

In Seasons

A News Update for Residents, Families and Friends of MMH



Winter 2009

The Energy of Life

Activities Calendar



Mennonite Memorial Home

January 21 – Monthly Birthday Party - hosted by Emmanuel UCC

February 12 – Valentines Party

February 18 – Monthly Birthday Party - hosted by First Mennonite Church

February 24 – Sweetheart Tea

March 8, 4-7:00 PM – Women Service Group Soup and Sandwich Supper

March 17 – St. Patrick's Day Party

March 18 – Monthly Birthday Party - hosted by St. Johns UCC

March 27 – Community Egg Hunt



Maple Crest

Dec. 16, 7:00 PM – Christmas Worship Service by First Mennonite Church

Jan. 19, – Annual Maple Crest Memorial Service

Feb. 1, 7:00 PM – Bluffton Scrap Artist Quilters "Choosing a Quilting Design" by Ginger Ouwenga

Feb. 4 – Soup Cook-Off

Feb. 15 – The True North Pianists from ONU (with professor Rebecca Casey)

Feb. 18 – Riverbend/Maple Crest Picnic



Maple Crest Senior Living Village Celebrates its 10th year Anniversary

-It began as a dream for several Bluffton individuals including Lois Rodabaugh more than 20 years ago. They wanted to see a place in Bluffton where seniors could retire, stay active, socialize with others and have a healthcare system that could support their needs as they aged. This group of "forward thinking" people approached the Board of Mennonite Memorial Home. A planning committee was formed, ideas put on paper and they went to work. They conducted dinners and interviews where others were asked what they would like to see and what services they would want in a senior community. Dr. Robert Kreider owned a farm off Augsburg Road and had the dream of seeing an intergenerational community being developed on the land. Stan Clemens was contacted and asked to consider taking on the project as the developer. Clemens knew of the goals that Mennonite Memorial Home had of finding a place to build a senior community and contacted the Board to see if they would be interested in purchasing 18 acres. The MMH Board agreed and Bassett and Associates were engaged and the plans for Riverbend and

Maple Crest Senior Living Village began to take shape.

In 1997 the 6 million dollar project began. The first phase was completed in the fall of 1998 when sixteen duplex units were constructed on Red Maple Court. Then the construction began on the main building which would house apartments that offered the "fullest possibilities of independent living." When the building was complete it offered 35 independent living apartments and 20 assisted living apartments. The first residents moved in during the fall of 1999. Now in 2009, 91 people call Maple Crest Senior Living Village home, eight more duplex units have been constructed on Crimson Maple Court with several more yet to be built.

Carol Diller was one of the first residents to move in and still lives there today. When asked about living at Maple Crest Carol said, "It's been a very pleasant and secure place to live and I've felt comfortable and cared for. I have met so many fine people and enjoyed making friends, you know, this is a very active place." Some of the other original

(continued next page 3)

Thoughts from the CEO...

"The purpose of this organization shall be to provide a home for aging people where a Christian atmosphere prevails, where those needing assistance with the activities of daily living or needing healthcare can receive such care, where the whole person is important and ministered to by gentle and caring staff, and where people can live and die with dignity..."
Mennonite Memorial Home Constitutions, Article II - Purpose (Revised and Adopted May 1987)

As the new CEO, February 2009 marked the beginning of a new chapter in both my life and the life of Mennonite Home Communities of Ohio (MHCO). However, the words above continue to serve as guiding principles. Of course, much has changed since the writing of the first constitution in 1955. We have grown significantly in numbers of residents, staff and programs. We are now two campuses; we are privileged to serve a few younger people from our community (although we are all "aging"); we serve people who are still living in their own homes in a variety of ways.

Throughout my 27 years of serving the elderly through MHCO, I have always been impressed with the organization's motivation for change and expansion. When the staff and board of directors realized an elder's need was either unmet or poorly managed, the wheels started to turn and eventually, a new program or a new building was in place that was designed to provide for that unmet need.

One of the missing services pinpointed in the late 1990's, was the need for a stimulating community with an emphasis

on wellness and social connectedness, that could enhance the quality of life for the active, independent older adult. In September this year, we were able to celebrate ten years of service through Maple Crest Senior Living Village.

Now, we are on the brink of another monumental change—building Green House® homes, residential style homes that house only ten elders who require licensed nursing care. I am convinced that the environments offered through these small homes will dramatically enhance the quality of life of the people we serve as well as the staff who work in them.

