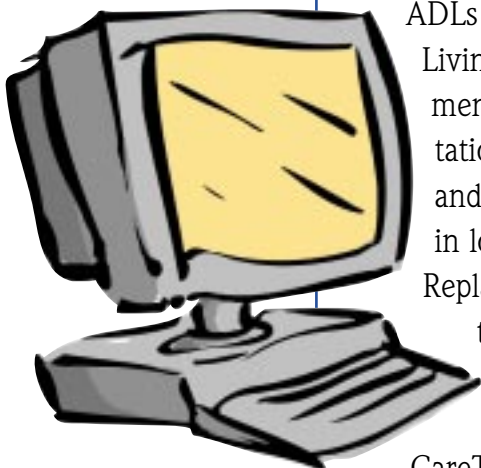


# Life<sup>at</sup> Manatawny Manor

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A PUBLICATION OF



## ***New software being tested to help track resident care***

**Nursing care staff members at Manatawny Manor** are testing a new version of resident care-data collection software called CareTracker Version 5.0.

As one of only two long-term care facilities in the country to beta test Version 5.0, Manatawny Manor is helping to evaluate the product for use in other Diakon retirement communities.

An earlier version of the software was previously tested at Locust Grove Retirement Village, a Diakon facility near Mifflin, Juniata County, Pa.

CareTracker captures resident ADLs (Activities of Daily Living) and supportive documentation. Proper documentation is essential to the care and well being of residents in long-term care settings. Replacing paper documentation systems that often are cumbersome and time-consuming, CareTracker provides better

and more accurate records of care that's been provided.

The CareTracker system uses wall-mounted touch screen units located at strategic points throughout the facility for the nursing staff's convenience. Staff must swipe their badges or use a password for security.

Designed with visual cues and simple data-entry capabilities, CareTracker is user-friendly and easy to learn.

At regular intervals, for example, the system aids staff by "highlighting" in yellow the names of residents for whom documentation is required. Categories of data needed—ADLs, behavior, measurements, therapy, etc.—light up as well. After the proper information is entered, the yellow highlights turn back to gray.

CareTracker prompts staff to chart resident data throughout the day, instead of just at the end of the shift, which means the infor-

# From the Executive Director

## Every time I come through the front doors of Manatawny Manor

and see how much our residents and guests are enjoying our beautiful new lobby, I know that the temporary inconveniences we all endured during our 2002 renovations were well worth it.

The project, which began late the prior year, has brought a fresh look and a variety of improvements to many areas throughout our facility.

Of course you can't miss the major transformation that took place in the lobby and entryway. But a lot more of our living space has been renovated as well.

New carpeting, ceiling lights,

and handrails have been installed in the main corridors on the first and second floors.

You'll also find fresh coats of paint and vinyl wall coverings throughout.

Our physical therapy and rehabilitation services have been relocated from the lower level to the first floor, in a new setting. New acoustic ceiling tiles, casework, lighting, and handrails enhance the area for residents and staff.

On the second floor, the activities room in our Assisted Living community has been rejuvenated with fresh paint, new ceiling lights, and kitchen and storage casework.

We're also pleased to have been able to establish a new SpecialCare unit within the Nursing Center for residents with dementia or a related cognitive impairment. Within that center we have created what is known as The Milestones Community, which provides programs and activities designed especially to meet the psychological, physical, and social needs of those in the early or mid-

dle stages of a dementia-related illness, such as Alzheimer's disease.

The community can serve up to 16 residents. The new area fea-

tures a multipurpose room for dining and activities and an enclosed courtyard with a gazebo and wandering path.

At the same time we have named our existing Assisted Living SpecialCare unit The Horizons Community.

This similar communi-

ty can accommodate up to 28 residents who are in the early stages of dementia. Needless to say, we are delighted with the outcome of this major renovation project at Manatawny Manor. The much-needed improvements were financed through a special fund previously set aside by Diakon for this purpose.

We greatly appreciate the cooperation and support of our residents, staff members, and families as we make our facility a better place to call home.

If you haven't had a chance to see the "new" Manatawny Manor yet, you're welcome to stop by for a visit anytime.

