

Whitinsville

Retirement Society

FEBRUARY 2023



WELCOME HOME!

In the Wizard of Oz, Dorothy clicks her red shoes together and repeats that famous phrase, "There's no place like home, there's no place like home" Dorothy's repetition of the phrase "there's no place like home" conveys the sentiment of what home means for so many of us. Home is that place we associate with those who care for us, a place of comfort and familiarity, a place to love and be loved, and a place of peace and safety.



Those feelings of coming home are what the residents of the Retirement Home and the Apartments feel when they come through our doors. They are home. Whether moving into the Apartments or the Retirement Home, they become part of a family...the Whitinsville Retirement Society family. We are a family that loves and cares for our and consider it a privilege to work in their home.

YOU'RE INVITED!

You're invited to attend the Whitinsville Retirement Society's Annual Meeting.

Thursday
March 30
7:30 PM

held at
Fairlawn Christian Reformed Church
305 Goldthwaite Rd
Whitinsville, MA
01588

See the back page for a membership form.

WE WERE SERVED!

During the hottest week of the summer the hallways at the Elderly Apartments got a facelift! We were fortunate to have been a work site for the Douglas SERVE team from *ThereforeGo Ministries*. The River Community Church and Children's Haven cohosted the SERVE team and we were blessed with the volunteer labor of 33 teens and leaders, from Minnesota, Iowa, and Massachusetts.



These young people were genuinely excited to be able to serve our community and worked so hard even though it was so warm inside our building - and they never complained even though it was over 90 degrees!

Each day they would arrive around 9AM and our maintenance team would help set them up for the day. They then spent 6-7 hours a day taping, painting, and cleaning up. They spent four days with us and painted the hallways and 2nd floor lounge and did a fantastic job.

They served with smiles and enthusiasm. It was truly a joy to have them serve us. We wanted to share some of their (and our) thoughts about the week.



...my favorite work site was painting at the retirement home because they were so thankful and the work was fun!
Team Leader

...thank you so much for sending our Retirement Center such wonderful painters this week...it was a joy to chat with them, so far they came for us...we thank you.
A Resident

...my favorite work site was painting the retirement home because I liked the residents.
12th grade boy

...my favorite work site was working at the retirement home because everyone was so grateful.
11th grade girl

...my favorite work site was the Elderly Apartments because it was rewarding work. We got a lot done and the ladies gave us cookies and watermelon.
9th grade boy

BE A VOLUNTEER

We welcome volunteers! We love it when people share their interests and talents with our residents.

- ✂ *Part of a knitting group? You can meet to knit in our beautiful sunroom.*
- ✂ *Love to bake? You can bake cookies or desserts for our residents in our beautiful kitchen.*
- ✂ *Have you gone on a safari or some other interesting trip? Our residents would love to see pictures and hear about what you saw.*
- ✂ *Are you part of a musical group? We'd love to host a concert.*

The list is endless! Contact Jeannine (508-234-6381) to learn more or to sponsor an activity.



DID YOU KNOW?

- ✂ The Retirement Home was built around 1840 and was later moved to its current location?
- ✂ We offer affordable, quality senior housing apartments at 2 Chestnut Street and you do not need to be a Whitinsville resident to apply to live at the Whitinsville Elderly Apartments.
- ✂ You can bring your own furniture when you move into the Apartments or the Home? It truly is your home.
- ✂ The Retirement Home (10 Chestnut St.) has rooms that are move-in ready. We are eager for new residents to join us.
- ✂ The Apartments have a waiting list, but we encourage you to apply now as that list changes frequently.
- ✂ When you live at the Apartments you are welcome to be a part of the activities, including meals, at the Home.
- ✂ Both the Apartments and the Home have common rooms where residents can gather with their family and friends.
- ✂ The Retirement Society employs almost twenty people. We are always looking for more good help and are currently accepting applications for cooks & office help.



FAMILY MOMENTS

Our third annual "Concert on The Green" was held on a beautiful September day. This event is our yearly gathering of residents, family, friends, neighbors, employees, and board members of the Whitinsville Retirement Society. We enjoyed music from Johnny Diamond, Pizza from the Whitinsville Village House of Pizza, Ice cream from Mr. Ice Guys Treats, and freshly popped popcorn. Senator Ryan Fattman also joined our festivities this year and took a tour of our buildings. It was great to spend the



day with all of the wonderful people that make the Whitinsville Retirement Home and Apartments the big family that we are.



