

soaring

A PUBLICATION OF MENNONITE HOME COMMUNITIES

*Fit & Fabulous!
Woodcrest Villa Residents
Find Fun Ways to Keep Active*





From triathlons to runs, walks and Cybercycle, Woodcrest Villa residents, family, friends and staff provide an inspiring example of having fun while keeping fit.

Fit & Fabulous

Woodcrest Villa Residents Do It All!

“Age is an issue of mind over matter. If you don’t mind, it doesn’t matter”— Mark Twain

Fitness comes in all shapes, sizes—and ages! Whether you are a daily lap swimmer or CyberCyclist or an annual senior games participant, each fitness goal is unique. Diversity and fun are keys as the Woodcrest Villa (WCV) Wellness Team encourages residents to create a fitness routine to stay active and reach goals. “It’s great to see the variety of fitness

levels of our residents, proving that age is just a number,” notes Kristin Manser, Wellness Manager.

Land classes that focus on strength and balance are very popular. According to Emily Newman, Wellness Specialist: “We often create a personal fitness routine for those who may be transitioning

from physical therapy. It’s fun to celebrate their fitness milestones along the way.” We offer various intensity level aquatic classes and also other fun activities like water volleyball says Aquatics Specialist Julie Aiello: “A number of residents are regular lap swimmers and aquatic classes are perfect for those who want to improve balance and strength.”

As a creative demonstration of community fitness, this September some WCV staff and residents teamed up to compete in a sprint triathlon near Philadelphia. Our CyberCyclists have traveled around the world in virtual miles, and the entire community was invited to walk or run the VIVA LA MILE during Active Aging Week in October.

A monthly 1-3 mile hike through Lancaster and neighboring counties is a highlight for some residents, and the WCV line dancers practice new routines weekly. Outdoor sports like bocce ball, corn hole, pickle ball and horseshoes each have set days scheduled on the wellness calendar.

Residents are keeping up with the grandkids and evolving with fitness technology. Many are using Fitbits and cell phone trackers to count steps, check heart rates and monitor sleep.

With their minds over matter, WCV residents know how to get up and go!

Residents are keeping up with the grandkids and evolving with fitness technology.

Scherer Helps Keep Residents Feeling Their Best



If it's Tuesday morning, chances are you will see Russ Scherer in the hallways of Mennonite Home (MH) transporting residents in wheelchairs to the Beauty Shop. Russ, who lives in Woodcrest Villa (WCV), has been a dedicated volunteer for the MH Beauty Shop every Tuesday for more than four years. He realized the need for volunteers when his wife was a resident at MH. A few months after her death in April 2015, Russ contacted Volunteer Services and offered to help.

Russ and Beth Graham, Beauty Shop Manager, have forged a real friendship since he started volunteering. Beth and her son have even watched the Long's Park 4th of July fireworks from Russ's villa a few times. After his shift, Beth and Russ usually have lunch together at the Creekside Café at MH. Beth describes Russ as an "awesome man" and a father figure. She really enjoys his sense of humor.

Russ and Beth Graham, Beauty Shop Manager, have forged a real friendship since he started volunteering.

Russ spent 20 years in the Navy and then worked for Brockway Glass Company, which later became Owens-Brockway, as a company pilot. He and his wife lived in DuBois, but moved to WCV when his wife began having health issues so they would be near her daughter. In addition to his wife, Russ has lost a son and grandson, and is grateful for his two daughters, two sons, a step-son and a step-daughter. He also has four grandchildren. In addition to volunteering weekly, Russ also bowls with the WCV group, works out at the gym three times a week and participates in several events in the annual Lancaster County Senior Games.

When Russ first started volunteering, he thought it would be something for him to do to keep busy; but, he has since realized that he really enjoys it and finds it to be fun. Transporting residents also fits in with his active lifestyle.

Thank you, Russ, for all you do!

Eslinger Joins Mennonite Home as New Nursing Home Administrator



Jennifer Eslinger, MHA, NHA

In October, Jennifer Eslinger, MHA, NHA, joined Mennonite Home as the new Nursing Home Administrator (NHA). An experienced healthcare executive, Eslinger previously served as Vice President of Health Center Operations at Meadowood Senior Living in Worcester and Executive Director at Conestoga View Nursing and Rehabilitation in Lancaster. She earned her BS in Health Care Administration from King's College in Wilkes-Barre and her MHA in Health Administration, Long-Term Care Certificate, from Pennsylvania State University. In addition to holding her NHA license, she also has her Personal Care Home Administrator (PCHA) license.

