



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Catharine Young

## Senator Young Tours In-Progress 48-Unit Affordable Housing Complex in Livonia

CATHARINE YOUNG October 17, 2018

| ISSUE: **AFFORDABLE HOUSING, RURAL COMMUNITIES, AGING**



Livonia, NY – Senator Catharine M. Young joined with local officials and representatives from the Genesee Valley Rural Preservation Council Inc. (GVRPC) to tour the new, in-progress Wildbriar Estates, a \$10.2 million affordable elderly housing project supported by state and federal funds. The project includes an allocation from the state's Rural and Urban Community Investment Fund (CIF), an initiative spearheaded by Senator Young in 2013 to encourage and support the development of mixed-use housing projects aimed at serving

vulnerable populations and stimulating local revitalization efforts.

“Affordable housing is one of rural America’s greatest challenges. Lack of private investment, lower incomes and an older housing stock all too often leave rural residents with very few options, which hurts economic development and the overall quality of life in these areas,” said Senator Young.

“The problem is especially acute among the elderly, who often have physical impairments and very limited incomes that further narrow their choices. However, today we have seen what is possible. Wildbriar Estates in Livonia is a wonderful example of how to serve this growing population with a housing model tailored to preserve their independence and quality of life. An apartment complex that offers support services and amenities such meeting spaces, a fitness facility and library, this is a housing solution that is a win for everyone - our seniors, communities and state.”

The complex is one of the first residential projects in upstate New York to include Rural and Urban Community Investment Fund (CIF) monies. An initiative championed by Senator Young in 2013 in her prior capacity as Chair of the Standing Committee on Housing, CIF supports community or commercial spaces in mixed-use affordable housing developments in urban and rural communities statewide that serve the needs of low-income residents. CIF funds can only be used in projects also receiving residential financing from New York State Homes and Community Renewal (HCR).

Wildbriar Estates will provide a total of 48 units of elderly/disabled and frail elderly housing with support services. A single large building will house 32 apartments and will include elevator, attached Community Senior Center, a communal dining room, fitness room, beauty salon, library/computer room, meeting room, laundries and offices. The Senior Center will be available to other seniors in the community as well. Three buildings housing a total of 16

single story town houses will offer additional housing options and the grounds will feature outdoor pavilion, walking paths and a picnic area. All interior and exterior areas are handicapped accessible.

The project is expected to be complete in late 2018. Information is available at [www.gvrpc.com](http://www.gvrpc.com) or 585-658-4870.

###