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## “Meals on Wheels”

That’s the greeting Lisa Strauss extends to senior citizens, along with five of her vocational associates, on Thursday mornings. These seniors depend on receiving a hot and a cold meal that day. Delivering meals is just one of the volunteer activities Community Service’s Group, Concepts Day Program, incorporates into Lisa’s pursuits. Tara Wroble, Concepts Program Supervisor, says, “This is a great way for the individuals in the Concepts program to interact with the community and also work towards their goals such as: increasing vocational skills, working towards employment, independence in the community, and communication/socialization skills.”

“Respect for the individual” are meaningful and lasting words written into Homefields’ residential mission statement. In keeping with this ideal, the six adults who live in the homes at Homefields travel daily to various vocational programs that address their individual needs and aspirations.

*Linda Strauss*



## What do 34 smiles and 634 miles have in common?



Family...on a sunny June afternoon part of the Homefields family gathered on the lawn for a potluck picnic. Residents, some of their parents, siblings, in-laws, Community Services Group staff, and Homefields board members gathered to celebrate the beginning of summer. Several relatives of a resident traveled from Virginia while others traveled from just around the corner. Great food was shared, some enjoyed impromptu dancing, much laughter, and many smiles later, and we found ourselves talking about next year’s picnic.

## STATE OF OUR UNION

It’s raining yellows and oranges on the property as this newsletter comes together in early November.

The vocational farmers are getting those last outdoor projects completed before frost is a possibility, and the days are noticeably shorter. Gift boxes become the next priority as the holidays approach and 2012 comes to a close. Thoughts naturally gravitate toward the future.

What have we accomplished in 2012 and what lies ahead in 2013?

A big part of what has been accomplished can be found in this newsletter, in the Lampeter-Strasburg high school students and Millersville University graduate students who stopped by to beautify the grounds. One of the residents at Homefields participates in the Lancaster “Meals on Wheels” program.

Dutchland, Inc. and their employees donated a wheelchair ramp addition to

the ranch house. This year marked the 16th annual golf tournament for Homefields. Scores of individuals gave their time and opened their pocketbooks to benefit Homefields.

Our Save the Land initiative got underway to fund the fourteen contiguous acres that will ensure the future of the Goodwill at Homefields vocational program, and enable Homefields to explore cooperative efforts with Millersville University.

*continued on page 3*

## Dutchland and United Way Bridged the Gap



Randal Shantz, Sam Diener, Andrew Snader, Dave Brandt, and Randy Groff flank MaryBeth. That’s Steve Moore to the right. These guys designed and built our new ramp.

We had a need—those who live at Homefields are aging and managing disabilities that create difficulties with walking and balance. We needed a wheelchair ramp soon, one that was low-maintenance and designed to work with the landscape. Tom Strauss, President of Homefields, reached out to United Way. The vigorous enthusiasm of United Way combined with the rigorous support of Dutchland, Inc. to fill a need.

The annual United Way Day of Caring works to partner local businesses with nonprofit organizations on community-service projects. Through the support of Dutchland, Inc., employees and volunteers

built a new accessible ramp for Homefields, donating their own funds and time. Dutchland, Inc. designed the project and provided the materials to build the ramp.

Amy Jaros, Human Resources Administrator with Dutchland, Inc. expresses their commitment to both funding and volunteering on this project, “Last year we were awarded the Circle of Honor Award from United Way. This year we went one step further.” They considered the personal needs of those who needed the



ramp, and worked hard to provide a solution that exceeded our expectations. Tom Strauss, President of Homefields Board of Directors says, “Dutchland, Inc. is an example of the best of our community. The ramp not only functions beautifully, it is built to last, and is an aesthetic enhancement to the house.”

Everyone is safer and daily life is easier, thank you Dutchland, Inc. and United Way!

*Kate Gallagher*



**THE EXTRAORDINARY GIVE** is a 24-hour giving marathon taking place on Nov. 30 and Homefields is participating. See page 4 or scan for more details.



