

Ringling in Forty Years

Landis Homes celebrated its 40th anniversary on February 18, with services held in each of two chapels. Attended by more than 300 residents and staff members the services included times of storytelling, prayer and singing.

A highlight of each service was a ceremonial ringing of a bell to mark each of Landis Homes' years. The community has had just two administrators in its 40-year history. The current president is Ed Longenecker who is in the 27th year of his administration. George Leaman, a 97-year-old resident, was the administrator when Landis Homes opened in 1964 and for the following 12 years. In 1977, both Leaman and Longenecker shared leadership for one year. Ed has been giving leadership ever since.

Old bells, which belonged to the Landis and Long farms that later became Landis Homes, were used to mark the occasion. The audience listened as each year was announced and the bell rang out. Ed and George each took turns ringing the bells for the number of years each was director. For year 13, they rang the bell together.

Also as part of the service, were a series of reflec-

tions on Landis Homes early years given by A. Grace Wenger. Grace, a cottage resident, who wrote a history of the community in 1994 for the 30th anniversary. Her reflections included stories of service, poignancy and humor. She concluded with a quote from Orié Miller, one of the earliest board members, who in 1968 said, "More than likely the home will be continuing to expand long after most of us are gone."


"And that prophecy," Grace said, "has come true."



Ed Longenecker and George Leaman with the 40th Anniversary Bell.

September 11, 2004
Auction at 9:00 a.m.

Fellowship Day and
Chicken Barbecue



Landis Homes

40 YEARS

Landis Homes

Serving One Another
1964-2004

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Mission:

The ministry of Landis Homes is to serve aging adults and their families by honoring and enriching their lives in a community of Christ-like love.

an agency of
**Lancaster
Mennonite
Conference**

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40 Years of Serving One Another

THE SECOND DECADE: 1974-1983

Ira Buckwalter and Raymond Charles were leaders in serving. Both Ira and Raymond served in leadership positions with Eastern Mennonite Missions, the group responsible for planning and developing Landis Homes.

In 1961 Ira was appointed to a ten-member planning committee that selected a site, designed and constructed buildings and developed a program for Landis Homes. Ira served as Executive Secretary on the Landis Homes Advisory Committee from 1961 – 1981.

The Advisory Committee predates the Landis Homes Board of Directors. From 1982 – 1992 Ira served on the Board of Directors.

In 1981 Ira began working half time at Landis Homes in the Finance Office. He served as advisor to the Finance Of-

fice until his retirement. Three of Ira’s children also served as employees of Landis Homes: Henry, controller, and Marian, Director of Admissions, and John, Director of Development.

In 1977 Ira pointed out that women outnumbered men in the resident population, however there were no women

on the Advisory Committee. As a result, in 1978 the first women were named to the Committee.

During the founding years, 1961-1964, Raymond was president of Eastern Mennonite Missions. He promoted the vision of providing cre-

ative retirement living, especially for missionaries. Raymond served Landis Homes as Vice Chairman of the Advisory Committee from 1967-1981 and as a member of the Board of Directors from 1982-1988.



Ira Buckwalter and Raymond Charles.

(40 Years, continued on page 3)

HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights of the second decade include:

- December 1977** Ed Longenecker becomes administrator
- June 1979** Residents’ Council formed
- September 1979**..... Grandview (“G”) opened
- January 1980**..... Homeview (“H”) opened
- January 1982**..... Ownership transferred from Eastern Mennonite Missions to a separate non-profit corporation under the auspices of Lancaster Mennonite Conference
- November 1983** Kirkview (“K”) opened



Evanna Hess Rejoins Team

Evanna Hess recently returned to employment at Landis Homes, after a seven-year hiatus, in a new role. Beginning in March she is the new Director of Volunteer Services.

Evanna has numerous years of experience in retirement community and other senior service and healthcare settings, including experience as a Nursing Supervisor at Landis Homes from 1986 to 1987, and as the founding Director of Adult Day Services at Landis Homes from 1989-1997.

Since leaving Landis Homes in 1997, Evanna and her husband, Dan, served with Mennonite Central Committee for three years in a peace building assignment in Russia, Albania, and the former Yugoslavia. Since February 2001, she served on the staff of her home congregation, Forest Hills Mennonite Church, as Nurture & Service Minister.

