

The Mount Airy News

Surry Scene

Comfort companions a 'Joy for All'

Twelve Oaks, a DePaul Senior Living Community in Mount Airy, recently welcomed several Hasbro Joy for All companions. With realistic fur and cat-like sounds — and sensors that respond to petting and hugs with familiar pet-like actions — the Joy For All Pets are inspiring big smiles and lots of laughter among residents, officials from the facility said.

Holding the gray stuffed cat in her lap, Twelve Oaks resident Nolie Boyles said “it looks real.”

“I know it does,” replied Twelve Oaks Activities Director Anna Burford. As they pet the cat, it let out an audible meow prompting a burst of laughter between Burford and Boyles.

Residents have helped name the three new Joy For All cats. Burford said the therapy tools provide compassion, excitement and a sense of being able to care for something.

“The cats definitely



Submitted photo

Twelve Oaks resident Ethel Dillon with one of the DePaul Senior Living Community's new Hasbro Joy for All Pets.



Twelve Oaks resident Martha Joyce with one of the DePaul Senior Living Community's new Hasbro Joy for All Pets.



Twelve Oaks resident Steven Phillips with one of the DePaul Senior Living Community's new Hasbro Joy for All Pets.



Twelve Oaks resident Eva Briggs with one of the DePaul Senior Living Community's new Hasbro Joy for All Pets.

put a smile on their faces,” she said. “They bring back memories of pets that are no longer

with them.”

Twelve Oaks Administrator Penny Haynes said the companion

pets have brought an air of peace, comfort and tranquility to the community.