Parish Times

2022 Senior Services Guide

New Assisted Living Community Opens in Rockville

he Seneca, an Assisted Living and Memory Care community in Rockville is now open and welcoming residents. Located right by King Farm at 55 W. Gude Drive, the new community offers assisted living, memory care and The Bridge - a neighborhood serving those with mild cognitive impairment.

Private studio, one- and two-bedroom residences in the 146-unit six-story building are offered on a monthly rental basis with no long-term commitment. The community has 116 assisted living and 30 memory care apartments. The building is approximately 155,000 square feet in gross floor area and includes an underground parking garage.

Apartments feature modern kitchenettes, upscale finishes and tall ceilings. Select floorplans include a private balcony. The community's contemporary design is enhanced by tall windows allowing for abundant natural light in apartments and common areas. Residents enjoy a wide variety of amenities such as concierge services, chef-driven restaurants, a lounge with a full bar, formal gardens, a fully equipped fitness center and



a wellness center with a salon and day spa.

The Seneca of Rockville was developed by Dallas-based Silverstone Senior Living. It is the first property for Silverstone in

Montgomery County. Watermark Retirement munities feature dozens of classes and regular Communities operates the facility. Based in Tucson, Arizona, Watermark manages 58 communities in 21 states. Watermark com-

outings for residents.

OPT

Social Isolation and Loneliness: Facts for Older Adults

new fact sheet introduced by the Montgomery County Commission on Aging (CoA) in November provides information about the causes, health risks, and resources to combat social isolation and loneliness among older adults. Social Isolation and Loneliness: Facts for Older Adults provides resources and websites for those with who feel lonely and isolated, as well as their caregivers. It is available at www.parishtimes/ socialisolationFactSheet.

The fact sheet is the product of research done by the Commission's task force that hosted the May 2021 public forum on Countering Social Isolation and Loneliness of older adults. The information points out that there is a greater risk to people who find themselves unexpectedly isolated due to the loss or illness of a loved one, a lack of mobility, worsening vision or hearing problems, and/or people who have limited access to transportation. "We know that there are many factors that can contribute to older adults feeling lonely and isolated," said Odile Brunetto, chief of Aging & Disability Services in the County's



Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). "There are multiple factors, including the ongoing pandemic, the shortening of days as we approach the winter months, the upcoming holiday season, and economic or personal hardships. I want all our seniors to know that they do not need to suffer in silence. Help and resources are here."

The consequences of social distancing and isolation brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic have

been widespread across the mental health spectrum. In addition, research has linked social isolation and loneliness to poorer cognitive function and higher risk for dementia, including Alzheimer's disease. Diminished social activity and excessive time spent being alone may lead to a decline in the ability to do everyday tasks such as, but not limited to, driving, paying bills, taking medicine, and cooking.

If you do not have access to a computer and would like a copy of the fact sheet, please call the Aging and Disability Resource Line at 220-777-3000.

The CoA was established in 1974 and authorized by the Older American Act, P.L. 116-131. Their role is to advise County government, including the County Executive and the County Council, on the needs, interests, and issues of older adult residents and to advocate on their behalf at the local, state, and national levels. For more information and to download the fact sheet, visit the Commission on Aging's website under documents, reports, and other important infor-

OPT



Hospice Chaplains and Spiritual Care **Misconceptions and Facts**

MDiv. retired chaplain for Montgomery Hospice and Prince Georges Hospice

haplains are an important part of the team of professionals who care for hospice patients. Some of those patients, however, are reluctant to speak with the chaplain due to their misconceptions or preconceived notions, or simply because they lack understanding of the purpose

From an article by Laura Edwards, of a hospice chaplain. So, what

Misconception: Hospice chaplains only provide support to patients who are religious, and they only talk about religious or spiritual matters. FACT: Hospice chaplains provide compassionate, nonjudgmental support to people of all faiths and people of no faith, no matter what they believe or don't believe.

Chaplains Continued on page 10 seek



How to Share Caregiving Responsibilities with Family Members

xplore the resources available at the National Institute on Aging's website ■ to find practical answers to frequently asked questions about supporting family caregivers.

- I'm new to caregiving. Where do I start?
- · How do I help organize important paperwork and get affairs in order?
- How can I help my older parents from afar?
- How can I find caregiving resources in mv area?
- How do I choose a long-term care facility?
- How can we pay for long-term care?

- Can I get paid to take care of a family member?
- How do I make an older person's home safer?
- How can I talk with an older person's
- I'm overwhelmed and exhausted. How can I get a break from caregiving?
- What do I do if I suspect an older person is being mistreated?

For helpful answers to these and related questions about providing support to family caregivers, visit: www.nia.nih.gov/health/ how-share-caregiving-responsibilities-family-members



Services Include

Companionship Meal preparation Light housekeeping Shopping and Laundry Activity and Appointment assistance Personal care and hygiene Medication reminders

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AT HOME CARE, Inc. is a licensed agency that reaches out to persons, one on one, to assist with the activities of day to day living. Our agency of professionals brings affordable assisted living to the individual in the comfort of their own home.

AT HOME CARE, INC's trained, licensed, and experienced caregivers include RNs, LPNs, & CNAs.

Exercise assistance

Clients exclaim, *"You have sent us* the perfect person."

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Six Tips for **Long-Distance Caregiving**

Anyone who is caring for a friend, relative or parent from far away can be considered a long-distance caregiver. Whether you are helping with finances, arranging for care, or providing emotional support, long-distance caregiving can bring a host of unique challenges.

Keep these tips in mind to help make life more manageable.



Learn as much as you can about your loved one's health, treatments and available caregiving resources.

You can understand what is going on, anticipate the course of an illness, prevent crises, and assist in healthcare management.



Organize important paperwork.

Keep all vital information in one place and up-to-date, including healthcare documents, wills and financial information. Provide copies to other caregivers.



Make sure at least one caregiver has written permission to receive medical and financial information.

To the extent possible, one person should handle conversations with all healthcare providers.



Plan your visits.

Find out in advance what the person would like to do. Aim for simple and relaxing activities. And check with the primary caregiver to see if you can help with any priority tasks.



Stay connected.

Schedule calls with healthcare providers and facility staff to discuss the person's well-being. Update trusted family members on your loved one's health and needs.



Consider caregiver training.

Some local chapters of the American Red Cross or other not-for-profit organizations might offer caregiving courses. Medicare and Medicaid will sometimes cover the cost of this training.



Visit www.nia.nih.gov/long-distance-caregiving to learn more.



LEVEL TWO FACILITIES

Bartholomew House

6904 River Road Bethesda, MD 20817 (301) 320-6151 Capacity: 35

Byron House

9210 Kentdale Drive Potomac, MD 20854 (301) 469-9400 Capacity: 35

Grace House

3214 Norbeck Road Silver Spring, MD 20906 (301) 924-4424 Capacity: 32

Landow House, Inc

1799 East Jefferson Street Rockville, MD 20852 (301) 816-5056 Capacity: 98

Marian Assisted Living

19109 Georgia Avenue Brookeville, MD 20833 (301) 570-3190 Capacity: 44

Raphael House

1517 Dunster Road Rockville, MD 20854 (301) 217-9116 Capacity: 31

Rebecca House

9910 River Road Potomac, MD 20854 (301) 656-8823 Capacity: 15

LEVEL THREE FACILITIES (Capacity > 20)

