# the LINK

#### **Spring 2016** A Publication of Carroll Lutheran Village

## THE LUTHERAN VILLAGE AT MILLER'S GRANT Welcomes its First Residents in February Ribbon Cutting Ceremony Held April 15

**NOW OPEN!** After more than a decade of planning, The Lutheran Village at MILLER'S GRANT opened its doors and welcomed its first residents on February 8. The ribbon cutting ceremony that officially christened the Howard County community was held on April 15.

More than 200 people attended the ribbon cutting, including state and Howard County officials and residents and future residents of MILLER'S GRANT.

Phyllis Mazer, who selected MILLER'S GRANT as her future home in September 2011, was one of the first to move in on February 8. "I knew I wanted to move just once," she said. "Since MILLER'S GRANT offers all three stages of care, I won't ever have to move again."



*The main entrance to the community served as the backdrop for the ribbon cutting ceremony on April 15.* 



Paul Miller, left, shakes hands with Geary Milliken, right, as Carroll Lutheran Village Board of Trustees Chair David Bollinger (center) applauds the ribbon cutting.

"It has been a long journey to arrive at this point," said President & CEO Geary Milliken. "It is exciting to witness The Lutheran Village at MILLER'S GRANT become a community and people making it their home."

The second apartment building opened in March, and the third began move-ins in April. Occupancy of individual homes also began in March. Construction and move-ins for the remaining apartments, homes and the High Care Center will continue through the fall.

Gene and Donna Streagle took possession of their apartment in March and are enjoying the lifestyle they've been looking forward to for some time. "I raked my last leaf before we moved in," said Gene, "I propped that rake up when I was done and thought about how great it would be to never do that again."

The 50-acre property is adjacent to the Charles E. Miller branch of the Howard County Public Library and the Ellicott City Senior Center. The campus includes a pub, casual and formal dining



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Carroll Lutheran Village is a continuing care retirement community dedicated to the ministry of caring in a Christian atmosphere fostering quality life and services for the whole person.

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#### THE LUTHERAN VILLAGE AT MILLER'S GRANT Welcomes its First Residents (continued)

spaces, a Wellness Center with fitness center and aerobic/dance room, salon, and tennis court. An indoor pool is also planned.

The Lutheran Village at MILLER'S GRANT is being developed and operated by Carroll Lutheran Village with its 35-years of experience in senior living. Plans are already in motion to bring the residents of the two communities together for learning and social occasions.

Presently, MILLER'S GRANT is over 90% reserved with only a few apartments remaining. When complete, the community will boast 205 apartments and 36 duplex and single-family homes plus 20 assisted living suites and 12 skilled nursing beds in the High Care Center.

"My father had a vision that this land would be used to serve the community in the Lutheran tradition," said Paul Miller, who gifted the land to Carroll Lutheran Village through the non-profit Grey Rock Community, Inc. "There were times when we didn't think it would happen, but we persevered. This is an incredible legacy."



Dave and Joan Wanex took time to peruse the desserts and treats in the pastry case while they got to know their new community on February 8.



*Executive Director Paula O'Neill (left) and President/CEO Geary Milliken (right) welcome Phyllis Mazer (center) home to her new apartment on February 8.* 



One of two cozy seating areas in the two-story main lobby.

#### THE LUTHERAN VILLAGE AT MILLER'S GRANT Welcomes its First Residents (continued)



Gene and Donna Streagle enjoy a relaxing sitting area at MILLER'S GRANT.



The Coffee Curve is an inviting area for residents to enjoy complimentary coffee and tea when the Bistro is closed.



The Bistro has ample seating for large and small groups.



*Anita Jeppi pauses while unpacking inside her new apartment on February 8.* 

The Pub has plenty of comfortable seating for intimate or large gatherings during mealtime, happy hour or any time.



**Carroll Lutheran Village** 

### OXX NAMED Executive Director



George Oxx has been named Executive Director for Carroll Lutheran Village. He has more than 30 years experience in the management and administration of continuing care retirement communities.

Oxx joins the Village after nearly ten years at Mercy Ridge, a continuing care retirement community in Timonium, where he was the executive director. He has also served as the executive director at Kensington Park in Kensington, Md. and Morningside House in Ellicott City, Md., as the administrator for Asbury Methodist Village in Gaithersburg, Md., and as a management consultant for The Osborn in Rye, N.Y.

Oxx will oversee the daily management of the independent living, assisted living and skilled nursing levels of residency at Carroll Lutheran Village which includes facilities, dining, resident life, social work, chaplaincy, skilled nursing, assisted living, and rehabilitation.

He holds a Master's Degree in public administration from Long Island University in Greenvale, N.Y. and a Bachelor of Science in Education and Health Care from Wagner College in Staten Island, N.Y.

## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER Focuses on Children

March 4 was a day for women, men and children of all cultures to come together and celebrate their faith during the annual World Day of Prayer. Carroll Lutheran Village hosted the Carroll County event, which was planned by Church Women United of Carroll County. Women from seven area churches and fourth and fifth grade students from Carroll Lutheran School took part in the service.