**- Debby Dollar-Reid  
Executive Director**



*Debby Dollar-Reid*

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Manatawny Manor is one of 21 retirement communities and facilities operated by Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries, which also offers a range of specialized programs for children, individuals, and families.

Visit our web site at  
[www.diakon.org](http://www.diakon.org)



# New Manatawny Manor chaplain looks forward to opportunities and challenges

## The Rev. Joseph Dietz saw his first service,

after officially becoming chaplain at Manatawny Manor on Sept. 3, as his first challenge.

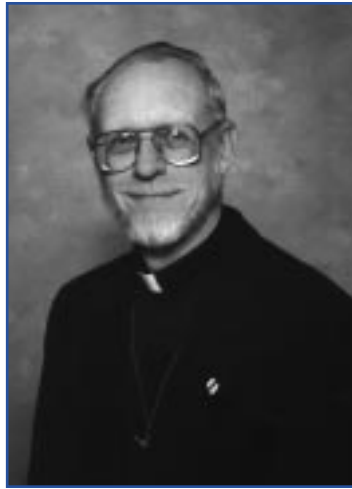
Immediately, he was asked to help determine a way to acknowledge the anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks on the United States.

“Residents and staff were looking for a way to set aside time to observe the anniversary,” Dietz explains, “and so we planned a service of prayer and song and reflection.”

Before the service began, he gathered the crowd in front of the facility to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. The service itself included special music and a selection of songs performed by Ruth Ann Shaner, RN, a staff nurse.

A lot of media attention was being given to this first anniversary, and it was hard to ignore,” he says. “I think our service was meaningful and appropriate.”

After that challenging start, the chaplain has settled into his day-to-day duties at Manatawny Manor, conducting spiritual discussions with residents as they come into the facility, leading regular services, visiting



*Rev. Joseph Dietz*

hospitalized residents, aiding families, and ministering to those in need.

These are roles that come very naturally to him, as he draws upon his experiences as a vocational deacon in the Episcopal Church, as pastor of St. Peter’s

Episcopal Church in Phoenixville, and as a hospice volunteer.

He even finds that he has occasion to draw wisdom from his prior 17-year career as a police officer and 40 years as a volunteer firefighter.

“I felt called to the ministry in college, but church politics at the time conflicted with my personal situation,” Dietz says.

“So after college, I taught for a year, worked as a chemist for 10 years, and at the same time joined the auxiliary police department in Pottstown. Soon I was led to a full-

time career as a police officer.”

A serious accident in 1989 brought his days as a policeman to an end. During nine months of recovery, he says, he reflected on his early interest in the ministry, re-evaluated his life, and enrolled in the seminary in 1990. He was ordained as a minister in the Episcopal Church in 1994.

Dietz has been an on-call chaplain at Manatawny Manor for the last several years, so he is no stranger to many of the residents and staff.

In addition, he lives locally in

Pottstown with his wife and his two sons and four grandchildren also live close by.

He says he welcomes the opportunity to work with older adults and their families, and considers it a special

calling for his ministry.

“Both of my parents passed away before I reached the age of 25,” he explains. “I feel the Lord called me to work with the aged since I never had the opportunity or experience with my own family.”



*Chaplain Dietz and Ruth Ann Shaner, RN, lead services at September 11 anniversary observance service.*

## Annual Holiday Craft Show featured local artists, favorite foods and silent auction

On Saturday, Nov. 30, the doors of Manatawny Manor opened for the 23rd annual Holiday Craft Show. More than 35 local artists offered their creations for sale, with homemade food and baked goods available as an added treat.

This year's event also included, for the first time, a silent auction, featuring items donated by area businesses. Proceeds of the silent auction are benefiting the nursing care center and are being used to purchase new television sets for resident rooms.

