Celebration for 30th Year Anniversary Begins

Landis Homes welcomed its first residents on February 18, 1964. To celebrate this event, teas were held in both East and West to kick off the 30th year. Since Valentine’s Day was earlier in the same week, the teas had a sweetheart theme. Entertainment in the East celebration was provided by musician/singer Bob Balthaser. A group called “Old Timers” provided a musical program at the West tea.

As the year unfolds, more commemorations are being planned. The theme for the year is “Celebrating 30 Years of Service.” The annual Barbecue Day in September will also have some special anniversary activities.

As a special aspect of the year, A. Grace Wenger has been commissioned to write the history of Landis Homes. She has been delving through past board minutes and publications as well as interviewing persons who were part of Landis Homes’ early years. Her work is scheduled to be published this fall.

Mark Your Calendar

Annual Chicken Barbecue & Fellowship Day

September 10, 1994

sponsored by the Landis Homes Auxiliary

The refreshment table of the tea held in West to celebrate Landis Homes 30th Anniversary.
In Praise of Spring

It is now well into the spring season. It is amazing what warm sun, greening lawns, and the chirping sound of birds can do to one's spirit. It wasn't long ago that we were in the midst of one of our worst winters in recent years. We wondered if the snow would ever melt. This year, more than ever, I sensed a real yearning for spring and warmer weather. Perhaps it was that pent-up feeling some call cabin fever many of us had after a prolonged period of snow and ice. We were just tired of shoveling snow and scraping ice. When spring began its steady unfolding, I sensed from everyone a real readiness. Praise God for Spring!

I would like to give recognition to our staff, who in spite of many interruptions and problems, carried out their duties beyond what was required. During several storms from January into March, numerous staff stayed overnight and worked extra shifts to fill in for those unable to make it to work. It is during events such as these that one senses the tremendous dedication of our staff. Also, a special feeling of community and family develops during these times. Several staff hinted to me that while they were snowed in at home, they regretted not being here. They had a feeling they missed out on the action or the party. (Maybe it was the homemade soft pretzels made here during one of the storms.) We owe each staff person a special thanks for helping us make it through the winter of '94.

—Ed Longenecker
Administrator

Landis Homes Board of Directors

Left to right, seated: Lynn Roth, Secretary, Mervin Nolt, Treasurer, Ruth Weaver, Assistant Secretary, J. Clyde Root, President, Dr. J. Kenneth Brubaker, Vice President. Standing 2nd row: Harold Horst, A. Grace Wenger, Carlton Miller, Irvin Martin, Gladys Rutt. 3rd row: Lois Good, Mark Landis, Chester Steffy, Glenn Weaver. Irvin Martin & A. Grace Wenger are the newest board members serving their first year. Chester Steffy has served the longest term as a board member at 29 years.
Norway Comes to Landis Homes

While the Olympics were underway in Lillhammer, a little piece of Norway came to Landis Homes. Gudrun Kartevold, a Landis Homes resident of Norwegian descent, shared some of her cultural background in a program called “Norwegian Holiday” on February 25.

With the support of activities staff, a local organization called The Sons for Norway, and many others, she turned the West Community Room into a cultural exhibit. Many tables were displayed with photographs, lace, tools, household utensils, and many examples of exquisite needlework, all products of Norway, past and present. Also, Gudrun spent many hours beforehand baking Norwegian cookies and pastries for the refreshment tables.

The afternoon program was extensive. It included live piano works by a Norwegian composer performed by resident, Naomi Denlinger. Alice Whitehead showed slides from her Norwegian travels. Friends of

Gudrun’s joined her in wearing the bunads, traditional folk costumes of Norway. John Jesberg shared experiences he had with the Pocket Testament League in Lillhammer, from where he had just returned.

On a snowy, winter afternoon more than 100 persons attended the event. They enjoyed the tastes, smells, sounds and sights of Norway.

—Rebecca Cargas
Activities Director

Dressed in bunads folk costumes of Norway are Holly Girard, Lila Post, Linda Scott, Katie Joy Scott (front) & Gudrun Kartevold.

Susan Jones describes some of the Norwegian pastries to Irma Brubaker, Harry Weaver, & Bob Scott.

