

# Here's what neighbors are saying about PARKER's plan for long term care services in Monroe:



For **Marie Fricke**, watching her husband struggle with dementia is painful enough. But she also must travel nearly an hour each day to visit her husband at the nursing home at PARKER at Landing Lane in New Brunswick where he lives. "We have been married 57 years," she said. "He is my everything. I want him to be closer. I want to know that he is getting the right care. PARKER at Monroe is absolutely needed here."

She knows of others in Rossmoor with one spouse able to live alone and the other requiring professional care who could benefit greatly from a high-quality skilled nursing care residence right in town.

**Betsy Matlack's** mother suffers from Alzheimer's Disease, and no longer recognizes her own children.

"As painful as Alzheimer's is for families, I know my mother is getting excellent care at PARKER. For families, PARKER is a Godsend," she said.

Her first-hand view of her mother's care is why she supports PARKER at Monroe. "The rooms at PARKER at Landing Lane have glass windows that look out to beautiful gardens and flowers," she said. "It's just gorgeous and it is enriching for the people who are there."

**Lillian Willis**, who lives in Clearbrook in Monroe Township, an active adult community, travels around the county and the world. But she says she does not know her future and one day she may need more care than the typical "active adult" community can provide.

"You wouldn't feel like you were in a nursing home at Parker," she says. As she ages, Ms. Willis wants to remain close to her family and friends, especially her children, but she does not want to be a burden to them.

"We are all aging," she adds. "I want to be prepared. Parker is very much needed here."

**Tony Zarillo's** wife Carolyn, a one-time ballet dancer, can no longer follow dance class at her local senior center. "Her brain is telling her she should be able to do these things. But the disease of Alzheimer's affects her memory and cognition. So she gets frustrated," the senior Mr. Zarillo said about his wife of 48 years.

Mr. Zarillo lives in Monroe with his wife but he knows she may one day need more services than the PARKER Adult Day Center in Piscataway provides.

"We need PARKER at Monroe, not just for my wife but for many people like her," he said. "This township has so many senior centers. I know what my wife is facing and what we as a family are facing. Right now I am trying to make it so my wife and I live a full life each day."



When **Bruce Colligan** visited nursing homes looking for a place for his mother-in-law and father-in-law to reside, he asked employees the same question, "How long have you worked here?" He found the longevity of the PARKER employees remarkable in comparison to other facilities. "I can tell you PARKER is just a wonderful place with wonderful people," he said.

He wants to voice his support for PARKER at Monroe to make it easier for people like his in-laws to stay closer to home. "Of course it would be wonderful if they could have stayed in Monroe," Mr. Colligan said.

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