Leathermans at Home

Paul and Becci Leatherman, who lived locally, moved to the south campus in August 2011. They chose a hybrid home because it gave them both the cottage and apartment features they were seeking.

“We really like the community aspect. We have as much privacy, or as much socializing as we choose,” say the Leatherman’s when asked about what they like about their new location.

“From the second floor we have a great view of the campus, watching the trees change with the seasons and the lovely ponds,” says Becci.

Becci is a retired elementary school educator and Paul is retired after several career experiences including working as executive director at Ten Thousand Villages in Ephrata. A second marriage for both, they have a combined family of six children, 10 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Asked how they made the decision to move, they say, “We had a delightful townhouse, but it was spread over three floors, which we were finding to be a bit stressful, so we decided a one-floor home would work better for us. And in the hybrid, we have the option of using an elevator or stairs, depending on our ambition at the time. We checked the idea with our kids, and they were very supportive of us to make this move.”

The Leathermans have found many ways to be involved in campus life.

“We sign up for Pathways Institute classes in both the spring and fall. In fact, we have been participating in them ever since they started and before our move here. That gave us some good introduction to campus life and activity.”

“We use the gym and the pool regularly and enjoy that a lot,” they say, “We volunteer other places, but are beginning to explore ways of volunteering on campus, like Becci connecting at the Children’s Learning Center.”

Continued on Page 3
Journeys of Faith

In two years, on February 18, 2014, Landis Homes will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of welcoming our first residents. Fifty years ago, Frank Enck, chair of the “retirement home planning committee,” challenged the group to “Keep in mind our vision of creating a community rather than the traditional old people’s home facility.”

The vision of our founders, including Charles Good, who recently passed away at Landis Homes, along with Frank Enck, Levi Brubaker, Ira Buckwalter, J. Mowery Frey, Clarence Harnish, Sanford High, Adam Martin, Orie Miller and Lester Wenger, prepared us for our mission of honoring and enriching the lives of residents and their families in a community of Christ-like love. We seek to carry out our mission guided by our values of Joy, Compassion, Integrity, Stewardship and Community.

Current resident A. Grace Wenger authored the Landis Homes 30th Anniversary book in 1994 and closed with a section entitled, “Reaching Outward.” She described the opening of Adult Day Services in 1989 “to non-residents as one small step in a new direction, reaching beyond our own campus to give Christ-centered care to retirees in the larger community.”

Since 1994, additional programs have begun serving the broader community, including a second ADS center, support groups, Landis at Home, the Pathways Institute for Lifelong Learning, and other new ventures serving persons both at Landis Homes and in Lancaster and surrounding counties. And now we are announcing Steeple View Lofts, which will offer 36 loft-style rental apartments in Lancaster City and is set to open in Spring 2013.

At Landis Homes we believe good planning begins with good listening. In 2008, the Board of Directors began its strategic planning work with a time of Appreciative Inquiry, listening carefully to over 150 stakeholders. which resulted in four strategic focus areas:

• Keeping Landis Homes Retirement Community strong and vital
• Offering new living options for persons from a wider economic spectrum
• Serving persons who choose to remain in their homes
• Being open to creative partnership opportunities.

In September 2011, the Landis Homes Board created Landis Communities as an umbrella organization designed to guide the work of Landis Homes Retirement Community and other ventures.

As was true years ago with the founding of Landis Homes, much prayer, along with careful planning, is going into planning for the future of Landis Homes and Landis Communities. We welcome your joining with us in prayer for this journey of faith today, just like the founders of Landis Homes planned carefully and travelled a journey of faith half a century ago.

Contact information:
Larry Zook, President/CEO
Landis Communities/Landis Homes
(717) 381-3561 or LZook@landishomes.org

Spring has come to the Prayer and Memory Garden

The garden located outside of West Bethany Chapel, is a quiet place to visit with friends or to quietly meditate while soaking in the beauty of nature. To learn about commemorative opportunities in the garden that benefits the Caring Endowment, check out www.landishomes.org or call Gift Planning Services at 717-390-5490.
Announcing
Steeple View Lofts

By Larry Guengerich,
Landis Communities
Director of Communications
& Church Relations

Landis Communities, the umbrella organization operating Landis Homes Retirement Community, plans to create a 36 unit rental complex designed for active adults, aged 55 and older. The effort, named Steeple View Lofts, will bring city loft rentals to those wanting to live in the heart of Downtown Lancaster. Plans call for construction to begin this spring with occupancy aimed for a year following.

