

Assisted Living Residents Come Home To Courtyard Manor

In February, Courtyard Manor, an assistive living facility for memory impaired adults, such as those suffering from Alzheimer's Disease or other type of Dementia, held a Valentine's Day Ball. All patient participants wore tuxedos or evening gowns donated by local businesses and, of course, a king and queen were crowned. This is an unusual activity, when compared to playing cards or bingo, but such widely-varied and creative activities are necessary therapy for patients, according to Bonnie Everett, M.S., regional director for Courtyard Manor.

"Stimulating activities help to slow the progression of the disease, prevent withdrawal and depression and improve quality of life," said Everette. Pet therapy, recreational therapy and other individualized, comprehensive therapy helps enrich patients' minds and lives, she added. Certified Recreational Therapists are on staff at Courtyard Manor and are diligent about incorporating such programs and activities.

Fourteen years ago, Courtyard Manor opened its doors to the families that could no longer care for their loved ones who were suffering from Alzheimer's and Dementia, or those who were physically frail. It is a fully-licensed, full-service facility with a continuum of care in a residential atmosphere. "We are an affordable alternative to other medical care facilities," said Everett. Courtyard Manor has facilities in Farmington Hills, Livonia, Auburn Hills, Sterling Heights and Wixom.

Licensing is not mandated by the State of Michigan, but Courtyard Manor is licensed facility. This means that they are governed by the State of Michigan's regulations and conform to their laws. Each facility is subject to on-site inspections or licensing action if they do not comply with licensing rules. This provides families with the reassurance that their loved one is well cared for.

Courtyard Manor is staffed 24 hours with healthcare assistants and licensed nurses. Attending physicians, physical therapy evaluation and rehabilitation, psychiatry, podiatry, laboratory, x-ray, vision care, dental exam and treatment and a full-service beauty salon mean patients never have to leave the premises. Hospice care is also available to ease patients' suffering as they near the end of their life.

Each campus has four specialized "cottages," which separate patients into four levels of need. Each suite, either private or companion has emergency call buttons in bedroom and bathroom, a bedroom, sitting area and a bathroom with private walk-in shower and safety handle bars. Buildings have an open floor plan, with secured exits. The great room resembles a cozy ski lodge with a fireplace, wooden vaulted ceilings and ceiling fans. Gorgeous courtyards are a trademark of Courtyard Manor where residents can sit outside on benches or garden, if they so choose.

Services offered include three home-cooked meals and snacks daily; medication administration; assistance with daily personal care; dressing and bathing; incontinence management; daily housekeeping; linen services; and personal laundry services.

"Residents are encouraged to bring personal items (i.e., hobbies, photos, furnishings or furniture) from home to make them feel comfortable and to stimulate long-term memory," said Everett. Staff is especially accommodating and flexible. "We treat every situation as unique," said Everett.

The decision to place a family member or spouse in an assistive living environment can be a difficult one. Some Alzheimer's warning signs include: recent memory loss, difficulty performing familiar tasks, problem with language, disorientation of time or place, misplacing things, changes in mood, behavior or personality and loss of initiative.

A doctor can diagnose the disease, Courtyard Manor can help you live with it. The first call for help when your loved one needs to be safe and can no longer take care of him-or herself is Courtyard Manor. Call today for a personal tour or to ask any questions you might have, (800) 486-9039.

