magazine



GOOD TIMES

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LIST OF LOCAL RESOURCES FOR SENIORS

PG.8

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The team at Mesa Springs Health Care Center works together to ensure that every aspect of your stay is of the highest quality. For more information, call Andrew Adamski at 325-437-7677 or Mesa Springs Health Care Center at 325-692-8080.



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www.mesasprings.org

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www.wesleycourt.org



November 2014 - 2015 www.AbileneSeniorsMagazine.com

DEFINITIONS:

Alzheimer's or Memory Care Facility is a 24-hour licensed long-term care skilled nursing facility that provides room, board, and memory care services to seniors challenged by memory

Assisted Living is a licensed residential community for seniors who require assistance with basic activities of daily living that provides assistive and supportive services usually including meals, housekeeping, and activities. Assisted Living can be covered by private pay and other

Home Health - Medical provides skilled medical and rehabilitative services by a licensed professional within one's home following a recent inpatient stay, or provides additional support for one to remain safely at home and avoid hospitalization. Home health can be covered by Medicare and other types of insurance.

Home Health - Non-Medical provides basic household help, typically for seniors who are living on their own. These services can include meal preparation help, light house cleaning or tidying up, and in some instances help with bathing and hygiene. These services do not include medical monitoring or nursing care, but can be a good set of eyes to make sure everything is going well. Usually these services are not covered by insurance.

Hospice Care is a type of care and philosophy for someone who has been diagnosed with a life-limiting or terminal illness, under which the patient's physical, emotional, and spiritual needs are met. Hospice can be provided wherever one calls home, such as a personal residence, assisted living, nursing home, and many other scenarios. Hospice can be covered through Medicare and

Nursing Homes provide an ongoing variety of custodial services in a 24-hour inpatient licensed nursing facility to help meet both medical and non-medical needs of people with a chronic illness or disability, who cannot care for themselves for long periods of time. Nursing Homes can be covered by private pay and other types of insurance.

Skilled Nursing is a specialized treatment program provided in a 24-hour licensed nursing facility for those requiring more custodial and rehabilitative care following a hospital stay. Skilled nursing can be covered through Medicare and other types of insurance.

Rehabilitation Centers are specialized licensed facilities dedicated to improving, maintaining, or restoring physical strength, cognition, and mobility with maximized results. Typically, rehabilitation helps people gain greater independence after illness, injury, or surgery.

Retirement & Independent Living is residential housing designed for older adults who are generally able to care for themselves. Shared services, amenities, activities, and socialization opportunities are often provided.

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WEST CENTRAL TEXAS COUCIL OF GOVERNMENTS: SOMETIMES IT REALLY IS WHO YOU KNOW

By Theresa Clarkin

The West Central Texas Council of Governments may sound like an intimidating agency. But in reality, inside that one little building are numerous groups that can help with senior needs in our communities. The West Central Texas Council of Governments (WCTCOG) is a governmental entity of the State of Texas serving Taylor and the surrounding 19 counties. Inside those doors are three service areas aimed at assisting seniors and people with disabilities: Aging and Disability Resource Center; Area Agency on Aging; and the Ombudsman Program.

The Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) is for persons with disabilities, seniors, and veterans. Their mission is to plan, coordinate, and direct a full range of services and opportunities to help older persons live healthy, dignified, and independent lives in West Central Texas.

The Area Agency on Aging (AAA) serves persons 60 and older, and was established to coordinate and provide caregiver and family support, medical and prescription support, and benefits counseling. They not only provide assistance in understanding the state and federal programs, but—while funding is available—can help until services are put into place.

The AAA benefits counseling includes assistance with understanding and selecting Medicare supplement insurance, Social Security, Medicaid, Food Stamps, disability, and long-term care insurance.

The AAA provides information, referrals, and assistance through meeting with clients, screening for needs, and then making referrals to resources in our community. They are able to assess seniors' needs and connect them to the appropriate teams and agencies for assistance. The AAA team members can provide benefit counseling, care coordination, and family caregiver support. They work with Medicare and Medicaid offices as well as other government agencies for people with disabilities, special needs, and insurance assistance. AAA service coordinators can not only assist in getting personal needs met such as vision or hearing services, they can even provide nutritional support in some communities

as well as assistance with household chores and applying for prescription assistance programs.

