



SOARING

A Publication of Mennonite Home Communities

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WE RESPOND!

Residents of Mennonite Home Communities are Well Protected



Local Emergency Services are represented in front of the newly renovated Mennonite Home. Pictured left to right: **Sgt. Timothy Pnessa** - Manheim Township Police; **Skip Walls**, Project Analyst - Lancaster County-Wide Communications (911); **Vickie Horan**, EMT - Lancaster Emergency Medical Service Association (LEMSA); **Dusty Dormer** - Rohrerstown Fire Department; **Randy King** - Park City Mall Security; **Alexander Contins** - Susquehanna Valley Emergency Services; **Harold E. Grainer, Jr.** - Lancaster General Hospital Security; **David Smith**, EMT - LEMS; **Officer William Watt** - East Hempfield Township Police

WHEN THINGS GET HOT

Larry Folly loves his job as President of the Rohrerstown Fire Department. After 25 years on the job, he readily admits that firefighting is a young man's job. Yet his experience and wisdom qualify him to teach and certify younger firefighters and help them master this life-saving skill. Larry is very proud that Rohrerstown Fire Department was the first in Lancaster County, and the seventh in the state, to have 75% of their firefighters board certified. We are truly lucky to have these men and women on the job!

Larry explained how the response to a potential fire at Woodcrest Villa or Mennonite Home has been carefully planned and rehearsed in advance because of the number of lives at risk. After all, firefighters are about saving lives and Mennonite Home Communities represent 900 resident and 550 employee lives. Firefighters always plan for the worst case, and they always over respond. Nothing is left to chance.

Rohrerstown Fire Department is staffed 24/7 with 12 live-in firemen at the station, allowing them to respond

quickly. A basic one-alarm fire at Mennonite Home Communities would attract four engines to pump water, three trucks with firemen to search, rescue and extinguish the fire as well as three specialized rescue trucks. Over 40 firefighters and their command structure would arrive within minutes from Rohrerstown, Hempfield, East Petersburg, Eden and West Lancaster Fire Departments. A second alarm would quickly double the equipment and manpower.

Larry mentioned fund raising, recruitment and retention as the significant challenges facing their department. Before a new recruit can even ride to a fire, they must complete 150 hours of training and have \$2,500 worth of protective clothing and a \$2,500 air pack apparatus. All recruits face continuous extensive training and eventual independent professional certification.

I could certainly dedicate many pages to describe the equipment, procedures, challenges and bravery of our firemen. This life saving service deserves our admiration, unending thankfulness, and financial support. Please remember all that these men and women give to our communities every single day.



EMERGENCY SERVICE ON-SITE

When you have a medical emergency, you want to know that there is someone ready to help you. You want someone who is quick to respond, quick to know what to do, and quick to care about what is ailing you. You want someone now! Lancaster County has wonderful emergency medical services, and Susquehanna Valley Emergency Medical Service is one of the best. At least, that's how Woodcrest Villa residents feel.

In November 2002, SVEMS began providing services to Woodcrest Villa from a site right on the Woodcrest Villa property. There is no similar relationship between a retirement community and an emergency crew in the county. SVEMS responded to over 600 calls at Mennonite Home Communities in

2005, but the rest of the surrounding community can rest assured that they continue to serve them as well. In fact, in 2005 alone, they responded to close to 16,000 requests for service, emergency and non-emergency. They expect to respond to well over that total, having just merged with Willow Street EMS in December 2005. SVEMS has a committed group of employees with an average of nine years of service. They also have dedicated volunteers who give of their time to benefit the community.

Mennonite Home Communities wholeheartedly thanks Susquehanna Valley EMS and the other emergency crews in Lancaster County who dedicate their lives to save the lives of others every single day.

LOTS OF EXPERIENCE, LOTS OF RESPONSIBILITY

The residents and staff of Mennonite Home can rest assured knowing that their safety is in the experienced hands of Manheim Township's Chief of Police, Paul Rager. During Chief Rager's 40 year career, Manheim Township has grown from 18,000 to 37,500 residents. In that time Mennonite Home has grown from 33 to 200 skilled nursing residents, from 80 to 200 Assisted Living residents and from 64 to over 440 staff members.

Policing Manheim Township is a 24/7 job requiring the talents and energies of 53 police officers and 18 civilians in supporting roles. The cars, radios, computers, record keeping systems and communication networks of today help deliver an efficient response to nearly 20,000 calls per year (an average of 55

calls per day). A specialized "mobile command center" includes all necessary investigative technologies, including global positioning systems, to accurately map, collect evidence and analyze accident or crime scenes.

Retirement communities pose special considerations for police because of the health status of the population. It is crucial for 911 to get accurate information so the proper combination of police and EMS can be dispatched.

Mennonite Home is delighted to enjoy the protection of Chief Rager's corps of officers and support staff. Remember to call 911 for all emergencies and to call 664-1180 for non-emergency situations requiring a Manheim Township police officer.

