



Pennsylvania Alliance of Retirement Community Residents

Joan W. Martin, Newsletter Editor

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The PARCR POST

Welcome to *The PARCR POST's* April 2023 newsletter, featuring the following information:

President Lowell Starling previews upcoming meetings and urges members to join us. [Click here](#)

President Lowell Starling previews the speakers and locations for the April, July, and October meetings in 2023. [Click here](#)

Membership Chair Susan Martin welcomes members to once again participate in an in-person Quarterly Meeting at Londonderry Village in Palmyra. Live streaming will also be available. [Click here](#)

Legislative Chair Gail Stelger recaps the Governor's proposed budget and our advocacy opportunities, and other timely updates from LeadingAge PA. [Click here](#)

President Lowell Starling provides a review of what's on the PARCR website. [Click here](#)

Information Sharing: Jeff Shireman, President of Londonderry Village shares information about our April host community. [Click here](#)

PARCR Leadership Team: A new vice president, Robert Newell, has been added to the PARCR Officers. [Click here](#)

The July 2023 edition of the *The PARCR POST, Issue 10.1*, will be released in late June 2023. If you have an item to contribute, please ask your Community's Staff Contact Person to email parcrpost@parcr.org for details and guidelines. The deadline will be June 2, 2023.

THE PARCR POST

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR

PENNSYLVANIA **A**LLIANCE OF **R**ETIREMENT **C**OMMUNITY **R**ESIDENTS

President’s Message by Lowell Starling

Another successful meeting!

The January PARCR meeting had a great turn out with 81 people attending in person at Bethany Village with another 14 attending virtually via live stream. The atmosphere was festive and the responses to the survey questions showed great appreciation for being able to meet in person again. The presentations were generally appreciated, and several speakers have been asked for follow-up information.

The next Quarterly meeting is at Londonderry Village on April 12, 2023. Based on the majority of responses to the survey question on meeting format, we will again have a two-hour (continued on page 2)

QUARTERLY MEETING

**April 12, 2023 at Londonderry Village
in Palmyra**

**10:00 in-person meeting and also
live streamed**

Presenter:

Garry Pezzano, CEO, LeadingAge PA

Topic:

**Issues of concern to seniors in
Pennsylvania**



In This Issue

President’s Message	1 & 2
Program Report	3
Upcoming Meetings	4
Membership News	5
Leading Age PA Update	6
PARCR Website Update	7
Londonderry Village	8&9
Information Page	10

VISION STATEMENT

Recognized as an enhanced educational and informational environment for PA CCRC residents



Pennsylvania Alliance of Retirement Community Residents

MISSION STATEMENT

Promote the exchange of ideas, education, and civic responsibilities of CCRC residents and encourage them to aid in decision making within their communities



Lowell Starling
PARCR President
president@parcr.org

Another successful meeting!

(continued from page 1)

morning session followed by lunch and then an optional tour of Londonderry Village. We will use this format since the survey responses showed strong support for it (see chart below).

The keynote speaker in April will be Garry Pezzano, the CEO of LeadingAge PA. In addition to updating us on the plans and goals of LeadingAge PA, we will ask him to address issues of concern to seniors in Pennsylvania. Specific topics identified in the survey after the July 2022 Quarterly Meeting include, in order of voting, 1) regulatory issues affecting senior living, 2) state funding options for senior living , 3) pros and cons of aging in

place, and 4) the legislative process.

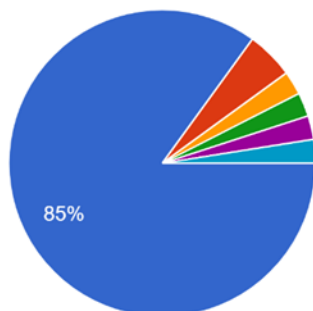
In addition, we will hear from Dan Seeger about **National Continuing Care Residents Association (NaCCRA)** and what is happening nationally which may affect us as seniors. The final presentation of the morning will feature Jeff Shireman, the CEO of Londonderry Village, discussing their community highlights.

We have some great speakers already lined up for the rest of the 2023 meetings. You can read more about them in the Program report on page 3 of this edition of the POST.