One of the goals of the AAA, through their Family Caregiver support program, is to assist families in caring for their family members in the home environment. This includes education, relief, and support groups as well as training and hands-on skills to better care for their family member as well as themselves. Respite services are available for those that participate.

For seniors who choose to enter an assisted care setting or a nursing care center, the WCTCOG hosts the Texas Ombudsman program. Ombudsmen are advocates for residents in long-term care. The Ombudsman program focuses on resident rights, resident care, and quality of life. The Ombudsman staff and certified volunteer ombudsmen visit nursing facilities on a regular basis. They can assist residents and their families by participating in open hearings for grievances or complaints, family and residential council meetings. They act as an advocate to protect the rights of the residents. The Ombudsman can also be a great asset for families looking for more information on nursing home placements, finding financial resources, and getting qualified through staterun programs such as Medicaid.

These services, along with many others including the Supportive Services for Veteran Families Program, make the WCTCOG an invaluable resource for seniors and residents of all kinds. The West Central Texas Council of Governments is located at 3702 Loop 322, just south of Oldham Lane. A team of service professionals awaits for your call! Please share this information and find out more by calling (325) 672-8544. Because sometimes it is just who you know!

WCTCOG: 3702 Loop 322 (325) 672-8544



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Operation Lighthouse 125 Sayles Blvd (325) 670-9577
For More Info, See Page 23

ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Adult Protective Services of Abilene 4601 S. 1st Street, Ste. F (325) 795-5755

ALZHEIMER'S & MEMORY CARE

Alzheimer's Association

301 S Pioneer Dr # 105 (325) 672-2907

Coronado Nursing Center
For More Info, See Page 12

Windcrest Alzheimer's Care Center
For More Info, See Page 17

(325) 673-8892

(325) 673-8892

(325) 673-8892

ASSISTED LIVING

Mesa Springs Retirement Village
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University Place
For More Info, See Page 11

Wesley Court
For More Info, See Page 2

Wisteria Place
For More Info, See Page 19

7171 Buffalo Gap Rd (325) 690-1400

(325) 676-9946

(325) 437-1184

(325) 437-1184

(325) 437-6204

For More Info, See Page 19

AUDIOLOGISTS & HEARING AIDS

Ear Level Communications 3301 South 14th St (325) 437-4327 **Hendrick Hearing Healthcare** (325) 670-2134 1934 Hickory St For More Info, See Page 5 Holland Hearing Center (325) 437-4730 7 Hospital Dr Livingston Audiology & Hearing Aid Center 3329 Turner Plaza Dr (325) 437-3885 598 S. Pioneer (325) 695-1133 West Texas Rehab's Hearing Center 4601 Hartford (325) 793-5450 For More Info, See Page 21

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

 Oceans
 6401 Directors Pkwy
 (325) 691-0030

 For More Info, See Page 20
 Ste 200

BOWEN TECHNIQUE

Bowtech For Health 1150 Estates Dr (325) 676-9227 For More Info, See Page 5 Ste C

CARDIAC CARE

Cardiology Clinic Of Abilene 1680 Antilly Rd #270 (325) 437-5555

CHIROPRACTORS

Abilene Chiropractic	4526 Buffalo Gap Rd	(325) 692-7400
Advanced Chiropractic & Spinal Rehab	5309 Buffalo Gap Rd	(325) 695-9355
Big Country Clinic of Chiropractic	4150 Southwest Dr	(325) 793-9989
Specht Brothers Chiropractic	2721 Buffalo Gap Rd	(325) 692-2227
Waldrip Clinic	3301 N 3rd St # 134	(325) 676-7444
West Texas Back Clinic	1750 S Clack St	(325) 695-2225

DENTAL CARE

Abilene Advanced Dentistry	4321 Southwest Dr	(325) 692-3332
Abilene Crown and Bridge	2618 S 7th	(325) 673-6355
Abilene Dental Care	602 Hickory St	(325) 676-7707
Kappel Dental Arts	4601 Buffalo Gap Rd	(325) 690-9109
Lorenzen Crown & Bridge	3026 S 7th	(325) 673-1348
Medical Care Mission	302 Medical Dr	(325) 677-3455

