

# Presidential Ponderings - November 2023

There is an old maxim that “good things are worth the wait”. Not always, in my book. After nearly three and a half years of being extra careful (and maybe a little bit lucky), I recently tested positive for covid-19. I thought I just had the flu, but the test kit said otherwise! Fortunately, my symptoms were relatively mild, but they were enough to keep me out of work for about a week and a half. I was able to isolate on the second floor of our house, where we have guest bedrooms and my “man cave.” As I said to a couple of folks, it was sort of like being confined to a prison cell, but with a comfortable recliner chair and a 65-inch TV!

That being said, there are many other occasions in the daily life of Londonderry Village where good things do happen to folks who patiently wait. In recent years we have been receiving the proceeds of a donor who generously bequeathed 50% of her estate to Londonderry Village. The personal relationship between LV and that donor started over 20 years ago, and the estate was principally composed of the donor’s farm land. In those intervening years the value of the land value became much higher, and when the donor passed away a few years ago, the size of the estate was significant. The donor directed that the entire estate be put into a trust account, and so the two beneficiaries are patiently (and thankfully!) receiving income from the trust each and every year!

In 2007, Londonderry Village endured many months of delays in opening our first two Green Houses due to bureaucratic “red tape” with the PA Department of Health. The newly-constructed Houses were finished and furnished, and we had newly trained staff just “chomping at the bit” to start providing care. But we had to wait for the DOH to conduct an opening inspection, a process that literally held things up for several months. Interestingly, that was 16 years ago, and that delay has now been largely forgotten in the sands of time as we now have a rich history of providing person-centered care in our Green Houses. More recently, we agonized over the land development delays in getting Fox Run started; fortunately, construction is now moving forward at a brisk clip and we are anxiously awaiting our first move-ins in a few months. Ten years from now, the initial delay will be a distant memory. Good things are worth the wait.



*Happy Thanksgiving Everyone,  
Jeff Shireman, President*

