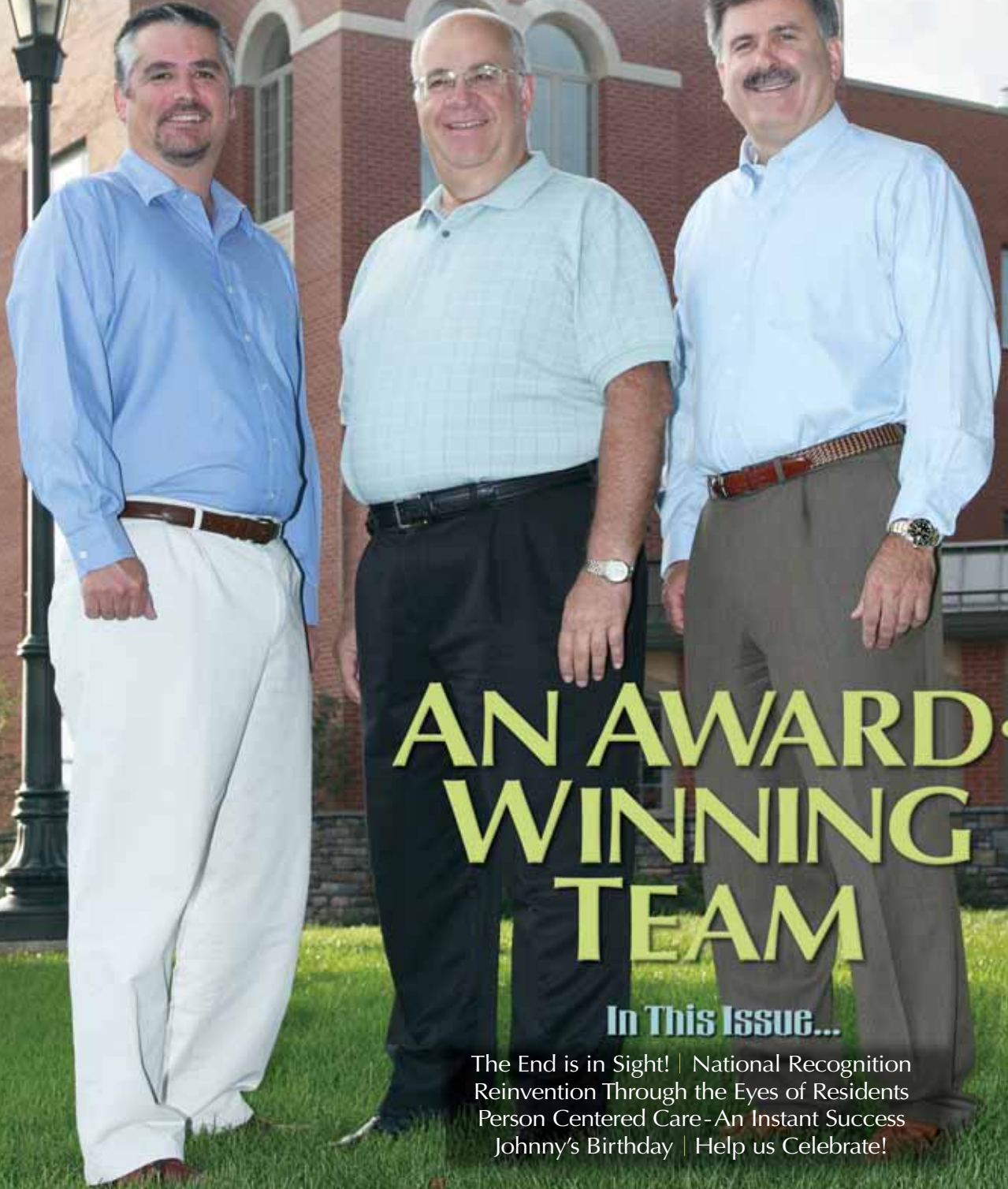




SOARING

A Publication of Mennonite Home Communities



AN AWARD-WINNING TEAM

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RLPS
architects

The transformation at Mennonite Home was achieved through the combined vision of all involved. The idea, the development of the plan, the implementation of the concepts, and the execution of the construction were accomplished by many people dedicated to improving the lives of the residents.