DIETICIANS & NUTRITION

Meals On Wheels Plus	717 N. 10th St	(325) 672-5050
Rural Taylor County Aging Services	PO Box 282	(325) 695-2372

ELDER LAW

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FUNERAL HOMES & FUNERAL PLANNING

Elliott-Hamil Funeral Homes	542 Hickory St	(325) 677-4355
Elmwood Memorial Park	5750 US Highway 277 S	(325) 692-0655
Girdner Funeral Home	141 Elm St	(325) 676-5000
Hamil Family Funeral Home	6449 Buffalo Gap Rd	(325) 692-2232
Piersall Benton Funeral Directors	733 Butternut St	(325) 677-3783

GOVERNMENTAL RESOURCES

Abilene Call For Help	240 Cypress St	(325) 673-8211
Area Agency On Aging For More Info, See Page 23	3702 Loop 322	(325) 793-8490
Texas Aging & Disability Department	4601 S 1st St # D	(325) 795-5714
West Central Texas Council of Governments	3702 Loop 322	(325) 672-8544

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HOME HEALTH - MEDICAL			
BHCS	3657 Hwy 377 S. Brownwood, TX	(325) 643-4999	
Big Country Health Care	3444 North 1st St	(325) 675-0559	
Generations Home Health	1290 S Willis St # 209	(325) 268-0465	
IntegraCare Home Health For More Info, See Page 22	1665 Antilley Rd Ste 100	(325) 691-9947	
Interim HealthCare For More Info, See Page 6	4400 Buffalo Gap Rd Ste 2500	(325) 677-2047	
Kinderhearts	842 N. Mockingbird Ln	(325) 672-6135	
Renew Home Health	5189 Texas Ave	(325) 692-9100	

HOME HEALTH - NON-MEDICAL

Home Instead Senior Care	240 S. Mockingbird	(325) 670-9610
Visiting Angels For More Info, See Page 15	1500 Industrial Blvd. #209	(325) 437-9500

HOME MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

Choice Medical Supply	17 Windmill Cir	(325) 677-2250
For More Info, See Page 11		

HOSPICE CARE

Hospice of the Big Country For More Info, See Page 21	4601 Hartford	(325) 793 5450
IntegraCare Hospice For More Info, See Page 22	1665 Antilley Rd Ste 100	(325) 691-9948
Interim HealthCare For More Info, See Page 6	4400 Buffalo Gap Rd Ste 2500	(325) 437-2982

LICCRITATO

HOSPITALS		
Abilene Regional Medical Center	6250 US Highway 83	(325) 428-1000
Anson General Hospital	101 Avenue J	(325) 823-3231
Hamlin Memorial Hospital	632 NW 2nd St	(325) 576-3646
Hendrick Health System	1900 Pine St	(325) 670-2000
Medical Care Mission	1857 Pine St	(325) 672-5601
Reliant Abilene For More Info, See Page 24	6401 Director's Pky	(325) 691-1600
Stamford Memorial Hospital	1601 Columbia St	(325) 773-2725

INFORMATION & REFERRAL SERVICES

Abilene Call For Help	240 Cypress St	(325) 673-8211
Area Agency On Aging For More Info, See Page 23	3702 Loop 322	(325) 793-8490

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MASSAGE THERAPISTS

Bowtech For Health For More Info, See Page 5	1150 Estates Dr Ste C	(325) 676-9227
Healing Touch	1317 N 8th St # 100a	(325) 670-0622
Inner Balance	4865 Annette Ln	(325) 692-4464
Serenity Massage Therapy	1290 S Willis St	(325) 673-3141

NURSING & RESIDENTIAL CARE HOMES

Care Inn Of Abilene For More Info, See Page 20	4934 S. 7th St	(325) 692-2172
Coronado Nursing Center For More Info, See Page 12	1751 N. 15th St	(325) 673-8892
Covenant Place Of Abilene	3234 Buffalo Gap Rd	(325) 793-1144
Mesa Springs Health Care Center For More Info, See Page 3	7171 Buffalo Gap	(325) 690-1400
Northern Oaks Living & Rehab For More Info, See Page 8	2722 Old Anson Rd	(325) 676-1677
Oaks At Radford Hills For More Info, See Page 16	725 Medical Dr	(325) 672-3236
Wesley Court For More Info, See Page 2	2617 Antilley Rd	(325) 437-1184
Wisteria Place For More Info, See Page 19	3401 South Willis St	(325) 437-6204

