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The Parkside Post

Lifelong Learning September 8

THE SPOILS OF VICTORY



Daniel J. Markowitz, born and raised in Olpe, Kansas, will be our speaker at Lifelong Learning on Monday, September 8, at 10AM, at the Parkside Apartments. He recently released his historical novel, *The Spoils of Victory*, Book One in his Prisoners of War Series.

The Spoils of Victory mirrors real events that took place right here in Marion County. Some Nazi prisoners were housed in Peabody and worked on local farms during World War II.

Markowtz's novel chronicles the journey of a German corporal, Rolf Mueller, who is wounded and captured in North Africa in May 1943. After recovering from his injuries, he is transported to a newly created camp for German POWs in Concordia, Kansas, then sent to a subcamp in Peabody to work, for pay, on a farm owned by the Unruhs, a German Mennonite family. [During World War II, tens of thousands of German POWs who were not ardent Nazis and were deemed to be low security risks were in fact hired by American farmers and businesses to offset the acute labor shortage caused by the war. They are credited with saving the American harvests in 1943 through 1945, but these extensive interactions between Americans and their captives have now largely been forgotten.]

Join us Monday, September 8, at the Apartments, 1 Park Avenue. The public is invited!

Get to know the Staff

Melissa Bruce is Night Charge Nurse for Parkside. She is very busy with her family when she's not working. Melissa grew up in Illinois and moved to Kansas in 1992. She and her husband, Jerry, live in McPherson. They have three children at home and three more—with seven grandchildren. Their family is not too far, living in McPherson, Galva, Salina and Lawrence.

She graduated from nursing school in 2000. Melissa had previously worked for Hospice and liked the feeling when she called on clients at Parkside. She has been at Parkside for just over two years. The night shift works best for Melissa, so she and Jerry's schedules allow for caring for their children at home. Melissa likes working at Parkside and the residents are what she enjoys most.

Stop by and see Melissa some evening! We're glad you're here!!



Health Care Residents spend time creating and enjoying outdoor fun in August





Learn to Know Your Neighbors

Meet **Betty (Friesen) Seibel**, a lifelong resident of Marion County and resident of the Parkside Apartment complex since May 1, 2024. Betty was raised on the farm, graduated from Hillsboro High School, attended Tabor College, and married Bob Seibel. Her occupations included medical receptionist, bank bookkeeper and teller, a nursery school in her home, and 24 years as office secretary at Parkview Church.

In retirement, Betty and her husband spent 15 years as tour directors for Prudent Tours which included a total of 78 tours. She served in leadership roles in high school, church, the M.B. Conference and Hillsboro Senior Center. Her husband, Bob, changed his address from earth to heaven in 2021. Betty was honored as Marion County's "Sensational Sunflower" at the 2024 Sunflower Health and Wellness Fair in Salina.

When Betty decided to "scale down" she chose an apartment at Parkside Homes and says it was one of the best decisions she ever made. She enjoys leading a Bible study, selecting and showing the Saturday afternoon movies, playing games and enjoying the food prepared and served there, but mostly the fellowship with all the residents. Betty says she sees so much kindness from both the help and her apartment neighbors and is so thankful to be living at the Parkside apartment complex.

Fun at the Apartments

Games, Lifelong Learning, Crafts



CEO NOTES - Year in Review

Financial health is of the utmost importance to Parkside. The goal of Parkside and the Board of Directors is to ensure that Parkside will be able to continue to provide senior living and healthcare needs of Marion County and surrounding communities for years to come. As we are coming to an end of our Fiscal Year 2025, September 30, we wanted to share a few things with you as our invested interest community.


We have collected some much-needed funding and made some changes this year that have helped secure a stronger financial stance. Excluding nonrecurring income (the Employee Retention Credit-ERC), our net operating income for the 10 months ending July 31, is 50 basis points better than budget, for a total operating margin of 3.3%. (Funds totaling \$89,000 from the IRS ERC filed in 2023 for the pandemic were also received during this fiscal year.) Our cash flows from ongoing operations are performing favorable to budget by \$176,000. This is primarily associated with the increase in apartments and duplexes leased, net of equity refunds. The funds were much needed and used to ensure our vendors are being paid timely for their services and supplies.

Changes made in 2025: A transition of our partnership with our Billing Consultant has helped us strengthen our Revenue Cycle Management and Claim Accounts Receivable in insurance billing. Another change in 2025 includes our purchasing group transition to Med Trust. This has helped save on food costs and medical supply expenses. Finally, the most impactful change that Parkside has seen in fiscal year 2025 was the great work of our Director of Parkside Apartments, Laura Reis, and Marketing and Public Relations, Krista Heinrichs, with the census increase in our Apartments. We will end the year with a total of 10 apartments leased, and a total of 12 new residents to the Parkside Apartment community! This increase in census allows us to maintain the fixed expenses of the Apartments so we will not end the year with a loss of funds.

As we look forward to the next fiscal year, we are exploring new options for Parkside that will strengthen our process and compliance in healthcare with hopes of increasing our collection of Medicaid and Medicare funding for services rendered. We are also working on exploring other services that Parkside can provide residents and the greater Marion County community. Your continued support and belief in Parkside's mission is what makes this all possible. Thank you for being part of this wonderful community!

Stephanie Bryant, CEO/Administrator

SEPTEMBER WORK ANNIVERSARIES

Melissa Arndt 20 years 
Brooke Bernhardt 9 years
Juanita Kelley 3 years



Parkside exists to enrich all we serve with Christ-like compassion, respect, excellence, and integrity.

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