

Perspective

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Fairmount Opens State-of-the-Art Rehab “Neighborhood”

After months of construction noise, temporary walls, and simply waiting, Fairmount residents and team members

were excited to see the new rehab neighborhood unveiled in February. What makes this new development so exciting?

According to Kris Donnelly, manager of the therapy department at Fairmount, “The new rehab is exciting, not because of its fully-equipped therapy gym with new equipment, but for its unique concept as a self-contained rehab unit, which is why we refer to it as a ‘neighborhood.’ All of the team members working in rehab work only in that department.”

Rather than offering physical, occupational, and speech therapy from a setting within the Health Care area, rehab now is a self-contained unit complete with its own kitchen, dining area, lounge,

and short-stay resident rooms. It is designed with a separate outside entrance for visiting family and friends, and another outside entrance directly into the therapy area for outpatient use.

The homelike lounge area, with plenty of comfortable chairs and sofas, is situated in front of a cozy, double-sided fireplace. The opposite side of the fireplace faces a beautiful dining area where rehab residents enjoy pleasant camaraderie along with delicious food from the adjacent kitchen.

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Rehab manager Kris Donnelly checks on resident Edith Slote as she exercises on the NuStep in the new therapy gym.

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Diamonds at Fairmount

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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In the early 20th century, Russell Conwell, founder of Temple University, frequently told the Acres of Diamonds story: A farmer listened with envy to tales of other men who made fortunes by discovering diamonds. He eventually decided to sell his farm and join the search for diamonds, but never with any success. With nothing to show for his years of work, the farmer ended up taking his own life.

One day, the man who bought his farm found a stone in a stream on the property. He didn't know exactly what it was, but it was so beautiful he placed it on his mantle. A visitor saw it and immediately recognized what was only partially visible. That stone was eventually identified as the largest diamond ever discovered. Better yet, the stream was filled with similar stones, and the farm became the most productive diamond mine in all of Africa.

The moral of the story, of course, is that many treasures can be found in one's own backyard. As I considered this story, I thought of a few of the many "diamonds" right here at Fairmount Homes:

- Our Christ-centered core values lived out daily;
- Dedicated, caring employees and many wonderful volunteers;
- A new, short-term rehabilitation area dedicated to returning residents to their homes;
- Our annual employee turnover rate of just 8%;
- The five-star rating our skilled nursing facility was recently awarded by Medicare;
- Our affordable cottages and apartments;
- Our emphasis on wellness that has benefited both employees and residents;
- However, our most valued treasures are the residents who call Fairmount their home.

I encourage you to visit and see for yourself the many "diamonds" that make Fairmount Homes a wonderful place to work, live, and serve.


Jerry D. Lile
President/CEO

Fairmount Achieves Five-Star Rating

In the recently released 2011 federal ratings for nursing homes, Fairmount was one of just eight nursing facilities in the local area to achieve a five-star rating. The ranking system was initiated in 2008 by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and is intended to parallel the system used by restaurants and hotels to indicate their performance. Facilities are ranked on a scale of one to five, with five being the highest possible, based on annual inspections and staffing levels. President/CEO Jerry D. Lile responds, "Our five-star rating is a true testimony to the compassionate care our staff provides in a Christian manner. Thanks to all our team members for the highest rating possible!"

To view the detailed rating report, go to www.medicare.gov and scroll to the link at the bottom of the page.



State-of-the-Art Rehab Opens Doors



Pictured above, clockwise from the upper left, are various areas in the new rehab neighborhood: lounge, dining room, outpatient entrance waiting area, and therapy gym.

(continued from page 1)

Rehab residents enjoy newly decorated rooms with walls painted in attractive colors, tiled bathrooms with European “spas” or showers, and wireless service throughout.

Central in the unit is the rehab “gym” with new, state-of-the-art equipment in a bright cheerful environment. Adjacent is a room configured to resemble typical living space—complete with a kitchen, bed, and bathroom. Here

residents practice activities of daily living such as getting dressed, cooking, and getting in and out of the bed, bathtub, or shower. Unlike in typical nursing care, the goal is to have residents return to their own homes as soon as possible. Consequently, they are encouraged to do as much for themselves as they can.

With all of the changes in the appearance of Fairmount’s rehab

program, what has remained the same is the warm, compassionate care delivered daily by the same competent staff members who have so effectively served our residents over the years.

Come and see for yourself! An open house is scheduled for May 12, 2011, from 3:00-6:30 p.m. Or call the Admissions Office at 717.354.1800 at any time to schedule a private tour.

You Are Invited

to the

Rehab Open House

Thursday, May 12, 2011

3:00 - 6:30 p.m.

**333 Wheat Ridge Drive
Ephrata, PA 17522**



Planning Underway for New Cottages

Preliminary plans are taking shape for building six new Fairmount cottages at the corner of Cats Back Road and Farm Crest Drive. Groundbreaking is anticipated for the summer or fall of 2011, or upon reservation of all the cottages.

