

## Rockhill Mennonite Community Pays Tribute to Founders

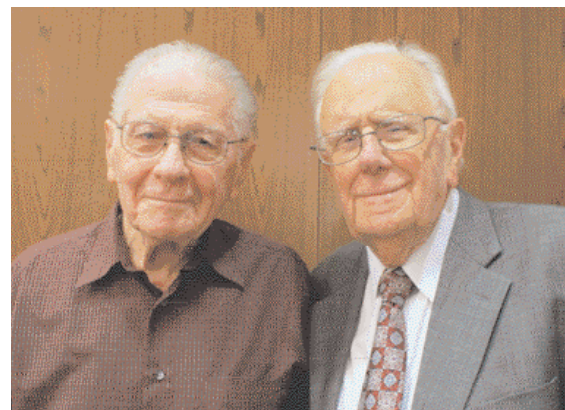
*A special focus was placed on Russell and Sanford Alderfer*

It was 80 years ago that Katie and Wilmer Alderfer decided to purchase a tourist home on about 10 acres in Sellersville, Pennsylvania. The idea was to operate it as a convalescent home for short term guests. What it has become is nothing short of miraculous.

"I often wonder how my parents would react if they saw Rockhill today," said Russell Alderfer, son of Katie and Wilmer. "It's amazing to think what has evolved from that moment when they decided to open their home and give help to those who need it."

Russell, who was a teen when that defining moment occurred, was recently honored with a dinner hosted by Rockhill's Board of Directors. "Russell played a role in countless aspects of Rockhill's growth in those pivotal first years," said Karen Lehman, today's president and CEO of Rockhill Mennonite Community. "His hard work and compassion have touched thousands of lives."

Also honored was Sanford Alderfer, nephew of Katie and Wilmer, who has become a prominent figure in local business and community scenes.



Honorees Russell and Sanford Alderfer

"I OFTEN WONDER HOW  
MY PARENTS WOULD  
REACT IF THEY SAW  
ROCKHILL TODAY."

– Russell Alderfer

He was a member of the original board at Rockhill, and has since served on many other boards as well, including Souderton Mennonite Homes, Christopher Dock Mennonite High School, and Harleysville Savings Bank.

*Continued on page 2...*



The extended Alderfer family travelled from near and far to celebrate the event.



Continued from page 1...

## Rockhill Mennonite Community Pays Tribute to the Founders

Sanford shared his thoughts on the evening. "To be in a room with so many wonderful people who have played such important roles in making Rockhill what it is today. Really, the honor was mine."

The following day, Rockhill revived an event that was once a community-wide tradition. "Years ago, an annual strawberry festival took place here," Lehman said. "It's not strawberry season, but 80 years of helping people is certainly a milestone that should be honored and celebrated!"

In true community fashion, Rockhill's invitation list included anyone who wanted to come and enjoy great food, live music, and a classic car show. "The predicted rain held off and it truly was a special weekend," said Lehman. "It started with honoring the Alderfers and ended with birthday cake enjoyed by a big crowd of well-wishers. Next time, maybe we'll have strawberries!" **RMC**



Rockhill's Board of Directors hosted the dinner.



Happy 80th birthday Rockhill!



Exploring Rockhill's history.

More Community Day photos on page 7...

## Living (and Working) Inspired

Karen Lehman, President and CEO

Our community celebrated an important milestone in September. The reason this anniversary is particularly significant in Rockhill's timeline is that we have made important decisions that will change our long held identity.



Karen Lehman, President and CEO

We are not changing for the sake of change, but because we have to position ourselves more competitively and ensure that no one feels excluded due to our name. We celebrate our past, our history, and how we came to where we are today as a community. At the same time, it is also critical that we strategically focus on the future and how to market ourselves in these more challenging operational times.

At a recent Resident Community meeting, we announced that our new name is **The Community at Rockhill, Living Inspired by Mennonite Values**. We are a community that is deeply rooted in our Anabaptist tradition. Our new values – accountability, stewardship, peace, integrity, relationships, and excellence – exemplify our Mennonite identity. Operating within a framework of this identity will not change. In fact, our inclusion of individuals of many faith traditions is being reinforced.

We are more than a name and a logo. The life and culture that is within the **Community at Rockhill** will continue to be empowering for all living and working within our walls. I believe that the present and future of this community is defined by the creativity and innovation that comes from all living and working here.

### One more thing to LIKE...

If you have a Facebook account, please "Like" our new Facebook page and share it with your friends and family. We're looking forward to promoting Rockhill in the broader social media world – it'll be a great way to keep up with the many events we have planned for the holiday season (and into 2016)!