Lowell Starling

President

Pre-Covid The meetings included an afternoon session with a business meeting and a host community highlight. As we returned to in person meetings. For future meetings what would you prefer?
 40 responses



- Just a morning session plus lunch
- Afternoon sessions with host community highlights and business meeting
- Afternoon sessions with highlights only
- Morning session, lunch and tour of the facility as we did this time.
- Won't let me mark morning session plus lunch for some reason. I really liked th...
- really enjoyed the "host community highlight" at this meeting. There would...



Program Update

April 12, 2023 Quarterly Meeting

The keynote speaker for the April 12, 2023, meeting at Londonderry Village, in Palmyra will be Garry Pezzano, CEO of LeadingAge PA. In addition to updating us on the plans and goals of LeadingAge PA, we will ask him to address issues of concern to seniors in Pennsylvania. Specific topics identified in the survey after the July 2022 Quarterly Meeting include, in order of voting, 1) regulatory issues affecting senior living, 2) state funding options for senior living, 3) pros and cons of aging in place, and 4) the legislative process. We will also hear updates from Dan Seeger on **National Continuing Care Residents Association** (NaCCRA), and Jeff Shireman will present some Londonderry Village community highlights to cap off the meeting. After lunch, our hosts will offer an optional tour of their community.

July 12, 2023 Quarterly Meeting

The keynote speaker for the July 12, 2023 meeting at Masonic Village in Elizabethtown will be a principal from MediPlanConnect speaking on Medicare. MediPlanConnect specializes in helping Medicare beneficiaries select the product most appropriate for their health and finances. The presentation

will cover the evolution of Medicare and how to analyze the options facing seniors trying to select the most cost-effective solution for them from the variety of plans and add-ons. The information will be general in nature, rather than individualized. The timing will be great since Medicare open enrollment starts in early fall.

October 11, 2023 Quarterly Meeting

The keynote speakers for the October 11, 2023 meeting at Cross Keys Village in New Oxford will be a panel of industry leaders discussing the challenges and possible solutions facing the Continuing Care Retirement Community (CCRC) industry. At this point, we have a commitment from Todd Andrews, President, CCRC Division of Asbury Communities. Joining him will be Steve Jeffrey, leader of the Colligo Group, a multistate consortium of CCRCs. We have invitations pending with other industry leaders, as well.

For subsequent meeting dates and locations, please see page 4.



Upcoming Meetings

Where is PARCR going next?

Isn't it great to be able to hold in-person meetings once again? Some of our scheduled host communities "missed their turn" during the covid-19 years and several are back in the line-up. PARCR is now seeking community hosts for future meetings beyond those scheduled (see the chart below).

Hosting a Quarterly Meeting is a great way to introduce your community to your fellow PARCR members.

If your community has the needed facilities and you are willing to host a meeting, please contact Charley Sproule, PARCR meeting coordinator, at cfsproule@verizon.net or call him at 717-790-2040. Information on the facilities, equipment, and services needed to host a meeting will be provided to interested communities.

Below is the list of scheduled quarterly PARCR meetings at this time.

Quarterly PARCR Meeting Date	Meeting Location
Wed. Jan. 10, 2024	Bethany Village Mechanicsburg, PA
Wed. April 10, 2024	SpiriTrust Lutheran Sprenkle Drive, York, PA
Wed. July 10, 2024	Quincy Village Waynesboro, PA
Wed. Oct. 9, 2024	To Be Announced
Wed. Jan. 8, 2025	To Be Announced



Susan Martin
PARCR Membership Chair
membership@parcr.org

As the definite signs of Spring brighten our days, we also look forward to the April 12 PARCR Quarterly Meeting at Londonderry Village in Palmyra. The membership will have the opportunity to meet Garry Pezzano, president and CEO of LeadingAge PA, who will be the program presenter. Delegates and members will learn more about the work of LeadingAge PA in advancing the continuum of aging services and quality care for seniors.

The deadline to register to attend the meeting is April 3. Members and guests may register to attend the meeting and lunch with payment by check of \$15, select to attend the meeting only without lunch, or attend by live streaming. Londonderry Village will offer several choices for tours of their campus following lunch. You will be requested to indicate your tour selection when you register. **No registrations will be accepted after April 3, so plan to mail your registration early.** PARCR no longer accepts payment for the lunch or walk-ins on the day of the meeting and credit cards are not accepted.

