

THE VILLAGER

Winter 2010

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

HOMESTEAD VILLAGE
ENHANCED SENIOR LIVING

Master Plan Update

Homestead Begins Renovation of Apostles Center for Care

While the 2009 economic situation caused Homestead Village's Board of Directors to re-evaluate its master plan, construction is set to begin this spring on a major renovation of the Apostles Center for Care.

Douglas Motter, Homestead Village president, said, "The Board carefully evaluated the master plan, and prudently chose to focus on its health care portion."

He noted that a drop in housing values and an unwillingness of banks to lend money both contributed to the re-thinking of the long-term financial implications for the planned construction of a new skilled nursing center. Motter said that although the Board was reluctant to take on the large amount of debt needed to build new, funds already raised through the current Capital Campaign will finance a significant portion of the renovation project.

The revised plans include renovating the existing Apostles Center for Care and Westvue Personal Care wing into four home-like environments, with a total of 30 private rooms and 15 semiprivate rooms. Of the three skilled nursing households, two will provide standard nursing care and rehabilitation and one will provide specialized memory-support nursing care. The fourth will provide memory support at the personal care level. Thirty-six traditional nursing residents and 24 memory support residents will reside in the new households.

John O. Yoder III, AIA, NCARB, principal with Cornerstone Design-Architects of Lancaster, is designing the renovation using the most up-to-date thinking about health care facilities.

The renovation will mark a culmination of the move to the household concept that was introduced three years ago. In the households, residents will enjoy a more home-like atmosphere with comfortable



Architect's drawing of two skilled nursing households. Image and design by Cornerstone Design-Architects.

living and dining spaces near their rooms, and kitchens for meals prepared by dining service employees.

Household team nursing has already been implemented, creating a person-centered focus, moving away from an institutional mindset. The renovation will allow caregivers to care for fewer residents, giving them time for more quality care and activities.

Another key to the master plan is the addition of more than 50 apartments. Motter noted that supportive services, already available to current apartment residents, will extend to the new apartment wing.

The renovation is poised to begin as early in spring as all the appropriate reviews have been completed. Motter noted, "Benefits of the renovation will be immediate to residents. It will be a complete transformation."

Certified Nursing Assistant Training for Leadership Team Brings Increased Flexibility to Scheduling

It's not surprising that Homestead Village President Douglas Motter demonstrates compassion every day: that would be expected from a CEO of an organization that is dedicated to providing quality care for its residents.



Douglas Motter addresses his classmates during the graduation ceremony of the Certified Nursing Assistant program which he recently completed.

What may be surprising, however, is that Motter has completed a three-week Certified Nursing Assistant training program which qualifies him to provide care in Homestead's Apostles Center skilled nursing home.

Motter was the first of his leadership team to take the training, leading by example—his ongoing philosophy. The certification of the leadership team is one of the interventions in place to reduce the need for expensive temporary nurses in the health care unit.

It all comes down to providing the best possible care, Motter explained. "Having our leadership team trained to provide hands-on care provides our

residents with consistency when there is a break in the schedule. Being intimately familiar with the residents, the personnel and the schedule make it possible for us to always provide exceptional care within our

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Happenings at Homestead

The Printed Word

Residents were treated to a history lesson in printing when they visited the Heritage Center Museum in February, enjoying a demonstration of a 1920's-era print shop as part of "The Printed Word" exhibit. They also visited Lancaster Newspaper offices, and were given an insider's introduction to the workings of the newsroom by Barbara Hough Roda, managing editor of the *Sunday News* and daughter of residents Melvin and Marian Hough. Villa resident Fred Bush, who was wire editor for the *New Era* from 1962 to 1991, hosted the day-long tour, adding his own insights. To top off the informative morning, residents enjoyed lunch at The Pressroom, located in the historic Steinman Hardware Building.



Pictured (left to right) are former Lancaster Newspapers employees Jack Silknetter, Fred Bush, Betty Gehman, and Noel Dorwart.

January Art Show Featured Mews

Homestead's monthly art shows in the Commons bring residents displays of beautiful art, including the opportunity to purchase something unique. Mews resident and artist Harry McCandless organizes the "Artist of the Month" shows to offer variety, highlighting both Homestead residents and local artists with the Lancaster County Art Association. The January exhibit featured photographs by McCandless with "Mews Views" taken over several years. Sales receipts from that show benefited Homestead's Capital Campaign. February's exhibit was by Chad Buffington, York County, featuring his realistic watercolors of buildings and portraits. A small portion



Harry McCandless has photographed the Mews over several years and in all seasons.

of Art Association exhibit sales is given back to the Association. An opening reception for each new exhibit allows residents the opportunity to interact with artists while previewing beautiful art.



A family tree quilt features photos and other historical references to Dolly and Arch's family background.

At Home at Homestead Dolly and Arch Cross: Involved and Leading

Cottage residents Arch and Dolly Cross are familiar figures around the Homestead Campus. Arch, a retired Postal Service employee, can be found delivering mail to his neighbors in the cottages at least one day a week. Dolly and Arch both serve on the activities committee, and support its work by taking advantage of the many social and educational opportunities that are offered. Arch, very much the people person, often serves as host on local bus trips.

They moved to Homestead Village over three years ago after living for twelve years in a 55 and older community in Montgomery County.

While they loved their neighbors and their home, they realized the practicality of living where further care was available should they need it. They looked at retirement homes in Florida and other places in the East, but when they visited Homestead Village, they knew they wanted to be here. While on a waiting list, they visited every open house, getting to know residents, so when a cottage became available they continued their established friendships and developed new ones.

