

Park View at Norwood Crossing Welcomes Returning Sunbelt Retirees to a Full-Service Lifestyle

After 33 years as a Chicago Police Officer, Tony Immordino has seen it all, including 20 years of retirement living in Arizona. Now in his late 70s and a widower for the past two years, he is planning on returning to Chicago and Park View at Norwood Crossing when the full-service community is built by 2010.

Tony is one of many senior citizens who, as part of a growing number of retirees, are returning from the Sunbelt states of Florida and Arizona to their Chicago roots as their lifestyle and health needs change.

“We enjoyed Arizona for 20 years, spending at least 10 months there out of the year at our home in Sun City,” said Tony. “It sure puts a smile on my face to think about the beautiful mountains and warm climate. But after my wife died, it was lonely. Back problems earlier prevented me from playing golf, although there were many other activities to choose from. I had a car to get around and my two grandchildren lived nearby, but it just wasn’t the same. I returned to Chicago for six months each during

the past two summers and lived in an in-law apartment at my daughter-in-laws. I missed being with my family.”

Although Tony isn’t thrilled about moving again and facing Chicago’s winters, he sees Park View at Norwood Crossing as providing independence, security and a continuum of care. “I checked out some continuing care communities in Arizona, and they’re very nice with many amenities. But I’d still be without my family, and I don’t have long-term care insurance. I know Park View will provide good quality health care when needed,” he said. “I’ll have peace of mind and won’t be a burden on my family.”

A recent article in the Chicago Tribune noted that more adults 75 and over are returning to the Midwest than are retiring to the South. The study, conducted by the Brookings Institution, attributed “the change to seniors living longer and in more need of family support.” Between 1995 and 2000, 59,000 seniors left the Midwest and 44,000 returned. From 2000-2005, 17,000 seniors moved from the midwest and 58,000 returned. The

trend is expected to continue as life expectancy increases.

Many of these “boomerang seniors,” as they are called, are opting for continuing care retirement communities (CCRC) that offer full service senior living. Park View at Norwood Crossing is one of several CCRCs in Chicago that features what returning retirees seek - to be within walking distance of a neighborhood shopping district buttressed with parks and tree-lined streets and sidewalks, close to professional services and, most importantly, near friends and family. Residents at Park View, free of home ownership and burdensome lawn care and home repairs, will have the time to pursue favorite hobbies, enjoy indoor amenities and share time with those whose company they treasure.

For Tony and the many other retirees who are returning to their roots, Park View at Norwood Crossing welcomes them to experience its independent lifestyle with “a rich history and long tradition of providing exceptional health care.”