

## V.A. Medical Center Ahead of The Curve

A number of states have enacted "safe patient movement and handling" legislation and a greater number have introduced some type of legislation designed to address lifting in health care facilities.



*VA Medical Center,  
White River Jct. VT*

Vermont Senator Virginia Lyons of Chittenden District has introduced a Bill "Health care facilities; safe patient handling" that is slated to take effect January 1, 2008.

Leading the pack is the V.A. Medical Center in White River Junction, Vermont that has instituted a zero lift policy. This means transfer techniques and equipment will be used to safely move patients. The decision will not only cut down on the number of back injuries sustained by healthcare workers transferring patients, but will positively affect the patients' safety, quality of care, comfort and dignity.

AWA had the pleasure of being contracted to install 41 Surehands Transfer Lifts in the patient areas. After months of engineering and design work, the systems went in smoothly and without incident. Much of this was due to the diligence and oversight of our install team, Dave Olson and Mike Catudal.

Jeff Lavoie performed all staff training and has received nothing but enthusiastic feedback from the nursing staff.



*Staff Training at VA Medical  
Center, White River Jct. VT*

## Nashua Center's 6th Annual "Taste of the Towns" Benefit Auction and Wine/Food Tasting

This year's Honorary Chairperson, Jeff Lavoie, President, All-Ways Accessible, Inc. is happy to promote the Nashua Center's 6th Annual "Taste of the Towns" Benefit Auction and Wine/Food Tasting. The benefit will be held on Friday, Oct. 12.

Hundreds of people gather to sample wines and dishes from dozens of area vendors and participate in the Live and Silent Auctions of great gifts, collector's items and merchandise donated by a multitude of vendors, businesses and families. A great fundraiser (in this case for the Nashua Center for the Multiply Handicapped, founded in 1974), who's mission is to provide optimal services and supports to children and adults with developmental delays or disabilities in the communities in which they live.

If you would like to attend, participate or donate please contact the Nashua Center at (603) 883-6163.

## Tax Credits for Accessibility Equipment and Renovations

Certain improvements made to accommodate a home to your disabled condition, or that of your spouse or your dependents who live with you, can be included, in full, as medical expenses.



Residential Elevators • Wheelchair Lifts • LULA Elevators • Stairway Lifts • Dumbwaiters • Transfer Lifts • Ramps

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Lift / Elevator Mechanic

**Michael Racki**  
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Only reasonable costs to accommodate a home to a disabled condition are considered medical care.



For the full description go to the IRS Website at:  
<http://www.irs.gov/publications/p502/ar02.html#d0e741>

### **Aging in Place**

...is growing older without having to move from ones own residence to secure necessary support services. Aging in Place has grown in popularity and celebrated by the National Aging in Place Week and the National Aging in Place Council that promotes the positive outcomes of seniors having a choice in their care and living arrangements.

There are now many creative devices to assist when problems arise that can be compounded by an older adults evolving situation. Depending on the circumstances your home can be adapted for your prolonged use. This is about making things accessible to all people, whether they have a disability or not.

Contact us for a FREE home evaluation. Let us help.



### **Note from the President**

*I am always interested in hearing your comments, good or otherwise.*

*My extension is 102.*

*Sincerely,*  
**Jeff Lavoie, President**

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