OPTICAL GOODS & OPTICIANS

Eye Masters	4150 Southwest Dr # 100	(325) 692-9440
Eyemart Express	3474 Catclaw Dr # A	(325) 793-9011
Lens Crafters	4310 Buffalo Gap Rd	(325) 692-8698
Vision Express Of Abilene	4734 S 14th St	(325) 672-1011

PAIN MANAGEMENT - NON-MEDICAL

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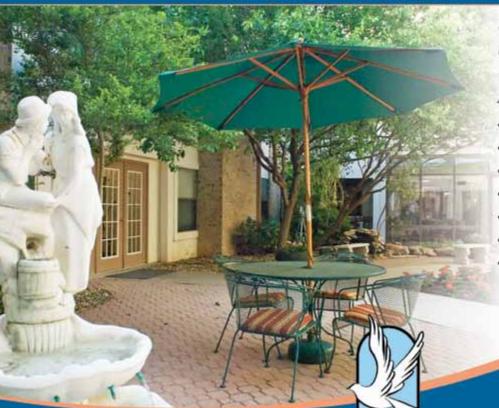
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Wisteria Place For More Info, See Page 19	3401 South Willis St	(325) 437-6204
For More Into, See Page 19		

RETIREMENT & INDEPENDENT LIVING COMMUNITIES		
Abilene Senior Village For More Info, See Page 13	2225 Covenant Dr	(325) 232-7552
Anson Park For More Info, See Page 14	2249 Vogel Ave	(325) 701-4769
Mesa Springs Retirement Village For More Info, See Page 3	7171 Buffalo Gap	(325) 690-1400
Royal Estates	6565 Central Park	(866) 354-2048
University Place For More Info, See Page 11	1250 E. N. 10th St	(325) 676-9946
Wesley Court For More Info, See Page 2	2617 Antilley Rd	(325) 437-1184
Windsor For More Info, See Page 13	401 Pine St	(325) 677-0824
Wisteria Place For More Info, See Page 19	3401 South Willis St	(325) 437-6204

SENIOR CITIZENS CENTERS

Baird Senior Center	401 Chestnut	(325) 854-1937
Buffalo Gap Senior Citizens	1142 Williams St	(325) 572-3234
Clyde Senior Citizens Building	123 N 4th St W	(325) 893-4556
Cobb Park Senior Center	2302 State St	(325) 676-6447
Fisher County Senior Citizens Center	772 State Hwy 70N	(325) 735-2359
G V Daniels Senior Center	541 N 8th St	(325) 676-6443
Hamlin Senior Citizen Center	312 SW Avenue B	(325) 576-2267
Lawn Senior Citizens Center	6417 US Highway 84	(325) 583-2264
Rose Park Senior Citizens Center	2625 S 7th St	(325) 734-5300
Tuscola Senior Citizens Center	702 Graham St	(325) 554-7876
Winters Activity Center for Senior Citizens	601 Wood	(325) 754-4205

TRANSPORTATION

Area Agency On Aging For More Info, See Page 9	3702 Loop 322	(325) 793-8490
CityLink Bus	1189 S 2nd	(325) 676-6287
CityLink Van	1189 S 2nd	(325) 676-6402

VETERANS NEEDS

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SHWEIKI

ADDING FUN TO ABILENE SENIOR LIVING

Donna McCartney, LMSW-IPR Medical Social Worker Interim Hospice & Encompass Home Healthcare

he more I research fun activities for senior citizens ranging from free to a nominal fee, the more I discover that Abilene is brimming with opportunities!

The following programs are filled with exciting things to do:

City of Abilene/Senior Citizens Services Division, 555 Walnut; (325) 734-5300; www.abilenetx.com. The Senior Citizens Centers have activities including table games, Bingo, exercise equipment, arts and crafts, music, organized scenic trips, line dancing/western dancing, and ballroom dancing. Transportation is provided. Call for info.