Mennonite Welcomes Two New Board Members

Two new members joined the Mennonite Home Communities Board of Directors this year. They are Rob Bomberger and Thomas Talbott. Bomberger is President of Benjamin Roberts Office Interiors and member of James Street Mennonite Church. Talbott is a Certified Financial Planner (CFP) and financial advisor and partner at Stewardship Advisors, LLC, in Mount Joy. He and his family are involved at Calvary Church. Welcome to both of these new board members!



Rob Bomberger



Thomas Talbott



The Great Pumpkin!

This October, several departments at Mennonite Home decorated artificial pumpkins as part of a contest. The creativity put a smile on the faces of many residents and visitors. The pumpkins were on display initially at Mennonite Home but then made a field trip to Woodcrest Villa, where they brightened the hallways during the Explore Retirement Living Open House.

2019 has been an exciting year at Mennonite Home Communities (MHC). We recently reached a milestone with 900 residents now residing at MHC. I enjoy watching residents actively engaged in many programs along with fitness activities. There is always something happening at MHC!

In September, we welcomed residents into Pheasant Pointe, our new 39-unit apartment building. Construction is underway with 34 new villas and in November, we welcomed our first new villa residents.

The team at Mennonite Home is passionate about delivering high quality care. In October, Newsweek rated Mennonite Home as the 2nd best Nursing Home (with 150+ beds) in Pennsylvania. This was a great recognition of the outstanding work our team does every day.



We were blessed with several significant estate gifts this year. We are grateful for those generous donors who assist us in continuing our mission of providing for residents who exhaust their resources.

I am grateful for every employee at MHC who is passionate about delivering excellent care and services to our residents. They along with our residents are what makes MHC a special place. Many residents volunteer a significant number of hours and bless those they interact with at both campuses.

Thanks to every person involved in fulfilling the mission of enriching the lives of residents, staff and the community.

**John D. Sauder, NHA
President**
Mennonite Home Communities



Mennonite Home Communities continues to expand and grow as we complete another year. We as a Board are grateful for all the staff and residents who help make our community thrive. We have welcomed new residents to the 39 Pheasant Pointe apartments and are excited about the rapid progress of the 34 Hedera Place and Morelle

Place villas. In fact, four families had moved into these new villas by mid-November!

Also, Mennonite Home was recognized by a national magazine with a high rating (2nd place) as a best Nursing Home in Pennsylvania (with 150+ beds). Many new residents have been added to our community as we are reaching a new census milestone. Today, 900 people call Mennonite Home Communities (both Woodcrest Villa and Mennonite Home) their home! It takes a great group of people to help us grow.

The Board is thankful for our staff who are dedicated to providing quality care and engaging activities. We are blessed by the many volunteers and gifts of time and money to help fellow residents. We are grateful for the many benevolent care gifts that help residents whose resources are exhausted. Thank you for the ways you give to others.

As we look to the future, the Board would appreciate your prayers for wisdom, as we navigate the changing healthcare industry. We are committed to fulfilling our mission of “Enriching the lives of our residents, staff and the community.” Thank you for your continued support.

With deep appreciation,
Roy Bomberger, Jr.
Board Chairperson



Pictured are the exteriors of a Lancaster (top) and Jefferson (bottom) villa in Hedera Place.

The Mennonite Home Statement of Operations for the year ending June 30, 2019

RESIDENT SERVICE REVENUE:

Gross billings for room, board and ancillary services	\$50,184,940
Amount written off for required contractual allowances and inability of some residents to pay	(6,419,814)
NET RESIDENT SERVICE REVENUE	43,765,126
Pennsylvania nursing home assessment	709,654
Net assets released from restrictions	44,200
Other revenue	453,597
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	44,972,577

OPERATING EXPENSES:

Salary, wages and outside services	19,443,020
Payroll taxes and employee benefits	5,428,751
Food, medical supplies and other expenses	10,956,494
Pennsylvania nursing home assessment	442,513
Depreciation and interest	10,418,963
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	46,689,741
OPERATING LOSS	(1,717,164)

OTHER INCOME:

Unrestricted contributions	780,836
Investment income (Realized and unrealized)	2,735,610
Change in fair value of interest rate swap agreements and loss on refinancing	(790,640)
REVENUE IN EXCESS OF EXPENSES	\$1,008,642

YOUR GIFTS MATTER:
Benevolent Care Donors

Mennonite Home Communities is committed to providing high-quality, loving care for our residents, regardless of their financial limitations. We use the phrase Benevolent Care to describe the gift of uncompensated care and the donations that support this care. Our Benevolent Care Policy assures residents the same high level of care, with complete confidentiality to protect their dignity.

