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Project of the Month: JSA Inc. designs \$30 million expansion of RiverMead's continuing care retirement community in Peterborough

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Construction has begun on the Village at RiverMead, a major expansion of RiverMead, a continuing care retirement community. Designed by JSA Inc of Portsmouth, the expansion, a fresh, intimate neighborhood built on 35 wooded acres across from the original RiverMead campus, will add vitality to the 16 year-old community.

The Village targets vibrant retirees by embracing nature, sustainability and active lifestyles, with multiple dining venues, a fitness center, spa and community gathering space for performances and lectures. The architecture at The Village is organic and dynamic, using stone, wood and glass in contemporary forms. It includes 10 independent living cottages, 30 independent living apartments, 20 assisted living apartments organized into two households, and underground parking for 30 cars.

"We're meeting a demand," said Bonnie Cohen, RiverMead's chief executive officer. "Many seniors in the region are on our waiting list who would like to be able to take advantage of the programs we have and the life care and lifestyle we can offer." The \$30 million project is expected to take 15 months to complete.

RiverMead's original continuing care retirement community campus opened in December 1995 on a 56-acre site in Peterborough. RiverMead currently consists of 114 independent living units, 53 assisted living units, 27 skilled nursing beds, a wellness center, and over 35,000 s/f of community and amenity space, the majority of which is located in the main community center.

TFM Moran Inc. (TFM) of Bedford provided civil/site engineering, permitting and land surveying services for this expansion of the RiverMead full-service LifeCare community near downtown Peterborough. The design included maintaining a wooded buffer around the new campus to be consistent with the rural setting. The stormwater runoff from the development is discharged to several small bio-retention/rain garden areas and an infiltration basin to provide treatment of the runoff, and recharge the stormwater as much as possible.

TFM is currently providing construction administration and Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) inspection services for the project. "This was a very successful project." said Jeff Kevan, TFM's project manager. "In a project this size, communication is important. JSA did a great job heading up the design team and keeping the project on track."

Founded in 1980, JSA Inc. is an architecture, planning and interior design firm with offices in Portsmouth, N.H. and Jacksonville, Fla. JSA specializes in senior living, education, healthcare, housing, and hospitality environments. Some of the firm's most recent New England clients include RiverWoods at Exeter, Portsmouth Regional Hospital, and the University of N.H.

Shown (from left) are: Pam Brenner; Peterborough, town administrator; Lorianne Smith, AIA JSA /Architects; Jim Warner; FAIA, principal, JSA/ Architects; Garth Johnson, senior living & healthcare

division., Cutler Assoc.; Ed Truscelli, vice president of project development, New Life Management and Development; Bonnie Cohen, CEO, RiverMead; Mary Elizabeth McClellan, president resident council, RiverMead; John Morison III, vice chair, RiverMead board of trustees; Joseph Hart, chair, RiverMead board of trustees; and Peter Forssell, M.D., RiverMead board of trustees

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