



Lori Lewis, director of nursing at The Village, with Faith the therapy dog.

Faithful Therapy Dog Brings Joy to Willow Brook

Every Tuesday morning, a special dog named Faith pulls her owners Don and Tina Huling toward Willow Brook Christian Village, where this adorable therapy dog makes the rounds.

Residents and staff love to pet her soft, curly coat and breathe in her signature scent: baby powder.

"Faith treats everyone as an individual," says Don. For some, she sits quietly, providing sweet

company. For others, she jumps on their bed and delivers a smooch. She also prays, putting her paws together and bowing her head.

This 8-year-old whoodle (combination of a wheaten terrier and a poodle) has visited The Village for several years. Faith knows she has a job to do.

"Faith was put into this world to take care of people," says Don.

"What a sad era when it is easier to smash an atom than a prejudice."

Albert Einstein
1879-1955

Long-time board member Carl Ward and his wife, Sharon, both died this winter. Sharon departed three months before Carl, as they were loading the car for a drive to Cleveland for Sharon's scheduled open-heart surgery, her third. Carl died the day before his planned admission to one of Willow Brook's rehab centers following a surprise surgery in March.

Boom and boom – two bolts out of the blue.

Carl began his Willow Brook service in 2004, and accepted a term as president in 2012/13. He and I loved big band music and took in concerts together when we could. For years, he and Sharon would share a table with Janet and me at Willow Brook's Christmas parties (that's them below at the 2017 celebration). We never planned those seatings. We just kept turning up together. That's what happens when you enjoy someone's company.

Carl was a U.S. Navy veteran, and owned seven McDonald's franchises in Columbus.

They both were living links to dark chapters in our nation's story—slavery and its aftermath, and the annihilation of America's Indians by our European ancestors as they set about the bloody business of confiscating a continent and erasing a people. Sharon was of the Sioux Nation in South Dakota. As a young child, she was taken from her mother as part of the U.S. policy of assimilation, and placed into a military-like Indian boarding school. An orphanage, if you will. Except little Sharon was not an orphan. She had a mother who loved her and couldn't understand why her child had been taken away.



Sharon and Carl Ward

*Well yes, that's progress,
I would say*

by Larry Harris, CEO

The school was one of two dozen established in an attempt to "de-Indianize" the offspring of natives. The children were forbidden to speak their native tongues or practice tribal traditions. It was all a traumatic experience for young Sharon. It wasn't enough for the colonizers to take the land and wipe out 90 percent of her people, but she and other children of survivors were forced to suffer the government's attempts to wring the "Indian" out of them.

Carl was born in 1940 in segregated Mississippi, toward the end of a 75-year era of racial terrorism. From the 1870s to the 1950s, more than 4,000 young black men were lynched by mobs of the Ku Klux Klan and other white supremacists. Each was dragged to the town square to the savage jeers of a crowd that often included teens and young children. There the victims were doused with kerosene, strung up from a tree and set afire, to the delight of the assembled townspeople. It was great sport, sanctioned by local, state, and federal governments, and was a lesson in raw bigotry for the children. Here's how you do it, young'uns.

Bigotry does not arise from our genes. It is taught.

The lynchings continued for the first 14 years of Carl's life. His mother, along with every black

mother with young sons across The South, counseled Carl on the rules of white engagement – never look them in the eye, step off the sidewalk and wait with your head bowed if one approaches, always address them "yes sir" and "yes ma'am." Giving heed to these rules could spell the difference between life and death for young Carl.

In recent conversations, Carl affirmed that race relations in America today are much better. Though still not perfect, there has been good progress, he said, while recounting slights and insults endured in the military and in his McDonald's career. "But at least they're not lynching us anymore," he said.

Well yes, that's progress, I would say.

I miss Carl. I miss our talks. I miss him shining a light for me into the dark recesses of our past. I miss him at the concerts. I miss the wisdom he dispensed at the board table. Janet and I will miss the laughter at the Christmas parties.

I am sorry he and Sharon had to suffer the meanness of this world. It's sad, and that's just about all there is to say about it.