Alfredhouse Symphony

6020 Needwood Road Derwood, MD 20855 (301) 260-2080 Capacity: 34

Arden Courts of Kensington

4301 Knowles Avenue Kensington, MD 20895 (301) 493-7881 Capacity: 64

Arden Courts of Potomac

10718 Potomac Tennis Lane Potomac, MD 20854 (301) 983-3620 Capacity: 52

Arden Courts of Silver Spring

2505 Musgrove Road Silver Spring, MD 20904 (301) 847-3051 Capacity: 52

Asbury Methodist Village

333 Russell Avenue Gaithersburg, MD 20877 (301) 216-4003 Capacity: 164

Aspenwood

14400 Homecrest Rd Silver Spring, MD 20906 (301) 598-6424 Capacity: 55

Bedford Court

3700 International Drive Silver Spring, MD 20906 (301) 598-2900 Capacity: 76

Brandywine Living at Potomac

10800 Potomac Tennis Lane Potomac, MD 20854 (301) 417-3000 Capacity: 138

Brighton Gardens at Friendship Heights

5555 Friendship Boulevard Chevy Chase, MD 20815 (301) 656-1900 Capacity: 154

Brighton Gardens of Tuckerman Lane

5550 Tuckerman Lane North Bethesda, MD 20852 (301) 897-8566 Capacity: 111

Brightview Bethesda Woodmont

4907 Rugby Avenue Bethesda, MD 20814 (240) 800-7566 Capacity: 132

Brightview Fallsgrove

9200 Darnestown Road Rockville, MD 20850 (240) 314-7194 Capacity: 100

Brightview Grosvenor

5510 Grosvenor Lane Bethesda, MD 20814 (301) 615-0119 Capacity: 104

Brightview West End

285 North Washington Street Rockville, MD 20850 (301) 250-1628 Capacity: 98

Brookdale Olney

2611 Olney Sandy Spring Road Olney, MD 20832 (301) 570-2611 Capacity: 94

Brookdale Potomac

11215 Seven Locks Road Potomac, MD 20854 (301) 765-9198 Capacity: 139

Five Star Premier Residences of Chevy Chase

8100 Connecticut Avenue Chevy Chase, MD 20815 (301) 907-9894 Capacity: 31

Friends Assisted Living

17350 Quaker Lane Sandy Spring, MD 20860 (301) 924-7511 Capacity: 24

Ingleside at King Farm

1615-b Piccard Drive Rockville, MD 20850 (240) 499-9015 Capacity: 36

Jarher Senior Center

1335 Piccard Drive Rockville, MD 20850 (301) 825-9920 Capacity: 38

Kensington Park Retirement Community

3616-3618 Littledale Road Kensington, MD 20895 (301) 946-7700 Capacity: 160

Kingshire Manor Assisted Living

9701 Medical Center Drive Rockville, MD 20850 (301) 315-1900 Capacity: 34

Continued on page S8

Memory Support with added peace of mind



Choosing a Memory Support community with exceptional Alzheimer and dementia care comes with a lot of questions. At Ingleside, we're here to help with answers, and an individualized person-centered approach that treats every resident like family. From a variety of therapeutic and recreational programs to active environments that help those with cognitive change feel connected and cared for, Ingleside understands the individual needs of your loved one. Something you can always feel good about.

RESERVE A CHOICE RESIDENCE NOW-

Call today to schedule a personal tour of our second Memory Support Assisted Living neighborhood.



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Montgomery County Comprehensive Care Facilities and Extended Care Facilities (Nursing Homes)

Althea Woodland Nursing Home

1000 Daleview Drive Silver Spring, MD 20901 (301) 434-2646 Capacity: 50

Arcola Health and Rehabilitation Center

901 Arcola Avenue Silver Spring, MD 20902 (301) 649-2400 Capacity: 151

Autumn Lake Healthcare at Oakview

2700 Barker Street Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301) 565-0300 Capacity: 138

Bedford Court Healthcare Cent.

3701 International Drive Silver Spring, MD 20906 (301) 598-2900 Capacity: 60

Bel Pre Healthcare Center

2601 Bel Pre Road Silver Spring, MD 20906 (301) 598-6000 Capacity: 92

Bethesda Health and Rehabilitation

5721 Grosvenor Lane Bethesda, MD 20814 (301) 530-1600 Capacity: 195

Brighton Gardens of Tuckerman Lane

5550 Tuckerman Lane North Bethesda, MD 20852 (301) 897-8566 Capacity: 39

Brooke Grove Rehab. & Nsg

18131 Slade School Road Sandy Spring, MD 20860 (301) 924-5176 Capacity: 190

Cadia Healthcare -**Springbrook**

12325 New Hampshire Avenue Silver Spring, MD 20904 (301) 622-4600 Capacity: 93

Cadia Healthcare - Wheaton

4011 Randolph Road Wheaton, MD 20902 (301) 933-2500 Capacity: 116

Carriage Hill Bethesda

5215 Cedar Lane Bethesda, MD 20814 (301) 897-5500 Capacity: 108

Collingswood Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center

299 Hurley Avenue Rockville, MD 20850 (301) 762-8900 Capacity: 160

Fairland Center

2101 Fairland Road Silver Spring, MD 20904 (301) 384-6161 Capacity: 92

Fox Chase Rehabilitation and Nursing Center

2015 East-west Highway Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301) 587-2400 Capacity: 74

Friends Nursing Home

17340 Quaker Lane Sandy Spring, MD 20860 (301) 924-7531 Capacity: 82

Hebrew Home of Greater Washington

6121 Montrose Road Rockville, MD 20852 (301) 770-8310 Capacity: 556

Ingleside at King Farm

701 King Farm Boulevard Rockville, MD 20850 (240) 499-9015 Capacity: 45

Kensington Healthcare

3000 Mccomas Avenue Kensington, MD 20895 (301) 933-0060 Capacity: 140

Layhill Nursing and Rehabilitation Center

3227 Bel Pre Road Silver Spring, MD 20906 (301) 871-2000 Capacity: 118

Maplewood Park Place

9707 Old Georgetown Road Bethesda, MD 20814 (301) 530-0500 Capacity: 31

Montgomery Village Health Care Center

19301 Watkins Mill Road Gaithersburg, MD 20879 (301) 527-2500 Capacity: 147

Oak Manor Center For Rehabilitation and Healthcare

3415 Greencastle Road Burtonsville, MD 20866 (240) 970-5600 Capacity: 150

Peak Healthcare at Sligo Creek

7525 Carroll Avenue Takoma Park, MD 20912 (301) 270-4200 Capacity: 102

Potomac Valley Rehabilitation and Healthcare

1235 Potomac Valley Road Rockville, MD 20850 (301) 762-0700 Capacity: 175

Continued on page S11

Did you know

There are realtors that specialize in helping seniors figure out their next move?

Meet the Brito Associates

Certified Senior Housing Professionals (CSHP) & Certified Senior Downsizing Coaches

Helping you and your family evaluate your options and create a success plan to accomplish your goals. We can help you from start to finish!

Be overjoyed, *NOT* overwhelmed!



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When Strokes Aren't Classic

By Vaughn Allex, Montgomery County Stroke Association

here's a time and a place for the classics. Classic art, classic music, even classic cars. However, what about stroke?

There are classic signs of stroke, most often represented by the **F.A.S.T.** acronym:

- Facial drooping.
- Arm weakness.
- Speech difficulties.
- Time to act.

Anyone experiencing sudden drooping of the face, difficulty or inability to lift their arm, or an onset of inability to speak clearly is in immediate need of medical help to either rule out or treat a stroke. Time is of the absolute essence, and the longer the wait between onset and medi-





cal intervention, the greater the chance of permanent damage or death.

As with most things, though, strokes may present themselves with other than the "classic" symptoms described above. Confusion, severe headache, inability to understand what people are saying, what you are reading, even not being able to see out of one or both of your eyes. Pain and "odd" feelings may also be signs of a stroke. The loss of feeling in an arm may or may not be accompanied by a strange tingling in that arm. Additionally, symptoms of a stroke may present as memory loss or emotional problems. People who have suffered a stroke may be unable to control their feelings or act out.

