



# REFLECTIONS

AUTUMN 2005

Volume 27 Number 3



## **Willow Brook Christian Communities**

100 Willow Brook Way South  
Delaware, Ohio 43015  
Phone: (740) 369-0048

*Delaware, Ohio*

## **Willow Brook Christian Village**

100 Willow Brook Way South  
Delaware, Ohio 43015  
740-369-0048

- Independent Homes & Apartments
- The Centrum Assisted Living
- Passages Alzheimer's Care
- Cherith Skilled Nursing Care & Rehabilitation Center
- Heritage Day Health Center Adult Day Care
- The Courtyard Restaurant

*and coming soon:*

## **Willow Brook Christian Village at Delaware Run**

*under development at  
100 Delaware Crossing West  
on the north side of US 36  
in Delaware*

*Worthington, Ohio*

## **Willow Brook Christian Home**

55 Lazelle Road  
Columbus, Ohio 43235

- Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation
- Assisted Living
- The Grapevine Grill

[www.willow-brook.org](http://www.willow-brook.org)

## **“And the Good News is . . .”**

**W**ith these words Willow Brook CEO Larry Harris welcomed the crowd at not one, but two September rallies celebrating home construction movement at Willow Brook's newest community at Delaware Run.

Interest in the visible progress out on US 36 just west of downtown Delaware, Ohio, was so great that reservations for the September 15 luncheon and rally soon exceeded our capacity. A second event, on September 19, took care of the 100-person overflow.

After the luncheon and tours of similar homes and apartments on the Willow Brook Christian Village campus, our Delaware Run neighbors at the Valleyview Evangelical Friends Church graciously hosted our staging area for bus rides through the developing Delaware Run site, just three miles from the first Village.

Those on the bus could see the scope of construction's progress. Roads are pretty much in, and twin-single homes are in various stages of construction. First residents should be moving there in just a few short months.

“We were thrilled that so many people are interested in hearing about the progress being made at Delaware Run,” said Harris. “We’re looking forward to providing these update rallies every three months throughout the next year.”

The next rally will be a Christmas reception on Thursday, December 15, at Willow Brook Christian Village. Delaware Run manager Carol Calkins is taking reservations at 740-369-0048.



*Twin-single homes are sprouting up across the hillsides of Delaware Run and are in a variety of construction stages. The homes above were the first to receive their brick facades. Many more are already shingled and have their windows installed. First residents are projected to move into their new homes in March of 2006.*

At last, the awesome expansion of Willow Brook Christian Home is complete. Strike up the band, release the balloons, and launch the fireworks into the sky. It's time for a celebration.

Friends and well-wishers gathered on a Sunday afternoon this fall to mark the grand re-opening. There were speeches and applause, music, and a prayer of dedication. Then nine of us lined up for the ceremonial cutting of the ribbon.

For the past year and a half, we have been about the messy business of transforming our Columbus-area nursing home into a long-term healthcare center. I'm biased? Oh for sure I am. But it doesn't detract from the fact that this project is a piece of art.

Resident dignity has been our motivation from start to finish. We have crafted a place where old friends now can live with honor, and a family can feel good about driving away that first night and entrusting Mom to our care.

When we started planning this project three years ago, we sat down and asked ourselves, "What is it about a nursing home that is distasteful to so many?" Here's the list we came up with...

- *Crowded conditions.* Two people and all their belongings shoe-horned into a space smaller than your bedroom. That's crowded.
- *The famous nursing home stink.* You think it just goes with the territory, don't you.
- *Tile on the floors.* Nobody lives on vinyl tile at home. Why is this the floor covering of choice in a nursing home?
- *Glaring lights.* White fluorescent fixtures everywhere that induce headaches and turn faces a ghoulish hue in photographs. You

don't have them in your house, and we didn't want them in our nursing home.



Contact Larry on-line at  
[larryharris@willow-brook.org](mailto:larryharris@willow-brook.org)

- *The food.* Oh yes, the food. Scooped from a steam table and slapped on a tray. Umm umm good.
- *The noise.* Incessant bells, buzzers, and alarms. Bring all that racket into *your* living room when *you're* trying to watch a ballgame.

We set out to build a nursing home opposite from all that. The new Willow Brook Christian Home doesn't look, feel, or smell anything like a nursing home. Think nice hotel. Walk the halls and you will see private rooms for all. You'll find a new assisted living floor.

We have created dining facilities on each floor – in nursing and assisted living – that rival any I have ever patronized. Warm lighting everywhere and carpet everywhere. (Of course we keep it clean. I'm surprised you felt the need to ask.)

The nurse call system is silent and invisible.

And the building is full of surprises – courtyards, fountains, terraced gardens, a waterfall, a secret fish pond tucked in a breezeway, a gazebo, an elevated patio – inviting places inside and out.

