



REFLECTIONS

AUTUMN 2008
VOLUME 30 NUMBER 2



*Willow Brook Christian Village resident
Austin Showman*

The Road Behind Us

by Larry Harris, CEO

My life is no more than a tiny sliver of eternity, and my waking hours are mostly focused on that miniscule span of days. Only in rare moments of reflection do I give thought to the eons that passed before my birth, and the unbroken trail of human toil and suffering that fashioned the world I take so for granted today.

My life is consumed with the here and now, with all the effort it takes to put numbers on a paycheck and into a retirement fund, to raise children, and to carry through with responsibilities of family, church, and friends.

It requires a conscious choice to extract myself from the patter of daily living and search out a quiet retreat where I can ponder the past, and think on those who have gone before me.

So it is with an organization such as Willow Brook. As the years click off, we contract a corporate amnesia that causes us to relax our grip on our roots. We lose sight of the road behind us, over the horizon, and all that transpired to deliver to us the ministry we have today.

We now are into the 37th year of the Willow Brook narrative. That's ample time for most present-day players on the Willow Brook stage to have no direct link to our founders. What were their motivations, their hopes, and their desires for this ministry? Who in the world was Leslie Ward? There now are only seven or eight of us at Willow Brook who remember the man whose vision in the 1960s led him to recruit that first board and push for the founding of Will-o-Lock Haven, the embryonic version of our Willow Brook Christian Home.

In not so many years, the light that was Leslie Ward will have dimmed completely, and he will be nothing more than the oil portrait that hangs in the entry hall



Larry Harris, CEO
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of that facility. No one will have knowledge of his contagious passion that is the cornerstone of the Willow Brook organization. If there had been no Leslie, there would be no Willow Brook. But who today remembers?

I and my team of leaders, and our board of trustees, devote ourselves to the pressing demands of the day – the finances (always the finances!), recruiting good people, and all that it takes to pass the pills, prepare three meals a day, clean the carpets, fill in the potholes, fill out the government forms, prune the shrubs, wash the linens, write the essays for Reflections, and the thousand other urgent obligations that must be met to keep ship Willow Brook afloat.

Who has time to stop and think on the reasons for Willow Brook's existence, or to imagine a conversation with Leslie Ward who died 28 years ago? What do you think, Leslie, of all that Willow Brook has become? Are we headed in the right directions? Are we worthy custodians of the vision you so doggedly articulated? We are doing a pretty good job of serving those who can pay, don't you think? But what about those who can't?

And what about the faithful band that Leslie gathered around him in those early years who since have left our sphere? David Myers, B.B. Thompson, Roy Estep, Verne Davis, and the others. Two are serving on the board to this day: Frank Chappell and Leroy Bumpus. But the time approaches when they, too, will be only distant memories.

Speak to us, gentlemen. Point the way, and help us sort out the priorities.

The Willow Brook story has only just begun. As we press ever deeper into the 21st century and move further from the days of our founders, we must continually seek out their vision and renew our commitment to their principles. Let us always remember those who have gone before, hacking out a trail in the wilderness that we now tread. Let us remember their faith and love, shared so freely in those early years, that touch us even now beyond the grave.

“Let us always remember those who have gone before, hacking out a trail in the wilderness that we now tread.”



The Elford construction workers will be sad to leave Willow Brook at Delaware Run next year – twin-single residents already living at Delaware Run have made it a habit to periodically stop by with home-baked goodies to share with the crews constructing the Village Square complex of apartments and healthcare centers.



Village culinary server Diane Westbrook was among 30 donors in the Red Cross blood drive at Willow Brook Christian Village in July. Willow Brook doubled last year's participation rate at a time when supplies were so low that hospitals had cancelled all elective surgeries to save what was available for emergencies. Staff members, independent residents and people from the surrounding community participated in the drive.

The next drive is November 7. Call Willow Brook Christian Village at 740-369-0048 to reserve a time to come in and share the gift of life.



Chef John Lindeboom serves Korean Beef Barbecue with a roasted pepper sauce over sweet rice to County Commissioner Mary Jo Kilroy at the Worthington Chamber of Commerce's Taste of Worthington event. Kilroy is running for the House of Representatives, but at that moment we were working for her vote (and probably vice versa). Willow Brook Christian Home nurse Kellie Korpieski, center, lends a hand.