The signs can be very subtle, or hit you like the proverbial ton-of-bricks.

What's more, these symptoms may be persistent, or, very transitory and brief in nature. Also, they may fluctuate in intensity, then suddenly disappear.

The most important thing to remember is that any symptom, whether alone or in conjunction with others, is a signal for

Continued on page S6

Comfort & Consolation: Care of the Sick and Dying

A Pastoral Letter from the Bishops of Maryland

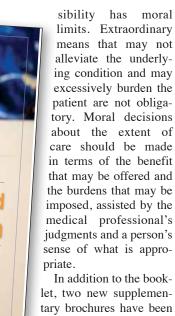
48-page booklet Catholics think through the often-difficult questions that arise in times of grave illness and impending

Developed in light of Catholic teachings and in accord with Maryland law on advance directives, Comfort & Consolation includes a practical four-page form, the Catholic Declaration Health Care Decision Making, which Catholics can use to tell health care providers how

they wish to direct their care. It covers spiritual support, nutrition and hydration, pain-relieving medication, terminal illness and pregnancy.

The basic principles of Catholic teaching are often misunderstood. Because the Church opposes both euthanasia and assisted suicide, it is often said that we believe that all possible measures should be used to keep individuals alive. This is decidedly not the case.

Individuals and caregivers have a responsibility to preserve human life through care and medical science. However, this respon-



In addition to the booklet, two new supplementary brochures have been developed:

• Summary Q&A - outlines the main points of

Comfort and Consolation

• Legal Guide – provides practical advices for completing an advance directive that properly reflects Catholic principles and that also includes the Catholic Declaration on Health Care Decision Making.

To order one or more print copies of Comfort & Consolation in English or in Spanish, please call 410-269-1155 or 301-261-1979. The booklet is also available free online at: www.mdcatholic.org/endoflife.



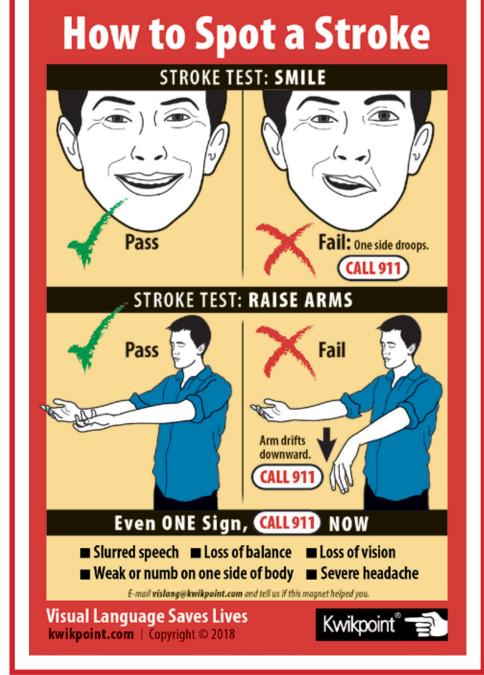
ADULT DAY PROGRAM

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- Transportation
- Brain Fitness Activities
- Strength-Building Exercises
- Recreational Programs and Outings
- Dementia Care



18110 Prince Philip Drive Olney, MD 20832 (301) 774-7501



Do you know someone who cannot get to Mass?



ince 1952, the Archdiocese of Washington has produced a weekly televised Mass for those who are homebound. It is a wonderful ministry for those members of our Catholic family who are unable to be physically present with a local worshiping community for the Sunday Eucharistic celebration.

The Mass airs every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. on WDCW-50. Cable, Dish, or DirecTV subscribers: Ch. 50; Comcast: Ch. 23 in Washington, DC and Montgomery County,

Ch. 3 in Prince George's County and Southern Maryland; RCN: Ch. 15; Verizon: Ch. 3.

TV Mass recordings are closed to the public due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The TV Mass is recorded without the presence of a congregation and is closed to the public.

To receive *Celebrate!* – the free TV Mass newsletter – email communications@adw. org with your email address. Subscribers will receive notice when the TV Mass recordings are once again open to the public.

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Maryland Access Point (MAP)

Your Link to Health and Support Services

AP is the gateway to long term services and supports in Maryland. MAP specialists work with caregivers, professionals, and all individuals with long term care needs to plan, identify, connect, and assist with accessing private and public resources for long term services and supports.

Long term services and supports include information on health, transportation, income, and financial aid, senior and community centers and clubs, nutrition and meals, pharmacy assistance, housing, volunteer opportunities, and more!

MAP also offers Options Counseling, a service through which all individuals and their caregivers, plan and make informed decisions regarding their long term care. Trained, professional Options Counselors use a person-centered approach and support individuals with matching their needs, preferences, and values with services in their community, developing a personalized action plan, getting connected to resources, making referrals to appropriate agencies and planning for current and/or future needs. Options Counseling is a statewide program delivered by staff at the 20 local Maryland Access Point (MAP)

sites. Residents of Montgomery County, call 240-777-3000.

A newly designed MAP website was introduced in June 2021. The new website features upgrades on the online, searchable resource directory to help the public and professionals identify and connect with public and private resources. Older adults, adults with disabilities, and caregivers have come to rely on use of the MAP website but will now find a new level of integration and resources.

As of January 2021, when someone calls 1-844-MAP-LINK (1-844-627-5465), a 211 Marylandinformation and referral specialist will listen to their needs, identify local resources, and direct the caller with long-term and complex needs to their local MAP office for options counseling. The support from 211 Maryland adds an increased value to callers who can receive both a referral to the local MAP office and information about other resources, such as meals, assisted living, caregiver assistance and more from 211's professionally trained resource specialists who already connect Marylanders to a variety of community services and supports.

OPT





STROKES

Con't from page 5

immediate medical attention. *Any* symptom, whether severe or mild, is enough reason to seek immediate medical attention.

There are different types of stroke, due to clots cutting off blood to an artery (ischemic), or bleeding into the brain (hemorrhagic). How you will be treated depends on being diagnosed quickly enough to begin the appropriate treatment.

The time to treat, though, may be measured in only minutes. Once a stroke begins to present symptoms, no matter how mild, medical intervention is needed immediately to limit the damage. The period to admin-

ister clot busting drugs such as tPA (Tissue Plasminogen Activator) or to use physical methods such stent retrievers to mechanically remove a clot is measured in mere hours. This time-frame is reduced by the need to recognize and diagnose the location of the clot.

One study showed that of 60% of those treated with both tPA and stent retrievers were able to live independently, as opposed to only 30% who were treated solely with tPA. In the United States, stroke is the number five cause of death. However, it is the number one cause of permanent disability.

In law, there is a phrase, "Time is of the essence." With a stroke, it can be said that time is life itself.

Senior Services Guide Our Parish Times December 2021

Downsizing Made Easy

By Laura Quigley and Jan Brito (Realtors)

ave you been thinking about downsizing or rightsizing but it seems overwhelming? Do the decisions of where, how, when and what possessions to take, cause your mind to go blank? Decision fatigue is when having to make too many decisions stops us in our tracks. Here are 5 steps to end decision fatigue and start you down the right path.

Step 1 Make a Plan - Ask yourself: why do you want to downsize?

Everyone has their own reasons. Looking for more social engagement and a maintenance free lifestyle are often at the top of the list. Consider your interests, financial situation, location of friends and family, and how you envision living life to the fullest. Start early and take time to learn about your options. Creating a plan that fits your current lifestyle and takes into consideration possible future care needs means first doing some research. Choosing a place that aligns with your goals may take some time, but it's worth the effort! Making your own decision versus having it made for you due to a change in circumstances can make all the difference in your future happiness.

