



*Introducing Pheasant Pointe—  
Woodcrest Villa's  
Sold-Out New Apartments*

# soaring

A PUBLICATION OF MENNONITE HOME COMMUNITIES

FALL 2019

Keeping the Faith  
Scholarship Winners Announced  
Outpatient Therapy Clinic

p4  
p5  
p6





# Welcome Home

## Pheasant Pointe Opens This Fall

*(Left) Chuck and Connie Ebersole are looking forward to getting involved in the community. (below right) Coralie Werking and Stan Jacobs always knew there was something special about Lancaster.*

It was one day after Labor Day when a new kind of work started at Pheasant Pointe, Woodcrest Villa's new apartment building. That Tuesday, the first residents moved into their beautiful new homes. For many, this was the moment they had been looking forward to for quite some time.

Each of the three floors features 13 two-bedroom apartments that were buzzing with excitement and activity throughout September.

Coralie Werking and Stan Jacobs were the very first couple to move into their new home. They moved to Lancaster from the York area because they were just in love with the natural beauty of the county.

Stan spent his early years of life growing up on a farm in York County and Coralie graduated from McCaskey High School and Millersville University. "I always knew in my heart that I wanted to return to Lancaster," she shares.

*"We wanted to move in while we were young and could enjoy everything."*

The pair looked at several communities but really enjoyed the layout and location of Woodcrest Villa.

"I like the feeling of openness and the outdoorsy feel here," Stan says, noting that he appreciates being close

to highways and services but loves coming home to a quiet environment with walking trails and woods all around.

Both are looking forward to meeting other residents and getting involved. They especially like playing cards (bridge) and golfing.

Just a few days after Stan and Coralie moved in, Chuck and Connie joined the Woodcrest Villa community. For Chuck, it was a homecoming of sorts. He had grown up in Paradise, Lancaster County, and his mother, Arlene Ebersole, had been a resident in Robin Ridge for more than 20 years and then Mennonite Home for 1.5 years prior to her passing. It was actually because of the positive experiences his mother had at Mennonite Home Communities that Chuck and Connie chose Woodcrest Villa.

"We did extensive looking at CCRCs both in the area and down South," Connie explained. "And Woodcrest Villa always rose to the top....plus we also know that if we ever need additional care, we can get it at Mennonite Home—no worries."

*"I always knew in my heart I wanted to return to Lancaster!"*

Because Connie and Chuck are young and active, some of their friends questioned their decision to move to a "retirement community." But the Ebersoles both laugh at that comment.

"I know people who waited until they were older to move and the move itself was almost too much for them," Connie said. "We wanted to move in while we were young and could enjoy everything."

The Ebersoles will also be honest and say that even though they were very excited about moving and the layout and design of the new apartments in Pheasant Pointe, they did have one major concern—space! Fortunately they have been pleasantly surprised at how well everything is working out—particularly with the plentiful storage in the kitchen cabinets.

As they are settling into their new home, Connie and Chuck are eager to get involved in their new community. Connie enjoys reading, traveling, singing and making greeting cards (last year she made them for everyone on her Christmas card list!). Chuck also likes to travel, play tennis and go to the beach.

"I love knowing we can go away and not have to worry about a thing," Chuck shares. "Having seen Woodcrest Villa and Mennonite Home grow and develop over the past 25 years, I've been impressed. It's an organization that continues to improve itself along the way."

## Hedera & Morelle Off to a Great Start!



On the heels of the opening of Pheasant Pointe, Woodcrest Villa has embarked on a new chapter of villas in Hedera Place and Morelle Place. These 34 new villas take the best of previous villa styles and combine them with fresh perspectives to create two new villa designs—the Jefferson and the Lancaster. Both feature two bedrooms and two bathrooms as well as a sunroom, patio and garage (with dedicated storage). The Jefferson has both a one- and two-car garage option while the Lancaster, which is the larger of the two styles with a den, is only available with a one-car garage.

Since unveiling the plans this winter, 50% of the villas are pre-sold, with the first residents taking occupancy this fall. Construction is expected to be completed on all villas by mid-2020.

Response to the new villas has been fantastic—people are excited about the designs and selections in addition to becoming a part of the Woodcrest Villa family. To learn more, call Cathy at 717-390-4103.







## Keeping the Faith

### Volunteers Enable Residents to Attend Chapel Services

Almost every Sunday morning, you can find Mike Deppen and Margie Lentz at the Mennonite Home chapel, helping to transport residents to and from the worship service.

