



FAMILY MEDICAL 2009

Exceptional team effort achieves success for resident on ventilator

It is refreshing to hear success stories about a resident who you wouldn't think could return home. When "June" arrived at Medford Multicare last July she was completely bedridden and couldn't even sit up in a chair. Her future looked bleak after four months in a hospital ICU bed. She was ventilator-dependent and required around-the-clock nursing care.

The interdisciplinary care team at Medford Multicare evaluated her situation and developed an aggressive plan of care to restore June's independence, dignity and functional abilities. Her care team included nursing (RNs, LPNs & CNAs), physical, occupational and speech therapists, respiratory therapists, clinical dietitians, social workers and a certified therapeutic recreation specialist. Together with June and her husband they developed a detailed plan to achieve her rehab goals: Nursing would address her skilled care needs, respiratory therapy would wean her from the vent, physical therapy would strengthen her leg muscles to walk again, occupational therapy would retrain her in activities of daily living, dietary would help her lose weight while maintaining proper nutrition and social workers would provide the vital emotional support to achieve her goals.

With her determination and the skillful efforts of Medford's staff, June has regained most of her independence. She is off the vent and breathing on her own. June gets out of bed each day and has successfully regained her ability to walk, and, since her admission, and with the

help of Medford's dieticians, she has lost 60 pounds. This week, June is hearing plenty of compliments after having her hair done in Medford's beauty parlor. She is beginning to feel like her old self once again thanks to the wonderful team at Medford. With all of these great strides, June expects to achieve her main goal to return home.

Medford Multicare Center for Living houses one of the few long-term vent units on Long Island. They have a successful track record for weaning patients and getting them to return home. On Medford's vent unit each resident is assigned a board-certified pulmonologist who knows, oversees and directs their care. Medford's staff is aided in the care of these residents by a cutting-edge computerized monitoring system. All ventilators at Medford are portable, which allows residents to take advantage of the beautiful facility, attend group activities, live entertainment, spend time on the patio or get their hair done in the beauty parlor.

Medford Multicare Center for Living also provides short-term restorative rehab, skilled nursing, long term geriatric services, respiratory care services and has a dedicated and secure Alzheimer's/dementia unit. For further information, or to tour the facility, please call 730-3000 or visit www.medfordmulticare.org. Medford Multicare Center for Living is conveniently located at 3115 Horseblock Road in Medford, right off LIE exit 64. ■



***Wishing All
Happy Holidays And A
New Year Full of Smiles!***

The holidays are the perfect time to express our appreciation to all our friends and patients for placing your trust in us, and the privilege of serving you during the past year. To keep your smile healthy, remember to use your full yearly dental insurance benefits for 2010.

JOSEPH P. GRASKEMPER, D.D.S.

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