

PLEASANT VIEWS



A Well Tended Garden

The raised flower beds behind the Harrisonburg Day Support Services building were a pet project for an eager and energetic Community Connections employee, Tonya Petit. She called local garden centers and friends inquiring about plant donations. She then planted some donated ferns to make sure they made it into the soil even if they needed to be moved later. That was just before she died tragically in an accident May 2, 2017 and the lives of those who loved her changed forever.



It has been hard for everyone to understand why we will no longer see Tonya and enjoy her zest for life. Crystal Carr, who Tonya supported in Community Connections writes, "I miss you doing Meal on Wheels with me" and "Dear God, why did you take Tonya away?"

Tonya's friends have decided to work through their loss by

"Garden" Continued page 4



Twentieth Anniversary Golf Tournament

Pleasant View's 20th Golf Tournament was held on May 12, 2017. Our sponsors and golfers know that they are helping to make lives of individuals with developmental disabilities better with their donations. Over the past 20 years, we have raised over \$300,000! This year we had twenty-five sponsors, including our first **Grand Slam Sponsor, Taylor & Sons, Inc.** The Terry Taylor family has been a generous sponsor and instrumental in promoting the golf tournament from the very beginning.



"Golf" Continued page 3

A Family Investing in the Future: Two New Endowments

The family of longtime resident, Helen Hamilton DeButts, decided years ago to include Pleasant View, Inc. in their estate plans. Helen moved to Pleasant View in 1975. She lived at Turner House, Harrison House ICF-IID, and retired to Gehman House in Harrisonburg. Helen also participated in Pleasant View's day supports until she retired.

"Endowment" Continued page 2



Summer 2017

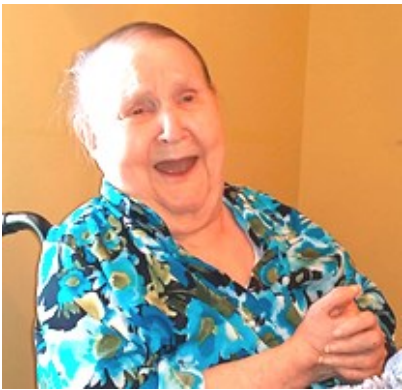


Supporting Individuals with

Remembering Ruth Dunn and Jan Patterson Sharon Leaman and Dave Gullman

Pleasant View supports individuals at all stages of their adult lives. Gehman House was developed to support individuals who have “retired” and want a quieter pace.

Ruth Dunn was born 1930. She died May 9, 2017. She came to live at Gehman House in August, 2011. Sharon Leaman, worked with Ruth and remembers her sense of humor. “Staff would often ‘ham it up’ in hopes of bringing out her wonderful laugh. Ruth



didn’t communicate with words often, unless a handsome man came by the house. She would greet the visitor with a loud ‘How You?’” Sharon remembers one evening, Ruth pointed at a male co-worker and asked, “Who’s that?” When Sharon told her his name, Ruth smiled broadly and said “He’s cute!” Ruth also enjoyed music. She often watched country music videos. Her favorite artist was Garth Brooks, whom she called “Brook”. Sharon remembers, “Those who knew her when she first came to Gehman, remember how she’d break into a jig-like dance whenever she’d hear a song she liked.” Ruth hadn’t been able to dance for years, but we believe she is dancing once again.

Janice “Jan” Patterson was born in 1953. She died May 20, 2017. She moved to Pleasant View, Inc. in 1984. Jan was born with Williams syndrome, a disability that includes challenges, but is also, “marked by striking verbal abilities, highly social personalities, and an affinity for music.” Jan served on Pleasant View’s Board of Directors for a number of years and attended all the board meetings as well as board retreats. Her “striking verbal abilities” served her well as she served others in this capacity. Those who knew Jan before aging caught up to her

mind and her body, know that she was a social butterfly. She never knew a stranger. She spoke to others using words like “hon” or “sweetie.”

Pamela Cook ,
Community



Connections Instructor, remembers the impact Jan had when she spoke to a somber looking older man at a local laundromat. Not only did Jan not know a stranger, but she recognized people who needed a smile and a kind greeting. Pamela stated that it appeared that the man had not had someone call him “sweetie” in a long time and it warmed his heart.

Jan’s love of music was evident as she chose to sing Pleasant View’s choir. Dave Gullman remembers many Christmas programs when she and Lois Spitzer would sing “Come On, Ring Those Bells.” Jan always sang clearly and with enthusiasm.

May 2017 was a difficult month for our Gehman House family. The loss of a house member is difficult, but the loss of two was unexpected and difficult. Please keep each individual’s family and their Pleasant View family in your prayers as we celebrate the lives of Ruth and Jan and mourn their loss.

“Endowment” Continued

After Helen’s death January 7, 2016 Pleasant View received notice that we were one of the beneficiaries of the Richard F. and Helen DeButts Estate. Helen’s parents left Pleasant View \$890,000. Our Board of Directors decided to create the Richard F. and Helen DeButts’ Dream Endowment. Each year we will be accepting applications and proposals for projects to enhance Pleasant View programs or try something new. As with any Endowment, if no projects are proposed, the money will build up for another year.