Renovating an occupied building had its challenges. The team recognized pitfalls and responded with solutions that minimized disruption to residents. Designing a household and creating a household that looks, feels and acts like home are two distinct initiatives.

Congratulations to Mennonite Home and the wonderful staff who have truly created a person centered care environment!

- Craig P. Kimmel, AIA, LEED AP, Partner, RLPS



Over the past 17 years, Benchmark Construction Company has had the privilege of partnering with Mennonite Home Communities in building a better quality of life for our senior residents. The latest conversion from traditional skilled care to person centered care has truly been a very rewarding project. Benchmark enjoys a strong working relationship with the management team, staff and residents of Mennonite Home and Woodcrest Villa. Congratulations Nelson, John Sauder and team on achieving another milestone, which again raises the bar in senior care.

- Michael K. Callahan, President Benchmark Construction Company, Inc.

On the Cover

Featured on the front cover, from left to right, are **Craig P. Kimmel**, of RLPS Architects, **J. Nelson Kling**, President of Mennonite Home Communities and **Michael K. Callahan**, of Benchmark Construction Company, Inc. are pictured in front of the newly reinvented Mennonite Home.



The End is in Sight!

The Mennonite Home Person Centered Care journey began in October 2007. For twenty-five months, we have experienced the ebb and flow of the construction process. Most of us are accustomed to the changes in the exterior appearance of the Conestoga building, but the real changes occurred inside.

This project required a close partnership between three companies committed to providing the best possible care for our residents. RLPS Architects created a wonderful redesign and expansion of our health care space, while meeting strict code restraints. Benchmark Construction created a plan to keep us in operation while they quickly performed the extensive demolition and construction. Benchmark managed this complex project and never missed a date.

The dedicated staff of Mennonite Home learned the theory of Person Centered Care, adapted it to our culture, learned new roles and procedures, and implemented the new philosophy of care. Some residents experienced two moves to reach their final household. Residents and their families were flexible, accommodating and gracious. The result was worth

the effort, but let us not forget - "Change is Difficult!"

Towards the end of October, the final households, Jackson Run and Lititz Run, will be ready for occupancy. Before the residents move in, we will host several days of celebration to recognize this huge accomplishment. The open house will include our residents, staff, family members, contractors, donors and other select groups.

I extend a special invitation to the public to experience "Person Centered Care in our households." Please see the back cover for details.