I am also certain that the success of our Green House® homes, as well as the success of all the programs that MHCO has to offer, is dependent upon the vast network of people who support our mission through their employment, their volunteer services, and their financial donations.

I am blessed to take the role of CEO in a Christian organization that is filled with "gentle and caring" people who are excellent at what they do. Together, we will continue our strong traditions while we forge a new path of new programs and services for the elders of our community.

I invite you to join us in our mission.

Laura Voth
CEO of MHCO 



Gifts & Memorials

Ruth Bordner

Janet Harshman
George and Johnneen Verhoff
Gene and Sue Mathewson
Jon and Julie Neu
Jim, Judie, Jen, and Julie Biddle

Vinton Bucher

Vonda Beery
Richard and Corrinne Boehr
John and Margaret Keiser
Geraldine Bucher
Lucille Bucher
Willis and Betty Sommer
Richard and Nitaya Walters
Sharleen Olson
Marvin and Gloria Diller
Jimmie and Rebekah Sprunger
Deloris Warmuth
Keith and Mary Diller
Jack and Susan Cupples
Vidella Schey
Sam and Janice Shields
Ruby and Loren Core
Christine Schumacher
Roger and Jan Basinger

Jean Carpenter

Richard and Cynthia Lichtle
James and Karen Harder
William and Cynthia Nye
Tami Forbes
Earl and Edith Lehman
Betty Shelly
Gene and Sue Mathewson
Denny, Kaye, Adam, and Justin Phillips
Isaac and Margaret Tiessen
Stan and Ruth Naylor
Ladies Aux. Veterans of Foreign Wars Post
Louis and Melanie Stokes
Phill and Michelle Talavinia
Herb and Connie Purton
Roger and Erika Snyder

Irene Clum

George and Carol Deringer
Tom Deringer
Diana and Kris Keller
Brian and Theresa Deringer
Jack and Deb Miller
Robert and Maudora Mason
Donald and Ann Leader
George and Marilyn Helser
Bill and Janice Dodge and Family
Brian and Carol Swaney
Denny and Laurie Badertscher and Family
Bob and Eloise Buettner
Dennis Schwinnen and Carolyn Brenneman

Marcele Diller

John and Janet Pilarowski
Wilma Lora
Diller Medical Employees
Gary and Donna Lora
John Bayliff
T.R. Chiles and Sons-Laman
Wells Fargo Home Mortgage Finance Dept.

Telsa Diller

Gary and Donna Lora
David and Esther Bicker



Mennonite Home Health & Northwest Physical Therapy
Partnering for Seniors Care
Keeping you Healthy at Home
www.mmhliving.org 419.358.7803

Gifts & Memorials

Eugene Diller
Inara Brubaker
Phyllis Diller
Everett and Susan Collier
Garth, Bruce, and Paula Lugibihl
Adah Lehman
Leon and Donna Lehman
Dr. and Mrs. Oliver Lugibihl
Marilyn Bullock
Sharleen Olson

Anna Donaldson

Ross and Di Ann Weaver
David and Carol Weaver
Marion and Ross Ann Weaver
Daniel and Geri Donaldson
Roland and Betty Richer
Michael and Virginia Donaldson
Russell and Deborah Stauffer

Lewis Dukes

Larry and Cheryl Jones and Family
Will and Starla Evans and Family
Bill and Janis Jones
Earl Bixel
Clair and Jonna Hartman

Gwen Edmiston

Dr. and Mrs. John Albertson
Donald and Romaine Pannabecker
James and Susan Sommer
Paul and Ruby Kreher
Fred and Pat Rodabaugh
James and Karen Harder
Jay and Lisa Taylor

Katheryn Gerber

Don Rolston
David and Shirley Gerber
Russell and Ruth Koontz
Raymond and Marcene Spangler
Nelson and Jean Schumacher
James and Marilyn Rausch
Elizabeth Shelly
Stan and Ruth Naylor
Richard and Corrinne Boehr
Kenneth and Eileen Bame
Mark and Amy Stewart
Donald and Glenna Ralston
Mary Coletta
Owen and Kay Ziessler
Francis and Norma Disbennett
Shirley Jensen

Sarah Granger

Ralph Huss and Barbara Welch
Jim and Maria Bibler and Family
Thomas and Jean Sims