And the renovation of the old building is so thorough, I challenge you to figure out which part is new, and which has been around for decades. (If you knew the layout of the original building, kindly remove yourself from the competition. That's cheating.)

Each time now when I walk the halls, I am overcome with a simple feeling of gratitude. I want to say thank you to the trustees for buying into the vision and giving the go-ahead for the project; and to the architects and designers; to John Lewis (our financial advisor and project sparkplug); and to the good people at Fifth Third Bank; and all the attorneys (there were six – six I tell ya); and all the Elford people who had a hand in construction – the carpenters, masons, electricians, roofers, painters, and plumbers; to Scott Stimpert the landscaper; to my leadership team (we pulled it off guys!); to our donors who dug deep; and to all the Home's staff and residents who put up with 18 months of dust, mud, clamor, and confusion.

We got 'er done! Thank you. From the bottom of my heart, I thank you.

## A Thank You

by Larry Harris, CEO



## Newly Expanded and Refurbished Home Dedicated October 2

*Cheering the cutting of the opening ribbon were (from the left) Assisted Living Manager Carrie Kossler, CEO Larry Harris, first assisted living resident Miriam Lee, Home administrator David Chappell, Board member Leroy Bumpus, architects Dave Prater and Richard Brown, skilled nursing resident and volunteer Virginia Noe, and Board member Frank Chappell.*



*Residents, family, staff and church friends celebrated by feasting on fabulous food prepared by the talented chefs of Willow Brook Christian Home. Here Mary Gaybud and volunteer John Luketich pause with aides LaVetta Bryant (left) and Ruth Battle (right).*



# Memorial Gifts from the Heart

July 15, 2005 - October 19, 2005

George Bates

John & Karen Hayes

Mary Dee Glossner

Gene Glossner

Lloyd E. Manley

Mary Manley

Carolyn Myers

Janis Frey

Edith Pearson

Jack & Vivian Gaskalla

Claranne Seaman

Margaret Burks

Mary Manley

Helen Reppart

Residents' Advisory Council

Lois Smith

Lawrence Wenger

Cloyd and Gladys Stauffer

Ron & Susan Stauffer

Helen Taylor

Jack Taylor

Rod White

Carl & Mariedith Brofft

Max Wildermuth

Lois Engle

Helen Reppart

William & Carrie Schlosser

Robert & Ethel Zimmer

Willow Brook Residents

Philip Wilson

Dan & Bebe Conant

Dora Devers

Donna French

William & Barbara Gorga

Donald & Phillis Henn

Crede & Dorothea Hiestand

Matthew & Lori Hiestand

Harry & Mary Jo Humes

Ben & Lois Lewis

Robert & Ruth Loynd

Herbert & Doris McCave

Lisa McComas

Robert & Bette Meyer

David & Rosalie Miller

Ray & Helen Nally

Arlene Palenshus

Neal Perfect

Helen Reppart

Dorcas Rusk

Residents Advisory Council

Clyde & Therese Smith

Lois Smith

Marilyn Terry

Everett & Mary Tilson

Clyde and Marguerite Wooley

Ed & Evelyn Winter

Janet Yoder



## 18th Annual Golf Scramble nets \$8,200

*Scott Cordial, Carle Pennell, Darrell Daniels and Danny Boyd were the winning foursome at the 2005 Roy & Eunice Rogers golf scramble in July. Here Scott, Carle and Danny are joined by Alan Rogers. Proceeds of the event are directed toward enabling residents whose funds have depleted to remain at Willow Brook Christian Home.*

## Speakers Bureau Formed

# Willow Brook Speakers Inform, Inspire and Delight their Audiences

**W**illow Brook Christian Communities is the story of a little group of

dedicated volunteers and exceptional staff who took a small, 25-bed nursing home and with patience, commitment and single-minded leadership are now building a third campus and second full-service retirement community in Delaware, Ohio.

Learn how this homegrown, not-for-profit organization has developed and prospered through its commitment to loving God and the Central Ohio seniors under our care.

Our presentation is not a sales pitch, just lots of beautiful pictures and vivid dreams, dynamically presented. Call Carol Calkins at 740-369-0048 to arrange a presentation at your group's next meeting



## Looking for a Change in Scenery?

**W**illow Brook Christian Village, in Delaware, and Willow Brook Christian Home, in Worthington/north Columbus, invite local clubs and organizations to hold your meetings in a different spot this winter. Our meeting rooms hold 6-150 people, and we're happy to share. Refreshments, meals and tours are available upon request. Call Carol in Delaware at 740-369-0048, or Eunice in Worthington at 614-885-3300.



