

THE SERENDIPITOR

The Brooks-Howell Official Newsletter



Brooks-Howell's Sliding Payment Scale for Long-Term Care

Brooks-Howell is proud to offer an affordable sliding scale option for long-term care which meets the financial needs of individuals making only \$40,000 a year and above. According to Lauren Leatherby in the *Journalist Resource*, a senior's majority of annual out-of-pocket expenses are for nursing home care. Brooks-Howell's sliding scale provides up to a 60% savings of the average cost of long-term care in North Carolina. The only out of pocket expenses for the resident is pharmacy, physician, and therapy co-pays.

Many of our residents have spent their life in service as missionaries, deaconesses, clergy, home missionaries, staff of United Methodist organizations, active members of United Methodist churches and many more. This outreach to the community is in keeping with Brooks-Howell's motto of "called, served and serving still" and seeks to remove the financial barrier to stellar long-term health care for seniors. For more information, contact Jill Knight at 828-253-6712 or jknight@brookshowell.org.

Dementia Friendly

Brooks-Howell joins Dementia Friendly WNC (DFWNC) to ensure Brooks-Howell continues to be a welcoming and knowledgeable organization for residents and others with dementia. One way Brooks-Howell is supporting DFWNC is through the provision of office space for this grassroots organization. DFWNC is a group of individuals, caregivers, community members, organizations and persons with dementia who are committed to the well-being of people living with dementia and their families. DFWNC provides educational services to religious organizations and community service organizations. In addition, they educate businesses frequented by persons with dementia such as restaurants, banks, grocery stores, pharmacies and others.



Each staff member of Brooks-Howell participated in DFWNC's informative inter-active education workshop, including non-clinical staff such as dietary,

environmental services, and administrative staff. Each staff member has the opportunity to expand their awareness of interacting with persons with dementia both inside and outside Brooks-Howell. In addition, DFWNC will be offering a workshop for Brooks-Howell's independent residents on Friday, January 25th at 3:15 PM. For more information about Dementia Friendly WNC, contact WNCdementiafriendlycommunities@gmail.com; 828-253-6712, Ext 1241 or dementiafriendlywnc.org.

Open House



Brooks-Howell opened its doors to the community on Friday, December 14th to celebrate the opening of its Community Medical Clinic and Medical Equipment Loan Closet. The attendees enjoyed Christmas fellowship, delicious food and a tour of Brooks-Howell. These services will not only provide medical services to seniors in need, but will also offer the use of medical equipment

free of charge on a short-term basis. Through the commitment of the United Methodist Women which owns Brooks-Howell, its values ensure it seeks to provide stellar health care services regardless of financial barriers.

For more information on the Medical Clinic and the Loan Closet, please see page 7.

Caring for Creation

Brooks-Howell has joined The Creation Care Alliance of Western North Carolina (CCAWNC, formerly WNC Green Congregations) which is a network of people of faith and congregations who have united around a moral and spiritual call to preserve the integrity, beauty and health of God's creation. Brooks-Howell joins forces with the Alliance to bring practical and hopeful solutions to involved congregations



and broader secular communities by engaging hearts and minds through education, service and advocacy.

Deaconess June Fisher stated, "Brooks-Howell's residents have long been committed to the care of God's earth from promoting recycling at Brooks-Howell, using eco-friendly dietary paper products and cleaning supplies, conserving electricity to participating in robust Earth Day activities and more."

With limited resources but lots of passion, the Alliance has been able to accomplish some amazing things in the past two and a half years: three prayer vigils, a climate and faith forum, two clergy breakfasts, public educational events, and multiple advocacy initiatives, just to name a few.

For more information regarding Creation Care, contact Scott Hardin-Nieri, Director, at 828-258-8737 and visit <https://creationcarealliance.org>.

Brooks-Howell Holidays



From left to right: Doug and Carol Wingeier, Alice Fort, Laura Hawkrider, June Fischer and her award-winning wreath, and Charles Pittman.

Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years



From left to right: Preston and Juanita Hill, The Open House, Jennifer Young, Maria Diprima, Norma Podos, Rebecca Brawn, and New Years Eve with Audrey Ray, Carole Gilham, and Mary Dale.

Thank you, Brooks-Howell Advisory Board



Brooks-Howell is fortunate to have an Advisory Board which provides recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding Brooks-Howell's operations. The Advisory Board is comprised of United Methodist Women leaders and employees and other United Methodist members, including Brooks-Howell residents. We thank each and every member who give their time, energy and wisdom to ensure Brooks-Howell continues to live out its motto "called, served, serving still".

Voting Members

Joanie Strohm, President
Leah Knuth, Vice-President
Delores Meadows, Secretary
Gwen Harris
Ruby McClung
Leah Knuth
Dixie Liggett

Maureen Carr
Jack Ellison
Deb Demorest
Roger Rio

Ex-Officio Members (with vote)

Fran Jordan, Blue Ridge District
President, United Methodist
Women

Jeanette Byrd, Blue Ridge District
UMW Education & Interpretation
Council

Charles Pittman, Health Center
Residents' Council President

Don Turman, Independent
Residents' Council President
Mary Z. Longstreth and Betty

Swarthout, Brooks-Howell
Residents' Council members
(elected by that body)

Ex-Officio Members (without vote)

Rev. Beth Crissman,
Superintendent, Blue Ridge District
UMC

Julia Willis, President, UNCC
United Methodist Women

Halina Mui, Controller, United
Methodist Women (National Office)

Martha Knight, Treasurer, United
Methodist Women (National Office)

Carole Gilham, Health Care
Administrator/Business Director

Community Medical Clinic Now Open

On December 6, 2018 Brooks-Howell opened an on-site Community Medical Clinic for seniors in need. The Community Medical Clinic is open to all United Methodist Church members and others over the age of 65 who are not insured or are under-insured. This service will enable seniors to see a geriatric-trained practitioner who understands the aging adult. The Clinic will also have an on-site pharmacist to assist in



medication education and medication review. In addition, a sliding payment scale is offered to seniors who otherwise may not be able to afford the services. The Medical Clinic is open every Thursday from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM. Contact medical.care@brookshowell.org to find out more.

Need Medical Equipment?

Come to Brooks-Howell's New Medical Equipment Loan Closet



Brooks-Howell is addressing seniors' needs for medical equipment by opening an on-site Medical Equipment Loan Closet on December 6, 2018, which is open to all United Methodist Church members and others in the community who need medical equipment but who are unable to afford it or do not have insurance. The Loan Closet offers a vast array of durable medical equipment free of charge to seniors

facing recovery from illness, accident or who are otherwise in need of such equipment on a short-term basis. These items include wheelchairs, walkers, scooters, shower chairs, canes, tub transfer benches and more. The Loan Closet is open every Tuesday and Thursday from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Contact medicallloan@brookshowell.org to find out more.

Contact Us

Brooks-Howell
266 Merrimon Ave.
Asheville, NC 28801
828-253-6712
www.Brooks-Howell.org



**Help support the work of the
 Medical Equipment Loan Closet
 or Community Medical Clinic by
 making a tax-deductible
 donation today.**

Contact
medicalloan@brookshowell.org for
 more information

Go Green! Notify living@brookshowell.org to receive The Serendipitor by email.



BROOKS-HOWELL HOME
 266 Merrimon Ave.
 Asheville, NC 28801



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 Permit No. 396
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