Auxiliary Keeps Wheels Turning

Thanks to the Auxiliary, Landis Homes now has six more wheels, and one to "spare!" The proceeds of the last chicken barbecue were donated towards the purchase of these wheels which belong to the new wheelchair bus. It arrived in late March and created excitement and gratitude.

Staff, residents and drivers appreciate the opportunities the bus affords. This vehicle especially aids persons requiring wheelchair transport. Without it some residents could not enjoy shopping trips and off-campus cultural enrichment.

This 15-passenger bus is uniquely equipped with fold-up seats. It carries up to four persons in wheelchairs, along with other riders.

The work of hundreds of friends of Landis Homes has transformed chicken dinners into wheels for residents. Thanks, Auxiliary, for enabling this amazing transformation!

Arlene Kreider
Volunteer Coordinator

Executive Director Ed Longenecker accepts keys for the new wheelchair bus from Auxiliary President Mary Swelgurt.

Goal Achieved:

Groundbreaking to be Set

Contributions to The Heritage, the new center for care of persons with Alzheimer's and dementia, have achieved the million dollar goal. The eight-month campaign was largely carried out by the hard work of Landis Homes residents, board members and staff. Any additional gifts will further reduce costs and make this service even more affordable.

Board members had hoped to hold a groundbreaking ceremony and begin construction in May. However, the State Department of Environmental Protection placed a moratorium on new sewer hook-ups in Manheim Township in late April. As soon as the moratorium is lifted a groundbreaking will be set.

Thanks Auxiliary

$1,000,000
Over The Top

Rhoda and I as well as be a fund raiser for The Heritage, our new Special Care Center which will serve the needs of those with dementia and Alzheimer’s disease.

We plan to fly to the West Coast, start our trip in Seattle, Washington, and bike through 14 states arriving in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware after a total of 3200 miles! We are traveling with the well established Wandering

Omission

We regret that the following names were omitted from the list of contributors in the Winter, 1997 issue of Horizons:

Raymond and Rhoda Metzler.

Thank you for your generous support of Landis Homes!

Mark LoMonaco
Director of Development

Wheels, a Christian biking organization that has made this cross-country trip many times. They provide road support for the bicycle, arrange meals and overnight lodging and handle all the details.

Both Landis Homes staff and board members have given their blessing. Our goal is to raise $100,000 or more and already we have received many gifts and are well on our way toward that goal. We sincerely thank each person who is helping us toward this financial goal.

We have entitled our trip “Help Us Over the Top.” We have encountered numerous persons who have taken on physical challenges like this and they have given us their encouragement. Others have rightfully questioned our preparedness asking, “Do you know what you are getting yourselves into?”

In a New Year’s article for the Landis Homes News I urged that each of us set at least one goal for the year. Our bike trip is one goal for Rhoda and I and we are sure it will have its mixture of fun and challenge. We are trusting the Lord for good health. Most of our spare time these days is used for training. If you see us cycling around the county in the weeks ahead, give us a rallying two-honk salute. And keep us in your prayers this summer.

Thanks for helping us over the top.

Ed and Rhoda Longenecker

Attention Golfers!

Landis Homes Sixth Annual Benefit Golf Tournament

June 20, 1996
Foxchase Golf Club

Proceeds will benefit the new Adult Day Services Program for persons with dementia. Call Joyce Shenk at 569-3271, ext. 3104 for sponsorship and registration materials.
A Community Of Prayer

Landis Homes has always been a praying community. Prayers were said in 1963 from the time the retirement community was just an idea and prayers have continued over its 33-year history.

Currently, the campus is overflowing with groups which meet for prayer. The groups vary in size, how often they meet and for what purpose they come together to pray.

There are groups which meet and pray regularly for missions in other parts of the world. Three different groups pray specifically for missions in Africa: for Somalia, Tanzania/Kenya and Ethiopia. There are groups which pray for specific missions and missionaries and carry on regular correspondence with those in ministry in foreign lands.

One group prays for a number of concerns including the young adults involved in one of the Eastern Mennonite Missions YES teams. This group has met weekly since January of 1989 and has only missed meeting three Mondays in all these years. About groups which meet on the campus one person said, "I think we don't know just how many prayer groups there really are. I have found small groups lead to freedom in prayer...everyone prays."

Another group began praying for those in Lancaster County Prison as the result of the prison visitation ministry of Activities staff person Janice Hess. More than a year ago Janice asked a small group if they would be interested in praying for her prison work and for specific prisoners.

The group began meeting and in a short time asked Janice if they could also write to these women for whom they were praying. This led to the formation of a number of friendships. Margaret Breneman writes to a woman who over the past year has been released from prison and has been included in Margaret's family gatherings. Margaret said, "She calls me every week and prays God for our prayers. She means a great deal to me and my family."

Landis Homes independent living residents have formed caring teams to support and be good neighbors for one another. Some of these teams also meet regularly for prayer and support.

