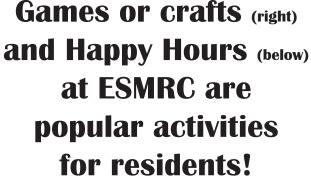






2445 South Quebec St Denver. CO 80231-9924 303-756-9489





For more photos of games and crafts at ESMRC, see pages 8-9



Left and below: Members of Harmony Lodge #61A.F.A.M. waited two years to host a lodge meeting at ESMRC to honor Past Master Gilbert Carlton, who lives at ESMRC. In March, it coincided with an official visit by current Grand Master Ray Dunn.



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# Summer is here, let's enjoy the sunshine

It is great to have warm temperatures and sunshine for all residents to enjoy the benefits of Colorado living. I have been looking forward to this time for more than two years while dealing with the COVID pandemic. As ESMRC emerged from the COVID lockdown, it was wonderful to see residents recovering from their isolation, during which they could not visit with their families, and had to cope with all the restrictions necessary to keep them safe. If there is one lesson that I have learned during this time, it is that never underestimate the will of seniors to endure the hardships of the times and persevere.

Families have been so supportive of the community and its staff. I cannot say "Thank you" enough to all the people who kept their loved one's spirits high, maintained communication with them through novel means and supported our ESMRC team — it made a difference.

Unfortunately, dealing with the COVID virus has become a new normal in our business — vaccines, boosters, and special COVID treatments will continue to occur. I am sure that I will continue to see a few outbreak cases throughout the year. The important thing to know is that today we know so much more about COVID, how to treat the virus, and manage the minor outbreaks that may occur.



Above: Dick and Pati are big Rockies fans! They were ready for the delayed opening day.

ESMRC will continue to take guidance from the City of Denver and Colorado State Healthcare Departments to keep this virus under control.



It will not let dictate how we offer services or how residents can live their lives.

Now that the worst of the pandemic is behind us, I hope to return to some normalcy during the summer months. ESMRC will continue to offer a full fun activity and social program in which residents can participate. There will be lots of bus trips to the stores and offering scenic drives that all the residents enjoy. My staff and I hope to offer some unique events for both residents and families soon, as we encourage our residents to enjoy the outdoors and spend quality time with their families.

l also expect to continue to add people to our community who are looking for senior independent, assisted living or memory care services. Our goal is to have a vibrant, fully occupied community, offering a quality living environment and meeting the needs of residents. It has been exciting to see many local community seniors come by to look at the community and work with services providers to meet their residential and healthcare needs on the ESMRC campus.

So, let us enjoy the sunshine. Come see us, we are open to all guests. Your loved ones are anxiously waiting to see you and spend time together. Stay in touch. We post weekly what is happening at ESMRC. I would love to see you. Then we can all enjoy the summer together.

If you know someone who could benefit from our community and the services we offer, please have them contact the Marketing Department for more information about the campus.

 $\mathsf{T}$ hanks again, for your support.

Larry Lillo Executive Director

## The ever-evolving activities at ESMRC

When moving into ESMRC, residents and their families fill out a variety of paperwork that helps staff get to know the new resident. We want to know what they used to do for hobbies, their likes and dislikes and what they do now for fun at their current age. This information helps the staff be able to connect with new residents.

Important information for caregivers is the way they like to start their day to the way they like to end it. We love to know all about their normal routines and what makes them feel comfortable. There may be many activities or hobbies the residents did at a young age that may be adapted for their current capabilities. Residents may not be able to do all the activities they did before but they may be able to find enjoyment in different ways. With that being said, when we find out an interest or activity a resident likes, it may be possible to add it to the community's activity schedule.

As of right now our most participated activity is morning exercise. That is why six out of seven days of the week start with ab exercise activity.

We continually evaluate what is working and what is of less interesting to our residents. Input into our activities comes from different sources:



- Tracking participation
- Resident Council Meetings
- Personal conversations with residents
- Observing residents' physical abilities
- Family member suggestions
- · Volunteers offering to teach or lead activities

With numerous opportunities for residents to express their likes and dislikes, we continue to expand and evolve the activity program. With residents able to have a say in what happens in their daily lives, we are more likely to see increased participation and happier residents.

Bringing residents together for activities offers social, physical, and mental benefits each day to help them to live healthy lifestyles.

Brettney Starks
 Life Enrichment Director

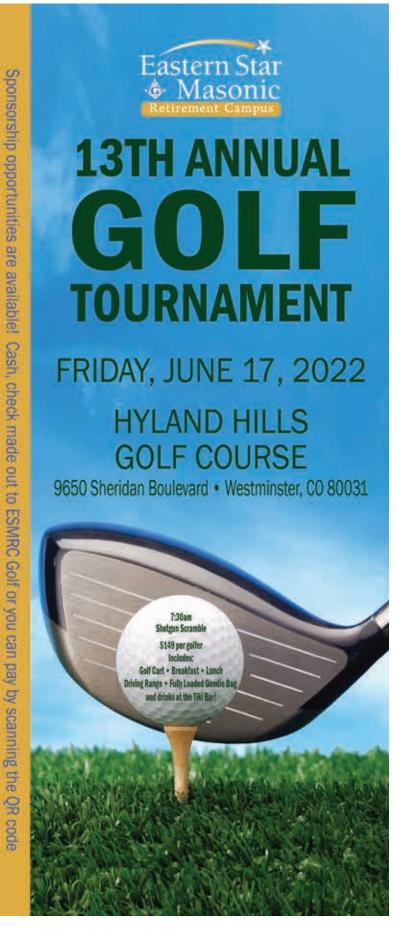
Below and right: On Thursdays, shopping at the Dollar Cart is always a thrill for shoppers! They can fill their bag with candy, sodas or toiletries — all for only \$1.