Tillie Hamilton

Betty Hamilton

Marjorie Henry

Fred and Martha Henry
Jack and Claudia Griger
Gerald and Carolyn Rettig
Francis Redick
Robert and Jo Ann Frantz
Harry Dunlap
Richard and Linda Lehman

Carl Hepner

Dunkirk High School Class of 1950
Whirlpool Corporation, Findlay
Division

Norma Hubbell

David and Tamara Taylor
Curtis Spengler

Green House® Project Update

The national movement to transform the traditional long-term care experience from institutional environments and routines to residential homes filled with the warmth and atmosphere of a family continues to grow. Currently there are 57 Green House® homes in operation across the nation, and there are another 140 in development. The first for-profit nursing home to embrace this model is building in Arkansas, and the Veteran's Administration is establishing its first Green House homes in Illinois.

MHCO is steadily advancing toward our goal of building six ten-person homes on the 15 acres of land located across the road from Maple Crest. PH7 Architects, Choice One, Bassett Associates, and Clemens Construction have partnered with us to bring the site plan and building design to

95% completion. Financial pro-formas are currently being reviewed, and financing options are currently being evaluated. Our capital campaign temporarily shifted gears due to the down turn in the economy, although we are pleased that we have nearly \$1 million committed toward our goal of \$2 million. In addition, the Board of Directors has given the green light to a formal strategic planning process through which we will establish a campus master plan.

Our hope is that this vision for improved elder care at one of the most vulnerable stages of life will bring honor and glory to God. We invite you to join us in this vision by giving a financial gift towards this project. 🌿

10th year Anniversary (continued from page 1)

residents who are still living at Maple Crest today are Carol Diller, Helen Driver, Dorothy Lloyd, Kathryn VanDyke, Ruth Ayers, Harold & Annie Balmer, Celia Blough, Durand Dudley, Earl & Edith Lehman, Mary Niswander, Christine Purves, Nelson & Jean Schumacher, Jean Triplett, Carl & Claralice Wolf.

Maple Crest Senior Living Village provides seniors with services from full or partial housekeeping; one to three meals a day; social, recreational and educational opportunities; wellness and exercise programs; well-being checks and emergency support. There are spacious public areas for special programs, family gatherings or hosting club meetings. A fitness center with lap pool, hot tub and exercise room help residents stay fit and active.

“When we began the dream for Maple Crest, we wanted to create living options for independent seniors with an emphasis

on wellness and socialization. Our mission is to provide services and create environments that will maximize independence and support and encourage quality of life, all within a Christian atmosphere.”, stated Laura Voth, CEO of Mennonite Home Communities of Ohio. “When we look around Maple Crest and see the relationships and support systems that have been developed between the older adults who live there, and the enjoyment they get out of life on a daily basis, we know that we have met our goal.” 🌿



MHCO's recently purchased van.



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Gifts & Memorials

(con't)

Ruth Huber

Phyllis Richard
The Clyde Hauenstein Family
John and Janet Pilarowski

Helen Hyde

Ron and Anita Habegger

Emma Lybold

Denny and Laurie Badertscher
and Family

Gertrude Porter

Julia Gable
Dave and Mary Fett and Family
Lorrinda Smith
Denny and Marilee Dellifield
Bob and Nancy Neff
Gene and Sue Mathewson
Fred and Pat Rodabaugh
Donald and Nancy Schweingruber

Helen Powell

Jim and Ann Kroner

Carol Schifferly

Clair and Mary Ann Gallant
Matt and Mindy Gallant
Morgan and Patsy Davies

June Whaley

Carol Thompson

Have you ever considered purchasing a Christmas gift for Mennonite Home Communities and their elders?

Here is a wish list of things that the residents would enjoy or could use.

- Radio/CD players and CD's - Instrumental, Easy Listening, 30's and/or 40's
- DVD's - Classics, National Geographic, Travel, or Animals
- Jigsaw Puzzles - 300 Pc. (Larger pieces are easier for residents to handle)
- 15 matching table cloths for 6' x 30 inch tables - white or ivory
- 4 or more matching sets of Card Tables and chairs
- 2 Flat screen T.V's. (wall mount)
- Small and Large Crock Pots, Coffee Urn - 50 cup
- Digital Scales, Laminate Machine - 8 1/2 x 11 size or larger
- Portable speaker with microphone
- Golf Cart, Portable Basketball hoop for use outside

Call Julie Stratton at 419-369-4715 if you have questions or need further details.

Merry Christmas!

visit us at www.mmliving.org