



# Perspective

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## Community Benefits from Amazing Volunteers

Fairmount benefits every single day from the wonderful generosity of others. Over 250 volunteers regularly contribute thousands of hours to our mission. The Benefit Auction, February Quilting, and Sharing Fund all attest to the dedicated involvement of those who share Fairmount's vision. However, Fairmount and its residents are also "cheerful givers" to the greater community, both individually and as an organization. Following are just a few examples:

When Ezra "Ez" Stoltzfus married Fairmount resident Elizabeth Bell five years ago, the couple entered a new



*Evelyn Groff (left) with Ezra and Elizabeth Bell Stoltzfus display the caps they knit for distribution locally and globally.*

season of their lives. Ez joined Elizabeth at Fairmount, and Elizabeth retired from her nursing position a few months later. Since then they have not slowed down a bit. They stay active in their church, work out at the gym, maintain a busy social life, and travel extensively in the United States and beyond. Ez's motto is "Do it while we're young!"

But wherever they go, the Stoltzfuses take with them a project close to their hearts. Armed with small looms and skeins of yarn, they use their free time to knit caps. Evelyn Groff, also an apartment resi-

*(continued on page 3)*

## New Alliance Provides Many Benefits

Everywhere we turn these days, there is news of skyrocketing medical and insurance costs, and changes in the health care world. How do providers like Fairmount deal with all of these changes, especially when we are committed to a standard of excellence in care that we are not willing to compromise? Many organizations focus only on reducing expenses and offer less to residents. Fairmount, however, has chosen a different path, one which allows us to continue

offering care that is both excellent and affordable.

Fairmount and 13 other members of the Anabaptist Providers Group have created a partnership with Covenant Health *(continued on page 2)*

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# A Basket Full of Socks

## 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

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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As I was visiting with some of our residents in Rehab one evening, I stopped to talk with a woman I will call Sara. She was sitting at a table folding socks from a large laundry basket, a simple form of therapy it was evident that she enjoyed. The socks were an assortment of colors and sizes. Some were baby socks, some were sport socks with multiple colors and others were just plain ol' white socks.

One by one, Sara would take a sock in her hand and ask the same question, "Where do you think her match may be?" As we sat there chatting, I helped her search through the pile until finally she would find the exact match. Each sock became part of a perfect pair!

That same evening, I observed another matched pair—two certified nursing assistants working together exceptionally well. Watching their interaction, it was obvious that they were willing to help each other in their assigned tasks. The two come from different backgrounds, but they

were bringing together their talents and skills for their common purpose of providing the highest quality of care. Clearly they loved caring for the residents and working together as a team.

In this *Perspective*, you will read examples of how Fairmount works with volunteers and outside groups to assist many people. Not only do we provide loving services to our residents,

but we also contribute to the outside community. This partnership "match" benefits both Fairmount and the broader community, and we feel it pleases God.

In Philemon 5-7, Paul praises the believers for the love they show each other. He prays that their partnership will deepen their "understanding of every good thing" they share for the sake of Jesus Christ.

Whether we are matching socks or matching relationships, Fairmount Homes provides a valuable resource to the community!

Jerry D. Lile  
President/CEO

*Our partnership "match" benefits both Fairmount and the broader community, and we feel it pleases God.*

## New Alliance (continued from page 1)

Network in Phoenix, AZ.

Known as the Covenant Health Alliance of PA (CHAPa), this partnership is modeled on a similar coalition of senior-care facilities located in the western US. The goal is for members to lower their costs through group purchasing of food as well as medical and office supplies.

Also, services such as Rehab will

be jointly owned by CHAPa members rather than being contracted services. This will not only provide services at a lower cost but will allow members to realize dividends from their ownership stake.

Working together allows us to lower our costs and continue providing the excellent, compassionate care to which Fairmount is committed.



# Congratulations on Great Surveys

In January, our Skilled Nursing department underwent its annual survey. The inspection team was extremely complimentary of the quality of care provided to our residents, the cleanliness of the facility and the organization of our records. In spite of increased scrutiny by the Department of Health, there were only a few minor deficiencies cited.

More recently, both Wheat Ridge and Farm Crest Personal Care were also evaluated. We are extremely pleased to announce that there were no deficiencies iden-

tified and no corrections were required. The surveyors were very complimentary regarding the care and services our residents receive.

