

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 15, 2018 CONTACT: Melissa Nichols, 908-684-5006

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Heath Village Woodworkers Donate Dove Tree to Hackettstown Medical Center

<u>Washington Township, NJ</u> – Heath Village Retirement Community's mission encourages interaction between Heath Village employees, its residents and the community at large. Which is why when Atlantic Health System's Foundation for Hackettstown Medical Center (HMC) mentioned the need to find a permanent home for the small, metallic doves that people purchase in honor/memory of a loved one affected by cancer, Heath Village didn't hesitate to volunteer their community's talented group of woodworkers. "I knew immediately that this was a project that our residents would welcome the opportunity to design and build," said Community Relations Coordinator Melissa Nichols.

Once the HMC staff settled on a design and location, the Heath Village woodworkers began designing the tree. They took a trip to the Cancer Center to take measurements and get a "feel" for the space. Following the selection of the wood, the woodworkers took about three months to finalize the design and build it.

"It was such a privilege to construct this project and we are very proud that it will hang in the Cancer Center. When you get to be our age, it is impossible to have not seen, first-hand, the toll that cancer can take on someone. If the Dove Tree helps bring comfort or can help raise funds to improve the services available to our community, then it was indeed time well spent," said Heath Village resident and woodworker Rich Kennedy.

For questions about Heath Village or to schedule time to visit our woodshop and meet our woodworkers, please contact Melissa Nichols at 908-684-5006.

Heath Village is a full-service retirement community located at 430 Schooley's Mountain Road in Washington Township, Morris County. For further information, please call 908-852-4801 or visit us on our website at www.heathvillage.com. Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/heathvillage.



Featured in photo from Left to Right: Lisa Dimiceli, Manager, Community & Donor Relations, Foundation for HMC, Bill Herling, Heath Village Resident, Dick Krause, Heath Village Resident, Donna Watridge, HMC Chief Operating Officer/Chief Nursing Officer, Rich Kennedy, Heath Village Resident, Clif Heidel, Heath Village Resident, Michaeleen Graham, Chief Development Officer, Foundation for Hackettstown Medical Center, and Donia Lombardo, Manager, Joan Knechel Cancer Center at HMC.