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Kendra and Ed Good, with Caring Transitions, demonstrate for the Star-Tribune how they would pack up a clients home in Paradise Valley on Thursday. (Tim Kupsick/Star-Tribune)

Life changes

Casper company helps families make transitions

By **TOM MAST**
Star-Tribune staff writer

Kendra and Ed Good recall moving into a small house in Casper and finding the possessions of an elderly woman piled everywhere.

"It was sad when we walked in there, because one of the reasons she had to move out was because she had lost her sight. But it was like time had stopped. Here were her family photographs and everything personal to her, and it was just all left behind," Ed said.

While the possessions of most people who find themselves in the middle of wrenching changes

aren't completely abandoned, many practical decisions still must be made.

Ed and Kendra recently started a business called Caring Transitions. Their franchise runs from Casper to Cheyenne, and also includes Hot Springs County.

The couple describe themselves as advocates and project managers. "We basically take the burden off of families when they have an unexpected transition in their life," Kendra said.

To illustrate, consider the case of an elderly person who must move from a home to an assisted living center. Caring Transitions can set up a plan for making the

move and attend to the details. They can pack up the belongings, ship family heirlooms to relatives, work with movers, cleaners and painters to rehabilitate the house to rent or sell.

They can also draw up a floor plan of the assisted living apartment to figure out what possessions to take. "We know how many of their end tables will fit with the sofa," Ed said. "If they have a favorite, we can help them with the placement of the furniture." When the movers arrive, they will know exactly where to place each item.

Caring Transitions also can arrange for full or partial liqui-

dations, estate sales and online auctions. They are bonded and insured.

Ed said while elderly people are the largest segment likely to use their services, similar transitions might arise due to accidents, illnesses or divorce.

To start, Caring Transitions will have a staff of five, including Ed and Kendra. Initial consultations are free.

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