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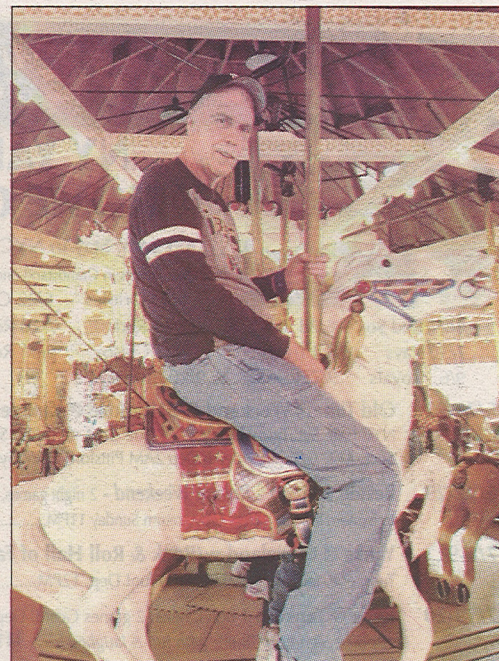
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COMMUNITY



PHOTOS SUBMITTED



Thomas Armstrong rides a white horse.

Turning back the clock

Submitted to The Post

No matter when you were born, when you step foot on a carousel, you are ageless. Residents at Woodcrest Commons were delighted by the lilting melodies from the Wurlitzer and fantastical displays of artistry during a recent trip to the Herschell Carrousel Factory Museum in North Tonawanda.

Fascinating history flanked with gorgeous artistry awaited Woodcrest Commons residents upon their arrival to the complex, which is listed on both the New York State and National Registers of Historic Sites. Opened in 1983, the museum hosts about 15,000 visitors each year. According to the museum's



Resident John Hicks enjoys the displays.

website, "the Allan Herschell Company, the most prolific maker of carousels, specialized in producing portable machines which could be used by traveling carnival operators."

The company produced

over 3,000 hand-carved wooden carousels. Of the 148 antique, hand-carved wooden carousels still in existence in the United States and Canada today, 71 were manufactured in North Tonawanda in one

of the four Herschell companies and of the popular carnival rides today can trace their origins to the company. The only Herschell carousel that remains in this area is at Seabreeze amusement park. Quite a few residents were delighted to see the Little Dipper amusement ride which they recalled riding as children at Crystal Beach. To learn more about the museum visit www.carrouselmuseum.org or call 716-693-1885

For more information about Woodcrest visit www.depaul.org/Senior-Assisted-Living-Woodcrest-Commons-Henrietta-NY.aspx or contact Woodcrest Commons contact Administrator Melissa Brien at (585) 334-1800 or on Facebook.



Woodcrest resident Kathy Hart enjoys a Merry-Go-Round ride.