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New library dedicated at Village of Peace

By AMANDA LEE

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Presbyterian Villages of Michigan recently dedicated a new library in honor of Sharon L. Gire, the former director of Michigan Office Services to the Aging.

The library is at Village of Peace Manor in Clinton Township and Gire attend the dedication ceremony last month, where she was lauded for her commitment to the elderly, not only in Macomb County but throughout the state as well.

"(Gire) was instrumental in helping us get Village of Peace Manor up and running 15 years ago," said Dawn Dyer Magretta, vice president of development and public affairs for Presbyterian Villages of Michigan.

"She has been tied to us for a long time, and we wanted to honor her for her commitment."

The new 10-by-14-foot library space features reference and fiction books as well as a computer laboratory space and resource center.

"This recognition is in honor of Ms. Gire's dedicated service and outstanding leadership as the director of the Michigan Office of Services to the Aging and her steadfast advocacy on behalf of



Attending a library dedication at Village of Peace were Francis Gonzales (front row, from left), Christine Anthony, honored guest Sharon L. Gire, Bob Smith, Martha Nield, Barbara Heikkila and Josephine Gillman; Roger L. Myers (back row, from left), Mary Meyer Neff, Francis Holly and Patrick McLogan.

Michigan's seniors," said Roger L. Myers, president and CEO of Presbyterian Villages of Michigan, in a statement. "She has been a significant supporter of PVM over the years and this is extremely deserved."

Gire was named to her position as director of Michigan Office

Services to the Aging in 2003 by former Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm.

She resigned from her position as vice president of the Michigan State Board of Education to serve in the position.

From 1987 to 1998, Gire served as a member of the Michigan House of

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Village of Peace Manor, at 17275 15 Mile Road, offers 56 apartment homes for residents age 62 and older. For more information, visit www.pvm.org.

Representatives.

She graduated from Wayne State University with a master's degree in social work and from Ohio State University with a bachelor of sci-

ence degree.

The Office of Services to the Aging is an autonomous agency within the Michigan Department of Community Health whose mission is to promote independence and enhance the dignity of Michigan's older persons and their families through advocacy, leadership and innovation.

"(Gire) is not the type of person who does what she does for recognition but because it helps the community," Magretta said. "We believe (Gire) has done a lot for us and for the elder community, and she deserves this tribute."

Presbyterian Villages of Michigan, with headquarters in Southfield, is a faith-based, nonprof it, multisite system that has served seniors of all faiths since 1945.