Holly Girard describes the use of some of the Norwegian household items to Anna Horning and Nora Martin.
Adult Day Care Ushers In Spring With Open House

Local politicians, a warm sunny day and an Easter flower sale all combined to make the Landis Homes Adult Day Care Open House on March 30 a festive and celebrative occasion. Adult Day Care participants, families and guests were privileged to welcome Rep. Bob Walker as the featured guest and speaker at the afternoon drop-in event. It was encouraging to hear his commitment to the needs of older adults and community-based programs such as Adult Day Care. We were also pleased to have County Commissioner James Huber, Office of Aging Executive Director Pat Mann and Landis Homes Administrator Ed Longenecker address the group.

As guests arrived in the lobby they were greeted with the pleasing fragrance of a lovely display of spring flowers. With the help of an enthusiastic group of volunteers directed by Naomi Weaver, this second annual flower sale planned to coincide with the Open House, raised funds which benefit the Adult Day Care Program.

Thanks to the help of many volunteers and the continued support of the Landis Homes Community, families and others the day was a wonderful success. Persons interested in more information about the Adult Day Care program may call 569-3271, ext. 66.

— Evanna Hess
Adult Day Care Director

East Gift Shop Reopens

The grand reopening of the Landis Homes East Gift Shop was held on February 1. In addition to the usual stock of books, cards and crafts, some new items have been added. These include personal items, snacks, and gifts. The shop, which is staffed by volunteers, is open Monday - Saturday, from 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 12:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Welcome New Residents
INDEPENDENT LIVING
RESIDENTIAL / PERSONAL CARE

Helen Lengel
Eleanor Myer
Ruth Wissler

NURSING CARE
Dorothea DeLong
Elvin Bare
M. Elizabeth Weaver
Edna Scott
Sadie Cutman

Elsie Martin makes a purchase at the newly refurbished East Gift Shop from volunteer clerk, Helen Hollyday.
Volunteers Soar High

On April 14, 1994 a Volunteer Appreciation Banquet was held at Neffsville Mennonite Church Fellowship Hall for Landis Homes volunteers. The following article of the event was submitted by volunteer and resident, Esther Becker.

We, a “flock” of 200 or more, have been sharing gifts God has given to us for use in the servanthood venture of volunteering. Volunteers attach no price tags for their service. But Landis Homes soared high to say thank you.

What a celebration—beautifully decorated tables, plates laden with delicious food, and excellent planning. The theme for the evening was Volunteers Soar High. This theme was carried out from decorations and favors to the program and the humor of the evening.

Bird enthusiast Carol Gockley displays some of her exotic pets.

The Psalms have much to say about WINGS. Janet Peifer’s solo, “Under His Wings,” lifted everyone’s spirit. The warmth of God’s wings could be felt by all, through her singing. The medley of joyful voices and laughter filled the hall. Someone said, “It’s good to laugh and have fun, too.”

Is there anyone who doesn’t love birds? Arlene Kreider, our volunteer coordinator, suggested there are all kinds of birds in the volunteer flock. And we have been soaring! A total of 37,364 volunteer hours were chalked up in 1993. This is more than any previous year.

“Strictly for the Birds”, a program by Carol Gockley was invigorating. Carol brought about twenty birds from her live bird collection including cockatiels, canaries, parakeets, and other exotic birds. Donning binoculars to imitate a bird watcher as well as releasing birds in the audience made for an interesting and entertaining program.

In the closing moments all were challenged to join the volunteer flock in soaring high. We “shall mount up with wings as eagles,”—higher and higher!

Volunteers from Hinkletown Mennonite Church prepare 400 favors which went to each resident on February 18, Landis Homes 30th Anniversary.
The long, hard siege of the severe winter is over. We at Landis Homes join the general contractor and the construction workers of Harvest View in being grateful for warmer days. Our contractor tells us this has been the worst winter for construction in decades.

Well, spring is in full swing and summer is soon to follow. Somewhere between 7 and 8 weeks of work on Harvest View were lost over the winter months. However, we are still optimistic about making up the lost time and getting to the completion of the project on schedule.

—Paul M. Martin
Director of Facilities & Planning

ABMOAM and Long-Term Care Insurance

Used by permission from an article by Robert D. Cain, Jr., past chairman of ABMOAM

The Association of Brethren and Mennonite Older Adult Ministries (ABMOAM) is comprised of Brethren and Mennonite not-for-profit retirement communities. The Association’s retirement community members are dedicated to quality health care with services designed to meet each person’s need.