40th anniversary. Ruggles stayed in a guest suite at Delaware Run, spoke to local schools and delivered a special presentation for Willow Brook residents about his adventures as official photographer for the National Park Service.

A graduate of Delaware Hayes High School, Ruggles served four years as an Army paratrooper. After an injury, he had to give up his military career, but he found a new passion — photography — and an opportunity to serve his country in another way.

“It’s like magic, knowing that I’m out there protecting my country’s beautiful resources, our natural resources, and our cultural history through photography,” he says.

In 2016, Ruggles met Warren Hyer, executive director of the

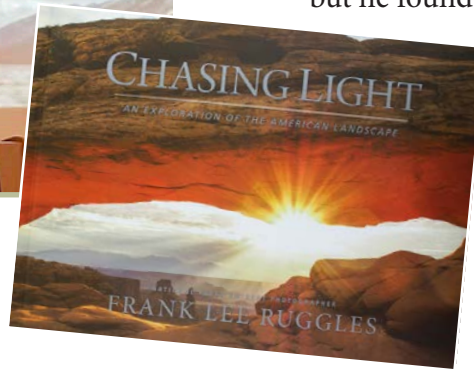
Symphony when they were both inducted into the Hayes High School Hall of Fame. Hyer proposed creating a multimedia show featuring Ruggles’ pictures and original music composed by Ohio Wesleyan music professors. Ruggles loved the idea and got to work.

Ruggles has published a book, “Chasing Light,” which showcases America’s natural wonders.

Capturing America’s Beauty

Willow Brook was honored to host acclaimed nature photographer Frank Ruggles who stayed at our Delaware Run campus while in town for the world premiere of his short film, *Expedition*, a stunning show featuring pictures from Ruggles’ years of photographing the U.S. National Parks.

The Central Ohio Symphony screened Ruggles’ film and performed original music from the soundtrack at a concert April 27 to celebrate its



Want World Peace? Play Games and Dance!

Achieving world peace is a lofty goal, but Mary Lea Bailey has found her own practical path to bringing people together in harmony. Her secret: playing games and folk dancing.

The 92-year-old resident of Delaware Run is known for her friendly smile and for “hugging her way around a room.” But you might not know she is an astute business woman who ran a games company with her late husband, Warren, for 33 years, and that she’s danced her way around the world.

Mary Lea and Warren founded World Wide Games in 1953 in Delaware, Ohio. They made high-quality wooden games, inspired by games from around the world. Games like pommawanga (a Native American ring game), yoot (a Korean board game) and adi (an African counting game).

“Playing games means connecting with other



Delaware Run resident Mary Lea Bailey demonstrates a math game called Hindu Pyramid Puzzle.

continued on page 6

Tribute Gifts

Memorial Contributions

February 19, 2019 – May 12, 2019



This issue is in memory of Lucille Reinhard, former resident of Willow Brook Christian Village.

