



The Laurel Spirit

WINTER 2019

A LAUREL HEALTH CARE COMPANY ASSOCIATE PUBLICATION



Love is in the Air at The Laurels

At Laurel Health Care, love is part of everything we do. It's no wonder that so many of our facilities go all out for Valentine's Day!



◀ Holding Court at The Laurels of Huber Heights

At The Laurels of Huber Heights, Guests voted in a whole Valentine's Day court. King Richard Goodwin, Queen Peggy Van Winkle, Prince Cecil Willams, and Princess Marlene Ross all had a royal good time at the party.

Puppy Love at Maplewood of Marshall ▶

Love went to the dogs at Maplewood of Marshall! Dogs from the community came to visit Guests and share some puppy love.



Young at Heart at The Laurels of Pender

◀ Guests had a ball at the Young at Heart Dance hosted by a sorority and fraternity at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. The facility also hosted a Couples Dinner and Valentine's Day party with live entertainment.

Having a Ball at The Laurels of Willow Creek ▶

Kindergarteners and first graders from the Leaf Spring School came in their ball dresses and suits to dance, clap, and giggle along with Guests at their Valentine's Day Bash. Young dancers showed off with the worm dance, the Roger Rabbit, the "floss" dance, the cha-cha slide, and free-style dancing.



King and Queen for a Day at The Laurels of Hillsboro

◀ Preston and Edith were voted the Valentine's Day King and Queen at The Laurels of Hillsboro. The facility also welcomed children from a local preschool class who passed out Valentines and hugs to Guests.

Words of Thanks

Often, Laurel Health Care Associates go above and beyond the call of duty, reaching out in the communities they serve and demonstrating The Laurel Way of Caring. Here are a few of the letters of appreciation we have received commending these Associates for their extra efforts.

The Laurels of Worthington

Thank you for your care of Margaret Russell. Margaret was a resident of The Laurels of Worthington for 3½ years. During that time, you created a home for her. You protected her from the outside world which she was no longer able to navigate safely. You cared for her body first by assisting her and as she failed you cleaned and clothed her. You prepared healthy food for her, listened to her, laughed with her, and treated her with respect.

Your jobs are strenuous and stressful. The people you care for are often incapable of communicating effectively with you. They require special care even when you don't feel there is any energy left in you. Your patients are not children. They are adults, sometimes forsaken by family members. They are among the forgotten poor, but they too are children of God. Thank you for all you do.

And you, who are you? You have so much to do outside of work. This is your job—to care for some of the neediest and sometimes most stubborn people you will ever meet. But this is what you do to meet your own financial needs and for many of you a need in your heart to serve others. Beyond your work, you are like many struggling to care for your family and often friends. You must feed, cloth, and nurture parents, husband or wife, and children while trying to take care of yourself.

Our great gift is to have purpose. You serve with love, even when you are exhausted or with deep concerns for yourself or your family. Most of you have pride in what you do. You understand that you are performing vital functions whether you are sweeping the floor or deciding the medical needs of a patient. Your calling, your function, your presence, your laughter, and your concern matter. It is a high calling to help those in such a great need. In our society and throughout the world that doesn't mean it is paid financially as a high calling, as you well know, but it does mean that you serve God. Matthew 25:40, "Whatever you do for the least of my brothers you do for me."

So I thank you for your presence, your smiles, your laughter, your tears, your strength, your knowledge, your caring and your love! There were many times you did these things when no visitors were there to acknowledge you going that extra mile. For all those times, I thank you! May God guide you, surround you with His Love, and fill you to overflowing with His Joy and His Presence, now and always!

Celestine Garrity

The Laurels of Hillsboro

Special thanks to Associates who went above and beyond during the "Polar Vortex" of 2019. Shelly Wharton, STNA, cared enough about our Guests that she paid to stay in a hotel room for two nights to ensure she could come in. Hannah Herron, LPN, picked up Tina Younker, STNA, because Tina couldn't get up her drive way. Thanks to these individuals.

Jo Sanborn, Administrator

The Laurels of Willow Creek

Thank you so much for your kindness expressed after the loss of your resident George Booth. He truly appreciated the care provided for him and I am eternally thankful to you.

Mary T. Hicks, Sister

The Laurels of Coldwater

Thank you for the help I received while there. [I appreciated] the therapy, the great nurses, and new friendships.

