



*Your wish
is her
command.*

LIVE THE LUXE LIFE

Imagine hardly a work day goes by without someone prefacing a conversation with, “I know this may be a strange question ...” For Sharon Stillman, that’s just another day at the office. She serves as the concierge at The Luxe Apartments at Ridgedale, one of Minnetonka’s latest entries into the luxury residential living game.

“It is my job to provide the equivalent of what feels like a personal assistant to every tenant in the building. Needless to say, no request is too large or small,” Stillman says, adding, “I have what I call my Concierge Concertina file in which I keep information about anything from a local florist to a private chef to a museum-quality art installer. Each of these services has been personally vetted by me ...”

Typically on duty from 9 a.m.–6 p.m. Monday through Saturday, Stillman’s day begins by waking up the building—turning on public televisions, settling the outdoor spaces, getting updates on service calls, booting up the golf simulator and reviewing the site’s cleanliness. “We have a cleaning crew on site seven days a week and pride ourselves on making sure that the building is as COVID safe as possible for the residents,” Stillman says.

Some of Stillman’s other duties include coordinating maintenance requests, pro-

viding move-in assistance, aiding in daily needs (Need a limo driver, a dog groomer, a florist or even a personal stylist?), scheduling presentations on health and highlighting events in and around the area. “Many of the residents have relocated here, so they are not familiar with the area or any resources available from a nearby hospital to a gift shop to a walking trail. Having lived in Minnesota for over 30 years, I am very familiar with the area and all that it has to offer,” she says.

Some of the most common requests revolve around technology. “Our building has the most up-to-date technology for security purposes, and most residents need a little extra help figuring out the various apps required to allow guests to enter the building, pick up their packages and their dry cleaning in addition to entering and exiting the building,” Stillman says.

“Most days, I’m fielding questions, assisting delivery drivers with deliveries, answering the phone, coordinating maintenance calls ... just generally making sure everything is running smoothly in the building,” Stillman says. But she’s not opposed to using a bit of elbow grease during her shifts. “On occasion, I have been known to repair a drawer that has come off its rails, check on an electrical outlet that has tripped and also

*By Renée
Stewart-
Hester*

*Photos
by Chris
Emeott*



Making Space

Given the hand dealt by 2020, many of us have a fresh appreciation for the great outdoors, and there's more area parkland with year-round elements in the offing. Plans are in the works to break ground this spring on a multiuse, urban park at 12590 Ridgedale Drive, just a short walking distance from The Luxe. It's anticipated that the project stands to be mostly completed by fall, according to Carol Hejlstone, park and trail planner with the City of Minnetonka.

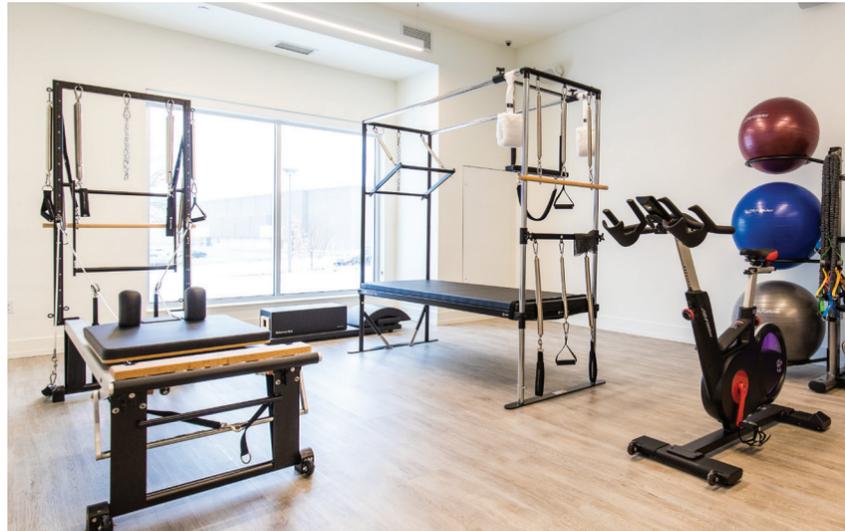
problem solve a running toilet.”

Once her day is done, home is only steps away, as Stillman is also a resident of The Luxe. “It’s quite a unique situation. I signed a lease before I was offered the position as concierge,” she says. “At first, I was concerned that working and living in the same place may be difficult to separate myself from, but I have found that not to be the case, and it’s almost as though the whole building has become my home.”

Stillman didn’t start out as a concierge—in an official capacity, that is. She was a stay-at-home mom and a working artist for 25 years, managing her three children’s schedules, maintaining a large home and assisting her ex-husband with his business. “I’ve always been pretty good at multitasking and having to juggle a bunch of things happening at the same time, so ... I don’t have a problem prioritizing what needs to get done based on its importance,” she says. “Plus, we are a great team and always work together to get things done.”



Photo courtesy of The Luxe Apartments



It's in the Details

When done right, high-end apartment living can offer a bespoke experience that includes personalized amenities and services and features that lend themselves to creating a strong sense of community within the building.

On more than four acres of woodland, The Luxe, owned by the Rotenberg Companies, opened in June 2020 and is home to 78 rental units. “We initially thought that our target market would be empty nesters, and it turns out that we also have a wide-ranging demographic of residents ranging from Gen Zers to mil-

lennials and Gen Xers, too,” Stillman says.

Regardless who calls the property home, they’re greeted by a lobby and amenity spaces created by Billy Beson of Minneapolis’ Billy Beson Company, which specializes in high-end residential and commercial interior design. Sophisticated contemporary furnishings dovetail with natural finishes. A coffee bar welcomes residents with an enviable lineup of Starbucks beverages.