### Contact Us

717.872.2012  
info@homefields.org

### Board of Directors

Thomas E. Strauss, President  
Allison G. Hawthorne, Vice Pres.  
Courtney Barry, Treasurer  
Deb Deberdine, Secretary  
Kelly Baylis  
Heather Conlon-Keller  
Stu Fleishman  
Carlyn Fryberger  
Jay M. Groff  
Rich Mehrenberg  
Wendy Letavic  
Doris Russ

### Honorary Board

James Determan  
Dorothy L. Lyet

### Non-elect Members

Scott Breneman, Farm Manager,  
Goodwill at Homefields  
Liz Snyder, Interim Residential  
Supervisor, CSG

### RESIDENTIAL MISSION:

To create financially secure, long-term homes for adults with special needs in safe, family-like settings where there is respect for the individual in a holistic sense, and fun and creativity are revered, as basic human needs.

### VOCATIONAL MISSION:

To provide horticultural facilities for individuals who prosper with supported employment, to nurture integration through community interaction, and to cultivate a spirit of volunteerism within our community.

*The official registration statement and financial information of Homefields may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1 (800) 732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.*

# Hole in, Won!

Thanks to wonderful support from sponsors and donors, golfing friends, organizers and volunteers, the staff at Crossgates Golf Club and Crossgates Grill and Pub, and some marvelous weather, the Homefields Sweet Sixteen Fall Classic Golf Tournament was a rousing success. Friday, September 21 saw approximately 140 golfers hit the grass at 7:30 AM and/or 12:30 PM and provided the opportunity for one of that number to win a HD television as one of the hole-in-one prizes (our first such experience in sixteen years).

Following a theme that jointly focused on turning sixteen and getting a driving license, the day was filled with the customary playfulness that helps define our events. Sweet Sixteen and car music filled the air while golfers received their Learner's Permits and could get Driver Education on the practice tee. The PowerPoint show again captured events of the day, featured information on our sponsors, and celebrated the kind of golf bloopers that simultaneously are an unfortunate part of the game and a good measure of its appeal.



Low scores and great fun clearly were present in large doses. Good food, some wonderful prizes, and the opportunity to share time with friends made it a perfect day and way to benefit Homefields Inc and the very special services it makes possible. When teamed with a very successful July 27 Fun in the Dark Night Golf event, it provided the strong support that Homefields needs to move toward its goals.

Of course, there will be a #17 next year, tentatively set for September 20, 2013. The theme has not been determined yet, but count on it to set the stage for an even more successful day. Mark your calendar, hone your skills, save up some energy, and join us for loads of fun.

*Terry Blue, Golf Tournament Chair*



Sam Nelson has played regularly in our Fall Classic over the years. His commitment paid off with our first ace, on hole 17.

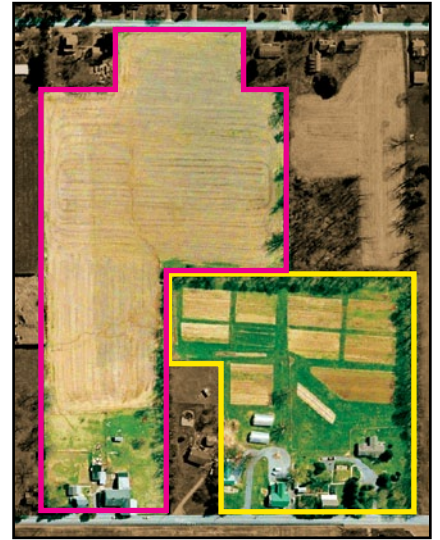


## SAVE *the* LAND DRIVE

== GOAL: \$250,000 ==

The farmland outlined in pink has been targeted by developers seeking to create a housing development. We've mobilized to preserve it (land that has been a farm for generations) but need your help to make it happen. Your donation will help us expand a program that can:

- Provide diverse organic products for hundreds of families, all produced by people with disabilities.
- Support teachers and mentors who sustain a larger community of individuals facing barriers to independence.



**GO GREEN:** Homefields is committed to a responsible and sustainable future. Send your email address to [info@homefields.org](mailto:info@homefields.org) and we'll substitute an electronic version of this print edition. You'll get it earlier, in color, and our carbon footprint will be that much smaller!

