

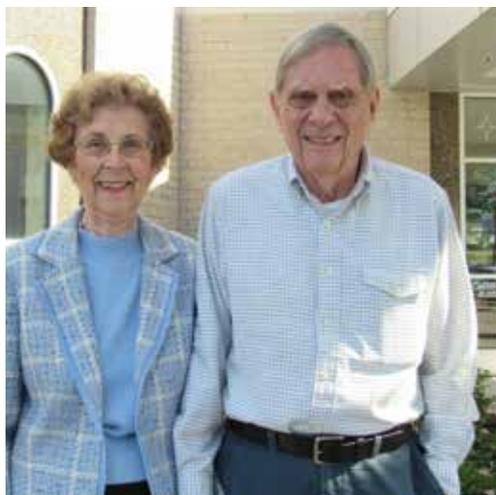


# VILLA VOICES

SUMMER 2017

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

### Gil and Margie Aumiller Have Been Going Where the Need Is for 28 Years



*Gil and Margie Aumiller*

Back in the fall of 1989, Margie Aumiller was asked to spend a day volunteering her time to answer the phone at the recently opened Light of Hearts Villa. That day was October 12, 1989. Her one day turned into 27 years of serving as a volunteer receptionist once a week.

“Those few hours went well and were enjoyable, and I was given the job,” quipped Margie.

When her husband Gil became a retired accountant in 1990, Sr. Helen Scasny, SC, founding director of Light of Hearts Villa, discovered the news and quickly had Gil volunteering his time as well. He has helped out

once a week for the past 27 years with accounting tasks like budgeting, reconciling accounts and more, plus helping decorate at Christmas time and with various other tasks as needed.

“I like the interaction with residents,” said Gil. “Assisting people in their aging process is a privilege and the folks who work there are just wonderful at it.”

Margie stepped away from her receptionist duties last fall, but remains an active volunteer. She now works once a week in the Cozy Corner gift store and helps sort donations of clothes and other items.

“Everyone at Light of Hearts Villa—the staff, volunteers and residents—is kind and helpful. There really is something different there. It’s just a kindness. They love these residents,” said Margie. *continued on page 3*

#### 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.*

# HAPPY TO SEE THE VILLA BLOOMING—IN MANY WAYS

## A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Friends,

With summer upon us, I think about the weather conditions we experienced during the spring. I am thankful for the rain that nourishes the earth, the cold that protects the earth and the sun that warms the earth. For me, I am happy to see sunshine, hear birds and enjoy the smell of newly mowed grass.

Spring and summer time at the Villa will show off our newly landscaped front yard and the beautiful landscape renovation of our Lumen Lane courtyard. We are grateful to the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association (FCSLA) for their loving, generous support of our annual Join Hands Day event. The FCSLA provides us with funds and volunteers to plant beautiful flowers that will bloom all summer long, enhancing our lovely building.

Behind the scenes, I am pleased to share that we were rated 100% deficiency free during our annual State of Ohio survey. Thanks to our wonderful staff who work so hard to attain this excellent rating and make the Villa a place where everyone feels at home.

In other news, our capital improvement project to replace windows has been completed. We are now forging ahead as we get ready to replace the boilers, which were originally installed in 1962. Our new boilers, which should be installed and ready by September, will reduce costs as we use less energy. We are also looking at remodeling the Villa with new flooring and seating, and paint and wallpaper throughout. This will be a two-year project and will begin later this year. Look for new enhancements to our patio area, including new fencing, which we pray will keep our four legged friends away from eating our plants and shrubs. And, we are happy to welcome Mr. Bruce Swartz to our board of directors.

I am thankful to everyone who believes in our mission of lighting the way for senior care:

*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.*

On behalf of the residents, families, staff, volunteers and board members, we give thanks to all of our generous sponsors and donors. When you give, you are participating in God's grace, for God loves a joyful giver. May you and yours be blessed with good health and your paths be filled with light, joy and peace.