Moving, regardless of where you’re going, can be stressful. The Luxe offers preferred rates with AAA Movers Inc. of Minneapolis, activation of tele-

com and utility accounts and change of address processing (That’s a time saver.), fine art shipping and installation; and unpacking and organization for a fee. (Talk about a perk.)

There’s plenty of reasons to stay home at The Luxe. Consider: personal trainers and fitness instructors; health and wellness programs; nutritional services; IT assistance; in-home salon services and chefs; spa services; home and fashion stylists; full-service event planning and more.

Speaking of events, the community room features a chef’s kitchen, an island dining bar, a custom banquet-size quartz dining table, a fireplace and two 82-inch TVs, with a fully immersive sound system. The entertainment suite offers another gathering space as does the conference room, complete with a quartz conference table, designer chandelier and artwork and audio/video teleconferencing equipment.

Residents have the option of taking their workouts indoors and out. The fitness center offers Life Fitness fully integrated cardio, strength training and group training equipment and regularly-scheduled fitness classes. For Pilates devotees, there is a separate studio, and a yoga, dance and barre studio is available for classes, as well. Nearby walking trails and bike paths offer nature-based wellness options.

Minnesotans love their golf, and why not get in a bit of practice at home? The Luxe offers a multi-sports simulator,

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12501 Ridgedale Drive, Minnetonka;
952.417.9939; livetheluxeridgedale.com
@LuxeApartments_
The Luxe Apartments at Ridgedale
@theluxeapartments

which offers residents a great way to get in some practice swings. The simulator also features baseball, football, soccer and tennis.

Home, sweet home often includes four-legged friends, and they have a space of their own, too. A self-service pet spa, complete with tub, dryer and towel service is offered, and for full salon treatment (shampoo, haircut and teeth cleaning), a mobile pet groomer will visit The Luxe. Happy pet, happy life.

“All of this makes for a unique living experience in this stunning contemporary building tucked away between trees and over-looking a pond right next to the Ridgedale library,” Stillman says. ↗

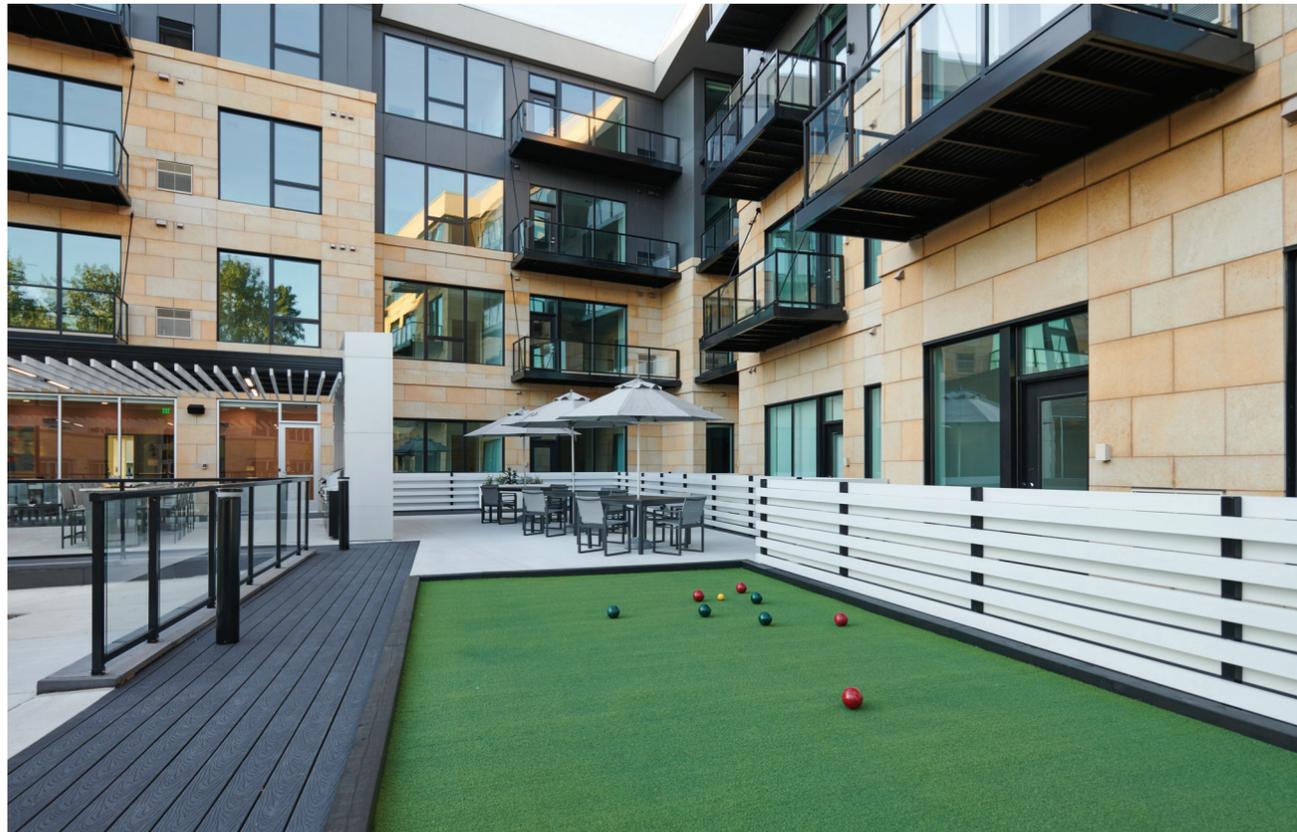


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