Step 2 Communicate your plan

Communicate your plan to loved ones, friends and trusted advisors. This does not



necessarily mean asking for permission or opinions, however it can be beneficial, to keep them in the loop concerning future housing plans. Later if you need or want support, they will be in a better position to

Step 3 Surround yourself with the right resources

Find qualified professionals to support

your decision. You will likely need the services of a variety of people, who are both knowledgeable and skilled in downsizing moves. Getting to know them before you need them allows you an opportunity to make the best choice for your situation.

Step 4: Dealing with all the "Stuff"

What to do with a house full of possessions can be overwhelming. The uncertainty of where to begin, reluctance to part with treasured items, or the physical work required can become stumbling blocks. Start small, just 15 minutes per day, one closet at a time. Think about what are the important things in your life and begin to get rid of things you no longer need. If you have been telling family members you are going to give them items someday, today is the day. The good news is there are trained professionals who can help with this step. By focusing your attention primarily on what you need and/or want, you can easily navigate the downsizing process and let the pro's handle the rest!

Step 5: Take Care of Yourself and Celebrate your new Lifestyle

Paying attention to how you feel is very important. Get plenty of rest, eat right and stay hydrated. Most importantly communicate your feelings with your family, friends and with the professionals around you. Moving is a top stresser at any age. Celebrating your new lifestyle may sound like an easy step, however, the impact of downsizing is often underestimated. Take care of yourself and give yourself some grace as you adjust to your new lifestyle.

Information courtesy of Nikki Buckelew PhD and the Seniors Real Estate Institute



Call Today for Your Complimentary Assessment

- 24 hour care and dementia
- Daily living and companionship
- · Meal planning, preparation and monitoring of eating habits
- Medication reminding
- Household chores
- Overseeing activities, such as walking, to minimize the risk of accidents
- · Shopping for groceries with or without client
- Bathing, grooming and general personal hygiene
- · Help with planning and making decisions
- Nursing services and many more!

Call us to learn how you may be qualified for services at no cost to you!

Call to Schedule an Appointment: 301.717.2212

Serving Montgomery County

RSA# R2041

Montgomery County Assisted Living Facilities

Continued from page S3

Maplewood Park Place Health Care Center

9707 Old Georgetown Road Bethesda, MD 20817 (301) 530-0500 Capacity: 29

Meadows

1635 Hickory Knoll Road Sandy Spring, MD 20860 (301) 260-2311 Capacity: 64

Olney Assisted Living Llc

16940 Georgia Avenue Olney, MD 20832 (301) 570-0525 Capacity: 64

Springvale Terrace, Inc

8505 Springvale Road Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301) 587-0190 Capacity: 59

Sunrise at Fox Hill

8300 Burdette Road Bethesda, MD 20817 (301) 469-8005 Capacity: 105

Sunrise at Montgomery Village

19310 Club House Road Montgomery Village, MD 20886 (301) 921-0445 Capacity: 100

Sunrise of Bethesda

4925 Battery Lane Bethesda, MD 20814 (301) 657-6880 Capacity: 178

Sunrise of Chevy Chase

2201 Colston Drive Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301) 588-0484 Capacity: 196

Sunrise of Rockville

8 Baltimore Road Rockville, MD 20850 (301) 309-0500 Capacity: 89

Sunrise of Silver Spring

11621 New Hampshire Avenue Silver Spring, MD 20904 (301) 625-8655 Capacity: 84

The Landing of Silver Spring

13908 New Hampshire Avenue Silver Spring, MD 20904 (301) 388-7700 Capacity: 144

The Seneca Rockville

55 West Gude Drive Rockville, MD 20850 (240) 447-0451 Capacity: 156

Tribute at Black Hill

312 Baltusrol Drive Darnestown, MD 20874 (410) 401-5262 Capacity: 154

Village at Rockville (the)

9701 Veirs Drive Rockville, MD 20850 (301) 424-9560 Capacity: 57

Woods

1612 Hickory Knoll Road Sandy Spring, MD 20860 (301) 260-2311 Capacity: 48

Source: Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Hospices Serving Montgomery County

Caringmatters, Inc

518 South Frederick Avenue Gaithersburg, MD 20877 (301) 869-4673

Holy Cross Home Care And

10720 Columbia Pike, 2nd Floor Silver Spring, MD 20901 (301) 557-4663

Jewish Social Service Agency

6123 Montrose Road Rockville, MD 20850 (301) 881-3700

Montgomery Hospice Inc

1355 Piccard Drive, Suite 100 Rockville, MD 20850 (301) 921-4400

ProMedica Hospice

formerly Heartland Hospice 12304 Baltimore Ave, Suite A Beltsville, MD 20705 (240) 264-1692

"Falls are the leading cause of fatal and non-fatal injuries for older Americans." — National Council on Aging



The Continuum of Care

elling the house and moving to a one building. retirement community can create enough stress for the entire extended family. To have to then pick up and move to an assisted living facility when you need help with an ADL or two, and then move again to a nursing home when your clinical acuity level continues to increase is too much for many seniors to even contemplate. Enter the CCRC - Continuing Care Retirement Community. CCRCs offer the full range of senior housing options - independent living, assisted living, and skilled nursing - all on one campus or in

Most CCRCs are at the upper end of the cost spectrum of retirement communities. Continuing Care Retirement Communities, also known as Life Care Communities, offer a secure, stimulating and protected environment for seniors, with access to medical and nursing services, should the need arise. There are a range of contract agreements, terms, entrance fees and monthly service fees which are set by the individual CCRC and regulated by the Maryland Department of Aging.

OPT

Montgomery County Continuing Care Retirement Communities (CCRCs)

Asbury Methodist Village

201 Russell Avenue Gaithersburg, MD 20877 Ms. Michelle Potter **Executive Director** (307) 330-3000

Bedford Court

3701 International Drive Silver Spring, MD 20906 Ms. Adaeze Ikeotounye **Executive Director** (301) 598-2900

Brooke Grove

78700 Slade School Road Sandy Spring, MD 20860 Ms. Patty Anderson Executive Director (307) 924-2811

Friends House Retirement Community

77340 Quaker Lane Sandy Spring, MD 20860 Mr. Philip Burkholder Chief Executive Officer (307) 924-5700

Ingleside at King Farm

707 King Farm Boulevard Rockville, Maryland 20850 Ms. Michelle Kraus **Executive Director** (240) 499-9037

Maplewood Park Place

9707 Old Georgetown Road Bethesda, MD 20874 Ms. Barbara Harry **Executive Director** (307) 577-7400

Riderwood Village

3150 Gracefield Road Silver Spring, MD 20904 Mr. Gary Hibbs **Executive Director** (301) 572-8316

The Village at Rockville

9701 Veirs Drive Rockville, MD 20850 Mr. Kyle Hreben **Executive Director** (301) 424-9560

Source: Maryland Department of Aging

Villages – Age-in-Place Supported Communities

What is a Village?

The Village concept is a growing grassroots movement that aims to provide the support that older adults may require when choosing to agein-place. The idea is simple: neighbors helping neighbors. Villages help older adults stay in their communities by helping to coordinate and deliver services and sup-port within their communities.

Villages are membership-driven, grass-roots organizations run by volunteers and paid staff to coordinate villagers access to affordable services, including transportation, health and wellness programs, home repairs, social and educational activities and trips.

Villages provide critical neighbor-to-neighbor connections to combat social isolation, improve mobility and access to services, and provide knowledge and support necessary to empower seniors and others to be healthy and secure. The Village Coordinator provides guidance, support and resources to support the creation and sustainability of villages in communities across the County.