World Day of Prayer is a global movement of Christian women in more than 170 countries and regions who come together one day a year in prayer to affirm their faith. Each year the service is prepared by women from a different country. This years' service was written by the women of the World Day of Prayer Committee of Cuba, who invited worshippers into the Kingdom with the words "Receive children, receive me."

"In the time in which Jesus lived, children had no place. They were the most vulnerable, very different from the society we live in today," said Nancy Dean with Church Women United of Carroll County and the chair of World Day of Prayer. "For Jesus to acknowledge children in His presence and to accept them was totally unheard of and certainly helped to change the ethical norm in his time."

Throughout the service we also learned about Cuba's history and rich cultural diversity as the women of Cuba shared their stories of tradition, intergenerational wisdom and experiences of God's profound love and acceptance.

For more information about World Day of Prayer in the United States visit www.wdp-usa.org.



Carroll Lutheran School student Camryn Cruz (left), Lisa Ogg from St. John Lutheran Church in Westminster (center), and Martha Green from Fairview United Methodist Church in New Windsor (right) took part in the opening prayer.



Joanne Kemmer as Jesus (left) and Pam Simmons as his Disciple (right) from St. Benjamin Lutheran Church receive the children, represented here by Carroll Lutheran School students.



Pastor Ann Durboraw (left) from St. Luke Lutheran Church in New Windsor and Carroll Lutheran Village residents Marge Larkins and Pat Rosenquist join Carroll Lutheran School students in song during the service.

## WHEN IS THE RIGHT TIME TO FOR ASSISTED LIVING?

For many older adults, realizing that you need help with day-to-day living is tantamount to giving up your independence. "We don't want you to give up your independence," said Tracy Raymond, RN, Diven House program manager at Carroll Lutheran Village. "Assisted living is assistance, not dependence."

Today's adults increasingly want to age in place. Assisted living is one aging-in-place option, as it is most commonly defined as a choice for those with minimal needs for assistance with daily living. Residents are able to live independently in a safe environment with as much, or as little, assistance as needed. The two most common services provided medication management and meals, but additional services are available to meet individual care needs.

#### In-Home Care vs. Assisted Living

Families will often consider in-home care options first, which can be advantageous for people who want to stay in their own homes, have strong social and recreation options available, and are in full control of their routines and schedules. However, most in-home care services can be intrusive to the resident's lifestyle and burdensome to the family who must manage this service, and are typically more expensive overall than assisted living.

Assisted living generally provides round-theclock support and supervision. Residents live in their own private apartment in a community specifically designed for safety and mobility. The monthly fees include housekeeping, laundry, meals, transportation, social and recreation opportunities, utilities, etc.

#### When to Make the Move

Raymond says it can be a difficult for someone to realize that they need assistance with things like managing medications, cooking, cleaning, bathing and dressing. A physician or social worker will often be able to offer insight on whether assisted living should be considered. Raymond warns, however, that it can take up to six months for some people to adjust to their new surroundings due to the emotional stress caused by the separation from a long-time home and family. The more prepared someone is, and the more able they are to participate in the decision making, the faster they tend to acclimate.

#### How Doris Made the Move

About 70% of assisted living residents come from a private home or apartment, like 96 year-old Doris Harry, who lived in a 5th floor apartment at Carroll Lutheran Village for nearly 26 years before moving to Diven House in March 2016. "She started slowing down just a little bit," said son Dwight Harry. A former chair of the craft committee, gift shop volunteer and Wii Bowling champ, Doris wanted to be sure she could stay at Carroll Lutheran Village. She knew the time was right when an apartment became available in Diven House with virtually the same view that she had from her 5th floor apartment. "I wanted a window where I could see the farm," she said.

The move happened quickly and easily, she said. Three days to move furniture and belongings, set up the new apartment and hang pictures. Since then, she attends as many classes and activities as she can, including baking, card making and balance class. "I've always been an active girl," she said. But assistance is there when needed from the Diven House staff. "They are wonderful," she said. They see that you're taken care of."



Doris Harry poses in her new Diven House apartment next to a painting by her late husband Charles of Lansdowne United Methodist Church in Lansdowne, where she's been a member for 95 years.

## CLV'S RESIDENT "HOOKER"

by Hannah Lynn

March 11, 2016- Meg Edleman is known for being CLV's resident "hooker." Rug hooker that is!

In three years almost anything can change, but for Edleman, three years is about the perfect amount of time to hook a rug. She began hooking rugs almost 35 years ago, when a woman named Ellen Feminano, a rug hooking teacher for the Cattail River Chapter of the National Guild of Pearl K. McGowan Hookrafters, came to Edleman's church to showcase the art of rug hooking.

Edleman was hooked. Not too long after, she joined the Hookrafters. Although Feminano has since passed, the Hookrafters still meet twice a month in various members' homes. Seven to ten ladies attend each chapter meeting where they give input, ask questions, and most importantly, hook rugs.