As Marcia Mummert, Personal Care Director, states, "It takes a team."

Congratulations to our nursing, dining services, activities, housekeeping, laundry and maintenance staffs on a job well done. Thank you to all for the caring, dedicated service that you demonstrate on a daily basis!

## Community Benefits *(continued from page 1)*

dent, has knit caps for years and introduced the craft to Elizabeth, who recognized it as an activity Ez might enjoy. Since then, the trio has made and donated hundreds of caps to missionaries from Russia, to Christian Aid Ministries, and to hospitals for babies and cancer victims. Recently they shared their enthusiasm for knitting caps with our Personal Care residents and offered to teach anyone who wanted to learn.

### **Service is Far Reaching**

This knitting project is just one of many ways residents serve the community. They also hold food drives, work at Christian Aid Ministries, cut patches for Material Resource Center, and volunteer at ReUzit and numerous other local non-profits.

Fairmount, as an organization, also contributes in many areas. For instance, a new TOPS (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly) chapter was formed by Fairmount's Wellness Committee, and celebrated its first anniversary in February. The chapter includes 47 members comprised of residents, staff and local community persons. They meet weekly at Fairmount to learn about nutrition and healthy lifestyles, and to share their successes, failures, and questions. In the past year, the group has realized a net loss of over 800 pounds, and nine members have achieved KOPS (Keeping Pounds Off Sensibly) status.



*TOPS Coordinator Rita Richard (left) congratulates participant Ann Zimmerman on her accomplishments in the program.*

### **Service is Ongoing**

For several other efforts, such as the Amish and Mennonite Student Safety Vest project, Fairmount's involvement is ongoing. Not only do we host Safety Vest Frolics on a regular basis, but residents cut pieces and assemble kits for the vests. To date over 9,000 vests have been distributed. We also serve the local school system by providing a work environment where special-needs students from local high schools can develop vocational skills "on the job" with a trainer. In addition, we regularly host blood drives for the Central PA Blood Bank, provide space for the Farmersville Fire Company's annual quilting and hold a biennial Health Expo for the community.

### **Service Offers Many Rewards**

From experience, Fairmount realizes the value of a supportive community. We also know firsthand that it is even more blessed to give than to receive as we live out our core values of "teamwork" and "community" every day.

As for Ez, Elizabeth and Evelyn, their project pays off in many ways beyond the obvious benefit to the recipients of their caps. The knitters have developed special bonds of friendship through their shared interest, and they enjoy the satisfaction of knowing their time is used for a meaningful purpose. As they explain, "We are not going to get old sitting around!"



Retirement Community

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**Address Service Requested**

### Items of Interest

#### **Health Screen**

Fairmount plans to host a Quest Diagnostics Health Screen on Thursday, May 21, from 6:00 –9:00 a.m. in the Farm Crest Community Room. For information, please contact Ferne Motto at 717.354.1895 or fernem@FairmountHomes.org.

#### **Central PA Blood Drive**

A blood drive is planned for Thursday, June 11, in the Farm Crest Community Room from 11:30 a.m.–6:30 p.m. Please call Ferne at 717.354.1895 or the blood bank at 800.771.0059 for an appointment. Walk-ins are welcome until 6:00 p.m.

#### **Thanks to February Quilters**

Thanks to all the quilters who came out to help with the quilts for the September Benefit Auction. Over 200 quilters helped to finish over a dozen quilts, and several more were started. Many thanks especially to the volunteers who head up this event, and those who help prepare lunches and snacks for the quilters!

#### **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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## Fairmount's 11<sup>th</sup> Heritage Day Saturday, June 6, 2015

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Tractor  
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- Come.**  
**Bring friends.**  
**Enjoy the day.**
- ✓ Silent Auction
  - ✓ Delicious Food
  - ✓ Storytelling
  - ✓ Quilting
  - ✓ Buggy rides
  - ✓ Petting Zoo
  - ✓ Old machinery
  - ✓ Crafts
  - ✓ Antique Cars



**Questions?**  
**Contact Peter C. Passage**  
**Stewardship Director**  
**717.354.1814**

*All proceeds benefit the Sharing Fund.*