“During our strategic planning, we contacted many stakeholders,” said Landis Communities President/CEO Larry Zook. “We asked them about our strengths and potential for improvement. One strong theme was to develop urban active adult living options in Lancaster City. These loft apartments, which do not require an advance fee, are our first step in this effort.” Zook went on to say, “We are excited about being present in Downtown Lancaster. We have been meeting with many individuals and organizations and are very excited about the positive feedback we are receiving about this effort. From the folks at James Street Improvement District to Mayor Gray and other city officials and Downtown merchants, we have made great connections and look forward to having a strong presence in Lancaster for years to come.” More information is online at www.SteepleViewLofts.com

A Special Friendship

By Dori Groff,
Life Enrichment Coordinator

The preschool children at the Hildebrandt Learning Center at Landis Homes are privileged to participate in weekly intergenerational activities with residents of the retirement community. Over the past year a special relationship has developed between one of those residents and a child at the center.

Dotty Bailey, as a new resident living in a healthcare household, had an opportunity to interact with the children at the center for the first time. Logan Kramer was a student enrolled at the center and she along with the other children were greeted by a circle of residents, including Dotty.

Dotty enjoyed watching Logan play for a while before she began to interact with her. Logan was enjoying her new friend as well. She was even comfortable enough to sit on Dotty’s lap when invited, and to show Dotty the toy she was holding.

Others noticed their mutual enjoyment of each other. Dotty later shared with an employee that she had buried her own daughter on her 4th birthday and that Logan reminded her of that daughter. A few days after this encounter, this employee contacted the Children’s Learning Center and made arrangements for Dotty to visit Logan there to enjoy watching her play.

Since that time when the children visit Manheim House, Logan and Dotty greet each other by name and give each other a hug………a sign that this tender relationship continues to bring joy.

Leathermans article continued

Paul had served with a mission in Vietnam in the 1960’s. He and Becci served a Mennonite Central Committee volunteer term in Bangladesh in the early 1990’s, so they are not easily surprised. However, they say, “We have been delightfully surprised at the emphasis Landis Homes puts on health and fitness, and the many ways we are encouraged to maintain and improve our physical and mental health.”

“We’re enjoying the pool, exercise classes, the machines (and instruction) in the gym, the walking paths around campus and through the Leaman Woods, and the attention to nutrition in the restaurants. I think all of this helps us to ‘stay young’ as we age.”

“We were also surprised that we felt at home here right away.”

Their advice to others considering the move is: “Just do it!…. Move while you can still enjoy the many opportunities Landis Homes has to offer.”
Stauffer Gift Promotes Lifelong Learning

“Learning is one of life’s great joys,” says resident Connie Stauffer.

Forward in Faith is Landis Homes’ new endowment to benefit lifelong learning initiatives. Connie, a retired teacher, provided the lead gift for the endowment in honor of her late husband Harold Stauffer. The name Forward in Faith is taken from the title of the Lancaster Mennonite High School 1955 senior class song which was written by Harold when he and Connie were both students there.

Connie anticipates others will contribute to the endowment, helping ensure the stability of lifelong learning programs such as Pathways Institute, a continuing education opportunity. “We can, with the help of many others, build up lifelong learning opportunities and put them on a secure foundation,” she said.

“The program is not limited to residents here,” said Connie who serves as chair of the Pathways Institute advisory board at Landis Homes.

Connie comes to her enthusiasm for learning naturally. She taught elementary education and was a Reading Specialist for 30 years in the Pequea Valley School District. Harold’s life work included training small business employees and a variety of human resources positions.

After marriage, the Stauffers worked in Voluntary Service with migrant workers in northern Pennsylvania, then lived in New York City. From 1961 to 1965 they served with Eastern Mennonite Board of Missions (now Eastern Mennonite Missions) in Somalia, where Connie taught adult English classes.

Ever the educator, Connie looks ahead with enthusiasm to ways lifelong opportunities may continue to grow. She says, “Curiosity and learning uplifts the entire community as well as oneself.”

For more information or a brochure on the Forward in Faith Endowment for Lifelong Learning, contact the Gift Planning Services office at Landis Homes, (717-509-5490) or go to www.landishomes.org.

Residents Join MDS, Dedicate Bunk Trailer

By Barb E. Weaver, Mennonite Disaster Service Used with permission

On April 4, Landis Homes residents toured the new Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) bunk trailer that they were instrumental in creating. Without their generosity, this valuable facility would not exist.

