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**65 and Older Population to Continue to Soar in Ankeny, Iowa**

**West Des Moines, June 2016** – Iowa’s senior population is rapidly growing. By 2050, according to Woods & Poole Economics, the projected population of Iowans age 65 and older will increase by over 200,000.

Ankeny’s population of persons 65 and older is expected to increase by 27.9 percent within the next five years. This number is expected to continue to increase as the baby boomers just started to turn 65 in 2011. “As people age, they tend to require more medical care. They are increasingly likely to have trouble living alone-some will need home and/or community-based health services, others will move into assisted living and still others, those with self-care limitations, will need 24 hour nursing communities,” said Doug Johnson, President of Hawkeye Care Centers of Iowa.

To meet the demand for senior living options and support services, The Bridges at Ankeny, a Hawkeye Care Centers of Iowa managed community, is scheduled to open August 23, 2016. This 146-residence community comprised of a 30-bed memory care neighborhood, 28-bed long-term care community and 42-bed skilled rehabilitation wing will offer suites with private bathrooms and zero-entry showers, secured landscaped courtyards, neighborhood kitchens, dining rooms and living rooms. Future living residences will include 30 assisted living residences and 18 independent townhomes.

“This premium continuing care community located at 3510 Northwest Abilene Road will be equipped with the latest technology and senior-living design amenities, including an on-site therapy and wellness center, theater, doctor’s exam room, day spa and bistro,” said Johnson. “It was designed to assure residents the freedom of choice in an independent, dignified and caring living environment that meets the needs of aging residents and families.”

For more information on The Bridges at Ankeny visit [www.thebridgesankeny.com](http://www.thebridgesankeny.com) or call 515-963-9815.

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