"It is very comfortable here," Dolly says. "Sometimes we think we're dreaming." She noted that the employees are all very considerate, with Arch adding, "They go out of their way to assist you."

As a retired mail carrier, Arch is delighted to meet his neighbors by delivering mail. "I love my work, and I love my people," he says. He retired in 1994 after nearly 40 years with the Postal Service, including actively working for the letter carriers union as secretary-treasurer. Dolly retired from the Upper Moreland School District where she worked in the administration offices for 26 years.

Enthusiastic travelers, they've gone "up and down" the East Coast for years, getting to know it very well. They have also ventured further afield, to Nova Scotia and a special trip to the Passion Play in Germany, which included visits to Austria, Belgium, and Holland.

Both gregarious, they enjoy being part of a caring community, and were thrilled when a new neighbor hosted a neighborhood get-together as soon as they moved in. The tradition continues, and the Crosses now host a Christmas gathering. Active in St. Edwards Episcopal Church, Dolly serves on the Altar Guild and Arch is an usher.

They meet with a group of residents over coffee each Friday "to solve the problems of the world." Dolly says, "It is all a lot of fun." Since they both love to eat, they are always ready to take advantage of trips to restaurants. Arch is in a men's breakfast group, and Dolly says some women recently decided they should also have a breakfast gathering.

With two daughters, one in Hanover and one in Willow Street, the Crosses are delighted with their proximity. They have a granddaughter who graduated from Elizabethtown College and a grandson who attends Penn School of Technology and will graduate in May.

Married in 1957, Arch and Dolly grew up within five blocks of each other, attending schools and church together in the Abington area. Drafted into the Army, Arch attended supply school and spent a year in Bordeaux, France, helping supply the troops in Germany and Europe. Dolly was there for part of the time, and took the first commercial jet plane when she returned to the United States.

With Arch enjoying "puttering" in the yard, and Dolly busy with reading, working on the computer, and using email, the Crosses are glad to be a part of the caring Homestead Village community.

With gratitude . . .

2009 Homestead Village Endowment Fund Contributors

The entire Homestead Village family extends gratitude to those listed below for their generous contributions to the Endowment Fund during the 2009 calendar year. Because of them, Homestead Village is able to continue its mission and fulfill its promise to care for residents regardless of their ability to pay from their own resources. Sincere thanks is extended to the following contributors:

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Capital Campaign

Contributors to the Capital Campaign, "Leading the Way in Comfort and Care", have demonstrated their commitment to a new vision for nursing care at Homestead Village. To date, the campaign has raised over \$2 million of its \$4 million goal toward the cost of major renovation planned for the Apostles Center for Care (see article on page 1).

Please consider joining the list of contributors and becoming part of dramatically improving the environment in which nursing care at Homestead Village is provided. Gifts of all sizes are needed and can be made in a variety of forms. Numerous naming opportunities are available. Please contact the Office of the President at 717-397-4831, extension 133, for more information.

Homestead Village acknowledges with sincere gratitude the following contributors to the Capital Campaign since it began in 2008.

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Auxiliary contributes to in-house TV upgrade



Members of the Homestead Village Auxiliary Board present a check to Susan Doyle, Homestead Village Director of Marketing, to be used toward a future upgrade of the in-house television network. From left are: Jane Schwanhausser, Zell Rich, Irene Reno, Sally Wise, Jean Balderston, Bill Bourke, Nancy Hungerford,



Susan Doyle,
Gurley Manners,
Bonnie Carbaugh,
Marty Holmes,
Dawn Johnston.

Armstrong Retirees Gather for Fellowship and Learning

For its 150th Anniversary, film crew records memories

A special breakfast for former Armstrong employees, their spouses, and widows brought residents together for a morning of good food and a fascinating program about Cameron Hawley, an Armstrong employee who wrote four novels, two of which became bestsellers and movies.

C. Eugene ("Gene") Moore, who retired from Armstrong in 1994 as director of public relations, emceed the event. William Mehler, Jr., Homestead resident and author of a history of Armstrong, *Let the Buyer Have Faith*, worked for Hawley and brought legendary stories of the man who was employed by Armstrong for 24 years.



Gene Moore served as master of ceremonies for the Armstrong retirees breakfast held in January.

Mehler retired as an Armstrong executive in 1988.

Armstrong is celebrating its 150th anniversary, and special guests were Beth Riley, vice president for corporate communications, investor relations and diversity, and Jennifer Johnson, senior manager for corporate communications. An Armstrong film crew recorded Mehler's presentation as well as remembrances of others who wished to relate their memories of work at Armstrong.

WGAL-TV also attended and aired a segment on its noonday news.

Hawley's *Executive Suite* and *Cash McCall* were both made into successful movies, but it was *Executive Suite* that created a guessing game among readers to try to identify which characters were real people.



Enjoying the Armstrong retirees breakfast were: (seated left to right) Virginia Mehler and Jan Moore; (standing left to right) William Mehler, Jr., Jennifer Johnson, and Beth Riley.

This breakfast is one of a series that has been held, bringing together residents who share similar work experiences.

Training continued from page 1)

health care unit." He added that this level of care also keeps the leadership team in tune with both residents and staff, improving staff morale. He said he finds the experience "rewarding."

This is another step in Homestead Village's move to implement a "household" model in its health care program, giving more flexibility and assuring the more person-centered care that is the foundation of the culture change. Staff is implementing the philosophy in its current facility and the concept will be fully in place when construction on the new health center is complete (see related article, front page).

"Leading the Way in Comfort and Care" is the theme of a Capital Campaign raising funds for the renovation, and Motter's certification and leadership underscores the message.

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