In faithful leadership,

*Elizabeth J. Hickle*

Elizabeth J. Hickle, MPA, LNHA, CDP  
*Executive Director*



## THANK YOU TO ALL VOLUNTEERS

Light of Hearts Villa is grateful for the support we get from all of our volunteers. We are always looking for compassionate and talented individuals who are willing to reap the benefits of becoming an integral part of this ministry as you make a difference in the lives of our residents.

Please call Tracy Reinoso, director, marketing and admissions, at 440.232.1991 ext.520 or email [tracy.reinoso@lightofheartsvilla.org](mailto:tracy.reinoso@lightofheartsvilla.org) to learn more about volunteer opportunities.

### VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT *continued from page 1*

And the love goes both ways. While serving as receptionist, Margie often sent birthday cards to residents. One resident moved to a skilled nursing facility, so she lost touch with her. When Margie learned the former resident passed away, she and Gil drove out to the west side of Cleveland for the wake.

“I walked into the funeral home and her daughter came running up to me, letting me know that her mother saved every card and note I had sent her. It’s easy to become so attached to residents because if you’re kind to them, they’ll forever remember you. It’s been a joy to volunteer at Light of Hearts Villa for so long,” said Margie.

Margie and Gil are also active members and volunteers at their church, Our Lady of Hope Roman Catholic Parish in Bedford, where they collect food to deliver to the Seton Safety Net food pantry at the Villa. They also collect clothes from both their parish and the Villa to deliver to Joseph’s Home in Cleveland, which is another ministry of the Sisters of Charity Health System. Joseph’s Home helps acutely ill homeless men heal and achieve independence.

Gil succinctly summed up the couple’s approach to volunteering. “We go where the need is.”

Thankfully for Light of Hearts Villa and the many residents they’ve touched, Gil and Margie have been going where the need is for 28 years. ♦

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## SISTER REGINA KUSNIR HONORED WITH EXCELLENCE IN SERVICE PROVISION AWARD



The Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging (WRAA) honored Sister Regina Kusnir, SC, director of pastoral ministry, at its Aging Well Annual Luncheon and Conference in April in Independence. The WRAA presented Sr. Regina with the Excellence in Service Provision award for her devotion to the local aging population through the Seton Safety Net food pantry.

Keynote speaker and *New York Times* bestselling author Regina Brett highly praised the Villa for the loving care provided to her mother while a resident. Congratulations to Sr. Regina, whose compassion, dedication and loving devotion to the residents is ever present. In her acceptance speech, she quoted the words of St. Vincent de Paul: “The light in the mind should become a fire in the heart.” ♦

## RESIDENT CAREGIVER SPOTLIGHT

# Judy McIntyre Honored by Peers with Making God's Love Visible Mission Award



Judy McIntyre (second from left) was nominated by her peers for the 2016 Making God's Love Visible Mission Award. Pictured with Judy are Sr. Sandy Emrich, SCN (far left), Executive Director Betty Hickle and Sr. Regina Kusnir, SC.

Judy McIntyre is a very detail-oriented person, which is good news for the residents of the Villa. Judy has been ensuring residents have clean clothes for the past eight years as part of the housekeeping and laundry staff. For every resident who has her do their laundry, she knows just how each one wants their clothes washed and folded, and she knows exactly what items belong to which resident.

But, her job goes far beyond clothes and bedding. She is in and out of residents' rooms throughout the day, so she gets to know each resident on a personal basis. She said she views her job as making residents' lives as easy as possible, whether it involves laundry or something else. She might help a resident put on a sock or a shoe if they need assistance or engage them in conversation if they want to talk.

Maybe that's why it didn't come as a surprise to others at the Villa when Judy received the Making God's Love Visible Award earlier this year. The award is the highest honor given to a member of the staff and is based on nominations from fellow employees.

