

Valley Cares News



Fall 2013

News from West River Valley Senior Housing

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Dear Friends

It is hard to believe it, but construction of our assisted living expansion is almost complete! That means 12 new apartments, 4 new offices, 3 new common areas, 2 new porches, and a renovated staff room, laundry room, living room, dining room and kitchen. What a feat!

We cannot say enough about how gracious and accommodating our residents and staff have been throughout this process. Everyone recognized that the growing pains were temporary and would be worth it! (Not to mention, the construction process can sometimes be quite a source of entertainment.)

We have already signed contracts for several of the new apartments, which are expected to be open for move-in on November 1. It has been rather fun letting people pick which apartment they want out of the new selection. Some of the new apartments have our typical assisted living layout with a kitchenette, while others offer the "supportive housing" layout with a full kitchen, including a full size refrigerator and stove. These new supportive housing apartments offer independent living with the comfort and convenience of in-house meals and services, if needed. We encourage anyone interested in these apartments to please contact our Executive Director, Susanne Shapiro, at (802) 365-7190 ext.102.

We invite you to attend our Open House on Wednesday, October 30, 2013 at 1pm. We will have tours of the new wing, a ribbon cutting ceremony, live music and tasty hors d'oeuvres. Please join us in celebrating this momentous occasion!

Senator Bernie Sanders Commends Valley Cares for a Job Well Done

It feels good to be recognized for hard work, especially when that recognition comes from a US Senator! The staff at Valley Cares recently received a letter from Senator Bernie Sanders, congratulating us on the Excellence in Action award we received from the National Research Corporation in September. This honor recognizes long term care and senior living organizations that achieve the highest levels of excellence in the My InnerView satisfaction survey.

Senator Sanders wrote, "As chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Primary Health and Aging, I commend you and your organization for your continued commitment to the health and well-being of our elderly citizens."

All licensed assisted living facilities in Vermont are required to conduct resident satisfaction surveys annually. This is the first year that West River Valley Assisted Living has earned this national award. They were one of only two assisted living facilities statewide to receive the award.

"Every year, we are exceptionally honored to award these fine organizations for their excellent quality and care given toward their residents and employees," said Susan L. Henricks, President and COO of the National Research Corporation. "Every day these providers are making a difference in the lives of residents and employees to ensure they are receiving the utmost quality of care. We congratulate our clients for taking the proactive initiative to measure quality."

The Excellence in Action awards are presented to National Research clients who use My InnerView products. Qualifying nursing homes and assisted living or independent living facilities must have completed a customer satisfaction survey in 2012 and met other standards.

"We truly are committed to providing a quality living experience," exclaimed Executive Director, Susanne Shapiro. "And we are so honored to be recognized in this way by our residents, family members, the National Research Corporation, and our legislator!"

VALLEY CARES, INC.

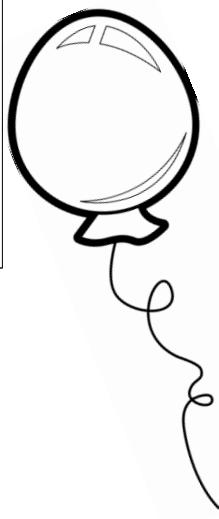
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As you plan for the future
think of Valley Cares...

*Because our senior years are
a time to revel in the company
of friends and family—not to
move away from them!*

Visit us on the web!
www.valleycares.org



Join us for our

Open House

Wednesday, October 30, 2013
1pm-3pm

Tours of the New Wing, a Ribbon Cutting,
Live Music, Hors d'oeuvres, & Great Company!

At
West River Valley Assisted Living
461 Grafton Rd
Townshend, VT 05353

Meet Our Newest Board Member, Bill Schommer

As a boy growing up in small town Appleton, Wisconsin, I had dreams of becoming a world famous artist. The “world famous” part did not quite materialize, however this “artist” part stuck with me for life. It has given me a happy 89 years and maybe even a few more!

Painting and my wife, Shirley, have been the two greatest loves of my life. Shirley and I lived in many places, but we settled in Newfane and lived there over 40 years, until her death in 2011.

The transition from living in my own home for many, many years to Valley Cares has been a very different experience but one I have adapted to very easily. The people here—should say the other residents, are very friendly and I think we are becoming like a family. That's how I feel anyway. The staff could not be any more friendly, helpful and loveable.

After the 35 years in NYC and 40+ years in Newfane—and about 60 years of painting—I feel that Valley Cares is my new home. My daughter, Sara, thinks it's a great place for me here in Townshend, and so do I. ...and I'm still painting! But I miss Shirley the most.

