring phone books, newspapers, magazines or catalogs
Donations accepted for the International Order of the Rainbow Girls
Littleton Assembly #5 Scholarship Fund and other Assembly activities

Questions: Pati Sawyer Boex, Fraternal Relations Director, 303-753-2160, or

Valerie Hannon, 408-528-4833



Refresh your driving skills with the AARP SMART DRIVER™ COURSE!

You will learn:

- Defensive driving techniques that help keep you and your loved ones safe on the road.
- Proven safety strategies, including techniques for handling left turns, right-of-way and roundabouts.
- New traffic laws and rules of the road.

Plus, there are no tests to pass. You simply sign up and learn. Upon completion, you could receive a multi-year discount on your car insurance. (Consult your agent for details. Other restrictions may apply.)



9 am-1 pm Wednesday, April 17 ESMRC Fraternal Relations Room Call 303-756-9489 to register

Classroom course: \$15 for AARP members; \$20 for non-members

If this course does not fit your schedule, visit www.aarp.org/drive, or call 1-877-846-3299 for additional course offerings.

Activities Recap

Left: Every morning,

David pets Sally and gets his medication. Sally is one of the house cats. David has lived at ESMRC the longest.



Right: Polynesian dancers entertained



Arts and Crafts,

while allowing all participants to release their inner creativity, took a turn towards holiday decorations.



Left and right: At a **Door Social Craft** Party, residents made decorations for their doors.



Left: A winning trip to the **casinos in Central City**, Russell and Tom

Right: Lita and Ann sipping drinks at **Hickory House in Parker**

Below: Students from Cherry Creek Academy



visit every year as part of their community service day. Here they are making Thanksgiving turkeys for everyone's doors, and shaking hands with Jim, a World War 2 veteran.









We celebrated **Veterans Day** with a flag ceremony and music. Compassus Hospice introduced each Veteran, their branch of service, and rank. They gave them a challenge coin and certificate.

Left: Mac and Peggy attended the Veterans Day event. Mac's uniform still fits.

Below: A happy **Thanksgiving** photo with Masonic residents.



Below: A Memory Care family enjoyed Thanksgiving at ESMRC.

Above: The Voting commission stopped by, helping all residents cast their ballots. John votes.

Right: We went to Grand Chapter. Here is PGM Shirley Day with Liz and Dinora. Winter 2019



Eastern Star Masonic Retirement Campus Spotlight





Open House Christmas Party with Tony David







Philanthropy —

Eastern Star Masonic Retirement Campus

thanks the following Chapters, Lodges and individuals for their donations to the ESMRC for August-December 2018.

Charles Cassell Katherine A Cook **Anthony Korvas**

Thomas Henshall Family of Sylvia Woodhouse



In-Kind Donations -

Thank you to the following Fraternal Family members and private individuals who donated time or in-kind

donations for the residents of the ESMRC during the months of August-December 2018.

Lynn and Rick Brown-Jones Beverly and Roy Chews Cynthia Churchill in memory of Barbara Bergeson **Kevin Durham**

Bob and JoAnn Fowler

Megan Fritts (Excelsior Chapter) Donna Haas Bobby and Ruby McClain

Nancy Sonnenfeld

Robin Terry

Centennial Chapter Dawn Chapter #125 **Excelsior Chapter**

Mt Zion Chapter 7

Weston Lodge

Colorado Gives Day -

Anonymous **** Toni Adamo Jim and DeAnn Anchustegui

Melissa Aragon in memory of Barbara Aragon

Craig Bailey Jareene Barkdoll

Kathy Beattie **David Berman**

Philip Black Wayne Burch

Janet Buttrick Jack and Martha Carter

Phyllis Click

Hugh Clum Gregory Curd in honor

of Patsy Curd Ed and Carol Donahoe

Jana Doss

Charles W Downing Marlene Doyle in memory of Haskell and **Audrey Heinricy David Gans** Gasper Graziano Donna Haas Ted and Vicki Haluza Cynthia Hamilton in

memory of Dorothy and Charles Hamilton Catherine Heflick Jonathan Hoyt

Terry Hudson Raju Jairam

Lillian Johnson in memory of Merna Johnson Wilma and Ed Kamps

Ann Lane Gary Lavoie Thank you to the community members who made a donation on Colorado Gives Day in December! Donations totalled \$6.300!

