

 (292) 382-1255



heritagecommunity.com

HERITAGE
COMMUNITY

OF KALAMAZOO

November 2021



HERITAGE
TODAY

EXPERIENCE THE FUTURE OF RETIREMENT LIVING

MONTHLY news

FROM THE HERITAGE TEAM



Greetings!

Happy Thanksgiving and welcome to *Heritage Today*, a newsletter created exclusively for those interested in independent living at Heritage Community of Kalamazoo. We welcome this season of gratitude as we have so much for which to be grateful! Above all, we are grateful that you are considering becoming a part of the Heritage Community family. Whether you are at the beginning of your search for a future home, are in the midst of conversations with our team, or have already become a member of Our Inner Circle by making your refundable deposit, we welcome you.

When you choose to move to a Life Plan Community, you are making a wise decision about your future—a future where you are free to embrace the active and engaging lifestyle you deserve. And by choosing Heritage Community, you are choosing to become part of a warm and welcoming neighborhood, where social opportunities, modern wellness, serene outdoor spaces, and longstanding tradition come together to create an ideal home.

As we continue to welcome new residents to Wyndham, Heritage Community's well-established independent living residences, Our Inner Circle continues to grow as people join the waitlist. Members of Our Inner Circle will be invited to member-only events and have exclusive access to an up-to-date directory of future neighbors. Check out *A Word to Our Inner Circle* for details.

If you are in the earlier stages of considering a move to Heritage Community and have not yet joined Our Inner Circle, join us for "Dine & Discover" on November 16. See *Prospect Events* for event details.

Regardless of where you are along the journey, see *Community Updates* for a glimpse "Behind the Design of Heritage Community's Renovations" and for photo highlights of resident-life on campus. Get the answers you've been looking for in *Common Questions*. Learn about our *Staycation* and *Friends to Neighbors* opportunities. And finally, read about Wyndham resident, Don Kneepkens, to find out how Heritage Community has brought him a lifestyle of independence.



Warmly,
The Heritage Team



"Wear gratitude like a cloak, And it will feed every corner of your life."

~ Rumi

a word to our inner circle



YOU'RE THE FUTURE OF OUR HERITAGE.

Welcome to our extended family! As we explained in our debut newsletter in October, you may place a nominal, 100-percent refundable deposit at any time to become a member of Our Inner Circle. As such, you will be embraced and included in the rich social fabric of our community. You'll be invited to attend events and participate in activities—either online or in person. You'll have the opportunity to get to know and feel at home with Heritage Community's residents and staff. And, without any obligation, you can feel secure in knowing you may reserve the residence of your choice at any time.

Members of Our Inner Circle receive exclusive benefits, including

- First monthly fee waived upon move-in
- \$2,500 credit toward residence upgrades
- Lifetime discount of \$100 off second-person monthly fee (Certain stipulations apply. Please ask a sales counselor for details.)
- Exclusive invitations to member events and dining opportunities
- Access to the fitness center including one complimentary training session
- Entrance to monthly community events and scheduled entertainment
- Priority access to healthcare, including skilled care and rehab, should you need it before becoming a resident
- And more!

To learn more about joining Our Inner Circle, please contact us any time at 269.382.1255 or visit our website:
<https://bit.ly/ziymSpi>.



GET CONNECTED! SHARE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION



Our Inner Circle Directory

As we continue to grow Our Inner Circle and ease our way back into enjoying in-person events, it is important to stay connected with friends and future neighbors by phone or online! To help nurture that effort, the Heritage team is putting together a directory for Our Inner Circle members. When you join Our Inner Circle, you will be provided with a link to a contact form where you may share your contact information for the directory if you like.

In each newsletter going forward, we will provide a password-protected link to the up-to-date directory, where Inner Circle Members will be able to login and see the directory. (To protect the privacy of members of Our Inner Circle, *only* fellow members will have access to the directory via the password provided by the Heritage team. If you forget your password, feel free to reach out to the Heritage team and we'll re-send it to you.)

PROSPECT EVENTS

**DINE & DISCOVER:
JOIN US FOR LUNCH & WYNDHAM TOUR
Tuesday, November 16**



Let us put Life Plan Community living into clear focus so you can see why it's the right choice for your future.

