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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Westchester Meadows

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Background information:

<http://www.birrerart.com>

<http://westchestermeadows.org/PC/new.html>



A Solid-wood, life-sized, hand-carved and painted statue of Jackie Robinson will be unveiled publicly for the first time by sculptor Brian Birrer at Westchester Meadows in Valhalla, NY on Thu Oct 8, 2009. The statue, weighing over 200 lbs and standing 6'4" (including base) is lifelike in all details. It took over 1000 hours of painstaking labor for sculptor Brian Birrer to transform over 50 pieces of Walnut, Pine and Basswood into a figure so realistic that many stand only inches from it without realizing that the clothing is made entirely of wood!

On Thursday, Oct 8, at 3:30pm, at the Westchester Meadows campus, Mr. Birrer will present a 30 minute slideshow and discussion on the impact of Jackie Robinson on America as well as the making of the Robinson statue, and the techniques of his art form--realistic wooden sculpture.

Mr. Birrer, a computer programmer by trade and education, is a completely self-taught artist who works in acrylics on canvas in addition to his sculptures. He has been carving life-sized statues for over 15 years. Some of his past works include statues of Babe Ruth, Mickey Mantle and Joe DiMaggio. He has displayed his works at such venues as Yankee Stadium, Turner Field, Hofstra University, Nabisco Galleries and the Gaylord National Hotel & Resort in Washington, DC.

Westchester Meadows is a luxury retirement community located in Valhalla, NY.

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