Richard C. Atkinson

Carol A. Roden

Frances Carlton

April L. Jackson

Gene Carrell

Thomas & Rena Brown

Stephen & Theresa Carrell

Kari Childs

Howard & Carol Davidson

Dublin-Powell Church of Christ

D. Paul & Carol Gartman

Caryl Gatton

Jim & Marcia Hotopp

Thomas Hotopp

James & Pauline Kossow

Sharon Mathias

Joe & Barbara Pittman

Don & Ruth Ann Rankey

Edward & Lori Sarkel & Family

Greg & Peggy Tidwell

Linda Wallingford & Family

Lucretia M. Wellman

West Jefferson Church of Christ

Joseph & Margaret Caudy

Roger & Jane Sagar

S. Frank & Betty Chappell

Larry & Janet Harris

Karen Susenna

Phyllis Croll

Carolyn Croll-Johnston & Robert Johnston

William Croll

Carolyn Croll-Johnston & Robert Johnston

Dorothy J. Dale

Joy Lackey

Nancy DeTray

Lisa Mack

Reuben & Eleanor Dickman

John & Sue Dickman

Vonda Ervin

James & Mary Beth Cox

Genevieve "Genny" Fisher

Mariella C. Dunnan

Robert England

Arlene Palenshus

Helen J. Reppart

James Freed

Lloyd & Alice Baker

Vivian Gaskalla

Roger & Cindy Taylor

Audrey & Alberta Harris

Larry & Janet Harris

C. Wayne Hasty

Lucretia M. Wellman

John T. Hayes

Karen S. Hayes

Carl Hertwig

Joy Lackey

Cloid "Eldon" Horne

Lucretia M. Wellman

Marjorie Humes

Helen J. Reppart

James E. Jackson

Mitchell & Dyana Welch

Wayne Kauble

Lloyd & Alice Baker

Richard "Dick" Kreager

Fred & Arlene Krause

Donald Loverde

John & Sue Dickman

Vincent & Evelyn Loverde

John & Sue Dickman

V. Maxine Paca

Corinne D. Esau

Bernard & Joan Murchland

Arlene Palenshus

Douglas & Elaine Palmer

Helen J. Reppart

Donald & Amy Jo Sommers

Willow Brook Christian Village

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Roger & Cindy Taylor

Michael Petty

Dorothy Petty

Lucretia M. Wellman

Florence Poulson

Thomas & Sara Poulson

Gene & Emma "Maude" Prince

Larry & Janet Harris

Rebecca L. Harris

Clara G. Ratigan

Delaware Run Residents' Association

Margaret Roberts

Lucille Reinhard

Thomas & Blanche Allchin

Mariella C. Dunnan

Corinne D. Esau

William S. Hanrahan

Larry & Carol Humes

Lucille Reinhard, continued

Barb Lewis

Arlene Palenshus

Helen J. Reppart

Lucretia M. Wellman

Evelyn Winter

Mary C. Roden

Carol A. Roden

Don Rost

Thomas & Sara Poulson

Florabelle "Flo" Rower

Bethany Christian Church

Fresh Start Class

Gerald & Linda Chaffee

Edgar & Beatrice Pencil & Family

Kathryn Schwartz

Dianne L. Almendinger

John & Sue Dickman

Theodoric "Ted" Smith

Delaware Run Residents' Association

Corrine Snyder-Poulson

Thomas & Sara Poulson

Dominic "Dom" Trianfo

Victor & Susan Trianfo

Carl Ward

Delaware Run Residents' Association

Judith L. Earich

Larry & Janet Harris

Helen J. Reppart

George F. Wellman

Lucretia M. Wellman

Dwight W. Welsh

James & Pauline Kossow

Hilda Wick

Mariella C. Dunnan

Arlene Palenshus

Douglas & Elaine Palmer

Helen J. Reppart

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Harry E. Williamson

James & Pauline Kossow

Mary Williamson

James & Pauline Kossow

Nicki V. Zanetos

Lisa Mack

Wellman Celebrates 45 Years of Service at Willow Brook



Lucretia (Lu) Wellman

“I look at this job as a ministry, not a paycheck. It’s a way to serve the Lord and others.”

Willow Brook’s longest-serving employee Lucretia (Lu) Wellman celebrates her 45th anniversary with the organization on July 2.

“Frank Chappell (one of Willow Brook’s founders) hired me to organize the office, and he said the job would last three or four months,” Wellman says. “At my 40th anniversary party, he joked, ‘It’s about time we made you a full-time employee.’”

In 1974, when Wellman started work, Willow Brook had just acquired a 25-bed nursing home, run by a part-time administrator and a few volunteers, including Wellman, who had been hosting birthday parties for residents along with her ladies Bible school class at

Northland Church of Christ.

Over the years, Wellman progressed from office manager to billing specialist and witnessed Willow Brook’s expansion from one campus to three, and from a handful of employees to 500.

The best thing about her job? “Getting close to the residents and families,” she says. “I always want to help them if they have an issue, and I am there for them in good times and bad. I look at this job as a ministry, not a paycheck. It’s a way to serve the Lord and others.”

Wellman’s husband, George, also shepherded Willow Brook, serving as a board member for 30 years until his death in 2012. Wellman makes her home at Willow Brook Christian Village — a quick commute to the job she loves.