Living in assisted living is not just sitting around waiting for the next meal. You can be as active or inactive as you want to be. ESMRC has a walking club or you can walk on your own. Groups of residents go out to eat or you can

have a meal delivered. Some residents go shopping regularly. One group took a trip to the Wings Over the Rockies Air and Space Museum (top left). You can do a jigsaw puzzle, read a book in the sun or in your room, or get your nails done. You can be as active as you want to be.





### **Activities Recap**









The games people play – Bridge, Bingo, Dominoes, Pokeno, Scrabble, Yahtzee and, of course, Blackjack!





and

Day





Page 8 Eastern Star Masonic Retirement Spotlight







#### **Spotlight on Memory Care Department**

Our residents who live in our memory care neighborhood enjoyed a St Patrick's Day Party, a visit from the Easter Bunny, lots of music, arts & crafts and sorting laundry, which is a daily meaningful activity.



### It's all right here at ESMRC!

Life is going fine until it isn't. You or your loved one falls, and now cannot get around like they once used to. Memory issues are starting to become a concern. Getting in and out of the shower is a challenge. All of these examples are common issues seniors and their families face as they navigate options to keep their elderly loved one safe.

A popular solution is a retirement community like the Eastern Star Masonic Retirement Campus. Here we offer independent, assisted living and memory care options that will provide the appropriate care for your loved one. The only care we do not provide is skilled nursing care.

Starting with independent living, our campus has 58 patio homes for those who are still completely independent. We have three one-bedroom units, 48 two-bedroom, two-bath units and seven units that are two-bedroom, two-bath with a basement. Residents move here because the patio homes provide maintenance-free living. There are emergency pendants if a person needs assistance. This gives seniors and their families the peace of mind to know that they have some oversight.

The second option is assisted living in either the Barry building or Robert Russell building. The Robert Russell building is older. It is priced

lower than the newer Barry building. In assisted living, you receive care that includes meals, laundry, housekeeping, and transportation. ESMRC has medical services for an added cost such as: medication manage-

ment, escorting, incontinence management, assistance with bathing, dressing and more.

In this setting the resident does as much as they can on their own. We assist with tasks that they need help with. For the resident's enjoyment, there is a full activities program to stimulate participants both mentally and physically. We also have rounding doctors, podiatry, dental and in-house physical/occupational and speech therapy for residents who need some additional support. In addition, we allow hospice care to come into the community when the time comes for end-of-life care. Families love our assisted living option because they know their loved one has 24/7 oversight, and their loved one stays engaged.

The last option is memory care for those who have advanced memory loss. Residents are gently guided through their day by staff who give verbal cues to assist residents with their activities. Memory care offers a specialized activity program for those with memory issues to encourage engagement. Our neighborhood has its own dining room and outside courtyard to provide a quieter atmosphere. It also is all-inclusive, so families don't have to pay extra for things like incontinence care or medication management. This option allows the spouse or family to once again be the family member, not the caregiver, reducing stress for both a resident and family.

If you or your family is struggling with how to care for a loved one who needs more care, it may be time to start exploring options. Our team at ESMRC is available to detail costs, availability and show you around. You can reach the Marketing Department, 303 756-9489, for more information.

{Editor's Note: This was Diane Martinis last article. She retired as the Director of Sales and

Marketing at the end of April. She had worked at ESMRC for 15 years.}

Diane Martini
 Director of Marketing

Left: ESMRC is lucky that Legacy Healthcare has a physical therapy office in our building. Residents are even luckier when technicians offer massages!

#### Philanthropy —

Eastern Star Masonic Retirement Campus thanks the following Chapters, Lodges and individuals for their donations to the ESMRC for January-May 2022.

Lina Byrd in memory of Charles Anderson Thomas Henshall in memory of Margaret Ringhofer Helen and Ted Opp Anthony Korvas Jean Leonard Joan Naton in memory of Cyril

Stephen Pritchard in memory of Lillian Rogers Janette Romero in memory of Wilma C Romero Caril Welch in memory of Cyril Regan **Edwin Wichert** 

Kathleen Zafian in memory of Cyril Regan

Star Vista Village residents in memory of Lousie Rowe and Vivian Duvall Union Lodge #7 in memory of Tom Radow

#### **In-Kind Donations -**

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

residents as well as treats/food/lunches for the staff during the months of January-May 2022.

We appreciate you!

Eli and Judy Batenburg Draper family Ann Lane's family

Regan

Murr family Reichel family Scarpeto family Robin and Mike Terry

Colorado DeMolay Colorado Rainbow Girls

I hanks to all anonymous donors or those whose names are not acknowledged here — we always appreciate your support!

I he Robert Russell Eastern Star Home of Colorado participates in the King Soopers or City Market Community Rewards Program. Anyone shopping at King Soopers or City Market can be a part of the Program!

To use the King Soopers or City Market Community Rewards Program click the link for whichever store where you shop:

- For King Soopers Stores: http://www.kingsoopers.com
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Once logged into your King Soopers or City Market account, search for Robert Russell Eastern Star Home of Colorado either by name. or **HQ646**, then click Enroll. New users will need to create an account that requires some basic information, a valid email address and a loyalty card.



Did you know that you can choose a charity when you shop at AMAZON and AMAZON will donate a percentage of your purchase directly to your charity of choice on qualifying purchases at no cost to you? Select the Eastern Star Home of Colorado/ Robert Russell Eastern Star Masonic Retire-

ment Campus, tax ID number 84-0923572. The program is called AMAZON SMILE. It is easy to set up, again it is at no cost to 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. You can also go online to ESMRC's website: www.esmrc.com, then click the "donate now" icon. Make a secure donation using the Community First Foundation System.



Summer 2022

Eastern Star Masonic Retirement Spotlight

Spotlight

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