Written by Mark Jaeger
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Addition to Port facility retains homelike feeling owners strive to provide

As site manager Sonja Perez gives tours of the recently completed expansion of the Ellen’s Home community-based residential facility in Port Washington, it is almost as if Mother Nature is on the payroll.

Walking past the community room that leads to the bright sun porch, a pair of Canada geese swam past in the nearby wetlands, as if on cue.

“The emphasis is really that this is a homelike setting. We are creating a place where people will want to be, rather than a sterile, institutional feeling,” Perez said.

It was just two years ago that Ellen’s Home opened its first phase, a 13,000-square-foot facility that has 20 apartments for seniors who need some assistance while keeping as much independence as possible.

The facility at 1800 Granite La. adjacent to Port’s Greystone subdivision, has been full since its opening.

Even as the senior residence opened, owners Dave Landers and Tracy Bardwell were anticipating the need for expansion.

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