



VILLA VOICES

SUMMER 2016

DEAR FRIENDS,



Elizabeth J. Hickle,
MPA, LNHA, CDP

WELCOME HOME

There's nothing like the feeling of coming home. The word home can mean so many things to us; a meal with our families, spending time with friends, sharing the word of God at Mass, and the physical structure of where we live. The phrase "home is where the heart is" is often repeated, but its meaning is true here at the Villa. To our residents, home means being happy, active and fulfilled, living in a place that provides security, enriching activities and compassionate care in a God-centered environment.

Light of Hearts Villa turns 27 years old this year. Although there have been changes over the years, one thing has remained constant: the outstanding care our residents receive from highly qualified and caring staff members. LOHV has received a 100% deficiency-free survey from the State of Ohio for the past three years and we are so proud of our staff members for attaining this excellent standing. We are continuously working to make Light of Hearts Villa a place to call *home*.

We know that we could not accomplish all that we have without our faithful and generous donors. We rely on donations from caring individuals and organizations to help us meet the needs of our deserving residents. Donors to the Sister Helen Scasny, SC Benevolent Fund, directly assist those residents who have outlived their financial resources, providing peace of mind for them and their families. From special activities and programs for residents, new medical equipment, or the upgrading of the facility, every dollar donated to the Annual Fund is used strategically and purposefully to keep this home in superior condition. We are truly grateful that our donors find us worthy of their support. *May God bless you for your generosity!*

In this issue of *Villa Voices*, you'll read about all the ways we compassionately serve our residents through a combination of caring and faith. As you will see, our mission of extending the healing ministry of Jesus Christ is felt strongly in every corner of our home.

In faithful leadership,
Elizabeth J. Hickle, MPA, LNHA, CDP
Executive Director

OUR MISSION ::

We are devoted to providing premier senior residential living and community outreach services. Through our faith-based values, we affirm the integrity of each person and encourage them on their journey of aging.

LIGHT of HEARTS VILLA

Making God's Love Visible MISSION AWARD



A melody echoes in the air when she plays her flute. A melody of love emanates from her as she puts herself at the service of residents, wellness staff, and families. A sense of welcome embraces anyone who encounters her smile and gentle voice. These are just a few of the attributes of *Elaine Loveland* the recipient of the 2015 *Making God's Love Visible* Mission Award. Elaine is an eleven year staff member of the Villa.

The Award is the highest honor given to a member of the staff who is nominated by their peers. The recipient strives in the words of St. Vincent de Paul to "make God's love visible" with their life. The Award was presented by Betty Hickle at the annual Missioning Service for Employees and Volunteers on January 6.

Q: What came to mind when you realized you were the recipient of the Award?

A: I felt stunned and touched that I was thought of. I felt very humbled because there are many staff members who are so worthy of the Award.

Q: The Award criteria is based on quotes from three charity saints. Which quote is meaningful for you?

A: "We have to make our occupations holy. We do this by seeking God in them. We do our work to find God in it rather than to just get it done." This quote from St. Vincent de Paul inspires me. I try to look at each resident and find God in them no matter what they are feeling that day. I try to make sure that they hear, "You are loved."

Q: What is the best part of your work here at Light of Hearts Villa?

A: It is the little things: giving a resident a copy of the schedule; bringing a smile to someone; making a one-on-one connection with another; relating to each person in their own way.

Q: You work in the Wellness Department. Describe a little of the interdependence in the department.

A: Working together is all about seeing to the benefit of the residents. If a resident has an assessment today, it means I page for them to be ready for the interview. On another day a resident may be anxious knowing they have an appointment, so I let caregivers know. We clue each other in about what is happening on any given day and value that our working together brings happiness to our residents. When we share communication, we benefit from a lot of joint wisdom.

Q: Are there gifts that Light of Hearts Villa has given to you?

A: Absolutely. There is kindness, and that is invaluable. Support is easily given and there is a family spirit that includes coming to know each other's family.



CONGRATULATIONS LIGHT OF HEARTS VILLA!

The Ohio Department of Health Survey found Light of Hearts Villa to be 100% compliant.

The annual Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging Assisted Living Waiver compliance review identified us to be 100% compliant.

The Cuyahoga County Board of Health also ranked LOHV as 100% compliant.

Congratulations to our staff for these excellent survey reports.

Light of Hearts Villa is *Making a Difference*

“LOHV means so much to our family, to mom, our experience, its mission. The minute we walked into LOHV we knew it was the ‘right’ place for Mom. From the warm welcome, tour, and the wonderful lunch, it appeared we had found a home for Mom. There was a feeling of peace and tranquility when we walked into the chapel. Mom was getting more forgetful, not eating well or taking medication correctly, and needed some supervision. We toured five or six other facilities before deciding LOHV was where Mom could live independently with supervision and assistance.

