



Gary, Carol, and Garland

Not Simply a Job

Carol Sethmann

Have you ever been at a loss for words? Found it hard to get all of your thoughts and feelings in a way you could tell others? That's how I felt when I was asked to write an article for the newsletter about the twenty-eight years I was employed at Pleasant View. You see, I was unable to write or think of Pleasant View as the place where I worked. I finally realized it was because I thought, and still think, of Pleasant View as the community to which I belonged. And when you truly belong to a community, it isn't just a job— it is the place where you have the opportunity to share— hoping and laughing and, even sometimes, crying together. That is what Pleasant View is —staff and the individuals we serve— a community of togetherness.

When I first went to Pleasant View on 1/1/1988, New Year's Day, there were several openings, and I, who never, ever wanted to have anything to do with nursing, was chosen to go to Harrison House! Harrison House is an intermediate care facility in which Pleasant View supports people with intellectual disabilities who have more intensive medical needs. Since I had been accepted at graduate school, I thought I would "work" for Pleasant View only a year. I didn't know the humbling lesson I was about to learn. It was when I was bathing Annie. **(Continued on Page 3)**



Dorothy, Kammi and Henry

Volunteer Appreciation Month

April was volunteer appreciation month. Over the past year Community Connections team members have put in over 5,000 volunteer hours. In each volunteer site, the team members make connections and build relationships with their co-workers and community members as they perform needed tasks for each site to function smoothly. The Pleasant View Direct Support Professional (DSP) who assist the teams work side by side with them at their volunteer sites. If an individual is having a difficult time completing a task or if they are having an off day like we all do from time to time, our patient DSPs support them as the team continues to work.

We are receiving more referrals for Community Connections and are expanding to include some new volunteer sites. You can follow us on Facebook to get updates on what we are doing. We are at www.facebook.com/pleasantviewinc.



Meals on Wheels Volunteer Appreciation lunch.



Summer 2016



Supporting Individuals with

19TH ANNUAL PLEASANT VIEW GOLF EVENT

Pleasant View, Inc. hosted its 19th Annual Charity Golf Event at Spotswood Country Club on Friday May 13, 2016. The sixty-eight golfers that participated had an great day to be out on a challenging course. This was our second year at Spotswood Country Club which provided impeccable service and amenities. While we did have a few sprinkles during the registration, the sun came out and the mountains sparkled as our teams headed out to play around 9 am. The weather couldn't have been any nicer. We ended the day with a hearty lunch catered by Hank's Smokehouse and gave out



First Place Team

prizes. Along with place and contest prizes, we had over 30 door prizes. The foursome of Darrell Polk, Kyle Polk, David Broad and Bob Branner carded the low round of the day with an incredible 14 under par score of 58 to win the team title. You can see pictures and get more information about our 2016 event on our Facebook page or Website.

Pleasant View was able to net over \$15,000. We'd like to thank our Master Sponsors, Taylor and Sons - Amway. A special thanks to all of the sponsors, participants and Michael King of Spotswood Country Club for their help in making it a very special day. In addition, Pam Miller did a great job of organizing her first golf event; Debbie Harold was instrumental in the registration. Nancy Hopkins-Garriss and Stephanie Biller were extremely helpful in making sure the event



John, Dave, Jon, Jordan & David

ran smoothly. Also thanks to the Community Connections teams who helped with the Pleasant View fact pages that were at each hole.

Be on the lookout for next

year's date which has yet to be determined, but should fall in the first two weeks of May 2017! If you want to be notified by email, make sure Pam Miller has it by emailing her at

pmiller@pleasantviewinc.org.



Dirk and Terry Taylor

Pleasant View 2016 Golf Event Master Sponsor:

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of Jeff Harold

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Memory of Bucky & Kenny

*Pleasant View Board of
Directors

Our Mission: Pleasant View supports individuals with disabilities achieve their own spiritual, emotional, relational, vocational, and residential goals.

Intellectual Disabilities Since 1971

A Sad Farewell to Darcel Bennett

Dave Gullman

Every month or two it seems we must say yet another farewell to someone here at Pleasant View. Such was the case on April 17 when Darcel Bennett gave up her long struggle with a disease that slowly took her from us. Darcel lived at Pleasant View for the last 16 years. She began her sojourn with Pleasant View at the Wiatt Wright House and then moved to our Moyers Apartments. She later moved to Broadway to live with Thea and Scott Campbell and from there she moved to Mumaw house where her struggle ended. During her years here she was



Darcel Bennett

involved with Community Connections and the Broadway Day Program, as well as being part of Faith & Light and on our Pleasant View Worship Team.

