



The Laurel Spirit

SUMMER 2021

A LAUREL HEALTH CARE COMPANY ASSOCIATE PUBLICATION

A Big Welcome to The Laurels of Kettering!



Laurel Health Care Company is pleased to welcome a new facility to the Laurel family: **The Laurels of Kettering** in Kettering, Ohio. Formerly Lincoln Park Manor, the facility offers skilled nursing, rehabilitation, and assisted living services. The Laurels of Kettering is the fourth Laurel facility in the greater Dayton area, joining **The Laurels of Huber Heights**, **The Laurels of Middletown**, and **The Laurels of West Carrollton**.

Cathy Chiovaro, Vice President of Operations, said, "We look forward to being the premier provider of skilled nursing and rehabilitation needs for the city of Kettering, Montgomery County, Greene County, and the surrounding area."

The Laurels of Kettering is a four-star rated facility in *Overall Quality and Quality Measures* according to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). They have 60 state-licensed Medicare skilled nursing beds with private and semi-private options along with 30 private assisted living suites. Additional services include long-term care, short-term respite care, outpatient therapy, and palliative/hospice care.

Please join us in welcoming Kettering to the Laurel family!

Members of the Kettering Transition Team. Left to right: Jane Perkins, Thomas Durst, Trista Piccirilli, Maryann Craft, Ryan Miller, and Steve Meyer.

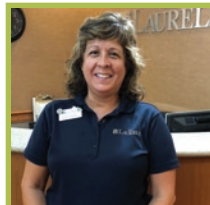


Vaccinated Associates Earn Chance to Win Extra PTO

Laurel Health Care Company has seen firsthand the tremendous difference COVID-19 vaccines have made at our facilities—they have truly been lifesaving! To demonstrate our continued commitment to vaccinations, reward vaccinated Associates, and encourage others to **#GetVaccinated**, our skilled nursing and rehabilitation centers held PTO lotteries for fully vaccinated associates in July, August, and September. Three Associates from each building won 40 additional hours of PTO for the year! Here are a few of our lucky winners:



Brenda Hall,
The Laurels of
Mt. Vernon



Cheryl Wagner,
The Laurels
of West
Carrollton



Kristen McCarty,
The Laurels
of West
Columbus



Courtney Crittendon,
The Laurels of
University Park



James Matalda,
The Laurels of
Walden Park



Nellie James,
The Laurels of
Hamilton

That's the Spirit!

Celebrating Health Care Heroes on Laurel Day

Each year, we celebrate our dedicated Associates on Laurel Day. This year, we're especially grateful to everyone in the Laurel family for their hard work, compassion, and commitment to The Laurel Way of Caring. Thank you to our Health Care Heroes for all you do!



At **The Laurels of Hamilton**, Laurel Day included the creation of a time capsule with remembrances of the challenges of the past year and Guests who have passed on. Guests filled the capsule with items of their choosing, including surgical masks, newspaper clippings, and artwork. Mayor Pat Moeller joined in and issued a special proclamation declaring July 29th the "The Laurels of Hamilton Hero Day."



Ahoy, Mateys! Laurel Week at **The Laurels of Summit Ridge** included a Pirate Day celebration.



"Sumo Wrestling" was a hit with Associates at **The Laurels of GreenTree Ridge**.



The Laurels of Heath went all out to celebrate its annual Laurel Day with games, outdoor fun, and a taco truck.



The Laurels of Walden Park enjoyed fun games, great weather, and excellent company.



Some tasty Laurel Day grilling had Associates at **The Laurels of Charlottesville** smiling.



Associates at **The Laurels of Chatham** enjoyed lunch from Smithfield's Chicken and BBQ and cooled off with Kona Ice.



That's the Spirit!

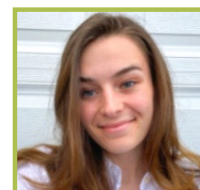
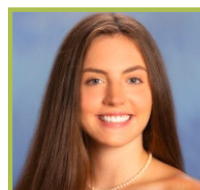
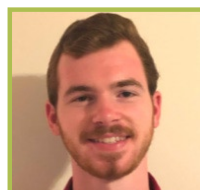
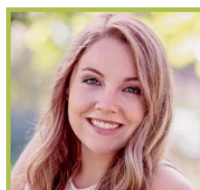
LHCC Announces Inaugural Scholarship Recipients

Early last year, Laurel Health Care Company, in partnership with Ciena Healthcare, established a scholarship fund for children of current Associates who want to continue their education in college or vocational school. More than 30 applications were received for the inaugural 2021 class. The evaluation team selected four recipients each from Laurel Health Care Company and Ciena Healthcare, with scholarship amounts ranging from \$500 to \$4,000.

Nancy Erwin, Director of Employee Relations and Development, said, "We are truly honored and privileged to be able to invest in the futures of the children of our talented, dedicated, and passionate Associates."

Congratulations to the four Laurel Health Care Company scholarship recipients for 2021!

