

# Life<sup>at</sup>

## The Village at Robinwood & Ravenwood Lutheran Village

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## *After a stormy end, Gosnells enjoy serene beginning*

**Lee and Hulda Gosnell never thought their move** from their previous home in Trego, Md., to Ravenwood Lutheran Village would uproot more than themselves.

A public sale to lighten the movers' load was the scene of an earth-shattering event. About an hour from the end of the sale, a windstorm occurred, uprooting a 74-year-old black walnut tree that narrowly missed landing on the sale tent. One woman suffered minor injuries when she fell into the hole left by the uprooted giant.

Fortunately, the move and the past two and half years of residence at Ravenwood have passed smooth-

ly and the couple is delighted with their surroundings.

"We looked around for a smaller place with less work," Lee says. "We got the information packet from Ravenwood and decided it was in line with our financial situation. We also knew some folks here and they had good things to say about it."

The Gosnells waited until a cottage became available, and then made the move.

They found that they can walk to a local grocery store, their doctor is just a few blocks away and, since they no longer drive, the transportation offered residents by Ravenwood is invaluable.

They enjoy the regular bus outings, the monthly cottage dinners, the summer picnics and the snow removal in winter and mowing and trimming in the summer.

One of the best benefits, however, is "the great neighbors," says Lee. "This a friendly place. We knew some folks before we got here. After we moved in, though, we learned there were others we didn't know about."

To add to their joy, the Gosnells recently celebrated their 65th wed-



*Memories—Lee and Hulda Gosnell reminisce while reviewing the newspaper account of their 65th wedding anniversary announcement.*

*(continued on back page)*

# From the Executive Director

## New leadership arrives

**There's a new face** at the campuses of Ravenwood Lutheran Village and The Village at Robinwood. On April 15, William G. Boyer, Jr., NHA, assumed the position of executive director at both Hagerstown facilities.

In his new role,



*William G. Boyer*

Boyer is responsible for the daily operations at Robinwood and

Ravenwood. Previously, he served as senior vice president with Roland Park Place, a CCAC accredited CCRC in Baltimore city. Bill was, in essence, the chief operating officer, ensuring all service delivery activity met the needs of almost 300 residents.

Boyer holds a

Master's degree in public administration from Maryland College in Scranton, Pa.

"I'm excited about the opportunities at Robinwood and Ravenwood," Boyer comments. "I plan to uphold Diakon's tradition of providing faith-based care as established at the facilities. I'm enthusiastic about the opportunity to be directly involved in the marketing of these fine communities. I look forward to working with the staff at Ravenwood and Robinwood, and challenging everyone to honor a sincere commitment to service."

Boyer is married and has three adult children. He and his wife, Katherine, intend to call Hagerstown home in the near future. They are both enthralled by the history, the culture and the beauty of Washington County.

## Robinwood Village starts new year with new director

**Sandra S. Alexander got Robinwood off to a new start** when

she arrived in January to assume the duties of director of residential services for The Village of Robinwood including independent and assisted living.



*Sandra S. Alexander, director of resident services/independent and assisted living*

Previously, she was regional director of operations for an assisted living corporation based in the state of Washington. She was responsible for five states, including Maryland and Pennsylvania, specializing in marketing and overall operations.

She is a graduate of Penn State University, Mon Valley School of Allied Health, and Westmoreland Community College with degrees in social services and geriatrics. **RBW**

## ...and a new health care coordinator

Barbara Hullinger, R.N., is a new addition to The Village at Robinwood staff, serving as health care coordinator.

She is a 1983 graduate from Hagerstown Junior College with a degree in nursing. Most of her career has been spent working in the geriatrics field. **RBW**

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The Village at Robinwood and Ravenwood Lutheran Village are two of 21 retirement communities operated by Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries, which also offers a range of specialized programs for children, individuals and families.

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



## Ravenwood participates in Senior Fair

### Ravenwood Lutheran Village staffed a booth at

the annual Senior Fair sponsored by the Washington County Commission on Aging. The event was held May 23, at the Clarion Hotel and Conference Center in Hagerstown.

It was the 10th anniversary of the fair, which attracts more than 2,000 people each year. The theme this year was patriotism.

The fair provided valuable information to seniors and, this year, celebrated Older Americans Month. In addition, various free screenings were offered.

A steering committee composed of commission staff and community representatives organizes and operates the fair each year. [RVW](#)



## Ravenwood nursing center dining program rolled out

An improved dining service has been introduced for nursing center residents.

The changes began recently with the theme, "Up, Up and Away," with the goals of making the first impression of the environment better and providing assistance for those who need it. There are now two seatings for dinner, one for independent residents and another one for those who may need a restorative dining program.

The Country Cupboard dining room itself will be enhanced with nostalgic kitchen items and other memorabilia as will the Sunshine Room, which is used for breakfast and for restorative dining in the evening. [RVW](#)



Activity Director Abby Housel shows residents Ethel Hebb (left) and Lillian Doub (right) the "Up, Up and Away" cake to celebrate the new Ravenwood NCC dining program.

## Robinwood offers many activities

In April, Robinwood began an intergenerational program involving pre-K and kindergartners from Hagerstown Community College Daycare, which will continue the first Wednesday of each month for the rest of the year.

An oil and acrylic painting class began in April, instructed by E. McCafferty from Hagerstown Community College.

