



Dorothy's Place: Care Center Offers New Option for Alzheimer's Patients

by Lela Garlington

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Charles Enman took off work early so his mother could attend the grand opening of Dorothy's Place, a new center in southeast Memphis that caters to people who have Alzheimer or dementia.

For Enman, who lives in Midtown, the center is a godsend. For the past two years, he's been driving his mother, Anne Jaeggli, 73, from his home to another care center at Kennedy Park in Raleigh Monday through Friday. Like the new center, the Raleigh center is operated by Alzheimer's Day Services.

The new location offers a more direct route between home and Enman's job at the FedEx World Technology Center in Collierville.

"It'll be 10 minutes from my work," said Enman, 45, who leaves home at 6:30 a.m. to make it to the Raleigh center by 7. "I make a pretty good size triangle every day." Dorothy's Place, a \$3 million project, held its grand opening Tuesday and is set to open to clients Friday.

The center is named after the late Dorothy Nebhut Jones, whose son is multimillionaire Paul Tudor Jones, a Wall Street commodities trader. Mrs. Jones, who was married to former Daily News publisher John Paul Jones, died of complications of Alzheimer in 2003.

About 4.5 million people have Alzheimer in the United States, about 21,000 of them in Shelby County. The disorder causes the gradual loss of brain cells. The new center will help provide relief for some of the caregivers of those local sufferers.

It's housed in the fellowship hall/education building of the former Holy Apostles Episcopal Church and day school at 3185 Hickory Hill at Knight Arnold in Fox Meadows. **Askew Nixon Ferguson Architects** redesigned the 11,000-square-foot building with a light, airy residential feel.

Memory boxes built into the walls are filled with old cookbooks, toys and tools. An

cooking. A snoezellen, or quiet room, will have soft music and other sensory therapy.

A caregiver's wing with conference rooms and resource library also was added. One room will double as a classroom for medical students needing clinical experience in learning how to communicate with dementia patients.

"If we teach the students we touch that many more families," director Ruthann Shelton said.

Now that it's finally open, Dorothy's Place officials hope the home eventually will care for up to 55 people. While it costs \$70 a day, families of participants pay a subsidized rate of \$30 a day.

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