Evanna is a Registered Nurse and has a BS in Management and Organizational Development from Eastern Mennonite University. The Hess's have two grown children. Evanna enjoys reading, gardening, music and riding motorcycle with friends.

It is great to welcome Evanna back to the team here at Landis Homes. As you have opportunity, stop by her new office in Dogwood Commons and say hello!



Evanna Hess

Volunteers have a Giving Heart

For many people, serving flows naturally out of their lives and is at the heart of what it means to love God and your neighbor as yourself. Serving is love in action. In my first weeks as Director of Volunteer Services, I am impressed with the joy and commitment I observe as I am introduced to many volunteers serving in a variety of capacities all over the campus.

I already knew that service is an integral part of the culture at Landis Homes but I am repeatedly seeing it first hand and up close as I meet and observe individuals who believe that one person *can* make a difference. One of the unique values of Landis Homes is that we are a community focused on serving. Not only do the staff demonstrate this value but volunteers also make evident this value through their faithful service.

In addition to the many residents who volunteer

their time, individuals of all ages from the community have joined with us as we work together to enhance the lives of residents. They obviously enjoy serving and want to give in some way.

I recently spent some time with two young adult women who make volunteering at Landis Homes a priority in their already busy lives. I am encouraged and heartened by these young women and all who exemplify the heart of a servant.

These impressions from my first weeks back at Landis Homes reflect the theme we are using for the Volunteer-honoring banquet this spring: Volunteers Have a Giving Heart. We celebrate the 56,146 hours given on the Landis Homes campus in the year 2003, as well as more than 12,000 hours given to other organizations by our residents. We feel the pulse of the 521 volunteers who have hearts that keep on giving and giving.

Evanna Hess

Director of Volunteer Services

40 Years, continued from page 2

Raymond spoke on "The Task Ahead" at the first annual meeting of the Board of Directors in 1982. He also served as chairman of the Life and Activities Committee. At their first meeting in 1966 the Committee pointed out the need for outdoor walkways and a quiet lounge for reading and writing.

Servant leadership was a way of life for Ira and Raymond, two of the founders of Landis Homes.

"Ira and Raymond complemented one another very

well," remembers Ed Longenecker. "In meetings Raymond was verbal and inspirational, but all waited to hear the final recommendation from Ira. If Ira felt it was right most everyone somehow knew it was right also. What great respect Raymond and Ira had for each other. Raymond would speak the sermon and Ira would offer the prayer. Raymond would be forthright in giving an opinion, but it was with Ira's endorsement that action was taken."

A Major Facelift for Eden West and Pool

The Landis Homes indoor swimming pool opened in the fall of 1988, and the first ever Adult Day Services center opened shortly after in the summer of 1989. Since then each program area has had normal maintenance and remodeling. However, this winter each area has had major renovation work completed to better serve residents and clients who use each of these services.

Eden West, one of two adult day services centers, received a complete makeover with a new floor plan, which includes a new kitchen and activity areas. What was once a long, narrow room with some unusable spaces has become a warm and comfortable living space with no wasted areas. The renovated center



Polly Curtis and Emily Swain enjoy morning coffee, as staff person Stella Sciarrino works in the new kitchen in Eden West.

serves over 50 clients each month. Another 30 clients are served in the Eden East center for persons with memory loss.

The Aquatics program has grown to include 15 weekly classes for residents, off-campus clients, Parkinson's Support group members and employees as well as an additional 22 hours of open swimming. About 100 residents, 50 non-residents and many employees use the pool each month.

With the six weeks of renovation, the pool deck was resurfaced, walls painted, plumbing updated and mural refurbished. The biggest change was the enlarging and upgrading of both the men and women's locker rooms.

"The space is so much nicer and bigger," said one swimmer, "it feels like a new place."



Healthcare is Deficiency-Free

A survey team from the Pennsylvania Department of Health visited Landis Homes in February. The Healthcare areas, including Ephrata, Oregon and Manheim Houses as well as Conestoga and Lancaster Houses in Heritage Special Care, are surveyed by the Department of Health annually.

At the conclusion of a four-day visit, the survey team issued a deficiency-free survey report. Ethel Caldwell, Administrator of Healthcare, stated, "I am very thankful for the caring and service-oriented team that we have at Landis Homes. Thanks to the quality care given to our residents and the caring and professionalism of our staff we had a deficiency-free survey. The surveyors were very complimentary of the employees and the care given to our residents and the wonderful homelike environment."



