

Human Resources

"OUTREACH"
By PAT PATTERSON

What do you look for in a nursing home if, for one reason or another, a relative must be placed in such a facility? Before making any decisions, consult a physician—you may not need the services of a nursing home at all. There are several types of facilities available depending on the person's needs. Family care homes, which house no more than five people, and homes for the aged, which house more than five residents, provide a protected environment (one which provides the residents with basic needs such as food and shelter) for those living there. These homes, which are licensed by the Division of Social Services of the N. C. Department of Human Resources, do not provide medical facilities. In North Carolina there are 572 family care homes located in 85 counties.

Homes for the aged number 245.

Another type of home, the intermediate care facility, provides skilled nursing services eight hours per day seven days a week. The nurse(s) on duty can either be a registered nurse (RN) or a licensed practical nurse (LPN). This type of setting is for those patients who require some form of nursing care but do not need constant 24-hour attention. There are 10 intermediate care facilities in the state.

Finally, there are the skilled nursing homes which provide 24-hour nursing service to patients. An RN must be responsible for the nursing staff but may not be on duty at all times in this type of home; however, LPN's should be on duty day and night. There are 131 homes strictly offering skilled care; 10 offer a combination of skilled and intermediate care; 20 offer skilled care and

home of the aged care; and the remainder of the homes are assorted combinations.

One factor which may also influence your decision as to the type of home needed is whether the facility falls under Medicare/Medicaid eligibility provision. Medicare pays the bills for most people over 65 years of age and Medicaid pays bills for low-income people. Medicaid will pay bills for intermediate care facilities and skilled nursing homes. Under the Medicare/Medicaid programs, the Federal government sets safety and sanitation standards for nursing home services. Knowing that each state must follow these standards when it inspects and certifies nursing homes may help you choose the right facility.

Though the type of facility and whether it falls under the Medicare/Medicaid program are important considerations in choosing a rest home or nursing facility, they are not the only ones. Ernest Phillips, chief of the nursing home section for the N. C. Division of Health Services, sug-

gests checking the following:

—Check the location—is it close to a hospital or doctor and is it convenient for visits from friends and relatives?

—Personally visit several homes.

—Read the brochures concerning each home.

—Talk to the head nurse in each facility (if the home requires one) as well as to the administrator. Note their attitude toward patients, visitors and staff. Are they available to answer questions, hear complaints or discuss problems?

—Don't notify the facility in advance that you are coming—this will give you a chance to view everyday operations as they actually occur.

—Taking a walking tour of the facility and the grounds. Note the cleanliness of the home and whether it complies with Medicare/Medicaid sanitation standards. Check the safety measures taken by the facility such as lighting, sturdiness of chairs, handrails in hallways and bathrooms, etc. One particular measure to note is whether the home meets Federal and/or state fire safety codes such as clearly marked and unobstructed exits.

—Time your visit during a meal so that you can see how the residents are fed. Talk with the dietitian at the facility. Note whether the residents are eating hot, nutritious meals and whether the food is properly prepared according to a doctor's specifications (if any).

—Find out what type of activity programs are offered by the facility such as church services, transportation to and from town for shopping trips, etc.

—Talk to the patients. Check their alertness, freedom to communicate, happiness, etc.

—Finally, don't be pressured into making a snap decision as to which facility best suits your needs. Consider carefully the advantages and disadvantages of each home and select one accordingly.

Nursing homes are becoming more and more in demand across North Carolina. One reason for this is that the general population is taking more interest in the United States as well as in care of senior citizens. Another reason, says Phillips, is "that these homes, especially skilled nursing homes, are starting to take care of more short term patients so that these patients

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SOCIETY COLUMN

visiting since Saturday with M. Sgt. Stewart's parents, Mr. and Mrs. George T. Stewart. They left Tuesday morning for Niagara Falls, New York where they will spend several days. M. Sgt. Stewart departs August 6th for a one-year tour of duty in Korea.

Mrs. A. B. Prince continues to recuperate at home from falls she suffered recently.

Mr. and Mrs. William Prince and daughters, Pamela and Penny, vacationed last week at Fontana Dam, N. C. They live in Coolwood in Charlotte. Mr. Prince is a son of Mr. and Mrs. A.B. Prince of Kings Mountain.

Mrs. Beam Visits Daughter In Salisbury

Miss Bessie Dickey Beam returned home Sunday after a week's visit in Salisbury with her daughter, Mrs. Kenneth Fink, Mr. Fink and their three children.

Scott Fink, young son of the Finks, suffered a broken collar bone and continues to recuperate.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Dickey went to Salisbury for a visit with his sister and family Sunday and accompanied his mother home.

Mrs. Fink is the former Margie Lou Dickey of Kings Mountain.

Mrs. Hughes Hostess To Dixon Circle 1

Mrs. Nette Hughes entertained members of Circle 1 of Dixon Presbyterian church at her home Saturday evening.

The Evening Bible study was led by Mrs. Paul Mauney. Mrs. Wayne Wells, president of the Women of the Church, conducted business of the meeting.

Mrs. Hughes served refreshments during a social hour.

It's A Boy For Bridges Family

Mr. and Mrs. Vance Bridges of Kings Mountain announce the arrival of their first child, a son, Christopher Vance, Tuesday, July 10th, Cleveland Memorial hospital, Shelby.

The baby weighed seven pounds, seven ounces. He was named for his father.

Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. John Styers and Mr. and Mrs. James Bridges of Kings Mountain.

The baby's mother is the former Frances Styers.

won't have to pay high hospital costs."

Anyone can be admitted to a home except maternity patients; drug addicts, psychotics or alcoholics whose behavior may endanger other occupants; and patients with communicable disease or other conditions which may endanger the welfare of other occupants.

Plastic Big Item In Furniture

RALEIGH.—Plastics are having a great impact on the furniture industry today.

Not only does plastic have excellent construction characteristics, but its aesthetic appeal is part of the new approach to design, says Mrs. Edith McGlamery, extension house furnishings specialist, North Carolina State University.

Plastics can be molded, woven, pressed, stamped and intertwined into every facet of life.

In furniture, plastics mean lightweight, long wear and easy care. They can be engineered for specific uses, from soft cushioning materials to protective laminates for table tops and rigid structural components.

Since plastics are extremely versatile and can be molded or formed into virtually any shape, designs are limited only by the imagination of the designer.

So, take a new look at plastics, Mrs. McGlamery advises. They may be the answer to your furnishing needs.

CLEAN CHROME

Chrome surfaces are quick to show smudges but just as quick to return to shiny brightness by wiping with a sudsy sponge and buffing with a soft cloth. Give this simple treatment to those often-overlooked areas, such as switch and outlet plates, lamp bases, door-knobs and drawer pulls.

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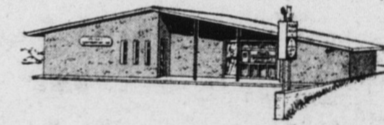


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Royal Staffordshire Bouquet is chip-resistant ironstone ware. It's hand-decorated under the glaze. Nothing can mar its beauty—not detergents, dishwashers, or hard everyday usage.

Additional accessory units are also available. See all the beauty of Staffordshire Bouquet dinnerware at your nearby First-Citizens office.

Start collecting your lovely Bouquet dinnerware now—and at the same time earn the highest savings interest permitted by law.

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NOTICE

60 DAY QUARANTINE

Beginning June 1

ALL DOGS, CATS & OTHER 4-FOOTED ANIMALS UNLEASHED AND UNATTENDED AND OFF OWNER'S PROPERTY WILL BE DESTROYED.

City of Kings Mountain

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