

I spoke last week about my disappointment that the new legislature seems to be proceeding with the lease of the Adult Care Center to Infinitecare's shell company, the Sunset Lake SNF LLC. I can disagree, while I understand that some of you lack confidence in the ability of the county management to manage the facility or feel that the most important thing is that the county should not financially responsible for the facility, as one of you said to me last week. It is certainly not unusual for someone to desire to evade responsibility for an inherited problem. Still, I ask that you be mindful of the public's wishes, which you were elected to represent. The public has willingly invested in their county owned nursing home for decades and accepts its costs, like the costs of all the other county departments. To the public, the financing of the ACC is a sort of long-term insurance that would provide a high-quality care environment for us, our relatives, and neighbors if we should be so unfortunate as to require 24 hours nursing care and no other options enable us to remain at home.

I gather that Infinitecare continued to blow smoke during last week's meeting with the legislators which I was not allowed to attend. For Infinitecare to say that they aren't responsible for the facility's 1 star rating is ridiculous. The ACC was a 4-star facility in January of 2021, according to their overall rating on Medicare.gov. Infinite Care started their consultancy contract in October 2021. That rating fell to 2 stars at the beginning of January 2023 and then got the 1-star rating with the little red warning hand icon only last summer, concurrently with the sad death of a resident who was denied lifesaving measures. It remains one star today as an overall rating, but the 4 star rating of short term residents' care of which the last Chairman boasted has now decreased to 2 stars.

The finances have also been misrepresented over the last few years by those who would privatize the nursing home, with statements such as that the nursing home operated at a deficit of a million dollars per month. The average figure was actually about \$300,000 per month. Having finally received the reconciliation data for 2022, it appears that Infinitecare lost the county about 6 million dollars in 2022, which is approximately twice as much.

Remember, Infinitecare is supposed to be acting only as a consultant, but in reality they were handed the management of the facility, very much against DOH regulations. An operator of a nursing home is supposed to manage it and cannot farm out those responsibilities. Infinitecare apparently blames all the financial and quality of care deficits on the county, which view is shared by the DOH. Regardless of whose fault it is, I can't understand why you would go

forward to lease our county nursing home to a company which has shown itself to be incompetent and deceptive.