

Perspective

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Cottage Living Exceeds Our Expectations

When Paul and Betsy Brackbill talk about their life as Fairmount cottage residents, their faces light up. “I just love to get up in the morning and look out at this view!” exclaims Betsy, gesturing toward the panorama of the valley spread out beyond the back porch of their home.

But the amazing view is only one reason for their decision to move here four months ago. Asked why they chose Fairmount, Betsy responds without hesitation, “Location. We wanted to live somewhere rural, in a smaller community where we could learn to know all of our neighbors rather than being part of a larger, less personal community or a busy city environment. We also felt that the values at Fairmount are compatible with our own, and we were impressed with the low staff turnover rate.”

Getting acquainted with their neighbors was easier than they expected. Betsy estimates that



they have already learned to know more than half of the other cottage and apartment residents by name. “People are so friendly; they have stopped by to introduce themselves and invite us into their homes,” they explain.

Of course, it helps that Paul and Betsy are friendly themselves and have proactively gotten involved in community life. Soon after settling into their cottage, they inquired about volunteer opportunities. Betsy found a flowerbed to adopt and agreed to work with another resident managing the Farm Crest gift shop. Paul offered to visit and play the piano for Wheat Ridge residents. Volunteering has long been a part of the couple’s lives, and moving

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Renovations Reflect Our Inner Beauty

The President's Perspective



Fairmount Homes Mission Statement

"Fairmount Homes is a ministry with mature adults, providing high quality services, promoting wholeness and creative living consistent with Christ-centered Mennonite Values."

Core Values

Community • Compassion
Dignity • Integrity
Quality • Teamwork
Trust

Perspective is published quarterly for the residents, staff, volunteers and friends of Fairmount Homes, a Christian retirement community governed by a Board from the Weaverland Conference of the Old Order Mennonite Church.

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Throughout my childhood in Texas, I always enjoyed the hot days of summer. I looked forward to having more time with friends and family, and I enjoyed playing tennis, one of my favorite pastimes as a child. The weather was hot, and the grass was usually dry from lack of rain, but it felt great to be outdoors and soak up the rays. Summer is still a special time of the year for me...a time that brings renewal.

This summer marks an exciting accomplishment at Fairmount.

Our 15-month health care renovation project was completed in 12 months—ahead of schedule and on budget. The renovations produced a completely new look for Health Care. There are new wall coverings and carpets, new lounges and sun-rooms for residents and families, new activity rooms, short-term rehab and dementia neighborhoods, and nursing care areas. These changes provide a pleasant, home-like environment for our residents and ensure the high

quality care that Fairmount is known to provide.

While it is important to keep our facilities and buildings up to date, we must remember that the Lord does not look at the same things man does. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart (1 Samuel 16:7b). Renovating our buildings should be only the outward expression of the renewing of our true beauty that goes on here at Fairmount. The Bible reminds us that even the youth

and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength (Isaiah 40:30-31). Renewal of our strength and purification of our hearts should be our first priorities, and then outward renovations will reflect godly inner beauty. We invite you to come enjoy the beauty of our community, both inside and out!

*"Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."
1 Samuel 16:7b (RSV)*

Jerry D. Lile
Jerry D. Lile
President/CEO

Heritage Day in the Rearview Mirror

This year's Heritage Day proved to be the best yet with perfect weather and about 4,000 people enjoying good food, the camaraderie of friends, and reminiscing about by-gone days. Adding new interest this year were craftspeople demonstrating or displaying a weaving loom, hand-made wooden clocks, stone setting, and an early model egg grader. Alpacas made their appearance for the first time, and sheep shearing again held the attention of young and old alike.



Proceeds exceeded \$20,000, including \$11,192 from the Silent Auction that broke all prior records. Thanks to everyone who helped to make the day a success! Don't forget to save the date for next year's Heritage Day—June 2, 2012.



New Social Services Director Joins Team



Suzanne Martin recently joined the Fairmount team as Director of Social Services. After spending 15 years in the social services department of another nursing home, including 10 years as the director, Suzanne with her husband, Rick, moved to Liverpool, PA, where she found work in the banking industry.

“It was okay,” she relates. “But after awhile I realized how much I

really missed long-term care. I especially missed making a difference in people’s lives.”

When a former colleague informed her of an opening at Fairmount, she decided to pursue the opportunity, and is excited to again be part of the environment she loves.

Welcome, Suzanne, to the Fairmount family, and blessings to you in your new role here!

