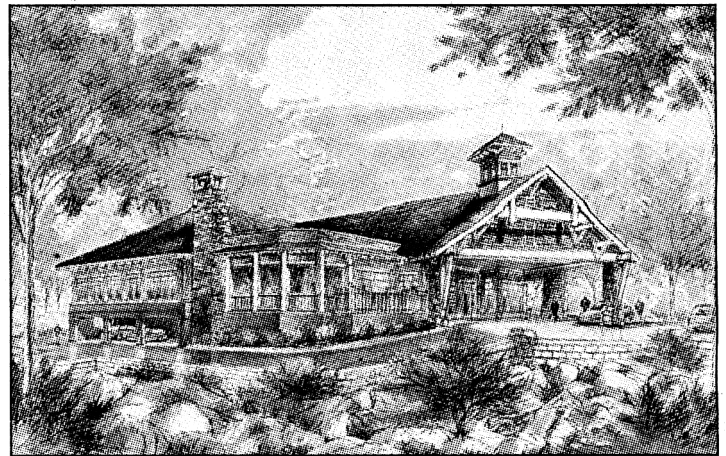


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Woman leaves BofA to start adult day care



URBANA URBAN DESIGN & ARCHITECTURE

The Ivey adult day-care center will be a roughly \$4 million project, including the building and 1.35-acre site.

Mother's illness helped developer see need for center in Charlotte

Lynn Ivey didn't know anything about adult day care until her family faced a medical crisis about two years ago.

Now the former banking executive is starting a for-profit day-care center for cognitively and functionally impaired adults and their caregivers.

Ivey plans to begin construction of The Ivey, an 11,000-square-foot facility on Park South Drive near SouthPark mall, in July and open it next April.

Charlotte has nearly a dozen mainly nonprofit state certified centers and adult care programs, but Ivey said her research didn't turn up any offering the range of services The Ivey will have under one roof.

Adults and caregivers will have access, for example, to massage therapy, a hair and nail salon and take-home meal service.

DEVELOPMENT



Doug Smith

The facility also will include two personal care rooms with whirlpool tubs, a physical therapy room, a putting green, a woodworking niche, a resource library for caregivers and multi-purpose rooms for music and arts and crafts.

The building was designed to look like a comfy country lodge and offer daytime social and therapeutic services from exercise to medication management in a home-like atmosphere.

Located in one of the city's highest income areas, The Ivey is targeting the same demographic as such upscale senior-living communities as The Cypress, also on Park South Drive.

Rates will be determined on an assessment of each client's level of need and number of days spent at the 100-person capacity center, Ivey said.

The National Adult Day Services Association pegs the nationwide average daily cost at \$56, which it says typically is

less than a home health visit and about half the cost of a skilled nursing facility.

Ivey, 50, views adult day care as a niche between independent and institutional living.

She learned about it in 2004 when her mother suffered a series of mini strokes and her father became a caregiver for his spouse of 51 years.

Ivey took a leave of absence from Bank of America to spend more time with them in Wilmington, where she discovered a center that met their needs.

When she found no comparable facilities near her home in SouthPark, she decided to fill the void instead of returning to the bank.

Ivey started planning the day-care center about a year ago. She has been working from the outset with regulatory agencies to ensure that the facility will have state certification when it opens.

The Ivey will be a roughly \$4 million project, including the building and 1.35-acre site, just off Fairview Road near Brighton Gardens assisted living center.

Ivey said she is financing the project through private investors, a bank loan and a Small Business Administration loan.

A big advantage of adult day care, Ivey said, is allowing a person to age in place. "They don't have to leave the home of loved ones," she said.

As the population ages, the demand for such services is expected to increase. Ivey said she's interested in opening additional centers in areas with the demographic profile to support them.

The Ivey will employ about 30 social and medical staffers, including a registered nurse to administer medications and nursing assistants to help with baths and other needs.