For any one person, long-term care insurance helps to assure that there will be resources to pay for nursing home care. Without insurance protection, these costs can be catastrophic.

For a long-term care facility, this insurance is one way to address the growing concern about future stability. The cost of providing services continues to increase. Long-term care insurance provides a means by which facilities may be reimbursed for the nursing care services they provide.

Many people are not comfortable making a decision about what to buy without the advice of someone they trust. People have different needs, health conditions, and financial ability. People also need to receive accurate information and to evaluate their needs without sales pressure. Long-term care insurance is not for everyone, but for those who qualify for and desire this kind of insurance protection, it is an opportunity to help assure financial stability when nursing care is needed.

So ABMOAM began its long-term care insurance program to help meet some of these needs. An Insurance Committee studies and evaluates insurance products that are available. The best policies are then made available to individuals as recommended products through the ABMOAM program. Specific policies are selected according to how appropriate the benefits are as well as on the costs and services of the company.

Since 1989, more than 1,200 independent living residents in thirty Brethren and Mennonite retirement communities have purchased long-term care insurance through this program. Many others, as a result of counseling they received, have been able to get an evaluation of their current insurance coverage.

Landis Homes ABMOAM Insurance Counselor is Dollie Fowler Young. You may call her at Landis Homes Monday and Wednesday from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. at 569-3271 or anytime at 872-2879.
From the Chaplains Desk

"Now is your time of grief." These were the words of Jesus recorded in John 16:22. They were spoken to his disciples and followers at a most bewildering time in their lives. Jesus had been telling them of the changes they could expect. He was talking to them in person. But in what seemed like double-talk, he told them that in a little while they would not be seeing him any longer, and then later they would see him again.

In a retirement community, changes, bewildering times, and conflicting messages are everyday occurrences. At the very time in life when changes are the hardest to accept, they come to our retired residents like an avalanche. When a loved resident is taken away through illness and death, it is a difficult loss for other residents and staff members. Our time of grief seems to always be "now".

In John 16, Jesus' compassion clearly guided his words. He did not say, "Now I've explained everything to you. You ought to be happy that I'm leaving so you can experience me in a new way." Rather, he acknowledged that they were filled with sorrow. He told them they would weep and mourn while others around them will be merry.

One can almost hear Jesus say, "It's okay to be in a period of grief and mourning, but take heart. We will see one another again. You will see me in a new way, and I will see you as healed from your grieving with a gift of joy that no one can take away from you."

Like Jesus, we can be compassionate to one another in the range of emotions which are expressed in the midst of loss and change. We can allow ourselves and others to grieve, to heal from what we wish had been different, better, or more, and then move on to the recovery of joy that no person and no circumstances can take from us.

—Janet Peifer
Associate Chaplain

Another Gift Idea

How many things do you own that no longer appear to be useful? Over the years, our circumstances change and so do our needs. So many things that we buy, or are in the process of buying, outlive their original purpose.

A good example may be your insurance policy. Whether the policy is paid up or not, it can be used to meet a need in a different way. Naming Landis Homes as the policy owner and beneficiary can give it new purpose. When proceeds are eventually paid, Landis Homes can become the recipient of your gift, while you reap the income tax benefits. Another option could be a charitable deduction on the premium payments you are making, when Landis Homes becomes the owner and beneficiary of the policy. In that way, a policy that no longer meets your need is used to meet the need of another. In the case of Landis Homes, the proceeds of your insurance gift can be used to meet the needs of a resident who requires nursing care. A gift to the Caring Fund gives an old life insurance policy new purpose. Maybe it is true that one man's junk can become another man's treasure.

Interested? Call the Landis Homes Development Office for details.

—Jim Roth
Director of Development

In Loving Memory

Mabel E. Landis 01/05/94
Della Martin 01/06/94
Ruth Hinkle 01/09/94
Sarah Longnecker 01/09/94
Naomi Boll 01/11/94
Elizabeth Landis 02/21/94
Reuben Stoltzfus 02/25/94
Franklin Ressler 03/03/94
Isaac Miller 03/03/94
Fannie Myers 03/20/94
Tobias Landis 03/30/94
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<td>September 10 - Fellowship Day and Chicken Barbecue sponsored by the Auxiliary</td>
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