



OHIO PRESBYTERIAN
RETIREMENT SERVICES
FOUNDATION

Where Donors Make A Lasting Impact

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mission *in action*

A newsletter for donors and friends of the OPRS Foundation

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A FAMILY AFFAIR

Brothers team up to help fund project

John Meloy and his younger brother, Bob, have a long history of helping others.

John is a retired Presbyterian minister who served the church for 42 years. Bob spent his career working for the YMCA as a dorm manager in major cities like New York and Honolulu.

Today, the brothers are continuing their tradition of giving back by helping their fellow residents at **Swan Creek Retirement Village** in Toledo.

John has been a donor for more than a decade, supporting the Life Care Commitment and capital projects like the campus's wellness center, which bears his name as a symbol of his generosity.

Most recently, John teamed up with his brother to help fund a renovation of Swan Creek's Memory Enhancement Center.

This special care unit offers a comfortable and safe environment for Swan Creek residents who are living with dementia and other memory-related illnesses.

The renovation focused on upgrades to the overall look of the space and included new wallpaper, paint, window treatments, flooring, lighting, furniture, artwork and other décor. Some resident rooms have been refreshed, there's a new arched entry to the space, and a public restroom was also remodeled.

Perhaps the most exciting change to the space is the planned addition of a sensory room in place of the old nurses' station.

With soothing lights and wall art that projects calming scenes, this dedicated space will provide a quiet, mood-enhancing space where residents can relax.

This renovation project was of particular interest to John as his late wife, Elizabeth "Betty" Kridler Meloy, lived in the special care unit for a time.

John said that he was glad Betty could get the care she needed while still living at Swan Creek because it allowed them to continue spending quality time together. "We could still have dinner together every night," John shared.

It was his personal experience with the Memory Enhancement Center that made John want to help make the space better for current residents. "It made me feel like this was a very worthy project," he said. ■

ON THE COVER: "Look what we did!" Swan Creek resident John Meloy (standing) shows his younger brother, Bob, the renovations to the campus's Memory Enhancement Center that they helped make possible through their charitable gifts.



BEHIND THE NAME

Donors' contributions to project honored

In March, **Cape May Retirement Village** in Wilmington opened the doors of its new 25,000 square-foot Rehab Suites and Health Care Center.

Although not a fundraising initiative, three generous families made charitable gifts toward the project.

Thanks in part to their generosity, guests can

enjoy spacious private suites and semi-private rooms that include amenities like in-room showers, flat-screen TVs, power-lift recliners and window views.

Comfortable common areas invite guests out of their rooms, allowing them to heal, relax and meet new people. A new conference room provides a private

space for staff and families to meet, and the center's therapy gym includes an occupational area where guests can practice day-to-day tasks.

To honor the donors who chose to contribute to this exciting project, three spaces (*pictured below*) in the new center were named in recognition of their generosity. ■



McMillan Activity Area

Donors Karen McMillan McCary, Jennifer McMillan Rubin and Mary Katharine McMillan Vance in honor of Katharine Battelle McMillan and Thomas Carroll McMillan



Brandehoff Conference Room

Donors Jim Brandehoff and Robbie Brandehoff in memory of Hilda and Irvin Brandehoff



Resident Room

Donors Dr. James and Ruth Ann Farris in memory of their mothers Faye Farris and Vivien Cochran



BENEVOLENCE IN BLOOM

Daughter donates funds for special garden

Mary Ann Jacobs was so impressed by the care given to her father and mother at **Llanfair Retirement Community** in Cincinnati that she donated funds to create a special meditation garden in memory of her parents and to thank the Llanfair staff.

Mary Ann recalled how her father used to enjoy visiting an outdoor courtyard that was near his room at Llanfair.

“I would take the radio out and he would listen to the Reds,” she said. “It was nice to have a place to go outside of his room. Even some of the other residents’ families would come out to sit and talk.”

After her parents passed away, Mary Ann decided to make a charitable gift to transform another courtyard on the campus into a special garden that would honor not only her parents but also the staff members who had cared for them.

Mary Ann shared that even when her father had completely lost his ability to speak, he would still “light up like a Christmas tree” when the nurses or other staff came into his room.

“God brings a lot of angels, and he left quite a few of them at Llanfair,” Mary Ann said of the Llanfair staff. “I will always be

grateful for the wonderful care they gave to both my mom and dad.”

This appreciation will be reflected on a plaque in the garden. It will read: “The Art and Jane Jacobs Meditation Garden, dedicated with gratitude to all Llanfair employees by Mary Ann Jacobs.”

Residents and staff alike will be able to enjoy the space, as it sits outside of the living center and can be seen from the dining rooms and some resident rooms.

The garden features an array of shrubs, perennials and ornamental grasses, as well as a wooden arbor, wheelchair-accessible paths and a water feature.

It’s exactly the kind of calm and quiet space Mary Ann was hoping for when she made the gift.

Rev. Kathy Barlow Westmoreland, pastor of the Jacobs’ home church, remembered Mary Ann’s father and mother with affection and admiration.

“While both of them were at Llanfair, they really enjoyed visiting outdoors with their family and friends,” she said. “So this garden space will be wonderful for that, and a fitting tribute to them both.”

Others feel the space is also a fitting tribute to Mary Ann and the generosity she’s shown the campus over the years as a donor, volunteer and board member.

Llanfair Executive Director Sheena Parton said of Mary Ann’s giving nature, “this gift just tops it off.”

