



Try out retirement living now, resident urges

As Ellen Monsees began her search for retirement living options, she started looking into 55-plus communities, but then it dawned on her: Why make a temporary move just for a decade or so?

"The more I thought about it, the less I wanted to have to move again," she says.

Another tipping point was hearing from others about their experiences. In many of the articles she read about Continuing Care Retirement Communities, people said they wished they'd moved in sooner.

Ellen was feeling the need for more community in her life at the time.

"A place like White Horse Village has so many opportunities to explore new things, to get involved, to be active. And why not come while I'm young enough and healthy enough to really be able to take advantage of that?" Ellen reflects.

She certainly has taken advantage, scratching her musical itch by joining the Village Singers, serving on the Spiritual Life committee (as a grief recovery specialist, she's a natural fit), and joining the holiday party planning committee in her neighborhood. Her Wii bowling team even made the league playoffs!

Living here has expanded her possibilities in other ways. Vision changes meant Ellen had to give up night driving, but here she can get out and enjoy the arts and theater scene with others, thanks to the various outings with transportation provided by White Horse Village.

"I've made so many friends already," Ellen says.



Ellen is very social, but values time for herself as well, and she gets that in her apartment just off the Clubhouse. “Everybody’s friendly, but nobody’s intrusive. So when I want to just spend my afternoon by myself doing puzzles, watching TV, or reading, I can do that.”

She loves the convenience of being able to quickly connect with what’s going on without having to go outside—while having the flexibility to get outdoors if she wants to.

If you’re a younger person and wondering if it’s too soon to consider a CCRC, Ellen urges you to consider the move.

“One of the things that really struck me about White Horse Village when I first visited is how vibrant it is, and that’s both the facilities and the community of people.”