Dining for Dollars Promotes Spirit of Community

Dining for Dollars again promises to be an exciting aspect of this year’s Benefit Auction. One meal, in particular, will demonstrate the concept of “community.” PPh Group, our Dining Services consulting firm, will host a Traditional Community Harvest Dinner for 100 guests. The PPh Group will work with Dining Services and a local youth group to cook and serve

the meal, but is also looking for community involvement by asking vendors and local farmers to donate meat and fresh produce for the meal. Anyone wishing to be part of this effort may call Bob Andres at 215.697.8006.

We welcome additional Dining for Dollars events of all sizes. Past events have included breakfasts, lunches, dinners, teas, and picnics,

often with various creative and ethnic themes. Menus, times, places, and number of guests are all decided by hosts.

If you have a gift for cooking and hospitality and would like to host an event, please contact Rita Richard at 717.656.7810 or Arlene Zimmerman at 717.733.2509 by August 12. Your culinary contributions are greatly appreciated!

Cottage Living *(continued from page 1)*

to Fairmount has, if anything, increased their time to continue such activities because they are no longer saddled with home maintenance and repair chores. For example, they continue to invest one day a week at a nearby retirement home visiting, playing chess, and entertaining residents with piano and accordion music.

Looking around the Brackbills’ comfortable cottage, you can see much evidence that their busy lives haven’t missed a beat in their move. Paul’s piano occupies a prominent place in the living

room. Their second bedroom is set up to accommodate out-of-town guests, and their lightened responsibilities leave them free to visit family and friends around the world, or to just enjoy relaxing, reading, playing board games together, and entertaining.

As Paul and Betsy tell it, their expectations have not just been realized but exceeded. “We are delighted we chose to come here!” Betsy exclaims, and Paul adds enthusiastically, “Adjusting to life at Fairmount has been much easier than we ever imagined!”

Cottage Expansion Planned

Construction is set to begin on six new two-bedroom cottages this fall. For more information, please contact the Admissions Office at 717.354.1800.



Retirement Community

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717.354.1800
www.fairmounthomes.org

Address Service Requested

Items of Interest

Donations for Benefit Auction Appreciated

Theme baskets, supplies, or money for theme baskets, Dining for Dollars events, new items for auction, and good used items for the flea market are greatly appreciated. Donations should be dropped off at the Wheat Ridge front desk by August 12.

October Health Expo

The public is invited to attend Fairmount's Health Expo on Thursday, October 13, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Farm Crest Community Room. As part of this event, the Central Pennsylvania Blood Bank will hold a blood drive. For more information, please contact Ferne Motto at 717.354.1895.

Open House at Fairmount

On October 22, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Fairmount will hold an open house featuring apartments, cottages, and the Community Rehab Center. Everyone is invited to this tour of our facilities.

Mailing List Update

If you wish to have your name removed from the mailing list, please call 717.354.1800, write the Managing Editor at the address above, or email carols@fairmounthomes.org.

Perspectives may be viewed at www.fairmounthomes.org.

Perspective

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21st Annual Benefit Auction & Barbecue Saturday, September 10, 2011

SCHEDULE

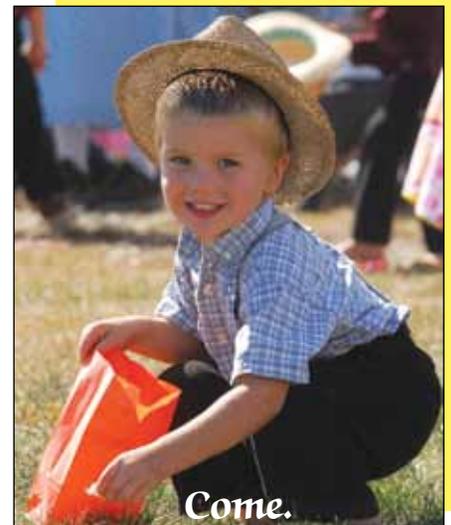
6:30 a.m. - Big John's Breakfast
8:30 a.m. - Weaverland Men's Chorus
9:00 a.m. - Auction Begins
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. - BBQ Chicken Dinner

EVENTS

Candy Drop
Dining for Dollars • Flea Market
Silent Auction • Food Stands
Children's Games & Rides

AUCTIONS

Handmade Quilts • Theme Baskets
Children's Auction • Specialty Items
Outdoor Furniture & Plants



Come.

Bring friends.
Enjoy the day.

2011 Auction proceeds will benefit the Sharing Fund.