

# COMING UP ROSES

## Senior living center named business of the month



### **For The Telegraph**

Villa Rose Senior Living Community will celebrate its 28th anniversary in July. The facility was named the RiverBend Growth Association's business of the month.

### **Villa Rose Senior Living Community**

401 S. Moreland Road, Bethalto

(618) 377-3239

<http://www.villaroseslc.com/>

Posted: Saturday, April 27, 2013

By **JESS CHARLTON**

For **The Telegraph**

BETHALTO - The River Bend's first senior living community center, Villa Rose Senior Living Community, has been named April's RiverBend Growth Association business of the month.

Villa Rose manager Denyse Woody said she was ecstatic when she got the news.

"It was just very exciting. We were the first senior living center in the area 28 years ago, and we've just come a long way since," Woody said. "It's very exciting to have almost a full building with lots of activities."

Woody said she knew a few days ahead of time before the facility was presented with the award, but she made sure the rest of her staff and residents were surprised when they were presented with the award.

Villa Rose has been a member of Life Services Network for more than 15 years and Woody has been recognized for her service on the group's Housing Cabinet.

Villa Rose, a living center for people age 55 and older at 401 S. Moreland Road, has been serving seniors and their families since 1985, and many staff members have been with them 12 to 16 years, Woody said.

"We, as a team, work together and help each other when and as much as we can," she said.

Although this July will mark 28 years since it first opened, Woody has been with the living facility since its construction 29 years ago.

"I saw an ad in The Telegraph about it breaking ground, and I told my husband, 'This is what I want to do,'" she said. "And I've been here ever since."

Woody said she worked in a nursing home during college and knew that is where she belonged. She went on to pursue a degree in sociology from Quincy University.

"Villa Rose is an independent living center with health care provided by BJC and services 24/7," she said.

Villa Rose is a private pay facility and consists of 124 apartments, including studio, one-bedroom, two-bedroom and suites. Their studio apartments are 400 square feet; two-bedroom apartments have about 800 square feet.

"We do have some apartments available," she said.

Each apartment has free Internet with access to 60 DirecTV channels at no additional cost. Also, rent for the apartments include three meals per day and housekeeping once per week.

"We also will provide transportation if our residents need it," she said.

In addition to Villa Rose providing care for seniors, they also spend their time with community work. For the last three years, staff and residents have been walking in the annual Walk to End Alzheimer's at SIUE in the fall. As part of an annual quilt show, they sell chances for a quilt and proceeds are given to the Susan G. Komen organization. Admission to the show is free.

Woody said they have seen technology change dramatically since opening in 1985. Now they have a media room with a large TV for movies and activities. They also have a computer in their library and vision board access for visually impaired residents.

Woody takes pride in their mission and is an active voice for the business.

"Our mission here is to provide affordable care if they can no longer be by themselves," she said. "We want to make sure those in the area have an affordable alternative."

For information, call (618) 377-3239.