



THE VISIONEER

*A Project Update for Our New Vision Campaign Partners
Spring 2015*

Willow Ridge Ranked 13th in State for Family Satisfaction; Excellent Survey

Every year the Ohio Department of Health conducts either a “Resident Satisfaction Survey” or a “Family Satisfaction Survey” for all nursing homes. In January of this year we received notice that Willow Ridge scored 94.62 out of 100 points on the 2014 Family Satisfaction Survey. This puts Willow Ridge in 13th place out of the 610 nursing homes in Ohio which completed the survey. (There are 960 total nursing homes in Ohio.)

The Ohio Department of Health also conducts an annual survey to determine how well each nursing home meets the rules and regulations that govern nursing homes as well as the policies and procedures of each nursing home. The survey was conducted in February. Not only were there state surveyors present, there was also a Federal surveyor from Chicago who accompanied the state surveyors. The survey resulted in only one minor citation that was easily corrected.

“The surveyors were very impressed with the Green House® model and how well we upheld the philosophy of individualized care,” according to Rhonda Wolpert, Administrator. Following the survey, the Federal surveyor asked if she could take some pictures of the homes to share with her colleagues back in Chicago. She was excited to share the model with others.

These survey results become part of the formula for determining the 5 Star Rating created by the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare. The 5 Star Rating is one way the community can compare nursing home facilities. Willow Ridge currently has a 5-Star rating which is the highest rating a nursing home can receive.

The staff of Willow Ridge are to be commended for the excellent care they provide and for their commitment to making Frieda House and Betty House a real home for the elders who live there.



Elder James Shaffer enjoyed learning about the Wilson Football plant in Ada where footballs were produced for the NCAA Championship and the Super Bowl. Jennifer Thompson, Shahbaz, shared information about their production.

Question of the Month?

*After two years, what has been the
census at Willow Ridge?*

Since March of 2013 when we received full licensure, Willow Ridge has had a census of over 98%. There is also a waiting list.

This high census, along with the results of the surveys noted in the adjacent article, provide strong evidence that your investment in Willow Ridge and Mennonite Home Communities of Ohio is transforming elder living. Thank you again for your support!

Swiss Historical Society Board Meets at Frieda House

Phil Kingsley, president of the Swiss Community Historical Society, makes his home at Frieda House. Phil invited the board of directors to meet in his home for a meeting on February 24. With assistance from his “speech generation computer,” Phil welcomed the board with the following historical reflection.

Vilkomen to Frieda House!

This is a place with a rich history of interesting people who have lived here, particularly to us in the Swiss Community Historical Society (SCHS). To mention some of them, I have to begin on a personal note. My mother lived here a short time and passed away here a little over a year ago.

Long-time SCHS supporter and recent donor of our foot-treadle lathe and workbench in our workshop (and many other historical items), John Moser also lived here at the end of his life. And of course each person who has lived here in the short time Frieda House has been in existence, some of them no doubt your relatives, lived through a particular historical period and had their own interesting life story.

The original old farmhouse which stood on this site, and the surrounding farmstead (barn, sheds, pens, etc.) was part of the Amstutz farm. The last Amstutz resident of this farm, I believe, was Wilhelm Amstutz, school teacher, community stalwart, one of the founders and active early members of the SCHS, and great uncle of Malinda Bennett who has been donating to us tools and other artifacts from the Amstutz farm.

So while I'm honored that you came to meet where I live, it turns out that there are some other good reasons to meet here at Frieda House. Welcome!



Above: Kayla Herrmann, Shahbaz, and her son, Jonathan, visit with Phil Kingsley during a recent St. Patrick's Day Craft Night. Below: Jackson Thompson reads a story to Elder Durand Dudley while Allie and Jonathan Herrmann listen. Charlie, the puppy, also joined in on the fun. Frieda House and Betty House occasionally get together to enjoy crafts, fellowship and to swap stories.

In the Wink of an Eye

Phil Kingsley, author of the adjacent reflection, communicates using smart technology. “My speech generation computer enables me to (communicate) with blinks of my left eye,” Phil states. As ALS has diminished his speech, Phil’s ability to communicate is now made possible with his computer. Working with Forbes Rehab Solutions, Phil, his family members and the staff at Willow Ridge have also been able to integrate the nurse call system at Frieda House with Phil’s computer. This allows Phil to call a Shahbaz for assistance with a wink of his eye.

One of the goals of the Green House Project® is to utilize “smart technology” to empower elders to continue living their lives to their greatest potential. Phil’s computer is one example of how smart technology is making a difference.