- **Mackenzie Miller** is in her second year at Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne, studying dental hygiene. Her mother, Carrie Miller, works at **The Laurels of DeKalb**.
- **Alec Sifferlin** is in his second year at The Ohio State University, where he is majoring in international studies. His mother, Sara Sifferlin, works at **The Laurels of Walden Park**.
- **Catherine Pilot** is in her first year at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, studying biological sciences. Her mother, Martha Pilot, works at **The Laurels of Willow Creek**.
- **Lauren Pipes** is in her second year at Belmont Abbey College, studying biology for a pre-med track. Her mother, Shirley Pipes, works at **The Laurels of GreenTree Ridge**.



Carol Hofbauer Helps Bring Ohio into Interstate Speech and Language Compact

Carol Hofbauer served as Vice President of Rehabilitation Services at Laurel Health Care Company from 2004-2020. Since retiring, she has continued her tireless advocacy for people with speech, hearing, and language difficulties. In her role as president of the Ohio Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Carol was instrumental in the unanimous passing of H.B. 252 in both chambers of the Ohio congress. H.B. 252, which was signed into law by Governor Mike DeWine on July 1, enters Ohio into the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact (ASLP-IC).



Carol Hofbauer (fifth from right) at the signing of H.B. 252 with Ohio Governor Mike DeWine.

Through the compact, audiologists and speech-language pathologists licensed in their home state apply for a privilege to practice under the ASLP-IC. Professionals who qualify can provide services in any compact member state, helping serve unmet needs and providing continuity of care when student or adult clients relocate or travel. In addition, compact states communicate and exchange information, including verification of licensure and disciplinary services, while retaining the ability to regulate practice in their states.

That's the Spirit!

The Laurel Way

We are a team of professionals dedicated to promoting the highest level of independence and quality of life for our Guests by creating a comfortable living environment and providing comprehensive health care services.

To accomplish this, we have a responsibility to:

- Treat everyone with dignity and respect
- Conduct ourselves with the highest level of integrity and ethical behavior
- Be uncompromising in our standards of quality of care and service
- Attract, train and retain knowledgeable, caring and compassionate individuals
- Challenge ourselves to grow as people, as professionals and as a company
- Earn a fair and reasonable profit for our stakeholders

We embrace these responsibilities, with commitment and enthusiasm, in our pursuit of The Laurel Way.

The Laurels Mission Statement

Creating a legacy by exceeding the needs and expectations of those we serve, while embracing The Laurel Way.

Gardens Grow a Rich Harvest of Love

Gardens are an important part of the summer season for many of our facilities. Both vegetable gardening and flowers are popular with Guests. It's wonderful to see what grows when Guests can get their hands dirty!



Jean Riley, a Guest at **The Laurels of Chagrin Falls**, has loved flower and vegetable gardening since, as a child, she would help neighbors by planting and weeding their gardens. This love remains, and for the past three years, Jean has planted both flowers and vegetables in the courtyard. She donated her green beans to the kitchen this year. Guests loved having something from their own "back forty."

At **The Laurels of University Park**, Activities Director Catherine Blanche collected more than 100 packets of seeds that were donated by volunteers for their courtyard's garden beds. This spring, they had 1,300 bulbs pop up! Guest Laura Lindsay enjoyed showing off the flowers in the garden.



A Dogged Commitment to Guests—and Their Pets



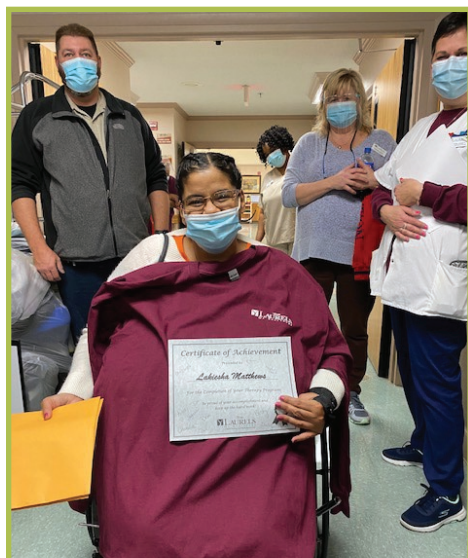
Phyllis with her Jack Russell terrier and Melissa, BOM.

When Phyllis entered **The Laurels of Hillsboro** for treatment, she thought she had dog care covered for her 18-year-old Jack Russell terrier. When those plans fell through, she wanted to go home right away to make sure her dog was alright. Associates knew that it wasn't safe for her to return home just yet. That's when Melissa, the Business Office Manager, stepped up with an offer to foster the dog. She picked up the pup, brought him to the facility to visit his Mommy, and then took him to her own home until Phyllis was able to discharge safely. Now that is The Laurel Way of Caring!



That's the Spirit!

Making Friends Across Generations Helps in Healing



When 44-year-old Lakiesha Matthews arrived at **The Laurels of Salisbury**, she was experiencing balance and cognition difficulties. She describes the beginning of her stay as “foggy”, but with assistance from the Salisbury team, her fog began to lift, and she slowly but surely progressed in her health goals. Lakiesha enjoyed her therapy experience, as she says her therapists offered great exercises and she could tell she was building strength over time.

