



# Perspective

Volume 19, No. 2 | May 2013

## Happy Anniversary, Fairmount!



Attendees filled the Wheat Ridge chapel and lobby to overflowing for Fairmount Homes' 45th anniversary on February 26. After a brief welcome and introduction by Fairmount President/CEO Jerry D. Lile and opening prayer by Board Vice-Chairman Paul M. Zimmerman, the Fairmount resident chorus sang two songs.

Program speakers included LeadingAge PA President and CEO Ronald L. Barth, who also awarded a commemorative plaque to Fairmount; former Assistant Director of Nursing Lois L. Cunningham, who served from opening day until her retirement 39 years later; and Fairmount Board Chairman Kenneth N. Burkholder.

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## New Cottages Available

Recently, construction began on the new triplex located at the corner of Cats Back Road and Farm Crest Drive. Two of the units have already been reserved, with the middle cottage and a duplex still available. As construction advances, future residents occasionally come by to look in on the progress in eager anticipation of moving into their new homes.

Cottage residents Bill Brackin and Peggy and Earl Osborn recall their similar anticipation many years ago. They too watched and waited eagerly as their new homes transformed the landscape. Bill and his late wife



*Earl and Peggy Osborn are pictured above with their friend Bill Brackin (right). They are all original occupants of their cottages.*

Connie arrived 18 years ago. Today Bill enjoys the distinction of being the only original inhabitant of the Farm Crest cottages.

He recalls the early years when the community was small and the

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Heritage Day

# Community Efforts Benefit Fairmount

## ***Thanks for Helping at February Quilting Days***

In three days of quilting during February Quilting Days, 221 people finished 11 quilts and started five more to be finished later by residents, making a total of 16 quilts ready for the upcoming Benefit Auction on September 14. We want to express huge thanks to everyone who came out to quilt.

Mark the Auction date on your calendar, and make plans now to attend and bring friends and family. The day is always packed with fun, fellowship, and great food, and all proceeds go to benefit our residents.



*(From left) Lydia Kurtz, Martha Engel and Esther Gebman enjoy quilting together for the Auction during February Quilting Days.*

## ***10,000 Sandwiches Sold to Benefit Two Groups***

Thanks to the Weaverland Conference Youth for Truth for their hard work in holding the recent Ham and Cheese Sandwich fundraiser. Both organizations sold sandwiches, Fairmount supplied the place to assemble and package the sandwiches, and the youth group supplied the labor.

Proceeds from the sale of 10,000 sandwiches were split between the two organizations, with Fairmount's portion going to the Sharing Fund. It is wonderful to work together for the benefit of both organizations. Thank you!

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## **Happy Anniversary** *(continued from page 1)*

Representatives from the offices of State Senator Mike W. Brubaker and State Representative Keith J. Greiner presented citations recognizing Fairmount's community contributions over the years. Fairmount Chaplain Paul H. Gehman offered a closing prayer. A slide presentation played before and after the program, and attendees enjoyed looking at the old artifacts displayed in the lobby.

The day served as a wonderful testament to more than 45 years of progress and dedication to faith, family and community. Fairmount has evolved from a small "rest home" with 20 residents on opening day in 1968 to a continuing care retirement community with 330 residents and over 300 staff today. The program served also as a time to consider Fairmount's future role as it continues to serve mature adults.

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## **New Cottages Available** *(continued from page 1)*

neighbors all knew each other. "At that time we held our cottage meetings in one of the cottages," he reminisces.

Bill and Connie became residents when she was in her late 50s and he was in his early 60s. "I think it's a mistake to wait," he muses. "Although Connie passed away several years ago, I have the support of friends I've made over the years and am very grateful for the excellent health care Connie received throughout her illness."

Two of those friends are Earl and Peggy Osborn, original occupants of a cottage at the opposite end of the Fairmount campus. They were introduced to Fairmount when they visited their long-time friends, the Brackins, in their new home.

