

# THE VILLAGER

Winter 2009

News and information connecting friends, families and everyone at Homestead Village

## Become a Member of the Legacy Society with a Charitable Contribution to Homestead Village



A contribution to the Homestead Village Endowment Fund is an enduring legacy, allowing for the continuity of Homestead Village's mission for succeeding generations. The Endowment Fund assures that no resident will be asked to leave because of inability to pay, providing a measure of financial security, especially important in times of economic uncertainty. Income from a well-managed fund can provide for important additional programs like staff development and training, or for further facility upgrades.

Those who donate \$5,000 or more to the Endowment Fund become members of the Legacy Society, and are recognized at the Society's annual dinner, this year being held in March, with guest speaker Dr. Freeman M. Chakara, a licensed clinical psychologist, who founded Providence Behavioral Health. Dr. Chakara works with clients from children to the elderly assessing relationships between the brain and its functions.

Names of Legacy Society members are inscribed on the Tree of Life, a sculpture of brass and wood, prominently displayed outside the Chapel entrance. A list of current members is included in this issue.

Residents, family and friends have contributed to the Endowment Fund, sometimes as a way to recognize the level of care received, to ensure that the good work of Homestead Village continues, to provide for new services or simply to make a difference by supporting Homestead Village. Members of the Legacy Society acknowledge the satisfaction they have received in knowing that their contribution will make a difference in the lives of both current and future residents.

There are many creative ways in which contributions can be made to the Endowment Fund, from gift annuities, to memorial gifts, charitable remainder trusts, to bequests and life insurance policies. With an initial pledge, payments may be made over five years.

To discuss avenues for making a tax-deductible contribution to Homestead Village that best suits your financial situation, contact Susan Broomell, planned giving consultant, at 717-397-4831, ext. 133.

### Homestead Harmony Chorale

The Harmony Chorale, under the direction of Phyllis Burkholder, gave five concerts throughout the holiday season, including adding to the festivities of Homestead Village's annual tree-trimming. Santa made a surprise appearance, presenting 50 new concert music folders to the Chorale, courtesy of the Homestead Village Auxiliary. In an active schedule, the Chorale also gave concerts at Homestead Village for the Apostles Center for Care and Westvue, and in the community for the Mennonite Home Health Center, the Lancaster Rehab Center and the Lancaster General Hospital Health Campus, generously adding to the beautiful sounds of the season.



The Chorale, directed by Phyllis Burkholder, is pictured from above during the holiday concert that it presented at the Lancaster General Hospital Health Campus.

More about Holidays at Homestead Village on page 4.

## Homestead Village Tobacco Free



Effective January 1, Homestead Village became a tobacco-free community. No tobacco use is permitted in the apartment building, the administrative office area, the dining rooms and lobbies, Westvue, the Apostles Center for Care, the barn facilities, or the surrounding streets and grounds.

## January Happenings

### Out-to-Lunch

A favorite off-campus excursion is "out-to-lunch" when residents enjoy the camaraderie of sharing a meal at an area restaurant. Trying a new Lancaster eatery are (l. to r.) Jean Eckman,



Ginny and Dick Godfrey, Connie Reilly, Henry Frailey (standing), Joe Reilly, Charles Blanken (standing), Jane and Bill Higgs, Betty Bartholomew, and Nancy Blanken.

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## From the President

# Importance of Governance in Retirement Communities

By Douglas V. Motter

**Our residents  
have a strong voice  
in the governance  
of the organization.**

An often overlooked aspect of choosing a retirement community is the resident's role in governance. How do the residents as a whole or individually have a voice in communicating their concerns and opinions to the governing body? Every retirement community is different. Many, due to the size of the organization, have governing boards that are far removed from the residents. Many communities do not permit residents to serve on their governing board, due to the perceived conflict of interest. Each organization handles resident access to the governing body differently.

At Homestead Village we have worked diligently for many years to create a governing model that gives our residents—our most important stakeholders—a strong voice in the governance of the organization.

