



**Steven K. Young, Director**

**DIA Issues Conditional License to Traditions Management for Muscatine Nursing Home**

DES MOINES, IOWA (December 28, 2006) – The Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals (DIA) has issued a conditional license to Traditions Management of Dunedin, Florida, to operate Carrington Place of Muscatine, formerly known as Riverbend Nursing and Rehab Center. Additionally, the Department has recommended to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) that the Muscatine facility be recertified for participation in the state and federal health insurance programs.

DIA Director Steve Young said the issuance of a conditional license corresponds to a change in ownership for the Muscatine nursing home, which was recently purchased by the Florida-based management company. A stipulation to the conditional license restricts the number of new resident admissions to no more than 15 per month, the director noted. In addition to the restricted admission, the facility will be subject to unannounced monitoring visits by the Department.

“The incremental admission policy permits DIA to monitor the facility’s care policies and procedures,” Young stated, adding, “We’ve seen dramatic improvements in the management of the facility. The previous owner of the facility, Richard Angell, made sizeable investments in the overall operation of the nursing home. I am pleased that this needed service in Muscatine can continue to operate and serve the needs of the community.”

DIA’s recommendation that the facility be recertified follows months of monitoring by DIA staff, as well as numerous visits to the facility by representatives from the State Fire Marshal’s Office and the Long-Term Care Ombudsman. “I am very comfortable in recommending certification for Carrington Place of Muscatine,” Young stated.

Jeanne Yordi, Iowa’s Long-Term Care Ombudsman, said she’s pleased in the turnaround that has occurred at the facility. “The facility has literally been reborn and will serve the Muscatine community well in the years to come,” she said. Yordi echoed Director Young’s comments noting that former owner Richard Angell “should be commended for his personal involvement in the transformation of the nursing home.”

Under the conditions of the certification, Carrington Place of Muscatine will be permitted to admit no more than 50 skilled nursing facility residents within the first six months of certification. An additional 50 beds will be certified if the facility continues to remain in substantial compliance with the Medicare and Medicaid participation requirements.

Carrington Place of Muscatine earlier this year faced license revocation as a result of its poor compliance history. The revocation action was averted when Angell stepped in and hired Traditions Management to operate the facility. The Dunedin, Florida, firm owns and operates 10 nursing facilities throughout the country.

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*Carrington Place of Muscatine*

This release and other news items from the Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals (DIA) may be found on the Department’s “Hot Notices” web page at <http://dia.iowa.gov/page20.html>.