Jean Leonard Laurie Llanos in honor

of Roberta Hartwell Larry Lillo

Diane Martini Loretta McEllhiney

Barbara Morgan in memory of Jim Morgan

Nancy Mulhall **Dotty Nittler**

Carolyn O'Malley-Adlong in honor of Eleanor

O'Mallev Eleanor O'Malley

Tammy Oldson Gloria Patten

Daniel Reichel in memory of Jim Morgan **Edward Robertson**

Louise Rowe in memory

of Elsie and Charles Garrison Kristi Rudy Donald Ryan

Pati Sawyer Boex in Memory of Willie

Boden

Corrine Schreiber in memory of Charlotte

Leader Elaine Tayman Robin Terry Elizabeth Teska Paul Ward Cindy Wardlaw Bart Wegner

Fletcher Wideman

Thank you for playing Santa and making Christmas merry for the residents of the community:

Christmas Donations

Dawn Chapter Denver Royal Arch #2 **Knights Templar Association** Liberty Lodge #134

Past Matrons and Patrons Club of Colorado

Grover Sardeson **Umar Shabazz**

Thanks to all donors who donated anonymously. If your name failed to make this list, ESMRC thanks you!

The Robert Russell Eastern Star Masonic Retirement Campus is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit, so all donations are tax deductible. Please make checks payable to Robert Russell Eastern Star Masonic Retirement Campus or R.R.E.S.M.R.C. Send them to Attention Director, 2445 S. Quebec St, Denver, CO 80231.

ESMRC will host Blood Drives in 2019

8 am-1:30 pm Friday, April 26, 8 am-1:30 pm Friday, Oct. 18, in the Fraternal Relations Room

Donate blood. You can make a huge difference to someone in need.

Co-sponsored by Columbine Masonic Lodge #147 and Vitalant

Call Fraternal Relations Director Pati Sawyer Boex, 303-753-2160, or patis@esmrc.com



ESMRC is in need of new sheets, twin size, new bath towels, toiletry items: boxes of Kleenex, feminine wipes.

Fraternal Activities at Eastern Star Masonic Retirement Campus

2019

- Feb. 12 Denver Royal Arch #2, Dinner 6:30 pm; Meeting 7:30 pm
- March 16 House of Delegates Meeting, 10 am, Fraternal Relations Room
- April 13 DeMolay Hosted Easter Egg Hunt, 11:30 am
- April 17 AARP Safe Drivers Class, 9 am-1 pm, Fraternal Relations Room
- April 26 Blood Drive with Columbine Lodge, 8 am-1:30 pm
- May 4 Community Shred-a-thon, 10 am-noon
- May 4 Masonic Youth Senior Prom, 2–4 pm, "Kentucky Derby Prom"
- May 7 Dawn Chapter #125 Chapter Meeting
- June 15 House of Delegates Meeting, 10 am, Fraternal Relations Room
- July 19 10th Annual Golf Tournament at Wellshire Golf Course
- Aug. 17 Fraternal Family Community Picnic
- Oct. 18 Blood Drive with Columbine Lodge, 8 am-1:30 pm
- Oct. 19 Reverse Trick or Treat, Rainbow, 11:30 am
- Nov. 14 Centennial Lodge, Dinner and Meeting
- Dec. 14 All Masonic Christmas Party for Residents

It is ESMRC's mission to host a once-a-month Chapter or Lodge meeting in the R. Keith Milheim Fraternal Meeting Room, which can include Masonic residents. If your Chapter or Lodge is interested in hosting a meeting for residents, please contact Fraternal Relations Director Pati Sawyer Boex, 303-753-2160 or *patis@esmrc.com*.

Spotlight

Robert Russell Eastern Star Masonic Campus of Colorado, Inc. 2445 South Quebec Street Denver, CO 80231-9924

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