This Thanksgiving season, I feel so thankful and blessed to be part of such a wonderful community!

Karen Lehman, Rockhill President and CEO







← Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has delivered more than 124 million gifts to children. Here, Rockhill helps them toward their 2015 goal of reaching another 11 million children. →



The halls are decked at our gift shop, Katie's Korner. Great holiday giving and decorating ideas (and savings) await!



Honor Flight Philadelphia recently hosted one of their "tours of honor" (a chartered trip for vets to Washington, D.C.) which was taken by these five Rockhill residents. It was a day to honor and entertain them, and most of all, a day to let them know just how much they are appreciated.



Rockhill is always thrilled to host the work of local artists in our art gallery. Recently, an exhibit of Bob Grieb's work – which is as unique as it is gorgeous – was welcomed by an opening reception.

## Community Life at Rockhill



Our new tabletop garden – admired here by resident Dorothy and Rockhill chaplain Penny Naugle – was funded by a grant from the Plains Mennonite Church's Jubilee fund.



Baking and scarecrow-building contests...just two highlights of Rockhill's annual Fall Fest!



## Mark Your Calendars!

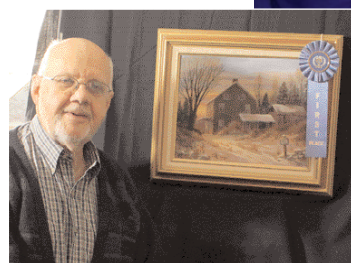
### Art Gallery Twin Bill

It's been a tremendous year for the Gallery at Rockhill! We've been honored to display works by talented local painters, photographers, and illustrators. To bring us into 2016, we're excited to host our first twin bill: artists Carol Gilbert and Merrill Brown will share our gallery walls to display their work.

**Merrill Brown** will be sharing a selection of his painted landscapes. His focus on landscapes comes from his desire to convey the feelings and moods he experiences in nature.

And **Carol Gilbert**, who will forever be inspired by the gorgeous skies, farms, meadows, and streams found in Bucks County, and is driven to express their beauty on canvas.

For more details on our gallery and upcoming artists, call 215-257-2751, ext. 142.



For more information on any events including what we have planned for 2016, contact Cathy Coghlan at 215-257-2751, ext. 211 or at [ccoghlan@rockhillmennonite.org](mailto:ccoghlan@rockhillmennonite.org).

## A Community to Count On

This holiday season, Rockhill will again feature a Giving Tree to support our Benevolent Care Fund. For our inaugural effort in 2014, 110 donated gifts totaled \$12,725.

In 2015, we want to double the number of gifts to 220 with a target financial gift of \$25,000.

Some of you may be able to give \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100, or \$500. Others more than \$1,000. What should you give? Whatever you believe to be meaningful, and however much you can spare. (God does love a cheerful giver!)

In 2014, some of our donors gave twice as they not only reflected on the resources that God had entrusted to them, but also the great need to financially assist residents who have outlived their financial resources.

*Thank you in advance for opening your hearts and your checkbooks to make our Giving Tree goals a reality in 2015!*

Sincerely and thankfully yours –

### The Giving Tree Advocate Taskforce (RMC residents)

Edna Bergman  
Marian Bleiler  
Ralph Bleiler  
Kerry Furiga  
Fred Geib  
Stan Hagberg  
Kathryn B. Landis  
Isabel Lehman  
Alice McCauley  
Peg Morrow  
Jeanette Webster  
Paul Witter  
Louise Wolfgang  
Helen Zartman



## A message to our family, friends, and neighbors...



Dad and I chose Rockhill for its continuum of care and our peace of mind, since we knew that he would forever have a community to count on.

My father began running his family farm at age 20 when his father died. Over the years, he worked diligently to ensure that I had more options than he and my mother ever did. He drove a school bus and coal truck and was a foreman in an auto mechanic shop. He and my mother were married for 60 years. He had never been more than 15 miles from home before moving to Rockhill.

As an only child, I now carry the crucial responsibility of ensuring my father's well-being. Since the moment he arrived at his Residential Living apartment, he was comfortable, cared for, and loved. Now in Personal Care, the Rockhill team continues to care for his health, safety, and happiness, and he is surrounded by a community of friends.

Support from the Benevolent Care Fund has enabled my father to remain at Rockhill. This has been one of the greatest gifts we've ever received.

