Anticipating 50th Year Celebrations

Plans are currently underway for a full schedule of celebrations and special events to commemorate Landis Homes 50th anniversary in 2014.

The first commemorative item will be the release of a 2014 Landis Homes calendar (pictured on right) full of campus photos and historical facts, as well as the dates of the many events happening throughout the year. Calendars will be available in the General Store & Dogwood Gift Shoppe later this fall, and will be given as a gift to residents and team members.

Join us for the main public celebration on February 18, 2014, which is the 50th anniversary of the first residents moving to Landis Homes. In addition to campus events planned throughout the day, including a special breakfast and campus-wide scavenger hunt, celebrations will be held in both chapels, East Bethany at 10:30 a.m., and West Bethany at 1:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. This celebration will include the release of a book by resident Martha Nissley covering Landis Homes past 20 years. This will serve as a companion to A. Grace Wenger’s “The First Thirty Years.” Local artist Lynn Sommer will release her commemorative Fraktur capturing images that are part of Landis Homes past and present and a new video focusing on Landis Homes beginnings, present and future will be shown for the first time.

A creation of a logo for the year was coordinated by the anniversary committee members and is described in detail by Larry Zook on page two of this issue.

Everyone involved at Landis Homes is looking forward to beginning the celebration and to the many other events planned throughout the year. These include anniversary events for Adult Day Services and the Children’s Learning Center, and a historical tour of the Landis Valley through Pathways Institute of Lifelong Learning™.

More information about these and other events will be shared in upcoming Horizons, and at www.landishomes.org.
Like a Tree Planted by Water

by Larry J. Zook, President/CEO

Psalm 1:3 contains some of the most well-known imagery in the Bible. “…like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season (and whose leaf does not wither).” The text describes a righteous person who delights in following the ways of God. As we prepare to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Landis Homes, we see many ways that God has worked in our community over the years, and have incorporated this imagery in the logo for our 50th Anniversary year.

One can clearly see the tree and the leaves symbolizing growth and new life. Landis Homes was carefully planted, tended as it sprouted, and cared for over the past 50 years. We who are here now, including board, team members, residents and supporters, are tending it and looking toward the future.

A more subtle image is the trunk of the tree, a pair of hands reaching upward and outward. The committee feels this has great meaning for Landis Homes. We have always been a community with serving at its core. These hands could be hands of serving. But that is not all! They could be hands of praising, joyfully extended, or of praying.

They also can be seen as hands reaching out to others.

They can represent service to and from those who are part of the Landis Homes campus as well as service to and from others who are part of the larger surrounding community.

In these 50 years, Landis Homes has a history of beginning fresh new efforts, nurturing them, and then allowing them to flourish, just as a tree can begin additional trees. The logo also embraces three special themes this 50th year: Remembering, Serving and Reaching.

Another important way we plan to celebrate our 50th Anniversary year is with the song, “Will You Let Me Be Your Servant?” It will be visually portrayed in a limited edition Fraktur painting and heard being sung often as we celebrate throughout the calendar year of 2014. We hope you can celebrate with us!

South Campus Expansion Update

The walls are going up at 1539 Wisteria which is the third building of hybrid homes. All 12 homes are reserved and the projected completion is May/June of 2014. The Residency Planning team has been busy taking reservations for the fourth hybrid building which should be available for move-in August/September of 2014. Those interested in new construction on the South Campus are encouraged to consider joining the Priority List as a way to plan for future residency.

For more information please call 717-581-3935.
Readers Choose Favorites

Landis Homes is glad to be selected the favorite of Lancaster Newspaper readers again in 2013. Voters selected Landis Homes the favorite in three categories: Retirement Community, Personal Care/Assisted Living and Home Care Agency.

We are also glad that Bonnie Kauffman at PNC Bank was selected as Friendliest Bank Teller and that Hildebrandt Learning Center was selected as Favorite Day Care Center.

PA Secretary of Aging Visits

Landis Homes was happy to host PA Secretary of Aging, Brian Duke on Sept. 23. The Secretary came to share about a number of statewide initiatives including one very near and dear to him, the Pennsylvania Alzheimer’s Disease Planning Committee.

Pictured left to right are: Marian Leaman (Landis Homes resident and board member), Mary Groff (resident council member), Martha Clark (resident council member), Rachel Fisher (resident council member), Fred Honaman (Landis Homes representative to PA Association of Retirement Community Representatives) and PA Secretary of Aging Brian Duke.

