

Perspective

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A Place That Radiates Warmth



When Fairmount held an open house for its Community Rehab Center shortly after the new facility's completion, apartment resident Kay Siviglia didn't bother to attend. "I thought it had nothing to do with me," she chuckles. "Little did I know I would be one of the first to use it!"

Kay became a short-term resident in the new Rehab during her recovery from surgery, and it gave her a whole new perspective on Fairmount care. "Sitting on the balcony of my Crest View apartment, I had no idea how things ran over here," she says. "But when I realized I would need rehab after my surgery, I asked for a tour. Jim [Jim Woolson, Director of Admissions & Marketing] showed me around ahead of time and went through all the financial and insurance issues. My children and

I had all our questions answered, and by the time I got here, I felt like I was coming home."

During her stay in Rehab, Kay gained even more insights. "Service has been just excellent. Staff is so caring, and so attentive to me—*my* pain, *my* hurt, *my* needs. The therapists are in tune with how I am feeling and work with me accordingly, knowing when I am in pain or tired. It gives me a safe feeling."

The good service doesn't stop with the therapists. Specially-trained team members who work only in Rehab care for residents at a time when they are most vulnerable and need the most individualized, expert attention.

"I have never had anyone be unkind to me; they are just unfailingly nice and go out of their way to make me comfortable," Kay reports. "Social workers take care of arranging all of my appointments, so my children and I don't even have to worry about that. It gives us all so much peace."

Kay also has learned about the value of Fairmount's volunteers: "I was so impressed when a mother of 10 children took time out of her day to come in and fill my water pitcher with fresh ice. Fairmount is run as a whole community. The warmth just radiates!"

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Team Members Embrace Their Calling



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

Fairmount Homes *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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The President's Perspective

I am currently reading *If You Want to Walk on Water, You've Got to Get Out of the Boat* by John Ortberg. In his book, Ortberg talks about Peter accepting the call of Jesus to step out of the boat and "come." As followers of Jesus, we also should be willing to follow Christ's call. Ortberg describes what it means for us to take the first steps out of the boat:

- ◆ Facing your fears and choosing not to let fear have the last word;
- ◆ Discovering and embracing the unique calling of God on your life;
- ◆ Experiencing the power of God in your life to try something you would not be capable of doing on your own.

Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said "Come." Matthew 14:28-29 (NKJV)

Fairmount Homes has over 300 team members (the term we prefer over "staff" because we see everyone here as an essential part of our team). They are here because they have experienced and embraced the unique calling of God in their lives. Similar to Peter, they use the gifts, talents, longings, and desires God has given them to serve Him and those around them. Every single day, our team members are using their gifts to provide compassionate care to residents for whom Fairmount is home. Some of these gifts may draw little

attention, but they are no less important in helping to create an environment where God's light shines. Many of our team members provide direct resident care, some provide nutritious meals or meaningful activities, others fix broken items, and the list goes on. Every team member is important to our mission, and I appreciate everything each one does for our residents.

Recently, I was talking with a resident in our Health Care about her stay. She mentioned how caring all of the team members have been to her. She expressed her appreciation for the acts of service they perform for her each day. She is experiencing God's calling being lived out.

Our team members have not only heard the calling to "come," but have stepped out of the boat in order to take the actions necessary to embrace this calling in their lives. In your interaction with them, I hope you also experience the power of God at work. For we are not called just to work *for* God but we are called to work *with* God, and I am so grateful that work is on display at Fairmount Homes.

Jerry D. Lile
Jerry D. Lile
President/CEO

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Of course, everyone working with Kay in Rehab has one goal--preparing her to be able to return to her Fairmount apartment. There she will continue her rehab with the same therapists because they also work in the outpatient office located just off the Crest View apartment lobby.

Kay sums up her experience by saying, "Even down to the last detail, everything is taken care of. I am so thankful to be here."

Editor's Note: Since this article was written, Kay has been able to return to her Crest View apartment.



Fairmount Reaches Out to the Community



Pictured above, left to right, are Habitat for Humanity Construction Manager John Epp, with Fairmount team members Jerry D. Lile, President/CEO, and Kent Richard, Vice President of Operations, who spent a day painting at Habitat's project in Ephrata.



When volunteer Hannah Ornelash and Personal Care resident Delores Townsley discovered a mutual appreciation for music, they began practicing together. Their efforts led to a much-enjoyed concert for residents (with future engagements scheduled), as well as a program at Delores' church.



On October 13, Fairmount hosted its second Health Expo. Over 30 vendors displayed health-related products and services for the community. Pictured are local school children learning about proper usage of the 911 emergency service at the Penn State Co-op Extension booth.

The Central PA Blood Bank (pictured right) was also part of the October 13 Health Expo. Fairmount regularly hosts the Blood Bank on campus for blood donations from residents, staff, and the local community.



