

The Ridgewood at Shenango Valley

An Assisted Living Residence

www.ridgewoodshenango.org

Volume I

Winter 2009

Celebrating Christmas with Family & Friends



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The RIDGEWOOD AT Shenango Valley



2008 Marks 10th Anniversary

2008 marked the 10th anniversary of The Ridgewood at Shenango Valley. Established in the fall of 1998, the assisted living residence offers personal care services combined with private apartments and beautiful common areas, inside and outside, for residents to enjoy. Meals, housekeeping, and transportation are services that are provided designed to make life easier for residents. In addition, residents can receive help with daily activities such as personal hygiene, medication management and much more.

Residents decide how active they'd like to be with a variety of special events and regularly scheduled activities offered. The Annual Family Picnic and Christmas Dinner are highlights each year lending opportunity for family members and friends of

residents and staff to celebrate together. Other events during the year include Thanksgiving Dinner, Sweethearts at 90, and The Annual Strawberry Festival and Auction. The latter, an annual fund-raising event, combines delicious strawberry treats with a live and a Chinese auction. Held in June, the event usually draws more than 300 people to the grounds of The Ridgewood. Proceeds regularly exceed \$5,000 and support The Ridgewood's Good Samaritan Fund which helps to pay for costs of care that some residents can't afford to pay.

A much needed service is available to people who are looking for short term stays at the residence. Whether it be for a few days or a few months, Respite Stays offer accommodations to individuals who need a short stay or want to stay on a trial basis before permanently moving in. They include a furnished apartment, room and board, and all personal care services.

The Ridgewood is adjacent to the UPMC Shenango Valley Campus. The Ridgewood, operated by Partners in Senior Care, Inc., is a collaborative program of UPMC Hospital and St. Paul Homes. Throughout its first ten years, The Ridgewood has been home to hundreds of individuals. The trustees, administration, and staff members are privileged to serve the Shenango Valley and neighboring communities.



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If you'd like to receive a copy of this newsletter via email please write to Rita Clemente at clemente@stpaulhomes.org and you will be added to our electronic mailing list. Questions or comments can also be emailed to Clemente.



The Great Outdoors - Annual Family Picnic







Commemorative Bricks

The Commemorative Brick Program is underway at Ridgewood at Shenango Valley. Over 25 residents, members of their families and friends of The Ridgewood at Shenango Valley have honored a loved one using the commemorative brick program.

Launched in 2008, the program provides a means of honoring or remembering loved ones by having their name or other information inscribed on a brick paver. The pavers are installed in a curving walk near the main entrance that leads to a small porch adjacent to the activities room.

The project was initiated by resident Dot Goodrick and Administrator Ron Duez.

“When we built the picnic pavilion last year, Dot suggested that we offer a way for residents and others to honor loved ones by placing their names on bricks,” explained Duez. “We then decided that the commemorative

bricks would be more visible on the curving brick walk near the main entrance. Everyone coming to the main entrance sees it.”

The proceeds from the project will initially be used for improvements to a large patio area at the facility. It will include installing a privacy fence, a new fountain, patio tables with umbrellas and chairs, and other enhancements.

Ron points out that the bricks come from a local brick supplier and the engraving is done by a local monument company. In this way, the project supports local companies.

The Commemorative Brick program is an ongoing project. The engraved bricks are available for a donation of \$75. Anyone interested may contact Ron at The Ridgewood at Shenango Valley for details and a form.



Pictured are Jesse Stuver and Bob Shaw, residents of The Ridgewood, enjoying a rest on the commemorative brick walkway.

Sweethearts at 90

Each year on Valentine’s Day, a gathering takes place to celebrate residents who are 90 years or older. Food, entertainment, and fellowship are highlights of the gathering. Pictured are our Sweethearts at 90 from February 2008.

Pictured sitting left to right: Anna May, Mary Becker, Bea Mountain(D), Margaret Davis(D), and Carl Gilliland. Standing left to right: Ann Geisel, Ed Murchie, Clara Subasic, Rose Rudberg, and Jean Oakes.





2008 marked the 6th Annual Strawberry Festival and Auction. The event was created to host residents and their families along with members of the community on the beautiful grounds of The Ridgewood as well as to raise funds to support the Good Samaritan Fund. In 2008, proceeds exceeded \$5000 and were used to cover costs of care that some residents can't afford. *The 2009 event is slated for Sunday, June 28th.*



It's Never 2 Late

empowering lives through technology



Residents have a new way to experience the latest technology because of a corporate foundation donation.

A grant of \$10,000 from the Rite-Aid Foundation has enabled The Ridgewood at Shenango Valley to purchase an interactive computer system that allows residents to communicate by e-mail, surf the web, take part in games and activities and perform other computer operations.

The It's Never 2 Late System, nicknamed KIT for "Keeping in Touch" offers special features to assist users who do not have experience using personal computers. These include adaptive keyboards with various key layouts, a touch-screen monitor and a trackball mouse system. Some of the peripheral equipment enables a user to cycle along beautiful trails, drive a car or an 18-wheeler, or fly a plane.

KIT offers therapeutic and other benefits in addition to the enjoyable activities and informational opportunities.

Staff members will receive training on the operation of KIT and then will assist residents in using the system.

"The KIT System offers our residents opportunities for interaction and discovery as well as a means of keeping in touch with family and friends through e-mail," noted Ron Duez, administrator. "Whether someone is experienced with computers or this is a new adventure, KIT offers many alternatives for our residents."



Pictured is Ethel Stahl



Pictured is Twila Bean



Thanksgiving Dinner 2008



*Halloween
Trick-or-Treat
2008*



The
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AT Shenango Valley

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