



Perspective

Volume 17, No. 1 | February 2011

“I Knew I Wanted to Live Here”

When friends of Dick and Grace Hay invited them to join them for a tour of a Fairmount cottage, they gladly accepted. Their search for a retirement home had been leisurely—still in good health, they felt they had plenty of time to make up their minds. However, they had just watched Dick’s older sister relocate into a retirement community. “After watching my sister find a place, we realized we weren’t far behind. Besides, we no longer found it fun to rake the leaves and mow the lawn,” Dick reminisces.

On the tour of a Fairmount cottage, they were immediately enthralled with the marvelous views of the valley. But what really caught Grace’s eye was the kitchen. “I looked at the spacious open kitchen, with lots of cabinets and counter space, and I knew I wanted to live here,” she recalls fondly.

They made their decision that day and put their house on the market. The cottage they chose was still under construction, but by the time it was completed, their house had sold. The packing and moving process didn’t totally exhaust them, as it had friends who waited longer to relocate.



Continuing a Favorite Hobby

After their move, Dick was delighted to realize an added bonus. “Woodworking was in my blood and in my family,” he shares. “My dad and several brothers were carpenters. Although I was an engineer by trade, I always had a woodshop in my home. While some of the cottages have room in their basements for a woodshop, ours

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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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"I've always thought that you can see the hand of God best in the rearview mirror," Joe Stowell writes in the *Our Daily Bread* reading for December 31, 2010. Checking Fairmount's rearview mirror reflection of 2010, quickly reminds me that God's loving hand truly has been present everywhere.

He provided us with staff and residents who support our mission. He watched over our renovation project and provided safety. He was with us as we developed a strategic plan for our future. He blessed us with dedicated volunteers who gave of their precious time and donors who faithfully gave of their resources...all for the sake of our residents. He has managed our journey when we faced challenging decisions. We are grateful for His steadfast love and continued faithfulness in all we did.

The view forward is not as clear. We can tend to worry about the unknowns ahead of us in the coming days and months. We wonder how the economic downturn will affect our community, and whether we will

face trials and heartaches. All of these are real worries, but as we move forward, we can stop, look back in the rearview mirror, and see how God has faithfully protected us. He reminds us in Proverbs 3:5-6 to "trust in the Lord with all thy heart; and lean not on thy own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths." These verses are some of my favorites because they help me turn today's worries over to God.

For over 40 years, Fairmount Homes has been a ministry with mature adults, providing high quality services, promoting wholeness and creative living consistent with Christ-centered Mennonite values. This is our mission. As long as we keep one eye on the rearview mirror, focused on what God has done for us, and the other eye focused on God's direction for the path ahead, we can move forward in 2011 with comfort, knowing that our future rests in the hands of God!


Jerry D. Lile
President/CEO

Team Members Honored

On December 14, staff members and their families shared a wonderful time of food and fellowship at the annual Team Member Christmas Meal. A highlight of the evening was the recognition of 42 Fairmount employees who have passed five-year increments of service.

Of Fairmount's current 300+ staff, 29% have been here 10 years or more and 57% have served 5 years or more. The current turnover rate stands at just 7%. What a great tribute to our Fairmount team!



Recognized for their years of service were (from left): Ruth Carrasco (15), Dawn Brennan (20), Mary Rineer (25) and Sondra Martin (20). Not pictured is Mary Ann Huber (25).



New Sunrooms Complete — Next is Rehab!

Two new sunrooms, one on each Health Care floor, are now complete! With cozy fireplaces, warm colors, and comfortable furnishings, these wonderful areas offer residents and their families places to relax and visit together.

But the sunrooms are not the only recent enhancements. First floor residents now have their own activity center, a room already being

put to good use. On second floor, an upgraded service kitchen enables us to serve resident meals more efficiently.

What's next? We are looking forward to the installation of new stations in the common areas where coffee and snack items will be



The first floor sunroom offers residents and their families a cozy and relaxing space to visit.



Caseworker Corey Rickert and resident Erwin Martin enjoy the fireplace in the sunroom.

available to residents throughout the day. In addition, care centers on both floors will be renovated, and the common areas carpeted and painted.

The first-floor Rehabilitation unit is nearly ready to open. It will feature an inviting

home-like environment, direct access from the outside, and state-of-the-art therapy equipment. One exciting feature is a mock apartment, giving therapists a setting in which to assess residents' abilities to perform daily living skills prior to their return home.

Keep watching as our renovations progress!

Wanted to Live Here *(continued from page 1)*

does not. I discovered that Fairmount had enough space for a community woodshop, so I donated some of my tools. Then more tools were added, and a nice woodshop for residents was established.”

As fellow woodworkers crossed paths in the shop, new friendships were fostered. And while the area has often been used for making items for their own homes or gifts for grandchildren, the artisans have also made other residents the happy recipients of their handiwork. These items include frames built to display jigsaw puzzles put together by Health Care residents, and adjustable-height indoor planters designed and built so that Personal Care and Health Care residents could continue their



Dick has been writing a book about his life, working at the computer desk he designed and built in the Fairmount woodshop.

gardening hobbies inside. One of Dick's first projects was wooden name plaques with tiny shelves, one of which hangs outside each Crest View and Farm Crest resident's door—98 in all! Residents continue to delight in decorating the shelves with seasonal decor or their personal mementos.

Dick and Grace have never regretted their decision to make Fairmount home. After 12 years, Grace still enjoys her kitchen and they both still love the view of the valley from their enclosed sunroom. But what the Hays appreciate most about

Fairmount living is the circle of friends they have built, including the couple who, after first introducing them to Fairmount, joined them as neighbors four years later.



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Items of Interest

Ham and Cheese Fundraiser

Our annual ham & cheese fundraiser, held jointly with the Weaverland Conference Youth for Truth, is just around the corner. Sandwiches may be ordered at the Wheat Ridge or Crest View front desks, or by calling 717.354.1800. The deadline for ordering is March 7, and the pick-up date is March 26. Proceeds will be used to purchase a transfer lift for Health Care residents.

Volunteer Opportunities

◆ Volunteers are needed to assist with all meals on both floors of Health Care.

◆ Several dedicated volunteers are needed to read, visit, and provide encouragement to residents who enjoy socializing.

If you can help with these needs, please call Carol Swailes at 717.354.1887 to get started.

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.



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Quilting for BBQ Day

Save the dates!

Saturday, February 19

Tuesday, February 22

Wednesday, February 23

8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

(Lunch Served Daily)

Farm Crest Community Room, 1100 Farm Crest Drive