“It’s so fulfilling for me, just to know that I’m helping people get somewhere they want to go,” Mike says. Many of our healthcare and personal care residents are glad for the transportation to our weekly Sunday services at 10 a.m. So many have been active church members all their lives, and worship attendance is a central part of their faith experience here at the Mennonite Home. Many others watch the service broadcast over the in-house television.

Last year, when Mike was in-between jobs, he found he had extra time on his hands and explored volunteering options as a way to give back to the community. He heard of the need for Sunday morning transport

*“It’s so fulfilling for me, just to know that I’m helping people get to somewhere they want to go,” Mike says.*

volunteers at Mennonite Home and was happy to help. Even after starting a new full-time position, he wanted to stay on as a volunteer. Mike currently works as a graphic designer.

“The residents and staff are so appreciative of our time,” Mike comments.

Margie Lentz has been a part of the Mennonite Home family for a long time, as both of her parents were residents, and an aunt and uncle still reside here. Margie is employed full-time as a clerk

typist for the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation. She watched her father, Elmer Shertzler, who was a personal care resident, volunteer after worship for many years, collecting hymnals and bulletins, and felt called to take up the work after his death.

“It’s worth your time. You’ll get more out of it than you put into it,” she says. “It’s such a blessing to me.” Margie visits with the residents after worship, and has developed close relationships.

Margie and Mike are joined by Joann Ellis, a Woodcrest Villa resident who helps with transporting on the first Sunday of the month. Joann has been a volunteer with Mennonite Home for four years; she visits with residents as well as transports them. We are grateful to Margie, Mike and Joann. Their generous gift of their time really makes a difference in the lives of our residents.

#### DINING SERVICES

## Scholarship Winners Announced

Woodcrest Villa is pleased to announce the winners of our ninth Annual WCV Student Scholarship Awards. This award is given by resident donation to students who are employed in Dining Services at Woodcrest Villa. The program started in 2010 with 17 scholarships of \$400 each being awarded. More than \$229,400 of scholarship money has been awarded over the past 9 years. This year, 29 scholarships were presented in the amount of \$1,200 each to the following students:

**Aubry Adams**/Millersville University  
**Cassandra Aloisi**/Shippensburg University  
**Jackson Andrus**/Harrisburg Area Community College  
**Courtney Braas**/Harrisburg Area Community College  
**Nich Buchwalder**/Villanova University  
**Pornpana Chantarin**/Harrisburg Area Community College  
**Samantha Connelly**/Lock Haven University  
**Shanan Cook**/Harrisburg Area Community College  
**Ashley Deck**/Pennsylvania State University  
**Morgan Fazzini**/Cabrin University  
**Evan Hanzelman**/Millersville University  
**Gavin Hanzelman**/Temple University  
**Nicole Heth**/West Chester University of Pennsylvania  
**Madison High**/Temple University  
**Erin Hollis**/Harrisburg Area Community College

**Cody Howry**/YTI Career Institute  
**David Jachimowicz**/Millersville University  
**Kaylee Kong**/University of Delaware  
**Ivy Le**/Millersville University  
**Gabriela Mejia**/Millersville University  
**Victoria Mollitor**/Gwynedd Mercy University  
**Morgan Nafe**/Harrisburg Area Community College  
**Lauren Nissly**/Cornell University  
**Janelle Nolt**/Elizabethtown College  
**Katherine Pham**/Pennsylvania State University  
**Austin Santiago**/Pennsylvania State University  
**Megan Santiago**/Millersville University  
**Kylie Shreiner**/Pennsylvania College of Technology  
**Kirsten Williams**/Pennsylvania College of Health Sciences

The WCV Scholarship committee members include residents Ken Beard, Sally Douglass, Joan Nicholson and Susan Wolf; and Kris Hess, Development Assistant; Shaun Metzler, Dining Services Director; Elaine Mullineaux, Assistant Dining Services Director; Kim Peters, Development Coordinator; and Greg Pierce, Director of Development.



*Pictured are a few of the 29 scholarship recipients: (top left, left to right) Shanan Cook, Morgan Fazzini, Nicole Heth; (middle, left to right) Evan Hanzelman, Victoria Hess, Nick Buchwalder, Janelle Nolt; and (top right, left to right) Kathryn Pham, Megan Santiago, Lauren Nissley and Madison High.*



# WCV Therapy Clinic

Residents Love Convenient Access to Vital Services



**Tucked away inside two former apartments** in the Robin Ridge apartment wing is one of Woodcrest Villa’s greatest hidden treasures—our Outpatient Therapy Clinic. This clinic, which is exclusively for the use of Woodcrest Villa residents, puts preventive and follow-up therapy services within easy reach.