Administrator of Healthcare Ethel Caldwell and Human Resources Manager Sandy Smoker enjoy hanging the new sign to congratulate employees.

Dogwood Commons Becomes a Reality

Just in time for spring planting, new areas are opening up on the Landis Homes campus on almost a weekly basis. Dogwood Commons is the largest renovation project to be completed and

opened. What were once three hallways of hospital-model nursing care rooms has been transformed into a central core for many community areas and offices.



Roy and Betty Bucher, seated right, enjoy the first meal in the new Dogwood Café with their son Darrel.

A large café with a food bar, booths, tables and large glass windows looking out on flower-filled courtyards is the centerpiece of the new area. Known as Dogwood Café the new cafeteria, which is used by both employees and residents, is open around the clock for dining service.

A new enlarged gift shop where residents, visitors and staff can find everything from greeting cards, to snacks and gift items is located across from the café. A new hair salon is just ready to begin taking clients in its brand new space, which is also centrally located for persons living in assisted living areas. Another feature is a computer-learning center where both residents and employees can take advantage of computer training.

Also in this building are many of the main offices of Landis Homes. All of the management team offices, human resources offices, finance offices, information technology offices, healthcare offices, as well as some dining and social services offices are now in one central location.

“This is the best recycling I have experienced in my 27 years here,” said President Ed Longenecker. “This is the last phase of our *Building to Serve* capital campaign which began in 2002 and raised over \$2 million of the total cost of the new healthcare center and this renovated area now known as Dogwood Commons. There are many, many people who have helped to make this dream a reality.”

A large café with a food bar, booths, tables and large glass windows looking out on flower-filled courtyards is the centerpiece of the new area.



Mabel King, left, checks out merchandise in the new Dogwood Gift Shoppe with volunteer Helen Heurich.

Life Insurance

A Creative Charitable Gift

Many persons purchase one or multiple Life Insurance Policies over their lifetimes in order to provide for the financial needs of their survivors. Some seniors reach a stage in life where their survivors needs have greatly diminished and their life insurance policy is paid up. Perhaps their other assets have grown over the years to provide the protection they require.



John Buckwalter

There are some seniors at Landis Homes who, due to unexpected circumstances and factors beyond their control, have simply outlived their resources. They are depending on help through the Caring Fund to provide resources for

their continuing care.

A paid up life insurance policy, or a policy on which premiums are still being paid, can become an excellent charitable gift. Two examples are listed below as to how this gift opportunity might work for the owner of a life insurance policy.

Landis Homes as PRIMARY BENEFICIARY of the policy

The owner retains ownership of the policy, but completes a new beneficiary form and names the Landis Homes Caring Fund as the beneficiary of the policy. There is no income tax benefit during one's lifetime. At the time of the owners demise, the face

value is included in the taxable estate, and then the face value becomes a charitable deduction in the estate as the death benefit is paid to the Landis Homes Caring Fund.

Landis Homes as OWNER of the policy

The owner irrevocably assigns ownership of the policy to Landis Homes for the Caring Fund and Landis Homes becomes the owner of the policy. Landis Homes will issue a charitable contribution receipt for an amount approximating the cash value of the policy. If the policy is not paid up, Landis Homes will send a notice to the donor for each periodic premium payment due in the future. The donors, in turn, will receive a charitable contribution receipt for each subsequent premium payment to Landis Homes. Since the policy is now out of the donor's estate, there will be no estate tax liability or charitable deduction at death.

REVIEW OF OPTIONS

At Landis Homes we are happy to work with persons and their insurance agent, insurance company, or financial representative to discover if a gift of Life Insurance is a plan that would fit with their charitable goals. We are also available to help complete the necessary paperwork.

Interested persons are welcome to contact John Buckwalter in the Landis Homes development office at 717-509-5490 to discuss their gift planning questions.



Mother's Day/Father's Day Observance

A gift in honor or in memory of your parents, is a meaningful, thoughtful gesture and it also helps us offer the essential resources needed for Landis Homes healthcare residents who are in need of benevolent care.

Enclosed is my (our) gift to help cover the cost for Landis Homes residents who cannot pay their own way.