This bunk trailer can sleep 18 people, has three showers, dressing rooms, two restrooms, a utility room and two sinks. The trailer is 51 feet long with 44 feet of livable space. It will be used to house MDS volunteers who are responding to needs in a disaster site.

Landis Homes residents donated over $27,000 to the trailer project. MH Eby Trailers, Blue Ball, PA, and Haller Enterprises, Lititz, PA, donated part of the labor costs and some materials so the trailer could be built.

After a short dedication service, residents were able to tour the trailer and write messages of hope and encouragement on a bunk bed support that will become part of the trailer. After the trailer’s debut at Landis Homes, it headed to West Liberty, KY, where it will be parked at the West Liberty Mennonite Church. It will house MDS volunteers who are working in West Liberty, cleaning up and repairing homes that were damaged by a tornado on March 2, 2012.
Health Care and Personal Care Obtain Excellent Surveys

By Eva Bering, Vice President of Operations

Each year Landis Homes health care and personal care areas are surveyed to maintain their licenses under the oversight of the state and federal governments. Upon the completion of the review, this year both areas received zero deficiency surveys.

The Pennsylvania Department of Health completed the annual four day unannounced relicensure survey of the health care center in January 2012. This survey certifies compliance with both Federal and State regulations and permits participation in the Medicare and Medicaid programs to continue as a licensed provider.

As part of the process, staff members and residents were interviewed personally. Clinical records were reviewed to assure compliance with specific criteria justifying services rendered to qualify for reimbursement. Specific practices were observed such as dining service, medication administration and other tasks.

The surveyors found no deficiencies as a result of the survey this year as well as in 2010. Also, the Department of Health surveyors were extremely complimentary of the culture, of the staff member hospitality and of the general organization and cleanliness of the areas they visited.

In addition, the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare completed the annual relicensure survey for the Personal Care areas on February 8th 2012. This was an abbreviated one-day unannounced survey. Landis Homes qualified for this shorter survey in lieu of a three-day survey since it had no violations last year.

While onsite, these surveyors also interviewed staff members and residents as well as observed practices and reviewed clinical records. The surveyors found no deficiencies this year as a result of the survey. The Department of Public Welfare surveyors were very affirming and noted that it is not the norm to have no deficiencies for two consecutive years.

One of Landis Homes’ board members said in response to the news, “As the family member of a personal care resident, I am not surprised to hear such good news. Nevertheless, it deserves great commendation. I am so grateful.”

Volunteers Serve In Community

Community can be defined as a group of people who share common values, characteristics or interests. It can be a specific location -- such as Landis Homes -- or a broader group like the business community, or a geographical area like Eastern Europe. Life in the community can be enhanced through cooperation, encouragement, mutual respect, affirming gifts and abilities, and seeking ways to improve.

At the Landis Homes community, every day of the week, some of the 469 volunteers are actively serving each other by sharing their time and abilities. There are specific tasks to be accomplished such as handling the mail, driving the shuttle, or mending clothing. There are relationships to nurture as volunteers escort residents by wheelchair to activities or worship, visit with residents or play games. Residents also serve in the wider community like serving Meals on Wheels, assisting Mennonite Central Committee, or teaching English to newer immigrants.

As this newsletter goes to press we are anticipating the annual Volunteer Appreciation Banquet to be held April 21. Volunteers will hear service stories from communities around the world and from the Landis Homes community. This event is a time to affirm volunteers who serve daily alongside team members to enhance resident life. In 2011, there were 38,554 service hours recorded for Landis Homes and 13,083 service hours by residents in the broader community. Each volunteer attending the banquet will receive a potted pansy to remind them of their individual community connections.

Following a seven year tradition, a tree will be planted on the campus to recognize the significant contribution of volunteers. We are grateful to God for the service of volunteers who enhance the community of Landis Homes.

To explore becoming a volunteer, contact Sue Shirk, Director of Volunteers at 509-5409.

