



UNITED METHODIST HOMES

Seasons

A NEWSLETTER FOR STAFF, RESIDENTS & FRIENDS OF UNITED METHODIST HOMES

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skilled nursing, short-term rehabilitation*

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Independent living (HUD-subsidized)

Hilltop Campus, Johnson City, NY
(607) 798-7818
*Independent living, adult care, assisted living,
skilled nursing, short-term rehabilitation*

Tunkhannock Campus, Tunkhannock, PA
(570) 836-2983
Personal care

Wesley Village Campus, Pittston, PA
(570) 655-2891
*Independent living, personal care, skilled nursing,
short-term rehabilitation*

How Long-Term Care Admissions Works

How did Sophia on *Golden Girls* always start her stories? Ah, yes. Picture it – America, 2011. It's a Friday afternoon, your elderly, widowed dad has been in the hospital for a week following a stroke, and the hospital discharge planner is talking with you and your three siblings about his discharge, scheduled for tomorrow. It's clear to everyone that Dad can't safely return to his home alone. You're the only adult child who lives in the area, and your two-story house with no first-floor bathroom or bedroom won't work either. What happens now?

Maybe you've been here. Maybe you know someone else who has. Maybe you're living in fear of the day you're one of those adult children, or the elderly person in the hospital bed. In an effort to remove some of the anxiety from the long-term care admissions process, admissions staff from all four United Methodist Homes campuses are pleased to share useful information about things to do, details to know ahead of time and how to conduct a long-term care search in advance or under a time crunch.

Admission Ahead of Time

Looking into your options for adult/personal care, assisted living or skilled nursing care ahead of time can make things easier.

Make the rounds.

Since you're not in a rush, explore all your options: Research online, make phone calls, request literature. If you know the geographic area you prefer, take tours of the senior living options available, considering all the organizations – from single level of care options to continuing care retirement communities that offer independent living through skilled nursing. If you're far away from your target search area, take advantage of the virtual tours and photo galleries offered

on the websites of many organizations, United Methodist Homes included.

Ask questions.

While you're making visits, ask about costs for various levels of care and what that price includes, wait time to get into a unit when you're ready, how transitioning to a higher level of care works when and if it becomes necessary, and any other questions you have. Be sure to ask about the amenities each community offers, such as a wellness center, café, bank branch, beauty/barber shop, on-site physician and more.

Organize your paperwork.

Get your documentation ducks in a row ahead of time – locate insurance paperwork, military separation papers, trust documents and any other legal paperwork. United Methodist Homes offers a free booklet called "For My Family" that helps you organize your pertinent legal and financial information into one convenient repository. (To obtain a copy, call the Corporate Office at 607-775-6400, ext. 288.)

Get on a waiting list.

If you have a clear idea of where you'd like to live, you can complete your application and, if you're financially approved, be added to the waiting list. This puts you in line for a unit as space becomes available.

Admission in a Time Crunch

Some things you just can't anticipate – an unexpected stroke or fall can throw off the best-laid senior living plans. So what's the approach if you have to make important decisions about adult/personal care, assisted living or skilled nursing care in a hurry?

Ask for help.

Most of us don't have expertise in long-term care, so in an emergency, many



GUEST EDITORIAL

Kandyce Getty, Family Member

The long-term care admissions process can be emotional and worrisome. I recently went through it myself, and would like

to share my story in the hope that it may inspire others fearful of taking the next step in the long-term care journey.

Two years ago, my younger sister – in her late 50s – was diagnosed with advanced dementia. She was able to live with our mother – in her late 80s – but my sister further declined and my mom developed loss of hearing and eyesight, making this arrangement unfeasible long-term. Frightened and overwhelmed, I began the search for a safe home for them, sure I would never find a place to meet my high expectations.

I looked at every long-term care option in the area. Friends, colleagues and my

attorney told me that United Methodist Homes was highly regarded and had the multiple levels of care my mom and sister would need. My initial contact with adult care admissions coordinator Sharon Hauver was comforting. She spent a great deal of time answering questions and provided me with a full packet of information. I took a comprehensive tour soon after, and determined that United Methodist Homes was my first and only choice because of the obvious care and nurturing provided by staff.