CHRISTMAS JOY

Christmas is a time for gathering with family and friends and many of us may even remember going to our grandparents' house for family parties. This year, we were thrilled to once again be able to open the Home for a Christmas Open House! After several years of not being able to host gatherings, the residents were delighted to welcome family and friends into their



home. The atmosphere was full of good cheer thanks in part to a home beautifully decorated by Kevin and Karen Conway. The Home was bursting at the seams with residents, family, friends, staff, and board members. What an incredible night it was!

We had several opportunities to sing together as the GEMS group, several local church groups, and Derek Wielsma provided music for us on different occasions. Music is such a blessing and encouragement to our residents.

The residents of the Apartments share a beautiful sense of community and so as the holiday season approached, they started planning. One evening in December, they gathered together in their newly renovated Community Room where they shared a wonderful Christmas dinner. The delicious food was cooked by one of the Retirement Home cooks, Andrea Casey, and Director Jeannine Crawford.



Some of the residents decorated the Community Room with beautiful Christmas decorations and resident Elaine Inman surprised everyone when her family came to share their musical talents so they could all sing Christmas carols together. It was a beautiful night of friends celebrating Christmas



SAYING GOOD-BYE

Perhaps Winnie the Pooh said it best, when he said "how lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard." That is how we feel about saying good-bye to Sue McClure. We have been so blessed by Sue that it is hard to say good-bye.



Over the past fourteen years Sue could be found here several days a week doing a variety of things - in fact we think she has done almost every job here with the exception of mowing the grass! She's faithfully cooked meals, washed laundry, provided weekend coverage, comforted residents, kept financial records, answered the phones, plugged toilets, programmed remotes, and the list could go on and on! When we were writing up a job description it seemed like the best description would be "a little bit of this and a little bit of that."

While Sue will be missed for what she does, she will be more missed for who she is. Sue's smile and encouraging attitude are a blessing to everyone she meets and she will certainly be missed by both the residents and her co-workers. Sue, we thank you for all you have done for the Whitinsville Retirement Society over the years! We wish you God's richest blessings in your retirement.

Become a member today!

Dear Members, Friends, and Supporters,

This year the Whitinsville Retirement Society will celebrate its 47th year. We hope and pray that the Whitinsville Retirement Home and Whitinsville Elderly Apartments continue to bless those who enter their doors and also be a blessing to the community.

The Whitinsville Retirement Home provides a loving atmosphere within a homelike setting and includes all meals, housekeeping, weekly laundry, and basic cable service. Each resident has a private room and bath, along with several common social areas, which allows for both carefree living and companionship.

The Whitinsville Elderly Apartments offer individuals secure, comfortable living in a pleasant environment at a very reasonable rent. Amenities include laundry facilities, inside mailboxes, a community room for both informal gatherings and special functions and a gazebo where they can enjoy the beautiful grounds.

A six-member Board of Directors oversees both the Retirement Home and the Elderly Apartments. Board members volunteer to serve a three-year term and each year, two new members are elected. Please prayerfully consider being a part of the Board that serves to support the mission of this wonderful establishment.

To those of you who are members, your prayers and financial support of the Whitinsville Retirement Society (a non-profit organization) continue to be a blessing to those who live there and to those who someday hope to make it their home. To those who are not currently a member, we would like to ask you to consider doing so. To become a member, complete the form at the bottom of this letter and send it and a check payable to the Whitinsville Retirement Society, Inc. If you would like to support the Society in more tangible ways in addition to being a member, there is an opportunity to note that on the membership form.

The residents love visitors, we encourage you to take time to visit. Please pray for the residents, staff, and Board as they work together to make the Home and Elderly Apartments the best places they can be.

Sincerely,

WRSI Board of Directors: Ann Roon, Bill Vis, Randy DeVries, Scott Schneider, Sue Smith, & Wendy Groot



Please mail this portion with your check (made payable to the Whitinsville Retirement Society, Inc.) to: Whitinsville Retirement Society, Inc., 10 Chestnut Street, Whitinsville, MA 01588 OR visit our website (www.whitinsvilleretirement.com) and click on the PAYMENTS tab to complete your membership online!

Name: _____	Annual Membership:	\$35.00
Address: _____	Capital Improvement Fund:	\$ _____
_____	Other:	\$ _____
Email Address: _____	Total:	\$ _____

I am interested in serving on the Board of Directors or a Committee:

Yes - I am interested

No - Not at this time

Possibly, please call me with more information @ (_____) _____ - _____