First and most importantly, our bylaws allow up to three residents to serve on our fifteen member, volunteer board of directors. Since first allowing residents to serve on the board in 2001, Homestead Village has seated the maximum number of residents permitted by the bylaws.

Second, we encourage our residents to nominate candidates for all vacant board seats. Since implementing this innovation several years ago, most new board members have been recommended by our residents.

Third, the Homestead Village board maintains a Resident/Board Liaison Committee that meets quarterly to hear resident issues and concerns.

Fourth, the board holds an annual open meeting that all residents are invited to attend. The board reports on the performance of the organization and seeks feedback from all residents.

Fifth, as the official representative of the board, Homestead Village's president attends Residents Council and Residents Association meetings in order to understand current issues and address them as quickly as possible. *Coffees with the President* are held monthly and serve as an informal communication tool to improve the quality of services and address issues in a timely manner.

Sixth, residents are always free to contact any board member about an issue or concern, but the board member will ask whether all normal channels for resolution have been exhausted prior to such contact. It is important to realize that the function of a non-profit board is not to manage the organization. Non-profit boards are charged with three critical duties:

1. Provide professional and impartial oversight of a fiscal and ethical nature.
2. Ensure that the organization has a strategic direction for future success.
3. Hire and hold accountable the professional management team charged with effectively executing the mission of the organization.

With so many initiatives in place, Homestead Village is in the forefront of providing our residents both individually and collectively a clear voice in the governance of the organization.



## At Home at Homestead

# Miller Welcomes Warmth of Friends and Convenient Location

For Norman Miller, a move to Homestead Village meant a move to a convenient location, a move to be near good friends and a move offering many meaningful activities. He recalls considering where to move with his late wife, Betty, saying, "A lot of people we knew lived at Homestead, and we knew Al Alspach, who was one of the founders, as well as others

involved in Homestead's activities. Although we visited other places, we wanted to stay close to home."

And eight years later, Miller continues to enjoy his Villa home and is involved in a wide variety of activities. He has been a faithful deliverer of the mail to his Villa neighbors each Friday for seven years, though he has temporarily relinquished the job.

An outdoors enthusiast, he enjoys walks through the neighborhood, and also keeps in shape by using the fitness center and attending exercise classes regularly. Active in Homestead Day festivities, Norman is a volunteer driver and takes full advantage of the Homestead Village library.

Miller has called Lancaster home since he moved here in 1953 to work as a chemist for Armstrong World Industries, retiring in 1986 as general manager of chemistry research. He says, simply, "It worked out well."

It was at Armstrong that he met his late wife, who worked as an assistant librarian in the research center. When they were married they lived near the Armstrong facility on Columbia Avenue, then moved to Manheim Township where they raised their two daughters.

Miller grew up in the coal region near Hazleton, an area filled with immigrants of many nationalities who came specifically to work in the mines. Miller considers himself lucky, calling his growing up years "interesting."

His father owned a textile plant, but died at the age of 32 when Miller was just four years old, with a six-year-old brother and a two-week-old sister. While there was never much money, Miller

recalls, "We always seemed to have enough." The family sold the factory and their house was paid for, though they needed to pay school taxes each year.

He remembers that "you did whatever you could to make money." He recalled going into the nearby mountains to pick blueberries which they would sell door-to-door for nine cents a quart. His family had a garden, and the children had newspaper routes.

With his mother's constant encouragement to go to college, he earned money working at Bethlehem Steel, and after a great deal of research contacted the University of Iowa because of its chemistry program. After two years, his studies were interrupted when he returned home to earn more money; he was subsequently drafted by his local draft board. After assignments with the U.S. Army throughout the United States, Miller went to Italy, arriving just as Rome fell. He moved north to the Brenner Pass, then returned to Rome when the war ended. While awaiting transport back to the U.S., he had time to enjoy the art and architectural wonders of Rome.

