

Maple Leaf Community Residences, Inc



Maple Leaf opens its sixteenth home
Raise-A-Roof a huge success
New roofs at two houses
Grants for two new homes submitted
Volunteer of the year named

MAPLE LEAF OPENS ITS SIXTEENTH HOME

“When I first saw it I knew it was the home we had been looking for” said Keith Werbeach, Executive Director of Maple Leaf. Since the grant money from the state became available the search was on in trying to find a great house for a great price in the east end of Geauga County. After weeding out homes to look at, and examining the ones that looked good on paper ten homes had been visited each with flaws but most workable for the population Maple Leaf rents to. “I had been looking for the sixteenth home for a

few months when this home was showed to me” Keith said, The eleventh home was different, a ranch with a full basement, wheelchair accessible with 36 inch wide doors, a three car garage with 2 ramps leading into the house, a living room and family room, 4 bedrooms with 2 1/2 bathrooms, one with a tub that could accommodate a lift. Add to the home a picturesque well landscaped lot with a back deck, located on a street off the beaten path for traffic, perfect to take a relaxing walk up and down.

Three ladies living together in the community were looking for a new home, the home they were renting was



Our newest, sixteenth, home on Vernon Drive in Parkman

on the market and they knew that there stay there could end at any time if the house sold. Then they visited the Vernon Drive home, fell in love with it, and decided this was where they wanted to live. Their parents, guardians and sister visited the home and were as happy as could be. Their provider liked it and gave it their thumbs up.

It later turned out that the house wasn't perfect but after installing radon mitigation, installing a new well pump, painting the rooms the colors the new residents wanted in their new bedrooms, living room, kitchen, family room and hallways and installing new carpet throughout the house, the colors the residents selected, all that was left was to move in. On the weekend of September 25, parents staff, and friends moved the three ladies into their new home. Now one month later they await the addition of another roommate to share their good times. Look out Parkman the ladies have arrived!!

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Maple Leaf wishes to thank the Geauga County Commissioners and Community and Economic Development for administration of the grant for roofs at the Bass Lake home in Chardon and the Evergreen home in Burton. The new roofs were paid for through a grant from HUD.

According to the roofing company, Rooftop, Inc.'s owner

NEW ROOFS- KEEP TWO HOMES DRY

Jacob Lesiak, the Bass Lake home had a problem with the decking structure in that the plywood used in the original construction was interior grade plywood and when the old shingles were torn off it was found that the plywood was falling apart, delaminating, the parts of the roof deck needed to be replaced with new plywood.

The Evergreen house roof

deck was in great shape and no additional work needed to be done.

Both roofs were upgraded with 30 year dimensional shingles, 6 foot of ice guard to protect the roofs from ice dams and water backup, and full length ridge vents to allow the homes to breath. The Bass Lake Home also received new gutters and downspouts.

RAISE-A ROOF HAS RECORD TURNOUT

Maple Leaf Community Residences held its Fifth Annual "Raise-a-Roof" (RAR) Benefit Dinner and Auction on Wednesday, September 30th. The Event, raised money to provide housing for mentally and physically challenged citizens.

According to Keith Werbeach, Executive Director of Maple Leaf, "Many of our Residents can no longer live at home due to the advanced age or death of their parents. We alleviate some of these families' worries by providing this housing opportunity with supervised care. It is imperative Maple Leaf expand to meet the demands as our population continues to grow and age." Maple Leaf currently

owns 15 houses and one condominium, housing a total of approximately 56 residents, and over 200 still await a house to call home.

"Raise-a-Roof" had a *Jazz at the Harvest Moon* Theme featuring smooth, Classic Jazz by 4 *Composer Tour* with vocalist Suzanne Gibson, Buzz Cronquist on woodwinds, Phil Anderson and Garin Wiss (in memoriam) on keyboards, Tony Eble on Guitar/Bass and a big beat by Jason Little. Maple Leaf's "Raise-a-Roof" offers attendees a number of ways to support the cause including a 50/50 Raffle (first draw is for a cash split, sec-

ond draw is for two (2) round trip coach tickets to anywhere in The United States, including Alaska, Hawaii, The Caribbean and Mexico, a silent auction featuring a myriad of unusual items including autographed memorabilia from all Cleveland sports teams (Cavs, Browns and Indians), a Chinese Raffle, mystery grab bags, door prizes, and much more. New this year, Bob Hale energized our Event with a live auction for extended stays at The Villages near Ocala and Casa Bella on Westshore (Gulf Coast).

