

As Seen In... *Woman's Day, Redbook & Good Housekeeping, October 2006*

Special Advertising Section

## Lifestyle: Cleveland

# Retirement Living at *The Renaissance* The Best Gift You Can Give Yourself and Your Family

Bill and Dottie Bowers decided long ago they would choose where to spend their golden years. They didn't want their children to be forced into a decision after one or both parents got sick. So when their home of 52 years got to be too much for them, Bill and Dottie began looking into retirement communities.

"It was time," says Dottie Bowers. "We wanted to play and enjoy our years, not spend them working on the house or the yard." Although they were already familiar with The Renaissance retirement community in Olmsted Township, they began their search with an open mind and just one requirement. "Bill and I decided we never wanted to be separated. Even if one of us gets sick, we still want to be together."

The Renaissance, part of the Eliza Jennings Senior Care Network, a not-for-profit organization serving older adults in greater Cleveland for more than 118 years, was a retirement community that could make that promise. Independent living villas and apartments share a campus with assisted living, memory support and nursing care, as well as the Cleveland Clinic hospice. "If one partner is not well, it's no problem at all to cross the campus and spend time with them, have your meals with them," says Bowers.



**The Renaissance**  
A Premier Senior Campus

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The Renaissance has many other benefits the Bowers quickly came to appreciate. Their schedule is packed with community outings, and they enjoy sitting down to dinner each night in the community dining room. "We don't have to order our meals in advance. And we have a choice of nine entrees each night. Last night, I had shrimp scampi," Bowers says. "A really excellent meal."

And the final selling point for the Bowers? "The people are simply wonderful," Bowers says. "I think a lot of people put off moving into a retirement community because they're afraid they're going to be with old people who are boring and no fun. Let me tell you, the residents here are cool! And the staff is amazing. They help in any way they can, and they are spoiling me rotten."

Bowers says she has friends who think they're too young to consider a retirement community. To them, Bowers replies, "Better sooner than later." Once someone is already sick, it's too late, she says. "Sure, people have lots of memories in their homes. But if you choose a place together, before one of you gets sick, you're able to make new memories together."

"We have three daughters, three sons-in-law and seven grandchildren," says Bowers. "So, as much as we love living here, the best part about The Renaissance isn't about how we're living our lives. It's that our children are free to live theirs.

They don't have to come over every day to check on us, help clean the house, mow the yard or whatever else needs to be done."

"Our children aren't wealthy, but they are comfortable. They don't need an inheritance from us. They do need to not worry about us. Sure, if there's money left over, wonderful. But the important thing right now is that they're able to raise and take care of their children without having to worry about taking care of us."

