



Taste of Worthington Champions!

Willow Brook Christian Home snagged its 10th first-place win at the 2018 Taste of Worthington food festival. Sponsored by the Worthington Chamber of Commerce, the event brings together chefs from top restaurants in Columbus to prepare specialties for 2,500 festivalgoers.

Pictured above is part of the winning team. For an entrée, culinary director Kristen Waby (at left above) and her staff served a mouth-watering

beef filet with crab cakes. And after the people voted, the Home's entrée took first place among 15 competitors. The Home's dessert, strawberry cake, won second place in the dessert category.

We are so proud of our small but mighty culinary team. As one satisfied customer said, "I wish they'd open a restaurant!" Maybe we will one day.

...his anger lasts only a moment, but his favor lasts a lifetime; weeping may remain for a night, but joy comes in the morning.

King David of Bethlehem
Psalm 30:5
c. 1000 BC

With night comes trouble, or so we are led to believe. The psalmist David certainly thought such. It seems that so many acts of meanness are inflicted when it's easy to slip around under a blanket of darkness. The falling light of a spent day is our cue to lock doors and draw the drapes, for we just don't know what menace may be lurking out there.

And it is in the small hours of the morning, even with those doors latched tight, that trespassing shadows sometimes come and dim my spirit. Maybe it's just me, but my best worry time is 3 a.m. It's dark. It's quiet. I am aware only of the pinball doubts bouncing off the bumper rails and dinging flashers of my restless mind. Is Willow Brook on the right course? What if our new venture stumbles? Will my back pain ever cease? (It's better now, thank you, after a spinal intervention.) Might my vanquished cancer someday rise from its crypt? Are the kids going to be OK after Janet and I are gone?

Larry, you worry about much. Where is your faith? While I hope Janet and I have many miles left on our odometers, we have recently broached the unpleasant question of our mortality. Face it, one day, one or the other of us will be left to navigate this world alone. Unless a meteor falls on our heads while we're out on an evening walk, or we meet with some other simultaneous calamity, that will be the case. I see this Shakespearean tragedy played out every day at my three Willow Brooks. Yet the widow's night of weeping washes into a morning of joy when sadness and loneliness are assuaged by the balm of her neighbors' love.

My 3 a.m. thoughts often turn to the plights of others. What about my staffers who are struggling financially? Can Willow Brook help more?

Should Janet and I do something? What about the bronze-toned kids cruelly and intentionally orphaned at our southern border? Who will wipe their tears and help them find their mothers? As a U.S. citizen, this was done in my name, but it is not my doing. I object! Cry louder little ones. Wail. Scream. The people who should fix this are not hearing you.

What about the bedraggled one-legged beggar propped on his crutches at the freeway exit each Sunday as we drive in from church? If we look the

other way, are we any better than the Levite and Pharisee? If we are stopped by the light at the

exit, we often slip him a five spot, when we can do so without tying up traffic or putting our lives at risk. We do what we can.

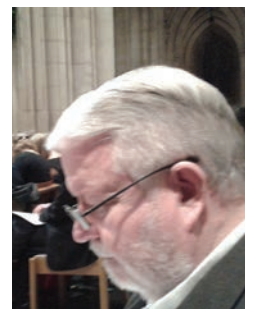
But what about the approaching winter? How will he deal with the snowy gales? What if the city begins enforcing its panhandler ordinance? Could I testify at a hearing? Would it do any good? What will become of him? Does he have someone who loves him? Could Willow Brook take him in? Will he ever experience a morning of joy?

Everyone has a night of weeping. Each sojourner we encounter is bearing a burden. Some are obvious – the beggar's missing leg, my nursing assistant living out of her car. Some are hidden and known but to the afflicted ones – the haunt of a ghost from a troubled past, a secret addiction to the bottle, or little white pills. I do believe we are placed on this earth to lighten each other's load when we are able. Please God, show me the ways.

Then dawn breaks. There is stirring in the house. The aroma of my daughter's coffee is carried in on dewy air left by the grieving night. Janet turns and whispers, "Let's go to Starbucks," as new light streams in the window and kisses the reset button of my brain with its alabaster splendor.

"Weeping may remain for a night, but joy comes in the morning."

Larry Harris, CEO
lharris@willow-brook.org



Joy Comes in the Morning

by Larry Harris, CEO

I do believe we are placed on this earth to lighten each other's load when we are able. Please God, show me the ways.



Haitian student My Love opens her gift packages delivered with love from The Home.