DONATION PERIOD: JULY 1, 2018 TO JUNE 30, 2019

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YOUR GIFTS MATTER:
Benevolent Care Donors

Both individuals and churches donate to Benevolent Care. Corporations and foundations also provide support through Golf Outing Sponsorships, Viva la Mile Sponsorships and in-kind gifts such as food, snacks or drink. We rely upon these gifts to support more than 75 residents of Mennonite Home and several families at Woodcrest Villa.

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Good News Baptist Chapel
MH Congregation
New Danville Mennonite Church
Stumptown Mennonite Church
WCV Spiritual Life Congregation
Webster Bible Church

YOUR GIFTS MATTER:
1903 Legacy Society

The Board of Trustees established the 1903 Legacy Society (named for the year Mennonite Home Communities was founded) to celebrate the role of philanthropy and to thank our generous donors.

The 1903 Legacy Society recognizes donors for one or more of the following:

- Those who have given gifts and pledges totaling \$10,000 during their lifetimes
- Those who have made planned gifts
- Those who have designated a bequest to Mennonite Home Communities in their will, trust or retirement plan.

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John & Rose Sauder
Patricia Sawyer
Barbara Saylor
Laura Shaida
Marvin & Julie Shearer
Rich & Vi Shoemaker
John & Evelyn Sigman
Barbara Smith
Dorothy Mowery Smith
Patricia Smith
Alice Snyder
James & Carol Spicher
Darlene Stauffer
Dennis & Connie Stichter
Phyllis Stone
Susquehanna Valley EMS
James & Judy Thomas
David & Audrey Thompson
Roger & Blanche Trout
Donald & Mary Louise Wain
Rosalyn Ward
JR & D Warfel Foundation
Warfel Construction Company
Rose Ann Wassell
WCV Crafters
WCV Spiritual Life Congregation Offering
WCV The MarketPlace
Helen (Wickie) Weaver
Glenn & Lucy Weber
Mary Weirich
George & Pat Werner
Harry & Alma West
Williams Apothecary
Paul Wilson
Susan Wolf
Jay & Anita Wolgemuth
Melvin Zimmerman

MHC celebrates the generosity of the following New Members:

Anonymous - 1
Reba Buckwalter-Kreider
Patricia Burkhardt
Davcon Relocation Services
Robert Johnstone
Roger & Carol Kennett
Tom & Sandy Krantz
Kenneth Kreider
Vera Miller
Dean & Kim Peters
Patricia Sawyer
John & Evelyn Sigman
Roger & Blanche Trout
Rosalyn Ward
WCV Crafters

With sadness, MHC acknowledges the passing of the following Members:

Martha Anderman
Norma Aston
Theodora Cook
Jay Frey
Helen Keiper
Miriam Lefever
Nancy Martin
James Sabatino



**Indicates passed away*



Finance Veteran Retiring After 18 Years with MHC

Although he prefers to be behind-the-scenes, John Miller has made a visible impact on Mennonite Home Communities (MHC) throughout the past 18 years. As the Vice President of Finance, John led the way in promoting the fiscal stewardship that has allowed MHC to achieve a strong financial position. His financial savvy, integrity and deep commitment to MHC residents and staff will be greatly missed when he retires in late December 2019.

John joined MHC in 2001 after working for three years at Fairmount Homes in Ephrata. Previously, he worked 25 years for the accounting firm of Kuntz, Leshner, Siegrist and Martini. During his tenure there, he began as a bookkeeper and progressed to manager. At the same time, he also returned to school at York College and earned his degree, graduating in 1986, and also became a Certified Public Accountant and Charter Global Management Accountant.