My mother and sister have entirely different medical concerns as well as financial circumstances, which I thought would make applying difficult, but the process was seamless. I could not have asked for more in terms of support, guidance and concern. Both my loved ones were accepted for admission at the Hilltop Campus, my mom in assisted living and my sister in adult care in the SUN (Sensitivity, Un-

derstanding and Nurturing) Unit, which specializes in dementia care.

On move-in day, there were many eager people to help us and the staff welcomed my mom and sister as if they were already part of the Hilltop family. The staff on the SUN Unit have worked hard to help my sister adjust and are going beyond anything I could expect. My mom is elated with her room, the staff and the love and kindness she is experiencing. Our family feels blessed that our loved ones are safe and working toward a full adjustment.

I will be eternally grateful to the wonderful folks at Hilltop for the love, support and kindness they showed to me and, more importantly, to my mom and sister.

Getty is retired from a special-education teaching career in the Windsor (NY) Central School District. She lives in Vestal.

Around The Block

A series featuring our amazing residents

Our "Around the Block" series profiles United Methodist Homes residents who explain what their lives have been like, what their big adventures have been, how they've made a difference, and how they want to be remembered.

Emil Rauch Hilltop Manor West, Hilltop Campus

Born in the town of Romerstadt, in the Moravia region of Czechoslovakia, Emil Rauch came to America twice – the first time as a POW and later of his own free will.

When Nazi Germany occupied Czechoslovakia during the annexation of the Sudetenland in 1939, Rauch had just three semesters of university under his belt, and figured he would get his now-mandatory service in the German army out of the way. Hindsight is 20/20: He says, "That was the wrong decision – I ended up serving in the German army during World War II." Rauch spent much of his active service in Russia, but by the time the Normandy invasion rolled around he was an officer in a motorized

reconnaissance unit in France. He was captured not long after D-Day, spending his first few months as a prisoner of war at a camp in England. He was then transported to the United States, where he was interned for the remainder of the war at POW camps in Arkansas and Idaho. (Although most Americans know that Japanese-Americans on the west coast were interned on American soil during the war, many of us are less familiar with the fact that more than 400,000 German, Italian and Austrian POWs were held in the United States. There were three primary reasons for bringing POWs to the US: lack of available space to house them overseas, the difficulty of importing food to feed prisoners in Europe, and leverage to ensure the return of American POWs in Europe at the end of the war.)

When the war ended in 1945, Rauch was repatriated to Germany. With nowhere to go, he accepted the invitation of a friend from POW camp to return home with him. Says Rauch, "I hadn't finished college, so I had no skills. I was doing jobs like paving US Army vehicle parking lots." Fortunately for Rauch, the young German woman managing the office that handled affairs for families of American servicemen (who were flooding into Allied-occupied Germany) needed help. She hired Rauch as an assistant. Just a few weeks later, he asked her on a date, and

they were married six months later. Rauch and his new wife, Erika, moved to her hometown of Weinheim, near Heidelberg, and Rauch began his university studies again. With his best high school grades in chemistry, he chose to pursue organic chemistry studies at the University of Heidelberg, eventually completing his undergraduate, master's and doctoral degrees there.

In the early 1950s, with a lack of post-war development still hindering Rauch's ability to find work as an industrial chemist in Germany, he and his wife immigrated to the United States, where he accepted a post-doctoral fellowship at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. When he began job-hunting, Binghamton-based ANSCO, a photographic film manufacturer, had the best offer, and he was employed there for 30 years. The Rauchs raised two daughters in their home in Port Dickinson, traveling often to Germany and other international destinations – twice to China and Egypt, and to Alaska, Bora Bora, Venezuela, Tanzania and the Galapagos Islands.

The Rauchs moved to the Hilltop Campus in January 2010.

To make a suggestion for the Around the Block series, contact Sarah Soden, Director of Marketing and Public Relations, at (607) 775-6400, ext. 288. Residents are welcome to suggest themselves!

Staff Announcements



Vicki Ollerenshaw, MSW

Vicki Ollerenshaw, MSW, has joined the Elizabeth Church Campus as a social worker. She comes to United Methodist Homes from United Health Services' Senior Living at Ideal, where she was a medical social worker.

Ollerenshaw earned her bachelor's degree from Marywood University in Scranton, Pennsylvania, and her master's degree in social work from Marywood's School of Social Work. She is a member of the National Association of Social Workers.

