What Luck!

Our very own Leprechauns, Patrick and Dottie brought some spirited green to this year’s flower show. Read about the three lucky things that happened. Go to Page 3.

Our mission, based on the Church of the Brethren values of service, integrity, simplicity and love, is to meet the physical, spiritual and emotional needs of all members of the Peter Becker Community.


To create a “best place to live” environment for our residents and a “best place to work” environment for our staff, meeting or exceeding and promoting the highest quality standards, operating in an environmentally responsible manner, actively participating in the local community, viewed as a community leader on issues affecting aging adults, leveraging technology and continuously advancing our knowledge base while being financially self-sufficient.

Core Values (Amended 11/23/2010)

Peter Becker Community practices:

- Respect for all
- Environmental Responsibility
- Commitment to Quality
- Commitment to Personal and Professional Development
- Integrity in Business Practices
- Social Accountability

Officers

Carol Berster, NHA, CASPF, President/CEO
Carol DeLancey, NHA, Senior Vice President/COO
Tim McQuaid, MBA, VP/CFO
Harry McConnell, MBA, SPHR, VP/Human Resources
Paul Nye, D. Min, CFRE, VP Mission Support

Board of Directors

John Frankenfield, Chairman
Jim Hershhey, Chair Elect
Tom Nolan, AAS, BS, DVM, Treasurer
Jacqueline S. Howenstein, MSN, RN, CEN, Sec’y
Cynthia Limbert, RN, BSN
M. Terry Page
Donald P. Bryant
Rev. Ronald G. Lutz
Stuart R. Suter, Esq.
Mark Baliles, M. Div.

Membership in Professional Organizations:

- Leading Age National & Leading Age PA, An Association of Non-Profit Senior Services
- Anabaptist Providers Group
- Fellowship of Brethren Homes

Serving in the Community

LEADERSHIP TEAM HELPS LOCAL CHARITY: Four members of the Peter Becker Community Leadership Team serve on the board of the local branch of Bridge of Hope, an organization that works to end homelessness for single parent and children families within Bucks and Montgomery counties. This photo was taken at the organization’s Annual Gala on Friday, April 11th. This event was also attended and supported by other members of the community.

L-R: Carol DeLancey, Harry McConnell, Merlin Hedrick and Tim McQuaid.

STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION

Peter Becker Community is a nonprofit corporation related to the Church of the Brethren denomination. The goal of the founders of PBC has been and continues to be “the establishment of a total life care community based on Christian principles that provide programs, care, housing and preservation of dignity to any aging person of any faith or religion.” As a result, PBC has developed specialized abilities to meet the care and spiritual needs of those aged 55 and older in the residential living, personal care and skilled nursing portion of our community. Within those abilities and in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations, no person shall be excluded from participation in, denied benefits of, or otherwise be subject to discrimination in the provision of employment or of any care or service.

STATEMENT OF SOLICITATION POLICY

Peter Becker Community is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. From time to time, we send solicitations to various constituencies requesting them to consider donating to our ministry. If you do not wish to be contacted, please inform the Mission Support Department of PBC at 215-256-9501 so that we may amend our records. Thank you.
Flower Show Lucky Streak

Was it the luck of the Irish this year? Maybe, maybe not. But, there was no denying that there were a number of happy accidents that occurred at “Cirque Du Bloom.” Beyond acting as a wonderful community connector offering purposeful creative activities, the flower show also serves as an auxiliary fundraiser, enhances relationships and wellness, and opens our amazing community to thousands of visitors. Perhaps that is why good things surround this event. Here are three lucky things that happened this year.

The first was the wonderful taxidermy animals loaned to us by Dale & Pat Ziegler (Lorraine Ziegler’s kids). A coyote, caracal cat, bobcat, three bears and a lion were all part of the exhibit. The star was the ten-foot Kodiak bear dressed in a tutu. Children were in awe of his size, many laughed at his attire, and, few were disappointed that we dressed him in a tutu. There was no doubt that the animals captured a lot of attention.

The second happy accident occurred thanks to our Thrift Shop. Just days before opening, the perfect size teddy bear arrived to enhance the last circus wagon. The original idea was that the cage would be empty with the bars bent open giving the audience the suggestion that a dancing bear was loose in the room. When the teddy bear arrived we changed our mind. See the photo above. Many, many things are always “planned” for the main exhibit, but obviously not all come to fruition. The third happy accident was illustrating the three ring circus. The original intent was to create red rings around each of the show exhibits. We simply ran out of time to build them. But as luck would have it, in the flowers donated by Meadowbrook Farms, were lots of red petunias. We normally see just a few red flowers, so we were ecstatic. We circled the last three sets with red petunias!

