


Fowler, one of two labradoodles that hang out at the Sunset Home during the week, loves to mingle with the residents!



Sunset News

January - April 2019

Official Publication of  Lutheran Sunset Ministries

Texas nursing homes participating in Medicare and Medicaid, such as Sunset Home, a program of Lutheran Sunset Ministries, are required by federal law to undergo an annual survey and certification process by the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS). These inspections (surveys) generally last three to four days and are unannounced. Surveyors examine everything and every department, with a fine tooth comb. The survey assesses whether the quality of care, as intended by the law and regulations and as needed by the resident, is being provided in the nursing home.

Sunset Home and Heckmann Assisted Living are proud to announce they received zero deficiencies during their most recent surveys. The current statistics available show the average nursing home in Texas received an average of nine deficiencies in 2014, with only 10.1% - 13.5% receiving zero deficiencies. With these stats in mind, Sunset Home and Heckmann Assisted Living are honored to be among the top percentile in Texas. For more information on DADS, please visit www.dads.state.tx.us.

Zero Deficiency Survey



Sunset Home • College Hill Assisted Living • Rainbow Retirement Community
Hospice Sunset • Sunset Companion Services

Message from the President

Our lead story in this edition of Sunset News is about the excellent annual state surveys we had in Sunset Home and Heckmann Assisted Living. Both programs had zero deficiencies in their health surveys and also in their life safety surveys, which is a first for Sunset Home. Both teams will continue to work to improve what they already do.

The 86th Session of the Texas Legislature just concluded and for the third session in a row they did not increase the base Medicaid rate. Since 2011 we have only received a net 3% increase in the base rate. Our next opportunity for an increase will be in 2021. The lack of increase over time now creates a shortfall of \$360,000 annually for Sunset Home. It is becoming increasingly difficult to maintain staffing, etc. when faced with this shortfall that only gets worse every year.

I have mentioned in the past the construction we were trying to begin. Finally, in February, we began and completed construction on a water retention pond to mitigate water running off our property in a heavy rain. Since we are adding additional buildings to our property, which in turn will add more runoff from our property, we felt this retention pond was necessary. We want to be good community partners for our downstream neighbors.

We have now begun construction on the new rehab space that is being added to the Norse wing, to the right of our main entrance. The rainy weather has slowed construction but now the slab has been poured and framing begins this week! Weather will be less of a factor moving forward. Completion of the project should be around the end of 2019.

As we look to the future, construction of more independent living apartments is in the works. So far we have had preliminary drawings created and have met with current and prospective residents about various amenities for the apartments. Stay tuned as this project develops.

As always, thank you for your prayers and financial support!

Rodney Rueter, CEO/president



Rehab Addition



Water Retention Pond



Due to an aging and dwindling congregation, Faith Lutheran in Meridian voted to suspend services. As a final act of stewardship, the church donated money to Lutheran Sunset Ministries' Rehabilitation program and Hospice Sunset in February. We thank them for their generous and meaningful donation!

Volunteer Banquet

In April, Lutheran Sunset Ministries hosted its annual Volunteer Banquet. There was music, dancing, delicious food, prizes, and great company. Thank you to all of our volunteers for donating their time and love to our residents. And thank you to award-winning Brian Barrett for his amazing musical performance! It was a great night! For information on becoming a volunteer, please call 254-675-6785 or visit www.lutheransunset.org.



Lutheran Sunset Ministries (LSM) and Bosque Arts Center (BAC) recently hosted the 5th Annual LSM Resident Art Show in March. Through a partnership with Bosque Arts Center the resident art was displayed for the public at the BAC. In addition, an artist reception was held for families, friends, guests and interested parties. This reception was free to the public and provides a nice way to celebrate the fact that art is ageless. A People's Choice was given along with participation ribbon for all participants. Congratulations to all our participants and our Peoples' Choice winner, Beulah McCartney!! Encouraging older adults to take up the arts and express themselves is a natural fit for Lutheran Sunset Ministries' focus on individual well-being. Studies show that seniors active in the arts report better health, have more positive attitudes and are more active. Join us as we celebrate the artistic talents of our residents and encourage successful aging.