John's leadership, financial acumen and conservative budget principles at MHC led to a strong balance sheet that is the envy of many similar organizations. This strength enabled MHC to obtain very favorable rates from our lending partners, further strengthening the organization. MHC has grown substantially during John's tenure, from total assets of \$97 million in 2001 to \$186 million in 2019. John's influence was affirmed each year when our accounting partner granted MHC a "clean" annual audit.

President and CEO John Sauder said he would miss John in many ways: "He brought superb focus to all aspects of operations at MHC. John developed an excellent budgeting process and worked closely with the Executive Team and Department Directors to ensure positive financial goals were attained. He has the ability to see the big picture and ascertain areas that need attention. At the same time, he brings great perspective to strategic discussions. John always had a wonderful heart and ensured we focused on residents and staff while also creating and maintaining a strong financial foundation for MHC."

Although John will miss his colleagues and the residents, he is looking forward to adventures with his wife Joanne (to whom he has been married for 50 years) and their three daughters and sons-in-law, son and 10 grandchildren (one grandson sadly passed away from cancer a few years ago).

Joanne and John are going on a cruise to Hawaii in March. When they return, John plans to spend more time fly fishing with his grandchildren. He also anticipates finding a part-time job because he has a hard time sitting at home.

On behalf of all the MHC residents and staff who benefitted from John's leadership throughout the years, we wish him well!

John Miller (front center) is looking forward to spending time with his extended family.

John Miller has made a visible impact on Mennonite Home Communities (MHC) throughout the past 18 years.

You Never Know!

Living in this great land of opportunity, we never know exactly how our lives might progress and our status improve. Roger and Carol Kennett have a fascinating story of their journey from humble beginnings to living at Woodcrest Villa.

Roger grew up in a warm, church-centered family of limited means. Roger remembers contracting hepatitis when his father was changing jobs and thus was without health care coverage. The entire community pulled together to help with medical expenses and to assure that this bright young man could continue his dream of a college education. Caring neighbors helped both Carol, another devout believer, and Roger to understand the importance of a supportive community. Carol was encouraged by caring neighbors to become involved in church at an early age. Roger and Carol both grew up learning the importance of a supportive community.

Roger and Carol met at Eastern Baptist College (now Eastern University). Roger received his PhD in Biochemical Sciences from Princeton University, and after two years of postdoctoral research at the University of CA, San Diego, he joined the Genetics faculty at Oxford University. Their first son was born in Princeton, and their other two sons were born in England during their 4 years there. They now have 7 grandchildren living in PA, IL, and CA.

Upon their return to the US, Roger joined the Human Genetics faculty at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. His research involved mapping human genes and studying the production of antibodies against tumor cells. He quickly became involved in the development of monoclonal antibodies and in helping many others learn how to produce them. If you see a drug ending in "mab", this is a monoclonal antibody. In fact, Roger has had prostate cancer for 28 years and has been taking an "mab" drug to inhibit the cancer from growing in his bones. Carol says: "What an amazing and gracious thing God has done."

Carol finished her PhD in multi-cultural education at Penn with a thesis on the challenges of inner city education. For this and other reasons, the Kennetts have understood how difficult life can be for those with little money and have sought ways to make a difference.

Roger and Carol are thankful for the resources the Lord has provided and for the ability to use these to help others. In retirement they give back by volunteering and supporting their church as well as their other missions. They look for ways where they feel their donations would be pleasing to God, such as giving to Benevolent Care at Mennonite Home Communities. Being thankful for the ways the Lord has blessed them over the years, they would like to be remembered as people who truly love God and also love their neighbors.



Mennonite Home Communities

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soaring

Featured on the cover: Cybercyclists include (left to right): Robert Smith, Phil Lynch, Mibby Novak, Mark Denlinger (seated), Russ Scherer, Ann Meachem, Anetta McKillips, Marvin Shearer and Gerry Bruce.

SOARING COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Connie Buckwalter, Daniel Mortensen, John Sauder, Kim Peters, Greg Pierce, Kathleen Maule, Jane Gamble

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.

Spreading Sunshine!

Thanks to Jerry Lawrence and Woodcrest Villa Flower Factory volunteers, floral arrangements appear on every corner for residents to enjoy. Jerry grows and gathers the flowers and the team arranges them in a beautiful variety of vases. Bouquets are also sold in the Marketplace store to benefit Benevolent Care. It's a labor of love we are all grateful for!