The pastoral service department schedules weekly worships, Bible studies and Sunday school lessons. In addition, vespers services are held on Thursday evenings on the East campus for interested residents. Others meet in smaller groups including a group of men in the nursing center who meet for devotions two mornings each week.

Chaplain Don Good said, "The Pastoral Care Team affirms this grass roots movement of prayer groups across campus. We believe this prayer ministry is blessing both our Landis Homes family and the efforts of many persons in ministry around the world. For this we give thanks to God!"

Welcome New Residents

Independent Living/Residential/Personal Care

Elizabeth K. Good
Anna Martin
Ruth R. Hammon
Ralph and Edna Zimmerman
Lydia Wenger
William and Lovina Mast
Loyal A. and Virginia E. Hall
F. Elizabeth Charles

Nursing Care

Alta Shertz
Hiram M. Charles
Gertrude I. Riehl
June Diffenderfer
Landis S. Groff
Vincent Wilson

Congratulations To The Laundry Department

For over two years (and still counting) the nine staff members of the Laundry Department have not missed a single day of work due to illness.
Healthcare Team Reorganizes

Seventy Years of Service

Landis Homes has earned a reputation in the community for the quality of its nursing care. A large part of the quality of nursing care can be attributed to the longevity of the Nursing Department’s administrative team. Ruth Johnson, Ethel Caldwell and Barbara Cooper have given 70 years of combined service to Landis Homes in the Nursing Department.

Recently a few changes were made in the administrative structure of the Nursing Department. The administrative team of Ruth, Ethel and Barbara will continue managing the department. However, some modifications have been made to enhance efficiency and to clarify each one’s area of responsibility.

Ruth Johnson was hired in 1968 to assist first administrator, George Leaman, in opening the first skilled care nursing center at Landis Homes. She served as Director of Nursing for 20 years and also served many years as In-service Coordinator.

Today Ruth continues in the role of Director of Health Services. She provides overall leadership to the health services programs for Landis Homes overseeing compliance with federal and state regulations. Ruth coordinates consultant and contractual services such as rehabilitation therapies, laboratory work and pharmacy services. Her focus in addition to the independent living and personal care areas is in giving leadership to developing the center for dementia care, The Heritage.

Ethel Caldwell began her service at Landis Homes in 1966 in the Food Services Department. She left that position to pursue further training and returned to Landis Homes as a Nursing Supervisor in 1982. From 1986 until recently she was an Assistant Director of Nursing.

Ethel who was recently named the Director of Nursing, provides supervision to the licensed nursing care center. Ethel is responsible for the Medicare and Medicaid programs and assesses residents to ensure appropriate placement in nursing care. She hires registered and licensed practical nursing staff and coordinates staff scheduling.

Barbara Cooper was hired in 1969 as a charge nurse and later served as the Director of Nursing. From 1986 until recently she was an Assistant Director of Nursing in Education and assumed responsibility for the nurses aid program. She also coordinated the in-service program and the orientation of staff.

Barbara has recently been named the Director of Staff Development/Quality Assurance. She is responsible for hiring nursing assistants and directing the orientation and training of all new nursing staff. Barb continues to coordinate the quality assurance programs to monitor and improve the quality of services at Landis Homes.

Executive Director Ed Longenecker says, “When we consider the combined 70 years of service by our three health care managers we can be thankful for the depth and wealth of experience and expertise we enjoy in the nursing care department. What a blessing.”

This team with their history of working well together joins with all the health care staff to ensure that the best care possible continues at Landis Homes.

Insurance Counselor Available

Dollie Fowler-Young, Insurance Counselor for Landis Homes is available to counsel individuals as to their insurance needs regarding Long Term Care Insurance and Medicare Supplements. This program is sponsored by the Association of Brethren Care Givers and the Mennonite Health Services. There are many plans to choose from which have been approved by the Council on Cooperative Ministries.

If you would like information or to make an appointment, please phone Landis Homes 569-3271. There is no charge for this service.
Farewell and Welcome

George Leaman (first administrator and current resident of Landis Homes) has often given me this good-bye greeting, "So long, hope to see you soon again." We want to give this same farewell to Janet Peifer, our Associate Chaplain, who will leave in early June. Janet and her husband, Elvin, have moved to Boiling Springs near Mechanicsburg. Janet will begin chaplaincy responsibilities at Messiah Village in June.

Pastoral Care at Landis Homes has a rich history. Melvin Lauver, who is now a resident here, was welcomed as the first chaplain in 1970. When Melvin said farewell James Hess became chaplain for the years 1981-84. I was welcomed to the Landis Homes family in 1984. As the campus grew Janet's welcome in 1991 made us a two-chaplain team, for the first time.

Janet’s presence here the past five years and the use of her pastoral care gifts have given us hope and courage to do our best. I feel sad that Janet is leaving, but along with our Landis Homes family, give a blessing of peace, wisdom and joy for the new challenges. Janet, you will be missed.