LSM Resident Art Show

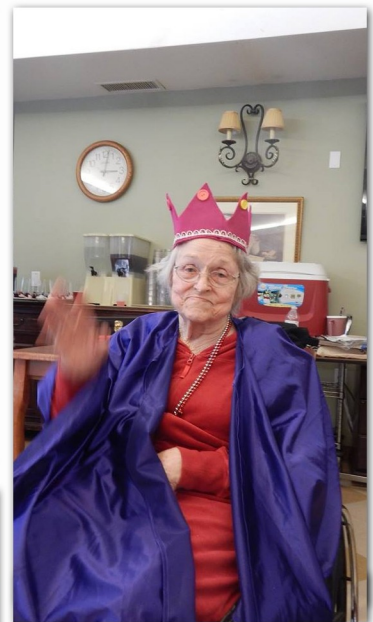


Advanced Planning Seminar

Hospice Sunset Administrator Jennifer Speer gave a presentation at the End of Life Planning Seminar held on April 16, 2019 at Clifton Funeral Home. Jennifer began her presentation with a scenario of an individual at the end of life who did not have hospice care and then described how the last few days in the individual's journey and dying process could have been different if hospice had been in place. Jennifer spoke about preserving quality of life for seriously ill individuals as well as the benefits of hospice care for patients and families being served. She explained the qualifications for receiving hospice care and provided questions to ask to determine if it is time for hospice. In closing, she spoke on what to look for in choosing a hospice provider and what your loved can expect from hospice services. For more information on Hospice Sunset, please call 254.675.3391.



Around Campus





Giving Back to Veterans

In March, a group of Rainbow Retirement residents donated dozens of hand-tied blankets to the veterans of Clifton Nursing and Rehab with funds from their Thrivent Action Team. We love how our residents are always finding ways to give back to the Clifton community!

Service Award

Congratulations to Rodney Rueter, our very own CEO and President of Lutheran Sunset Ministries, for receiving the Clifton Chamber of Commerce 2019 Community Service Award!
(Presented by Adam Willmann)



Had a great experience?
Review us on



MEMORIAL GIFTS

The services provided by LSM are enhanced by the generous and appreciative memorials given. All memorials, whether directed or not, go to the care and services provided. The residents served going forward are blessed by your thoughtfulness. The following gifts were given between January 1 and April 30, 2019.

CLARA ALBRECHT

Rodney & Melanie Rueter, Clifton; Lance Allen, Clifton TX; Emma McDougal, Clifton; Gerald & Joyce McDowell, Clifton; Kenneth & Loida Boatman; Alice & Don Brandenberger, Clifton; Richard Lundberg, Clifton.

JIMMY BANNER

Rodney & Melanie Rueter, Clifton; Lance Allen, Clifton.

BUSTER BARREE

Rodney & Melanie Rueter, Clifton; Lance Allen, Clifton.

MAGDALENE (BETTY) BARRON

Rodney & Melanie Rueter, Clifton; Lance Allen, Clifton.

JANICE BELVIN

Rev. & Mrs. J. Weldon Smith, Clifton.
JO ANN LINBERG BLUM
Christabel Jorgenson, San Marcos.

DORTHEA BORCHERS

Joyce Symank, Valley Mills; Rodney & Melanie Rueter, Clifton; Lance Allen, Clifton TX; Emma McDougal, Clifton; Joyce Davis, Clifton.

DOROTHY JEAN BRADLY

Mildred Van Winkle, Dallas.

LILY CLYMER

Rodney & Melanie Rueter, Clifton; Lance Allen, Clifton.

JOHNNY CUMMINGS

Rodney & Melanie Rueter, Clifton; Lance Allen, Clifton.

DR. ERNO DAHL

Rev. & Mrs. J. Weldon Smith, Clifton.

ARLEN ENGER

Gerald & Angela Little, Coppell.

SHERRY FARLEY

Rodney & Melanie Rueter, Clifton; Lance Allen, Clifton TX; Della Thomas, Waco; Ronnie & Sherry Clark, Weatherford; Charles & Anna Marie Lindley, Clifton; Sam & Terri Wells, Clifton; Karla Bullock—Curves, Waco; William & GeorgeAnne Kettler, Clifton; Kenneth & Clarice Nelson, Clifton; Wayne & Beverly Gloff, Clifton; Dorothy & Colby Crockett, Meridian.

JEWEL FOUTS

Rodney & Melanie Rueter, Clifton; Lance Allen, Clifton.

VIRGIE M. GANN

Rodney & Melanie Rueter, Clifton; Lance Allen, Clifton.

CURTIS GOHLKE

Joyce Symank, Valley Mills; Rodney & Melanie Rueter, Clifton; Lance Allen, Clifton.

WANDA GORDON

Rodney & Melanie Rueter, Clifton; Lance Allen, Clifton.

MARTHA GRAVITT

Rodney & Melanie Rueter, Clifton; Lance Allen, Clifton.

LYNN GRIER

Rodney & Melanie Rueter, Clifton; Lance Allen, Clifton.

HOWARD HICKS

Rodney & Melanie Rueter, Clifton; Lance Allen, Clifton.

CHARLES HINTON

John Bruington, Valley Mills; Rodney & Melanie Rueter, Clifton; Lance Allen, Clifton.

DAVID ROY HONEA

Rodney & Melanie Rueter, Clifton; Lance Allen, Clifton.

VIRGIL HUTCHISON

Rodney & Melanie Rueter, Clifton; Lance Allen, Clifton.

HERB LAMMERT

Paige Portnoy.