Mardi Gras at Wesley Village



On March 7, Wesley Village residents celebrated "Mardi Gras Monday" with music by Roger and Joe and by snacking on traditional Polish pre-Lenten *paczki* (pronounced "punchki"), which are similar to filled doughnuts. Posing for a picture at the event are (standing, left to right) Activity Aides Rita Dructor and Lindsey Heinzlmeir, Assistant Activity Director Shelli Ratchford, Activity Director Tami Chesniak and Activity Aide Nancy Romanowski and (seated, left to right) Partridge-Tippett Nursing Facility residents Jean Tilley, Antoinette Denisco and Clara Zajulka.

Spaghetti Dinner and Basket Raffle at Hilltop



Thursday, April 14, 2011, in the Hilltop Auditorium.
Lunch seating 11 AM to 1:30 PM, dinner seating 4-6 PM.
Takeout available! Dinner includes spaghetti and meatballs, salad, garlic bread, beverage and dessert.
Advance price is \$5 per person, at the door is \$6.50.
Tickets available at the Golden Oldies Café and in the Hilltop and James G. Johnston Memorial Nursing Home lobbies.

Proceeds from the event benefit the 2011 Walk to End Alzheimer's.

Hilltop Earns NYSERDA Rebate

When the James G. Johnston Memorial Nursing Home on the Hilltop Campus was built in the mid-1980s, New York State picked up the tab for utilities. A decade later, the state capped the amount at which it would reimburse facilities for utility costs. In the present, with continued reductions in overall reimbursement and a move toward "green" initiatives, the Homes is exploring all avenues of cost savings. Said Vice-President of Facilities Chet Lowrie, "It made sense to do what we could to reduce our usage and, consequently, our bill."

Hilltop Campus maintenance staff changed out more than 750 lighting ballasts (from magnetic to electronic) and over 1,000 fluorescent bulbs in fixtures in the nursing home. The larger T-12 bulbs (1.25 inches in diameter) were swapped out for skinnier T-8 bulbs (.75 to 1 inch in diameter) that are up to 32 percent more efficient. The increased efficiency means two things: One ballast can run two lights, and only one bulb is now required per fixture. The difference is not noticeable to users.

Following completion of the project in late 2010, a representative of the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) inspected the job and qualified it for an \$8,000 NYSERDA rebate. The Homes realized additional savings on the project by using in-house maintenance staff to accomplish the project, plus the reduced utility costs of using more efficient lighting from this point forward.

Congratulations to everyone involved on this cost-saving achievement!

A Big Thanks for the Cheering Section



On March 1, the coach and members of the Tunkhannock High School baseball team visited the Tunkhannock Campus to thank residents for their support last year when the team went to the state championship. When the team left town for the game, residents gathered on the front porch with signs and balloons wishing the team luck! Player Ty Saylor (far left) is shown presenting a baseball signed by the team to resident Leonard Pallis (seated), who played baseball for Bloomsburg University in 1940 (his team made it to the state championship, too!). Standing at rear are players Austin Cline, Steven Ash, Ryan Goodwin, Derek Bitler, Chase Knott and Wesley Custer.

How Long-Term Care Admissions Works *Continued from page 1*

family members are understandably at sea. Don't be afraid to ask for help, advice or a push in the right direction. Do you have a friend who is a nurse? Is your neighbor a social worker? Does the hospital have a discharge planner who can help? Is there a geriatric care manager who can advise you? Write down your questions and ask the experts you reach for answers, as well as guidance on things you may not have considered.

Locate necessary paperwork.

Applying for admission requires lots of documentation, so as soon as you know long-term care is on the table, start gathering insurance cards, power of attorney and health care proxy documents, advance directives, military separation papers and trust documents. If you'll be applying for Medicaid for skilled nursing care, that process also requires birth certificates, marriage and/or divorce certificates, social security cards, property deeds and more. If original documents are unavailable, most states' vital records departments can expedite duplicates on an emergency basis.

Fill out the application.

Every organization has its own application and financial qualification process. No matter where you'd like to live, you will fill out some type of application form and be asked to provide copies of certain documents.

Frequently-Asked Questions

United Methodist Homes admissions staff provide answers to the questions they hear most often.

How much does it cost?

Cost ranges widely – it depends on the level of care, the type of accommodation, the facility's location and other factors. Each organization you're interested in can provide you with pricing information when you call.

Why does the organization need to know such detailed financial information when I apply?