Other workshops scheduled through May and June were historically accurate doll and presidential review of George Washington, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln and Harry Truman.

Cynthia Lawrence-Fink, noted historical dollmaker, discussed dolls dating from pre-history to the latter part of the 18th century, followed by an in-depth discussion of handmade dolls in American from the late 18th and 19th centuries. Examples were on display.

Lee Chaney explored the lives of Washington, Adams, and Jefferson, the dramatic decisions they made, how they shaped the office of the president and how their decisions affect our lives today. He also discussed Lincoln and Truman, including their similarities and wartime experiences.

Residents were entertained by Citizens Brass and enjoyed a Mother's Day celebration, Memorial Day picnic, Hagerstown Suns baseball game, antique car show, bike show, flower and garden show and zoo excursion. [RBW](#)

# Fitness is top notch at The Village at Robinwood

**Health and wellness** is being taken to a whole new level at The Village at Robinwood, thanks to the Community Center's fitness room and heated pool.

"The pool area is equipped with a state-of-the-art heating system that controls the temperature and humidity outside the water," says Cara Ceravalo, fitness coordinator. She added that after swimming or working out, residents may take a relaxing shower in separate locker rooms.

Water aerobics and arthritic

aquatic classes are offered during the week. Personal training sessions can be set up for those who have questions about the right type of exercise or for those who simply would like instruction.

"Assisted Living residents as well as our Cottagers take advantage of the fitness center on a daily basis," Ceravalo says. "An added incentive for residents is that their families are invited to use our facilities

too," she said. "Here at the village, we make 'getting fit' fun." **RBW**



*Philip Paule, Robinwood assisted living resident, relaxes in the spa.*



*Residents of both The Village at Robinwood and Ravenwood Lutheran Village enjoy this elegant pool and fabulous spa.*

## May Day volunteer brunch

**The annual volunteer recognition brunch** was held May 1 at Ravenwood Assisted Living.

Sixty volunteers who donate their time throughout the Ravenwood campus were honored for their total hours accumulated during the past year. A spring theme, carried out with flowers, highlighted the activity. **RVW**

## Honorary Gift

**Mr. Robert Couchman**

in honor of *Catherine Lehman*

## Ravenwood Wish List

Storage building, \$15,000

Eden alternative funding, up to \$5,000

Campus landscaping, under \$1,000

Tents for outside events, \$1,000

Outdoor/indoor Christmas decorations, \$100

Wheelchairs, under \$500

Entertainment center for nursing center, \$1,000

Lobby furniture for nursing center, \$1,000–5,000

## *New Ravenwood activity coordinator plans long-term for assisted-living residents*

**An activity coordinator with strong credentials in activities, volunteerism, and education has joined the Ravenwood Assisted Living family.**

Gail Snyder joined the village after 23 years as activities director



*Gail Snyder, CTRS, ACC, New Activity Coordinator*

and volunteer coordinator at another facility. She is a graduate of Shepherd College with a degree in therapeutic recreation and also is a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist. Additionally, Gail is instructor for

MEPAP, the Modular Education Program for Activity Professionals, the activities professionals' course at Hagerstown Community College.

Gail has several long-term goals in mind. She maintains many contacts with entertainers whom she would like to introduce to Ravenwood residents. She also is interested in more frequently taking residents to such events as plays and concerts.

She would also like to enhance volunteer programs, intergenerational activities, and community involvement. She hopes to work with area school systems to help students obtain volunteer hours required for graduation. [RVW](#)

## *Outstanding in their field*

**Ravenwood Nursing Care Center** staff members Stephanie Gantt, CMA, Joellen Harris, GNA, and Cheryl Senn, LPN have been nominated for the Nurse of the Year Award.

This nomination was made to the Tri-County Nursing Association, which involves Frederick, Washington, and Carroll counties. Winners will be chosen and honored at a ceremony in Frederick. [RVW](#)



## ***Remember The Village at Robinwood and Ravenwood Lutheran Village in your Will***

- Please send me **free information**, Conrad Teitell's *"Making Your Will."*
  - I have included **The Village at Robinwood** in my will.
  - I have included **Ravenwood Lutheran Village** in my will.

***Please complete and mail coupon to:*** Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries, Office of Advancement, One South Home Avenue, Topton, PA 19562-1399

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# Adult Day Service bus hits the road

A new 14-seat bus, complete with new corporate logo, went into service recently providing transportation for Ravenwood's Adult Day Service participants.

"We'll be able to transport more participants in wheelchairs with this new bus," Sue Farrell, director, says. "The ability to arrange the seating pattern



gives us increased flexibility when loading the bus. It should really make a difference having a new vehicle—especially one that requires less repair."

[RVW](#)

*Gosnells (continued from Page 1)*

ding anniversary. The Rev. Jacob Zepp united them in marriage on Feb. 18, 1937, in the parsonage of the Rohrersville, Md. Central United Brethren Church where they are still active members.

Lee is a retired B&O Railroad locomotive engineer and Hulda is a homemaker. They have one daughter, Ann, who lives in Hopkinsville, Ky. They are also the proud grandparents of Michael of Aurora, Col.

He enjoys gardening, while she has sung in the church choir and created many crocheted afghans. After retirement, they also were able to travel. [RVW](#)

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