Donna Hurley-Willison



That's the Spirit!

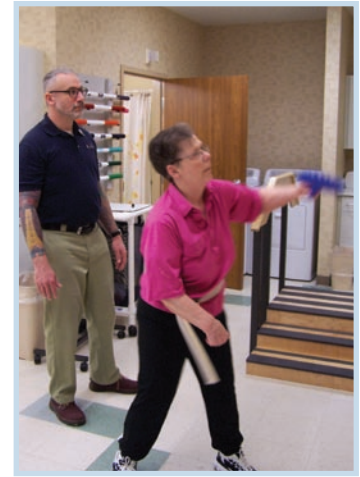


Husband and Wife Competition Leads to Recovery at The Laurels of Toledo

Ruth and Jerry Cunning, 77, have always enjoyed a bit of healthy competition in their marriage. Both have been athletes since their teenage years, and a shared passion for sport and competition has kept their love alive over the decades. When physical challenges made it difficult for both of them to participate in their current favorite sport—platform tennis—they came to **The Laurels of Toledo** for help. Ruth was



struggling with the effects of Parkinson's disease, which made balance difficult and impacted strength and control on the right side of her body. Jerry's difficulties stemmed from a double knee replacement and lingering issues from a heart attack that nearly took his life. Both have



made strides towards improved mobility and endurance with the help of Physical Therapy Assistant Matt Snyder and a sophisticated piece of equipment called the AlterG. Matt devised individualized therapy programs for each of them, which included racket exercises for Ruth and a mix of yoga poses and tai chi stances for Jerry. Along the way, husband and wife have been side by side to offer each other support—and a little competition!

Celebrating Life at The Laurels of Willow Creek

The Laurels of Willow Creek once again celebrated the life of departed Guests in a very solemn and intimate service attended by family and loved ones. After a very meaningful prayer, the names of the deceased were called one by one while the family members lighted individual candles. Family members were then invited to read their loved one's obituary or give a eulogy. Each family was given a rose, a packet of "forget-me-not" seeds with a poem and a note, stones with inspirational words written in them, and a token with the deceased's name and the date of the service. Harpist Kristin Eye provided music that made the memorial service even more special.



▲ Pictured above: Unit Manager Valerie Mann honors the late Mr. David Clawson, pictured playing his guitar on the screen behind her.



Educational Presentation on Parkinson's Disease Offered at The Laurels of Heath

◀ On December 7, 2018, The Laurels of Heath welcomed Jackie Russell, Ohio Health "Delay the Disease" founder, to conduct a special presentation on Parkinson's disease. This presentation was offered to everyone in the community to let them know that The Laurels of Heath facility provides therapy exercises for people affected by Parkinson's disease.

That's the Spirit!

A Holiday Bust at The Laurels of Canton



and Volunteers greeted each and every one with a flower and a holiday greeting.

During the holidays, Activity Director Janet Baggett received a call from Sgt. Cook of the Stark County Sheriff's Department asking if he and his wife could bring flowers to pass out to Guests. Of course she said yes and arranged a time for them to stop by during Black Jack night. Much to everyone's surprise, when Sgt. Cook and his wife appeared at the front entrance he was accompanied by most of the Stark County Sheriff's Department and volunteers! Imagine the shock of the Black Jack players as the sheriffs walked into the game stating that they were there to bust up a gambling ring (all in fun, of course). The Guests were elated as the Deputies

A Double Centurion Birthday at The Laurels of Hendersonville

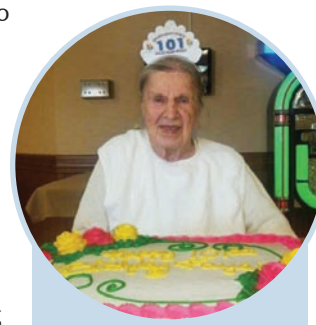


Virginia Fish, 102

The Laurels of Hendersonville recently celebrated special birthdays for two of their Guests. Virginia Fish turned 102 and Faye Davis turned 101.

During their lifetimes, Wyatt Earp was alive, World War I was raging, women couldn't vote, and Charlie Chaplin was the star of silent films. The historic event was commemorated with music and a birthday cake provided by the local Sam's Club.