*"Residents are number one.  
Here, it's like one big family.  
I approach my job with the  
thought of loving one another  
as I want to be loved."* — Judy McIntyre

"Judy is very conscientious in making sure that residents are happy and making sure their cleanliness is a top priority," said Dennis Giangiacomo, director of facility operations and Judy's supervisor.

Receiving the award did come as a surprise to Judy, who was caught off guard when she learned about the honor. "I was shocked and in disbelief," she said. She said there are many on staff who work hard and have been at the Villa a long time. "This is a busy place, so I didn't realize people would think of me and notice how hard I work for our residents. I was very honored to receive the award."

Judy was presented with an award plaque at the annual Missioning In Service event in January, which is held to recognize the Villa's dedicated staff and volunteers. The event includes the "anointing of hands," an ancient rite recognizing those with special roles in the community. The words of anointing are: "May this oil of gladness strengthen and sustain you as you make God's love visible." ♦

# THANK YOU 2016 DONORS

*Thank you for keeping our residents in your hearts and demonstrating your generosity through your gifts to Light of Hearts Villa.*

## VINCENTIAN SOCIETY

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

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Elizabeth J. Hickle  
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*Every attempt has been made to ensure accuracy. If you have corrections, please contact Rosanne Drake, fund development manager, at 440.232.1991 ext. 560 or Rosanne.drake@lightofheartsvilla.org. Thank you.*

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*In 2016, the Seton Safety Net served 574 seniors with 3,600 non perishable food items and \$800 in grocery gift cards.*

## WAYS TO GIVE

There are many ways for individuals, companies and foundations to achieve their philanthropic goals through support of the Light of Hearts Villa mission of providing premier senior residential living and community outreach services in a loving, faith-based environment. A secure online donation form is available at [lightofheartsvilla.org](http://lightofheartsvilla.org).

**Additional giving options, which may offer current or future tax benefits, include:**

- Gifts of appreciated securities
- Retirement asset and life insurance beneficiary designations
- Bequests
- Event sponsorships
- IRA charitable distributions
- Grants

For more information about these or other giving options, please contact Rosanne Drake, manager, fund development at 440-232-1991 ext 560 or [Rosanne.drake@lightofheartsvilla.org](mailto:Rosanne.drake@lightofheartsvilla.org).



*Sr. Helen Scasny, SC, (left) is pictured with Dan and Jean Konfal, who helped Jean's uncle, Stanley Caplinsky, make a will bequest to Light of Hearts Villa.*

## DONOR SPOTLIGHT

# Jean and Dan Konfal Honor Uncle's Will Request with Gift to the Villa

Stanley Caplinsky worked hard his entire life, serving in World War II and then as an inspector for the Illuminating Company for more than 35 years.

In 2014 at the age of 91, with hearing and vision challenges growing, Stan decided he was no longer comfortable living in an apartment by himself. Since his wife had passed away several years before, he wanted the support an assisted living facility could offer, so he asked his niece, Jean Konfal, and her husband Dan, to help him find a new home. Jean and Dan took Stan to visit a half-dozen area facilities, but nothing seemed to please him until they brought him to Light of Hearts Villa.

“We all loved it. It was absolutely different than any other place. After visiting, my uncle kept calling me to ask, ‘Did you get me on the list?’ We did and, luckily not long after, we were able to get him into Light of Hearts Villa,” said Jean. “The day he moved in all the staff already knew him by name, putting him at ease right away. We knew we didn’t have to worry about him because he was in good hands.”

Not long after Stan moved in, Jean and Dan had a discussion with him about his finances and his estate.

Stan wanted to donate much of his estate to charity and was considering several larger national charities. However, he ultimately decided on charities closer to home that had directly touched his life, and none had touched him more than Light of Hearts Villa.

“Stan was thrilled to be able to offer something back,” said Jean. With his blessing, the final bequest decisions were made. She said Light of Hearts Villa was an easy choice because her uncle recognized that he wasn’t giving to just an institution—he was giving to real people.