**Most people realize that therapy services** are offered at Mennonite Home for residents staying in rehabilitation care, healthcare and personal care. But what they may be happy to hear is that after they return home to Woodcrest Villa, they can continue their therapies with several of the same team members as well as other highly qualified therapists.

**Each year, the Woodcrest Villa team** sees about 100 different patients while the Mennonite Home, largely in part due to the care levels served, sees about 400.

**Besides the convenient location,** Karen Tomblin, Therapy Manager/SLP, notes that WCV therapists are very much in tune with resident needs. They work closely with Social Services and care about

residents deeply as they too are part of the Woodcrest Villa family.

**Karen is also quick to point out that residents can actually benefit from therapy services** prior to injury or illness. “Prevention is the key,” she states. “We can rehab someone after an illness or injury, but it is preferable to provide balance and strengthening to prevent injuries, if possible. Wellness is fostered by the development of individualized programs. Occupational therapy allows our residents to continue to participate in activities by adapting tasks or the environment. Speech therapy can offer compensation for cognitive deficits thus allowing residents to stay in their villas or apartments longer. We can also teach swallowing strategies that help reduce the risk of choking and other complications that can lead to unwanted hospital stays.”

**To receive treatment at the Clinic,** residents need a physician referral. Following an initial evaluation, therapists will then create an individualized plan of care that they share with the residents. As Karen states, “Our goal is to help

residents stay in their homes and age in place at Woodcrest Villa. At Mennonite Home, we try to help them return to their homes and doing the things that they love. If that is not possible, then we still do our best to enable them to achieve the highest level of functioning that they can.”

**The Therapy Clinic at Woodcrest Villa is open** Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Mennonite Home hours are Monday-Friday, 6 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

**In addition to Karen,** who oversees both locations, Woodcrest Villa team members include: Linda Pierce, PT; Christy Brubaker, PTA; Kendra Merrifield, OTR; Judi Milgram, SLP; Chelsea Hurst, Office Coordinator. Mennonite Home Staff includes: Rina Duran, PTA; Kendra Merrifield, OTR; Kerry Kreider, OTR; Laura Weaver, COTA; Judi Milgram, SLP; and Cecily Poindexter, Office Coordinator.

*(Top left) Christy Brubaker, PTA, encourages Don Gulliver while (top right) Linda Pierce, PT, shows Audrey Ackerman-Frey an exercise that promotes balance.*

# A Great Year, Thanks to Great People!

The fiscal year ending June 30, 2019 was a record year for fundraising at Mennonite Home Communities, with more than \$900,000 contributed!

Donors like you support us generously through the annual campaign, Golf Outing, memorial gifts and charitable gift annuities. These gifts usually total about \$500,000.

One blessing that contributed to the record-setting total was the decision of two former Woodcrest Villa residents who made significant gifts in their estate plans. One lovely woman gifted her entire IRA to non-profit organizations dear to her heart while providing for her family through other assets. Another gentleman used life insurance to provide for his family and gifted his entire estate to Mennonite Home Benevolent Care! A third donor lived at Mennonite Home and blessed us through her Donor Advised Fund.

Currently, five Woodcrest Villa families are in the process of placing Mennonite Home into their wills or estate plans. Although their backgrounds and circumstances are each different, all five families share a deep respect for the Benevolent Care program and the assistance it provides residents when they need it the most.

They want to do what they can to continue to provide Benevolent Care for others in the future.

*Our donors are motivated by their strong faith beliefs in the importance of caring for those in need.*

As you reflect upon those whose lives have been touched by Benevolent Care, and those who are led to support it, remember that your will can enable your legacy to live on. Perhaps you may even be encouraged to support Benevolent Care at Mennonite Home Communities because you realize that one of your friends/fellow residents may one day benefit from this tremendous resource.

Two themes underscore the tradition of Benevolent Care at Mennonite Home Communities. Our donors are motivated by their strong faith, which stresses the importance of caring for those in need. Donors also realize that when they give here, they know they are giving to friends.



## Mennonite Home Communities

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### Featured on the cover:

Each apartment in Pheasant Pointe features a balcony or a patio with lovely views of the beautifully landscaped grounds.

### SOARING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Connie Buckwalter, Jane Gamble, Kathleen Maule, Daniel Mortensen,  
Kim Peters, Greg Pierce, John Sauder

If you would like to receive information about **Residential Living at Woodcrest Villa**, call Cathy at 717.390.4103

If you would like to receive information about **Personal Care or Health Care** at Mennonite Home, call Dawn at 717.390.7979

If you wish to have your name removed from our mailing list, call Kris at 717.735.2647.

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