Serving up Great Taste

This past summer gave Willow Brook chefs the opportunity to show off a little around central Ohio. In July chef Javier Alvarez took first place honors in the entree category at the *Taste of Worthington* event. This is Chef Javier's third winning entry. Last year he came in first in the appetizer division, the year before that "we" came in second.

Then in August he was invited back to the *Young at Heart Festival* put on by the Suburban News publications to present a food demonstration. His parmesan crusted chicken with a maple-balsamic vinaigrette was so popular with the crowd tasting samples of his creation that servers saw some people going through the line not only for seconds but for thirds, fourths and fifths!

This month, Village chef and culinary services director John Lindeboom is slated for an appearance at the Culinary Federation's Taste the Future gala at Columbus State Community College in Columbus. He is also planning a food demonstration and sampling at a Rally on September 25 at Willow Brook at Delaware Run.

Seems every year we get to prove once again that people who live at Willow Brook do, indeed, eat *very* well!



Residents of Willow Brook at Delaware Run took the bus to Dawes Arboretum and the Velvet ice cream factory one day this summer. They enjoyed box lunches at the Dawes picnic shelter during the excursion.

Senior Sharing Time:

Live for Today

Yesterday is History
Tomorrow is a Mystery
Today is a Gift

With these themes, three speakers will guide participants along the path to appreciation for the gift of today at the annual Senior Sharing Time at Willow Brook Christian Village in Delaware, Ohio.

Christian seniors from across the state will converge on Willow Brook on Tuesday, October 14, for the annual spiritual retreat.

The day will begin at 9:00 a.m. with registration and a continental breakfast. Lunch will be provided by the culinary team at Willow Brook Christian Village, and the day will conclude at 2:15 p.m.

Call 740-369-0048 for reservations and questions.

*Everett
Confer,
New Haven,
Indiana
“Today is a
Gift.”*



*Thomas
Reppart,
Nelson,
Nebraska
“Yesterday
is History”*



*Jeffery
Stevenson,
Louisville,
Ohio
“Tomor-
row is a
Mystery.”*



Christy Brice and Willow Brook Christian Home resident Rose Coville

CHRISTIAN
COMMUNITIES
**Willow
Brook**

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Fax: (740) 369-7034
www.willow-brook.org

Delaware, Ohio

Willow Brook Christian Village

100 Willow Brook Way South
Delaware, Ohio 43015
Phone: (740) 369-0048
Fax: (740) 369-7034

- 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

Willow Brook at Delaware Run

100 Delaware Crossing West
Delaware, Ohio 43015
Phone: (740) 201-5640
Fax: (740) 201-5740

- Twin-single Homes
*and under construction for
occupancy mid-2009:*
- Apartments
- Healthcare Center

Worthington, Ohio

Willow Brook Christian Home

55 Lazelle Road
Columbus, Ohio 43235
Phone: (614) 885-3300
Fax: (614) 885-8476

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

REFLECTIONS

Larry Harris, CEO
Teri Ryan, Director of Community
Relations, editor & designer

*A not-for-profit ministry
of members of the Churches of Christ*

We're Raising the Roof!



The roof is rising over the three-story Village Square apartments in the center of Willow Brook at Delaware Run.

The healthcare center is taking shape, with its wide hallways, generously-sized rooms and common areas distinctly visible.

A hard-hat tour by officials the other day drew gasps of delight at the views to be enjoyed by future residents. Delaware Run is taking shape!



The four-sided fireplace, soaring ceilings, skylights and bank of windows overlooking the water are now all apparent in the Water's Edge Restaurant under construction in Willow Brook at Delaware Run. You can almost taste the delicacies to come at what will no doubt be a rival of the Courtyard at Willow Brook Christian Village in the race to be one of the top restaurants in Delaware – and at retirement villages, no less!

What better time than September to treat your taste buds to fresh-from-the-garden vegetables prepared by one of the finest culinary teams in town?

Join CEO Larry Harris and Willow Brook chef John Lindeboom for a Rally and food demonstration showcasing retirement living at Willow Brook and confirming that people who live here do, indeed, eat *very* well.

At the Rally, to be held at the Five Star Event Center right next door to Willow Brook at Delaware Run, Larry will tell the Willow Brook story and give all the latest news about construction progress. John will demonstrate how to make a simple and delicious cold soup and salad lunch, and then we'll all head over to the tent at Delaware Run to taste-test what we just saw and begin our tour of retirement homes.

Willow Brook at Delaware Run is rising along the north side of US 36/West William Street just a mile or so west of downtown Delaware. Willow Brook Christian Village will also have apartments and twin-single homes open for you to view, and they're just a few miles away.