*Village nurse aide Amy Simpson's tuition reimbursement from the Employee Education Fund helped her begin her second year of nursing school at Marion Technical College this fall.*

## Residents Fund Education Programs

**T**hanks to the generosity of two couples who reside at Willow Brook Christian Village, Willow Brook staff members who would otherwise be unable to do so will have the opportunity to further their training and education in 2005-2006. More than \$20,000 has been contributed to the fund.

"The generosity of Willow Brook residents has sustained the tuition reimbursement program," said Janis Frey, Director of Employee Relations and coordinator of the program.

"They have done it through their individual donations and also with the proceeds of projects such as the weekly coffee time and ice cream socials.

"They are helping staff members realize their goals through the opportunities they provide, and we are grateful."



*Carolyn Way, a resident of Willow Brook Christian Home's assisted living, recently purchased a grand piano, which she has generously shared with everyone by having it installed in the Grapevine Grill.*



*Nursing students from Otterbein College's School of Nursing are making Willow Brook Christian Home and Willow Brook Christian Village integral parts of their learning experience. The group of first-year students above was at the Village in October, learning the Willow Brook way of caring for and about the sick elders under our care.*

## **Cherith Nursing Scores Big**

Cherith, the skilled nursing center at Willow Brook Christian Village, received another near-perfect score in the Ohio Department of Health's annual site visit and unannounced inspection this past summer.

"We received only one 'ding' on our score," says administrator Nicole Ketron, "and that was for a non-nursing issue.

"Our staff works very hard all year to assure that we are providing excellent nursing and compassionate care. I am proud of them and thankful for the support we receive from the families. This score is important and gratifying."

## **Village Residents take honors at Art & Writing Exhibition**

Willow Brook has some pretty talented people walking our trails, roaming our halls and sharing our lives. They took nine ribbons at the Central Ohio level of AOPHA's Art & Writing Exhibition in July.

Then in October, Bebe Conant's quilt came in second in the statewide competition and Midge McConnell's special 3-D art, "American Patriots" came in first in its section.

Whether their talents were demonstrated in needle, non-fiction writing, fine, or wearable art, our neighbors did us proud.

Congratulations are in order to Bid Crosby, Carol Hart, Mary Bossert, and Cherith and Centrum residents for not only sharing their talents, but for demonstrating that their skills are first class, and to activities director Marlene Andersen, who has been AOPHA's volunteer state director for the past two years.



## Judy Earich, Board set Missionary Standard



*A little girl with her art supplies from Bible class looks into the medical clinic window near Tegucigalpa, Honduras*

Charlotte Gallant grew up in the town of Delaware, but her grandfather, Charles Gallant had five farms scattered across Delaware County, Ohio. Charlotte's father and brother managed the family enterprise. Those farms have been passed down through many generations of Gallant farmers, who are buried in a family graveyard on their land.

Charlotte grew up to become the librarian at Willis High School in Delaware before moving to the Cleveland area as a children's librarian for the Cuyahoga County Public Library.

In 1971, Charlotte bought 84 acres of primeval forest from the rest of her family in order to make certain that the untouched natural beauty of her family land will remain in its pristine form for generations to come. Now she has donated the woods to Preservation Parks of Delaware County. This year a shelter house, nature interpretation trail and environmental education center were opened, and Ms. Gallant hopes a farm life center will open one day soon.

Preservation Parks is committed to undertake only "a minimum amount of development . . . in order to keep these selected sites as natural as possible." Exactly what Charlotte wanted.

Can you see why we love having her as our neighbor?

Willow Brook Board member Judy Earich puts her actions where her heart is.

This past July marked the sixth year that she has accompanied doctors, dentists and nurses, maintenance supervisors, public employees and retirees to Honduras.

During their seven-day mission they served 621 people in three medical clinics and 291 in dental clinics, distributed 850 bags of food and built three houses. They also squeezed in time to visit the forty boys who now live in the orphanage the group built on last year's trip.

"I am not the only one on the Board of Trustees who loves this kind of work," states Earich. "Russia is Frank Chappel's love, and he goes there twice a year."

We're proud of the many ways our Board members demonstrate the caring and sharing spirit that is a hallmark of life at Willow Brook. They set the standard.

## Village Resident Shares, Preserves Local Forest



*Charlotte Gallant, Village resident and donor of the Gallant Woods*



# *Reflections*

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*If you wish to remove your  
name from the Reflections  
mailing list, please contact  
Lynn Zizzo at 740-369-0048.*

## *You are cordially invited to attend a Rally and Christmas Reception*

*featuring the latest developments at  
Willow Brook Christian Village at Delaware Run  
Thursday, December 15, 2005, 2:00 pm*

*Willow Brook Christian Village  
100 Willow Brook Way South  
Delaware, Ohio*

*RSVP to 740-369-0048*

*Tours of the site will be offered immediately after the Rally.*