Finishing his studies at Iowa on the GI Bill, Miller then accepted an assistantship at the University of Pennsylvania and earned his Master's and Ph.D. in organic chemistry, after which he accepted the position at Armstrong.

Miller continues to have a great love of fishing, learning as a child, and learning to fly fish at 12. "I have a lot of good memories. I like being outside, and I like seeing a fish rise to a fly. I get a kick out of catching a few," he says. He belonged to clubs in Cumberland and Dauphin Counties, and worked with them in stocking streams. He also fished throughout the west—Wyoming, Montana, Oregon, Washington, Canada and Alaska, and learned to fish for salmon while stationed on the west coast in the Army.

He also enjoyed hunting—small game and deer in Pennsylvania, and bigger game in Wyoming, Montana, Canada and Alaska. While he no longer hunts, he happily accepts venison from friends—"It's good, lean meat."

In his retirement he has enjoyed traveling, visiting six foreign countries and all 50 states. His married daughters live in Georgia and Maryland, and he has three grandchildren. He is a member of St. James Episcopal Church in Lancaster. And he savors his comfortable life among friends at Homestead Village.

# A Special Thank You!

## Endowment – 2008 Contributors

John Jr. and Mary Archer  
 Thomas and Margaret Atkins  
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 Harold Leroy Godshall  
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 Terry and Pam Groft  
 Charlotte Harlan  
 Polly Healy (Estate for Jane Brown)  
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 Charles and Nancy Hungerford  
 Leigh and Ellie Kendall

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## In Memory of the following;

Ann Louise Bachman  
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 Ruth Kern

## In Honor of the following:

Amelia Bordeaux  
 Apostles Center for Care Staff  
 Paul and Catherine Gregory

Henry and Margaret Koch  
 Len and Elizabeth Kolodny  
 Thomas and Nancy Loane  
 Jane Longwell  
 James Martin  
 McCurdy Family (Louise, Lyneen,  
 Bob and Jim)  
 Louise McCurdy  
 Robert and Ann Mickey  
 George Miller Family  
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The Board of Directors, staff and residents extend a heartfelt thank you to those generous supporters who contributed to the Homestead Village Endowment Fund throughout 2008. These gifts are an enduring legacy, allowing Homestead to continue to provide financial security to all those we serve. Your thoughtfulness is deeply appreciated. Thank you!

## Homestead Village Legacy Society – 2008

Elizabeth H. Appel  
 Janet B. Alspach –  
*In Memory of Alfred C. Alspach  
 and In Honor of George D. Alspach*  
 Mary Ellen Bachman  
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 Harry and Kathleen Radcliffe  
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 Viola Shenk  
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 Elsie W. Smuck  
 Dottie Stevenson  
 Martha Stoner  
 Arthur Webster  
 Virginia Webster  
 Gwen Weisman –  
*In Memory of Louis Weisman, Esq.*  
 John Whallon –  
*In Memory of Muriel Whallon*  
 Carla Williams

## On The Road with Homestead Village...

Reserve these dates for future trips:

### Enjoy Autumn in the Poconos, October 20–22

It's never too soon to plan to enjoy autumn at its best in the beautiful Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania. With stops along the way on the first day, the group will have dinner and stay at the beautiful Pocono Manor.

Visits on the second day include Eckley Miners Village, Cooper's Seafood, Steamtown Historic Site, and free time at Pocono Manor, topped by a delicious evening meal at Stroudmoore Country Inn.

The trip will conclude with a visit to the Delaware Water Gap Trolley, lunch at the Sycamore Grill and a 2 p.m. departure for Lancaster.

Cost is \$479 for single; \$439 for double occupancy. Reservations must be made by August 19.



### Christmas at Colonial Williamsburg, December 8–10

This trip back in history includes not only beautiful Colonial Williamsburg, but a stop at Mt. Vernon, home of George Washington. After a tour and lunch at Mt. Vernon, the trip will proceed to Colonial Williamsburg where you'll be staying at the Woodlands Inn. A concert at the House of Burgesses will conclude the first day.



