

Aging In Place Resource Center to Open December 11 in Southbury, Connecticut



An Aging in Place Resource Center, featuring a PALS - Practical Assisted Living Structure - will debut in Southbury, CT on Saturday, December 11. The Center was created by A&C Medical and the Ready Living Structures Division of Rockfall Company LLC.

Nov. 30, 2010 - [PRLog](#) -- Todd Schuck, co-owner of A&C Medical Supplies and Equipment, Inc. in Southbury, Connecticut, recently was named one of a select group of professionals across the United States who has earned the designation of being a Certified Aging-In-Place Specialist (CAPS). Schuck received the designation from the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) based in Washington, D.C. (www.nahb.org). This distinctive designation identifies Schuck as a top professional in the nation's building industry with the skills and knowledge specific to home modifications for individuals who would like to 'age-in-place' in their own homes.

On December 11th, 10 AM to 2 PM, Schuck, and his brother Craig Schuck, co-owners of A&C Medical, will host a Grand Opening Open House of their new Aging in Place Resource Center. The Center is immediately adjacent to the A&C Medical store at 385 Main Street South in Southbury's Union Square Plaza. The Aging in Place Resource Center (www.aginginplaceresourcecenter.org) was created through a strategic alliance between A&C Medical and the Certified Aging in Place Specialists (CAPS) at the Ready Living Structures Division of the Rockfall Company, LLC in Meriden, CT, creators of PALS-Practical Assisted Living Structures (www.palsbuilt.com). "The ambition of this Center" explained Schuck, "is to provide a place where people can visit to obtain ideas about how a senior or handicapped individual can safely and independently age-in-place in their own home, or the home of a family member or caregiver. Visitors to our the Center's showroom can see examples of everything from minor adaptive home medical equipment and simple home remodeling plans to PALS variety of add-on pre-fabricated add-on units to full-scale home modification projects."

The Aging In Place Resource Center features a PALS modular unit enhanced with features to accommodate the needs of handicapped or older individuals. Floor plans for PALS adaptable units range from 280 to 660 sq ft, and can be added on to an existing home or built as a stand-alone unit. Henry Racki, owner of Rockfall Company, LLC and their Ready Living Structures Division, stated, "We created PALS to provide seniors and physically impaired people with the ability to live independently and safely in their home. PALS special need accommodations allow for long-term living solutions, and short-term rehabilitation needs. It is one of the most cost effective alternatives to a nursing home or complete home remodel projects

available today,” stated Racki.

“We collaborated to create the Aging In Place Resource Center,” commented Schuck, “as a one-stop solution for any accessibility and/or safety challenges an individual and their family may face. By collaborating with the CAPS professionals at the Ready Living Structures Division of the Rockfall Company, which has built hundreds of accessibility/safety modifications in homes throughout Connecticut, our Center’s will perform modification projects both big and small.”

Shuck explained that, “Working with Rockfall gives us access to the products, resources and expertise to perform modification and adaptation projects of various size. The new Aging In Place Resource Center’s service techs will handle jobs that will include installation of bathroom safety grab bars, railings and ramp systems, while the remodeling team will handle larger accessibility remodeling projects. Our combined experiences of working with people with special needs, and the 3,000+ mobility/safety products available to our A&C Medical Equipment and Supplies customers, will allow our new Center meet any of our client’s requests.”

Originally opened in 1993, A&C Medical is a home medical equipment and supply company that has successfully served the greater Southbury area for 17 years. Todd Schuck is president of the retail store and online sales company, and Craig Schuck is vice president and chief financial officer. “Our mission,” stated Todd Schuck, “is to help families and elderly people age in place by providing the best and most affordable home medical equipment and supplies in the region. Our store, and our new Aging In Place Resource Center, will provide the best and most affordable home medical equipment, supplies, services and home modification products and equipment in this area to help people ‘age in place’ vs. entering an assisted living community.”

CAPS Certification

Schuck’s recently-earned Certification of Aging In Place Specialists (CAPS) is a classification created by the Remodelers™ Council of the NAHB in collaboration with the NAHB Research Center, NAHB Seniors Housing Council and AARP. The program was developed by NAHB to help home remodeling professionals meet the needs of the 77 million Baby Boomers currently aging toward retirement. The CAPS designation identifies professionals who have been trained to help retirees and older adults remain in their homes safely, independently and comfortably, regardless of income or ability level, and continue to live in a familiar environment throughout their maturing years.

“The CAPS certification program,” explained Schuck, “teaches the technical, business management and customer service skills essential to compete in the fastest growing segment in the residential remodeling industry-home modifications for individuals who choose to age-in-place.” The intense three-day curriculum included information on the older adult population; communications techniques; marketing to this market niche; common barriers and solutions; codes and standards; product ideas and resources; and business management. “As a premiere home medical equipment and supply provider in the region,” stated Schuck, “the CAPS program helped me understand the needs of an elderly person to live comfortably and safely in their home.”

A&C Medical & Aging In Place Resource Center

“A&C Medical is the area’s leading supplier for such Power Mobility Devices as power wheelchairs and scooters,” stated Schuck. “We offer a complete line of bathroom safety products which tie-in ideally to our new Aging In Place Resource Center where we will continue to be an exclusive retailer of Senior Safe Walk-In Bathtubs with the lowest step offered in the industry.” A&C Medical offers a full line of home medical equipment and supplies from incontinence to wound care products to orthotics, braces and

compression hosiery. The store also rents and delivers such medical equipment as hospital beds, hip and lift chairs, continuous passive motion machines (CPM), plus an attractive line of Diabetic Footwear with custom orthotics and accessories such as lotion, sprays and diabetic socks.

The new Aging In Place Resource Center will offer services that include construction of ramp systems and railings, bathroom safety products, stair and chair lifts and other mobility products to create independence for seniors, and provide safer, more comfortable and accessible homes that appeal to homeowners and their guests. "With the additional enhanced PALS-Practical Assisted Living Structures," explained Schuck, "individuals can maintain a high quality of life that is dignified and independent. Our Center is Connecticut's only location in Connecticut where individuals can walk through an actual interior of a PALS unit, plus get additional adaptation or home modification ideas to help accomplish the goal of 'aging in place'."

The A&C Medical and the new Aging In Place Resource Center will be open Mondays through Fridays, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 PM. They are located in the rear section of the Union Square complex at 385 Main Street South in Southbury, off I-84 Exit 15, and can be reached at 203-262-1671, toll free at 877-262-1671, and by fax to 203-262-1162. Todd Schuck can be contacted at 860-830-6321, and via email to todd@acmedical.com. To learn more, visit www.aginginplaceresourcecenter.org, www.acmedical.com, or email to customerservice@acmedical.com.

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