Sincere appreciation goes out to the 17 sponsors, 78 advertisers and 11 display partners that supported this event. The “Major Sponsors” this year were Home Helpers, Sanford Alderfer Companies, Delcrest Medical Services, N. F. Landis & Son Inc., I.T. Landis & Son, Inc. and Prelude Services.

Please consider doing business with the organizations that help. You can see the full list on our website at www.peterbeckercommunity.com.corporate-friends.

Next Year’s Flower Show:
The Re-Imagined Garden
March 12-14, 2015

Local Fifth Grader’s Baby Elephant Gets Adopted

STILL HELPING THE KIDS: MacKenzie Dove, a fifth grader at Salford Hills Elementary loves elephants. During a school project, she learned about the mistreatment of retired circus elephants and became an advocate. She began creating a 3-D baby elephant sculpture to help raise money to support an elephant sanctuary located in Tennessee. When she approached the Flower Show Gang to request that her baby elephant sculpture (and cause) join our circus, we quickly accepted.

PHOTO: The baby elephant, Mackenzie and her Mom, Kathleen (back left) were warmly embraced by Regina Alderfer (in red), George Keck (back right) and Eleanor Kennedy, all members of the gang.

Simply Comfortable Life • Spring 2014
EVERYDAY volunteers at PBC perform tasks all over the campus. They keep the place going! One of the most unusual tasks on record was painting the CEO with squirt guns. The group above painted Carol Berster into one of the flower show backdrops. Why? Because we like to have a little fun around here. Here is the list of this year’s volunteers. If you volunteer and are not listed here, please accept our apology and contact Cindy Hollis, so we can adjust our records. To each and every volunteer, we hope you feel appreciated.

Volunteers Add Color to Our Lives

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you.
Carol Berster Announces Retirement

On March 26, 2014, Carol Berster, President/CEO of Peter Becker Community since February 2006, shared with community members and staff that she will be retiring in March 2015. She plans to move to Delaware to be closer to her family. The Board of Directors has reluctantly yet graciously accepted her decision to retire.

During her tenure the Maplewood Estates apartments were completed, the Healthcare Center received a total renovation, renovations are underway to the common areas of Ridgeview Estates, business systems have been improved and we can truly say that Peter Becker Community is the “Best Place to Live and the Best Place to Work.” When asked about her time at Peter Becker Community she replied, “I will always be thankful to the Board of Directors for giving me this opportunity to be in service in this wonderful place. I have worked for five different senior services organizations over the past 38 years and by far Peter Becker is the most loving and caring place that I have served.”

The Board of Directors has appointed Mennonite Health Services Alliance to lead the search committee to begin seeking the next CEO.

The community will also be planning opportunities for the community members, staff, families and its constituents to honor Berster for her years of faithful service.

New Faces on the Board
Four New Board Members and the New Resident Representative

For more information about our new and current Board Members please visit www.PeterBeckerCommunity.com

Cynthia Limbert, RN, BSN
Class of 2016
serves as Director of Clinical Information Systems at Grand View Hospital. She is an active member of Indian Creek Church of the Brethren and resides in Quakertown.

M. Terry Page
Class of 2016
is a former Peter Becker employee and a high school art teacher. She and her husband Dave live in Telford and have 3 children and 6 grandchildren.

Rev. Ronald G. Lutz
Class of 2016
is an ordained minister and retired pastor of the Ambler Church of the Brethren. He resides in Ambler with his wife, Ila. They have 2 daughters and 3 grandchildren.

Donald P. Bryant
Class of 2016
worked in information technology field for over 47 years. They live in Colmar and have 2 children and 3 grandchildren.

Rev. Robert H. Coble
Resident Representative
retired as Rector of All Saints’ Episcopal Church in 2009. He and his wife, Bobbi, have been married for 34 years and they have 3 children and 6 grandchildren.
WHETHER you liked the weather this winter or not, you are sure to enjoy this story about the hottest event of the winter season. It included throwing snowballs, ice fishing, bobsledding, and a whole array of indoor winter sports. The event was a first on campus and was the brainstorm of Joe Monserrat, Life Enrichment Coordinator. The idea was to build awareness and enthusiasm for the real Olympic Games in Sochi, Russia. And it worked.