Asked what else drew them to Fairmount, they answer without hesitation, "The view! We had our names in elsewhere, but after visiting Bill and Connie one Saturday, we returned the following Monday to start the process. We were even able to pick which of the lots we wanted. We have loved it here. With all the growth and the changes, we still enjoy a quiet neighborhood where residents look out for each other."

We welcome you to come and visit our campus, and watch as we continue to grow. Now is the perfect time to investigate the benefits of being part of the Fairmount community, or even becoming the first residents to occupy a brand new cottage. Call the Admissions Office at 717.354.1800 for information.

# Encouraging Words Bring Smiles

## 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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**I** love you Daddy. I recently discovered those four words on a sheet of paper I had tucked into the pages of a book. They were written to me by my daughter, when she was five years old. I still remember that day nine years ago when she curled up in my lap while I was reading. With a beaming smile she handed me the note. That message would make any father proud to be a daddy! Her simple words encouraged me to make every effort to be the very best daddy that I could possibly be, and they put a smile on my face that returns each time I reread the note.

Today our society spends more time sending emails and text messages than delivering hand-written notes. When we send a note electronically, we miss seeing the reaction of the recipient. Don't get me wrong, I truly love the text messages my daughter and wife send me every morning before work, but I can't see their beautiful smiles like I did when my daughter handed me the special note.

A few years ago, we created a Merit Gram form here at Fairmount. It is a written thank-you note we give

to an employee for doing something above and beyond normal job responsibilities. I have the privilege of handing the Merit Grams to employees and thanking them for their special deeds.

They verbally express their appreciation for the note, but it is amazing to watch the expressions on their faces. Their big smiles make me smile too.

1 Thessalonians 5:11

teaches us to encourage one another and build each other up. The words we speak and write are powerful tools that can be used to show thankfulness, support each other, and bring joy. This is the purpose of our Merit Grams. As we live and work together day by day, we strive to show gratitude to the people who enrich our lives.

If you are visiting our campus, we hope you can feel the appreciation that our residents and team members feel for each other. And, if you'd like to offer a word of affirmation to one of our team members, feel free to write a Merit Gram of your own!

Jerry D. Lile  
President/CEO

## Bequest to Fairmount Homes

*If you wish to remember Fairmount Homes in your will, the following wording is suggested:*

"I bequeath unto Fairmount Homes, for its general operating purpose, the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ (or a percentage of your estate, residue of, or a particular asset.)"

*Gifts may also be given to endow your annual gift or for a specific project or need, and may be designated as a memorial or honor gift.*



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 333 Wheat Ridge Drive  
 Ephrata, PA 17522-8558  
 717.354.1800  
 www.fairmounthomes.org

**Address Service Requested**

**Items of Interest**

**Quest Health Screen**

A Health Screen will be held by Quest Diagnostics in the Farm Crest Community Room on Wednesday, May 15, from 6:00–9:00 a.m. To participate, please register by May 9. For more information or to register, please call Ferne Motto at 717.354.1895.

**Central PA Blood Drive**

A blood drive will be held in the Crest View Gathering Room on Thursday, June 6, from 11:30 a.m.–6:30 p.m. For an appointment, please call Ferne at 717.354.1895 or the blood bank at 800.771.0059. Walk-ins are welcome until 6:00 p.m.

**Vendors for Health Expo**

On Thursday, October 10, Fairmount will be hosting a Health Expo. We currently have openings for additional vendors. Contact Ferne Motto at 717.354.1895 for more information.

**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](http://www.fairmounthomes.org).



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*Fairmount's 9th Heritage Day*  
**Saturday, June 1, 2013 ~ 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

*Sponsored by*



Traditional Good Family Shopping

**Come.  
 Bring friends.  
 Enjoy the day.**

- Silent Auction
- Delicious food
- Storytelling
- Quilting
- Old machinery
- Buggy rides
- Petting zoo
- Antique cars



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



***All proceeds benefit the Sharing Fund.***