- J. Nelson Kling, President

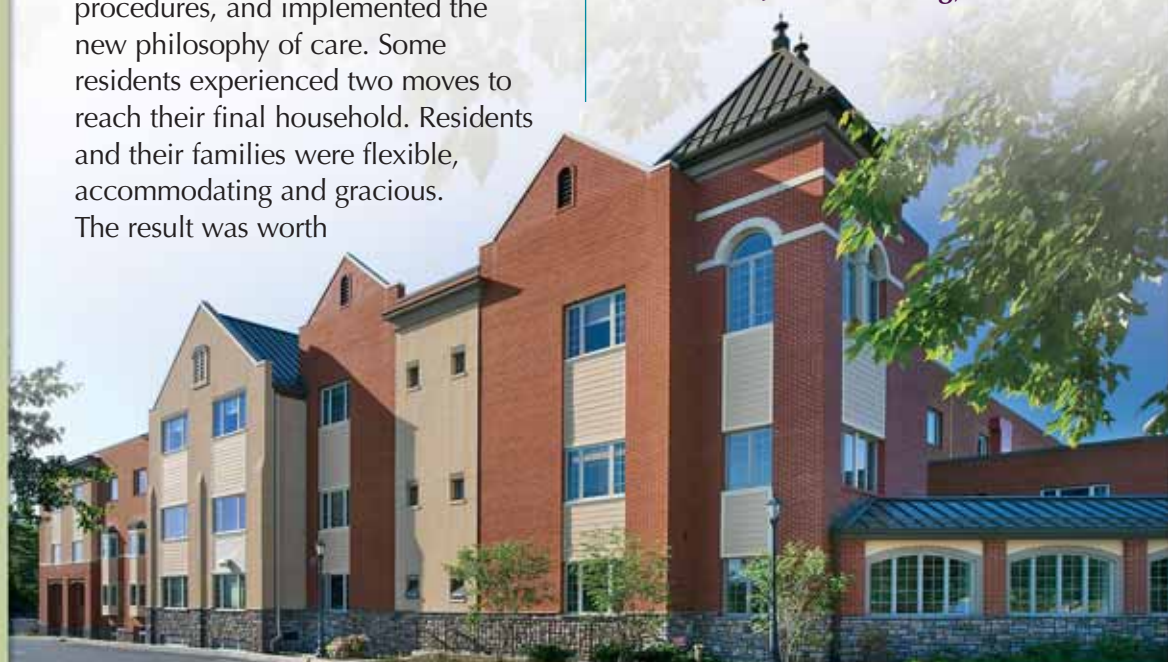


Photo by Larry Lefever Photography

National Recognition

Over the summer, several national level experts recognized the Mennonite Home reinvention project.

The American Institute of Architects (AIA) selected our reinvention project for inclusion in their prestigious "Design for Aging Review." The Review includes a juried exhibition, a book, and educational programs showcasing facilities with

advanced environments for senior living. This bi-annual award highlights the very best designs in both new construction and renovation projects serving a senior population.

The Design for Aging Review award winners will be presented and exhibited at the American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging (AAHSA) convention and the AIA convention.

Long Term Living magazine targets the challenges and best practices of retirement communities. They conducted a national competition for the best renovations in three different categories. Of 67 entries, expert judges from the Society for the Advancement of Gerontological Environments selected the "Top 5 Projects" in each category. The projects were displayed on the internet for public voting.

Swarr Run Modified Private Room



Photos by Larry Lefever Photography

Voters selected Mennonite Home's Swarr Run modified private room as the winner in the "Resident Room" category. This entry received the most votes of any of the projects.

Jurors' Comments on the Swarr Run project included:

- Greatly enhances resident quality of life.
- Loved the window seat with storage below.
- European shower a great amenity.

The voters also selected the Wissler Run dining room as the top entry in the "Dining Spaces" category. The comments tell us we exceeded our goal!

Jurors' Comments on the Wissler Run project included:

- Great Job! Best of show!
- Great use of lighting and ceiling design.
- A remarkable improvement in image.



Wissler Run Dining Room

The following stories recap the experiences of four residents in our new households, including the Wissler Run rehabilitation household, and reflections from the staff who serve them.

This year I spent time first in Rosevue second floor and later in Wissler Run. The improvement is dramatic. At Wissler Run, I could sleep in (as is my habit) and have a late breakfast in bed. Lunch and dinner were special occasions in the beautifully furnished dining room. Each course was served separately on attractive dishes – everything tasted better because of the lovely surroundings and nice presentation.

It is amazing the progress some residents can make with just a week or so of therapy and the stimulation of beautiful surroundings and interesting neighbors. The lovely surroundings help pick up your spirits and support the recovery of your body. The Wissler setting gives you hope and the incentive to get better.

Yet without a caring staff, the surroundings would not really matter. The Christian environment is really a huge plus. It attracts very sweet and dedicated employees. Linda Bouman, a nurse, was an absolute dream – she is a hustler with a wonderful attitude, on top of everything. Mary Rose Neill (see page 6)

from the kitchen had a lovely style and interaction with the residents. Cora Kaylor, Household Coordinator, sets just the right tone for the entire household.