Next year's Raise-A-Roof is scheduled for September 30, 2010, make sure to save the date for fun.



MAPLE LEAF SUBMITS APPLICATION TO PURCHASE TWO NEW HOMES

“When the letter came from the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities asking for our letter of intent to purchase, renovate and make accessible homes throughout the state I was very surprised”, said Keith Werbeach, “The state had already cut back money from Geauga County that supports day to day operations and I thought the last thing they would do is make grants

available to purchase houses.” Despite the cuts in the state budget the need for new housing across the state has been realized and responded to. Maple Leaf has responded also by submitting letters of intent to purchase two houses, make accessible two houses with handicapped accessible kitchens, and renovate 2 houses to update their heating and air conditioning systems.

Buying new houses will be decided upon by the Geauga County Board of Developmental Disabilities and the State of Ohio making money available to support individuals in their homes through the waiver system. “Having a home is not necessary if there is no money to support the resident in the house, in the long run having a house is a one time expense, where supporting a person in a

house is a year after year financial commitment.”, said Werbeach, “if we buy a house we need to use it for its intended purpose, housing for the developmentally disabled of Geauga County, there is no sense in having a house that could sit vacant if there is no one with the support to occupy it.”

The other renovations applied for are current needs at Maple Leaf houses. The heating systems will be converted to high efficiency natural gas or geothermal heat pumps to lower the cost to the resident of heating the houses. The handicapped accessibility of the two homes will make it so the residents can get around the house better and be able to help in meal preparation tasks.



and back yards will reappear.

Our residents and their staff will be decorating the houses for the holidays.

OTHER HAPPENINGS AT MAPLE LEAF HOMES

What else is happening at the Maple Leaf houses? LOTS!!!!

The interior of the house on Sperry Road has been totally repainted, the ladies in the house put in a request and since the house was definitely in need of new paint, the ladies were asked to pick out the colors they wanted the house to be. Gale O’Boyle, Maple Leaf’s assistant handyman, painstakingly painted over 20 gallons of paint throughout the home using rolls and rolls of masking tape to give the home the professional paint job it deserves.

Over the summer the house on Oak Tree Trail received a new deck out the patio door. At the beginning of the summer

there was a ramp leading out of the house but thanks to our friends at Habitat for Humanity and wood bought by Maple Leaf, a deck was built to be able to accommodate a table and chairs so the ladies could enjoy dinner and snacks outside.

Two of Maple Leaf’s residents moved out of their homes and into Geauga Metropolitan Housing Authorities one bedroom apartments. As they have moved out, this now leaves room for two people who have been on the Geauga County Board of Developmental Disabilities waiting list to move off of that list and into Maple Leaf Homes. We hope Becky and John enjoy their new homes and house-

mates and that Mary and Peter enjoy their new apartments.

Coming up yet this fall is gutter cleaning, furnace tune ups, and the fall leaf clean ups along with several other improvements in some of the houses.

Unfortunately the pail of rock salt will reappear next to the front door along with the snow shovel. On the bright side snowmen and snow angles in the front

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MAPLE LEAF NAMES JANE BOTTGER VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR



Jane volunteers on many fronts ~ Grandma is a favorite role.

Jane Bottger has been named Maple Leaf's VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR for 2009. During this past year Jane has been a very dedicated worker for Maple Leaf. Jane worked behind the scenes spending countless hours making sure invitations, and solicitation letters, were sent out for Raise-A-Roof. Jane also co-chaired the silent auction, helped make up the goodie bags and napkin ties. During the meetings she always had something insightful to contribute in deciding what our next step should be, or how to solve a problem we had run up against. Jane along with her trusty sidekick and husband Ron spent a couple of days setting up Landerhaven for Raise-A-Roof and even brought next door neighbors to help out. Of course Jane's volunteering didn't just start this year, in the past she has been a working contributor to Maple Leaf's Garage Sale, Walk for Independence, and of course all five Raise-A-Roofs. Thank you Jane for all you have done, we all look forward to working with you again in the year to come.

If you are interested in volunteering for Maple Leaf Community Residences, please call, mail or e-mail us with the information listed below.

You can contact Maple Leaf Community Residences through the following phone numbers, mail and e-mail:
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Stamp
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