



# Monthly Newsletter



April 2021



## CRAFTS

St. Patrick's day shamrocks and Easter egg wreaths door decoration. See page 4 & 5



## CELEBRATE GOOD TIMES

We had a lot to celebrate this past month. From the St Patrick's Day Party, Dr. Seuss' Birthday Celebration to National Puppy Day, we had great snacks and even greater company. See page 4 & 5



# RESIDENT OF THE MONTH

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## JOHN BAKER



John Michael Baker was born on December 5, 1948, to parents John Henry and Kathleen Baker. John has one brother, Kenneth, who is four years older than him. John's family lived in Hutchinson, Kansas when he was born, but moved around a lot when he was young. After Hutchinson, they moved to Pratt, Larned and Colby, finally settling in Clay Center, Kansas where he graduated High School in 1967. During his high school years, John worked part-time at the Thriftway Grocery store.

Growing up, Kenneth and John had their own ping-pong table and spent many happy hours playing ping-pong. Sports has always been an important part of John's life.

They also had several fun family vacations, once visiting Estes Park, Colorado and another time the Astrodome in Houston, Texas.

After graduation, John attended Hutchinson Business College and continued to work in the grocery store business for many years.

During the 1970's, John relocated to Phoenix, Arizona where he lived several years before moving back to Kansas.

In 1968, John went to Washington DC to help Kenneth, his brother, move back to the Midwest. While there he enjoyed a tour the White House, Lincoln Memorial, Kennedy Center and Arlington National Cemetery.

While living in Topeka in the 1990's, John often attended Royals and Chiefs games and cheered Joe Namath on to the many touchdowns he made in Kansas City.

John worked in the maintenance department of Gage Park as a lawn-care employee for five years. After that, he worked at Wal-Mart for approximately five years, achieving Employee of the Month. John has been enjoying his retirement since around 2011.

Here at Oak Creek, you will find John relaxing in his chair, reading the daily newspaper and visiting over meals with his friend Joe.

## JOHN'S FAVORITES

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### Music

Country

### Movie

Walk the Line (Johnny Cash)

### Flower

Yellow Rose

### Color

Blue and Grey

### Dessert

Strawberry Shortcake

### Animal

Small Dog



**April derives its name from the latin word aperit, which means to open. April is the month of the growing season and when trees and flowers begin to “open”. Some believe that the month is named after the Greek goddess, Aphrodite (Aphros).**

## **April Announcements**



Milton Carr is proud to announce the addition of beautiful granddaughter to his family. Aria, who weighed 6lbs 4ozs, was born on March 2, 2021 at 9:37pm. Congratulations, Milton and family.

Congratulations Shane and Lucy on the birth of their son, Silas Cash.



## **Zodiac Sign: Aries & Taurus**

“Goodbye winter, So long snow,  
it’s time to watch the flowers  
grow!”

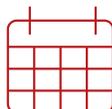
**Birthstone**  
Diamond

**Flower**  
Daisy

## **April Birthdays**



April 8 - Regina Verschelden  
April 14 - Maryls Horn  
April 22 - Bob Livingston  
April 23 - Dakota Boren  
April 28 - Barbara Spicer



## **April Events**

April 1/2 - Haircuts  
April 2 - Library  
April 4 - Easter  
April 8 & 22 - Shopping  
April 12 - Sing-A-Long  
April 13 - Celebrate  
Poetry Month  
April 16 - Happy Hour

# WHAT IS HOSPICE?



**By Tim Swenson, St. Croix Hospice**

A commitment and passion for the care of residents is an honor and privilege, especially in their last days. As a family member or friend, it is difficult to see your loved ones decline mentally and/or physically. Times like these are stressful for families and sometimes the suggestion of hospice can cause a great deal of hesitation, grief, and confusion. Involving hospice in care is an excellent support system to patients, families, and long-term care facilities, so providing education about the many benefits of hospice services is extremely important.

So why hospice? There are many aspects of hospice geared to help residents and their families to cope with physical, emotional, financial, social, and spiritual aspects of a terminal illness. Hospice focuses on quality of life and comfort to control physical and emotional pain giving each resident the greatest level of dignity. Including the hospice team adds more personalized attention, as well as another pair of eyes and hands to provide one-on-one care for your loved one. Hospice truly is a partner in care to ensure residents are comfortable, receiving the best quality of life, and they are treated with dignity for however many days they may have left. A hospice provider continues support after a patient's journey helping families process death and grief through bereavement counselors.

Hospice is a benefit under Medicare, Medicaid, and most private insurance companies; typically, with zero to little out of pocket expense. For example, Medicare covers eligible hospice care at 100 percent so there is no out-of-pocket expense for families to incur for eligible hospice services. Hospice helps families financially with the cost associated with their care by covering items, such as, some medications, supplies, and medical equipment related to the hospice diagnosis.

Each hospice company offers core services; however, some may offer additional team members.

The most common members of a hospice team include: Registered Nurses, Hospice Aides (CNA), Social Workers, Chaplains, Bereavement Counselors, Nurse Practitioners, Hospice Medical Directors (Physician), Music Therapists, and Massage Therapists. Hospice personalized care plan which is tailored to each individual resident and may be changed as needed.

To qualify for hospice services a resident must have a diagnosis which would anticipate death within six (6) months if the disease process takes its normal course; however, many residents on hospice live longer than six (6) months and continue to remain eligible for the support of hospice if the medical eligibility remains. According to an article written by the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO), research shows the mean survival was 29 days longer for hospice residents than non-hospice residents. Starting hospice early, gives everyone the opportunity to experience the true benefits of the hospice experience.

If you have any questions about hospice, feel free to reach out. We are happy to answer any questions or concerns regarding your loved one and hospice. We may also direct you to additional resources with our hospice care partners.



## Updated Visitor Policy

- **Schedule visits in advance**
- **2 visitors per resident at a time**
- **Keep visits 30-45 minutes**
- **Visits MUST be in the resident room or outside**
- **Residents may go out with family and friends but we ask that you refrain from restaurants as masks are not worn while eating.**



# HAPPY NATIONAL PUPPY DAY!!



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