



Perspective

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We're Family Around Here



Cottage residents (from left) Laura Zimmerman, Lucy Horst, Lydia Kurtz, and Paul Kurtz enjoy socializing at an afternoon tea.

When cottage resident Laura Zimmerman moved to Fairmount 13 years ago, it was with the blessing and encouragement of her children and the recommendations of friends already living here. Best of all, she and her sister became next-door neighbors. She has never regretted her decision.

Laura and her husband had put their names in at Fairmount when he suffered a health crisis. Although they didn't move at that time, after her husband's passing, Laura followed her son's advice to look at the new cottages under construction at Wheat Ridge. She was impressed, especially with the spectacular view

from the back patios. After moving in, she found herself surrounded by neighbors who quickly became friends. After all these years, she still considers the social aspects of the community one of the best features.

The Right Fit

What makes cottage living so perfect for Laura? "I can sit on my front porch and talk to all the neighbors who go by. Or if I want time by myself, I just go to my back patio and enjoy the beautiful view."

Over the holidays a group of single residents invariably gather at one neighbor's home for a meal. "We're family around here," Laura says. "I couldn't have wished for anything better."

Space Plus Freedom

Etta Martin, another cottage resident, moved to Fairmount two years ago. She has different reasons for appreciating her home here. Although officially retired from a 47-year nursing career, she still enjoys working a few days a week. "I have more security here, but I can still come and go as I did in my former home."

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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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This Christmas my family flew to Texas for a visit with my extended family. We had a layover in Denver, and as we began our descent into the airport there, we were excited to show our children the magnificent Rocky Mountains. It was a beautiful sight, with snow covering the peaks. I was reminded of the awesomeness of God and the blessings of His creation.

Our week in Texas overflowed with opportunities to spend time sharing stories with family and reliving childhood experiences. In my adult years, I have learned to understand the importance of family. Having a family of my own, as well as the fact that I have lived so far away from my own parents, has helped me appreciate these relationships.

Our immediate families are irreplaceable, but over the years I have developed friendships that have become just like family. Barbara Bush once said that family to her means putting your arms around

*"Family means putting your arms around each other and being there."
- Barbara Bush*

each other and being there. I think her definition could apply to important friendships as well. While God created the Rocky Mountains to show us His majesty and to bless us with His glory, the relationships He places in our lives have the same purpose.

Numerous times I've been told that Fairmount is just like an extended family. Our residents support each other by extending help in all kinds of circumstances, including health issues and everyday situations. While I do not have my immediate family in this area and neither do some of our residents, our friends and neighbors here at Fairmount help to fill that void. Those who surround others with caring and kindness are the "loving arms" that Barbara Bush was describing. Let's not forget to count the blessings of family and friendships in the New Year.

Jerry D. Lile
Jerry D. Lile
President/CEO

Fairmount Honors 49 Team Members

On December 13, 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 49 Fairmount employees who celebrated five-year increments of service.

Of our 305 staff, 31% have been here 10 years or more, and 59% have served five years or more. What a great tribute to our Fairmount team!



Recognized for their years of service were (from left): Edith Gehman (25), Ruth Ann "Ruthie" Martin, (35), Cindy Zwally (35), and Sara Etta Zimmerman (25).



New Opportunities in Cottage Living!



For More Information:

If you have questions or would like more information about cottage living, currently available cottages, or the new cottage project, please call the Admissions Office at 717.354.1800.

- **New, Larger Residences**

Site work has begun and plans are being finalized for a small expansion of our cottage community. The plans include a triplex, a duplex, and a single cottage. The new Farm Crest Drive cottages will feature amenities and options not previously available, including two-car garages and expanded floor plans. Construction will begin as cottages are reserved, and could start as early as this spring.

- **Cottages Without a Wait**

We currently have two-bedroom cottages available, one featuring a daylight basement.

- **New Payment Option**

A new payment plan, available for select existing cottages, offers a much more modest occupancy fee with a higher monthly fee.

We're Family *(continued from page 1)*

Etta has plenty of space in her cottage to entertain her many friends and family, and even more time to do so now that home maintenance chores are handled by someone else. “I don’t miss raking leaves or mowing the lawn a bit,” she says, “and I can still spend time outside taking care of my flowerbeds.”

No Regrets

For George Eaby, cottage living is relatively new. He has lived here less than a year, but made plans to come after he saw firsthand how his mother benefited from a stay in rehab a few years ago. What impressed him then was the compassionate care. “There was nothing too much to ask—they went above and beyond for both her and our family,” he remembers.

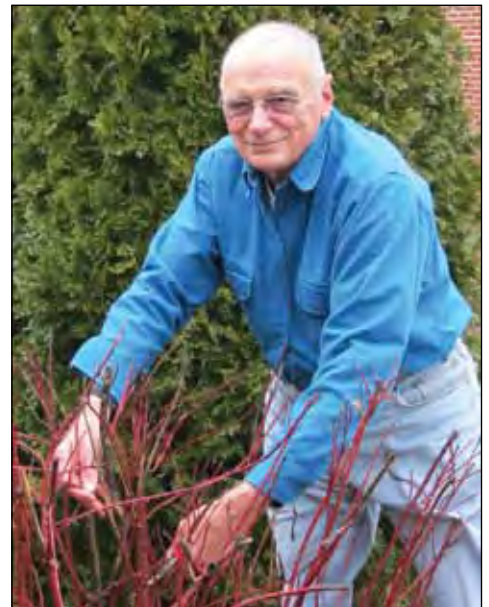
When the call came that a cottage was available, George seized

the opportunity and has never been sorry he did. “Everyone here tries to make you feel welcome—from the CEO to the maintenance crew, and the other residents,” he observes.

George has enjoyed many of the opportunities to get involved. He joins other residents for coffee hour in the Crest View Gathering room every morning, and participates in resident outings and activities such as Wii competitions. He likes to be busy, so spends many hours volunteering and taking care of flowerbeds, in addition to a part-time job.

Shape Your Own Lifestyle

What makes cottage living so ideal for so many people? Perhaps it is the freedom to choose your own lifestyle. There’s independence, but also security. Social opportunities abound, but quiet privacy is



George Eaby enjoys spending time outdoors, especially pruning bushes and helping to keep campus flowerbeds beautiful.

another option. Whether working, volunteering, pursuing hobbies and special interests, or just relaxing—residents delight that it’s all a matter of personal choice.



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Address Service Requested

Items of Interest

Ham and Cheese Sandwich 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 February 29, and the pick-up date is March 31. Proceeds will be used for a project enhancing residents' lives.

Volunteer Opportunities

More hands are welcome to assist residents at mealtimes on Wednesday and Thursday evenings. If you are willing to help in this way, please call Carol Swailes at 717.354.1800.

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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Quilting for BBQ Day

Save the dates

Saturday, February 18

Tuesday, February 21

Wednesday, February 22

8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

(Lunch Served Daily)



Farm Crest Community Room, 1100 Farm Crest Dr.