To My Love

Her first name is My Love, and how aptly named is this 10-year-old Haitian girl, who is well loved by residents and staff of Willow Brook Christian Home.

Twice a year, residents and staff send gift packages to My Love and 10 of her classmates at the Vieuz Cayes Christian School, in a remote mountainous region of Haiti with high poverty.

It's all hands on deck at The Home when everyone gathers to pack gift boxes. Each child receives an item handmade by residents, such as jewelry, a doll or a puppet,

“Our residents love being part of this ministry”



(Top and above): Residents Stanley Guinther and Lynn Brown packing gifts with help from volunteer Martha Hutzelman for My Love and her friends. Marcia Heuerman tests one of the toys.

tucked in a package filled with school supplies, clothing and shoes, as well as candy treats and toys.

Tom Johnson, activity coordinator at the Home, arranged My Love's sponsorship through Lifeline Christian Mission of Westerville, a group he has supported since the 1980s.

“Our residents love being part of this ministry,” says Johnson. “It gives them the chance to care for someone else and broadens their world.”

The Home also has purchased gifts for My Love and her family, including a bed, table and chairs, a Haitian Bible and food packages.

My Love expresses her thanks by sending notes, pictures of herself and Bible verses in Creole.

“When the residents see My Love's big smile, they know they are making a difference in someone's life, and they feel a real sense of purpose in their own lives,” Johnson says.

My Love and her teacher also sent a recipe for Haitian pumpkin soup, which the Home culinary staff prepared, and residents savored.

To raise money for gifts, residents and staff host bake sales and corn hole tournaments. One Home resident contributes her bingo winnings to buy food packages for My Love. All packages are sent with love from the Home.

Tribute Gifts

Memorial Contributions

June 18 – September 6, 2018

Richard C. Atkinson

Carol A. Roden

Esther Bankes

Joseph & Barbara Bankes

Thomas & Rena Brown

Bob & Sharon Dotson

Judith L. Earich

Hobart & Karen Johnson

Lucretia M. Wellman

Suzanne Bennett

Donaldson Bennett

Corinne D. Esau

Arlene Palenshus

Helen J. Reppart

Charles & Roberta Russell

Willow Brook Christian Village

Residents Advisory Council

Evelyn Winter

Phyllis M. Wood

Hazel Blankenship

Carol Springer

Charles Bolton

Helen J. Reppart

Verila "Vergie" Bussman

Mark & Christine Bussman

Frances Carlton

April L. Jackson

Joseph & Margaret Caudy

Roger & Jane Sagar

S. Frank & Betty Chappell

Larry & Janet Harris

Karen Susenna

Patsy J Crewe

Janice Monks

Dorothy J. Dale

Joy Lackey

James "Richard" Dawson

Gary & Carol Davis



The background photo is in memory of Charles Borton, former resident of Willow Brook Christian Village.

Nancy DeTray

Lisa Mack

Jean Dickman

Bruce & Barbara Reierson

Dave Edwards

John & Nancy Snyder

Barbara England

Robert England

Vonda Ervin

Judith L. Earich

Charles "Evans" Foertmeyer

Bruce & Barbara Reierson

Wanda Hall

Bruce & Barbara Reierson

Margaret V. Harper

Ed & Stephanie Harden

Shirley M. Harper

Ed & Stephanie Harden

Audrey & Alberta Harris

Larry & Janet Harris

Everett "Ebb" Haycock

Dianne L. Almendinger

Delaware Run Residents'

Association

John & Sue Dickman

Bruce & Barbara Reierson

John T. Hayes

Karen S. Hayes

Carl Hertwig

Joy Lackey

Robert Holmes

Eric & Lindsey Radcliff

Veterans of Foreign Wars of

Ohio Charities, Post 3320

Ruth Horstman

James & Sharon Edwards

Francis & Esther Horstman

Lucretia M. Wellman

James E. Jackson

Mitchell & Dyana Welch

Ronald W. Johnson

Bruce & Barbara Reierson

Virginia "Jinny" Kaiser

Bruce & Barbara Reierson

Calvin D. Knight

George & Margaret Alexander

Lloyd & Alice Baker

William & Jean Baskwill

Glenn & Sara Beaber

Calvin Knight, continued

David & Barbara Brandt

Brian & Sharon Brown

Clarence & Jane Cunningham

Lois Dale

Delaware Run Residents'