Detailed financial information is necessary to identify a source of payment for the potential resident. Every long-term care organization – whether for-profit or not-for-profit – has expenses it needs to cover,

so knowing where its revenue will come from is important.

How long will I have to wait for a unit?

It depends on the level of care – for financially-qualified applicants, skilled nursing admissions can usually happen almost immediately, adult/personal care and assisted living average about six months, and the wait for an independent apartment can be nine months to a year. But don't be afraid to call and ask because you think there will be a wait – situations can change quickly, and if you're interested in moving right away, something may be available. Keep in mind that the facility you're interested in must be able to meet your medical and social needs – for example, someone who is ventilator-dependent will need a facility that's certified in providing ventilator care.

To be considered for admission, do I have to be a resident of the state where the facility is located?

In the two states where United Methodist Homes offers services (New York and Pennsylvania), residency in the state is not a requirement for admission.

Will my long-term care insurance pay for all of my care? When will my policy start covering me?

The short answer is "it depends." Every policy is different, and each has its own requirements that govern what conditions must exist before coverage will begin, such as "must be unable to carry out five of the seven basic activities of daily living" or "has developed cognitive impairment." Read your specific policy to see what it covers and when it takes effect.

Where does United Methodist Homes have openings right now?

On the Hilltop Campus, there are openings in independent living (Sunset Heights and VanGorden Manor) and in specialty dementia care at the adult care level (the SUN Unit). On the Elizabeth Church Campus, there are independent living openings at St. Louise Manor. On the Wesley Village Campus, there are openings in independent living at Myers Manor and in personal care at the Anderson Personal Care Facility. The Tunkhannock Campus has personal care openings. At the skilled nursing level, bed availability fluctuates depending on

a number of factors – please call for more information. *(This information was accurate at the time of this issue's publication.)*

Do I have to give you all of my or my parents' money at one time? Do you keep it all if they pass away soon after moving in?

No! The only United Methodist Homes location that offers a buy-in option is Wesley Village, where the Brooks Estates independent living cottages offer a choice of buy-in plus a monthly maintenance fee or a rental option. If a Brooks resident passes away, the buy-in amount is refunded to the resident's estate on a pro-rated basis, payable between 15 and 60 days after the unit is vacated. All other facilities receive payment from residents on a monthly basis.

Do I have to be Methodist? Does being Methodist help me if I'm seeking admission?

The answer to both is "no." United Methodist Homes accepts residents of all faiths.



Independent Living is a Different Animal

If you're looking for an independent living situation, most of the initial process is the same as searching for a unit in a higher level of care – you still want to do a broad search to get information from and tour all the senior living options in your area. You can apply ahead of time – if you're accepted, you'll be added to the community's waiting list and notified when there's an opening and your name comes to the top of the list. Applying for independent living at a continuing care retirement campus is almost the same as renting an apartment in the community, with the exception of certain financial disclosures designed to ease admission to a higher level of care should the need arise. In fact, many people select a senior living campus because higher levels of care are available, providing peace of mind and an easy transition.

Shorts

Wesley Village residents enjoyed a wide range of activities in February, including a Super Bowl pre-game party, a Valentine party with music by Windfall, a women's tea, a cherry pie baking and social with music by Paul Oschal and a performance by students from the Pittston Area Primary Center.

The Wesley Village Campus conveys special thanks to the Friends of United Methodist Homes of Pennsylvania for providing valentines for all residents, and to the Nanticoke Polka Friends for sponsoring the Valentine bingo event at the Partridge-Tippett Nursing Facility.

On February 15, Tunkhannock Campus Administrator Joe Corey gave a presentation on long-term care to the Back Mountain Ecumenical Men's Club at the Irem Temple Country Club. Approximately 80 men attended.

On February 18, the Hilltop Campus hosted a pizza fundraiser for the 2011 Walk to End Alzheimer's. The event raised \$200. Thank you to the Felix Roma Bakery and Store in Endicott for donating five sheet pizzas for the sale.

St. Louise Manor resident Dr. Beverly Hosten Dorsey was featured as part of WBNG-TV's "Trailblazers" series during Black History Month in February. The segment, which aired February 23, highlighted Dr. Dorsey's achievements as the first African-American female physician in Binghamton.

United Methodist Homes President and CEO Keith Chadwick attended New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo's invitation-only speech at the Riverwalk Hotel and Conference Center in Binghamton on February 24. Cuomo addressed budget concerns and other timely issues.