- Rose Park, 2625 South 7th Street, Abilene; (325) 734-5300 Monday / Wednesday / Friday 8:30 am – 4:00 pm Tuesday 8:30 am – 8:00 pm Thursday 8:30 am - 4:00 pm and 5:30 pm - 9:00 pm
- Cobb Park, 2302 State Street, Abilene; (325) 676-6447 Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 1:30 pm
- G.V. Daniels Center, 541 North 8th Street, Abilene; (325) 676-6443 Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 1:30 pm
- Sears Park, 2250 Ambler, Abilene; (325) 676-6440 Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 1:30 pm

Abilene Civic and Convention Center, 1100 North 6th Street, Abilene; (325) 676-6211; www.abilenetx.com/civiccenter/. Click on Upcoming Events to see a calendar.

Abilene Zoo, 2070 Zoo Lane, Abilene; (325) 676-6085; www.abilenezoo.org.

Abilene Public Library, www.abilenetx.com/apl/ • Main Library, 202 Cedar Street, Abilene;

- (325) 676-6067 • South Branch Library, 1401 S. Danville, Abilene;
- (325) 698-7565 • Mockingbird Branch Library, 1326 N. Mockingbird, Abilene, (325) 437-7323

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- Weekends and Holidays
- Respite for Family Caregivers

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HEARING LOSS It's More Dangerous Than You Think

By Connie Stephens, Director of Audiology West Texas Rehabilitation Center

Hearing loss is linked to damaging and deadly problems such as diabetes, kidney disease, dementia, and social isolation. It isn't just sad to think of loved ones missing out on family conversation at the dinner table or at the family reunion. It isn't just embarrassing when someone misunderstands what is said and makes an inappropriate reply. It's also frightening to think of missing the sound of the gas leak at home, the rattlesnake coiled on the front porch, or the car tires squealing in an attempt to stop behind you.

If hearing loss can't be medically treated, it can be corrected with the amazing new hearing technology that's available today. Gone is the stigma of "looking old" because you wear hearing aids. Almost every young person has a Bluetooth earbud or iPod earbuds or a headset on their ears these days. And just like computers keep getting smaller, the new hearing devices are smaller, sleeker, and very tech savvy. It's cool to wear a hearing device!

How do you tell if someone has a loss? If they ask you to repeat often, or if they lean forward and turn one ear or the other toward you when you're

talking, if they misunderstand and make an inappropriate to something you've said, or if they say "huh?" often, it's a sure giveaway. If you know someone with hearing loss or suspect someone has a loss, please encourage them to be proactive for their health, their happiness, and their safety.





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AGE WELL LIVE

Donna McCartney, LMSW-IPR Medical Social Worker Interim Hospice & **Encompass Home Healthcare**

What does it take to have a successful Age Well Live Well community in Abilene? It takes vision, compassion, motivation, sincerity, and organizational skills for quality of life for seniors. Abilene was only the second Texas city to recieve the state's prestigious Age Well Live Well grant. The individuals interviewed for this article are responsible for a large part of that success.

Ken Bomar is the visionary Marketing Director of the Texas Department of Aging and Disability. He's been impressed with the cooperative spirit and involvement of the Abilene community. Age Well Live Well is the focused effort on core areas and volunteerism, providing information and promotion in long-term care facilities and encouraging more active involvement. Instead of keeping the resources and information, communities function better to build a network of promotions, and are thus Age Well Live Well collaborative.

Alesha Willis, Program Coordinator at West Texas Council of Governments, advised that the Area Agency on Aging was designated to write the grant for AWLW when Ken Bomar initiated the grant. The purpose of the grant includes a focus on health and wellness, volunteerism, and community involvement, along with resource awareness. Alesha noted that Abilene is the epitome of collaboration. This past summer a fishing derby was sponsored, and the goal for the David suggested having a weekly upcoming year is to host a collaborative Senior Olympics. For further information, please visit www.awlwabilene.com.

Walter Graham is Deputy Speaker Pro Tem of the 15th Silver- he became the designated talk show Haired Legislature. There are four other members from the host. Jim recalled a memorable West Central Texas District: Dolan Brinson, Nancy Byler, story featuring Screening for Chris Kyker, and Sandi Saringer. The website is www.txshl. org. Walter was the first employee of the Senior Citizens Division, hired in 1974 to get the Senior Nutrition program started. We now have an amazing Abilene Senior Services Program. A member and elected officer in the West Central wcgbg@txol.net.

