

Westwood Commons seniors visit Jell-O Gallery Museum

Messenger Post Media

Residents of Westwood Commons, a senior living community in North Chili, took a trip into the past during a recent visit to the Jell-O Gallery Museum in Le Roy.

“America’s Favorite Dessert” was born in 1897, but it took many more years and a few changes in ownership before Jell-O became a household name.

Sam Nico purchased the company from Frank Woodward in 1899 for \$35. Thanks to a successful marketing campaign, sales amounted to \$250,000 within the first year of Nico’s purchase.

Succeeding years saw Jell-O change from a hand-packaged business to a highly mechanized factory. It became one of Le Roy’s most important industries. In 1925, it was sold to the Postum Cereal Company Inc., which would eventually become General Foods Corp.

Residents asked questions and took photos on the museum tour. They reminisced about memories from their childhood, including the theme song and some of the interesting recipes their mothers made using Jell-O. Each visitor received a box of Jell-O as a souvenir.

Call (585) 293-2060, email smajor@depaul.org or visit bit.ly/2uQg3Vf for information about Westwood Commons.



Westwood Commons residents Florence Michaloski and Mary Light visit the Jell-O Gallery Museum in Le Roy. [PHOTO PROVIDED]



Joyce Vembre views different Jell-O molds from history during a tour of the Jell-O Gallery Museum in Le Roy. [PHOTO PROVIDED]