Montgomery County is committed to support local initiatives. Resources for active and developing villages are available at: www. montgomerycountymd.gov/HHS-Program/ADS/Villages/resources.

ACTIVE VILLAGES IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Bannockburn NAN

bannockburncommunity.org/ nan.php

Bradley Hills village

bhv.clubexpress.com bradleyhillsvillage@gmail.com

Bethesda Metro Area Village

bmavillage.org BMAVillage@gmail.com

Burning Tree Village

burningtreevillage.org Board@BurningTreeVillage.org

Cabin John Neighbor 2 Neighbor

cabinjohn.org/neighbor-2neighbor/ 301-799-4550 or 4CJN2N@ gmail.com

Chevy Chase at Home

chevychaseathome.org info@chevychaseathome.org

East County Senior Village

eastcountyvillageseniors.org scsaunders33@outlook.com

Friendship Heights Neighbors

fhneighbors.org information.fhnn@gmail.com

Greater Stonegate village

greaterstonegatevillage.org 240-918-7989

King Farm Neighbors Village

www.KFNV.org 301-799-8104

Little Falls Village

littlefallsvillage.org info@littlefallsvillage.org

Manor Connections

manorconnections.org info@manorconnections.org

Mill Creek Village

millcreekvillage.wordpress.com mctvillage@gmail.com

North Bethesda Village

northbethesdavillage.org northbethesdavillage@gmail.

North Chevy Chase Connections

northchevychasecon.wixsite. com/nccc NorthChevyChaseConnections @gmail.com

Olney Home for Life

olneyhomeforlife.org info@olneyhomeforlife.org

Parkside village

parksidevillagemd.org parksidevillagemd@gmail.com

Potomac Community Village

potomaccommunityvillage.org

PotomacCommunityVillage.org

Rockville Area Villages Exchange (village hub)

rockvillevillages.helpfulvillage.

amherbster@gmail.com

Silver Spring Village

silverspringvillage.org info@silverspringvillage.org

Somerset Helping Hand Helping-Hand

301-657-3211, kfnvinfo@ gmail.com

Town of Garrett Park Senior Committee

garrettpark-md.gov/c/411 garrettpark2@comcast.net

Villages of Kensington

villagesofkensingtonmd.org villagesofkensington@gmail.

The Village at Kentlands and Lakelands

villagekentlandslakelands.org franlrandolph@gmail.com

Village of Takoma Park

villageoftakomapark.com villageoftakomapark@gmail.

Wyngate and Maplewood Neighbors Helping Neighbors

wnhn.org wnhn.help@gmail.com

VILLAGES IN DEVELOPMENT

Rockville's Gardens West End Village

pevans@rockvillemd.gov

Rockville's Pump House Village

pumphousevillage@gmail.com

Rockville's Town Center Area Village

pevans@rockvillemd.gov

Twinbrook Village

twinbrookvillage@gmail.com

Source: Montgomery County Department of Health and **Human Services**

Let's Talk Assisted Living.







It's a conversation we've been having with seniors and their families for over 30 years. At Victory Housing, you'll discover our simple and straight-forward approach to assisted living. From all-inclusive rates to individualized care, our award-winning communities offer the ideal setting to call home. Call or visit us today, let's talk.



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Bartholomew House Bethesda • 301-320-6151

Byron House Potomac • 301-469-9400

Grace House Silver Spring • **301-924-4424**

Malta House Hyattsville • 301-699-8600

Marian Assisted Living Olney/Brookeville • 301-570-3190

> Raphael House Rockville • 301- 217-9116



www.VictoryHousing.org

A Non-Profit Organization





Adult Day Service -Helping the Middle Hold

ommentators now refer to the 'the three-generation family in one household sandwich generation' - adults caught between the conflicting demands of raising their children and caring for their aging parents.

Elder care has replaced childcare as the number one dependent care need in the United States. And the situation intensified dramatically when the members of the babyboom generation - 76 million Americans born between 1946 and 1965 - began to retire in droves in 2010. The boomers are living longer, and their children are having fewer children of their

What are the care options for a parent who is frail or impaired? As two-income families have become the norm, has the

gone the way of the horse and buggy? Home care and assisted living are getting a lot of attention these days. What else is

Adult day care developed in the 1970s to provide frail adults an opportunity for socialization and recreation therapy in a safe and supportive environment during the work week. It enables their primary caregivers to relax and go about their lives. Transportation is available to and from their homes for adult day partici-

There are now 20 licensed adult day centers in Montgomery County, up from 13 just a few years ago.

SPIRITUAL CARE

Con't from page 1

identify and connect to the strengths that are most meaningful to each patient and, incidentally, rarely talk about religion or theology. As people near death, their focus often turns to their life and those they love. The chaplain follows the patient's lead and lets the patient do the talking.

Misconception: A hospice chaplain's role

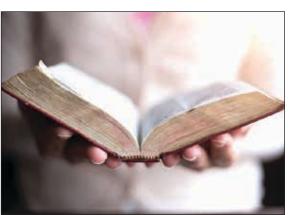
is to take the place of the patient's priest, pastor, rabbi or imam. FACT: Hospice chaplains supplement but do not replace the support that the patient already receives from a religious leader. Specializing in end-of-life care, however, means that hospice chaplains bring an additional layer of comfort to this particular stage of life.

Misconception: A chaplain's main goal is to proselytize and convert patients to their own religious beliefs. FACT: Chaplains do not represent any religious belief system when they enter a

patient's home; their goal is to support and respect whatever beliefs that patient has or doesn't have. Chaplains always advocate for a patient's beliefs to be respected.

Misconception: A visit from the chaplain means that death is imminent. FACT: Hospice chaplains are about relationship, companionship, getting to know patients and having the privilege of walking with them along their way. The chaplain and the rest of the hospice team are there to support a person in their living and in their dying, to be a familiar, caring face as death comes closer and not a stranger who only shows up at the time of death.

Misconception: A chaplain's purpose with patients is to read scripture and pray with them. FACT: For patients for whom prayer and scripture are meaningful, the chaplain is well-prepared and honored to be a support in this way, but a chaplain does so much more. Chaplains listen with acceptance and care. Chaplains listen with an ear to the spiritual and utilize a person's beliefs about day-to-day living and about death and dying. Chaplains provide a presence of acceptance and calm and meet patients where they are.



Chaplains provide validation of patients' accomplishments and affirmation of their being. Chaplains allow patients to struggle with difficult feelings and to express their greatest joys. Chaplains offer opportunities for nonjudgmental reflection; chaplains enable patients to see their own life story and to celebrate all of it.

Patients often express surprise as their misconceptions dissolve and they come to realize that chaplain visits can "gentle their journey" in so many unforeseen and positive ways.

Heartland Hospice

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Look for new signs and other information coming soon! To learn more please call 866-834-1528 or visit promedicahospice.org/beltsville

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PROMEDICA HOSPICE



12304 Baltimore Avenue, Ste. A Beltsville, MD 20705





Senior Call Check Program

aryland is the first state in the country to start a free, opt-in, telephonic service to check on Maryland's older residents, all across the state.

All seniors are urged to use the program as a resource during the COVID-19 global pandemic. Senior Call Check phone lines are open M-F 8 am-5 pm and Saturday 9 am-3 pm. During these hours, seniors can call toll-free 1-866-50-CHECK (1-866-502-0560).

How Does It Work?

Every day a telephone call will be placed to a participant at a regularly scheduled time. These calls will take place between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. as close as possible to the onehour time block pre-selected by the participant. If the participant does not answer their first call, they will be tried two more times. If those calls go unanswered, additional calls will be made to notify an alternative person who is selected by the participant during program enrollment. This could be an adult child, a neighbor, or another loved one. The alternate will then be encouraged to check on the older adult program participant. The failure of the participant and alternate to answer may result in a Welfare Check by local law enforcement

Who Can Participate?