Artist in Residence Joins Team

By Marva Godin
Director of Life Enrichment

Kristen Pempek, a sophomore at Franklin and Marshall College will spend the coming year at Landis Homes as an Artist in Residence. This internship has been provided through the “F&M Works in Lancaster” program, which runs for the entire academic year through Spring 2014.

Kristen, from Putnam, Connecticut, has researched best practices of art therapy programs for persons with dementia in long-term healthcare settings. Her goal is to create the framework for and lead a sustainable art therapy program for residents in our memory-support households.

An art exhibit displaying works created by the residents, as well as Kristen’s photographic journey through this internship, is being planned for April, 2014.

Nightingale Awards of PA

Eva Bering, VP of Operations

Congratulations to Brianne Heiserman, LPN, (pictured, below left) Health Care Oregon House, and to Krista Groff, LPN, Health Care Ephrata House, who were chosen as semifinalists by the Nightingale Awards of Pennsylvania. They were chosen among over 80 nominations state wide in nine award categories recognizing nursing.

These nurse exemplars were selected based on clinical practice, team collaboration and contribution to the profession of nursing. The finalist in each category is to be announced at a formal gala on October 25, 2013, at the Radisson-Penn Harris in Camp Hill. The Nightingale Awards of Pennsylvania is a state wide nonprofit foundation that supports the nursing profession in diverse areas by both scholarships and awards annually.
Two New Directors Begin

Two new directors recently began working on Landis Homes campus. Jessica Littleton is the new Director of the Children’s Learning Center and Colin Morse has accepted the position of Director of Housekeeping and Laundry.

Jessica was hired by Hildebrandt Learning Center which manages the Children’s Learning Center at Landis Homes. As director she will oversee the overall program at the center which serves about 50 children ages 6 weeks to 5 years.

Jessica, who is originally from Perry County, received her BS in Education from Lebanon Valley College as well as an Associate’s degree in Accounting from DeVry University, of Ft. Washington, PA. She has worked in child care programs including KinderCare of Harrisburg, PA, where she served as classroom teacher and later as Assistant Director.

Jessica lives in York with her husband Tyler and is hoping to move closer to the Landis Homes campus in the near future. She loves to cook and bake as well as pursuing some arts and crafts.

“I am looking forward to being a part of such a caring community at the Landis Homes center. I have been astonished at the how quickly I have been welcomed into the family here,” says Jessica.

Colin worked most recently as Environmental Services Director at Lancashire Hall. Prior to that position, he served in similar capacities at Tel Hai Retirement Community and at Conestoga View.

He lives with his wife and their 13-year old son in Bird in Hand. They are members at the Worship Center. As a family, they enjoy racing radio control cars in their spare time.

“I look forward to working with everyone at Landis Homes,” says Colin, “and to take good care of the residents as well as the staff members.”

Floodplain Restoration Completed

Construction of the stream and floodplain restoration is complete. The estimated 27,500 cubic yards of sediment – about 40,000 tons of soil or 1,800 dump truck loads - was removed. This increased the capacity of the floodplain to hold storm water and improved its function to clean and infiltrate water. And 51 native tree species, 681 shrubs and 25,428 herbaceous plugs were planted.

Wetland plants serve many functions, including:
- Soaking up water that could cause flooding
- Slowing the flow of water
- Lessening the effects of erosion
- Filtering excess nutrients, sediment, and pollutants out of water
- Providing protection, breeding grounds and food for aquatic wildlife and nesting areas for migratory birds

Ongoing activities include control of invasive plants species to promote the establishment of native and naturally occurring plants and storm water monitoring and management.

BEFORE:

Prior to restoration, Kurtz Run exhibited eroding and unstable steep banks with over 3 feet of legacy sediment which led to frequent flooding and stream bank erosion. The vegetation surrounding the stream was a monoculture. Routine mowing was part of the maintenance plan.

AFTER:

Low banks post-construction allow flood flows to spread out into the flood plain more regularly, preventing flooding and stream bank erosion. The floodplain exhibits a variety of native woody and herbaceous vegetative species which provides better habitat and is more aesthetically pleasing. Maintenance needs have also been dramatically reduced.
**Fellowship Day 2013 Glistens**

The benefit auction’s net proceeds were $84,090, thanks to the generosity of the Landis Homes family of donors, who offered their support. Auctioneers Robert Martin Sons and Abe Diffenbach were instrumental in the success of the day. A full list of auction items and donors, corporate sponsors and patrons may be found in the Fellowship Day Booklet at www.landishomes.org/Home/Sections/Giving/Benefit_Auction_2013.