Also, I am pleased to announce Bonnie Stutzman has accepted the Associate Chaplain position which will be made vacant by Janet. Bonnie is completing a twelve-month Clinical Pastoral Education residency position at Philhaven in April. She will be here part-time in May and become full-time in July.

Our Hats Are Off To Volunteers

Along with warmer days, spring brings the annual Landis Homes volunteer appreciation event. On April 17, over 300 volunteers attended a banquet at Yoder's Restaurant. As people with serving hearts are apt to do many of the volunteers provided transportation for others by car pooling.

Centered around the theme "Volunteers Wear Many Hats," every detail from the attire to favors, trivia, and program, hats were off to volunteers. Hat centerpieces were taken home by lucky winners.

Lancaster Mennonite High School's Millstream Quartet provided a variety of music followed by several persons sharing stories of a unique hat they were wearing. This included Ed and Rhoda Longenecker's bicycle helmets which they will wear in a planned coast-to-coast bike trip this summer on behalf of The Heritage, a new healthcare center for persons with dementia.

Over 46,000 volunteer hours were contributed in 1996 to make the lives of Landis Homes' residents pleasant, richer and fuller. This special banquet evening offered thanks to volunteers during Volunteer Appreciation Week. Our hats are off to this great team every day of the year.

Arlene Kreider
Volunteer Coordinator
A Day At Landis Homes Adult Day Center

This story was written as a group effort by participants and staff of the Adult Day Services Center.

Sheltered in the security of rural Lancaster County, surrounded by farms and fields, there is a haven called Landis Homes Adult Day Center.

Upon arrival we are greeted by smiles, and welcomed by the caring staff offering us a superb continental breakfast of raisin or whole wheat toast, accompanied with a selection of preserves, a choice of juices and coffee or hot tea. While enjoying our breakfast we engage in small talk with our center friends.

After breakfast we decide which activity we want to participate in from the variety of projects offered to us. The array of selections includes pinochle, Uno, embroidery, rolling bandages for overseas hospitals and recycling soda cans. The cans are crushed in our adapted custom-made can crusher which are then sold to a recycler. The tabs are pulled off and saved to help with kidney dialysis.

After our projects we have a period of stimulating exercises that help to keep us physically fit to our ability. On designated days, for those that choose to, we may swim in our heated indoor pool. Afterward we can take a relaxing dip in the whirlpool.

We continue on to our next event, a time of daily devotions, which encourages us spiritually. We also discuss current events to keep us abreast of local and world developments.

We then break to the dinner tables to enjoy a piping hot meal which is prepared in the Landis Homes kitchen. The smells are so enticing, they make our mouths water.

With our bodies refueled we are then ready for the intriguing afternoon happenings. Each day is unique. We may go on a field trip of boating down the Susquehanna River on a large paddle boat, or on a picnic at the park and feed the ducks, or a day by the babbling brook casting in our fishing lines. You get the picture.

At the Center we are sure to be stimulated by the many games planned or enlightened by the knowledgeable and interesting speakers.

A tasty snack is prepared for us at the end of our day. We are given a fond farewell as our private drivers pull up to the door to take us home. We leave with great anticipation for tomorrow and another delightful day at Landis Homes Adult Day Center.

Contribute Editors and Correspondents
Vickie Galuska, Irene Goshert, Grace Miller, Gwen Piggott, Helen Shepler, Sara Weber, Jim Rennix
Caring For People With Alzheimer’s

On February 13 Dr. Paul Kettl, Director of the Geriatric Psychiatry Unit at Hershey Medical Center, spoke in West Bethany Chapel on "Caring for People with Alzheimer’s Disease." In an entertaining and informative presentation, Dr. Kettle reviewed the latest information on the cause and treatment of Alzheimer’s disease and answered questions from the audience. Nearly two hundred residents, family members, and staff were in attendance.

Dr. Kettl was introduced by Landis Homes Board President, Dr. Kenneth Brubaker, who underlined the importance of this topic not only for Landis Homes’ residents and their families but also for the Board of Directors and staff as they seek to fulfill the vision of "Making Senior Years the Best Years."

A packet of information was distributed to all who attended. Items from the Adult Day Services program and the Alzheimer’s Association were included in the packets. Additional packets are available through the Development Office, 569-3271, Ext. 3104.

A videotape of Dr. Kettl’s presentation has been copied and is available through Adult Day Services, the Chaplain or the Health Services Office. Please contact any of these offices directly to reserve the tape.

Mark LoMonaco
Director of Development

Calendar Of Events

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Health and Wellness Fair
Thursday, May 29, 1997

Opening Session
“An Healthy Look at the Aging Process”
10:00 a.m. West Bethany

Displays
Over 20 displays and handouts on major health issues and preventive care
J Community Room 1:00-7:00 p.m.

Seminars And
Workshops
Throughout the day

Closing Session
7:00 p.m. West Bethany

*Bocce Tournament***Refreshments***Entertainment

All Are Welcome
Invite friends, neighbors and family members.
For a brochure or more information: 581-3938