

Happenings

November 2020



Year-end Tax Planning with CARES ACT

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act, commonly known as the CARES Act contains a number of provisions that may reduce your 2020 income taxes AND help your favorite charities.

Here are some of what the Act provides:

- Temporarily lifts the provision that limits cash contribution deductions to 60% of adjusted gross income (AGI) for

individuals and raises the cap to 100% of AGI.

- Raises the 10%-of-income limit on deductions by corporations to 25% of income.



As a result, seniors may want to consider the convenience of using their Bethesda refundable entrance fee or deposit to make such cash gifts to Bethesda this

year (Before Dec. 30) since their gift will be completely deductible up to 100% of their adjusted gross income.

Support a Hope Dove on Giving Tuesday, Dec 1

Giving Tuesday, which occurs on December 1, is a national day of giving back and a moment defined by joy and hope that



**GIVING TUESDAY
DECEMBER 1**

brings an entire community together. When you honor friends, loved ones, and employees, with your Hope Dove this Giving Tuesday, your gift helps seniors who have limited resources continue to enjoy their lives in

our communities. Your tax-deductible gift of:

- \$35 (hangs one ornament)
- \$50 (hangs two ornaments)
- \$75 (hangs three ornaments)
- \$100 (hangs four ornaments)

Your dove ornaments hangs on greenery and trees located in a Bethesda community of your choice throughout the season. A tag will be attached featuring the name of someone special, and each ornament can bring cheer and appreciation to our seniors, especially if they are feeling isolated and vulnerable during these trying times.

To gift a Hope Dove ornament please visit www.bethesdahealth.org/giving-to-bethesda/donate-today/

Help Us Tell the Bethesda Story

The Bethesda community keeps growing and together, we make a difference to St. Louis seniors. If you are interested in sharing why you support Bethesda, or to send special comments about Bethesda, email Pedempski@bethesdahealth.org to tell your story.

Good People Doing Good Things, Sarita Weldon



Sarita Weldon, Senior Admissions Counselor for Bethesda Southgate and Assisted Living

at Charless Village, has worked for Bethesda for more than 21 years in a variety of customer relations positions. One consistent facet in all of them is how well she helps families moving their loved ones to Bethesda communities.

During her years at Bethesda, Sarita has continuously received praise from residents and their families for her outstanding customer service. During the pandemic, Sarita has recognized a need to pitch in wherever she could, and therefore has been doing much more than her admissions job—she helps feed residents, assists with Covid-19 screenings, and corresponds with families, reassuring them that their loved ones are safe and doing well.

Sarita does whatever it takes to make our seniors and their families feel comfortable. Regardless of the situation, the four words that frequently come from Sarita are “How may I help?” It is no wonder that Sarita was a recipient of last year’s VOYCE Caregiver Award. Congratulations on your award, Sarita, and thank you for everything that you do.

Making Charitable IRA Gifts Can Save You Taxes

Making a tax-free donation from an IRA is gaining in popularity among seniors, particularly those who do not need their required minimum distribution (RMD). If you are a taxpayer that must take required minimum distributions because you are age 70 ½ and older, you may want to consider making a tax-free contribution (up to \$100,000 per calendar year) directly from your IRA to qualified charities like Bethesda.

By gifting IRA funds directly to Bethesda, you do not report the IRA distribution as income. This tax savings is especially beneficial if you do not itemize your deductions. As with other charitable gifts, you may designate which Bethesda community or service you want to receive the donation.



Foundation Welcomes Caitlin Dowe



Bethesda Health Group Foundation welcomes longtime Bethesda volunteer, **Caitlin Dowe**, joining the staff. Caitlin’s focus is helping to maintain benefactor information in our Customer Relationship Management (CRM) software. When asked about her role, Caitlin says, “I enjoy being part of the Foundation team and helping them maintain accurate and timely records. I know how important my job is because I see first-hand all the mailings and reports that we generate from my entries. I feel good knowing that I am contributing to the success of Bethesda.” Caitlin is originally from St. Louis, where she lives with her mom, Jean, and her two dogs, Denali and Willow.

Senior SPOTLIGHT

Dorothy Boenker



Dorothy Boenker has been a resident of Bethesda Terrace for nearly nine years. Throughout this time, Dorothy has been an invaluable volunteer for the Bethesda Health Group Foundation, assisting with mailings, promoting the *Hearts for Our Homes* annual campaign, and serving as a former member of Women’s Board. Thank you, Dorothy. We appreciate you!