### Manatawny Manor Wish List

#### *Consider a gift!*

Awning to cover courtyard patio in adult day services area, \$6,000

China closet for each dining room, \$2,000 - \$5,000

Computers with Internet capability, \$1,000 - \$3,000

Semi-recumbent exercise cycle, \$1,200

Plant habitats, \$1,000 - \$2,000

Aviaries, \$1,000 - \$3,000

Aquarium, \$1,000 - \$2,000

Treadmill, \$1,000

Patio furniture, \$1,000 - \$8,000

Wheelchairs, \$1,000 each

Lounge chairs, \$1,000 each

Flowers for tables in each dining room, \$400 - \$800

Artwork, \$800 - \$1,000

VCR tapes (movies, music etc.), Under \$100

Wheelchair and walker bags, Under \$100

Crock pot for assisted living activities, Under \$100

Electric frying pan for assisted living activities, Under \$100

### *Auxiliary committee and group designed to benefit residents*

**Local church congregations and community members** are currently working together as Manatawny Manor forms an auxiliary that is enhancing the lives of residents.

Anyone interested in serving on the committee should contact Lora Gomboc, Manatawny Manor administrator, at (610) 705-3700.

## Special events help to celebrate Adult Day Services Week

**A series of special events** took place at Manatawny Manor this fall as clients, families and staff celebrated Adult Day Services Week.

Promoted as "The Best-kept Secret in Long-Term Care," adult day programs are gaining favor as an option to help older people "age in place" at home.

The national observance is designed to help educate people about the programs as a future trend in the care of older Americans.

The celebration took shape with a variety of activities, including a sing-along, the creation of a birthday cake by Adult Day Services clients, a concert of accordion music by John Rutkowski, and an open house.



*From left, Activity Coordinator Tanya Slaybaugh pins a special badge on Adult Day Services clients Phyllis Corbet and Mary O'Dell, with the help of Jill Houck, CNA, to celebrate national Adult Day Services Week this fall.*

## Community health fair showcases information and resources



**The Assisted Living Community at Manatawny Manor** recently hosted a community health fair for residents and the public to learn about available local resources

as well as the variety of services offered at Manatawny Manor.

Local organizations on hand included Caring Hospice, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, Hospice Saint John, Montgomery County Aging & Adult Services, Alzheimer's Association, Chester County Department of Aging Services, AAA Auto Club, Visiting Nurse Association (VNA) of Pottstown & Vicinity, Family Services of Montgomery County, Volunteer Home Care, and Tri-County Interagency Consortium.

VNA nurses offered blood pressure screenings and educational information, a service they also provide each month for Assisted Living residents at Manatawny Manor.

Many Fair attendees took the time to tour Manatawny Manor for a closer look at the recent renovations.

Assisted Living residents also recently celebrated Assisted Living Week with a special day of activities that included "Down Memory Lane" trivia and ice cream treats.

## Staff Appreciation Day honors years of service

Manatawny Manor recently honored staff who had reached major years-of-service milestones. Those honored were:

### 5 Years

Nina Dickinson, RN, Nursing Center  
Michelle Gaines, CNA, Nursing Center  
Diane Heffner, Activities  
Jennifer Isanski, RN, Nursing Center  
Helen Marshall, RN, Nursing Center  
Stephen Mathers, RN, Nursing Center  
Dianna Rawding, LPN, Assisted Living

### 10 Years

Lora Gomboc, Administrator  
Stacey Warren, Adult Day Services

### 15 Years

Georgine Cooke, Adult Day Services  
Georgia Gazdag, CNA, Nursing Center

### 20 Years

Susan Auman, RCA, Assisted Living  
Eva Horvat, CNA, Nursing Center  
Jenny Shukowitsh, CNA, Nursing Center

### 25 Years

Mary Gramata, RCA, Assisted Living  
Jayne Guest, RN, Director of Nursing  
Karen Weglos, Activities Director

### More Than 25 Years

Deborah Dollar-Reid, CNHA, Executive Director  
Chris Endy, RN, Nursing Center  
Judith Mauger, CNA, Nursing Center  
Monica Perfetto, LPN, Assisted Living  
Pat Schwenk, RN, Nursing Center  
Mary Shrum, CNA, Restorative Aide

## Manatawny Manor tests care-tracking software

*Continued from Page 1*

mation is timely and readily available. If there are any problems, they can be spotted and responded to quickly.

In addition to the touch units located throughout the facility, Manatawny Manor staff members are testing a desktop version of CareTracker that provides access to the software through Internet-connected computers.

This functionality adds convenience and enhances the capability to generate reports and monitor overall care for residents.

**May you  
have a  
blessed  
New Year!  
2003**



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