Gift Planning Director Judi Pohlmeier agreed. She commented that Mary Ann “has been and will continue to be a very good friend to Llanfair,” adding that her most recent contribution was “a wonderful, generous and amazing gift.” ■

PICTURED AT LEFT: *Thanks to a generous charitable gift, residents and staff alike can enjoy this peaceful garden that was recently completed on the Llanfair campus. Donor Mary Ann Jacobs was so grateful for the care given to her father and mother when they were residents that she wanted to create a special space to honor them and the Llanfair staff.*

PICTURED BELOW, RIGHT: *This beautiful statue is among the many features that add to the Jacobs Garden’s peaceful feel.*

PICTURED BELOW, LEFT: *One of the more than 100 perennials that were planted in the new Jacobs Garden at Llanfair, which was made possible through a charitable gift.*



CHAIRS – AND MORE!

Simple Question Leads to Renovation

It all began with the chairs... Josephine “Jo” Jahoda, a resident of **Dorothy Love Retirement Community** in Sidney, was sitting in the assisted living area’s Horizon Dining Room one day pondering a simple question: How much would it cost to reupholster the chairs?

Jo’s question sparked a larger conversation with Dorothy Love staff and donors, and soon the entire Horizon Dining Room and an adjacent lounge were slated to be renovated.

With the help of charitable gifts, new dining tables and chairs were purchased and the space got a fresh look with new paint, lighting, flooring and window treatments. The adjoining lounge was also updated to match the dining room. This space is a popular gathering area for residents, who love the new look.

The donors who helped fund the renovation are also happy with the outcome. Sisters Vera Brosnahan and Linda Scott, along with Linda’s husband, Richard, made charitable gifts in support of the project and said their family is delighted with the results. “We were happy to contribute, knowing that it would positively affect the well-being of the residents who get to enjoy it each day. Our sister, Inez Hugeback, is one of those residents, and she certainly has loved the changes. Our gift was done in gratitude for the loving care she receives each day,” said the family.

Other donors to the project were Bob and Thelma Sargeant, and Jo Jahoda, who started the ball rolling with her question about the chairs. Jo has shared with her family how happy she is with the remodeling. Her son said she is pleased that the dining room is tastefully decorated and the area looks more spacious and welcoming for residents, staff and visitors. ■



What people are saying about the updated dining room and lounge:

“It’s very nice. I like the way it makes you feel at home.”

~ Esther Baldwin, resident

“It’s super! I really enjoy the friendliness of the room.”

~ Lois Moorman, resident

“This renovation is another example of how donors touch the lives of our residents and staff every day to create an environment that improves their quality of life.”

~ Tricia Atwood, Executive Director of Dorothy Love



GENEROSITY ON THE GO

Residents help fund golf cart to expedite hospice trips

For Senior Independence Hospice patients at **Mount Pleasant Retirement Village** in Monroe, the wait time for a visit from their hospice nurse could soon be much shorter.

With help from charitable gifts, a golf cart has been purchased to provide the nurse with more rapid transportation around the 110-acre campus.

The request came from Cheryl Withrow, regional executive director of Senior Independence's Southwest

Ohio and Miami Valley regions.

"Our nurse was walking across the campus or using her own car and trying to find parking," Cheryl explained.

As Gift Planning Director Whitney O'Neal pointed out, "It's more efficient to jump on a golf cart and go, versus having to get in a car, drive to the destination and find a parking spot."

Whitney says she knew she could find donor support

for the project since so many people have been touched by hospice.

Whitney shared the idea with Mount Pleasant residents Robert Boonstra, James and Viola Bruner, and Kenneth Shinn. "They were more than happy to help fund the cart and help their fellow residents," Whitney said. ■

PICTURED BELOW: Thanks to charitable donations, hospice nurse Denise Shearer now has a golf cart to drive around the large Mount Pleasant campus.





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Where Donors Make A Lasting Impact

Our mission...
is to partner with donors
to provide charitable support
for the people, projects
and programs of OPRS.

Please contact us if you have any questions about charitable giving to OPRS Communities or Senior Independence.

800-686-7800

www.oprsfoundation.org

BOARD BIO: Get to know who's representing you

name: Richard W. Mack

board position: I have served on the Investment Committee for the past two years. Beginning this July, I will lead the Fundraising Advisory Committee and serve as Vice Chair of the Board.

hometown: I am Ohio born and bred. My family lived in Cleveland Heights when I was young, but I grew up in Bucyrus.

education: I graduated from Bucyrus High School and then headed south to The Ohio State University where I earned a B.S. in international studies and a Juris Doctor from The Moritz College of Law.

career: After graduating from law school and passing the Ohio State Bar exam, I took a position as an assistant football coach at the University of Cincinnati. After three exciting seasons, I decided to put my legal education

to work and took a position with the trust department at Fifth Third Bank in Cincinnati. In late 1986, I moved to Cleveland to work for National City Bank and I am currently the Trust Director for the Wealth Management group at the successor bank, PNC Bank, N.A.

hobbies & interests: I love to read and travel. I am a big fan of college football (Go Bucks!) and lacrosse at all levels. I have coached youth football and lacrosse for the past 10 years.

relationship with OPRS: Having lived in Cleveland, my family was familiar with OPRS' Breckenridge Village. When my mother, Jean Mack, decided to move into a retirement community, Breckenridge was a natural fit. She had a wonderful 10+ year experience there. Because of her experience, I was happy to assist in helping OPRS.



my message to donors: The legacy of the various OPRS communities is rich, deep and long lasting. Supporting the organization allows us to provide similar experiences for future generations. Thank you for your partnership! ■

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