

# SENIOR Living



## Creating community for Creston's seniors

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When driving through Creston, it can be easy to miss the community tucked away from city hubbub. Located in the southwest corner of Creston, hiding behind the Union County Freedom Rock and Visitors Center, is Quiet Harbor Estates, a manufactured home park.

Quiet Harbor was previously owned by Mickey and Angell White. However, following Mickey's passing in 2021, Quiet Harbor went into a receivership. This means a court appointed a third party to manage a company's assets.

Quiet Harbor Estates Manager Ruth Bolinger said it was almost four years that Quiet Harbor tenants sat in limbo, wondering what would happen to the community.

"The tenants out here were waiting for years to find out what was going to happen and who was going to own it. Was any of this going to get resolved? That was a long time for tenants to wonder what's happening," Bolinger said. "Last December 11, it went to sheriff sale and

that's when Satish came up."

COO Satish Alturi came to Creston on behalf of CEO Indira Garapati and Parkway Communities, a mobile and manufactured home park company based out of Texas. Parkway Communities already owned multiple parks in Iowa at this time.

"When we took time to look at it more closely, we liked what we saw, that it was a clean community and had really nice looking homes that were really well maintained,"

Garapati said. "Satish was going to visit Iowa that week, so he stopped by Creston to learn about the auction process, to learn about the property more, visit in person, talk to the city people and find out more about the park itself. It seemed to be a good fit for the portfolio in parks managed by Parkway Communities."

The bid went to Parkway Communities and Garapati and Alturi quickly worked to improve

the park to the residents' wants. This includes renovating the clubhouse and a future upgrade to the park's fishing pond. However, residents are also now in charge of their own yards, a task that can be difficult for a 55+ community.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development says a 55+ community must be 80% people 55 or older. Therefore, Quiet Harbor can accept a few tenants under the 55+ age limit.

"So right now, we could have up to nine tenants under the age of 55," Bolinger said. "We can have families live here. Only 80% have to be 55+. Obviously, we count on our tenants to help us maintain that balance."

Though there are no tenants currently under the age of 55, the various residents all help each other out when caring for their lawns.

### Residential life

While there may be 49 locations rented, there's about 80 people living in Quiet Harbor altogether.



Alturi



Garapati



CNA photo by ERIN HENZE

Quiet Harbor Estates is a 55+ manufactured-home community in the southwest corner of Creston.

Many of these residents come to the community to enjoy a slower pace of life surrounded by friendly neighbors.

"My husband had dementia and we needed to be someplace where we felt comfortable," Joyce Young said about her 2020 move to Quiet Harbor. "I knew that he needed care and I was still working at the church at the time as their bookkeeper. I had people around here kind of keeping an eye on him so if he

went out or anything, they could call me and tell me."

While Young's husband passed away the following year, she's kept busy playing cards and doing puzzles with neighbors, as well as helping them with their tech issues.

"There's a lot of people around here that depended on me for technology and also for answers on

other things that they weren't very savvy about," Young said. "I like to tax my brain though, I like to figure stuff out. That's why I puzzle and I play computer word games with different people to keep everything functioning."

While Young came to

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