Association

John & Sue Dickman

Joan Lee Eckhardt

Robert & Virginia Gongaware

Floyd & Virginia Griffith

Dorothy A. Haqq

Robert & Mary Holm

Tina Hundley

James & Pauline Kossow

Jayne W. MacKay

Thomas & LaVonne Moore

Bruce & Barbara Reierson

Margaret Roberts

City of Columbus Division

of Police

Charles & Nancy Townley

Ann N. Tyler

Lucretia M. Wellman

Mark Lasley

Robert & Mary Brod

Thomas & Beckie Congrove

O.C. & J.A. Cooper

Cheryl Curie

Robert England

Corinne D. Esau

Philip Mark

Lois Mills

Arlene Palenshus

Douglas & Elaine Palmer

Helen J. Reppart

Lucretia M. Wellman

Evelyn Winter

Phyllis M. Wood

Eugene & Jacqueline

Wynbissinger

Aldyth B. Meyer

Judith Clancy

Cindy Schlichting

Frank Orosz

Robert England

Theresa Ritzman

Phyllis M. Wood

Dorothea M. Patterson

Charlene & James Berstler

Frank & Nancy Rynearson

Virgie Mae Peoples

Bruce & Barbara Reierson

George P. Peterson

David & Nancy Stewart

Jack A. Pore

Donald & Sue Bayer

R. Bud & Olivia Davis

Florence Poulson

Thomas & Sara Poulson

Gene & Emma "Maude" Prince

Larry & Janet Harris

Rebecca L. Harris

Mary C. Roden

Carol A. Roden

Don Rost

Thomas & Sara Poulson

Virginia P. "Ginny" Seibert

Dianne L. Almendinger

Bruce & Barbara Reierson

James R. Roesch

Reba "Jean" Syler

Bruce & Barbara Reierson

Corrine Snyder-Poulson

Thomas & Sara Poulson

George F. Wellman

Lucretia M. Wellman

Max Wildermuth

Jayne W. MacKay

Edward Winter

Evelyn Winter

JoAnn Woltman

Dianne L. Almendinger

Lois Dale

Delaware Run Residents'

Association

Dorothy A. Haqq

Bruce & Barbara Reierson

Nicki V. Zanetos

Lisa Mack

**A Gift to Honor the Living
Curt & Ruth Morrow**

Delores V. Lallathin

Marlene Andersen Leads the Way with LeadingAge

She is the heartbeat of the LeadingAge Art & Writing Show, a statewide competition that honors senior artists and writers.

She has her pulse on all creative endeavors at Willow Brook and senior communities around the state.

As the statewide art coordinator for LeadingAge's Art & Writing Show, Marlene Andersen contributes hundreds of hours each year to the event, from gathering entries to organizing regional exhibits and shepherding the annual statewide show held in Columbus.

And as director of resident life activities at Willow Brook Christian Village, Andersen works with residents on all three campuses to prepare their work for submission.

"I do it to see the joy in the residents' eyes when they create something," she says.

In her 14 years as statewide coordinator, Andersen knows recognition is very powerful.

"We had a woman from Cleveland who won a blue ribbon for her art. Before she passed away, she asked that she be buried with her ribbon. Another woman who won a prize sat at the show all day answering questions and delighting in the attention. It brings tears to your eyes because you realize how much it matters."



2017 Christmas issue of Reflections, with art created by Marlene Andersen for the essay of CEO Larry Harris.



Marlene speaking at the 2018 LeadingAge conference.

Andersen, a talented artist herself, does pen and ink drawings and watercolors. For 20 years she has illustrated essays by CEO Larry Harris in the Christmas issue of Reflections.

"While I love making art, what I do with the residents is more fulfilling," she says. "The best thing in our lives is sharing our gifts with others."

Andersen is proud of the nine Willow Brook artists and writers who won ribbons at the 2018 show, especially Village resident

Charlotte Gallant, who is 101 years old. Gallant won first place for her 3-D entry, Pine Forest.

"Charlotte was so tickled when I told her she won," says Andersen.

She credits Larry Harris for helping her share her talents.

"Larry understands how valuable this show is," Andersen says. "He is in charge of the writing portion of the show, so he knows how much time it takes. He gives me his full support."



Willow Brook residents admire their work at the LeadingAge show in Columbus in late August.

