

LIFESTYLE

SMITH VILLAGE STARTS EXPANSION

Ground was broken in mid-October for a \$22.3 million expansion to modernize the Johanson Wing at Smith Village, 2320 W. 113th Pl. The project will benefit residents in skilled nursing care and short-term stay rehab.

The Johanson Wing was built in 1991. The new construction will convert double-occupancy rooms to create more private suites, and add a three-story extension that will house state-of-the-art therapy rooms and dining rooms.

In 2007-08, the facility's original site, first opened in 1924, was transformed to create the first continuing care retirement community in the area. Today, Smith Village is home to 300 adults, age 62 and older, in independent and assisted-living, memory care, short-term stay and skilled nursing care. Residents benefit from healthcare and lifestyle programs.

Participating in the ground-breaking

ceremony on Oct. 17 were Smith Village Executive Director Marti Jatis, President and CEO of Smith Senior Living Kevin McGee, Cook County Commissioner John P. Daley, 19th Ward Ald. Matt O'Shea, Chicago Deputy Mayor/Economic and Neighborhood Development Samis Mayekar and Smith Village family member Cathi Hogan.



Artist's rendering of the expansion at Smith Village.

HOLIDAY TIPS FOR CAREGIVERS OF DEMENTIA PATIENTS

The free support group for caregivers of older adults who have dementia or Alzheimer's disease focusses on making the upcoming holidays more enjoyable for families when they meet Tues., Nov. 5, 6:30 p.m., Smith Village, 2320 W. 113th Pl.

Diane Morgan, Smith Village social service director of long-term care, will offer



Diane Morgan

hints for helping those with dementia navigate the sometimes-rough waters of attending holiday parties. Among her top suggestions for caregivers are:

Have your ward take a nap and possibly have a snack before leaving

home.

Try to plan events close to the times of your loved-one's daily routine.

Bring along a companion who can take your loved-one home should you decide to stay longer at the party.

If you are going out alone, have someone the loved-one knows stay with them while you're away.

For a simple family dinner, it may be better for guests to leave young children at home.

Morgan will provide time for a Q&A session. To reserve a place at this support group, call 773-474-7300 or send an email to familyandfriends@smithvillage.org.

Smith Village is sponsored by Smith Senior Living, a not-for-profit organization serving older adults since 1924. It provides spacious residences and engaging programs for independent living, as well as assisted living, memory support and skilled nursing care. It is one of only 10 life plan communities in Illinois awarded a five-year accreditation for "exemplary conformance" to international standards set by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, the industry's sole accrediting body. More information: 773-474-7300 or SmithVillage.org.