Any Maryland resident who is 65 years of

age or older who has a landline phone or cell phone (TTY is available). The participant and alternates should not have automated call blocking technology (or they should disable that phone feature for this program).

How to Apply?

Three options available to apply:

1. Online at: https://aging.maryland.gov/ Pages/senior-call-check-sign-up.aspx OR

2. Download, print, and mail in the Maryland Senior Call Check Paper Application.

Under RESOURCES, click on Paper Application at: https://aging.maryland.gov/ Pages/senior-call-check.aspx

OR

3. Call toll-free (866)-502-0560 and ask to have a paper application mailed to your home.

When Do Calls Begin?

Daily calls will not begin until the applicant / participant receives a call to verify all of their information. Verification will include a successful test automated call to both the participant and alternate where applicable. After all information is validated, a Welcome Packet will be mailed to your home address. The welcome letter will include your start date



Montgomery County Comprehensive Care Facilities and Extended Care Facilities (Nursing Homes) Continued from page S4

Promedica Skilled Nsg & Rehab (wheaton)

11901 Georgia Avenue Wheaton, MD 20902 (301) 942-2500 Capacity: 94

Promedica Skilled Nursing & Rehab (Chevy Chase

8700 Jones Mill Road Chevy Chase, MD 20815 (301) 657-8686 Capacity: 172

Promedica Skilled Nursing & Rehab (Potomac)

10714 Potomac Tennis Lane Potomac, MD 20854 (301) 299-2453 Capacity: 158

Promedica Skilled Nursing & Rehab (bethesda)

6530 Democracy Boulevard Bethesda, MD 20817 (301) 350-9000 Capacity: 110

Promedica Skilled Nursing & Rehab (silver Spring)

2501 Musgrove Road Silver Spring, MD 20904 (301) 890-5552 Capacity: 148

Regency Care of Silver Spring, Llc

9101 Second Avenue Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301) 588-5544 Capacity: 92

Shady Grove Nursing and Rehabilitation Center

9701 Medical Center Drive Rockville, MD 20850 (301) 315-1900 Capacity: 134

Sterling Care Rockville Nursing

303 Adclare Road Rockville, MD 20850 (301) 279-9000 Capacity: 100

The Village at Rockville

9701 Veirs Drive Rockville, MD 20850 (301) 424-9560 Capacity: 160

Wilson Health Care Center

301 Russell Avenue Gaithersburg, MD 20877 (301) 216-4004 Capacity: 285

Source: Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene





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Social Workers • Chaplains • Massage Therapists • Music Therapists
Bereavement Counselors • Volunteers

301-921-4400

www.montgomeryhospice.org

Assisted Living Primer

ow are you doing with your ADLs? The term "activities of daily living," or ADLs, became widely used by gerontologists starting in the 1980s to refer to the basic tasks of everyday life, such as eating, bathing, dressing, toileting, and transferring (e.g. from a bed to a chair). Helping seniors with their ADLs is the purpose of assisted living.

When people are unable to perform these activities, in order to cope they need help, either from other human beings or mechanical devices or both. Although persons of all ages may have problems performing the ADLs, prevalence rates are much higher for the elderly than for the non-elderly. Measurement of the activities of daily living is critical because they have been found to be significant predictors of the use of paid home care, alternative living arrangements, nursing homes, physicians and hospital

In the late 1980s and early 1990s the assisted living industry – blending aspects of both the hospitality (hotel) and the healthcare industries - evolved to provide assistance with ADLs in private-pay, congregate-living settings. Sunrise Senior Living in McLean (Va.) was the industry pioneer and is one of the largest providers of assisted living in the United States with more than 400 communities in 37 states.



In addition to help with ADLs and assistance with medication, most assisted living communities provide three meals a day in restaurant settings, leisure activity programs, and limited transportation services.

It's important to know what assisted living is not. It is not skilled nursing, and it is not regulated by the Federal government. Residents of assisted living communities who develop needs beyond help with ADLs and medications - who need the constant care and supervision of healthcare professionals - may have to be discharged to nursing

Maryland has developed a threetiered approach to licensing and regulating assisted living facilities. The major variable is the type and degree of assistance with medications that is authorized. Level I licensees (mostly smaller grouphome facilities) may only provide "assistance with taking medication or coordinating access to necessary medication and treatment." Level II licensees are permitted to "administer necessary medication and treatment, including monitoring the effects of the medication and treatment by staff." Level III licensee responsibilities may include "monitoring or arranging for monitoring of the effects of complex medication and treatment regimens, ongoing therapeutic intervention or intensive supervision to manage chronic behaviors."

In practice, this means that only Level III facilities are qualified to provide care for Alzheimer's suf-

Because assisted living communities frequently charge extra fees for their various services, comparing per diem rates can be misleading. Many facilities have cafeteria plans based on levels of service.

Each Assisted Living residence is required to complete a Uniform Disclosure Form describing its services and policies. Fee structures for assisted living vary, with some facilities charging a single fee based on the resident level of care while others provide an "a la carte" menu of services. It is important to understand what is included in the base monthly rate, what services require an additional charge, and circumstances under which fees may increase. The Uniform Disclosure Form includes fee information and is required to be filed with the Office of Health Care Quality as part of an application for licensure. The Uniform Disclosure Form must be made available upon request or be part of the Assisted Living marketing materials.

The Maryland Health Care Commission maintains an excellent web-based Consumer Guide to Long Term Care (http://mhcc. maryland.gov/consumerinfo/longtermcare/), which includes helpful facility Search and Compare features and links to several consumer checklists.

Assisted living facilities in Montgomery County with three or fewer residents and those with 18 or more are inspected every year. Facilities with more than three but fewer than 18 are inspected at least once every three years. Inspections (called 'surveys' in the health care industry) are performed by Montgomery County's Public Health Services acting as agent for the state's Office of Health Care Quality (OHCQ). The most recent survey will be made available to a prospective resident by facility's administrator upon request.

OPT

Senior Planet Montgomery Offers Free Online Classes

enior Planet Montgomery, a technology training program designed for County learners 50 and older, is offering free online classes that focus on how to thrive at home. Classes, which are offered live via video conference, enhance a wide variety of life skills.

In addition to classes in English, classes are taught in Spanish and in Mandarin. A variety of exercise classes also are also offered.

During the spring and summer program quarters, more than 3,000 participants joined 195 virtual programs hosted by Senior Planet Montgomery. This fall, classes covered how to use and host on Zoom, online basics, popular social media sites, lowering one's utility bill, financial security, and civic engage-

The program is supported by the County's Department of Technology Services' ultra-Montgomery program in partnership with nonprofit OATS (Older Adults Technology Services). The County's Department of Recreation and Montgomery County Public Libraries also are partners in helping provide the classes at no charge to participants.

Sessions concentrate on userfriendly tools and resources and



are designed to enable older adults costs. to learn to utilize technologies to improve their daily lives. Senior Planet Montgomery utilizes curricula created by OATS, which also provides training staff and works with numerous County departments to identify topics of interest for Montgomery residents. OATS sponsors similar Senior Planet programming in six states. The County's Department of Environmental Protection contributes to the program's course offerings by producing sessions on how to lower energy

Classes change on a weekly basis. A home internet connection and a device (such as a smartphone, tablet, or computer) are all that is required to participate.

For more information about Senior Planet Montgomery and to view its virtual program offerings, visit https://seniorplanet.org/ Montgomery. The team can be contacted at 240-753-0676 or via email at mocoinfo@seniorplanet.org.