Virginia Fish joined the Laurel Family in September 2012. She enjoys singing and participates in many activities. Her family made a special trip from England to celebrate her birthday with her. Faye Davis has been a Guest since April 2015. Faye enjoys attending religious activities and her favorite song is Oh How I Love Jesus. What a joy to honor and celebrate the lives of these two wonderful ladies!



Faye Davis, 101



Fast Times at The Laurels of Steubenville

The Laurels of Steubenville recently celebrated the birthday of scouting with their very own Pinewood Derby Races. Twelve Guests painted and crafted their own racecars and the Activity Director's son made a racetrack for the event. The track had two race lanes and was 32 feet long. The races were conducted just like the Boy Scout's Pinewood Derby, with two cars racing at a time. Everyone was given a certificate of participation and a trophy. After the race, they had a pizza party. Guests loved the event and are looking forward to making this a tradition!

104 Years Young at The Laurels of Salisbury

Ms. Celia Summitt celebrated her 104th birthday this past September with TWO parties—one provided by the Activities team at The Laurels of Salisbury and one with her family. Ms. Summitt was a talented seamstress in her day, and she still wears all of her handmade dresses daily. She lived her whole life in Salisbury, where she married and raised three children. Now, she attends most of the activities offered by the facility and especially enjoys bingo. She gets her hair and nails done weekly and always dresses to the nines with panty hose, heels, and beads. She says she looks forward to celebrating her 105th with family and friends at The Laurels of Salisbury!

Pictured at right: Ms. Celia Summitt practices her golf putting.



Reflections



The Laurels of Hendersonville

First Place at the 73rd NC Apple Festival King Apple Parade went to The Laurels of Hendersonville for their fantastic Wizard of Oz theme. Congratulations to "Dorothy" and all her friends!



The Laurels of Bedford

On November 12, The Laurels of Bedford had a Veterans Day Pinning Ceremony. Each veteran received an American flag pin, and the Battle Creek Mayor presented a Certificate of Recognition to each of them. Pictured, left to right: Mark A. Behnke, Mayor; Don Macleay, The Laurels of Bedford Administrator; and Veteran and Volunteer Scott Smith.



The Laurels of Steubenville

On January 8, Guests celebrated Elvis Presley's birthday with an Elvis impersonator and some wonderful Elvis music. Everyone loved singing along with Elvis to his most popular hits. There was a whole lot of shakin' going on! Pictured: "Elvis" and Guest Maxine Moser.



The Laurels of Gahanna

To recognize veterans in their facility, The Laurels of Gahanna held a Veterans Day Ceremony. They invited Guests' families and had donuts and coffee.



The Laurels of University Park

The Activity Team of The Laurels of University Park show off their "Awesome Activity Professional" tee shirts! The shirts were a holiday gift. Pictured (left to right): Delores Edloe, Valerie Greene, Catherine Blanche, and Catherine Buie.



The Laurels of Steubenville Souper-bowl

On February 1st, The Laurels of Steubenville participated in a friendly "Souper Bowl" competition among local Skilled Nursing facilities and restaurants. The event was well attended and judged by local "celebrity" judges. The Laurels of Steubenville took home 3rd place!

The Laurels of Hillsboro

Guests at The Laurels of Hillsboro get an opportunity to express their creative side each month during an art class with Doris. Doris is a retired art teacher who is absolutely amazing with our Guests.



The Laurels of Worthington

Guests "graduating" from therapy enjoyed a ceremony celebrating their success.



Reflections



Maplewood of Mount Pleasant

At the suggestion of Dave (pictured), a beautiful globe was purchased for the facility's library in memory of Jean M., a past Guest whose estate provided the funds. Jean was a university educator as well as an avid traveler. We are sure Jean would be pleased to see Guests enjoying the globe!



Associates and Guests from The Laurels of Summit Ridge and Green Tree Ridge participated in the Asheville Downtown Christmas Parade. Sticking to the Appalachian theme, the shuttle bus was decorated with a rustic flare.

The Laurels of New London

On the first Wednesday of every month The Laurels of New London sponsors free bingo at the Willard Senior Center. Three ladies who attend religiously meet to crochet scarfs, washcloths, and lap blankets afterwards. In February, the ladies presented The Laurels of New London with 10 lap afghans for their Guests. Guests were more than grateful to receive such a useful gift! Pictured left to right: Nora Downing, Cathy Combs, and Sandi Heffley.



