

Evergreen Community of Johnson County



August 2020 Newsletter

Our Family is Committed to Yours.



Farewell

It is with a heavy heart that I leave Evergreen Community. My relationships with you, residents, and many of your families, have been among the most precious to me in all the years of my ministry. And the memories---catching up with each other on our way to and from our Bibles studies (when we had them in Carol's Cheerful Corner). Our monthly Sunday services when my wife, Alyce, would join us and get us sharing songs and stories from our growing up years before worship even began. Christmas Eve candlelight singing *Silent Night* in a darkened room, each with battery-operated hand-held candle. Ash Wednesday, making the sign of the cross on our foreheads, reminding us that we belong to God. Easter Morning in our hallways, sharing the hope of the resurrection, not only as we pass from this life, but as we pass through this time of crisis. The many memorial services when we celebrated the lives of dear neighbors we have lost for a time. Our hallway studies/worship services/Bible Trivia, when you would sit outside your rooms, six feet apart, and masked, but honoring me with your presence and encouraging me with your faith. Recently we sang, *When the Roll is Called up Yonder* and when the roll was called for our hallway times, you were there every week. I recall the donuts of Men's Club. The outings to K Machos, savoring Mexican dishes together. Sitting in the front row at the Chestnut Theater for The Grand Ladies of Country Music. Seeing our dream cars together at the Wonderful World of Wheels. I think of all the conversations we've had when you let me see into your hurts and hopes. These memories, and many more, I will treasure forever. It's been a privilege to be your chaplain for the last two years.

-Chaplain Jay Collins

Welcome

For the foreseeable future, James Morgan will be serving as Evergreen's Chaplain. He will provide one-on-one spiritual support to residents, lead Bible studies, Bible trivia, worship services, and resident memorials. James is a six-year air force veteran. He served as a Missile Launch Officer, as well as an Assistant Professor at the USAF Academy. James worked as a pastor for 17 years and a hospice chaplain for eight years. He earned a B.S. in Psychology at Truman State University, a M.S. in Management from the University of Montana, and a M.Div. in Theology from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. James is married to his wife, Angie, and between the two of them, they have two sons, two daughters, and four grandchildren. James enjoys doing yardwork, cycling, and running (slowly) for long distances. He's currently training for his third marathon. Welcome, James!



Although *Wine Down for Evergreen* is going virtual, there will still be opportunities for fun and fellowship online on August 22nd, 4-7pm. Please follow our Facebook page and be on

the look out for other communication about the events that will be planned. Events will include BINGO, Evergreen trivia, and a silent auction. Thank you for your continued support!

For more information, you may contact Belinda Vierthaler at belindav@gerti.org.

Floral Deliveries

Evergreen is introducing a new service—flower arrangement delivery! Large arrangements in a vase are \$30 and small arrangements in a mason jar are \$20. Flower choices are subject to availability. E-mail BelindaV@gerti.org to



place an order and add a personal message for the card. Flowers will be delivered within three business days. We will try to make accommodations for special events, such as birthdays.

Credit card payment via PayPal or check mailed to ECOJC prior to delivery

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A Message from the CEO

Residents & Families,

Thank you for your continued trust and support during this challenging time. We are working hard to keep the residents of Evergreen safe. Please know that we are working daily to stay in touch and informed with the county health department, County Commissioners, state associations, state officials, and the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and several others.



Guidance and mandates are ever-changing during this pandemic. We are dedicated to keeping the residents of Evergreen and staff members safe and healthy. The anxiety and stress of not seeing loved ones is difficult. We are working on solutions to safely support outdoor visits. The first step in this are the car parades. They have been a big success! It's exciting and moving to see the smiling faces of family members as they slowly drive by with signs and balloons decorating their cars. We will continue to work with the county health department to facilitate future visits, as permitted and work on other opportunities as well.

Stay safe,
Chris Osborn, CEO



August 4th—Maria Garcia
August 11th—Darlene Engle
August 25th—Linda Mundy
August 26th—Esther Borrego
August 28th—Terri Herrera
August 30th—Rosie Custodio
August 31st—Cathy Sweeney

In Remembrance

Othello "Pat" Bradley
Lula Elliott
Nellie Kurtz



August Parades

Thank you to everyone who participated in the car parades last month! It was heartwarming to see everyone's smiling faces.

August car parades have been scheduled for the following dates and times:

MILLCREEK DRIVE
Tuesday, August 18th
10:30-11:00am
COTTAGE CREEK
Thursday, August 20th
10:30-11:00am
COUNTRY LANE
Tuesday, August 25th
11:00-11:30am
MOUNTAIN CHALET
Thursday, August 27th
10:30-11:00am



Resident Spotlight

Richard "Rick" Myers was born at KU Medical Center in 1952. One of two children, he has an older sister who lives in Lee's Summit, and



grew up in Prairie Village, KS. He recalls his formative years as filled with a sense of exploration and a bit of mischief mixed in---playing in Brush Creek and finding fun in the back end of the stores of the Prairie Village shopping center.

Rick graduated from a military high school in MO and remembers that the cadets could be called to "fall-in" in formation at any time, three to four times a day. He says he's glad that Evergreen takes a more relaxed

approach to the living of our days!

He attended California State University, living in beautiful Palm Springs during those years. Initially, Rick found his way into being a chef because he discovered he could move to just about any city and get a job in the kitchen of a restaurant or hotel. Over the years, he came to love creating food appealing to the eye, as well as the taste. (Most recently, Rick worked for the Marriott Hotel.) He says there is a lot of stress in a busy kitchen---"You have to get the orders right and out on time!" But, he says he thrived in that pressurized environment.

Rick enjoys traveling---twice biking his way around Europe: England, France, Germany, Holland, Switzerland and Greece---and to local places as well, like Topeka, Manhattan, (Rick attended K- State for a year) and Louisburg.

He enjoys fishing, reading, alone time, and THE KC CHIEFS!!!! Rick is the current President of our Resident Council, and about Evergreen, he says he really appreciates the care he receives and the great food!!! (And Rick knows what he's talking about!)