The Guild uses the authentic style of rug hooking, the "traditionalist method." This method uses burlap, and is the method early Americans used. Edleman said if she is going to do it at all, she's going to do it the right way! Rug hooking has made Edleman many friends over the years, and has also helped her retain good eye-hand coordination and mental acuity.

Since she began hooking rugs, Edleman has hooked over 15 rugs and other items such as stockings and wall hangings. She put her creations on display March 11 in the Carroll Lutheran Village Wellness Center for residents and staff. Even before 11:00 a.m. start time waves of people filled the classroom to admire her work.

Residents in complete disbelief circled the room trying to capture the beauty of everything she created.



*Red, white and blue are Edleman's favorite colors to work with, as shown in this completed rug.* 



Edleman explains the rug hooking process to those who attended her demonstration.

Throughout the afternoon more than one person looked around and said, "Oh Meg, wow!" She chuckled, "You can even walk on and vacuum them."

About 12 rugs filled the room along with stockings, a pillow, a wall hanging, and a tree skirt. While people continued to circulate throughout the room Edleman tucked in a corner sat with a hook in her right hand and wooden hoop in the other while answering questions.

It soon became obvious there is a lot more to just sitting in a chair and pulling wool strips through burlap holes.

Edleman described the steps she takes before she can begin hooking:

- Pick out pre-sketched burlap that will outline the rug
- Decide on the colors, normally her favorite, red, white, and blue
- Buy bolts of wool
- Her friend dyes the wool to her specified color selections—it is crucial to know how much of each color you'll need because you cannot go back and get the same color
- Feed wool through stripper and get tiny wool strips

After all of these steps are completed, she's ready to begin a new rug.

Even after hooking rugs for about an hour a day for 35 years, Edleman still finds great joy in it. "Once it's not fun anymore I'll just stop," she said. Until then, she continues to create beautiful pieces of art while keeping herself active.

## MY NEIGHBOR IN NEED

By Janet Buchanan, Vice President of Philanthropy



Do you ever stop and ponder the difference just one person can make? Think about people in your life who always seem to be helping others.

Dave Snuggs, an entrepreneur and philanthropist wanted to help his Montana neighbors, so he created a web-based, neighbor-to-neighbor connecting point. Dave has a burning desire to help people, help his neighbors; his tenacity, dedication and some good old-fashioned luck helped him found My Neighbor in Need in 2013.

"Every single person at one time in their life has a need," he says. "For some, that time is right now. Each of us has the capacity, talent, and ability to help another. Each of us can help, because help comes in many different forms. The first step in helping your neighbor is to simply care." Whether it be dollars, goods or services, people help in many ways.

#### Dave says he is paid in Joy!

So, what does this have to do with those of us who know and love Carroll Lutheran Village? As it turns out, we have a lot in common.

Many Village residents enjoy helping one another. Just as in Dave's program, people here offer their help sometimes through dollars, sometimes through sharing material goods, sometimes by offering service. It's all about love. We share, each within our own capacity.

Catherine Pulsifer, a motivational writer, makes this point through a vertical poem.

T hose who are less fortunate

**O** ften don't want to ask for help.

H ard times hit all of us at some point.

E njoy your good fortune,

L et your fortune help others.

P eople helping people makes this world a better place!

Let's all think about how we can better help our neighbors, and be thankful for the ability to help.

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## LONG-TIME VOLUNTEER Honored with Lay Ministry Award

The 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Celebrate Ministry Awards Program recognizing outstanding Lutheran lay ministry in the Delaware-Maryland Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America was held on April 17 at Carroll Lutheran Village in Westminster. A total of 13 awards were presented by the Synod Bishop, the Rev. Wolfgang D. Herz-Lane.

Carroll Lutheran Village volunteer Connie Browning, a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Reisterstown, was honored with a Social Ministry Organization Award for her ongoing volunteerism with the Village. Browning has been volunteering at the Village for over 15 years, serving as a 1:1 visitor to skilled nursing and assisted living residents, escorting residents to physician appointments, participating

in group activities and helping new residents get acquainted with their new community. As a member of the former Friends of the Village auxiliary, she represented her congregation as an ambassador and served on the Board. She chaired the Taste of Ireland St. Patrick's Day dinner that raised about \$3,500 over the three years it was held, and chaired or served on a number of other auxiliary fundraising event committees.

Browning continues to chair the annual quilt raffle and works as a sales associate in the two campus gift shops. Proceeds from the raffle and both shops are designated for the Ministry of Caring, which supports residents of the Village with need.

When asked why she volunteers at the Village, Connie replies "because I enjoy it! By helping others I receive so much just knowing that I can make a difference in someone's life."



Connie Browning (center) received a lay ministry award from Rev. Wolfgang D. Herz-Lane, Bishop of the Delaware-Maryland Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (left) and Geary Milliken, president and CEO of Carroll Lutheran Village (right). The Village also made a gift to the Ministry of Caring Endowment Fund named after Browning's parents, Thelma H. and Herbert R. Staley.