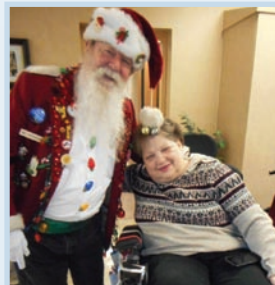
The Laurels of Willow Creek

During the celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr., The Laurels of Willow Creek welcomed members of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority of Richmond, Virginia. Sorority members led a trivia game and sing-a-long. Everyone had a blast! The sorority plans to return to replant topiaries at the new Rehab Gym and flowers at the East and West wing courtyards in the Spring.



The Laurels of Defiance

On January 31 The Laurels of Defiance partnered with the Red Cross for a blood drive. While subzero temperatures put a chill on the proceedings, they had 19 donors and collected 15 usable units of blood—enough to save up to 45 lives!



The Laurels of University Park

"Mr. Christmas" always brightens the holidays at The Laurels of University Park! Here, he's shown with Guest Laura Lindsay.





▲ The Laurels of Gahanna

On December 21, The Laurels of Gahanna Associates celebrated National Holiday Sweater Day. Lots of laughs were had by all!

The Laurels of Hendersonville ▼

Associates dressed up as Santa & Mrs. Claus, elves, a snowman, and toy soldiers. Visiting children wrote letters to Santa, decorated cookies, got their faces painted, and colored holiday pictures. Of course, Santa was on hand for pictures and treat bags while Mrs. Claus served hot chocolate and cookies.



The Laurels of New London ▼

Guests at The Laurels of New London stuffed stockings for children in need in their community. The stockings were then delivered to the children along with gifts, toiletries, and clothing through New London's Secret Santa program.



The Laurels of Galesburg ▲

Santa and his helper spread cheer among Guests and Associates at The Laurels of Galesburg.



▲ The Laurels of Coldwater

The Laurels of Coldwater had a delightful visit from the "big man in red"! Guests and Associates enjoyed visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Claus during their annual Christmas Party. Each Guest got their photo taken with Santa while enjoying

live music, appetizers, dessert, and a chocolate fountain.



The Laurels of Chatham ►

At The Laurels of Chatham holiday party, Mrs. Claus and her elves handed out wonderful snacks prepared by Dietary Staff and Santa and his elves handed out gifts from the Angel Tree. Gifts were provided by Associates and the community.

Maplewood of Mt. Pleasant ►

Maplewood of Mt. Pleasant Guests went to Dow Gardens in Midland for an evening golf cart "Light Ride." Guests rode carts through the lighted gardens and into the conservatory, where they listened to the beautiful Christmas music and saw the gorgeous poinsettia tree.



Spirit News

Five in a Row—Way to Go, DeKalb!



Congratulations to the Associates and Management team at **The Laurels of DeKalb**, who have received five deficiency-free surveys in a row! This has earned The Laurels of DeKalb the number one AHCA ranking in the state of Indiana out of 553 Skilled Nursing

facilities. This accomplishment is a testament to the hard work and commitment to excellence exhibited by everyone at the facility.

The facility celebrated their accomplishment on January 30 with a catered luncheon, individual gifts, and a “Candy Bar.” The party was “Oscar” themed to reflect an awards ceremony and all the glam that comes along with it. Erin Tuttle, DeKalb Administrator, and Marleen Miller, DeKalb Director of Nursing, accepted a plaque given in recognition from Dennis White, Laurel Health Care Director of Clinical Services, and Lisa Anetrini, Vice President of Clinical Operations for Laurel Healthcare and Ciena Healthcare. Jeff Shepard, Regional Manager, Jennifer Pifer, Regional Director of Business Development, and Susie Moore, Regional Clinical Coordinator, also joined in the celebration.

A Thank You for CNAs

Certified Nursing Assistants at **The Laurels of University Park** enjoyed their first-ever CNA Appreciation luncheon hosted by the Rehab Department. Special thanks to these all-too-often unsung heroes!



Transitions



Congratulations to Dennis Lanning, Maintenance Director of **The Laurels of Hendersonville**, on his retirement after 26 years of service! Dennis, thank you for many years of a job well done.

The Laurels of Hillsboro recently said goodbye to long-time SNTA Kimberly Bridges, who passed away in February after an illness. She worked there for 22 years and was loved and respected by her fellow Associates and

Guests. Her colleagues have raised over three thousand dollars for her family in her memory. She will be very much missed by all.



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 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.