Stop by on the 25th to see for yourself why people who live at Willow Brook rave about the food. We'd love to see you!

Reserve a seat
and a delicious lunch under the tent

Thursday, September 25

11:00 a.m.

740-201-5640

In Honor of:

Hazel B. Blöse
Pamela Blöse
Dennis & Sharon Blöse
Cherith Residents
Clark & Carrie Green
Bernice L. Conrad
Melissa L. Pearson
Anna Griffin
Thomas & Shirley Griffin
Doris Jessie
Marcus W. Kissel
April L. Rausch
Clara Main
Delores Lallathin
My Ohio Wesleyan Friends
Robert & Elizabeth Gitter
Willow Brook Caregivers
Lois Baird
Willow Brook Staff
Constance C. Whitaker

In Memory of:

Robert N. Allerding
Aaron & Robin Madosky
Richard F. Bauerle
Davie Esau
Jim & Shirley Jackson
James & Betty Leslie
Arlene Palenshus
Helen J. Reppart
Jane Rutan
Lois K. Smith
Larry & Marian Wenger
Phyllis Wood
Margaret L. Beard
Arlene Palenshus
Thelma Bevins
William & Diane Bates
Florence N. Bumpus
Robert & Maxine Hamler
Charles Burks
Margaret Burks
Blossom J. Childs
Paul & Lynn Zizzo
Darwin "Ralph" Church
Margaret Burks
Davie Esau
Jean Flahive
Samir & Christa Gharbo
Jim & Shirley Jackson
Polly Kaple
Melissa Loeb
David & Rosalie Miller
Arlene Palenshus
Helen J. Reppart

Gifts of Love

May 11, - August 8, 2008

Darwin "Ralph" Church, *cont.*
Residents Advisory Council
Len & Lavon Russell
Lois K. Smith
Larry & Marian Wenger
Phyllis Wood
Katherine L. Clark
John & Shelly Hubbell
Bernice L. Conrad
William & Carolyn Bresler
Richard & Maureen Clark
Ruth Cottrell
Ruth Croman
Sue P. Glander
Don & Martha Howell
James & Sandra Leist
Louis & Carol Marcy
Patricia M. Nicholson
Beth Schad
Freida Janet Davies
Marcus W. Kissel
April L. Rausch
Floyd Edgington
Bertha Schaile
Lois Engel
Tiffany C. Wilson
Joan Fletcher
Karen Fletcher
Lawrence Fletcher
Karen Fletcher
Elizabeth Gibson
Robert & Gwen Fletcher
Loretta Glowacki
Ron Wilcox
Roland Gribble
Wesley & Bonnie Jordan
Audrey & Alberta Harris
Larry & Janet Harris
Katherine K. Hilborn
Guy & Patricia Bauman
Burgess & Niple
Frank & Karen Coriell
Dorothy Dedlow
Dora L. Devers
Dorothy Florance
Jack & Mary Hilborn
Hughes-Keenan Foundation
Harry & Mary Jo Humes
Jim & Shirley Jackson
Aldona Jensen
Helmut & Dagmar Kremling
Marion Longerman
Mercer (US) Inc.

Katherine K. Hilborn, *continued*
David & Rosalie Miller
Arlene Palenshus
Lawrence & Susan Ratcliffe
Helen J. Reppart
Residents Advisory Council
Harold & Janet Rettstatt
John & Diana Roach
Jeanne Simpson
Lois K. Smith
Joyce E. Waggamon
Larry & Marian Wenger
Robert & Ethel Zimmer
James E. Jackson
Mitchell & Dyana Welch
Vivian C. Jones
Rick and Judy Neldon
Helen J. Reppart
Mary Jordan
Wesley & Bonnie Jordan
Darwin and Beulah Kehl
Geneva Landefeld
Jean W. Kohan
Andrew J. Kohan
John Kohan
Robert Kohan
Jean A. Lasser
Jeff & Sharon Martin
David Lavender
Ben & Jane O'Neal
Edith Lavender
Ben & Jane O'Neal
Bertha A. Lengacher
John and Deloris Suppes
Audrey Letson
Nicole Ketron
Milton Lewin
Hamilton Parker Distribution
Dorothy "Dot" Lyons
Josephine M. Montgomery
Russell & Mabel Miller
Bill & Betty Miller
Christina Minehart
Dorothy Bukovac
Olivia M. Moses
Marcus W. Kissel
Elinor G. Nicholson
Mary E. Nicholson
Alex Pappas
Arlene Palenshus
Elvon Pearson
James & Virginia Davis