Rehabilitation at Mennonite Home is a wonderful experience. Person Centered Care delivered in a household makes all the difference.

As told by Betsy Siemer



Reinvented

The Ryan Family

Evelyn and Martin Ryan resided at Woodcrest Villa for ten years prior to coming to Mennonite Home. Evelyn currently resides on Reed Run and Marty resides in Assisted Living. Evelyn previously resided on Rosevue, so she was able to experience the transition to a smaller household.

According to the Ryans, there is a calmer environment and day-to-day life runs more smoothly with the household model. Marty spends a good part of the day with his wife and they eat all of their meals together in the Reed Run Dining Room.

Gone are the days of plastic tableware and trays. Now they receive their meals on colorful Fiesta Ware, plated right in the kitchen on Reed Run. Both Marty and Evelyn feel the food service delivery and presentation are big improvements. They are glad to be able to enjoy their meals together.

They feel the new setting provides a greater connection with the staff. They both speak highly of Audrey Hershey, the unit Household Coordinator. The Ryans' children, who visit weekly to play cards in the Reed Run parlor, commented about the new facilities saying "This is beautiful, like a luxury hotel." The new smaller households have achieved a more home-like environment for residents.

After living at Woodcrest Villa for four years, Paul McKinsey suffered a serious medical condition and sought recovery at Mennonite Home. Paul commented, *“Because of the staff and the time spent in rehabilitation, I was greatly helped.”*

Paul was impressed with the way the staff at Mennonite Home took care of him during his 25-day stay in Wissler Run. Paul commented, *“The staff was always cheerful and cooperative, anytime, day or night. The staff took an interest in satisfying my needs, while ensuring I was safely recovering.”*

Paul appreciated the privacy his modified private room provided. A wall with a window separated the two roommates allowing each to watch different channels on the television and not disrupt each other!

Dining is a highlight at Wissler Run. Paul enjoyed eating with friendly companions and the food was good too! The staff made sure he had the proper foods available for his specialized dietary needs.



Cora Kaylor with Paul McKinsey

The days at Mennonite Home went quickly because of staff interaction with the residents. Paul enjoyed the daily “circle time” where the residents in his household talked and got to know each other.

tion Through the Eyes of Residents



Evelyn and Martin Ryan

Once Paul was strong enough, he went to therapy every morning. At the end of his stay, a staff member evaluated his Woodcrest Villa home. They installed several “gadgets” in the bathroom to ensure Paul’s safety. When he returned to his residence, Paul continued therapy at Woodcrest Villa. He appreciated the convenience of meeting with Jane, the therapist, right at Woodcrest Villa rather than traveling off campus.

When Paul returned to Wissler Run some time later to visit a friend, the staff all remembered him and greeted him warmly!

After weeks of training and an opportunity to work in each household, Mary Rose Neill finds each location unique and the prospects of Person Centered Care exciting.

Mary Rose noted, “Wissler Run, which specializes in rehabilitation, is a great place to work because you witness the joy of people recovering and returning to their home. Residents talk about their therapy and cheer each other on, watching for improvements. Others return to Assisted Living, where I have the pleasure of seeing them at Chapel service.”

The dining room at Wissler Run is the center of activity and each table becomes a little community of encouragement. The breakfast menu offers residents several choices. Pancakes, French toast, cereal, eggs to order, or just enjoying a piece of toast hot from the

toaster. There is always laughter at mealtime – it is a very enjoyable part of the day. The residents also enjoy free access to their refrigerator and the snack cupboard.

Every household staff works well as a team, helping one another as each task is an opportunity to meet residents’ needs. The size of the households makes the work very manageable.

The Reed and Meadow households, separated by a doorway, can easily combine for a group activity like bingo or quiz games. Guest musicians provide a variety of styles of entertainment for the residents’ enjoyment.

Mary Rose feels blessed to have come to Mennonite Home. Many residents would point out that she is a blessing in their lives, too!