911

Enhanced

WHO AND WHERE

The 911 system is truly the keystone that holds together the calls of people seeking any emergency assistance. The 911 center uses computer data bases, communications and maps to direct over 1,000 calls per day to dispatch the appropriate police, fire or EMS service. But 911 and emergency responders must know exactly where people are located.

Skip Walls, an analyst for the 911 center, explains that retirement communities are challenging because only one general office phone number and address show up in the 911 computer.

Skip is delighted that Mennonite Home Communities is installing Lancaster County's first "Enhanced-911" system tied to our new phone system. Even if a resident should be rendered unconscious after dialing 911, "Enhanced-911" will identify the resident, building, wing and apartment or room number, notify our front desk personnel, and tell responder personnel which building, entrance and elevator to use. This is life saving technology at its best!

MHC EVENTS

Join Us for Fun Summer Events!



11th Annual Golf Tournament

Friday, July 14, 2006

Fairview Golf Course
2399 Quentin Road
Lebanon, PA 17402

Call Nancy Parmer at 717.390.4105 to register.
Golf Fees are \$75 per round and include cart, dinner, competitions and prizes.

Schedule of Events

Morning Scramble

7:00 am **Registration**

7:30 am **Shotgun Start**

7:30 am - 12:00 Noon **Scramble Tournament**

12:30 pm **Luncheon & Prizes**

Afternoon Scramble

12:30 pm **Registration**

1:00 pm **Shotgun Start**

1:00 pm - 5:30 pm **Scramble Tournament**

6:00 pm **Dinner & Prizes**

All proceeds from this event will benefit the Promise Partners Fund, providing care for Mennonite Home residents who have depleted their resources.

Please note: A donation or contribution to Mennonite Home Communities is purely voluntary. A contribution is in no way a requirement for the institution or continuation of any business relationship with Mennonite Home Communities. Also, a contribution is in no way a requirement for admission or continued stay at the facility. Residents of Mennonite Home Communities will receive the same standard of quality care, the provision of which is not conditioned on any contributions.

June Fest

June Fest is coming fast. We have made some major changes this year, and the most important one is our menu. We will feature delicious pork barbecue sandwiches from Hess Barbecue along with homemade cookies, chips, applesauce, pepper slaw and a refreshing drink.

Do you remember the "magical feeling" you had as a child when you attended a local fair or carnival? We have scheduled many different activities and special entertainment throughout the day that will bring back those memories for your family!

You won't want to miss our silent auction. Many merchants generously donated items and gift certificates for meals, family entertainment, golf outings, amusement parks, museums, dinner theaters, and lodging. We have also received beautifully quilted and crocheted items, hand-made crafts, and some magnificent theme baskets. If you would be willing to make a monetary contribution, donate a new item, gift certificate or baked goods, please give us a call.

Each year the Auxiliary joins with Mennonite Home Communities to plan and host this special day. June Fest is an annual fundraiser that benefits our residents as all of the proceeds are used to purchase items that will make life a little easier for them. Each year we target a special need. In the past our purchases have ranged from buses to electric beds, therapy and medical equipment, books, a piano, furniture and more. Our funding goal this year is a major upgrade of the bathing facilities on the Dementia and Alzheimer's units.

Your support and donations can help us reach our goal. With an event of this size, we will need a multitude of volunteers to assist in many areas. Please consider volunteering your time to help at one of the stands. If you are able to help, **please call Kathy Maule at 390-7971** as soon as possible. Thank you for your continued support. Come and spend the day with us. We can guarantee a day full of laughter, fun and memories!



25th Annual Barbecue

Mennonite Home Communities

P R E S E N T S

June Fest '06

June 17, 2006



Pork Barbecue

Served 10:30 am - 3:30 pm
 \$6.50 per meal day of event
 \$6.00 per meal with advance ticket
 Eat In or Take Out Available

Silent Auction

Bids accepted 10:30 am - 2:00 pm
 in the Auditorium

- Quilts • Unique Gifts • Theme Baskets
- Artwork • Collectibles • Gift Certificates
 and much more!

Antiques & Collectibles

10:30 am - 3:00 pm in the Auditorium

Carnival Foods

- 10:30 am - 3:30 pm in the Courtyard
- Hot Dogs • Subs • Ice Cream • Bake Sale

KPETS

(Keystone Pet Enhanced Therapy Services)
 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm in the Courtyard

All Parking On Site

Family Activities 10:30 am - 3:30 pm

- Carnival Games • Crafts • Balloon Animals
- National Baton Champion - Amanda Brown
- Face Painting
- Pet the Alpacas 11:00 am - 3:00 pm
- Meet "Ally" the Alligator 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
 in the Courtyard

Craft Faire & Plants

10:30 am - 3:30 pm
 in the Ground Floor Craft Room

Special Music

Throughout the Day in Various Locations

1520 HARRISBURG PIKE • LANCASTER, PA • 717 393-1301

Tickets may be purchased at Mennonite Home, or on site during the event. June Fest is our annual fundraiser.
 This year the proceeds will be used for medical equipment.

THE VOLUNTEER CONNECTION

Meet 90 years young, extraordinary resident volunteer – Dorothy Moran. Dorothy, a resident in our Assisted Living Community since January 1992, volunteers, well – everywhere!

