

# View from the Porch

News from Friends Home in Kennett

Spring 2006



## Assisted Living at Friends Home Receives Commendation

Yet again, the exemplary care that is a tradition at Friends Home in Kennett was affirmed by a recent State inspection of our Assisted Living department. Readers of *View from the Porch* may remember that the Home's long term care center, Linden Hall, received a deficiency-free inspection by the State's Department of Health in 2005.

The two-day, January 2006 inspection was conducted by a two-person team from the State's Department of Welfare, and was a comprehensive examination of our Assisted Living services. This inspection was particularly challenging because it was the first evaluation of the Home under new, totally revised Assisted Living regulations. The regulations instituted in 2005 are complicated and exhaustive, comprising over 137 pages and 270 regulations, many with multiple sections. The new regulations are designed to comprehensively ensure the health and safety of assisted living residents in every aspect of their lives in the Home.

Previously, the inspection of our Assisted Living program was conducted by one inspector who would spend a half day at the Home. The Home averaged one or no deficiencies annually. Deficiencies were usually minor, such as a resident having a personal bathmat in his or her bathroom or a signature missing from a form.

Our January 2006 inspection was an entirely different experience.

Prior to their visit, the inspectors indicated that the Home should expect to receive significantly more deficiencies than inspections under the previous regulations. Most Pennsylvania Assisted Living facilities have been receiving between 35 and 40, with a maximum of well over 60, and a minimum of 10.

The two-person inspection team met with David Carter, the Home's Executive Director, and June Scheffler, RN, Assisted Living Coordinator, and reviewed all the regulations – line by line – asking to see policies and procedures, and evaluating every aspect of the Home's Assisted Living services and operations.



*Assisted Living Coordinator June Scheffler, RN (right) reviews new regulations with Personal Care Assistant Deb Hart.*

As a result of the inspection, the Home received 14 deficiencies, the majority of which pertained to the admission agreement, record keeping practices, and some minor physical plant changes.

The State inspectors commended the Home for its high level of resident care, and especially June Scheffler for her high standards, dedication, and compassionate, caring staff. They also recognized the administration's understanding and proactive implementation of the new regulations.

# Life at the Home

## *Two residents tell their stories*

*The below articles have been used in the Home's recent advertising. You may have seen them in the Daily Local News and The Kennett Paper.*



If anyone in his native Queens, NY would have told Dave Smith he would one day be celebrating his one-year anniversary living in a retirement community in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, the life-long New Yorker says he would have never stopped laughing.

“I could never have imagined moving,” says the 86-year-old World War II army veteran (he was a medic who served in France and Belgium) and former ship pilot. “But of course things happen in your life and circumstances change.”

After his wife passed away, Smith did eventually move at the encouragement of his two daughters and grandchildren. One of his daughters lives in Hawaii with her family and the other lives in the West Chester area with her husband and two children.

Smith initially moved into an apartment near his daughter but then he suffered a stroke.

“My daughter and her husband both work so with needing extra care and the two kids it was very difficult,” he explains. “Luckily, after some searching, we found Friends Home.”

“I was very apprehensive at first because I didn’t know what to expect,” he continues, “But this place couldn’t be nicer and the people couldn’t be better. I was a little worried about keeping my personal freedom but that has never been a problem.”

Smith says some of the retirement communities he and his family looked at were “a lot more expensive” than Friends Home in Kennett “but not as comfortable or friendly.”

“One place wanted a \$30,000 entrance fee,” he explains. “And I said for what?”

Smith notes that you can take the man out of New York but you can’t take New York out of the man. He says that one of the best aspects of living at

Friends Home in Kennett is its location in the heart of Kennett Square.

“Almost every day I walk to the public library to read the New York Times,” he says. “And sometimes I get to meet up with my son-in-law because he works on Linden Street.”

Smith says he discovered the joy of walking around town on his first day at Friends Home in Kennett.

“I accompanied another resident who was blind to a nearby coffee shop,” he says. “And we ended up sitting and talking for over two hours. She and I were friends until she passed away. Her daughter still comes to visit me.”

“That’s the kind of place this is,” he concludes. “People care about each other.”

“I never, ever thought I could be this happy.”

That is the quick answer you will receive if you ask 79-year-old Pat Devereaux how she likes living at Friends Home in Kennett.



When her husband of 51 years died of cancer five years ago, Pat initially decided to remain in her West Chester-area condominium. But after about two and a half years, living alone meant the woman who had spent most of her life as a stay-at-home wife and mother was lonely.

“I called up both of my daughters (one lives in Kennett and the other in Vermont) and told them I was not happy with how I was living,” she explains.

