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2014 - 2015 TRIBUTES (MARCH 2014 - MARCH 2015)

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VICKI HARRIS
Diemer, Richard & Margaret
CHARLES & SALLY HUCK
Diemer, Richard & Margaret
SCOTT HUCK
Creek, Darrell & Donna
Diemer, Richard & Margaret
Little, Wendell & Ina
McFarland, Brenda and Michael
Nefkens, Bernard & Helen
Thibodeau, Walter
Weatherford, Ron
Yarbor, John & Lois
MICHAEL HUFNAGEL
Foster, Jerry W.
MAC MORRISON
Robison, Nonnie Dewart
MICHAEL WESTFALL
Yarbor, John & Lois

IN MEMORY OF

MARY CHRISTMAS
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BKD Foundation
Chase, Billy & Sandra
Christmas, Donald & Mary
Christmas, Roger
Dimeling III, George & Jody
Kiger, Linda S.
Kopczynski, Tony & Mary Ann
Krietemeyer, Norman & Janet
Libbert, Ronald & Carol
Scruggs, Patricia
Stratman, Cathy
Wilmes, Jeff & Laurie
Wilson, Carey
Woods, Timothy & Mary
Wright, Billy
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Allstate Tower, Inc
Briner, Aaron & Laura Jean
Downs, Brian & Elesha
Eyre, Allan & Patricia
Eyre, Todd & Taunya
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Hall, Marlena
Keller, Patricia
Minton, Robert & Marcia
Pittsburg Tank & Tower Company
Reasor, Gerald & Betty
Reisinger, Janet
Roth, Ann
Roth, Joe and Ann
Ruggier, Joseph & Susan
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1ST QUARTER 2015

JACOB'S VILLAGE:
A PLACE TO CALL HOME!



NEW HOME DEDICATION CAPS 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!

On October 4, 2004, ground was broken to initiate a vision – a vision of a neighborhood community where adults with functional disabilities could find accessible housing, support for daily living, programs to increase independence, transportation assistance, and social and recreational opportunities with their peers as well as with others in the wider community. What better way to celebrate the continuing, dynamic growth of that vision than by opening our fourth supportive living home? And so on October 4, 2014, the festivities took place.

The day began with words of welcome and an invocation by Pastor Dave Wiist. A selection of songs by our own JV residents, led by friends from Concordia Lutheran Church, was followed by a reflection on the milestones of the past ten years from General Manager of Jacob's Village Properties Cheryl Kuchna. Supportive living home resident Scott H. and senior home resident Joyce S. shared thoughts and stories of the difference Jacob's Village has made in their lives. Several of our friends from Bethesda Lutheran Communities spoke of the close partnership between our organizations, and State Representative Wendy McNamara read a proclamation from Mayor Lloyd Winnecke and from the State of Indiana. The new men's

home was then dedicated with an official ribbon-cutting, and friends and family were invited to tour the home and enjoy light refreshments. In all, it was a fitting anniversary tribute to that day exactly ten years earlier, when the dream of Jacob's Village was officially launched.

Following is a poem by Bethesda Lutheran staff member Lois Renshaw, written to celebrate our tenth anniversary. Thank you, Lois!



Residents and supporters cut the ribbon
on the new men's home.



State Representative Wendy McNamara
reads proclamation.

Ten Years and Counting

A few miles west of Evansville just off Vienna Road,
There is a very special place where the 'simple life' unfolds.
Past the crowded streets and traffic jams,
where the air is fresh and clean,
The people have made a community
and they know what neighbor means.

A dream inspired by a family's love, who sought out donated land,
Many people caught the vision, reaching out to lend a hand.
Not an easy task, a labor of love, a journey with one end in sight,
They were building it for very special folks,
so they were driven to do it right.

Each home was built with expert care,
the landscaping carefully planned,
To blend with the natural beauty, that God had given the land.
It's a tranquil village where people live, a 'simple country' life,
Yet it's close enough to everything, shopping's not a real long drive.

Maybe not for all city lovers, but a place our people adore,
It's the way of life that they want to live,
a choice they didn't have before.
There are still plans for the future, a common place to meet,
More homes, maybe horses, time will tell,
these 10 years have been quite a feat.

So 'Happy Tenth' to Jacob's Village,
and Thank You to so many who made,
This awesome dream a reality, may God Bless it more each day.

– Written by Bethesda Lutheran, staff member
to Lois Renshaw with best wishes for the future.

October 4, 2014

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Pictured left to right: Debbie Guffey, Kathy Knapp, Tom Burmeister, Laura Hurt and Sherri Haas

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

I was blessed to become a part of the family at Jacob's Village this past year in October. I continue to get my feet planted and get acquainted with the community and residents, as well as the workings of the office. I come from a background, most recently, of being an Administrator in Long Term Care facilities for over 20 years. I am an Evansville native and an IU graduate and feel fortunate to have had the opportunity present itself to be a part of this community. I have found that it is filled with good people who have a big heart for the mission.

2015 will be a year of growing for our community. A long awaited dream of adding a community center to provide space for our residents to come together for activities and fellowship, and for use by the surrounding community, will hopefully see construction initiated this year. The generosity of many supporters and donors has enabled us reach the point of taking the final steps to begin this wonderful project. Many thanks go to each and every person who has, thus far, supported this project through their donations. Please continue to support this community to make it possible for projects like this to benefit our residents.