On February 28, President and CEO Keith Chadwick and CFO Brian Picchini attended the Herbert J. Sims Financial Conference in Orlando, Florida. Sims is a leading national underwriter of tax-exempt bonds for senior housing and long-term care providers.

United Methodist Homes Clinical Informaticist Amy Miller spoke about nutrition informatics and MDS 3.0 at the Southern Tier Dietetic Association's spring conference.

On March 10, United Methodist Homes President and CEO Keith Chadwick co-presented at the Greater Binghamton Chamber's "Eggs and Issues" program on Medicaid redesign and long-term care.

United Methodist Homes Director of Marketing and Public Relations Sarah Soden graduated from the Greater Binghamton Chamber's Broome Leadership Institute (BLI) on March 24. Each year since 1987, BLI has provided 20 emerging business and community leaders with the opportunity to spend two full days per month from September to March learning about various facets of the community, including industry, agriculture, law enforcement, education, health care and more. At the conclusion of the program each year, the class selects a service project to benefit the community. The BLI Class of 2011 will help the Boys and Girls Club of Western Broome renovate its teen room. To raise funds for this project, the class is hosting a dinner and basket raffle at Brothers 2 Restaurant in Endwell on Thursday, May 5.

A Patchwork of Love

St. Louise Manor once again hosted its annual quilt show in the dining room from January through March. This year's display was a single-family affair, featuring quilts made by relatives of St. Louise Manor Activity Leader Karen Mayer. Said Mayer, "Both sides of my family had quilt-makers going back four to five generations, if not more." The 10 quilts Mayer loaned for the show span from the turn of the twentieth century (a quilt made by Mayer's great-grandmother for Mayer's mother's wedding)



to the 1960s (a quilt made as a wedding gift for Mayer), range from baby quilts to double-bed sizes and represent an array of patterns. Mayer's mom, Hilltop resident Willetta Meier (above) shows off a doll quilt made by her mother Caroline Moorman. Mayer's ancestors, who lived in Kansas and Missouri, sewed their creations during the heyday of American quilting, which first became common during the mid-nineteenth century, when commercially-produced fabric became affordable and leisure time increased. For more information about quilt patterns and quilting in America, visit www.quiltalliance.org.

Intercampus Cooperation Benefits Organization

The old adage says, "If you want something done right, do it yourself," so it would stand to reason that sometimes the expertise you're looking for is within your organization.

United Methodist Homes has been continually expanding its intercampus cooperation, taking advantage of skills and time availabilities throughout the system to create operational efficiencies and save money. A significant example of this concept in the recent past is the "barn-raising" days held at each campus, with maintenance staff coming throughout the system to help a single campus complete an incandescent light-bulb switch out or conversion to low-flow toilets. This February, Hilltop Campus maintenance staff painted the offices at Grace View Manor, eliminating the need for the Homes to pay an outside contractor for the job.

Said Vice-President of Operations Janine Savage, RN, RAC-CT, CHC, "Transparency and intercampus cooperation is very important in our program of multidisciplinary leadership. For the Homes to utilize this model in all aspects of operations is good business."

Royalty for a Day

Bring out your crowns, capes and red heart scepters – the Wesley Village Valentine royal court is here! Residents, staff and visitors voted for their favorites during the first two weeks of February and winners were announced at the campus' Valentine's Day party on February 14. Kings and queens of the royal court included Anderson Personal Care Facility residents Tad Cheshelski and Giovanna Sindaco, Myers Manor residents Betty Lou and Ed Furman and Partridge-Tippett Nursing Facility residents Shirley Connors, Isadore Exter, Joseph Franchelli, Patrick (Don) Hoban, Evelyn Robinson, Russell Smith, Nancy Zadora and Rita Zangardi. Ladies of the court each received a red carnation and tiara and the gentlemen were presented with boutonnieres and crowns; everyone received a certificate commemorating their royal status for a day. According to Activity Director Tami Chesniak, one of the Valentine kings was still wearing his crown in mid-March! Serenity Gardens residents King Patrick (Don) Hoban and Queen Rita Zangardi are shown decked out in their royal finery.



Special Delivery Valentines

On February 14, students from the Endless Mountains Christian Academy in Tunkhannock visited the Tunkhannock Campus to sing and hand out homemade valentines. Resident Polly Pherreigo (center) received a special delivery of cards from her great-grandchildren Abygale (left) and Joshua Lynn, who are students at the academy.



