

Happenings

May 2020



Help Keep Our Seniors Safe and Healthy, Support Hearts for Our Homes

Hearts for Our Homes (HFOH) will have a slightly different look than in the past due to health concerns



stemming from the Coronavirus outbreak. Although there will not be an annual Trivia Night or special community events bringing people together to have fun, the Bethesda Health Group Foundation plans to continue its spring fundraising campaign.

“While the news is filling with a growing number of events cancelling due to the COVID-19 pandemic threat, we feel our seniors need us now more than ever,” states Pam Dempski, Corporate Vice President and Director of Fund Development

for Bethesda. “We are asking for support so Bethesda may continue providing healthy and safe homes for our seniors, regardless of their ability to pay. During unprecedented times, Bethesda remains committed to the health and well-being of our seniors.”

For more information on Hearts for Our Homes or to make your gift, please visit www.bethesdahealth.org/giving-to-bethesda/hearts-for-our-homes/

Unique Gifts Benefit Hearts for Our Homes

When you think about supporting Bethesda Health Group Foundation, most envision writing a check or making a gift online. However, a few friends of Bethesda have found their own unique way to support Hearts for Our Homes.

Lynn Licklider, Corporate Director of Clinical Service, recently sold her home through Heritage Real Estate Team, who then donated a percentage of the proceeds from their commission

to Bethesda Meadow for Hearts for Our Homes.

Former resident, Arnold Bianchi, and his family donated three custom-built Martin and Gibson guitars that the Foundation placed on consignment at Fazio’s Music, with the profits from the sale also benefiting Hearts for Our Homes.

There are many ways one can support Hearts for Our Homes. Funds raised



help keep seniors living with Bethesda even when they run out of money. Don’t miss your opportunity to participate today.

Good People Doing Good Things: Scherry Spangler

During a time when healthcare providers are experiencing an extreme shortage of personal protective equipment (PPE) due to the Coronavirus threat, Scherry Spangler, Performance Improvement & Staff Development Manager for St. Andrews and Bethesda Home Health, went out of her way to purchase boxes of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention approved facemasks in an effort to keep her colleagues and seniors safe. Thank you Scherry for all you do for Bethesda!



Colleen Wasinger Joins Bethesda's Board of Directors



Colleen Wasinger joins Bethesda's Board of Directors bringing a wealth of public service and legal expertise to the organization. She was a member of St. Louis County Charter Commission in 2019 and a former member of the St. Louis County Council. Colleen served as Alderman in 2005-2006 of Town and Country (mayoral appointed and elected in subsequent election). Prior to public service, she worked in the private sector as an attorney and paralegal for Desco Group, Greensfelder, Hemker & Gale and May Department Stores Bethesda proudly welcomes Colleen!

Acts of Kindness During COVID-19

During a time when visitor restrictions are in place at all Bethesda communities, it is refreshing and appreciated to see small acts of kindness helping lift the spirits of secluded seniors. Residents living at Bethesda Meadow received bundles of letters and handcrafted drawings from children living in the area, and a local elementary school donated

boxes of hand sanitizer and wipes.

Amanda Jones, Activities Director at Bethesda Meadow and ambassador for Hearts for Our Homes says, "We are performing 'singing grams' with the help of our Music Therapist, Linda McNair, as a way to raise funds for Hearts for Our Homes, and even more importantly, for entertaining our residents. Music has a way of boosting our moods, and everyone can use a peppy song."

Families from Bethesda communities send their sentiments via Skype and FaceTime to loved ones, who are sheltering in place, along with warm praises of appreciation to Bethesda staff, who are considered healthcare heroes.



Senior SPOTLIGHT

Shirley Sews Masks

Local friend of Bethesda, Shirley Sims, answered Foundation's call to make masks for Bethesda seniors and staff during a critical time when COVID-19 is affecting hundreds of thousands of people nationwide. Like many healthcare providers, Bethesda is experiencing a shortage of face masks. "I have been sewing for more than 50 years, and it is great knowing that my stitching skills are helping lots of people during these very trying times," says Shirley.

If you are interested in making homemade face masks and donating to Bethesda, please visit www.bethesdahealth.org/blog/2020/04/20/bethesda-needs-your-help-with-face-masks-donations/

Help Us Tell the Bethesda Story

The Bethesda community keeps growing and together, we make a difference to St. Louis seniors. If you are interested in sharing why you support Bethesda, or to send special comments about Bethesda, email Pedempski@bethesdahealth.org to tell your story.