"What is a Life Plan Community?" You're not alone if you've wondered this very thing. In fact, many people who explore their retirement options have several questions about what these communities have to offer. That's why the expert team at Heritage Community of Kalamazoo is excited to share its knowledge with you over a delicious lunch. At this special event, you'll discover what sets Life Plan Communities apart from all others.

Get clarity on costs, available contract types, and the services provided by the healthcare continuum. Plus, gain invaluable insight into how the process starts, and what a day in the life of a resident really looks like. Whatever questions or concerns you may have about Life Plan Community living, feel free to ask during this informative presentation and on the tour following lunch.

Who's Invited: Wyndham Prospects
When: Tuesday, November 16 | 11 a.m. EST
Where: Kalamazoo Country Club
1609 Whites Road, Kalamazoo, MI 49008

RSVP by visiting <https://www.heritagecommunity.com/events> or calling 269.775.4514.

Attendance will be limited and will follow all current state and local CDC safety guidelines.

COMMUNITY UPDATES

ROOTED IN HISTORY. FOCUSED ON YOUR FUTURE.



BEHIND THE DESIGN OF HERITAGE COMMUNITY'S RENOVATIONS

Heritage Community has been a leader in senior living in Southwest Michigan since 1945. The independently operated not-for-profit community has evolved over the years to meet the changing needs of seniors. Like other iterations of the past, the latest wave of renovations sweeping across campus will reflect Kalamazoo's unique local culture, while continuing to set the tone for innovation.

With Chicago-based designer Perkins Eastman at the helm, Heritage Community embarked on the renovation of its main dining venue and its wellness center in September. Senior living and healthcare design have been at the cutting edge of the esteemed, global architecture firm's success since it was founded four decades ago in Manhattan, where it is headquartered. The firm is often consulted by manufacturers to come up with new products, furniture lines, and textile collections.

Besides having their finger on the pulse of the newest design trends and materials, Perkins Eastman looks for an equilibrium among the hospitality, healthcare, and residential aspects of senior living design. "We are always reminded that this is someone's home," says Jen McDermott, associate principal at Perkins Eastman. "While first-impression spaces and common areas should have more of a hospitality feel, neighborhoods and households should transition to a more residential feel. We want the spaces to say, "hospitality," but not to feel like a hotel. Our charge is to find that balance.

When it comes to the renovation of Heritage Community, Perkins Eastman has done its homework. "When we begin a project," says Jen, "we do initial research, really looking at the environment and culture surrounding the site." Noting that Kalamazoo is an industrial town with a history of being home to many factories—for windmills, mandolins, automobiles, and paper products, for example—the design team is taking an industrial-influenced design approach. "It's not too heavily industrial," says Jen, "as we want it to be comfortable and residential. So, the design is headed for industrial, modern infusion, incorporating warm wood tones, bronze and blackened metals, and hints of diffused factory glass."

Once the renovation is complete, the main dining room will be reminiscent of the classic Midwest supper club and feature a glass sculpture sourced from a local artisan. The refurbished wellness center will boast the latest in high-tech exercise equipment, as well as spaces where residents can exercise, participate in small-group classes, attend mindfulness and meditation courses, and work with a personal trainer and wellness coordinator to create customized wellbeing experiences.

With seven one- and two-bedroom floor plans, each including a complete kitchen with a full appliance package, Our Inner Circle members have plenty of options. Plus, as residences become available, they are refurbished with modern design finishes and comforts. And, depending on the availability of materials, some customizations are offered at a cost to the new resident.

In the end, the design of Heritage Community is informed by the residents and future residents. "We believe the aesthetic of Heritage Community will speak to the next generation in senior living," says Jay Prince, president and CEO of Heritage Community. "It sets a new bar for independent living in Southwest Michigan."

Heritage Today will bring you regular updates as campus renovations unfold.

CAMPUS LIFE FLOURISHES!

Life at Heritage Community continues to return to normal. As residents and staff across campus maintain wellness, social activities and educational opportunities resume. In mid-October, for example, Wyndham hosted Tanya Austin, HHP, MH, for a "Hand Reflexology" presentation. Enjoy a few photo highlights of Heritage Community residents learning about this holistic health topic.



Common QUESTIONS

AND THE ANSWERS YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR

Q: How and where can I get more information and find answers to my questions about Heritage Community of Kalamazoo?