On the second day there will be a guided tour of Colonial Williamsburg, lunch at King's Arms Restaurant, free time and dinner on your own. The evening will conclude with the illumination of the Capitol Building. Day three will include free time in Colonial Williamsburg, Crystal Carols at the Kimball Theater and lunch, after which the group will return to Lancaster.

Cost is \$575 for single; \$445 for double. Reservations must be made by October 7.

# Holidays at Homestead Village Marked with Generosity

## "Giving Trees"

In the spirit of the season, residents generously donated hats, scarves, mittens and gloves which were hung on "giving trees" located in the Westvue Lobby, the Apostles Center for Care and the Administrative Lobby. Names of donors were added to snowflakes which also adorned the trees. More than 120 items were given to the Water Street Rescue Mission.



## Operation Christmas Child

Residents filled 56 beautifully decorated shoe boxes with toys, school supplies, hygiene items, clothing and a variety of other gifts as part of Operation Christmas Child. Boxes were first collected, then decorated by the arts and crafts group and distributed to residents at a program presented by Operation Christmas Child volunteers. Homestead's boxes were added to the more than 5,000 boxes collected throughout the County, and sent to India through Samaritan's Purse which has sent over 61 million boxes to 141 countries since the program's inception in 1993. A commemorative ornament was given to Homestead to acknowledge the contributions.



## Grocery Shopping Receipts

Fifty-two turkeys were donated to the Lancaster County Food Bank as a result of the generosity of residents who turned in the receipts from Stauffers of Kissel Hill from their grocery shopping.

## Bill Higgs Reviews *Thunder Below!*

In February, Homestead residents were treated to a review of *Thunder Below!*, a firsthand account, by Admiral Eugene Fluckey, of the exploits of the submarine USS "Barb" in the WWII naval war against Japan. Reviewed by Villa resident and Homestead board member Bill Higgs, who himself was a submariner in WWII, the book is full of details about life on a submarine, providing insight into the ingenuity and courage that revolutionized submarine warfare. Higgs is shown here on left with Bill Mehler, book review coordinator, and Peddie Bliss, who loaned reference books.



## Residents Cheer on Steelers for the Win!



Paul Gregory takes in the game on the Café big screen TV.

Football fans gathered for the 43rd Super Bowl and watched the excitement as the Pittsburgh Steelers beat the Arizona Cardinals 27-23, after taking it to the final seconds. With a black and gold theme and plenty of good food, this year's Super Bowl Party proved to be exciting for fans of both teams.



Left to right: Dorothy Stevenson, Villa Court resident; Lisa Eshleman, staff; and Jean Haberle, Cottage resident, share the fun at the Super Bowl Party.

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# HEARTS & FLOWERS ANNUAL PLANT SALE



Sponsored by the Homestead Village Auxiliary

**Saturday, May 2, 2009**

10 a.m. until 12 Noon

Orders will be taken until **April 20, 2009**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**GERANIUMS** ..... Red \_\_\_\_\_ Pink \_\_\_\_\_ Fuchsia \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_

Total Geraniums \_\_\_\_\_ x 2.75 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### 4 PACK ANNUALS

**IMPATIENS** ..... Red \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_  
Purple \_\_\_\_\_ Pink \_\_\_\_\_

**BEGONIA** ..... Pink \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_

**VINCA** ..... Pink \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_  
Purple \_\_\_\_\_

**MARIGOLD** ..... Yellow \_\_\_\_\_ Orange \_\_\_\_\_

Total of 4 pack of Annuals \_\_\_\_\_ x \$1.60 pack = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total for GERANIUMS + 4 packs \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Add 6% PA sales tax \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL AMOUNT DUE** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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*Homestead Village, Inc., an independent, ecumenical, non-profit, retirement community provides a quality continuum of care, designed to enhance the personal independence and dignity of all those we serve, which contributes to the wholeness of body, mind and spirit.*

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

www.homesteadvillage.org

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