



Submitted Photo

Residents of Oakview Commons in Four Oaks visit the Whirligig Restoration Project warehouse in Wilson. Residents pictured are Maxon Dowdy, Frankie Marshall, Joan Radford, Gail Rains, Linda Blevins and Myrtle Holmes, with Mel Bowen, conservation technician and Whirligig Restoration Project tour guide.

A Sneak Peek At Whirligigs

What do you get when you mix salvaged metal, artistic ingenuity and a little wind? Why you get the late Vollis Simpson's famous Whirligigs! Residents from Oakview Commons, a DePaul Senior Living Community in Four Oaks, recently got a sneak-peek at the Vollis Simpson Whirligig Park being erected in downtown Wilson.

Originally created and displayed on Mr. Simpson's own

property, the wind-powered structures are being restored and moved to the new park through a partnership with the City of Wilson, Wilson Downtown Properties, Wilson County Tourism and Development Authority and others.

Oakview Commons decided to step into the Whirligig Restoration Warehouse where they learned more about the project and Mr. Simpson's legacy. Mr.

Simpson's welded and painted works are on display at the Wilson Rose Garden, the Hickory Grove Park, throughout downtown Wilson street corners, at several area museums and as far away as Russia, London and Canada.

Upon completion, the Vollis Simpson Whirligig park will feature a total of 31 sculptures measuring anywhere from 11- to 40-foot tall.