Everell A. Pearson
James & Virginia Davis
Eugene Prince
Larry & Janet Harris
William E. Reeder
Doug & Kathy Reeder
Guyetta Staggs
Susan George
Guy & Lucy Steele
Bill & Betty Miller
Leonard Thompson
Harry & Carol Anderson
Rose Toth
John & Joanne Toth
Helen C. Weaver
Marcus W. Kissel
Max Wildermuth
Jayne W. MacKay
Marguerite M. Wooley
Arlene Palenshus

An Uncomplicated, Good Life

Jane Rutan doesn't fret. Never did. "I live a very uncomplicated life," she says matter-of-factly.

After graduating from Syracuse University she worked for just a year as a physical education and sports teacher at Cananovia College in New York before deciding teaching wasn't for her. So she moved to Rochester and worked at a nursery for young children until marrying and having her first baby.

After her three daughters were born "I decided I was being lazy. I didn't want a job, but I had heard about the need for people to translate books into Braille for the blind."

She enrolled in a year-long class, received her translation certificate, and spent 24 years translating books from print into Braille.



Willow Brook Christian Village residents Phyllis Wood and Davie Esau checked out seat comfort levels at the dedication of Willow Brook's new bus on July 31st. The bus was purchased with the donations of nearly a hundred people whose response to the spring appeal raised the \$55,000 needed in less than two months. The bus is already in service and creating memories.

"I loved the the fact that there was no gray area. It was either right or wrong. It was fun to try to be perfect." A non-fretter's philosophy.

Jane is interested in politics, first voting in 1940, and watched the conventions recently. But, she says, "I don't fret over something I can't change."

Jane retired from her brailleing when her husband Bob retired in 1980. They moved to Florida, where "a golf course was just a 3-wood away."

They lived in Florida for 24 mostly-idyllic years, until strokes made Bob an invalid and took away his sight. But once again she didn't fret. They moved back north to Delaware, Ohio.

Bob spent the last five months of his life at Willow Brook Christian Village's Cherith Care Center, where he died in his 90th year.

Jane moved into her apartment at Willow Brook Christian Village just a couple years ago. Decorated in soft pastels, it is cozy and uncluttered. Uncomplicated.



*Jane Rutan
Willow Brook Christian Village*

"I'm just happy here! I call this apartment my nest. Isn't that good?" Jane still loves sports and watches them all on television, and she recently accompanied several neighbors on a trip to the Jack Nicklaus Museum in Columbus.

"So many people have had so much trauma in their lives, and except for my poor husband, who made it easy for me, it's been a good life. I've been so lucky!

"I love this place. It's beautiful, and the people here are loving, kind, and happy. I have never heard anyone say anything disagreeable.

"Life is good."

No, Jane doesn't fret.



The Village bell choir and the Willow Brook Singers performed at an ice cream social in the Terrace Room at Willow Brook Christian Village this past summer.



Reflections

Willow Brook Christian Communities
100 Willow Brook Way South
Delaware, Ohio 43015

Nonprofit
organization
US postage paid
Permit #102
Delaware, Ohio

Return service requested

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Rally, home tours, cooking demonstration, lunch

Willow Brook at Delaware Run
Thursday, September 25, 11:00 a.m.
call 740-201-5640 to reserve your lunch

Style Show and Luncheon

Willow Brook Christian Village, Terrace Room
Thursday, October 2, 11:30 a.m.
benefits Tuition Assistance Fund

Senior Sharing Time

Tuesday, October 14, 9:00 a.m.
Willow Brook Christian Village, Terrace Room

Rally, home tours, health services info and a progressive autumn desserts fest

Thursday, October 16, 1:00 p.m.
Willow Brook at Delaware Run
call 740-201-5640 and we'll save you a fritter

Tribute to Veterans

Thursday, November 6, 2:00 p.m.
Willow Brook Christian Village, Terrace Room

Resident Craft Show

Wednesday, November 12, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Willow Brook Christian Village, Garden Room

Thanksgiving Rally & luncheon

Thursday, November 20, 11:30 a.m.
Willow Brook Christian Village, Terrace Room
reservations required - 740-369-0048

Red Cross Blood Drive

Monday, November 24, 1-7 p.m.
Willow Brook Christian Village, Terrace Room
Call 740-369-0048 to reserve a time