

## Residents Reflect On Their First Year

Just one year ago, construction on our new Wheat Ridge Apartments was completed, and the building was ready for residents. Our parking lot became a carousel of moving trucks as 39 households moved in during November 2019. Residents were glad to be done downsizing, decision-making, moving, and unpacking. They were ready to be home!

So how do these residents feel about living in their new homes for the past year, especially considering the incursion of COVID-19? We asked four of them, living in four different models and locations, to share their thoughts.

### *Jake and Ruth Bare*

The Bares brought their family with them for their final walkthrough of their originally-selected first floor apartment. Seeing the apartment for the first time, the children were convinced their parents would be more comfortable living in a larger space. By day's end, Jake and Ruth had been persuaded to change their minds in favor of a third floor "Voganville" model. They now look around their beautiful apartment with its amazing view and know they made the right decision. "We are **so**



*Pictured above is an aerial view of scenic countryside and the Wheat Ridge Apartments, featuring a courtyard with a bocce court and a fire pit.*

**happy** we made the change. We love the view, and especially the spaciousness. We didn't even have to downsize much. All of the major furniture from our previous home fit!"

"We traveled a lot when we were in our 60s and 70s," Jake reflects. "Now we are content to just live simply. And we love

the people—from all walks of life and diverse ways of thinking. These are the folks we want to retire with."

### *Ruth Weaver*

Ruth Weaver's first floor "Brownstown" model is one of the smaller apartments but perfect for her. She was especially happy to find a spot for the hutch from her previous home. "It made my new place feel like home," she says with a smile.

Ruth's move meant her children were free from helping with her home maintenance. She muses, "I was surprised how easily I adjusted. I would have been a lot lonelier through this pandemic time had I been in my former house."

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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.

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*Please visit our website for additional information and to download an Application for Residency. [www.FairmountHomes.org](http://www.FairmountHomes.org)*

## Meeting the Challenge Together

### *The President's Perspective*

Especially during these times, I am extremely proud to be a part of Fairmount as we collaborate to maintain a safe environment for our staff to work and our residents to live. For over 50 years, Fairmount has always come together to address pressing threats while ensuring that quality care for our residents always stays our focus.

Recently we have been facing another grave threat. We are saddened that the novel coronavirus has taken the lives of some Health Care residents and made several team members very sick.

As a body of Christians, even during difficult times we are called upon to serve in a manner that demonstrates our Christian faith through love, integrity, honesty, respect, compassion, joy, and peace. This global pandemic certainly put pressure on our operations, but we knew we could rise to the challenge by embodying these characteristics of Jesus.

In times like these, we need you to stand beside us and support us! What can you do? First, we welcome your prayers as a hedge of protection around our team members and residents against the virus. We believe prayer works!

Also, because of the virus, our annual

Heritage Day was cancelled and our Benefit Auction and Chicken Barbecue had to be modified. Because they are our biggest annual fundraisers, our income is down significantly. Over the next several

*Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil.*

*Ecclesiastes 4:9*

months, you will have the opportunity to support us financially through our matching gift program, our year-end Sharing Fund appeal, and the ExtraOrdinary Give. You will receive more information on these opportunities in the mail, and you can find additional details on our website.

Through your prayers and financial support, we are confident that Fairmount will continue to be a safe place to work and live. **Thank you in advance for your support!**



*Jerry D. Lile*

**Jerry D. Lile**  
President/CEO

## A Benefit Auction Like No Other

We want to express thanks to our great community for supporting Fairmount's 31st Annual Benefit Auction and Barbecue. Due to COVID-19, the Chicken Barbecue was held off campus as a drive-through only, and the Benefit Auction was held online. While many of the regular Auction features were not possible, we were pleased at the outpouring of community support. We look forward to the time when we can again hold the event as in previous years.



*Online auction items were available for preview at New Covenant Mennonite Fellowship in the days before the auction.*



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*The Wheat Ridge Apartments courtyard has proven to be a center of activity for residents who love to play or watch bocce, or just spend time relaxing outside.*

### ***Gordon and Sally Landis***

The Landises, comfortably settled in their “Farmersville” model apartment, divide their time each year between Pennsylvania and Florida. This made for an easy transition, as they explain: “We sold our house in East Petersburg before going to Florida last fall, then returned in November for just a few weeks to move in, before heading back south. But when COVID-19 hit in March, we felt we had to return to Pennsylvania. Our families are here, and we realized this was our home.”

Gordon is delighted to pursue his woodworking passion in Fairmount’s woodshop, while Sally busies herself reading, sending cards, playing bocce, and walking on the fitness trails. “People here are very friendly,” Sally reports enthusiastically. “When things open up more and we can get together in groups, it will be even more special.”

As they prepare to head south for the winter again, they have a real appreciation for their new freedom. “We can just walk out and close the

door,” says Gordon. “We don’t have to find anyone to mow grass, clear snow, or check on the house. It is all taken care of here.”

### ***Leonard and Anna Groff***

The Groffs report that their cozy “Cocalico” model apartment offers all they need. “Our den serves as a combined library and office. We could close the pocket doors, but we never do. We’re always doing something in there,” Anna says.

Leonard works a few hours a month, does personal research on history and genealogy, takes online classes, and plays dulcimer and mandolin. He has compiled a number of family books which Anna helped to edit and proofread. After settling in, they set up a library in the Wheat Ridge Apartments lobby, and Leonard helps other residents with computer and electronic device problems.

The Groffs have made many friends just meeting people while waiting for mail, picking up the newspaper, or merely stepping out into the hallway. Since none of their children live nearby, they are especially grateful to be part of the welcoming Fairmount community.

If you are interested in retirement living in a home with excellent value and unparalleled views, begin investigating the options by calling the Marketing Office at 717.354.1800. ➤



*The Wheat Ridge Apartments lobby is an ideal spot to connect with friends and neighbors, read the newspaper or books from the library, or play games.*



# Fairmount

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### **Fairmount Tuesday Tours**

Come see our new Wheat Ridge Residential Living Apartments firsthand at our “Tuesday Tours” on November 3, 10, 17 and 24 and December 1 and 8. Tours will be limited to six or fewer at a time. Call 717-354-1800 today to reserve your spot.

The beautiful 45-unit building has 11 different floor plans that include studio, one-bedroom, one-bedroom with a den and two-bedroom options. All apartments feature fully-equipped kitchens, with a range/oven, microwave and refrigerator. Each apartment also includes a washing machine, dryer, additional storage space, walk-in closets, and a covered patio or balcony.

You’ll love maintenance-free living at a community intent to meet, and exceed, your needs. No longer will you have home repair, weeding, mowing, snow removal or ever-increasing real estate taxes to weigh on your mind. Plus, you will have peace of mind, knowing that higher levels of care are available, all on the same campus.

At Fairmount, you will discover the Lancaster County values, views, and value that are so appreciated by residents and their families.



## Give ExtraOrdinary!

# THE EXTRA<sup>TM</sup> ORDINARY GIVE



**NOVEMBER 20, 2020**

Fairmount is participating in this year’s ExtraOrdinary Give—an annual, 24-hour, online giving campaign.

To participate, visit [ExtraGive.org](http://ExtraGive.org) on Friday, November 20, choose Fairmount, and make your donation. Thank you for your continued support of our Fairmount residents. ➔