Having a Ball at Bingo

On February 12, members of the Pittston Area High School Honor Society hosted a Valentine's Day bingo ball at Wesley Village for Myers Manor and Anderson Personal Care Facility residents. The students brought snacks and special bingo prizes; they decorated the room themselves, ran the games and handed out prizes to the winners. Shown after the event are (standing, left to right) Myers Manor resident Lee Sweinberg, Myers Manor resident Marion Kunigonis, Alison Slomba, Myers Manor resident Gertrude Richel, Myers Manor resident Rita Buzinski, Nina Fischer, Myers Manor resident Jean Zekas, (partially obscured at rear) James LaMarca, Anderson resident Tad Cheshelski, Ashley Menichini, (front row, left to right) Rachele Poveromo, Myers Manor resident Rose Maida, Sarah Kosik and Anderson resident Pauline Nalisnick.

CELEBRATING Valentine's DAY

Love is in the Air at Tunkhannock

On February 14, Tunkhannock Campus residents enjoyed a Valentine's Day party with music by the Jive Cats. Special thanks to the Friends of the United Methodist Homes of Pennsylvania for providing flowers for the tables and festive cupcakes for the event. Married since December 1944, Tunkhannock residents Helen and Irwin Messick (above) enjoyed the party together.



Let's Make a Sweetheart Deal

On February 14, all Hilltop and James G. Johnston Memorial Nursing Home residents were invited to attend the annual Valentine's Day "treats and deals" event in the auditorium. More than 100 residents turned out for the fun, taking turns selecting what was in a box or behind a curtain. After choosing, residents could keep their selection or swap with each other. Items were donated by Bed Bath & Beyond, Boscov's, The Caring Quilters Project, Cold Stone Creamery, Kohl's, Papa John's, Walmart, Wegmans, Weis and Wild Birds Unlimited. Some of the most entertaining items this year were molded chocolates – one shaped like a fish, and another like a dog in a doghouse. James G. Johnston Memorial Nursing Home resident Helen Suchy (above) can "bearly" contain her excitement about her prize!



Update on Internal Survey Tool

Since fall 2010, United Methodist Homes' skilled nursing facilities have been voluntarily using a new tool called Abaqis (pronounced "abacus"), which drives the quality assurance program by asking residents questions about their preferences, the facility and the care they receive.

Although the Abaqis questions are asked on a quarterly basis along with MDS 3.0 questions, the Abaqis interview focuses more on resident perception and how they feel about the building and environment, the food, their participation in their care plan, interactions with others, the choices they have in their daily lives and more. Staff from a variety of disciplines – such as social services, nursing, clinical nutrition, administration and activities – take part in the Abaqis process. If the resident is unable to complete the interview, a family member interview is conducted instead. According to Hilltop Campus Clinical Case Manager Jennine Best-Baker, RN, RAC-CT, "Once residents' care concerns are verbalized, staff can examine those areas and focus on changing perceptions or changing our way of doing things."

In addition, Abaqis includes a staff interview component, in which the nurse in charge of the resident's direct care answers questions: this gives supervisors a window into how well nurses know the residents for whom they are providing care. The review is rounded out by a physical exam of the resident to check for cleanliness, incontinence, contractures, abuse, skin issues, potential restraints, pain, hydration and positioning.

Responses and data from the Abaqis review are entered into the Abaqis computer program, which generates a report that highlights potential areas of concern for each facility to address.

Donating to the Homes

If you would like to make a donation or consider a planned gift to United Methodist Homes, please call Bonnie Slocum, Director of Planned Giving, at (607) 775-6400, ext. 281. Checks may also be mailed to 10 Acre Place, Binghamton, NY 13904.

Spring
Brunch
& Open House
2011

Sunday,
April 10

10:00 AM to
2:00 PM

Wesley Village
Campus

Donation: \$12 adults • \$6 children 12 and under

For more information or to purchase tickets in advance, call (570) 655-2891 or visit the Wesley Village Campus. Tours will be available the day of the brunch.