Pat didn’t want to leave the area so the daughter in Kennett began helping her look at retirement communities. None of the places seemed right. Then one day Pat’s daughter happened to be driving by Friends Home in Kennett. She stopped in, liked

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# Grants Spotlight

In June 2004 Friends Home in Kennett launched a new fund development program. Since that time, Fundraising Director Brenda Riehl has been working to form relationships with foundations and trusts in an effort to secure grants for the Home. Prior to this new program's inception, most of the Home's grants came from Quaker organizations. Now, Brenda is also seeking and securing grants from the greater community.

In 2005, the following grants were received:

March 2005	\$2,500 from the Mushroom Festival for our Activities Program
May 2005	\$8,000 from the Sara Bowers Fund for the addition of private bathrooms to resident rooms
June 2005	\$10,000 from the Marshall-Reynolds Foundation for our Assisted Living Program
July 2005	\$18,960 from the Anna T. and Joseph Jeanes Granting Group for aid to individual residents, and for equipment and repairs
October 2005	\$45,000 from the W.W. Smith Charitable Trust for Health Center renovation and kitchen equipment replacement
December 2005	\$5,795 from the Scholler Foundation for medical equipment for the Health Center
	\$7,000 from the Bequests Granting Group of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting toward improvements including a new resident store, hallway carpeting, and new storage area.
	\$4,000 from the Hoxie Harrison Smith Foundation for the addition of private bathrooms to resident rooms
	\$3,000 from the Chace Granting Group for Personal Care staff training
	\$18,757 from the Anna T. and Joseph Jeanes Granting Group for aid to individual residents, and for carpeting in common areas

*Friends Home in Kennett is grateful for the generosity of all of our donors.*

## Health Center Near Opening

In keeping with our mission of providing quality care while encouraging independence and respecting the individuality and dignity of all, Friends Home in Kennett is opening a new Health Center. Formerly called the Nurse's Station, this Center will serve all Assisted Living residents.

The new Health Center is, compared to the current Station, a spacious area. It has a professional atmosphere, a private treatment room, additional counter and storage space, and a bathroom for resident use.

"We are excited to be able to offer this professional, yet comfortable place for our residents to receive care and encouragement," said June Scheffler, RN, Assisted Living Coordinator. "This Health Center will ensure resident privacy and will support my staff as they assess each resident's unique needs."

At this writing, the Personal Care staff is moving into the Health Center. In the Summer 2006 issue of *View from the Porch*, the Health Center will be featured. In the meantime, watch for the announcement of our grand opening celebration.

Funding for the project was provided by a grant from the W.W. Smith Charitable Trust.



*Personal Care Assistants Deb Hart and Bea Dodson help to organize the new Health Center.*

# Memorial and Honor Gifts

*Memorial and honor gifts may be made to Friends Home in Kennett at any time. An attractive card is sent to notify the honoree of your generosity.*

*Names of honorees are in bold type with names of donors listed under them.*

## Memorials

### **Harriet Eastburn**

Anne Lutz

### **Ozzie Harmon**

Georgia Delaney

### **Norma Hood**

Charles & Joanne Patton

### **Verna H. Larkin**

Mary L. Dugan

### **Estelle Leaf**

Anthony & Ann Caruso  
Phil & Jane Saienni

### **Miriam LePatourel**

John & Gabrielle Taylor

### **Marian Marshall**

Ruth W. Harrison

### **Ruth Marshall**

Buzz Marshall

### **Mary Regina McCaffrey**

Joan O'Mara

### **Bob McIlvain**

James & Carolyn Lennon  
Mitch & Rebecca Marion

### **Elizabeth Moore Mitchell**

Esther L. Cooperman

### **Marjorie Nugent**

Tom & Mary Ruth Johnson  
Carol J. Murphy

### **Emma Passmore**

Ruth W. Harrison

### **Sara Phillips**

Don and Suzanne Phillips

### **Mildred Poist**

Elaine Amoss

### **Helen Profita**

Janet & David Moore

### **Harold E. Thomforde**

Elinor B. Thomforde

### **Erna Weygandt**

Peter & Maria Weygandt

This is a list of memorial and honor gifts made to Friends Home in Kennett between November 30, 2005 and March 13, 2006. We strive for accuracy, but sometimes make errors. If you notice a mistake or omission, please contact Brenda Riehl at (610) 444-2577 or [briehl@kennett.net](mailto:briehl@kennett.net).