Willow Brook Christian Communities

Delaware, Ohio

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Delaware, Ohio 43015
Phone: (740) 369-0048

Willow Brook at Delaware Run

100 Delaware Crossing West
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Phone: (740) 201-5640

Worthington, Ohio

Willow Brook Christian Home

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Joel Hornsby, designer

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www.willow-brook.org

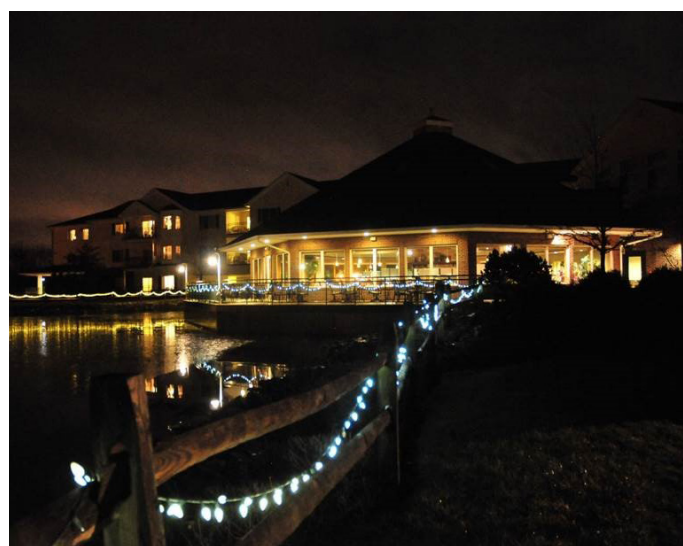


Enter to win a free gift card to one of our restaurants!

Here's your chance to enjoy free dining at Willow Brook! Join us for lunch, dinner or Sunday brunch at The Courtyard or the Water's Edge restaurants, located on our Delaware campuses. Email Erin for a chance to win a gift certificate: emaclellan@willow-brook.org. Include your name and phone number in the email.



Channel 10TV honored Julie Bardelang-Wolf for her service to Honor Flight Columbus. She was interviewed by Dom Tiberi (at right) of Channel 10TV about their work bringing veterans to Washington, D.C. Bardelang-Wolf is the life enrichment coordinator for Willow Brook and donates hundreds of hours to the cause.



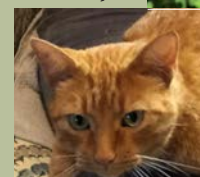
The Water's Edge restaurant at Willow Brook at Delaware Run looks out over a beautiful lake.

Feral Cat

by Rayna Patton

He's a wild and independent creature, this cat.
Comes from years of living rough
Heavily muscled, claws like scimitars
A fearsome hunter who kills for need
Hiding uneaten portion for another day
Not counting on success and knowing hunger.
Lessons of survival not soon forgot
Finding now soft berth covers his dish, empty or not
Sleeps deeply on the porch during the day
Only takes a constitutional dawn and dusk
Then disappears to the bolt hole that sheltered him
In the bitterness of winter cold.
And yet there is something in him
That craves affection. Once he was owned
Taken to the vet and neutered
Before lost or abandoned to live his solitary
Hard struggle to survive.
Afraid, but wanting a kind hand
A friendly voice, he rolls on his back
Trusting exposes soft orange belly fur to rub
Claws carefully sheathed
And meows to call attention.
One day perhaps he will venture into the house
But still he hesitates in the doorway,
Caught between familiar dangers outside
And perilous unknown within.

Delaware Run resident Rayna Patton won third place for her poem in the statewide Art & Writing Show sponsored by LeadingAge Ohio. She was inspired to write "Feral Cat" when she encountered a hungry cat living in the woods near her home. Patton named the cat Monty and offered him food for months, gradually coaxing him into her home where Monty now spends the night. "That's all it takes: patience, regular meals, conversation, and a friendly hand," says Patton.



Nail time. It's a regular pastime for Grecia Peña-Flores, a nursing assistant at The Home, and Home resident Carolyn Alcorn-Simpson. Simpson shares advice as Peña-Flores completes her manicure. Whatever they talk about is their secret. All we need to know is the nail polish color.



Congratulations to Willow Brook Christian Village in Delaware, which received perfect nursing scores for The Centrum assisted living and Cherith skilled care from the Ohio Department of Health! In the annual unannounced surveys, inspectors evaluated all areas, including nursing, culinary, housekeeping and activities. Thanks, staff, for your hard work and dedicated care!



Willow Brook staff and friends raised \$4,500 for the Central Ohio chapter of the Alzheimer's Association. Fundraisers included a picnic, bake sale and T-shirt sale. They are shown here at the August Walk to End Alzheimer's in Delaware. Way to go, team!

Reflections

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Delaware, Ohio 43015

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Willow Brook Christian Village in fall splendor.