Sponsored by the Friends of the United Methodist Homes of PA

Letters of Appreciation

To the Elizabeth Church Campus

I would like to thank Ann and everyone at Elizabeth Church Manor who showed respect and concern for my mother while she was in your care. She enjoyed the dietary crew and would remark to me how nice "those boys are." They always took time to smile and say hello to her, which I thank you for. As much as her memory had slowed down, she never forgot the staff on the second floor – she would light up whenever she saw one of them. Thank you to Reverend Janet Abel for your kind words and prayers. I would like to extend a special thank you to Ted, who kept my mom comfortable in her last hours and showed her the respect she deserved.

To the Hilltop Campus

My gratitude is beyond the words I can find to express it. Mom and sister are now at Hilltop, and working through their adjustment. We moved their belongings in on Sunday and I can't say enough about the staff on duty that day. Everyone went out of their way to accommodate our needs and we managed to settle both rooms. My entire family was here and we are all very impressed. Mom tells me that we couldn't have found a more perfect place; it comforts me tremendously to hear that. I have had a great deal of support from all staff – nurses, social workers, custodial and maintenance as well as administrative personnel. I appreciate your help and guidance and I will be eternally grateful to the staff at Hilltop and United Methodist Homes. If there is ever anything I can do to support United Methodist Homes, I will certainly do so.

To the Wesley Village Campus

Our mom moved to Myers Manor on the Wesley Village Campus in the spring of 2010. Since then, we have been truly amazed by the care and concern provided by each and every employee who is responsible for her well-being. The professionalism, personal involvement and sincerity of everyone at Myers Manor is both heartwarming and comforting. Mom has made friends with staff members and residents, regularly attends the wonderful activities and enjoys all of the healthy meals. Most importantly, she feels very safe. It's great to see her so happy and content. We wish all of you special blessings along with our thanks.

To the Elizabeth Church Campus

Thanks to Ellie Johnson in activities for all you did for my mother. It was clear you were genuinely fond of her. Thank you again – you are the best!

To the Hilltop Campus

Thank you to all the staff of Unit 1 at the James G. Johnston Memorial Nursing Home for making a hard time easier. I needed your help to get through my loss, and you were all there to take care of my mom and offer your support. To those of you who were there when she died, I want you to know how much we appreciated your care and concern. Leann, Ed, Shelly and Sarah, you were great. Thank you to all the nurses and staff, especially Sean, who my mom said was always there when she needed help. Special thanks also to Ann – my mom loved it when you brought in the mail and spent a few minutes with her.

is published monthly for the staff, residents, family members, friends and campus neighbors of United Methodist Homes. Please direct all inquiries about *Seasons* to Sarah Soden, Director of Marketing and Public Relations, at 10 Acre Place, Binghamton, NY 13904. If you no longer wish to receive this publication, please call Sarah at (607) 775-6400, ext. 288. If you are receiving duplicate copies of the newsletter, please let us know so we can amend the mailing list.

Visit our website at www.unitedmethodisthomes.org to view contact information for each campus, as well as monthly activity calendars, news releases, or to view back issues of the newsletter electronically.

Visit our Facebook Page for updates, event info and photos. Go to www.facebook.com and search for United Methodist Homes.

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Bananas For Cooking Demonstrations



On February 16, Elizabeth Church Campus Assistant Dining Services Director Bobby Yacuzzo (standing) gave a bananas foster cooking demonstration for St. Louise residents. Preparation of this dish, which originated in New Orleans in the 1950s, is a tableside flambé extravaganza. Ingredients include butter, brown sugar, cinnamon, rum, banana liqueur

and bananas, which are sautéed together, with the big flaming finish provided by ignition of the alcohol in the pan. The sauce is then served over vanilla ice cream. The "Foster" in the dish's name refers to New Orleans Crime Commission chairman Richard Foster, a friend of the owner of the restaurant where the dish was created. Shown taste-testing their samples in the background are (from left) Lena Martin, Marilla Klein, Marge Kozik and Mary Ann Lesso.



To the Winners Go the Spoils



On February 10, the judges and winning team members from Hilltop's autumn Iron Chef competition were treated to a gourmet lunch prepared by members of the other two teams. Although as a prank they were led to believe they would be dining on four courses of tofu, the meal actually included gourmet spinach salad, stuffed chicken breasts with rice pilaf and broccoli and, for dessert, strawberry cheesecake tarts served in champagne glasses. Shown raising their tarts in triumph at the end of the meal are (from left) Risk Manager Jack Bates, Dietary Director Ed Glavich, Hilltop resident Dorothy Niggli and Activity Leader Christa McEwan.