Lakiesha is younger than the average population at a skilled nursing facility, but she says despite that fact, she made lifelong friendships. She plans on returning to the facility as a volunteer.

"My roommate is one of my all-time favorite people!" Lakiesha said. "I feel like everyone here is part of a family, and I'm going to miss my chats with them."

Athens Teams Up with Habitat for Humanity



Building community has always been an important element of The Laurel Way of Caring. At **The Laurels of Athens**, Associates are taking that literally. This summer, a team from the facility volunteered with Habitat for Humanity to assist with a construction project. What a wonderful way to pay it forward!



Reflections



The Laurels of Worthington celebrated Father's Day with "Dads and Doughnuts." Dads and families enjoyed donuts, coffee, Father's Day Wit & Wisdom, and "Bad Dad Jokes" led by Administrator Kacy Gilliland.



The Laurels of Hillsboro celebrated Nursing Home Week with a petting zoo, Hawaiian Day, a Classic Car show, and a visit from the Kona Ice Cream Truck.



The Laurels of Goshen received a new facility van this summer so they can take more Guests on outings. Leadership team members took it for a test drive and stopped for ice cream.



Guest Robert Kaminski and his family gave visitation a thumbs up this spring at **The Laurels of Huber Heights**. Robert finally got to see his sister Cindy and niece Brooke in person.



Local church and community members stopped by to pay a window visit to a friend and lift spirits with gospel music at **The Laurels of Milford**.



The Laurels of Massillon hosted a birthday bash for four centenarians in their facility with cake, balloons, and birthday fun.

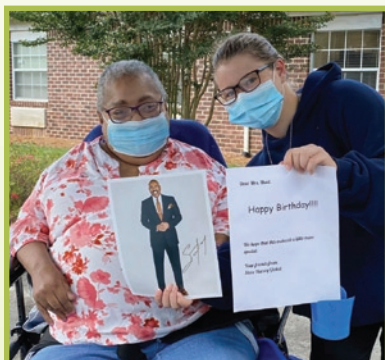


The Laurels of Pender sponsored a "Paint & Sip" event this summer with RSVP volunteers at the Topsail Senior Center—their first painting event since February 2020! It was led by Cheryl Hardie, the owner of Emerge Studio in Burgaw.





▲ Guest Paula Rodgers and Activity Assistant Dee had a blast during music and games at **The Laurels of Mt. Vernon.**



▲ One of our great volunteers at **The Laurels of Salisbury**, Rylee Klinger, helped organize an awesome birthday surprise for guest Marilyn Hunt—an autographed photo of Steve Harvey!



▲ **The Laurels of Steubenville** has been “Reconnecting with Community” this summer with visits to local businesses and partners. Recently, business office manager Tina Boyle and social services manager Kristen Medley delivered breakfast to Coleman Professional Services.

Guests at **The Laurels of Willow Creek** loved painting with watercolors and showing off their creations.



Guests at **The Laurels of West Columbus** enjoyed an outdoor Labor Day luau, complete with caricatures!



Flora celebrated her 97th birthday at **The Laurels of Milford.**



This lovely llama brought lots of love and laughter to Guests at **The Laurels of Hendersonville.**



Spirit News

24 Facilities Earn 4- or 5-Star Ratings from CMS in July

Twenty-four Laurel Health Care Company facilities earned high marks from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) this summer in Quality Measures (QM). The Quality Measures rating provides information on how well nursing homes are caring for their residents' physical and clinical needs and includes 15 different physical and clinical measures. The high ratings received by so many of our facilities reflects the commitment of our Associates to The Laurel Way of Caring. Congratulations to:

Athens	DeKalb	GreenTree Ridge	Kettering	New London	Summit Ridge
Blanchester	Forest Glenn	Heath	Massillon	Norworth	Walden Park
Bon Air	Gahanna	Hendersonville	Milford	Pender	Willow Creek
Charlottesville	Goshen	Hillsboro	Mt. Vernon	Salisbury	Worthington

Congratulations to the Ohio Nursing Facility Caregiver of the Year!

Tricia "Trish" Anderson, a State-Tested Nursing Assistant (STNA) at **The Laurels of Worthington**, was named Nursing Facility Caregiver of the Year by the Ohio Health Care Association (OHCA). Trish was honored during a public awards ceremony by OHCA staff. Mohammad A. Qazi, President & CEO of Laurel Health Care Company, also recognized her achievement at a private luncheon with family, friends, and Laurel Associates.

As an STNA at The Laurels of Worthington for 30 years, Trish goes above and beyond the call of duty every day and frequently receives praise from Guests and families. She possesses the technical and professional skills to provide superior care, but it's her compassion, dedication, patience, and humor that make her truly special. Well done, Trish!



Trish Anderson (right) with Mohammad A. Qazi, President & CEO of Laurel Health Care Company

The Laurels of Gahanna Associate Wins Continuing Education Scholarship



Rhoda Adusei from **The Laurels of Gahanna** was awarded a continuing education scholarship by the Ohio Health Care Association at the 2021 OHCA Convention and Expo. Rhoda and her son are pictured at the convention with facility administrator Stefanie Hayes.

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