

HOSPITAL DISTRICT #1 OF RICE COUNTY

Swing Bed Wing
is a place where quality of life is lived



Fun and Games Helen Keesling enjoys some fellowship with family and friends.

By David Settle
Full time intermediate long term care is a phrase that has become more familiar as the population ages and baby boomers continue to reach retirement age and beyond. A long term care facility is one that takes care of all of a person’s needs, from just basic food and shelter and a place to sleep and bathe to other physical, cultural and even spiritual needs. Many Rice County residents may not realize that the Swing Bed located on the south annex of the Hospital District No.1 of Rice County is an intermediate long term care facility.

The Swing Bed is capable of caring for twelve full time residents. Mary Konen, the Coordinator of the Swing Bed facility, explained that their mission is to take care of all of a resident’s needs and that she and the staff feel privileged that families of these residents have entrusted them with the care of their loved ones.

She explained that although the residents are generally older, they have a dynamic schedule of activities not only for the physical needs of residents, but also for their mental and spiritual needs. They enjoy many activities, including regular field trips to local pancake feeds, as well as weekly church services in the adjacent chapel, Bible studies, crafts, and card and board games. For their physical needs such activities as “sit-er-cize” and stretching help with joint mobility. With an impressive resident to staff ratio which includes 2-CNA staff, 1-LPN nurse, 1-Restorative Aid and

traditional fixings. They can look out the window and watch the wildlife, including the birds in the feeders, and watch their own potatoes, onions, and flowers grow in the adjacent planter.

Resident rooms are private and come with a lift chair, an adjustable hospital bed, closet space, and a large bathroom with a shower. Their rooms are decorated with pictures of family members and other personal items. Residents also have the ability to use the private whirlpool bath located at the hospital at least twice weekly. Residents are also pampered with weekly beauty shop services complete with barber chair and cosmetologist.

Families are encouraged to spend time with their loved ones at the Swing



Sharing holiday cheer at the Swing Bed Activity Center. Residents and their families and visitors share fellowship during the past Christmas.

Bed facility. There are amenities that help facilitate those activities including an adjacent kitchen where families can share in the preparation of meals and maybe cook that favorite dish for their loved one.

The staff and residents are a close-knit group. The daily interaction and care

between nursing staff and residents along with the close working relationship between the nurses and hospital physicians provides an environment where physician referral and oversight is easily attained.

Currently there are seven residents living at the Swing Bed facility. There is a capacity

of twelve beds. A year ago they were at full capacity. They have had some recent attrition due to the passing of some residents and a couple have moved away as well.

For more information regarding the Swing Bed facility contact Mary Konen at 620-257-5173.



RICE COMMUNITY
HEALTHCARE

HOSPITAL DISTRICT NO. 1
OF RICE COUNTY

Hospital Services
Offered

- Cardiac & Pulmonary Rehab
- Diabetes Education
- Family Birth Center
- Rehabilitation Services
- Surgery
- Swing Bed/Long Term Care
- Cardiology, Podiatry and Urology Clinics
- Lyons and Sterling Medical Centers



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