Darcel enriched our lives here at Pleasant View and some of my favorite memories revolve around her participation on the Worship Team. As she would sing the song "Beautiful" she would do the accompanying hand motions and when she got to

the part, "causing my eyes to see that Jesus makes beautiful things of my life," she would open her eyes real wide as if to communicate the truth of her having been made beautiful by Jesus.

In 2 Corinthians 4:7 we read, "But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us." Sometimes it was hard to get past the clay jar which housed Darcel, but when you did you found that she carried a treasure within. Jesus certainly did make beautiful things of her life.

At her memorial service several people shared stories about Darcel – how she liked to go out to eat or travel to other places; how she knew the best places to get a deal in the different stores or restaurants in our area; how she wanted always to know that she was important to others. What I remember most



Junior and Darcel

about Darcel was her commitment to people at her church, Muhlenberg Lutheran and then after her move to Broadway at Crossroads Mennonite. Even when she did not feel well she did what she could to arrange to be at church on Sunday morning. She is now in the presence of God and we take solace in that even though we continue to feel sadness at her passing. ●

Continued **Not Simply a Job:**

After we were finished, she turned to me and said, "Thank you for helping me." Later I was assisting someone who was non-verbal to eat. As I lifted the spoon toward him, he reached out to hold my wrist and smiled at me. When our eyes met and we shared that moment, I knew the truth: "If you have done it unto the least of these my brethren, you have done it unto me." There is a bond when you offer yourself to help someone in a physical manner that is beyond any words.

My Pleasant View journey then took me, over the years, to Turner, Lee High, Moyers, Mumaw, and, even living for two years in the Turner House apartment. I didn't stay at Pleasant View one year as planned: I retired on 12/31/15 after exactly twenty-eight years. As I sit outside here at home now on a warm spring day and listen to the sound of the trees in the forest, I realize I learned that

sometimes I, and each of us, are "the least of these" needing care. It is at Pleasant View that I found a truth about giving and receiving: There are no mental or physical boundaries that limit who may give and who may receive. There is only the willingness to reach out or to have the humility to be receptive. It is Pleasant View's commitment not simply to "caring," but also to "sharing," that truly makes it a community. ●



Carol and Amy



www.facebook.com/pleasantviewinc
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Published Quarterly

Executive Director: **Nancy Hopkins-Garriss**

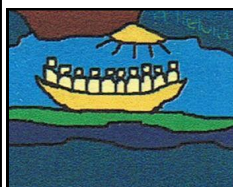
Consultants: **Leadership Team** Editor: **Pamela Miller**

Upcoming Events:

- ◆ **Pleasant View's Annual Pork BBQ** will be held Saturday, September 17, 2016 from 4pm to 7pm at the Harrisonburg Day Support Services building (151 Commerce Drive, Harrisonburg, Va. 22802).
- ◆ Save the date: **Musaic: A Mosaic of Music to Benefit Pleasant View and Celebrate our 45 Year Anniversary** 3pm Sunday October 2, 2016 at Park View Mennonite Church. The concert will feature Virginia Redhead Bethune on harp, Ed Gant on cello, John Fast on organ, Park View Mennonite Choir, Pleasant View Worship Team: choir and bell tones, and Paulo Steinberg on piano.



Faith and Light



**AN INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN
ASSOCIATION WITH PEOPLE
WITH INTELLECTUAL
DISABILITIES, THEIR PARENTS,
AND FRIENDS**

All community members are invited

For locations and times look to
www.pleasantviewinc.org/events and
Facebook Events page at
www.facebook.com/pleasantviewinc.

Thank you for helping us to celebrate our 45th Anniversary on Saturday May 21, 2016. We started with a caravan from



Broadway High School led by Officer Miller of the Broadway Police Department. In the Broadway Day Program and Regional Center we had music by Tide Spring, cake and ice cream, a photo booth, displays from all of our Pleasant View programs. We also gave tours of Pleasant View's original 1971 residence, Turner House. Check out our pictures on our Facebook page and Website. ●