June Nafziger-Eberly, RN, BSN, MDiv has extensive experience in acute care nursing. When she first heard of Person Centered Care, she embraced this philosophy of caring for older adults. She has long had a heart for seniors, a very familiar population from her hospital service.

After mastering the complexities of state regulations, June transitioned to Clinical Coordinator for Reed and Meadow Run. She finds the smaller households and the consistent staffing create stronger bonds between residents and staff. Staff easily learn the unique

preferences and daily pleasures of the residents. No matter the situation, everyone will pitch in to absorb the workload.

June finds it surprising how much the households feel like home. Residents encourage each other, old friends reconnect, and residents interact freely with staff. The residents are adapting to the greater freedom and number of choices now available to them.

The staff is very committed to the residents and the result is a strong family feeling. It is exciting that we are still learning and growing – it can only get better!



Johnny's Birthday Party

Johnny beamed as his friends at Mennonite Home sang Happy Birthday to him. Johnny was surrounded by people who care about him on this special day, his 7th birthday.

"I wanted to have my birthday party at Mennonite Home with my friends because I love them. It makes me happy to visit them."

- JOHNNY

"I really enjoy Johnny's visits and we had a lot of fun at his party."

- ROBERT

Johnny started visiting the residents of Mennonite Home a year ago after his mom realized he had a special gift for reaching out to elders. When his mom asked, "*What would you like to do for your birthday this year?*" he requested a birthday party with his "friends" at Mennonite Home. He chose the seven residents with whom he has built a special relationship to join him for his birthday.

His birthday party was held in the Eshelman Run Parlor with all of the normal trimmings. The difference was the guests were all senior citizens and not 7 year olds. The seniors thoroughly enjoyed Johnny's camouflage theme. He gave the residents camo helmets to wear and goodie bags. The residents surprised Johnny with presents when he had asked only that his friends come and presents were not necessary.

He personally thanked each resident and made each one of them feel special. Johnny has made a real difference in the lives of his new friends.

Johnny truly gives each resident who he meets the very special present of his tender heart and giving spirit.

Allison Brown Receives Scholarship

Mennonite Home Communities is very proud to grant Allison Brown a \$750 scholarship towards her education at Eastern Mennonite College. Allison has faithfully volunteered since June 2004, donating more than 100 hours. Our residents have enjoyed time shared with her doing various activities including Walk of Ages and June Fest. She even got her hands a little dirty helping our maintenance and grounds departments at Woodcrest Villa.

Her volunteer time provided a bonus to a very special man at Woodcrest Villa, her father, Ed Brown, Assistant Director of Maintenance. What can be more special than a father and daughter volunteering side by side?

Thanks for being a big part of our lives at Mennonite Home Communities. Congratulations Allison!



Mennonite Home Communities

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If you would like to receive information about **Residential Living at Woodcrest Villa**, call Linda at 717.390.4103.

If you would like to receive information about **Assisted Living or Health Care at Mennonite Home**, call Mindy at 717.390.7979.

If you wish to have your name removed from our mailing list, call Betty Ann at 717.390.4105.



Help Us Celebrate!

For over two years, you have read about Person Centered Care in households and seen the new facade of the Conestoga Building (previously Rosevue).

Now you have a one-time opportunity to tour our newest households, experience the award-winning renovations, and help us celebrate the very best in senior health care services.

On Saturday, October 24, from 1 pm. until 4 pm., we invite the public to attend an Open House celebration in our new Jackson Run and Lititz Run households in the Conestoga Building. During the tour, you will have the opportunity to:

- *Enter the Conestoga Lobby*
- *Receive a program that maps our facility and highlights key services*
- *Observe the beautiful Wissler Run rehabilitation household*
- *Ask questions of staff currently serving in the household model*

This is your last opportunity to tour our new households before new residents occupy these beautiful homes. Because of resident privacy standards, we do not offer group tours of occupied households. We hope you can join us for this special event.

Watch for reminders in the local papers. See you Saturday afternoon, October 24!