“Stan realized others at Light of Hearts Villa were of his generation, so he was giving to people he knew and people that would come after him. Like him, they could continue to receive the exceptional care he received,” said Jean.

Unfortunately, Stan passed away in October 2016, but his legacy lives on in helping support the mission of Light of Hearts Villa in using faith-based values to affirm the integrity of each person and encourage them on their journey of aging by providing compassionate care in a loving environment. ♦

# Lumen Cordium High School Alumni Return HOME

*By Beth M. Haberbosch-Wiblin, '85*

On Saturday, April 22, Lumen Cordium alumnae had the pleasure of returning for an all-high school reunion to what is now Light of Hearts Villa. Long gone are the classrooms where we once studied geometry, French and chemistry, where we made friends, contemplated the world around us and devised our futures.

I am not one to live in the past, but on that day I was transported back to my high school years of saddle shoes, school uniforms and 80s hair—and of the stability that comes from the warmth of caring, loving and diligent nuns and lay teachers. I felt like I was home.

The atmosphere was welcoming and energized, from the 186 graduates in attendance, with shouts of happiness, laughter and hugs. We toured the Villa and had the opportunity to meet a few of its residents. We explained the classes we took in what are now their suites and they shared their joys of living at the Villa.

Graduates enjoyed photos and memorabilia, reminisced of times gone by and caught up on



activities since graduation. We enjoyed terrific hors d'oeuvres, desserts and music, too. Women reconnected with friends and will now pray for our sisters taken too soon. No reunion would be complete without taking class photos. Sister Anita Maroun, SC, was in charge and reminded us to “stand up straight ladies.” Some things never change, and I’m happy for it.

After attending the reunion, I realized for me, it was not just about seeing the building and catching



*Housed in the former Lumen Cordium High School, the Villa welcomed 186 alumni back to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the school's first graduating class and for an all-school reunion. [Photo courtesy of Thom Sivo Photography]*

up with classmates, but rather something much deeper. It was a sense of pride of belonging to this special group of women who had the good fortune of graduating from Lumen Cordium. There are only 24 years of graduates who experienced their formative years within those walls, who matured into beautiful women having been taught the skills to succeed and to make a difference in the world. I realize now, 32 years later, how lucky I am to be a “Lumen Girl.” ♦

**EDITOR'S NOTE: LUMEN CORDIUM HIGH SCHOOL WAS AN ALL-GIRLS CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL OPEN FROM 1963 TO 1987 OPERATED BY THE VINCENTIAN SISTERS OF CHARITY OF BEDFORD, OHIO. THE SISTERS TRANSFORMED THE BUILDING INTO A SENIOR RESIDENTIAL LIVING AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH SERVICES FACILITY, WITH LIGHT OF HEARTS VILLA OPENING SEPTEMBER 1, 1989.**

# NEWS *and* NOTES

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## SAYING THANK YOU TO DONORS

The Villa held its second annual Donor Appreciation Mass and Reception in late May. The centerpiece of the evening was Mass celebrated by The Most Reverend Roger Gries, OSB, in the Chapel. The Villa is grateful to our many donors, who enrich the lives of residents each year with their unfailing compassion and kindness.



*Pictured at the Donor Mass and Reception are Thomas Strauss, president and CEO of the Sisters of Charity Health System, Elizabeth Hickle, Carol Szczepanik, Sr. Regina Fierman, CSA, Robert Smolko, and Bishop Roger Gries, OSB.*



*Mass was celebrated by Bishop Roger Gries, OSB, (left) and Fr. William O'Neill.*



## CLEVELAND BALLET PERFORMS AT THE VILLA

The Cleveland Ballet made a trip to the Villa in April to stage a free performance for residents that was also open to the community. Soloist Iden Malke, accompanied by Luwen Chen of the Cleveland Institute of Music, joined the dancers. “It was exciting to host the Cleveland Ballet Company for this special performance that engaged residents, guests and community members through the joy of movement,” said Elizabeth Hickle, Light of Hearts Villa executive director. “I am grateful to Dr. Michael Krasnyansky, CEO, chairman of the board and Ms. Gladisa Guadalupe, artistic director of the Cleveland Ballet, for their generous support of this performance.”