“One may wonder what LOHV offers their residents. Their employees live their mission to care for the residents. Questions are patiently answered, activities tailored to the wants and needs of the residents, and care administered with love and compassion. Residents enjoy a quality of life they would not have if they remained in their homes, spending days watching TV or sitting for hours with nothing to do. LOHV offers a full calendar of activities. They transport residents to events, offer housekeeping, and beautician, doctor and nurse services.

“Personally, I host evening music nights, an annual turkey bowling, and holiday parties. I see the effect on the residents who are happy and know they are safe and well cared for.

Their minds are stimulated by local musicians, the Hillcrest Concert Band, monthly Red Hat Teas, Birthday Bash celebrations, science experiments and other activities and games. Resident meetings give them an opportunity to voice their opinions and make suggestions on anything from activities to choice of foods.

“Our mother lived at Light of Hearts for ten years, and truly considered it her home. Our family can attest that Mom, and every resident, receives wonderful care every day based on the mission of LOHV.”
– Sandra Pannetti

“I don’t know how you ever found this wonderful place for me.”
– Resident JF, in a comment to her daughter

“Being a modest part of Light of Hearts is truly a joy for me and I believe for the staff and director, as well as all who live at Light of Hearts. It is a place of joyful giving for all who call it home.”
– Fr. Tom O’Donnell

“I am grateful that Mom always mentions how kind everyone is who works there. Please share my appreciation and gratitude with the staff. Mom is very happy because of all of you.” – MB



1. Musical presentations stimulate the mind.
2. Gilmour students visit with residents after the Villa Bell Choir performance.
3. Rose Pivonka crowns Mary during a special service.
4. Fr. O’Donnell blesses the relocated Craft Room.
5. Did you know that snowmen take shape from baking soda and hair conditioner?

THANK YOU for keeping our residents in your hearts and demonstrating your generosity through your gifts to Light of Hearts Villa.

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* Deceased

The *Vincentian Society* recognizes individuals who make a lasting gift to Light of Hearts Villa through a will commitment.

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Every attempt has been made
to assure accuracy. If you have
corrections, please contact Nancy Ilg
at 440.232.1991 Thank you.

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In 2015, the Seton Safety Net
served 162 seniors with 2962 food
items and \$4146 in grocery cards.



The National Honor Society of Bedford High School sent seniors Brittany Festa and Kacie Soltis to deliver canned goods they collected for the Seton Safety Net.

“Let us be protectors of creation, protectors of God’s plan inscribed in nature, protectors of one another and of the environment.”

Pope Francis from *Laudato Si*

Intentionality lies behind this quote from Pope Francis. It is the framework from which we, at Light of Hearts Villa live out our mission. It references the quote of St. Vincent that Elaine noted on page 2. But, what is it? Intentionality is defined in the Oxford dictionary as the quality of mental states (e.g. thoughts, beliefs, desires, hopes) which consists in their being directed towards some object or state of affairs. We at LOHV act with intentionality for the benefit of our residents. Our intentionality drives us, staff, residents and volunteers, to be of service to others. It motivates us to be gracious and grateful stewards of all creation.



1. **A special Employee Recognition Ceremony** took place on June 1. Each recognized employee has intentionally been a part of LOHV for a number of years. 25 Years: Ray Dorman, chef; 15 years: Delma Garrett, RN, Roberta Papes, Receptionist; 10 years: Bruce Stewart, dietary, Sr. Sandra Emrich, SCN, Human Resources; 5 Years: Dennis Giangiacomo, maintenance, Roberta (Bobbi) Gurko, receptionist.

Ray Dorman was toasted to mark his 25th anniversary as Villa chef. Conservative estimates are that he has prepared over 60,000 meals, not counting the number of individuals served at each meal. Ray expresses intentionality in the variety, the tastes, the presentations, the creativity, the teaching of others that round out his efforts as a “great chef.”



2. **Bob Schwind** was presented a golden hammer on his retirement from the maintenance services of the Villa. Over his 19 years here, Bob responded to untold calls from residents and staff, changed volumes of light bulbs, plowed tons of snow, and performed various and sundry tasks. There is true commitment in lengthy service.



3. **Earth Day** is celebrated every April 22. Every Earth Day since 1990 is celebrated with intentionality. Some years trees have been planted, other years seeds were sown. This year a Juniper Iowa tree (donated by Savarino Garden Center) was planted on the back patio. A prayer service created the framework of the planting as part of a national effort of the Catholic Climate Covenant. National Catholic Reporter picked up our story and included it in their publication. Care is given to tending the earth and the beauty it offers us.



4. Some residents braved the misting weather to pray outside, while others prayed in the Grand Parlor. Resident, **Marie Bartnik** brought her Easter hyacinths to be planted on the day.