**Memory Walk 2013**

*By Linford Good, VP of Planning & Marketing*

Thanks to all who supported our team, those who walked and those who donated. Our teams have walked 15 years in a row, 1999-2013, and raised cumulative total of $30,743 (including $2000 this year) to support the Alzheimer’s Association. Team members pictured in photo are 1st row: June Landis, Beth Ann Good, Linford Good, and Rylee Diffenderfer, 2nd row: Leone Wagner, Christy Carpenter, Alicia Carpenter, Judy Zdancewicz and Stephanie Hoffman; 3rd row: Larry Ulrich and Glenda Ulrich.

**New Pastoral Interns Begin**

*By Donna Mack Shenk, Director of Pastoral Services*

Pastoral Services is blessed to once again welcome several Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) Interns through the partnership with Eastern Mennonite Seminary. This is the 3rd year for this partnership, and we look forward to having three interns serve us during this school year.

_Helen Adams_ will be here one day a week, focusing on Residential Living. She is married and has one daughter, a cat, and a Great Dane.

_Tracy Brown_ will be here two days a week, with one day in Personal Care & Healthcare, and one day in Residential Living. He is married and has four children, four grandchildren, and two dogs.

_Daniel Miller_ will be here one day a week, focusing on Personal Care & Healthcare. Daniel Miller is married and has two daughters and three grandchildren.
REDUCE YOUR 2013 TAXES WITH AN IRA GIFT!

Alonna Gauutsche Sprunger, Director of Gift Planning Services

Did you know that you may reduce your taxes for 2013 by making a gift from your IRA to charity? An IRA rollover is a simple and easy way for you to use your IRA to help Landis Homes meet the needs of residents and clients.

As part of the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012, Congress reauthorized the IRA rollover for 2013. This means that if you are 70½ or older you can request an amount be transferred from your IRA to an eligible nonprofit such as Landis Homes. Your gift could be $1,000, $10,000, $50,000 or up to $100,000. Your gift will qualify for your 2013 required minimum distribution and you will not have to pay federal income tax on the amount given from your IRA to charity.

There are some advantages to gifting from your IRA and lowering your taxable income not only because of the new tax laws but also your taxable income may now determine Medicare co-pays. We advise you to check with your financial or tax advisor to determine if charitable giving from your IRA this year will be of benefit.

You may contribute funds this way if:
• You are age 70½ or older at the time of the gift.
• You transfer up to $100,000 directly from your IRA. This opportunity applies only to IRAs and not other types of retirement plans.
• You transfer the funds outright to one or more qualified charities. The legislation does not permit direct transfers to charitable trusts, donor advised funds, charitable gift annuities or supporting organizations.
• You make your gift by Dec. 31, 2013.

A sample letter with the necessary language is available from the Gift Planning Office to be used to send to your IRA plan provider for a 2013 gift. The IRA rollover contribution must be postmarked no later than December 31, 2013. It is recommended that the letter requesting transfer arrive at your IRA plan provider before December 15.

For additional questions about a contribution from an IRA or about naming Landis Homes as a beneficiary of an IRA, contact the Office of Gift Planning at 717-509-5490 or asprunger@landishomes.org

This information is not intended as tax, legal or financial advice. Consult your personal financial advisor for information specific to your situation.

Landis Communities invites you to give EXTRA on November 22.

SUPPORT OUR ORGANIZATION DURING THE EXTRAORDINARY GIVE

On November 22, donate online at ExtraGive.org and your generous gift will be stretched by $250,000 from the Lancaster County Community Foundation and Rodgers & Associates. Plus, just by donating, you could help us win EXTRA from the $50,000 prize pool!

NOVEMBER 22 EXTRAGIVE.ORG

MARK YOUR CALENDAR. TELL YOUR FRIENDS. GIVE EXTRAORDINARY.

For additional information and questions email contact@landiscommunities.org
Dueck Shows New Artwork

An art reception featuring an Ephrata artist will be held at Landis Homes on November 7. Helena Dueck will show a variety of her most recent works in acrylics and watercolors as well as many pieces of quilted art.

Dueck was born and grew up in Paraguay in South America. As a young woman she moved to and became a citizen of Canada. In 1965, she moved to and later received her citizenship in the United States.

Her art training includes 17 years with the late Ronald Sykes of Millersville. Currently semi-retired, Helena is a volunteer at the quilting room for the Material Resource Room in Ephrata which benefits Mennonite Central Committee.

The opening reception, to which the public is welcome, will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 7, in the Harvest View lobby and galleries. The works will continue to be on display through January 2014. For more information, call 717-381-3550 or visit the web site at www.landishomes.org.
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