Current designs call for two-bedroom cottages, most of which will include 1,400–1,500 square feet of living space, and a stone and siding exterior. All will have

either one- or two-car garages. Some will include a sunroom, and others a basement.

We would love to chat with anyone who wants to learn more about these new cottages, the availability of existing cottages, or to get your name on the waiting list. For more information or to make an appointment to have your questions answered, please give us a call at 717.354.1800.

Save the Date: Benefit Auction September 10, 2011

Although spring flowers are just starting to bloom and fall is still far away, it is not too early to start planning for the next Benefit Auction and Chicken Barbecue. February Quilting Days have already yielded a brand new supply of beautiful quilts for Auction Day, thanks to the wonderful resident and community volunteer quilters. What can you do now to prepare?:



Volunteer a "Dining for Dollars" Event

Sign up to host a "Dining for Dollars" event! Hosts set the menu, date, time, and number of guests. Bidders compete for the dining events, which can be breakfasts, dinners, lunches, teas, or picnics, all with various themes. If you are willing to host an event or would like more information, please call Rita Richard at 717.656.7810 by July 29, 2011.

Help Create a Theme Basket

Every year, colorful creative theme baskets fill the Wheat Ridge lobby prior to the Benefit Auction. Complete theme baskets, items to create theme baskets, supplies, and donations of money can be contributed. Talented volunteers then assemble and wrap the additional baskets. Bring your contributions to the Wheat Ridge front desk.

A Tribute to Volunteers

April is Volunteer Month, a time to recognize the special people who freely offer their time and energy to help others. This page is a tribute to all of the volunteers who help at Fairmount, as well as to all of the Fairmount residents and staff who assist others in the local and global communities. We highlight just a few to illustrate the variety and quality of service:



Three or four volunteers arrive before supper every evening for their scheduled shifts. Some come once a week or every other week, others come monthly, but all take time from their busy lives to fill ice pitchers in residents' rooms and assist with meals. While each person may give just a few hours a month, together they fill a vital role in our community. Their contribution is greatly appreciated by our staff, and the value of their service was acknowledged recently by a Department of Health surveyor, "Your volunteer force is a significant asset in the care given your residents."



One of Fairmount's signature features is the natural beauty of its setting. This beauty is greatly enhanced by the efforts of many resident and community volunteers who "adopt" flowerbeds and care for them from spring to fall. This year Gregory Fitzwater, son of Activity Coordinator Deb Fitzwater, decided to make Fairmount the beneficiary of his Eagle Scout project. After consulting with Environmental Services



Resident Mary Keener enjoys caring for a flowerbed on Fairmount grounds.

"Your volunteer force is a significant asset in the care given your residents."

Director John Becker, Gregory's plan is to landscape the outpatient entrance of Fairmount's new rehab. The project will include designing the bed, purchasing and planting the flowers and shrubs, and keeping a photo journal of the entire project. What a great way to meet a personal goal while making a lasting contribution to a worthy cause.



Every year, the Weaverland Conference Youth for Truth holds a ham and cheese sandwich fundraiser jointly with Fairmount. Both organizations take orders.

Fairmount purchases the ingredients, and the youth group assembles the sandwiches for delivery. They split the profits, with Fairmount's share going to purchase special items to enhance the lives of residents.



This spring, Fairmount furnished lunch for volunteers on a Habitat for Humanity construction site in Ephrata. President/CEO Jerry D. Lile comments, "In keeping with two of Fairmount's core values—community and teamwork—we strive to assist the broader community. I was impressed with the volunteers who give so much of their time to help build warm homes for those less fortunate."



(Left to right): Fairmount VP of Operations Kent Richard, President /CEO Jerry D. Lile, and Habitat for Humanity volunteers Wayne Parsil, Walt Erb, and John Esch enjoy sharing lunch at the Ephrata construction site.



Retirement Community

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 18, from 6:00-9:00 a.m. For more information, please call Ferne Motto at 717.354.1895.

Blood Drive Slated for May

On May 26, 2011, the Central PA Blood Bank will hold a blood drive in the Farm Crest Community Room from 11:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Donors may call the blood bank for an appointment at 1.800.771.0059. Walk-ins are also welcome.

Volunteer Opportunities

More hands are welcome to assist residents at mealtimes. 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.

*Perspectives may be viewed at
www.fairmounthomes.org.*



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Fairmount's 7th Heritage Day

Sponsored by



**Saturday, June 4, 2011
8 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

**Come. Bring friends. Enjoy the day.
Delicious food. Silent Auction.
Storytelling. Quilting. Old machinery.
Buggy rides. Petting zoo.**

All proceeds benefit the Sharing Fund.



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