Dr. Charlie D. Pruett is the Director of the Pruett Gerontology Center and advisor for the gerontology academic program at Abilene Christian University, and has been a part of ACU for 22 years. Dr. Pruett works with both the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature and the Texas Department of Aging and Disability as a consultant. He says that successful aging means (1) avoiding disease, (2) Robert Schuller said, "The world of tomorrow belongs to achieving a higher level of psychosocial functioning, and the person who has the vision today."



(3) staying connected with society, and he feels that AWLW promotes these goals.

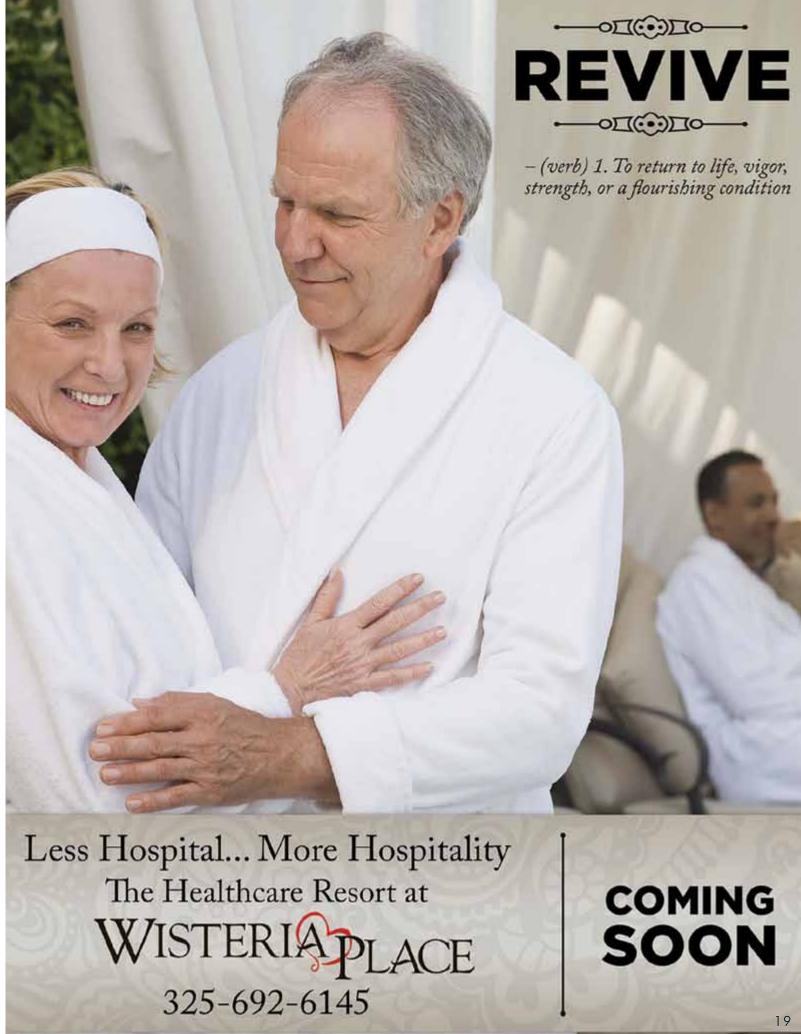
David Hare, Marketing Director of Wisteria Nursing and Rehabilitation, serves as President of the Texas State Board for Adult Protective Services; is President of the 19 county regional board for Adult Protective Services in Abilene; and is also chairman of the Abilene Aging Cluster group, a 250-member senior service community organization. He also hosts a weekly Saturday 10 a.m. radio show on KLGD 106.9 FM. After researching and clarification, the show was appropriately named Age Well Live Well.

Jim Vance, owner of KLGD 106.9 FM radio station, remembered discussing with David Hare the Age Well Live Well collaboration. radio show with a particular subject, paralleling a professional guest. Since David is an excellent orator,



Life. A caller who was unable to have an X-ray discovered Screening for Life could provide the procedure at his own

David Bacon held the position of Sports Director of KTAB Texas Silver-Haired Legislature, Walter can be contacted via for 24 years and is currently the Marketing Specialist for KTAB/KRBC. He says that KTAB approached Wisteria Place Nursing and Rehabilitation to sponsor a show to be called Senior Spotlight, which he hosts on Mondays at 6 p.m. on KTAB. He gave an example of how a show spotlighting home health care and service availability had helped a homebound gentleman who learned he could access service and remain in his own home with familiar surroundings.