On behalf of those we serve,
Kathy Knapp

Phone: 812.963.5198
Visit our website at www.jacobsvillage.org



**Save the Date for our 4th Annual TRIVIA NIGHT -
Scottish Rite Community Center, Saturday Nov. 14th!**

WHAT IS CAMP CONNECT?



Camp Connect provides people with developmental disabilities the opportunity to interact with God's Word through Bible study, music, art, and drama while at the same time meeting new people and developing life-long friendships. Camp Connect is a free camp for any adult with a developmental disability. To help our volunteers, caregivers or family members are asked to attend with campers. The Next Camp Connect experience will be held July 21, 22, and 23 from 9:00am until NOON at Jacob's Village. **Campers should register by April 27th.** For more information contact Dave Wiist at 422-0384.

A NEW CHAPTER

In looking back over our 10+ year history, I am so pleased to see the progress made at Jacob's Village. Our growing neighborhood community now includes 30 people who live in our 16 residential homes and apartments. Our residents enjoy a beautiful, safe, walkable neighborhood where their unique needs are understood. Whether someone has a functional disability or is an aging senior, each Jacob's Village resident can access the services and support they need to live independently, enjoy meaningful relationships and participate in community activities they enjoy. We are blessed to have strong partnerships with disability service providers, area councils on aging, and local churches and organizations who enable us to offer a caring, supportive environment for all who call Jacob's Village home.

Given its growth, Jacob's Village reached a point where full-time leadership was needed. Last year, our Board and I worked to identify an individual who could assume the role of Executive Director and lead the organization into its next 10 years. We are so excited that Kathy Knapp joined our organization last October. As Kathy has taken on the day-to-day management of Jacob's Village, I have been transitioning my involvement to focus on long term property development projects. In the role of General Manager of Jacob's Village Properties, I will be working with the Board to identify and evaluate what additional developments at the property site could best be pursued to further our mission. In the near term, we are working to fund a much needed community center. As time goes on, we will be exploring the possibility of adding additional apartments, perhaps another home or two, and even an equine therapy program. I am grateful for the many ways our friends and supporters have enabled Jacob's Village to come this far, and I look forward to continue working on behalf of this wonderful mission with you.



SHERRI'S COMMUNITY CORNER – Sherri Haas, Resident Manager

Tuesday nights at Jacob's Village are community nights. The seniors, support staff and residents with disabilities come together for food, fellowship, bingo, as well as lots of love and laughter! This night allows us to nurture the spirit of Jacob's Village.

Creating senior housing at JV was a great asset to our community. One of our seniors, Elizabeth Stewart, recently returned from a 3-month stay with family in Mississippi. Kelsey H., is one of our youngest residents, and lives in our supported living homes. When Kelsey saw Betty, she yelled, "Betty's back!", and gave Betty a big hug. This moment best describes what matters most in life... being a community and caring for each other.

This is just one of many such moments we experience here at Jacob's Village. Neighbors are helping neighbors, and looking out for each other with respect and love.

Our community is grateful for your support. If you are interested in volunteering as an individual or group, we will find a place where you can join our neighborhood as we continue to grow our community.



Miss Betty and Kelsey reunited.

Residents and staff enjoying crafts and bingo

Otters Benefit Game Celebrates 10 Years - Take 2!



Due to a microburst storm last year, the celebration of our 10th annual Otters game was cancelled – so we're ready to make up for last year and celebrate 10 years in a big way! Join us Friday, May 8th, when the Evansville Otters host the Southern Illinois Miners in their annual exhibition benefit game. We'll be celebrating a partnership that has generated over \$125,000 to further the Jacob's Village mission. Once again we are excited to partner with Tracy Zeller Jewelry for a \$1,000 Ladies Diamond DASH at the game where one lucky woman will win big! Every woman over the age of 18, with a paid admission, has a chance to win the \$1,000 Tracy Zeller Shopping Spree immediately following the 7th inning. Also in honor of our 10 year anniversary, Wolk Financial is sponsoring 10 cent popcorn while supplies last. So, come out for Mother's Day weekend, enjoy great baseball, a chance to win a \$1,000 Tracy Zeller shopping spree, 10 cent popcorn, door prizes, clowns for the kids and more!!

Tickets are \$5 General Admission & \$7 Reserved Seating, and can be purchased at Bosse Field, all Ritzy's locations and by calling Jacob's Village at 812.963.5198.

ARE YOU READY TO IMPACT OUR RESIDENT'S LIVES?

As we rejoice in the growth of Jacob's Village and welcome spring, we would like to invite you to become part of our caring neighborhood by volunteering with us. Whether you seek direct contact with our residents, or prefer a different mode of support, we welcome your involvement. A few of our volunteer opportunities are outlined below:

- Landscaping/General Maintenance – Opportunities to maintain and landscape flowerbeds, paint and generally beautify our many green spaces.
- Activity Helper – Assist our Resident Manager with community nights, help plan unique activities and engage with our residents.
- Special Events Volunteer – Help coordinate and plan exciting special events including our annual Otters Benefit and Trivia Night.
- Driver – Help with resident transportation needs (doctor appts, grocery shopping) on an as needed basis. Approved volunteer drivers can use the JV van.

Please call the Jacob's Village office for more details - 812.963.5198