Giving vigor to the event was the Life Enrichment team and the enthusiasm of our community members. It began with official opening ceremonies on January 9th in the “Orchid Terrace Stadium” highlighted with a parade of the nations (community members), special performances and the lighting of the torch. It ended two weeks later on January 23rd with the closing ceremony which included a celebration of the kind of achievements that could never truly be represented by an olympic medal.

According to Carol Berster, “I was especially pleased at how the entire community came together in friendly competition. New acquaintances have been born in hopes that they continue.” There was even talk of the 2016 Summer Senior Olympics. Stay tuned.

Earth Day Features Honeybees

There’s no need to fear, the honeybees are here. On Earth Day we welcomed our first bee hive to the community. It is located beyond the berm near Maplewood Estates. They are here thanks to the efforts of the community’s Green Team.

Most of us are familiar with honeybees. They are gentle creatures that mind their own business of making honey. To help us understand a little more we hosted beekeeper Walter Fitzgerald to teach us about these highly organized societies. He assured us that there is no reason to be nervous about our new neighbors. “They are not aggressive like wasps or ground bees, they will not sting unless they are protecting their hive from an intruder or are unduly provoked.”

If you are wondering why a retirement community would take on such a task consider this: honeybee colonies are seriously on the decline. The cause is not known for sure, long winters, mites, pesticides and colony collapse disorder are all threats. Why should we care? Honeybees are more crucial than we may think. They are responsible for pollinating most plant life and over 100 vegetable and fruit crops. No pollination, no food. It’s that simple.

One of the easiest ways to help rejuvenate the declining bee population, the Green Team discovered, is to share our campus with them. According to Cindy Hollis, “We have the perfect place for the bees and it is the environmentally responsible thing to do.”

As an added benefit the community will be sharing in the honey stores, provided the hive thrives. Sounds like a sweet deal.

Where for Art Thou Romeos & Juliets

The Romeos (Retired Old Men Eating Out) and the Juliets (Just Us Ladies Interested in Eating Together) have continued their quest to sample the local dining scene. The Romeos had a surprise guest, Merlin Hedrick, at their last outing, and the Juliets make a surprise shopping stop each month.

2013-14 Dining Travels

ROMEOS
American Star Diner
Franconia Café (Pictured)
Valley Café
Mal’s Diner
Zoto’s Diner
PowderBourne
Energy Station
Roy Ann’s
Family Heritage
O’Grady’s
Strawberry House
Pennsburg Diner

JULIETS
Red Robin
Zoto’s Diner
Cracker Barrel (Pictured)
Margarita’s
Hibachi Grill
Limerick Diner
Olive Garden
Red Lobster
Longhorn Steakhouse
P.F. Chang’s
The Pub

New Director of Pastoral Care

Merlin Hedrick

Merlin Hedrick, M. Div. was hired as the new Director of Pastoral Care in March. He has served in both pastor and chaplain roles over the past 20 years including 11 years as Director of Pastoral Care at Dock Woods Community, Lansdale, PA.
2014 UPCOMING EVENTS

Benevolent Fund Dinner
Tuesday, June 10th - 6pm
Your Company is WANTED! A wild west adventure will have you putting on your spurs to help people in our community. You will feel so good about your contributions that your heart will be riding off into the sunset. Would you like to join us? Contact: Paul Nye (215)703-4015.

Thrift Shop Fashion Show
Thursday, August 21 at 2pm
Don’t miss this high-spirited event where the latest in frugal fashion is elevated to stardom.

Auxiliary Annual Meeting
Tuesday, September 16 at 6pm
Get together with the group that provides a great deal of extra help to our community. At this annual event you will celebrate their successes and find out about future plans.

Health & Wellness Fair
Thursday, September 18
10am-2pm
This educational and interactive event is designed to keep you in touch with your good health. A variety of vendors and exhibitors will provide screenings, tips, and information on different aspects of health, wellness, fitness and lifestyle improvements.

15th Annual Golf Outing
Monday, October 6th
11am–6pm
at Indian Valley Country Club
This outing is more than a wonderful day of golf with colleagues, friends and family members. It is also about supporting the community’s health care center residents. Tee off with friends, enter competitions, and don’t miss the great giveaways and door prizes! We are looking for golfers and sponsors.
Contact: Harry McConnell (215)256-9501.

For more event information go to: www.PeterBeckerCommunity.com