



## Ventas Seniors Housing Community Resident Walter Breuning Celebrates 114th Birthday

September 21, 2010

### *World-Famous Supercentarian Another Year Older and More Remarkable*

CHICAGO, Sep 21, 2010 (BUSINESS WIRE) --

Ventas, Inc. (NYSE: VTR) ("Ventas" or the "Company") today celebrates the remarkable birthday of one of its most famous residents Walter Breuning, certified by the Guinness Book of World Records as the world's oldest living man at the age of 114. The celebration will take place at The Rainbow Senior Living in Great Falls, Montana, where Walter has resided for the past 30 years.

"What Walter has achieved by reaching the age of 114 is no small feat," said Robert Young, Senior Consultant for Gerontology, Guinness World Records. "Walter officially became the Oldest Man in the World on July 18, 2009, and the fact that he has held this record for over a year is amazing. The 2011 edition of the Guinness Book of World Records is the first edition that recognizes Walter's accomplishment, and I'm so pleased to personally present him with a copy today."

The age of 114 has been reached much more often by women. So far, Guinness has recognized 72 women, but only five men, to have reached the age of 114. Currently, the world's oldest person, Eugenie Blanchard of the French island of Saint Barthelemy, born February 16, 1896, is just seven months older than Walter.

Expected to attend Walter's birthday celebration today at The Rainbow Senior Living are Mr. Young and the Governor of Montana Brian Schweitzer, in addition to several Shriners (Walter is the oldest living Shriner), friends, and fellow residents.

"All of us here at Ventas wish Walter a very happy birthday and a wonderful 114<sup>th</sup> year," Ventas Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer Debra A. Cafaro said.

In anticipation of this birthday, Walter reflected on the three centuries his life has spanned and shared some of his experiences and thoughts, which are shown below.

#### **Life in the 1900s:**

There was no electricity, and transportation was only horses and the Great Northern Railway, and no running water or bathroom in the houses - imagine that.

#### **Growing up during WWI:**

It was pretty tough business; you had no choice, you just had to do what was going on. There were no jobs, and you were just lucky to get a job. My job on the railroad paid \$60 a month and that was a lot of money.

#### **Invention of the Car:**

We boys would take out the Model T and about every five miles you had to get out and change out the tires, patch them up and pump them up and then off we'd go again.

#### **The Great Depression:**

Banks were closing all over the place; there was no money and no jobs. If the war hadn't started, we'd still be in a Depression! And my advice, stay working as long as you can and don't retire too early 'cause you'll find out you need a little more money than what Social Security pays.

#### **Most Memorable Invention:**

Radio and TV are probably the biggest inventions that changed the world. And then in the 1960s the computer made a real difference in how business was done.

#### **Most Memorable Event:**

Halley's Comet, the flash of fire lasted three nights. People stayed up all night to see the ball of fire going across the sky - that was quite a sight.

#### **Secret to a Long Life:**

I'll tell you one thing is diet - stay slim and keep that mind and body busy all the time, and you'll find it a darn good thing to do.

#### **Words of Wisdom:**

Be good to everybody, be kind to everybody, and help other people. The more you do for other people, the better you are going to help yourself. Every day is a good day and make it that way.

For more information about Walter, visit [www.ventasreit.com/about/oldestmanintheworld.asp](http://www.ventasreit.com/about/oldestmanintheworld.asp).

Ventas, Inc., an S&P 500 company, is a leading healthcare real estate investment trust. Its diverse portfolio of approximately 600 assets in 44 states (including the District of Columbia) and two Canadian provinces consists of seniors housing communities, skilled nursing facilities, hospitals, medical

office buildings and other properties. Through its Lillibridge subsidiary, Ventas provides management, leasing, marketing, facility development and advisory services to highly rated hospitals and health systems throughout the United States. More information about Ventas and Lillibridge can be found at [www.ventasreit.com](http://www.ventasreit.com) and [www.lillibridge.com](http://www.lillibridge.com).

SOURCE: Ventas, Inc.

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