## Honoraria

### **Jane Barth**

Anonymous

### **Patrice Bradour**

Ann Lytle

### **Joe Cloud**

John & Margaret Cloud

### **Bea Dodson**

Carolyn Comitta

### **Lewis Hawk**

Anonymous

### **Edna Jackson's 93rd Birthday**

Gary Walton

### **Margaret C. Lockhart**

Patricia K. Lockhart

### **Martha Lomax**

Anonymous

Jim & Janet Mitchell

### **Ruth & Paul Mitchell**

Edward & Rhoena Williams

### **Larry & Hannah Parrish**

Jim & Janet Mitchell

### **John V. Postles**

John Hutton

### **Chip Smedley**

Judith & Robert Dantonio

### **David Smith**

Karen & George Klaus

Ellen & Ed Looby

Alison & Kevin Mondragon

### **Ana Szekely**

James & Elisabeth Kauer

## Volunteer Earns Eagle Scout Rank

Last winter, Philip Legros contacted Friends Home Activities Director Patrice Bradour as he began planning for his Eagle Scout project. They discussed various needs around the Home and decided a raised garden bed would be the perfect addition. Construction of the bed began in April 2005, with Philip leading a team of 15 scouts and others. Philip also garnered donations of materials from local businesses including Brandywine Builders, Clemens Inc, Danby Lumber, Mr. Mulch, P L Walman Company, and Peter Lumber.

The bed was completed in June 2005. Residents immediately planted vegetables in it, and it will be enjoyed for years to come.

Philip first began scouting at age eight. He has received the World Conservation Award and the Good Citizenship Award. Observing his work for Friends Home, it is evident that this dedicated, hardworking young man has a passion for serving others. We are pleased to count Philip among our many friends, and congratulate him on this accomplishment.

**Coming soon in the Summer 2006 issue of *View from the Porch...***

- A listing of 2005 donors
- 2005 Annual Report
- A feature story on the new Health Center

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what she saw, and made an appointment for her Mom to take a tour.

“It just took one visit and I knew instantly,” Pat continues. “Within a month I moved in. And I have been enjoying life ever since.”

For Pat, enjoying life means engaging in her favorite activities, visiting with old friends and making new ones.

“I have always been an outdoors person and I adore gardening,” she explains. “Here at Friends Home we have raised bed vegetable gardens and we grow tomatoes, lettuce, string beans, beets, cabbage and onions. I also grow pansies and daffodils.”

Reading, exercising, sewing, knitting and shopping are among Pat’s other favorite hobbies. She says that Friends Home’s activities program can keep anyone as busy and involved as they want to be.

“I participate in the exercise class every morning, I always have a book from the library in my hand, and I never miss one of our shopping trips.”

Pat says that one of her favorite activities was participating in a special knitting project.

“Some girls from the local school came here and some other residents and I taught them how to knit,” she recalls. “They couldn’t believe I have been knitting and sewing for over 60 years and made my daughters’ prom dresses by hand. They said they really enjoyed it and they did well. Now another group of girls from the same school wants to learn to knit so we’ll be teaching again.”

It is the staff that makes all the difference in quality of life at Friends Home, Pat notes.

“The entire staff from A to Z is just absolutely wonderful,” she says. “They are just the most wonderful people. All of the residents see them as our family and friends. You can be as social or as private as you want and everyone respects that.”

Right now she has a friend from her old condominium complex who is considering moving.

“I told her to move here,” she concludes. “I would never go back to living alone and I would never live anywhere else.”

## Many Thanks

Once again, Friends Home in Kennett has experienced a generous response to its fall fundraising appeal and newsletter. A total of over \$28,000 was received from 110 donors. The ongoing generosity of our donors helps to give our residents a compassionate, professional staff always ready to provide assistance, improved facilities, and engaging, meaningful activities.

For more information about Friends Home in Kennett, log onto our website anytime.

[www.friendshomeinkennett.org](http://www.friendshomeinkennett.org)

## Do you enjoy digging in the dirt?

Friends Home in Kennett needs your help! As Spring arrives our grounds await the attention of willing volunteers. Tasks include:

- tilling
- weeding
- planting
- raking leaves

Call David Carter or Brenda Riehl at (610) 444-2577, or e-mail Brenda at [briehl@kennett.net](mailto:briehl@kennett.net) to sign up today!

# Friends Home in Kennett

*Friends Boarding Home of Western Quarterly Meeting*

147 West State Street  
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[www.friendshomeinkennett.org](http://www.friendshomeinkennett.org)  
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The Growing Tree/  
The Mushroom Cap  
Gwendolinda's  
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Stephanie Hammond  
Rosa Hart  
Kennett Historical Society  
Kennett Inn  
Orpha and Dave Longenecker  
Manny Hattan's Pub

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Vicki Pollert  
Bruce Poulterer  
Pat Shinn  
Chip Smedley  
Trish Scott  
State Street Grille  
Margaret Thomas  
Torelli's Men's Shop  
Mary Lea West

## ***Mission Statement***



The Friends Home in Kennett is dedicated to providing quality care for the aging in a homelike atmosphere at a reasonable cost.

We encourage independence and respect the individuality and dignity of all in keeping with the concerns of the Society of Friends.