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Pres Homes breaks new ground
By Casey Merkwan
Reporter

In an effort to create a more connected community, the Presbyterian Homes & Services in Spring Park broke ground on its \$16 million expansion project June 16.

The groundbreaking ceremony introduced the plans for the expansion as well as announced the complex's new name: Lake Minnetonka Shores.

The ceremony attracted more than 100 attendees, including current residents, former and current employees, the partners that made the expansion possible and the mayor of Spring Park.

"The city feels so lucky that during these tough economic times our city has such a great project starting in our midst," Spring Park Mayor Sarah Reinhardt said at the ceremony.

Reinhardt also stated that the current Presbyterian Homes complex makes up 20 percent of Spring Park's population.

"Certainly nobody would disagree that Spring Park is very a senior friendly city and we're proud of that," she said.

Reinhardt said she's been impressed with the current operations.

"It was really obvious to me that any negative stereotypes about nursing homes are just not true here," Reinhardt said.

The expansion will feature a 20,000 square foot, two-story Town Center that will showcase the lakeside views and provide fully accessible, interior connections between all campus buildings. There are currently four separate buildings.

The Town Center will house a chapel, atrium, wellness center, central dining room, café and deli, convenience market, an expanded salon and administrative offices.

Mary Kook, a resident for about nine months, said the changes are fast but coming along well.

Campus Administrator Rob Lahammer said the complex currently houses 400 residents and should house 50 more after the expansion is complete a year and a half from now.

After working there for 22 years, Lahammer has looked for ways to improve the residents' way of living on a regular basis. Connecting the four separate buildings had been on his list for some time.

"No longer will we be 'them over there' or 'this building.' We will become 'us.' We'll all be together," Lahammer said at the ceremony.

A new building will be constructed to include 48 assisted living apartments grouped in neighborhoods with direct access to the Town Center.

The building will include four neighborhoods providing supportive memory care for 18 residents with full access to the new salon area.

Seven new senior apartments will be created within the existing Terrace Court, each with exterior doors facing Lake Minnetonka.

The Terrace Villa will add two apartments with lake views and also see renovated common areas on the lower level overlooking Lake Minnetonka. A new entryway and community common areas will be added to the Terrace Villa.



Presbyterian Homes & Services in Spring Park broke ground on its \$16 million expansion project June 16. Submitted Rendering

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