



For Immediate Release  
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## **Botsford Commons experts lead panel at May 19 Senior Expo** *Importance of memory screening discussed*

Dr. Theodore Ruza, psychiatrist and medical director of Botsford Hospital's inpatient geropsych unit and Diane Zide, executive director of Botsford Commons Senior Community's Senior Living Services, will discuss the importance of memory screenings at the Observer & Eccentric Senior Expo on May 19 at Schoolcraft College.

The panel, conducted by Botsford Commons, is just one of many things to experience at the expo, which includes a number of exhibitors addressing a variety of senior issues.

Memory loss is certainly a concern of many senior citizens and their families. Alzheimer's currently affects more than 5 million Americans and is the leading cause of dementia in people over the age of 65, although Ruza stresses that proper diagnosis is critical.

"Correctly identifying the cause of memory loss, or dementia, is so important, and can have a huge effect on a patient's quality of life," Ruza said, noting that dementia has many causes, some of which are reversible, such as vitamin deficiency and depression. "The quicker a true diagnosis is made, the sooner the best course of treatment can begin."

The panel will be conducted from 11-11:45 a.m. The Expo is free to the community and will be held at Schoolcraft College at 18600 Haggerty Road in Livonia.

*Botsford Commons Senior Community is a non-profit corporation providing housing and service options for seniors. Located on a 30-acre campus in Farmington Hills, the Community offers a full continuum of care for the area's senior population including short stay rehabilitation, privately owned condominiums, senior apartments and assisted living suites. For more information visit the website at: [www.botsfordcommons.org](http://www.botsfordcommons.org).*