Top Five Social Security Fraud and Scam Prevention Tools

By Diana Varela, Public Affairs Specialist, Social Security Administration Washington, DC metropolitan area

nowledge is power and having the right tools to fight fraud can make a huge difference. Knowledge can also help those you love and want to protect. We put together a list of the five most important resources about Social Security scams you should know about:

- · Read and share our fact sheet Beware of Social Security Phone Scams to learn how to spot fake calls and emails at www.ssa.gov/ fraud/assets/materials/EN-05-10535.pdf.
- Visit our Office of the Inspector General's Scam Awareness page at oig.ssa. gov/scam for information on phone scams - and how to report them.
- Read our blog post at blog. ssa.gov/protecting-yoursocial-security-number-fromidentity-theft to learn how to protect your Social Security number from identity theft.
- Create your own per-



sonal my Social Security account at www.ssa.gov/ myaccount to help you keep track of your records and identify any suspicious activ-

• Visit our Fraud Prevention and Reporting page at www. ssa.gov/fraud to understand how we combat fraud.

Please share these resources about scams with your friends and family - and help us spread the word on social media.

OPT

Montgomery County Adult Day Care Centers

AA Plus Adult Medical Day Care Center

20467 Seneca Meadows Parkway Germantown, MD 20876 (240) 232-6666 Capacity: 123

AASTHA AMDC, LLC

12210 Plum Orchard Drive, Suite 214 Silver Spring, MD 20904 (240) 813-3446 Capacity: 122

Bella's Reserve

2120 Industrial Parkway Silver Spring, MD 20904 (301) 244-5112 Capacity: 110

Ccacc Adult Day Healthcare Center

9366 Gaither Road Gaithersburg, MD 20877 (301) 820-7200 Capacity: 300

Easter Seals Adult Day Services - Silver Spring

1420 Spring Street Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301) 920-9700 Capacity: 91

Evergreen Adult Medical Day Care

9290 Gaither Road Gaithersburg, MD 20877 (301) 527-1100 Capacity: 123

Holy Cross Hospital Medical Adult Day Center

9805 Dameron Drive Silver Spring, MD 20902 (301) 754-7150 Capacity: 35

Jarher Senior Center

1335 Piccard Drive Rockville, MD 20850 (301) 326-6523 Capacity: 130

Jasmine Medical Day Care Center

12910 Cloverleaf Center Drive, Suite100 Germantown, MD 20874 (240) 364-4471 Capacity: 140

Loving Care Adult Medical Day Care

17051 Oakmont Avenue Gaithersburg, MD 20877 (240) 477-6199 Capacity: 124



Loving Heart Adult Day Care

400 B East Gude Drive Rockville, MD 20850 (301) 309-0946 Capacity: 180

Montgomery Adult Day Care

9123 Gaither Road Gaithersburg, MD 20877 (240) 423-9182 Capacity: 123

A Plus Care

50 West Gude Drive, Suite 48 Rockville, MD 20850 (240) 668-3418 Capacity: 160

Rainbow Gardens Adult Day Health Care Center

8 Metropolitan Court #4 Gaithersburg, MD 20877 (240) 683-9010 Capacity: 310

Rainbow of Montgomery County

8400 Helgerman Court Gaithersburg, MD 20877 (301) 987-8889 Capacity: 218

Rainbow of Rockville

11215 Woodglen Drive Rockville, MD 20852 (301) 770-7676 Capacity: 130

VAS Adult Day Care Center

12621 Old Columbia Pike Silver Spring, MD 20904 (301) 646-5852 Capacity: 56

Washington-McLaughlin **Adult Day Care Center** (The)

6501 Poplar Avenue Takoma Park, MD 20912 (301) 613-7793 Capacity: 60

Winter Growth -Montgomery Center

18110 Prince Phillip Drive Olney, MD 20832 (301) 774-7501 Capacity: 61

Worldshine International LIc

20420 Century Blvd Germantown, MD 20874 (240) 899-4898 Capacity: 170 Capacity: 285

Source: Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

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Licensed as a residential service agency by the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Office of Health Care Quality. License Number R4975.



Catholic Health Care Planning Video

nology bring many blessings but they may also pose complex ethical questions. Who will make decisions about your medical care if you get very sick or are nearing the end of your life?

A new one-hour on-demand webinar offered by the Maryland Catholic Conference will walk you through Catholic teaching, health care directives, and understanding options such as hospice or pal-

ontinual advances in medical tech- liative care from experts who include Rev. Michael DeAscanis, STL, attorney Shannon Hammond, and nurse practitioner Joan Panke.

> Watch the video plus get a Catholicfriendly advanced directive (available in English and Spanish) for use in Maryland, resources on Catholic teaching, tips for talking with your family about your wishes, and more at mdcatholic.org/endoflife.

Maryland against Physician Assisted Suicide

Physicians, mental health professionals, lawyers, elder care organizations, disability rights advocates

MARYLAND AGAINST PHYSICIAN ASSISTED SUICIDE

and hospice providers are invited to join the MAPAS Coalition today. The only way we can defeat physician-assisted suicide bills before the Maryland General Assembly is with your help. Visit: https://stopassistedsuicidemd.org/take-action/sign-up-to-help/



Plan of Care Services Implementation of a plan of care

Needs Assessment

Complimentary In-home needs Assessment

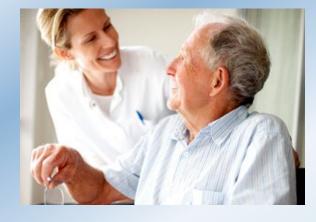
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9313 Kobe Way Montgomery Village, MD 20886





S15

Three Things You Can Do Now!

Being Prepared in the Time of COVID-19

his is a challenging time. There are many things that are out of our control. But there are some things we can do to help us be prepared - both for ourselves and the people we care about. Here are three important things each of us can do, right now, to be prepared.

#1 Pick your person to be your health care decision maker

Choose a healthcare decision maker (often known as a proxy, agent, or healthcare power of attorney)-a person who will make medical decisions for you if you become too sick to make them for yourself.

- · Have a talk with your healthcare decision maker to make sure they know what matters most to you. A simple guide to help you choose a health care decision maker is available at the conversation project.org
- Make a plan to talk with your decision maker as soon as possible. Phone calls or video chats are good if you don't live with that person. Fill out an official form naming your healthcare decision maker. Give one copy of the filled-in form to your decision maker and one copy to your health care team.
- Get a free health care decision maker form from the Maryland Catholic Conference at www.mdcatholic.org/endoflife or download a form for free from theconversationproject.org.



· In a time of social distancing, you may not be able to create an official legal document. That's okay! Writing it down is still better than nothing!

#2 Talk about what matters most to

Talk with your important people and decision ma ker about what matters most.

- The Conversation Starter Kit available at theconversationproject.org can help you get ready to talk to others about what matters most.
- If you have already completed the Conversation Starter Kit or have an Advance Directive, review it with your

loved ones to see if you want to make any changes or updates. After you talk to your loved ones about what matters, talk to your health care team.

Call your primary care provider or specialist to set up a telehealth visit to talk about this. Knowing what matters to you helps your care team provide the care most appropriate for you.

#3 Think about what you would want if you became seriously ill with COVID-19

People who are older or have chronic medical conditions are more likely to become very sick if they get COVID-19. Some will recover with hospital care, but even with ventilator support many will die. Think about what you would want if you became very sick at this time. Fill out the forms available at www.mdcatholic.org/ endoflife and theconversationproject.org.

The Conversation Project is an initiative of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement, a not-for-profit organization that is a leader in health and health care improvement worldwide.