## HOCKEY PLAYERS WHO ARE NOT AFFECTED BY LOCKOUT

August 17 was definitely a green-letter day for Homefields. The Lampeter-Strasburg High School Field hockey team chose us for their community project this summer. Thirty girls and three teachers descended on the farm like a swarm of benevolent butterflies to weed, mulch, trim, clear, and generally beautify the grounds, not only with their presence but with a lot of hard work. Board President Tom Strauss and parent Linda Strauss saw to it that the girls had mulch, tools, and a place to dump the yard trash to be hauled away. I helped with the on-site organization. And then we mostly got out of the way, because those girls can work!



and Homefields' office. The area around the bird feeder was cleaned up and mulched. And as if that weren't enough, they'd even brought a few chrysanthemums to donate. These are now planted among the sunflowers

by the bird feeder, adding some nice fall color in the months to come. All this was accomplished in just two hours! That's the equivalent of 66 hours of labor! Homefields owes Lampeter-Strasburg many thanks, not only for choosing us for their project but for getting all this work done in one afternoon. "Mulch" obliged, girls!

*Doris Russ*

*Doris Russ*

They weeded and mulched all around the stone farm house, shed,

### 2012 GOLF SPONSORS

#### PLATINUM SPONSOR—FOR 6 CONSECUTIVE YEARS—\$3000

Community Services Group

#### MEAL SPONSOR

Miller's Smorgasbord

#### SILVER SPONSORS—\$1000

Brenneman Printing Inc.  
CBHNP Performance Care  
Emory Hill Companies  
Gibbel, Kraybill & Hess, LLP  
Goodwill Keystone Area  
Link Tech Inc.  
Premier Companies, LLC  
Simon Lever LLP  
Trout, Eberole & Groff LLP  
Tsoules, Sweeney, Martin & Orr, LLC  
Verizon Wireless

#### BRONZE SPONSORS—\$500

Arraya Solutions  
Brown & Brown Insurance  
Capital BlueCross  
Genoa Healthcare  
Heritage Floors  
Interstate Fleets  
Phillips Office Solutions  
Rubinsteins, Inc.  
True Edge Performance Solutions

#### HOLE SPONSORS—\$350

Inservco Insurance Services  
PenTeleData  
Rubinsteins, Inc.

#### SUPPORTING SPONSORS—\$175-\$349

Beiter's Home Center  
D.A.D.'s Landscaping  
Susan and Terry Blue

#### DONATED PRIZES

Allison Hawthorne  
Community Services Group  
Dell, Inc.  
Friends of Homefields Golf Etc.  
Insight Enterprises  
Phillips Office Solutions  
Rubinstein's

#### IN-KIND DONATIONS

Ettline Foods  
Feesers Foodservice Distributors  
Kauffman's Fruit Farm  
Miller's Smorgasbord  
Scheid Produce

#### CONTRIBUTIONS

Dr. Rich Kettering  
Paul Risk Associates, Inc.  
Personalized Cleaning  
Sacunas Integrated Marketing Communications

#### GOODIE BAG DONATIONS

Community Services Group  
Rhoads Energy



# WEEKEND WARRIORS

The work and projects around the farm are never ending, and each week there are two people who contribute mightily to both the continuous improvement and the repairs to plumbing, electrical, and mechanical things around the farm.

Butch Bixler is one of the founders of Homefields and has a son in the farm program. He's pleased with the happiness of the workers on the farm and is always ready to lend a hand. Over the years he has made a transplanter, a watering tank for getting seedlings to germinate, a filling tank, shut-offs for the underground irrigation lines, and has done many, many tune-ups to the mower, string trimmer, and maintenance on the tractors, built shelves, and many other repairs and projects.

Bob McClure, whose son works in the farm program, is behind many of the woodcrafter things around the farm including the distribution tables, the long table at



the washing sink, the artful closet in the women's bathroom, the signposts for the PYO field and "far flung" sign. He has also engineered some neat custom equipment that helps us out as well including a vacuum seeding box for the greenhouse, a ground driven organic fertilizer box that adds fertilizer as it puts down the mulch film, a banding device that bunches carrots and beets, a bamboo glove drying rack, and a tool organizer rack to name a few. He is grateful to be able to directly make a difference here at the farm and loves to hear his son laughing while working.



## CSA Wrap-Up



November brings the end of the harvest season here at the farm. We began in late spring with plentiful peas, lettuce and broccoli, moved into summer with carrots, watermelon and a bumper crop of potatoes, and continued the bounty in fall with plenty of winter squash, (including a new favorite—delicata) and a medley of Asian and American greens. We are grateful for a plentiful harvest all season long.