(Left to right) Fairmount volunteer Mabel Snyder, with residents Hannah Martin, Allan Gehman, Ruth Burkhart, and David Hostetter can be found helping out at Christian Aid Ministries, a nearby non-profit with a global outreach, as many days a week as there is work to be done.



Benefit Auction Tops Past Years

What a wonderful day! The sun finally shone through the clouds, and the rain held off. Attendance was one of the highest ever, and total proceeds of almost \$95,000 topped those of last year.

Not only was Fairmount's Annual Benefit Auction and Barbecue an enjoyable experience for those who attended, but it supported a worthy cause. In addition to great food, fellowship, and fun, the proceeds from the 2011 auction went to the Sharing Fund, which helps to cover the cost of care for residents whose financial resources have been exhausted. We express a huge "thank you" to everyone who contributed to the success of the day.



Sharing Fund Basics

- ◆ The Sharing Fund has been established to help offset the cost of care for Health Care and Personal Care residents whose resources are depleted through no fault of their own.
- ◆ On average at any given time, we have about 35 such residents in Health Care alone. Each of these residents receives Medicaid assistance, but for our most recent fiscal year, Medicaid reimbursement for Health Care residents was \$90 per resident per day *less* than our costs.
- ◆ Unfortunately, costs keep increasing, yet the Medicaid reimbursement remains flat.
- ◆ Currently the Sharing Fund brings in about \$350,000 yearly which helps a great deal, but does not completely cover the growing shortfall.
- ◆ All Sharing Fund proceeds come from donations and special events such as the Benefit Auction and Heritage Day.

We are grateful for the continued support of many donors, as you can see from the above that the Sharing Fund is vital to our operations. We appreciate every gift, no matter how large or small.

Fairmount Board Transitions

At the end of July, Norman G. Hahn retired from Fairmount's Board of Directors after 32 years of service in this capacity. Throughout more than three decades of service, Norman's leadership was a much-valued asset in helping to guide Fairmount through many changes and challenges. He reflects back on the years he spent serving, "It was worth every minute. Fairmount is one of the finest homes."

Fellow Board member Paul M. Zimmerman comments, "I always appreciated Norman's willingness to listen to every proposal and try to meet every challenge, no matter how big or small."

Filling Norman's board position is his nephew, Ernest Hahn, whose connection to Fairmount is multi-faceted. He explains, "Several of my grandparents lived

at Fairmount in their senior years and received the quality care provided by our staff. My uncle's long years of service greatly influenced my decision to join the Board."

Ernest resides near Bowmansville with his wife Brenda and three children. They attend Bowmansville Mennonite Church (Weaverland Conference). Ernest has worked at Conestoga Wood Specialties for 30 years and manages their manufacturing plant in Beaver Springs, PA.

The Fairmount Homes Board of Directors and administration wish to express heartfelt gratitude to Norman for his extended service, and they welcome Ernest to his new role. We wish God's blessing on them both.

Cottage Expansion Project Planned



The building of six new cottages on Fairmount's Farm Crest campus is set to begin shortly. Plans include a triplex and a duplex, both containing two-bedroom, two-bath units, to be built on the north corner of Farm Crest Drive and Cats Back Road. Plans also call for a single cottage with two bedrooms and 1½ baths directly across the street.

Each cottage will feature a one- or two-car garage

and a covered entryway. Decks, sunrooms, and enclosed patios will be offered on some cottages. Multiple options for cabinet finishes, countertops, appliances, and flooring will be available on most units.

Prices will vary depending on the floor plan and options chosen. Construction will begin as cottages are reserved but could take place as early as the beginning of next year.

Preliminary Cottage Floor Plan



For more information:

If you have an interest in learning more about any of our Residential Living options, please call the Admissions Office at 717.354.1800.



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Address Service Requested

Items of Interest

Nicholas Stoltzfus Program

On November 15, at 6:30 p.m., cottage resident Paul Kurtz and Zach Stoltzfus will be giving a presentation on the background of Amish pioneer Nicholas Stoltzfus and the project currently underway to restore and preserve his original homestead. Nicholas Stoltzfus is of special interest locally, as most Lancaster County Amish can trace their roots back to him.

The program will be held in the Farm Crest Community Room chapel, and will include slides of Nicholas Stoltzfus' European roots, as well as of the preservation efforts. It is free and open to the public. More information may be found on the web at www.nicholasstoltzfushouse.com.

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.



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Silent Auction Returns for 8th Season!

- ◆ Fairmount's Silent Auction is again underway in the Wheat Ridge lobby.
- ◆ Each week's auction ends promptly on Monday at 8:30 a.m., when a new auction begins.
- ◆ These Silent Auctions will run continuously until Heritage Day in June.
- ◆ New bidder numbers are required each year. They may be obtained at the Wheat Ridge or Crest View front desks.
- ◆ All items are pictured on the Fairmount website, and can be accessed via the Silent Auction link on the left of the home page.
- ◆ All proceeds go to benefit Fairmount's Sharing Fund.