The April meeting is the final meeting of PARCR's fiscal year 2022-2023. That is the

reminder for your Resident Council or Association to place the community membership or individual membership on the agenda to be completed before June 30, 2023. The renewal forms will be posted on the website after the April meeting.

The Executive Committee has undergone a revision and updating of the Bylaws for the organization. The Executive Committee is now the Board of Directors and a smaller group, the officers, now serve as the Executive Committee. The three delegates from each member community will be serving as liaisons between the PARCR Board and the community residents. They are the link, the connection, in spreading the PARCR program and legislative information with their community residents.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Susan Martin

PARCR Membership Chair



Gail Stelger
PARCR Legislative Chair
legislative@parcr.org

On March 7, 2023, Governor Shapiro shared his executive budget for the Pennsylvania state fiscal year 2023-24. The good news reported by LeadingAge PA is Shapiro's acknowledgment of the workforce crisis by prioritizing nurses and career and technical education, and the impact of rising costs on older Pennsylvanians. The governor did announce increased funding for workforce, as well as for housing for low-income seniors and disabled Pennsylvanians.

As you may remember the 2022-2023 budget to Medicaid nursing home care included a 17.5% rate increase thanks to advocacy led by LeadingAge PA. This increase did not fully close the gap between the funding and the cost of care. Following last year's historic Medicaid increase for nursing facilities, LeadingAge PA reported that, regrettably, there has not been a commitment for additional funding in this year's budget proposal. It is a disappointment that the ongoing crippling financial pressures long-term care providers are facing have not been recognized.

LeadingAge PA reports there is still much work to be done both in obtaining funding and pursuing other solutions to these issues, but reports encouragement from Governor Shapiro's engagement of LeadingAge PA through the Governor's transition team and the continuing conversations with his team to keep these issues at the forefront. As budget negotiations continue LeadingAge PA

indicates it remains focused on the path ahead for aging services and fighting for solutions for shared goals, including ensuring access to high-quality care for older adults and bolstering the front line caregiving workforce. LeadingAge PA stands ready to advocate and collaborate with Governor Shapiro, the General Assembly, and other stakeholders to accomplish these critical goals.

NOW COMES OUR PART! The Leadership of PARCR encourages the membership of PARCR to participate. LeadingAge PA represents more than 370 high-quality, mission-driven aging services providers across Pennsylvania, and LeadingAge PA's advocacy benefits seniors living in CCRCs. LeadingAge PA makes it easy for PARCR members to make our voices heard by the members of the General Assembly and the U.S. Congress when it comes to advocating for funding for senior services. When LeadingAge PA requests our advocacy, I have and will send out the link that describes the specific request. If you wish to respond, you can use the letter provided. You will be encouraged to personalize the letter which will automatically go to your senators or representative once you enter your address and hit send. If you have any questions about the process, or want ideas about personalizing your letter, please contact me.

(continued on page 7)



Website Update for PARCR.ORG

Yes, You Can Find it On The PARCR Website!

Just a reminder that there is a wealth of information on www.parcrcr.org. There is a lot about PARCR including what we have done, what we are going to do, and who is doing it. There are recordings and copies of slide presentations from our previous Quarterly Meetings. There are minutes of past Quarterly Meetings as well as Executive Committee meetings.

Outside of PARCR, we have links to information useful to CCRC residents including how to locate their PA legislators, links to access the PA Department of Aging’s services, and general information tailored to seniors.

If you think we have missed some sites that would benefit PARCR members, please con-

tact me at president@parcr.org and we’ll take a look at it.

Since some of the information is in the Members Only section of the web site, if you haven’t already, you need to establish your access credentials. To access the members only information on the website if you are an active member of PARCR, begin by clicking on the login button at the top of the page and requesting permission. You should receive a response from our Webmaster within 24 to 48 hours. When you have received approval, login using the information you entered earlier. You may be asked to authenticate the first time you log in.