This year we teamed up with North Star Orchards, a sister farm in Cochranville, PA, to offer a new fruit share option to our shareholders. Unique and organic varieties of peaches, apples, pears and more delighted everyone. The fruit share is purchased in addition to the vegetable share and provides about 8½ lbs of fruit each week.

In the fall, clean up tasks fill our days; mowing down crops that are no longer producing, pulling much out of the beds and sowing cover crops in the fields for winter. It feels wonderful to put the vegetable fields to bed, giving them a well-deserved rest over winter in preparation for next season.

Elizabeth Swope,  
Assistant Farmer

## Holiday Gift Boxes Are Coming!

Goodwill at Homefields is gearing up for our gift box production, which begins in early December. Holiday Gift boxes helps to extend the work season for the farmers. We love when the aroma of College Coffee Roasters Coffee fills the barn. Our holiday boxes, filled with Wilbur Buds, Goodwill at Homefields Coffee Blend, Anderson's Peanut Butter Pretzels and Kauffman's Apple Butter, are a wonderful gift for anyone who appreciates some of Lancaster County's finest treats.



The farm crew looks forward to putting together each box by hand and they make a unique gift for employees, clients, family and friends. Giving a Holiday Gift box from the farm is a personal way to say thank you. We can include any personalized message from you or your organization. A unique gift for family and friends that you can be sure they won't already have.

To order, call the farm at 717-871-3110, or email Scott at sbreneman@yourgoodwill.org. Small boxes are \$17.95, large boxes are \$25.95 and they'll be ready for pick-up in mid-December. The ordering deadline is 12/7 and pickup at the farm is 12/17-12/19 from 8:00-4:00. [www.yourgoodwill.org/farm/homefields\\_membership.php](http://www.yourgoodwill.org/farm/homefields_membership.php)

Scott Breneman, Farm Manager

## STATE OF UNION

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New board members have come on board like Doris Russ profiled below. You'll hear more about them and their ideas going forward.

Homefields is here for the community and the community has been here for Homefields.

We began as a patchwork of families seeking a better place for our children. Our plan succeeded beyond expectations. The people who live at Homefields have achieved well-being, both in their daily occupations and at home base. The vocational program Homefields hosts (which started

out as an experiment of sorts) has provided over a hundred farmer trainees a great place to ply their trade, growing organic food for hundreds of local families.

A very Happy Thanksgiving and we're looking forward to the next growing season!

## NEW BOARD MEMBER: Doris Russ

Doris Russ came to Homefields because in her retirement she came home to Lancaster County, to her roots. Doris grew up on a farm in Creswell, near Washington Boro. She is a graduate of Kutztown University. Post-graduate work took her to the University of Maryland. Doris served in the U.S. Army, and is now retired. Before returning to Lancaster County she lived in Virginia; Doris lives in nearby Salunga.

When asked what she loves about Lancaster County, like most Lancasterians Doris appreciates the rich farmland. She continued, "It's the land that time forgot, when something works, we keep it... the Fulton Theater, Central Market, Strasburg Railroad... the more history I read, the more I appreciate our heritage."

It is this love of Lancaster County heritage that propels her to read our history, eat locally, and enjoy cooking the bounty of fresh foods that are available to her. When asked what she pursues with zeal, Doris said "Healthy eating, the more natural the better... produce without poison, whole foods."



*"Help one another; there's no time like the present and no present like time."*

—James Durst

When not reading history, Doris does volunteer work, cooks and pursues nature photography.

So what attracted Doris to Homefields? Turns out, it was a pretty easy answer for Doris. "The commitment to community service and the collaborative partnership that produces organic food."

Doris says she is looking forward to working with board members and community volunteers to educate the community about Homefields, bring more people to us, and generally, lend a hand. We welcome Doris with open arms, we hope you will too.

**M.U. STUDENTS CLEAN UP!** Millersville University graduate students swung by the property over the summer to donate a healthy dose of weeding, planting, and mulching. These are certainly activities always in demand here and we can't thank them enough.