Norkout to Go



Pets Can Help Alleviate Stress, Anxiety, and Depression

By Kendall Van Blarcom

s animal lovers know, there are many benefits to having a pet. While it is true that pets can help alleviate stress, they are also a responsibility. If you are considering getting a pet, talk to a personal support coach about what you are expecting and how to choose the right pet for you and your lifestyle.

Having a furry friend can provide companionship for individuals who are lonely and, depending on the animal, can provide opportunities to get outside and connect with others. The right animal companion can bring so much joy to life.

When you choose the right pet, you are bringing affection and companionship into your home. The love people share with their animals is clear when you listen to friends and family describe their pets as one of the family. Many find that pet ownership helps to buoy their moods.

Long-term mental health concercan be managed, in part, with animal interactions. Pets provide emotional support and socialization. Plus, for individuals who live alone and do not have much companionship, animals bring routine and a feeling of

Be Sure You Choose the Right Pet

While the health benefits of pets are clear, it is important to mention



that the right animal needs to be chosen. For example, if a person does not have the time or energy to care for a dog, adopting a puppy is not advised. After all, dogs will need to be taken outside at least three times every day. Plus, they need to be fed and played with regularly.

It is important to note that even low maintenance animals such as fish can help to soothe our worries. Watching them swim can be a way out of our own thoughts.

Some find researching the best animal breed to match their lifestyles helpful. For instance, some older adults find the affectionate dog breed of Bichon Frise to be a good match. This breed does not shed and they are happy with a few short walks a day.

If you are interested in getting a pet, discuss your lifestyle and pet preferences with a staff member at a pet adoption center. They have experts on hand who will discuss

different pet personalities with you. Together, you can determine what be best for your situation. This will typically include discussions about your energy level, if the animal will be near children, and what expenses may be involved.

Knowing that pets can help alleviate stress, think about if a pet could improve your daily life. There are many resources to help you choose a pet. For some a cat is an ideal choice, a snuggly friend who does not need to be taken out and is happy to spend an afternoon on the couch with their human companion. Others want a dog who will accompany them on walks. Or even a fish tank may be on your mind.

Discuss your options with a counselor and a pet adoption specialist. Then, you can choose the perfect furry friend for you.

Source: SeniorNews.com



Workout to Go: Mini Exercise Guide

Build up your strength, flexibility, and balance with this free workout routine. These exercises are the best for older adults, at home or on the go.

re you just starting to exercise? Getting back into a routine after a break? Wanting to keep up your physical activities away from home? The 13 exercises in this sample workout can help. In this booklet, you'll find easy-to-follow strength, balance, and flexibility exercises that you can do anytime, anywhere.

One of the great things about physical activity is that there are so many ways to be active. This workout is only one of them. The secret to success is to be creative,

find activities you enjoy, and keep going. This sample workout is part of Go4Life®, an out-reach campaign from the National Institute on Aging at NIH to help you fit exercise and physical activity into your daily life.

Available free from NIA, to download the PDF or to order a print edition, visit: https://order.nia.nih.gov/view-all-publications.

For more exercises, motivational tips, and other free materials, visit: www.nia.nih.gov/go4life



Montgomery County Caregiver Support Groups

or many the holiday season is I filled with a mixed sense of anticipation, excitement, and anxiety. While we all hope for calm, peace, and joy, we know that the holidays carry challenging stressors for ourselves and our loved ones. For those less fortunate, this period can be especially stressful if they're not receiving the support that they

Even when individuals are surrounded by family members, they may still feel a sense of isolation, loneliness, and depression. Indeed, the holiday season may actually

exacerbate these feelings for individuals coping with health issues. However, it's not only individuals with wellness issues that suffer during the holidays. Older adults are particularly vulnerable to feelings of isolation and loneliness. For older adults that are widowed and/ or do not receive much familial support, peer support groups can promote positive affect and lead to physical health benefits. In addition to peer support, interventions that are effective at reducing loneliness include cognitive re-framing (changing negative views of self

and others), traveling with a goal, adopting a pet, acts of altruism, and spirituality.

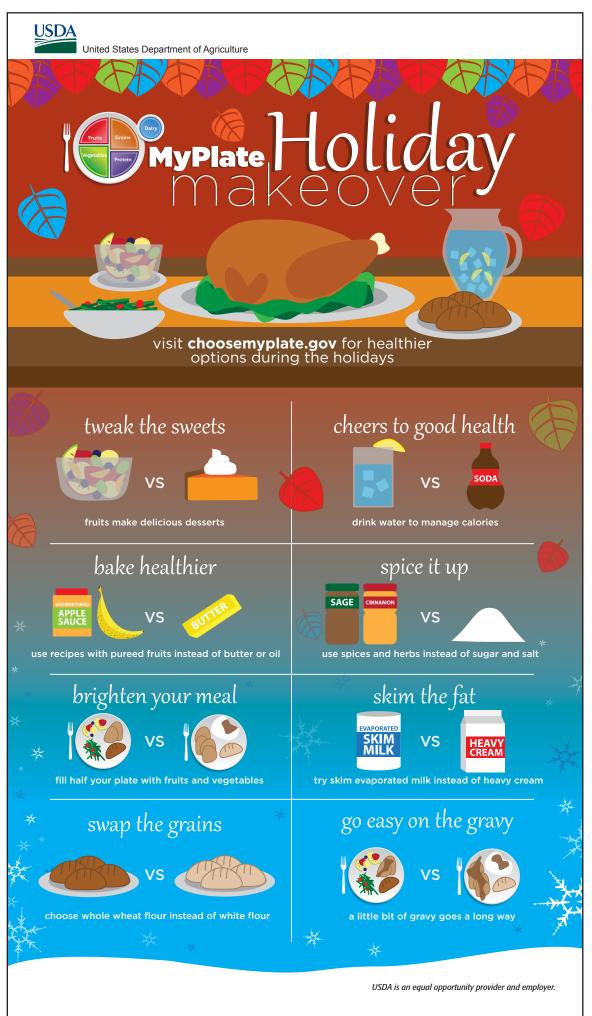
For many caregivers there may be additional strain during the holidays due to closures of normal healthcare providers plus limits on social engagement with family and friends. Maintaining supportive connections is vital for caregivers and, thankfully, a wide range of support groups is available.

Many local organizations offer provide practical virtual supports and leisure activities to help seniors and their caregivers con-

tinue to thrive. Some offer telephone and virtual caregiver support. Including: Holy Cross Caregiver Resource Center, The Alzheimer's Association (with its 24/7 free HelpLine 1-800-272-3900), NAMI, Oasis, and the County's Aging and

Disability Services (240-777-3000).

To learn more about Caregiver Supports in Montgomery County and for a listing of local support groups, visit: https://moco-caregiver.blogspot.com/search/label/ OPT



Take Control of Your Health: 6 Steps to Prevent a Fall Every 11 seconds, an older adult is seen in

an emergency department for a fall-related injury.

Many falls are preventable.

Stay safe with these tips!

Find a good balance and exercise program

Look to build balance, strength, and flexibility. Contact your local Area Agency on Aging for referrals. Find a program you like and take a friend



Talk to your health care provider Ask for an assessment of your risk of falling. Share your history of recent falls.



Regularly review your medications with your doctor or pharmacist

Make sure side effects aren't increasing your risk of falling. Take medications only as



Get your vision and hearing checked annually and update

your eyeglasses Your eyes and ears are key to keeping you



Keep your home safe Remove tripping hazards, increase lighting, make stairs safe, and install grab bars in key areas.





Talk to your family members Enlist their support in taking simple steps to stay safe. Falis are not just a





To learn more, visit ncoa.org/FallsPrevention.

