

Fairmount *Perspective*

Dedicated to Faith, Family & Community

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Welcome to Fairmount!

On a hot summer day in July 2018, Fairmount President/CEO Jerry Lile turned the first shovelful of dirt, commencing the largest construction project Fairmount has embarked on in over a decade. Throughout the next 16 months Fairmount residents had front row seats at the construction of the 45-unit Wheat Ridge Apartment building.

We are happy to report that construction is complete and in November, we welcomed 67 new residents.



We are thankful to the Board of Directors, Fairmount team members, our residents, volunteers, and visitors who patiently dealt with the constant noise and inconvenience of construction. We are thankful to Paul Risk Construction for their excellent work on the project. And as always, we are thankful for

God's wisdom and guidance in the planning of the project and for His safety during the construction. ->



Don & Lois Rohrer (seated) turned moving day into a fun event, dubbing their family the "Rohrer Relocation Team."



Cottage residents (from left) Edith Leaman and Ruth Ann Hollinger enjoy the scenic view of the valley from the Wheat Ridge Apartment balcony of Anna and Leonard Groff.

The Fairmount Mission: *Founded on Christ's love and Mennonite values, we strive to enrich the lives of those we serve.*

Fairmount *Perspective* is published quarterly for the residents, staff, volunteers and friends of Fairmount, a Christian retirement community governed by a Board from the Weaverland Conference of the Old Order Mennonite Church.

Core Values

Community • Compassion
Dignity • Integrity
Quality • Teamwork
Trust

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Please visit our website for additional information and to download an Application for Residency. www.FairmountHomes.org

An Unexpected Christmas Gift

The President's Perspective

“Merry Christmas!” was the cheery greeting from the four inspectors from the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH) who arrived the Monday morning before Christmas. All nursing homes are inspected annually by DOH to ensure that we abide by all the rules and regulations required by Medicare and Medicaid. But the timing of this inspection seemed a bit unfair... just before Christmas!

Even though they are annual events, inspections can be very stressful considering the dire consequences if they result in citations. And many of us were planning time off to be with our families during the holidays. But when the inspectors showed up, we dropped everything to be available for their numerous requests. I was extremely thankful for the way our team pulled together, coming in on their days off and making themselves available the entire time the inspectors were on site.

Fairmount's last two DOH inspections had resulted in no citations, and I am pleased to report that this year we received a great Christmas gift when the inspectors told us, “Merry Christmas, you have another year with no citations.”

Having one year with no citations is difficult to achieve, but three years in a row is phenomenal. Our DOH inspection record validates Fairmount's reputation for providing quality care.

“The Lord is trustworthy in all he promises and faithful in all he does.” Psalm 145:13

I am truly honored to work with dedicated people who follow the rules and regulations, deliver the highest quality care to our residents, and use their gifts each day to enhance the lives of our residents. It is a blessing to work with amazing individuals who have a passion for serving older adults!

I continue to marvel at God's faithfulness to Fairmount! We couldn't carry out our mission alone, but He is persistently loyal to us, offers constant support, and keeps His promises! I know many of you lift Fairmount up in prayer, and we need your continued prayers and God's ever-present faithfulness to us!



Jerry D. Lile
President/CEO

Team Members Recognized for 480 Years

A highlight of Fairmount's Staff Christmas Fellowship Meal each year is the recognition of team members celebrating five-year increments of service. This year, we honored

29 team members who together have served an amazing 480 years! Especially remarkable were the numbers of years served by several team members: Edith Zimmerman was rec-

ognized for 45 years, Katie Shirk for 40 years, Vera Jane Hoover for 35 years, and Kent Richard for 30 years. Congratulations to each of you, and thank you for your faithfulness.



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Following God's Direction



Two months after Carole Gerhart's husband passed away in 2017, friends invited her to join them on an open-house tour of area retirement homes. That day she saw plans for Fairmount's new

Wheat Ridge Apartments, and by the end of the day, she had decided to fill out an application.

"I never had a doubt," Carole reflects. "Especially since I was now alone, I knew I needed to take care of *me* so my siblings, nephews, and nieces didn't have to. I have friends who live here,

and heard from so many that 'you get the best care at Fairmount—whenever you need it!' It felt like such a good option, and I believe God directed me here."

Carole's sense of God's leading was further affirmed when the time came to sell her house, and it sold "just like that." This past November, she moved into her new apartment—her first-ever move out of nearby Reamstown. The move was smooth, and she is very happy with her apartment. "I feel so at home," she says. "I look out my bay window at the view and feel very peaceful."

With the move and the holidays now behind her, Carole looks forward to her favorite activity—spending time with friends, including those who initially invited her on the tour and friends she is making in her new home. ➤

Welcome to New Chaplain

We welcome Eugene Weaver who recently joined our team as Chaplain, taking the place of Paul Gehman who retired. Eugene is a Lancaster County native who also serves as lead pastor for Heritage Mennonite Church. He and his wife Elaine have been married for 45 years, and have 3 children and 11 grandchildren. Their heart for missions led them to serve eight years as missionaries in three locations: as house parents for a children's home in Potter County, PA; as missionaries in Grenada; and working with Native Americans at the Olive Branch Mennonite Mission in South Dakota. When they returned to Reamstown, Eugene worked in various roles for several local businesses. Upon learning of Fairmount's chaplaincy opening, he felt the call to again work in a direct encouragement ministry.

"I am glad I'm here," he says. "It's hard for me to call this a job, as I enjoy relating to older people and look at Fairmount as another mission field." We wish you the best, Eugene, in this next phase of your life. ➤



5th Annual Community Book Sale

Mark your calendar, invite your friends, and come out for a time of fun and discovery at Fairmount's 5th Annual Community Book Sale on Friday, April 24, from 6:00–8:00 p.m. or Saturday, April 25, from 7:00–10:00 a.m., when books will be half-price. A wide assortment of books will be available. Book donations are now being accepted, so please consider

repurposing your personal library so that other readers and Fairmount can benefit. Books (other than secular fiction and encyclopedias) may be dropped off at the Wheat Ridge or Crest View front desk. All proceeds will go to Fairmount's Sharing Fund. For more information, call 717.354.1800. ➤



Fairmount

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Electronic Service Requested



Items of Interest

Central PA Blood Drive

On Thursday, February 20, 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 800.771.0059. Walk-ins are also welcome until 6 p.m.

Ham & Cheese Fundraiser

Our annual ham-and-cheese sandwich fundraiser, held jointly with the Weaverland Conference Youth for Truth, is coming up soon. Sandwiches may be ordered until March 2 at the Wheat Ridge or Crest View front desk, or by calling 717.354.1800. The pick-up date will be March 28. Proceeds will be used for a project enhancing residents' lives.

You Gave ExtraOrdinarily!

Thank you to everyone who donated to Fairmount through the November 22 ExtraOrdinary Give event! A total of \$16,300 from 66 generous donors will go to the Sharing Fund. We are grateful for this wonderful show of support from our community.



Fridays with Fairmount



OPEN HOUSES

2–4 pm

First and Fourth Fridays (March, April, and May)

March 6 & 27, April 3 & 24, May 1 & 22

February Quilting Days



Save the Dates & Plan to Join Us