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==BENEFACTORS: April 2012–October 2012==

<b>\$501–\$1000</b> Susan and Terry Blue	T. O'Brien and Sandra Byrnes Peggy and Jerry Paulson A. Jeanne Pruitt James and Bennetta Rapier Paul and Shirley Risk Doris Russ Brant Schuller James Sheridan William and Joyce Smedley Barbara and Bruce Spiegelberg Anne Stehman Mary Stehman Stephen Stehman Linda Strauss Larry and Carrie Strickler Donna Thomas Elizabeth and Thomas Tomlinson Donald Trout Anne Wallace-Degarbo Sandra Yeager	Marianne Charles Betty Darrenkamp Jared Darrenkamp Seth Davidson Trudy Eby Flying Fibers Margarite Frey Wesley Frey Hershey Groff, Jr. LaVon Harnish Janette Hebel Barbara and Bruce Hunsberger Maureen and Bruce Jackson Kathy Labosh Natalie Lascek-Speakman Anthony Mauriello Lindsay McClure Jeff Miller Robert Miller Earl Newcomer Edward Oberle Dayna Reidenouer Thomas Robinson Tim Ryan Kendra Saunders Doris Shank Sarah Short Rachel Simon Dwayne and Shari Steager Betsy Swartz Carol Thomas Beth Toms Kevin and Gail Ulmer Andrew and Deana Winters
<b>\$201–\$500</b> Stephanie and Duane Breneman Flanagan Welding Services (in-kind services) Philip Hursh John May Michael Redden Jesse Robinson		
<b>\$100–\$200</b> Larry and Nancy Bieber William & Phyllis Boyd Mel and Marie Breneman Edward Carskadon Kimberly Chen Rebecca Christman Dana Henning Mr. & Mrs. James Hipolit Paul & Caroline Hoffer Jeff and Christine Inlenfeldt Collette Jakubowicz Kirsten Johnsen Joyce Electric Richard and Barbara Kettering Elvin and Esther Martin Mary McLane	<b>\$25–\$99</b> Andrew Adams Harris and Janet Baderak Linda Bradley Ken Brigham and Gale Mylin Andrew Carroll Donald Casler	

*Breaking News:* Goodwill Keystone Area Foundation pledges a \$25K grant toward our missions.

# Friday November 30 Will Be Extraordinary

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS. TELL YOUR FRIENDS. GIVE EXTRAORDINARY!** The Lancaster County Community Foundation has invited all community benefit organizations that serve Lancaster

Giving to Homefields couldn't be easier or have more impact! Please mark this important event in your calendar and set a reminder to give at [ExtraGive.org](http://ExtraGive.org) on Friday, November 30th.



County to participate in *The Extraordinary Give*, Lancaster County's first 24-hour Online Giving Marathon on Friday, November 30th. **Any donation made online to Homefields at [ExtraGive.org](http://ExtraGive.org) that day (over \$25) will be stretched by a \$250,000 donation from the Lancaster County Community Foundation.** Plus, there are \$50,000 in prizes we can win instantly from your donation! An organization's share will be based on the total they raise during the 24-hour period in relation to all other participating organizations. For example, if Homefields attracts 10% of all donations, we'll get \$25,000.

Hmmmm. The model in that Lancaster County Community Foundation's ad looks awfully familiar. Wait up, it's Elizabeth Swope, the *Goodwill at Homefields Farm's* Assistant Farmer!

Easier yet? Scan this QR code into your Smartphone and it will take you right to [ExtraGive.org](http://ExtraGive.org) for this important day of giving. We're joining the Community Foundation in saying "When We Give Extra, Extraordinary Things Happen!"



**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Homefields' webpage at [www.ExtraGive.org](http://www.ExtraGive.org) will go live at 12:01 AM, Friday, November 30th. At that time, you will be able to search the site to find us, or if you have given us your email address, we will send the link to you on that day.



**Homefields**  
150 Letort Road  
P.O. Box #41  
Millersville, PA 17551



**HOT ITEMS:**

- Lancaster County Community Foundations' *Extraordinary Give* is on for 11/30. Go to [ExtraGive.org](http://ExtraGive.org) for more.
- Homefields *Save the Land* drive ramps up. Go to [www.homefields.org](http://www.homefields.org) for more.
- Tons of other stuff. Open this newsletter for more!