5. **Don Rohm**, resident and Sr. Regina got an early start pruning the roses and hydrangeas.



6. LOHV is grateful to the **First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association** for the intentionality they have for LOHV. Some 36 members of the Cleveland District gathered at the Villa for **Join Hands Day**, an annual planting and activity day they have for us. Pruning, flower planting, rosary making and horse racing took place on Saturday, May 21. The FCSLA generously funds our annual flowers that delight residents and visitors. Ten Girl Scouts from Troops 70424 and 70131, led by FCSLA members, planted in Lumen Lane and brought Girl Scout cookies for the residents.



7. Some people work quietly behind the scenes, using their gifts and talents, to make a difference in the lives of others. **Evelyn Bauknecht** is such a person. Evelyn has been knitting **Prayer Shawls** for the Villa for 10 years. Each shawl is made while praying for the recipient. Occasions, both happy and sad, are graced by these shawls that often provide great comfort for an individual. In the spirit of Sts. Vincent de Paul and Louise de Marillac, Evelyn has found a niche in reaching those in need. Her nimble hands also make warm hats for the homeless and soft hats for those undergoing chemo. The Villa is blessed to connect with Evelyn in “making God’s love visible.”



8. **60 Years of Ordination** were celebrated with **Father Carl Uhler** on May 27. Father has been celebrating Mass on Fridays at LOHV for six years. As he moves into retirement, the Villa wanted to express its appreciation by a special Mass and a surprise party for him afterwards. *Ad Multos Annos, Father.* Thank You for sharing your ministry with us.



9. **Volunteers from Target Corporation** offered their services to LOHV for the second year. The day was filled with diverse activities, indoors and outdoors. Walkers and wheelchairs were cleaned, tables and chairs had a going over, bushes were trimmed and a rose bush was planted, to the delight of residents. A treasured part for the volunteers and for residents was time to share stories. An organization pairing with another that has a mission of service is another example of intentionality.



10. Ida Stanley, our Marketing and Admissions Director, is a talented artist. She directed 40 residents and guests in transforming blank canvases into works of art. **Paint Night** was a fundraiser for LOHV. Her assistants were Felicia Krawczynski, Admissions Assistant and Nancy Ilg, Fund Development Manager.



11. **Welcome Felicia.** As a graduate of Lumen Cordium High School, I feel a unique sense of déjà vu walking through the halls of Light of Hearts Villa. The former gymnasium (now the Resident Activity Center), with its timbered vaulted ceiling, is still here, as is the sunny Dining Room, with its perfect vantage point onto beautiful park land. Most importantly—appropriately placed at the very heart of the Villa—remains the chapel, a kaleidoscope of blue and red and gold hues splashing through its stained glass wall behind the altar.

Although it is pleasing to see how treasured landmarks from my years as a Lumen student have been seamlessly incorporated into the Villa, and into the daily lives of residents here, it is even more heartening to witness how the Vincentian Sisters’ mission continues uninterrupted in Light of Hearts Villa’s mission of compassionate, faith-based care for its residents. In my new position as Marketing and Admissions Assistant at Light of Hearts Villa, I feel a sense coming full circle, of revisiting a place of light and life and peace. Coming to Light of Hearts Villa feels a bit like coming home.

–Felicia Krawczynski



LIGHT of HEARTS VILLA

A Ministry of the Sisters of Charity Health System

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UPCOMING *events*

Light of Hearts Villa provides independent and assisted living, memory and respite care. Below are some of our upcoming events. For more information call 440.232.1991.

August 11

Mass and Reception for Major Donors

September 11-17

*Assisted Living Week Theme:
"Keep Connected"*

September 27

Feast of St. Vincent de Paul

October 9

Our 27th Annual Fall Fest Dinner Fundraiser Dinner, Raffle, Craft Fair, Bakery & More. Chef Ray's homecooked meal. See details on the Save the Date postcard. For information, or, if you have not received our mailing by September 14, please call 440.232.1991. Follow the Fall Fest at www.lightofheartsvilla.org.

November 8-12

Flea Market

November 10 7:00 p.m.

Mass Remembering our Deceased Residents. Family Members and Friends. Refreshments afterwards.

November 11

Veterans Day Celebration

November 26 4:00 p.m.

Mass for All LOHV Benefactors

December

Christmas Wafers (Oplatky) available at the front desk.

December 3 10:00 a.m.-Noon

Christmas Decorating Day
Lunch provided. Families and friends are welcome to join us as we turn LOHV into a Christmas delight for the Residents. Please RSVP by Nov. 28.

December 10

A Christmas Celebration
Sponsored by the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association for the Residents. Mass following at 4:00 p.m.

March 29, 2017 9:00 a.m. - Noon

The Ethics of Death and Dying Seminar
3CEUs

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