A: Our goal is to make it as easy as possible for you to find answers to your questions about Heritage Community, so there are a number of ways to access information. For one, we have just launched a brand-new website outlining the independent living options, the continuum of care, and the forward-facing lifestyle on offer at Heritage. Check out the new website at HeritageCommunity.com. Additionally, each month, you will receive this newsletter, *Heritage Today*, bringing you the latest updates about the campus expansion, developments at Wyndham, and your future neighbors. And finally, you are always welcome to reach out to a member of the Heritage team at 269.382.1255. We will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Q: Are there any tax benefits of moving to a Life Plan Community?

A: Yes, new residents of Life Plan Communities can sometimes qualify for a tax deduction on their entry fee and monthly fees. We suggest you visit with your tax advisor about specifics, but here are a few related articles that may be of interest:

- My Life Site: You May Be Able to Deduct Some CCRC Costs from Your Taxes
<https://mylifesite.net/blog/post/you-may-be-able-to-deduct-some-ccrc-costs-from-your-taxes/>
- Rodgers & Associates: Tax Benefits of Continuing Care Retirement Communities
<https://rodgers-associates.com/blog/tax-benefits-continuing-care-retirement-communities/>
- Elder Law Answers: Tax Breaks Help Pay for CCRC Expenses
<https://www.elderlawanswers.com/tax-break-helps-pay-for-ccrc-fees-12288>

Q: What are some of the ways a Personal Relocation Manager (PRM) can help me get ready for a move to Wyndham?

A: As a member of Our Inner Circle, you will have access to the expert moving services and guidance of Moving Station, our trusted relocation partner. Moving Station's signature program, Moving Made Easy®, provides a number of services, starting with the assignment of a complimentary Personal Relocation Manager (PRM) to provide support, education, and advocacy throughout the process. Your PRM will serve as your day-to-day contact and will help with all the key aspects of your move, including providing real estate expertise, tips and tools for "rightsizing," and organization during the actual move. By partnering with a Personal Relocation Manager, you will save time, money, and unnecessary stress, allowing you to get a jump start on focusing on the good things in life.

STAYCATION:

YOUR VACATION DESTINATION FOR 3 FREE DAYS!



GREETINGS FROM SUNNY KALAMAZOO

Please be our guest at Heritage Community for two free nights and three days of STAYCATION. It's your chance to experience the freedom and security our residents enjoy year 'round. To taste the talents of our culinary team. To meet and converse with potential future neighbors. And to picture a carefree future here in the heart of Kalamazoo.

SAMPLE STAYCATION ITINERARY:

We will customize the details of your stay based on your interests and preferences.

DAY 1:

- Arrival and Welcome—3 p.m.
- Orientation and Team Greeting
- Dinner with a Resident Ambassador

DAY 2:

- Breakfast with a Resident Ambassador
- Personal Fitness Training Session with our Wellness Director
- Lunch with a Sales Counselor & Community Director
- Personal Time or Group/Club Programming
- Dinner with a Resident Ambassador

DAY 3:

- Breakfast
- Departure and Dialogue with Sales Counselor

CALL NOW TO RESERVE YOUR STAYCATION: 269.775.4276

FRIENDS

TO

NEIGHBORS

SOMEONE YOU KNOW WOULD LOVE TO LIVE HERE.



Earn \$1,000 by Growing Our Heritage Family!

As you know, we've been a part of Kalamazoo since 1945, so it's not exactly a secret that life at Heritage Community is something special. But of course, what makes it so special are our residents, friends, and family members. And since people like you know other people like you, we offer the Friends To Neighbors program.

It's simple. Just provide the name and contact information for someone you believe might make a good neighbor—someone who would enjoy and benefit from being a part of our community. If they choose to move here, we'll credit you \$1,000 toward your monthly fee after you move in.

When you're ready to share the Future of Our Heritage with someone who will appreciate it fully, please fill out the form on the following page and return it to the sales and marketing team.



**FILL OUT THE FORM AND
RETURN IT TO THE SALES & MARKETING TEAM**



SOMEONE
YOU KNOW
WOULD LOVE
TO LIVE HERE.



INTRODUCING THE
FRIENDS TO NEIGHBORS
PROGRAM.

We've been a part of Kalamazoo since 1945, so it's not exactly a secret that life at Heritage Community is something special. But of course what makes it so special are our residents, friends and family members. And since people like you know other people like you, we've started the Friends To Neighbors program.