Lowell Starling
President

(continued from page 6)

Austin Cawley, Director, Legislative Affairs, reported the following areas LeadingAge PA is endorsing:

- ◇ Medicaid funding for patients in Assisted Living
- ◇ Developing a program for CNA career development through training to become Medication Technicians
- ◇ Continuing advocacy to advance the evolving continuum of aging services in Pennsylvania.

LeadingAge PA again reminds us of the 2023 priorities:

- ◇ MITIGATE the Workforce Crisis
- ◇ INVEST in the Aging Services Continuum
- ◇ REMOVE Barriers to Accessing Quality Care



Londonderry Village

A COMMUNITY ROOTED IN BRETHREN VALUES

What's new at Londonderry Village?

Londonderry Village (LV), host of the upcoming April 12th meeting of PARCR, is a single site Life Plan Community in Palmyra, PA, located about 5 miles from Hershey. Home to nearly 600 residents, the 44-year-old community often marches to a “different drummer” in pursuit of better outcomes for its residents. LV is the only certified Green House Community in Pennsylvania, and has been successfully operating Green Houses since 2007. Green Houses are innovative alternatives to traditional nursing homes and have received considerable praise and attention from media such as the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, and Atlantic Magazine. The nearly 400 Green Houses nationwide have been the subject of considerable media attention for their very low infection rates during the pandemic. Learn more at <https://thegreenhouseproject.org>.

Londonderry Village has also distinguished itself for several other innovative endeavors, including: constructing a 7-acre solar farm for generating ‘clean and green’ electricity for the campus (picture below); building a multi-acre outdoor intergenerational ‘Playpark’ with features and attractions for kids of all ages (picture on page 9); and





Londonderry Village

A COMMUNITY ROOTED IN BRETHREN VALUES

What's new at Londonderry Village? (continued from page 8)

collaborating with other nonprofit retirement communities to co-own a captive insurance company, as well as to found a co-op to purchase employee health insurance at reduced rates.

In 2023, Londonderry Village will begin construction of Fox Run, a three-phase expansion (spread over nearly 50 acres) of our independent living community. When completed, Fox Run expects to expand the total campus population to 750 residents. Learn more at <https://www.londonderryvillage.org/>.

Article submitted by: Jeff Shireman, President of Londonderry Village.



PARCR LEADERSHIP TEAM

OFFICERS	MEMBERS AT LARGE	COMMITTEE CHAIRS	ADVISORS
President <i>Lowell Starling</i> Bethany Village	<i>Gene Burk</i> Village at Kelly Drive Vacant	Legislation <i>Gail Stelger</i> Cross Keys Village	<i>Jonathan Hollinger</i> President/CEO Pleasant View Communities
Vice President <i>Robert Newell</i> Moravian Manor	<i>Tony Wright</i> Bethany Village <i>Mike Vandenberg</i> Kirkland Village	Membership <i>Susan Martin</i> Normandie Ridge	<i>Steve Lindsey</i> , CEO Garden Spot Communities
Secretary <i>Monte Avery</i> Bethany Village	<i>Jim Markell</i> Quincy Village <i>Bill Stelger</i> Cross Keys Village	Newsletter <i>Joan W. Martin</i> Homestead Village	<i>Larry Zook</i> President/CEO Landis Communities
Treasurer <i>Terry DiGruttolo</i> Masonic Village	<i>Susan DiGruttolo</i> Masonic Village Vacant	Program—Vacant Meeting Coordinator <i>Charles Sproule</i> Bethany Village	WEBMASTER <i>Dale Meadowcroft</i> Bethany Village

OFFICIAL WEBSITES & CONTACTS

LeadingAge PA: www.leadingagepa.org

Austin Cawley, Director, Legislative Affairs


NaCCRA (National Continuing Care Residents Association): www.naccra.com

Dan Seeger, Representative

THE PARCR POST INFORMATION

THE PARCR POST is a quarterly newsletter for **PENNSYLVANIA ALLIANCE OF RETIREMENT COMMUNITY RESIDENTS**. Its purpose is to share PARCR information and ideas/happenings from PARCR member CCRCs. If you are a PARCR Member Community Staff Contact and would like to share an article of interest from your community, contact the editor at parcrpost@parcr.org.

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parcrpost@parcr.org



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 Editor