LeadingAge Ohio Stars Awards

Each spring our state association, LeadingAge Ohio, honors non-supervisory staff serving in its member communities with a special award: *LeadingAge Stars*. The Stars are selected from nominations submitted by residents and staff on all three campuses for outstanding service.

These wonderful staff members were treated to a luncheon in Granville, Ohio, celebrating hundreds of 2019 *Stars* from facilities around Central Ohio.

We’re so proud of each and every one of you!



Pictured from left, Cassie Call (Water’s Edge Server), Will O’Sullivan (Kitchen Utility), Marilyn Valentino (Floor Care Technician), Devin Hines (Kitchen Utility), Edith Tenaso (Nursing Assistant), Irene Lohre (Personal Care Attendant), Deb Maurer (Nursing Assistant), Dyanna Dauphin (Personal Care Attendant) and Sherry Swims (Licensed Practical Nurse).



Delaware Run Summer Special!

Come tour the new assisted living rooms at Willow Brook at Delaware Run. Our staff is available to answer any questions you may have. We are offering a limited-time special of \$1,000 off per month for three months. Discover why we are rated the #1 assisted living facility in Delaware County and among the best in the state.

continued from page 3

people,” she says. “That’s what helps us to be real human beings, and to be kind and friendly and helpful.”

Folk dancing also promotes collaboration. As a child, Mary Lea danced at summer camps. After college, she landed her first job as a folk dance instructor in Wheeling, W.Va. She met Warren at dances. They danced their whole lives, close to home and far-away, in Yugoslavia, Denmark and England. Warren died in 2016, but Mary Lea still seeks any opportunity to dance (now with the help of her walker).

“Folk dancing makes me feel wonderful,” she says. “You are part of a group, you are moving together, and it’s inclusive of everyone. You’re going to be kind to one another if you’re having fun, and that makes the world a better place.”



Dancers Mary Lea and Warren Bailey in 1950.

Summer Night

by Susan Hendrickson

Cicadas rub, rumble.
Night purrs around long skirts,
damp with dew.
Women embrace this down time.
With little effort
they hear late hour
mosquito songs.

Ink black fills an envelope of green,
this vest pocket park on Riverside Drive.
Only embers of lit tobacco, light
thrown from a gas lamp, a distant
burst of fireworks
mitigates the night.

Heads collide, whisper
words inappropriate
for bright hours or children,
the only ones resisting the night.
Soon, from across the avenue
distant commands, clear in the darkness,
call them home. Adult voices douse
the remaining fragments of light
leaving only welcome,
spraying from
attic windows,
patched on the grass.

Susan Hendrickson is a talented poet who lives and writes at Willow Brook Christian Village. She often finds inspiration in paintings and wrote this poem after seeing a painting by George Bellows called Summer Night, Riverside Drive 1909.





Ginny Gongaware
Resident of Delaware Run



Tom and Blanche Allchin
Residents of The Village



Spotlight on Our Gift of Love Winners

Congratulations to the 2019 Gift of Love Award winners, presented in April at our Volunteer Reception. Ginny Gongaware was the winner for Delaware Run, and Blanche and Tom Allchin won for The Village.

Ginny is described as “a picture of compassion and love in motion.” She organizes monthly luncheons, takes residents to appointments, visits people in the hospital and coordinates religious activities. She also serves on the Willow Brook Board of Trustees.

Blanche and Tom Allchin won the award for their outstanding service to residents. This dynamic duo provides transportation to appointments, makes movie night possible and provides donuts at morning coffee. They also chair the Village Library Committee and help with programs.

We were delighted to celebrate the service of 130 volunteers at the spring reception. Our volunteers make life better for all of our residents, and we are so thankful for them!

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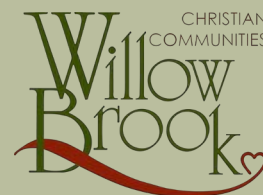
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A cardinal takes flight at The Village by Joyce Stambaugh



Willow Brook Christian Village resident Joyce Stambaugh has lived on campus for more than 20 years and delights in photographing the wonderful wildlife outside her home.