It's simple. Just provide the name and contact information for someone you believe might make a good neighbor; someone who would enjoy and benefit from being a part of our community. If they choose to move here, we'll credit you \$1,000 toward your monthly fee. If you're not a current resident of Heritage Community, we'll put the same \$1,000 credit toward their monthly fee once they've made the move.

When you're ready to share the Future of Our Heritage with someone who will appreciate it fully, please fill out the form below and return it to the sales and marketing team.

PLEASE MAKE MY FRIEND A NEIGHBOR.

YOUR NAME: _____ DATE: _____

YES. You may use my name when contacting these individuals.

NO. I prefer my name to remain confidential.

REFERRAL NAME(S):

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/ST/ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/ST/ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/ST/ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/ST/ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

HERITAGE COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

MEET WYNDHAM RESIDENT DON KNEEPKENS



Heritage Community Resident & Resident Board Member

As a resident of Heritage Community's Wyndham, Don Kneepkens is enjoying his independence.

He was born and raised in the Green Bay, Wisconsin area and fell in love with a beautiful girl, Jean, who attended a local rival high school. After graduating from high school, Don took the naval officer entrance exam and was subsequently awarded a full college scholarship with the stipulation that, for the next four years, he would take an hour of naval science class five days a week and put in nine weeks of active duty on a ship every summer.

Four years later, Don graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry/Chemical Engineering. And really, this is where the fun began. He graduated on a Friday evening in a ceremony at Camp Randall Stadium and was commissioned an officer into the U.S. Navy upon receiving his diploma. The very next day, Saturday, he married his sweetheart and had the chance of a lifetime to begin work the following Monday (the beginning of his honeymoon) at Kimberly-Clark Corporation. He put in 40 hours at Kimberly-Clark that first week before taking leave to embark on three-and-a-half years of active duty as a naval officer. During that time, he served on three different naval vessels and worked in naval intelligence.

"What was very unusual was that, upon returning from my service in the Navy, I was reinstated at Kimberly-Clark with three-and-a-half years of seniority," recalls Don. "My life was charmed back then."

During his 27 years at Kimberly-Clark, Don worked within many facets of the paper company. He was involved in central research, process engineering, and was a corporate officer for the last 10 years of his career, holding the title of Vice President/General Manager of three different divisions.

Don and his high school sweetheart had a large family of five boys and one girl, all born within 10 years. He never really took to golf because he was traveling so much, but he loved watching his kids play ball and being part of their activities. "We had three kids in high school and three kids in college—forever," laughs Don. "Those were wonderful days." He also recalls some of his favorite memories volunteering with the Catholic food banks, as well as using his knowledge as an Eagle Scout to work with the Boy Scouts.

With their children grown and Don and Jean starting lives of their own, Don began the next chapter of his professional life. They moved to the Los Angeles area where he went into business with a partner for 10 years in the specialty paper business. These highly specialized papers were used in drafting and architecture.

Upon Don retiring, the couple moved to Northern California in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, where they lived for 16 years and loved every minute of it.

As Jean's health began declining, though, the couple decided to move to Michigan, and they relocated to Kalamazoo, where one of their sons lives. "We lived in a beautiful condo with lovely gardens," says Don. Sadly, his beloved Jean passed away nearly 11 years ago. However, Don celebrates the time they had together. "We were married for 56 wonderful years," he says.

Looking to downsize into a comfortable new home, Don chose a Life Plan Community—specifically, Heritage Community of Kalamazoo. "Heritage is a nonprofit, which is very important to me," he says. "Financially, they are strong, and you want to know that what you are investing in for your future will be around for the long term. The facilities and staff are very welcoming, and you feel good here."

For the last several years, Don has been on the Heritage Community Board of Directors serving as the Resident Board Member. In that role, he submits input from other residents, including important questions and concerns. As both a board member and a resident, he has a special and valuable perspective to offer. "In my mind, Heritage Community is very well run," he says. "Management has remained stable, and that says a lot."

Don says he has been blessed with good health and still truly lives a life of independence at Heritage. "There are so many activities here—three or four a week—with a lovely library and dining if you are interested," says Don. "In addition to those things, what I most value is maintaining my current level of independence. I can do anything I want, when I want, but if I need assistance, it is there for me." That sentiment is central to living in a Life Plan Community: Hopefully, you will never need the continuum of care, but it's there if you ever do.



HERITAGE COMMUNITY

OF KALAMAZOO

(292) 382-1255

2300 Portage St. Kalamazoo, MI 49001

HeritageCommunity.com

