

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Assisted Living Center at 10 Wilmington Place Noted for Excellence**

The Assisted Living Center at 10 Wilmington Place received a perfect score on its annual state inspection survey in 2007... and in 2006, 2005 and 2004. With this rating, 10 Wilmington Place ranks in the top 1 percent of assisted living facilities in Montgomery County.

This success comes as no surprise to resident Annemarie DePriest, who moved to the community one year ago from Venice, Florida, to be near her nephew and his family.

“I’m glad to be at 10 Wilmington Place,” said the Dayton native. “It’s the A-1 place next to my old home.”

To stay licensed as a “residential care facility” under Ohio law, communities such as the Assisted Living Center at 10 Wilmington Place must undergo an annual survey by the Ohio Department of Health. Inspectors arrive unannounced and spend the day examining the facility’s records, observing mealtimes, sanitation practices and other routines, watching nurses in action and talking to residents.

“They are looking to see that residents are taking their medications at the right times, that serving sizes are right, that we’re doing monthly fire drills, that the facility is clean, and that we’re following all procedures,” said charge nurse Lisa Skaggs, RN, who directs the assisted living program at 10 Wilmington Place. “They go through an exhaustive checklist.”

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“It’s a wonderful accomplishment to be deficiency-free for one year,” said Ohio Assisted Living Association executive director Jean Thompson. “To be deficiency-free four years in a row is a testament to the care and quality of service being provided in a community,”

Assisted living is an increasingly popular lifestyle for older adults who can no longer live independently but do not require the medical intensity of the services provided by a nursing home.

“All our residents have some level of independence,” said Skaggs. “We provide help with the tasks of everyday living, such as bathing, dressing, preparing meals and taking medications.”

The nursing staff consults with each resident and family members to determine the level of service needed. Professional health care, which is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, includes routine monitoring of blood pressure, weight, heart rate and other functions.

“Our goal is to treat our residents like family,” Skaggs noted.

Unlike many facilities, the Assisted Living Center at 10 Wilmington Place offers large, private apartments and a residential quality of life.

“I was able to bring all my own furniture,” said Mrs. DePriest. “I would describe my place as ‘homey.’”

Three balanced meals a day are served in a dining room that has been newly remodeled to make it more comfortable and inviting. Another popular addition has been a new bar and lounge area – complete with fireplace – where residents gather to socialize and relax.

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“We’re always looking at changes that will improve the living environment for our residents,” said 10 Wilmington Place owner Barry Humphries. “But before we start, we make them aware of what we’re planning so we can get their reactions early in the process and reconsider things if we need to.”

Although Mrs. DePriest enjoys regular walks outdoors when the weather permits and indoors when it doesn’t, she also takes advantage of the many planned events and outings that keep her active. “They have so many activities that keep us from getting bored,” she said.

From outdoor picnics and bus trips to the grocery store, a local nature center or a nice restaurant, to holiday events featuring children from a local day care center, musical performances and old movie nights, activities are an important dimension of the quality of life at the Assisted Living Center.

“I try to keep their minds constantly active with word scrambles, Scrabble, bingo and card games,” said activity director Annie Sweeney. “We also have an exercise program three times a week.”

Although she wasn’t sure she’d like moving from sunny Florida, Mrs. DePriest is happy with her home at 10 Wilmington Place.

“Anything they can do to make us happy, they do it,” she said. “I would tell anyone to come here to live.”

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