– Fred, son of Rockhill resident Irving, and thankful supporter of RMC's Benevolent Care Fund



## Welcome New Residents

Russell and Shirley Benner

Merle and Arlene Cramer

Tom and Sylvia Dietrich

Leona Ferrarie

Hope Garrett

Carolyn Husted

Katherine King

Richard and Mary Kline

Carol Kulp

Robert and Sylvia Lee

Frank Nuneviller

Darwin and Jean Overholt

Betty Rutherford

David and Judy Sng

## Rockhill Executive Leadership Team:

**Karen Lehman, President and CEO**

215-257-2751, ext. 124

klehman@rockhillmennonite.org

**Carol DeLancey, Vice President**

**of Health Services**

215-257-2751, ext. 175

cdelancey@rockhillmennonite.org

**Douglas Hacker, CFO**

215-257-2751, ext. 123

dhacker@rockhillmennonite.org

**Juanita Nyce, Vice President**

**of Organizational Advancement**

215-257-2751, ext. 142

jnyce@rockhillmennonite.org

**Kristin Thim, Vice President**

**of Human Resources**

215-257-2751, ext. 126

kthim@rockhillmennonite.org

## Sodexo: Supporting Rockhill's Faith-Based Mission

Finding partners today that share your faith based values can be difficult. Beyond the basic need to perform functions on time and on budget, Rockhill observes a higher calling to provide a wide range of services to meet specific needs and encompass the whole person in an atmosphere of Christian love. How nice it is when a partner embraces that mission and aligns its values with yours on a daily basis.

As a Dining and Nutrition Services provider, Sodexo strives to prepare varied and delicious nutritionally balanced dishes. Once prepared, Sodexo's friendly and engaged team serves the meals to the valued residents of Rockhill. That one little word, "serve," is the most important component in the foregoing sentence. Service is much more than passing a plate – it's the defining characteristic of the Sodexo team. We seek to serve!

That attitude of service is grounded in our CARES Behavioral Training. The acronym CARES stands for Compassion, Accountability, Respect, Enthusiasm and Service. Sodexo's CARES behaviors represent the behavior characteristics that we want employees at every level of our organization to display in their interactions with residents, families, visitors, staff members, and each other.

Team members who effectively demonstrate CARES behaviors and perform above-and-beyond actions that support the Resident Experience are eligible to earn Sodexo's prestigious CARES recognition. The top five nominees are honored at Sodexo's national conference. Maybe the next national winner will come from Rockhill's dedicated Sodexo team!

**Here's how Sodexo shows Rockhill residents and staff how much it CARES every day:**

**Compassion** - Demonstrates care and sensitivity in words and actions.

**Accountability** - Answers for outcomes and the results of actions.

**Respect** - Offers objective, unbiased consideration and regard for the rights, values, beliefs and property of all people.

**Enthusiasm** - Shows great excitement in creating exceptional experiences for those with whom we interact.

**Service** - Totally focuses and commits to deliver outcomes that exceed expectations.

Sodexo salutes Rockhill's mission and pledges to support that mission every day by demonstrating our CARES behaviors.



## More Community Day Memories...



## MISSION STATEMENT

We are a vibrant community providing purpose, dignity, and compassion, centered in God's love.



### Board of Directors

Ron Hertzler – Chair

Michele Thrush – Assistant Chair

Glenn R. Bauman – Secretary

Jennifer Landis – Treasurer

Bryce J. Bergey

David L. Bergey

Jeff Godshall

Dorothy K. Weik

H. Jeffrey Wilkins

ROCKHILL MENNONITE COMMUNITY

3250 STATE ROAD

SELLERSVILLE, PA 18960

215-257-2751

WWW.ROCKHILLMENNONITE.ORG





Rockhill Mennonite Community  
*A Continuing Care Retirement Community Since 1935*

3250 State Road • Sellersville, PA 18960  
215-257-2751 • [www.rockhillmennonite.org](http://www.rockhillmennonite.org)

“I should **have** done this **by** now!”



One of the many things that make Rockhill so special is the variety of personalities and rich histories that make up our community. But one thing that so many have in common? They wonder why they didn't join us sooner!

**Isn't it time you made the move  
to worry-free living?**

We have models ready to show right now. For details and to schedule your personalized tour, call Cathy at 215-257-2751, ext. 211.

Rockhill Mennonite Community  
*A Continuing Care Retirement Community Since 1935*

3250 State Road • Sellersville, PA 18960 • 215-257-2751 • [www.rockhillmennonite.org](http://www.rockhillmennonite.org)