Volunteer Tiny Buch delivers mail in Oregon House.
Azalea and Garden Dining Rooms Re-Open

A ribbon cutting was held in January to mark the completion of renovations of the new dining and reception areas. Partners in planning, design, financing & construction were present for the event and a reception following. Pictured left to right: Landis Homes Director of Pastoral Services Donna Mack Shenk, Cornerstone Design Architects’ Stacie Domain, Landis Homes CEO Larry Zook (with scissors), Cornerstone Design Architects’ Dale Yoder, M & T Bank’s Rich Bidgood, Landis Homes VP of Operations Eva Bering, EG Stoltzfus Construction’s Andy Brubaker, Lynn Godshall of Godshall Commercial Interiors and Linford Good, VP of Planning & Marketing at Landis Homes.

May Art Reception

The Landis Homes spring art show will feature the works of Gladys Zeiset of New Holland. The exhibit will consist of works in oil including still lifes, landscapes, portraits and florals. The collection reflects aspects of Gladys’ life journey. One of her most recently completed works is a portrait of her 97-year old mother, Marian Weaver. Another piece is a painting of the house in Blue Ball in which she was born. The house was since demolished.

Gladys is primarily self-taught and has also taken advantage of art classes offered locally or through long distance learning. She especially appreciated the instruction of well-known Arizona artist Hal Weber. More of Gladys’ work can be viewed at www.gladyszeiset.com.

Gladys serves on the art auction committee for Friendship Community and the quality assurance committee for Lighthouse Ministries.

The opening reception, on Tuesday, May 1, will be held in the Harvest View Galleries from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. For more information call 717-581-3935 or visit www.landishomes.org. All are welcome to the show that will continue through July.
May 1
Artist Reception
Oils & Acrylics by Gladys Zeiset
Harvest View Galleries
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

May 3
Craft & Hobby Day
Resident crafts, hobbies and collections
Westview Community Room
1:00-4:00 p.m.

May 8
Northern Lancaster County Senior Expo
Overlook Activity Center
Visit our display booth
9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

May 12
STEP Pastoral Studies Graduation
EMU-Lancaster
2:00 p.m.
West Bethany Chapel

May 15-17
Teaching Series by Jim Amstutz based on
his book “Threatened with Resurrection: Self-
Preservation and Christ’s way of Peace”
7:00 p.m.
West Bethany Chapel

May 17
Clergy Breakfast
7:30 a.m.
Westview Community Room
Clergy RSVP: 717-381-3510 by May 10.

May 17
Ascension Day Service
10:15 a.m. - East Bethany

May 19
Lancaster Area Suzuki
Strings Concert
West Bethany Chapel
1:30 pm

May 19
Landis Homes Chorus Program
West Bethany Chapel
7:00 p.m.

May 21
Parkinson’s Support Group Meeting
“Differentiating Parkinson’s and Related
Illnesses”
Q & A with Dr. Stephen Gollomp,
Lankenau Hospital
Westview Community Room
2:00 p.m.
Information at 717-509-5494

May 30
Joyful Hearts Chorus
West Bethany Chapel
7:00 pm

May 29
Memory Loss Support Group
“A Caregiver’s Journey”
by Ken Espenshade
Warwick Room of The Heritage
7:00 p.m.
Information at 717-581-3939

June 1
Benefit Golf Tournament
Fox Chase Golf Club
Morning & afternoon rounds
Information at 717-509-5490

June II
Lancaster Senior Games
F&M College
Visit our display booth
7:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Earth Day Promotes Living Green

By Linford Good,
Vice President of Planning & Marketing

As this newsletter goes to press, the second annual
Earth Day commemoration on April 20 is ready to
highlight the importance of life-sustaining water. The
day is planned to include tours of the green features
in hybrid homes, programs focusing on both the
spiritual and physical aspects of life-sustaining water,
tree planting, green car show featuring hybrid and full-
electric vehicles and a tour of the restored streambed
and floodplain at Lititz Run watershed. Earth Day
events promote the importance of environmental
issues around the world. On this day the Landis
Homes community joins people of all nationalities and
backgrounds in voicing appreciation for the earth and
encouraging its protection.
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Attention Golfers!

Play the Greens with Landis Homes

21st Annual Benefit Golf Tournament
June 1, 2012

Benefits Adult Day Services

FOXCHASE GOLF CLUB
Call Gift Planning Services at 717-509-5490 for Sponsorship & Registration Information www.Landishomes.org

Partnering to Serve Landis Homes as Premier Event Sponsor

Better Things to Do

“We decided there are better things to do in our retirement years than take care of property. We love to come and go as we please and to have more time to spend with our family, volunteering and following other interests.”

Charlie & Ruth Winters
Hybrid Home Residents

For a tour call 717-581-3935 www.landishomes.org

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