___ \$25 ___ \$50 ___ \$100 ___ \$500 ___ \$1,000 ___ Other _____

Memory of _____

Honor of _____

Send gift acknowledgement to:

Name _____

Address _____

Return to:

Landis Homes
Development Office
1001 East Oregon Road
Lititz, PA 17543
717-509-5490

Make checks payable to:

Landis Homes Caring Fund

Stewardship Solutions for Seniors Seventy & One-Half Years Old



Eric Groff

For many, turning age 70 is yet another milestone in life. However, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) looks at turning age 70 somewhat differently. They are actually looking forward to people reaching age 70½ because that's when previously untaxed money accumulated in retirement plans and traditional IRAs will start to be taxed.

After attaining the age of 70½, the IRS requires that persons withdraw a designated "minimum" amount each year—the Minimum Required Distribution (MRD)—from retirement accounts. MRD rules apply to Traditional, SEP and SIMPLE Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs), as well as to qualified, 403(b) and 457 plans. Roth IRAs do not require distribution

prior to the death of the original owner.

The MRD rules are designed to distribute retirement assets to someone over the remainder of their lifetime. Persons can take more than the calculated MRD each year, but not less. If someone fails to distribute their MRD in any given year, the IRS assesses a penalty based on the amount that should have been taken out each year.

MRD rules can seem confusing. It is best to contact an accountant or financial planner if persons have any questions or concerns regarding their Minimum Required Distributions. Persons over age 70 will benefit from knowing how the MRD rules apply.

*Eric Groff,
Mennonite Mutual Aid Counselor*

Please feel free to contact MMA Counselor Eric Groff at 581-3866. He is available on campus regularly to answer questions or concerns regarding insurance.

Calendar of Events

<p>May 6 Artists Reception Photographs by Ronald Waltman Harvest View Galleries 6:30-8:30 p.m.</p>	<p>June 3 Used Book Sale Dogwood Community Room 12:00p.m. to 4 p.m.</p>
<p>May 18 Simplifying Funerals Panel Discussion West Bethany Chapel 2:00 p.m.</p>	<p>June 8 Strawberry Social 6:30 in East Courtyard (weather permitting) 6:30 & 7:40 in West Community Room</p>
<p>May 20 International Fair West Community Room. 1:30-4:00 p.m.</p>	<p>June 17 Coach Trip to Cape May</p>
<p>May 20 Ascension Day Services Speaker: Paul Zehr West Bethany Chapel - 9:00 a.m. East Bethany Chapel - 10:00 a.m.</p>	<p>July 3 Program by the Mallones Gospel Duet East Bethany 10 a.m.</p>
<p>May 28 Campus-Wide Cane Hockey Tournament Dogwood Community Room 2:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Aug. 11 Coach Trip to Crayola Factory</p> <p>Aug. 19 Fun and Fellowship Ice Cream Social West Community Room Seatings at 6:00 and 7:15 p.m.</p>
<p><i>For other items, check out the Events Calendar at www.landishomes.org</i></p>	



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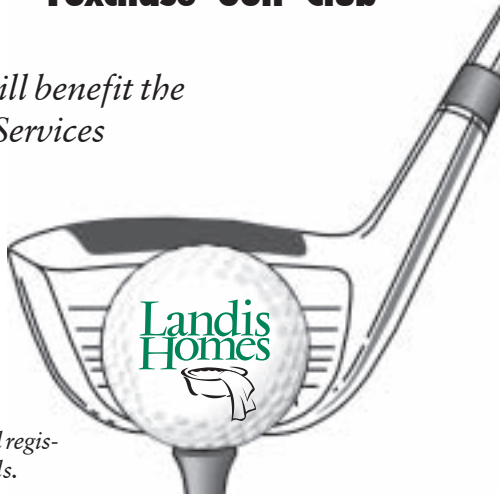
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your name on the mailing list, please
call 717-581-3935.



Attention
Golfers!
Benefit Golf Outing
June 4, 2004
Foxchase Golf Club

*Proceeds will benefit the
Adult Day Services
program.*

*Call the
Development
Office at 717-
509-5490 for
sponsorship and regis-
tration materials.*



**Planting
more
Seeds**



Open House
**Dogwood Commons
& Ephrata House**
May 25, 2004, 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.
Come & See:

- Dogwood Café
- Dogwood Gift Shoppe
- Dogwood Hair Salon
- Ephrata House Dining & Care Base
- Computer Learning Center
- Conference Rooms & Offices
- Rehab & Fitness Center
- Laundry