The first pot of coffee in the Meadowvue Snack Room goes on at 4:50 am! By 7 am, four pots of coffee have been attended to by Dorothy, in her role as Snack Bar Hostess. By 4 pm, seven more pots have been brewed and the pot is washed and put away for another day. Every brew had a prayer of blessing. Dorothy prays: *“I bless and ask the dear Lord to bless my coffee and my residents.”*

Dorothy started in March 1992 and since then she has volunteered over 20,000 hours. Not bad for a 90 year old!

Dorothy oversees the Assisted Living Meadowvue Snack Room, filling the fridge with juices and other goodies; delivers 24 morning, 12 evening, and 20 Sunday newspapers to residents in Meadowvue; helps her neighbors with laundry or bed making when they are under the weather; assists with the Country Store; and oversees Catholic Mass and Communion.

A life-long resident of Lancaster, she grew up in an Italian family with strong work values and ethics. Twenty-seven years of work were given to Watt and Shand in the Better Sportswear Department.

Dorothy has two daughters, nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Dorothy’s sister-in-law, Mary Cipoletti, resides in residential Independent Living at Woodcrest Villa as well as her cousin, Clara Vinelli.

Dorothy loves the news and politics, but her greatest joys are her family and volunteering. Dorothy is willing to help anyone, all they have to do is ask.

This extraordinary resident volunteer with limited vision prays this prayer daily – *“Here I am, pull me through, with this little bit of sight, to serve my people.”*

Thank you, Dorothy, for your heart of caring!



Dorothy Moran
MHC Volunteer



ANSWERING THE CALL

There is nothing more rewarding than helping someone in need. It’s easy to feel that the little you have to offer might be insignificant. But, if you’ve ever spent ten minutes reading a book to a lonely child, you know that even a small amount of compassion and attention can impact someone’s world. We are impacted by people who volunteer throughout our community.

MHC Volunteers

I would like to personally thank each of you who have volunteered your time to Mennonite Home Communities. We were honored to receive more than 40,000

hours of volunteer time in 2005. We rely on volunteers to push wheelchair residents to physical therapy and in-house appointments, operate our gift and thrift shops, assist in the craft room, and help with various planned activities.

It is truly a blessing when people volunteer because they enter a reciprocal relationship where the volunteer is just as fulfilled in many ways as the recipient. While seemingly impossible to fill all the needs that are presented to us, the Lord faithfully provides new volunteers when we really need them. Thank you for answering His call.



Shining Stars

Recognizing employees for the dedication and hard work that is done each and every day to make Mennonite Home and Woodcrest Villa a wonderful place for residents to live.

January



Kelly Peifer
MH Therapy Dept.



Lara Banda
MH Therapy Dept.



Jannes Moran
MH Beauty Shop

February



Keith Hamilton
MH Information Systems
Specialist



Candy Myer
MH Accounts Receivable
Cashier



Russ Groff
WCV Security Supervisor

March



Trisha Wolpert
MH Social Worker



Mary Frey
WCV Marketing Assistant



Erin Leaman
MH Admissions Associate/
Healthcare

Mennonite Home Communities

1520 Harrisburg Pike
Lancaster, PA, 17601

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SOLICITATION POLICY

If you wish to have your name removed from the mailing list to receive future newsletters or fundraising materials supporting Mennonite Home Communities, please send a written request to:

*Mennonite Home Communities Marketing Department,
2001 Harrisburg Pike, Lancaster, PA 17601.*

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“The Spiritual Life Committee fully supports the Board’s efforts to create a holy, spiritual space conducive to prayer and worship. The Resident Council appreciates the opportunity for input and the careful process of learning from other facilities.”

– *Andy Ebersole, WCV resident, Council and Spiritual Life Committee Chair*

“I’m very enthusiastic about enhanced cultural and entertainment events being held in the classy environment of a new Chapel/Performance Center. This wise investment will add terrific value to the life of our Woodcrest community.”

– *Wickie Weaver, WCV resident and Chapel Advisory Team member*



WOODCREST VILLA CHAPEL/PERFORMANCE CENTER

The Board of Trustees has long envisioned a place of worship and performance serving the Woodcrest Villa (WCV) community. Our growth now supports this dream. Extending from the Community Center, the Chapel/Performance Center will be centrally located for apartment residents and provide ample parking for villa dwellers.

The Chapel and a private prayer room will occupy the top floor. As our Chapel, this reverent space will house worship services, hymn sings, Bible study, prayer, weddings and funerals. As our Performance Center, the facility will host town meetings, lectures, movies, various musical entertainments and more. Good acoustical design, amplification, projection and hearing-assist devices will compliment comfortable theater-style seating and a raised stage to ensure that residents and guests thoroughly enjoy all events.

The lower levels of the Chapel/Performance Center will contain an expanded game room, space for arts and crafts, a computer training center, an attractive beauty salon and additional facilities for wellness professionals.

The Chapel/Performance Center promises to be an exciting enhancement to the spiritual, educational, entertainment and cultural life of WCV.

*Early architectural concept.
Actual building will differ.*

