

Creative Living



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organizing
Dorothy Lehmkuhl

Adage on neatness still holds true

Q. My children seem to believe keeping things neat is a waste of time. What are the reasons I can give to convince them of the importance of order?

A. "A place for everything and everything in its place" is an old time saying, which is still a good reminder today. Why?

HEALTH: Without cleanliness mold, insects, odors and bacteria can become health hazards.

SAFETY: Fires, once started, are much harder to put out if fueled by large collections of papers, dirty rags, clothes, etc. Personal injuries can be caused by stumbling over toys or clutter left on floors or stairways. Damage to possessions can be caused by being kicked or stepped on. Items look better and last longer if they are well cared for.

TIME: Work (or play) occurs more effectively when things are in order. Cleaning is much quicker and easier; time is not wasted looking for things. Remember: It's much easier to keep it clean than to get it clean.

DISTRACTIONS: When clutter is all around, these items become reminders of other things to do, distracting from work to be done.

DREAD: When clutter is all over, it seems there is a great deal of work to be done. When you become overwhelmed you tend to dread work; when you dread work you tend to procrastinate. When you procrastinate, even more work piles up. This creates tension and anxieties.

FRUSTRATION: Being unable to find things can be upsetting.

FAILURE: Important activities may be forgotten because of confusion. Projects cannot be completed or activities may be forfeited when an item cannot be found. (Participation in a ball game may be missed if the ball glove cannot be found.)

GUILT: Living with chaos can make you feel guilty because you know you should do better. This contributes to low self-esteem.

SUCCESS: Most importantly, children are creating habits which will affect them as long as they live. Regardless of your future career (doctor, homemaker, fireman, astronaut, teacher, business manager, etc.) You will be more successful if you are well organized.

A note to parents: If your teenager has suddenly become a complete mess, do not lose a good relationship over the issue of neatness. Teens often suffer anxieties, which interfere with their organizational abilities. You may want to insist on cooperation in your family's living area, but close their bedroom door and attempt to ignore their mess there. Try posting this column where your children can read it (in the bathroom?) and then discuss it with them as unemotionally as possible.

P.S. The foregoing is not necessarily for children only!

Dignity for all

New Windemere facilities serve dual purpose

By C. L. Rugenstein
special writer

WINDEMERE OF West Bloomfield resembles nothing so much at first glance as a gracious, residential hotel. Yet, the residents are people who need nursing home care or are unable to live in their homes unsupervised.

Visitors enter a French-doored foyer onto thick carpeting highlighted by a huge brass chandelier. All is serene, homelike and inviting — just as builder Herman Frankel and general partner Rex Lanyi envisioned it.

Frankel had approached Lanyi, who was administrator of a nursing home in Grand Blanc at the time, with his idea — to combine full, skilled nursing care with a supportive care facility.

The result was Windemere with the two facilities separate and independent of one another within the same building.

The skilled care facility on the upper level houses a dining room, exercise room with a therapist who comes in, and a barber/beauty shop. There's also a private dining room with kitchenette for families who want to prepare or cater a meal for a resident's special occasion or birthday.

Each room in both levels has a window overlooking grounds landscaped to blend into the natural, country surroundings. The skilled care level semi-private rooms were designed so that this view is not obstructed when one of the privacy curtains is drawn.

The lower level supportive care facility is called Windemere Manor and boasts a separate entrance, as well as a walk-out courtyard and colonnade. Residents bring in their own furniture to make it more homelike. Each door has a nameplate and knocker, and inside is more like

an apartment than a care facility.

Shelves and reach-in closets are spacious; bathrooms have full tub/shower baths; kitchenettes have cupboards, sinks and refrigerators, but no stoves. (It's against fire regulations.)

Those who wish to cook can use the stove in the activities room, where they may also take cooking classes, one of the many planned activities for residents.

Windemere Manor also has an avenue of shops — barber/beauty, gift shop, and a convenience store.

THE DINING ROOM at Windemere is especially charming, reminiscent of a well-appointed restaurant. Pink tablecloths cover the tables for four which also have cloth placemats and cloth napkins in rings. The chairs all have arms. In the waiting room where residents gather before meals, sofas and chairs are arranged in conversational groups around a white baby grand piano. There is a full hotel kitchen with dietitian.

"We put a lot of money into the food service," Frankel said, "because food and the social environment of meal times is a big part of their day."

The 43 semi-private and studio apartments of Windemere Manor range from \$1,000 to \$2,500 per month. This includes meals, housekeeping, laundry, and a busy activities schedule.

The 24 private and 48 semi-private rooms on the upper skilled care level run from \$125 per day for the eight larger rooms, to \$70 per day for the semi-private, medications and physical therapy sessions included.

Plans for the future include a day care facility for non-residents, and a "vacation care" program.

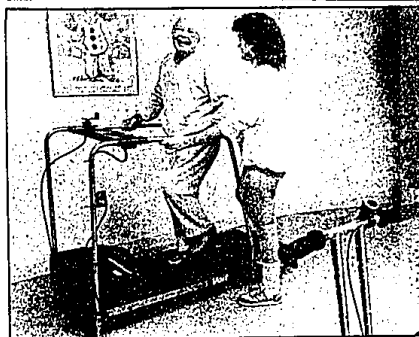
"Families with elderly members who can't or won't travel can board them here while they go

on vacation," Frankel said.

Windemere opened officially last August. With 65 percent of its rooms rented as of now, it's well on its way to fulfilling Frankel and Lanyi's vision — to provide top-notch care in an environment where residents can "live out the remainder of their lives in dignity," Frankel said.

"We put a lot of money into the food service..."

— Herman Frankel



DAN DEAN/staff photographer

Odelle Rothamel works out on the treadmill with Kim Surma in the Windemere fitness center.



DAN DEAN/staff photographer

Alice Miriani in her studio apartment in the supportive care section of Windemere. At the same time, Miriani's husband, Joseph, is in the skilled care section. But the couple take their meals together in the dining room whenever possible.

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Novasuede debuts

There is a new product for upholstery called Novasuede available in some of the bigger and better department stores. This is an exciting new product for the home furnishings industry introduced by the Majillite Corp. It has the look and feel of genuine kid suede, soft and sumptuous with natural tracking.

This luxurious product is made from a specially engineered nylon fiber matrix, which gives it outstanding performance characteristics. The nylon fibers are laid in a three-directional axis similar to the natural structure of collagen found in leather, thus delivering superior durability and overall strength.

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ANOTHER OUTSTANDING performance of Novasuede is complete cleanability. Even difficult stains such as coffee, wine, coke, chocolate or ink are easily removed with soap and water. Grease and stains such as lipstick can be removed with any upholstery solvent. Benzene cleaners are also effective on stubborn stains. Novasuede is a kid-proof, pet-proof, spill-proof furniture covering, ideal for even the most active households.

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