Continue on next page

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

Intellectual Disabilities Since 1971

"Endowment" continued

In addition Helen's cousins, Linda Hamilton and Welby Loane, created a \$50,000 Helen Hamilton DeButts' Sensory Endowment. This endowment renamed the previously unnamed sensory room, the "Helen Hamilton DeButts Sensory Room." It provides funding for a variety of sensory opportunities through sight, sound, smell, and touch which will improve the quality of life for individuals who have cognitive impairment, and who are unable to express their needs and feelings. It will allow for the sustainable improvement of sensory experiences, enable and encourage the creativity of those who care for the individuals with sensory needs to be involved in these improvements, and will provide the needed training to make sure the sensory improvements are used to their highest potential.

We are deeply grateful to the DeButts and Hamilton families for their sustaining gifts. ●



"Golf" Continued:

We had 23 teams with 92 golfers join us for what turned out to be a cool golf day. We were lucky that the rain held off until most of the players were headed in for a Hank's BBQ buffet in the ballroom. Along with place and contest prizes, we handed out over 30 door prizes after lunch. The Tropical Smoothie foursome of Travis Loan, Chris Slonaker, Garrett King, and Parker See carded the low round of the day with a score of 56 to win the team title. You can see more pictures and winners on our Facebook page or website.

Pleasant View was able to net over \$20,000 for our twentieth anniversary. 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, Nancy Hopkins-Garriss, James LaBarge, and Debbie Harold were instrumental in making the event run smoothly. ●

Pleasant View 2017 Golf Event

Grand Slam Sponsor:

Taylor & Sons, Inc. -

Amway

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LDB Insurance and Financial Services

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in memory of Barbara Bomba

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- Cargill: Timberville
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- Pleasant View Board of Directors
- LoBue Global
- Coleman & Associates
- Peggy Secrist in memory of Carol Sue McDonaldson
- Weaver Insurance & Financial Advisors
- John and Jane Sellers
- Anderson Family in Memory of Bucky & Kenny



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Published Quarterly

Executive Director: Nancy Hopkins-Garriss

Consultants: Leadership Team Editor: Pamela Miller

Mark Your Calendars...

Join Everence for an evening of insight, inspiration and stories of generosity

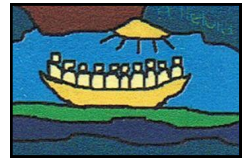
Everence Financial will be hosting an event **dedicated to the topic of generosity on Thursday, Sept. 14 at 6 p.m.** You'll hear about the profound impact generous people can make on our world; how estate planning can help you support causes closest to your heart; and what you need to know about the law and your legacy. **Included in the conversation is Clint Sellers, Attorney, speaking about Special Needs Trusts.** The event will take place at Detwiler Auditorium on the campus of VMRC. Reserve your spot by contacting Patty Skelton at Everence Financial: (800) 442-7930, (540) 437-7422, patty.skelton@everence.com. **Pleasant View, Inc. is happy to be a sponsor.**

Other Upcoming Events:

- **Pork BBQ Event** will be held Saturday September 9, 2017 in Stuarts Draft and Harrisonburg locations. **See yellow box below or Facebook page for more information.**
- **Pleasant View's Annual Fall Banquet** to be announced.

All community members are invited to Faith & Light

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



"Garden" Continued:
continuing to work on the gardens Tonya had started. Many at Pleasant View consider one of the gardens, pictured on the right, to be a memorial garden. It has many of the plants Showalter's Orchard & Greenhouse donated to Tonya just before she died. The CC teams work on the gardens several times a week and often talk as they work. Often the conversation turns to Tonya and how they miss her. ♥



***More pictures are posted on Facebook.**

Pleasant View, Inc. invites you to enjoy delicious pork BBQ on Saturday, September 9, 2017, prepared by Maynard Weaver.

OPTION A: Pork BBQ Meal at Stuarts Draft Christian Fellowship, 216 Howardsville Turnpike, Stuarts Draft, VA, from 4pm to 7pm. The suggested donation is \$10 a meal. We will have 1lb bags available for a suggested donation of \$10.

OPTION B: Purchase sandwiches (1 for \$3.50 or 5 for \$15) or 1lb bags (for \$10) at either

- **The Cheese Shop, 2366 Tinkling Spring Road, Stuarts Draft, VA, from 11am until sold out.**
- **Pleasant View, Inc.'s booth at the Broadway Autumn Festival, Main Street Broadway, VA, from 11am to 3pm (you must preorder 1lb bags of BBQ for pick up at this location).**



All proceeds will provide Day and Residential Supports to individuals with developmental disabilities.

****Also available in Broadway:** assorted crafts, baked goods, and \$10 chances to win a pair of Redskins tickets to either the Raiders September 24th 8:30pm or Vikings November 12th 1pm games (Each game is a \$330.60 value including parking pass).

*To pre-order or if you have any questions, please contact Pam Miller at pmiller@pleasantviewinc.org or call 540-560-1134.