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Misconceptions of Hospice: The Rest of the Story

Donna McCartney, LMSW-IPR
Medical Social Worker Interim Hospice & Encompass Home Healthcare

As a Medical Social Worker, I often encounter people who have mixed feelings about end-of-life care. Many times, misconceptions arise about what hospice does. In exploring what the top misapprehensions are, I decided to ask my hospice and home health patients and families.

1. Misconception: Hospice is a physical place to go when nothing else can be done.

Fact: Hospice is an end-of-life healthcare service. Seventy percent of those surveyed stated they would like to remain in their home, surrounded by family when on hospice care.

- **2.** Misconception: Hospice hastens the dying process. Fact: Hospice is a service provided to make patients more comfortable at the end of life. Many times, a newly admitted hospice patient improves because the focus becomes quality of life rather than its length. If the patient begins to show signs of recovery, they can choose to discharge from hospice care.
- **3. Misconception:** I won't be able to keep my own doctor.

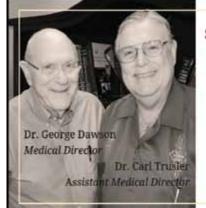
Fact: You can choose to keep your own doctor, who coordinates care with the hospice team.

4. Misconception: I have to complete a DNR document.

Fact: You can choose to have or not have an Out-of-Hospital Do Not Resuscitate document.

Abilene and our surrounding communities are blessed with excellent hospice agencies. If you have questions, I encourage you to search the internet or turn to page 10 to visit with them. On a personal note, my husband was on hospice service during the end of his life; it was a God-sent blessing to have others who served and cared to help us carry a very heavy load.





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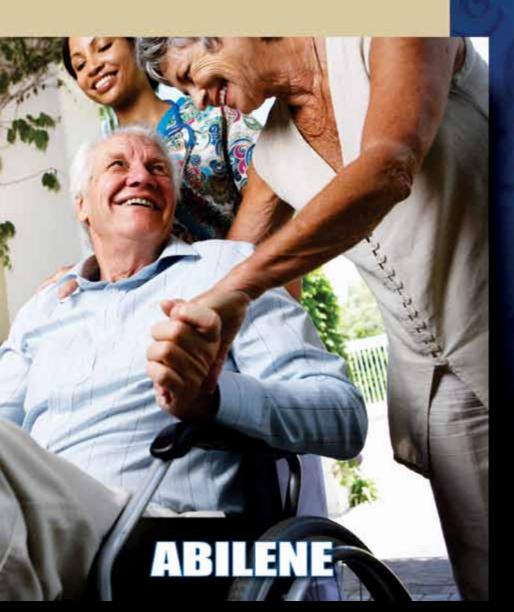
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• Health & Wellness Initiatives

A variety of programs that provide activities and information on aging well.

• Benefits Counseling

Assisting with applications, questions, and resolving Medicare-related issues.

Caregiver Support Programs

Assisting with the arrangement and costs of respite care. Allowing caregivers the opportunity to take a much-needed

Area Agency

• 55+ Adults raising a family member's child under 18 years old may qualify for respite care, child care, camps, and school supplies.

West Central Texas What Is Our Mission? Aging & Disability Resource Center

The West Central Texas Aging and Disability Resource Center is your access point for information and assistance on issues affecting older adults and those with a disability, their family, and caregivers.

Veteran Services

Case management services are designed to assist homeless veterans and their families by obtaining stabilized housing.

Long-Term Services and Supports

Long-term services and supports are community-based service options preferred for long-term care, rather than institutional care. ADRC staff can assist in identifying needs, preference, values, and individual circumstances through an initial screening process.

Housing Advocates

The staff advocate and focus their efforts on opportunities to increase the availability of affordable and accessible housing for persons with disabilities.

Options Counseling

Few people plan ahead for long-term services. Our ADRC staff can provide personalized information and assistance with identifying needs and discussing available choices through education and connection to service providers in the region.

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