

Monday Business

Monday, March 29, 2021 • Page B1



KIMBERLY HOUGHTON/UNION LEADER CORRESPONDENT

Leslie Patterson, resident enrichment director, organizes the activity room at the new Bowman Place at Olde Bedford, an assisted living and memory care facility in Bedford.

BEDFORD

Assisted living facility opens its doors

By Kimberly Houghton
Union Leader Correspondent

About 16 months after breaking ground, Bowman Place at Olde Bedford now has its first two residents. The \$40 million senior living community opened its doors this month at 24 Olde Bedford Road in Bedford.

“Our goal here is to make the residents feel safe, se-

sure and familiar at all times,” said Chet Bowen, member of the board of trustees.

The three-story, 95,000-square-foot building has 105 apartments — 36 memory care units and 69 luxury assisted living apartments.

“As an assisted living facility, we aim to provide the least restrictive envi-

ronment as possible while focusing on independence for our residents, with assistance as needed,” Bowen said.

There are studio, one-bedroom and two-bedroom units, and concierge-type services for older adults who are able to live with minimal assistance.

“We welcomed our second resident today,” Renee

McAllister, the facility’s executive director, said on Friday.

The facility is geared toward a new generation of seniors who are seeking an independent lifestyle paired with premium amenities, luxury services and personalized care, McAllister said. Assisted living units include

► See **Bowman Place**, Page B3

Monday Business

Monday, March 29, 2021 • NEW HAMPSHIRE UNION LEADER • Page B3

Bowman Place

From Page B1

a kitchen, living room, at least one bedroom, bathroom and spacious closet, as well as an optional den space.

“Our residents want to feel at home. This is their home, not just an assisted living facility,” Bowen said.

Bowman Place at Olde Bedford is staffed around the clock, and currently has up to 20 employees; more will be added as additional residents move in.

Since construction began in fall 2019, Bowen said the complex was designed with COVID-19 in mind. A state-of-the-art filtration system has been implemented, extra showers were installed for staff, and an Accusheild screening system is required for all staff and visitors to utilize upon entry to the facility.

“We want to follow best practices, not just regulation standards,” Bowen said.

Nursing stations are located on each floor, and the facility includes an exercise room, formal dining hall,



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Chet Bowen, a member of the board of trustees at Bowman Place at Olde Bedford, provides a tour of the three-story facility on Friday.

private dining area, cafe, library, activity rooms, art

studio, game rooms, meeting space, walking paths

and gardens.

John Pletzer, dining ser-

vices director, said this new generation of assisted living

residents are interested in something different.

“We offer something out of the ordinary for an assisted living facility,” said Pletzer, who hopes to work with local producers to fulfill his all-day dining options.

Costs range from \$5,750 to \$7,750 per month and include three meals daily, transportation to medical appointments, weekly housekeeping, social programming, 45 minutes of daily personal care, an emergency call system, recreational programs and flat linen service.

Eckman Construction of Bedford built the complex, which was designed by EGA Architects of Newburyport, Mass. Bowman Place achieved financing through the services of Zions Bank of Newton, Mass., and a bond represented by Greenwich Investment of Stamford, Conn.

For more information about the facility, visit bowmanplace.org.

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