## NOTRE DAME COLLEGE STUDENT VOLUNTEERS BRING JOY TO RESIDENTS



For the past three years, Notre Dame College students have been volunteering at the Villa during the school year. The program has steadily grown to include more students, which led to twice monthly visits. The students do a variety of activities with residents, from bingo and Pictionary to arts and crafts and more. Under the direction of Ted Steiner, Anita Yoder coordinates the student volunteer program for the Villa. “We are truly grateful to these young men and women who bring happiness and fun to our residents,” said Elizabeth Hickle, executive director at the Villa.



Join Hands Day volunteers beautified the Villa grounds



Sr. Regina Kusnir, SC, and one of the young Join Hands Day volunteers

## JOIN HANDS DAY HAS THE VILLA IN FULL BLOOM

The weather cooperated nicely for Join Hands Day 2017 in May, blessing the Villa’s volunteer gardeners with a pleasant spring day that was perfect for gardening. Thank you to the kind volunteers from the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association who beautified the Villa grounds with colorful geraniums, begonias and petunias. Members of Girl Scout Troops #70131 and #70424, guided by troop leaders Sue Ann Sich and Sandra Orland, transformed the Lumen Lane garden into a butterfly and hummingbird haven. A heartfelt thank you to all for making Join Hands Day such a blessing for the Villa and our residents.

## TWO VOLUNTEERS RETIRE AFTER MANY YEARS

*Our volunteers are a treasured resource. We greatly appreciate the contributions of two special volunteers and were sad to see them retire after many years volunteering at the Villa and many hundreds of hours donated.*



Anne Wade

**ANNE WADE** retired in December after spending 27 years as a volunteer receptionist at the front desk.

**MARY RILEY** retired in April as the chapel pianist; she played piano at the Villa every Saturday for 17 years.



Mary Riley at her retirement celebration

## RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE: THE VILLA VOLUNTEERS



In April, several staff volunteered their time to make food for guests at the Ronald McDonald House in Cleveland. Karen Champa, Stephanie Obbish, Anne Messer, Andrea Foster and Elizabeth Hickle brought dinner for guests whose children are in local area hospitals. The families rely on the services of the Ronald McDonald House, especially for lodging, meals and fellowship. “I believe we need to recognize that there are organizations who take care of others just the same as we do for our residents”, said Elizabeth Hickle. “Providing food for those in need is a blessing.”



## 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, respite and memory care. Below are some of our upcoming events. For more information call 440.232.1991.*

**August 3-5** *Cozy Corner Flea Market*

**September 27** *The Feast of St. Vincent de Paul*

**October 8** *Our 28th annual FALL FEST dinner fundraiser. Dinner, raffle, craft fair and more. Enjoy Chef Ray's homecooked meal. For more information, call 440.232.1991.*

**November 2 6:30 p.m.** — *LOHV Mass of Remembrance for our deceased residents*

**November 3 7 p.m.** — *Mass for deceased Lumen Cordium alumnae*

**December** *Christmas wafers (Oplatky) available at the front desk*

**December 2 10 a.m. - Noon** — *Christmas decorating day; families and friends welcome; pizza lunch; please RSVP by Nov. 22*

**December 9** *A Christmas Celebration — Sponsored by the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association for residents; Mass follows at 4 p.m.*

**April 21, 2018 6:30 p.m.** — *Lumen Cordium All-Girls High School Reunion*

**April 25, 2018 9 a.m. - Noon** — *Human Trafficking: What Every Health Care Professional Needs to Know. Dr. Jim Collins; 3 CEU Ethics Seminar*

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