JOHN MCDOWELL

Rodney & Melanie Rueter, Clifton; Lance Allen, Clifton.

MARION MOUNT

Judith Baker, Clifton; Verna Pavelka, Clifton; Rodney & Melanie Rueter, Clifton; Lance Allen, Clifton.

HENRY NICHOLS

Rodney & Melanie Rueter, Clifton; Lance Allen, Clifton.

DON PATTON

Rodney & Melanie Rueter, Clifton; Lance Allen, Clifton.

WENDELL S. PEDERSON

Wendy Braff, Cincinnati OH.

ROY PILCHER

Rodney & Melanie Rueter, Clifton; Lance Allen, Clifton.

EDNA PRUITT

Rodney & Melanie Rueter, Clifton; Lance Allen, Clifton.

BODO & HERTHA SCHROEDER

Mildred Van Winkle, Dallas.

WILBURN & MARALEE SHANKS

Don & Beverly Bearden, Valley Mills.

ADOLPHIUS SHIELDS

Rodney & Melanie Rueter, Clifton; Lance Allen, Clifton TX.

RUTH ANN STREET

Rodney & Melanie Rueter, Clifton; Lance Allen, Clifton TX.

JOYCE THOMPSON

Rodney & Melanie Rueter, Clifton; Lance Allen, Clifton.

LATRELLE USTATION

Mrs. Joyce Heckmann, Waco.

ALERA WELCH

Rodney & Melanie Rueter, Clifton; Lance Allen, Clifton TX.

ARTHUR WICKINS

Rodney & Melanie Rueter, Clifton; Lance Allen, Clifton.

MARGIE WIMBERLY

Rodney & Melanie Rueter, Clifton; Lance Allen, Clifton.

MIKE WINDSOR

Aubrey & Virginia Richards, Clifton; Bob & Glenda Phillips, Clifton; Niels & Karen Bentsen, Meridian; Bosque County Retired Teacher's Association, Clifton.

WAYNE WINN

Rodney & Melanie Rueter, Clifton; Lance Allen, Clifton.

NANCY YORK

Rodney & Melanie Rueter, Clifton; Lance Allen, Clifton.

HONOR GIFTS

These gifts are given to honor and appreciate special people, events, celebrations and/or achievements. All gifts help provide care to those served by Lutheran Sunset Ministries. The following gifts were given between January 1 through April 30, 2019.

THE REV. CAL GOERDEL FOR 60 YEARS OF MINISTRY

By: Lorine L. Peters, Cedar Hill.

GLADYS NEECE

By: Mildred Van Winkle, Dallas.

BARRY STRICKLAND & CHARLES DOWDY IN MAINTENANCE AT LSM

By: Verna Pavelka, Clifton.

GENERAL GIFTS

All gifts help LSM in its work and mission. The following gifts were given between September 1 through December 31, 2018.

Abiding Savior Lutheran Church,
Cameron

Dr. & Mrs. James Bowden, Cranfills Gap

Mrs. Nancy Bratcher, Meridian

Mr. John Bruington, Valley Mills

Calvary Lutheran Church, Richland Hills

Central Lutheran Church, Dallas

Christ Lutheran Church, Dallas

Church of Christ, Clifton

Mr. & Mrs. Larry Dietrich, Hewitt

Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Granbury

First Lutheran Church, Temple

First Presbyterian Church, Clifton

Rev. & Mrs. Calvin Goerdel, Clifton
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey & Donna Gunter,
Austin

Mrs. Adele Hanus, Waco
Immanuel Lutheran Church, Killeen
Pastor & Mrs. Paul Krupicka, Waco

Mr. & Mrs. Steven Kucera, West
Luckenbach, Elmer & Nellie –
Luckenbach, Michael, Fredericksburg

NTNL Mission Area, Argyle
Oslo Lutheran Church, Gruver
Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Clifton

Mr. Chester Posey, Clifton
Mr. & Mrs. Robert P. Schafer, Clifton
St. John Lutheran Church – Coryell,
Gatesville

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Waco

St. Olaf WELCA, Cranfills Gap

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Crawford

St. Paul Lutheran Church WELCA, Baton
Rouge LA

Mrs. Joyce Symank, Valley Mills
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans,
Appleton WI

Zion Lutheran Church, McGregor



Thank you, Sandra Windsor, for
your nine years of service on our
Board of Directors!

Did You Know?

Once a month, LSM staff deliver Meals on Wheels in Meridian and Clifton?!



Sunset News

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Lutheran Sunset Ministries

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www.LutheranSunset.org

**RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED**

Lutheran Sunset Ministries is a not-for-profit organization sponsoring programs of skilled nursing care, assisted living, retirement living, hospice services and companion services.

Sunset provides services to qualified individuals without regard to race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, national origin or other protected statuses according to applicable federal and state law.

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