



# THE Villager

A Quarterly Publication Of Brethren Village

## Meet Polly Kilheffer

Polly has lived at Brethren Village for four-and-a-half years in Oakwood House and enjoys being involved in many of the Village activities such as Life Story writing, singing in the BV Choir and Jewelry with Rose. I first met her while taking pictures of Rose's jewelry class in the Creative Arts Room. She's a pleasant, quiet woman with a warm smile...but when I asked Polly about her dollhouse, her face broke into a huge grin and her eyes twinkled with excitement as she described her dollhouse to me.

When I met with Polly her dollhouse was decorated for winter, complete with wreaths that she made herself and frost gathering in the corners of the windows. There's a Christmas tree in the parlor and logs of wood stacked on the back porch. Snow covers the bushes, lawn and roof, and icicles dangle from the eaves.



Polly stands next to her dollhouse in her Oakwood House apartment.

the tiny beds. The vanity dresser in one of the bedrooms reminds Polly of a trip to New Zealand she took with Bob. She recalled that she window-shopped while he was in meetings and when she met him for lunch she told him about a dresser she found and loved, but she didn't buy it because it was expensive. He asked her to show it to him and he bought it for her. It's clear that cherished memories from her life are exemplified in the dollhouse that she changes with each season.

the right size, she finds the perfect place to use it in her dollhouse. Sometimes making an item from scratch is more realistic than a pre-made item, like the lamp post on the front walkway that Polly created herself from a small glass bottle and a wooden dowel.

Polly stresses that she's not an artist, just a creative person. But her creations paint a different picture. Oil paintings that she's done adorn her apartment walls and she tells me they are already spoken for. Her grandchildren love looking at them and they will each get one. Her dollhouse, though, is the center of attention. When her grandkids visit they always want to play with it, but Polly stresses, "It's a display of a house, not a toy."

However it's not simply the display of a house, Polly has taken great care to portray her fondest memories and preserve them in vivid detail throughout her treasured dollhouse.

Although her birth name is Mary, "Polly" was a nickname given to her by her beloved grandfather. His mother's name was Paulene, and he called her his "little Polly." She loved the special name her grandfather gave her and made it the name she goes by. She affectionately points out a photo of her grandfather holding her in a wall frame in one of the bedrooms. Polly purposefully modeled specific aspects of the dollhouse after her grandparent's house that she frequented growing up. The address numbers are alphabet soup pasta numbers that she painted and glued on 30 years ago. The dry sink in the kitchen, the piano in the parlor, the curtain partitioning off the bathroom are all loving replicas of the house she's grown to cherish.

Looking even closer at the scenes that come to life before you, one can't help but notice the exquisite life-like details. As Polly says, "The details are important, they make it look real." When she sees something that is just

Spring has a fish pond with ducks on the front lawn, window boxes with flowers, a baby carriage on the sidewalk, and flowering trees complete with a tire swing.



A view of the kitchen.

Picture frames on the walls and dresser are actual pictures of Polly's family.



Even though it closely mirrors the snowy, cold scene outside our own windows, Polly talks about the dollhouse and recalls her childhood memories with infectious warmth.

Polly's treasured dollhouse was a gift from her husband, Bob, more than 40 years ago. It was a standard kit but she and Bob changed aspects of the house that she didn't like. Polly changed the floors, added shutters, handmade curtains for the windows, braided area rugs for the floors and sewed quilts for



The dollhouse in the Fall features colorful trees, pumpkins, a trick-or-treat bag on the stoop, leaves on the grass, and decorative corn on the front door.

# Spring 2014

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Retirement Community



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**Our Vision**  
Enriching each life touched by our  
ministry at Brethren Village.

**Our Mission**  
Rooted in the tradition of service  
within the Church of the Brethren, the  
mission of Brethren Village is to provide  
a continuum of services and Christ-like  
care to support the aging process and  
to enhance the spiritual, physical, social  
and emotional wholeness of Residents,  
Team Members, and community.

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The official registration and financial information of Brethren Village may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

## BV Welcomes HR Director Nancy Eshleman

Brethren Village is pleased to welcome Director of Human Resources, Nancy Eshleman. Nancy joined BV in December 2013.

Prior to coming to BV, Nancy served as the Director of Human Resources at Franklin & Marshall College. She provided leadership for Human Resources processes and practices, including staff recruitment and employment, professional development, talent management, communications, compensation, benefits, and recognition. Nancy enjoyed working with her colleagues to apply Human Resources strategies to help the institution achieve its objectives, and to foster a positive, inclusive, and productive work environment for faculty and staff. She also served as Human Resources Manager with Armstrong World Industries, Inc., working in manufacturing facilities in Illinois and Lancaster.

Nancy grew up in Niagara Falls, New York where her extended family still resides. She currently lives in West Lampeter Township with her 16-year-old son, Daniel and her eight-year-old daughter, Jennifer. Nancy, Daniel, and Jennifer enjoy traveling to Niagara Falls during the holidays to visit family. Nancy



currently serves on the Lancaster YMCA's Human Resources Advisory Committee. As time permits, she performs additional volunteer work for the Y, as well as for the Lampeter-Strasburg school district and other community service organizations.

Nancy is delighted to have the opportunity to work with the Brethren Village team. She has been enjoying getting to know her colleagues and learning about the many important ways in which they serve BV's Residents. During her first several weeks at Brethren Village, Nancy has been impressed by the skill, caring and dedication of Team Members and the warm welcome she has received from Residents.

## Good Samaritan B · A · N · Q · U · E · T

May 8, 2014

**Please join us on Thursday,  
May 8, 2013 for the annual Brethren  
Village Good Samaritan Banquet.**

Your support of this event will help assure Residents who are in need of financial assistance that care and essential services will be available to them even if their assets are depleted. Last year over \$50,000 was raised for the Good Samaritan Benevolent Fund!

The memorable event will begin with a fellowship hors d'oeuvre reception, followed by a full course dinner and a program of uplifting, inspirational stories and entertainment... all encompassing and exemplifying the lives enriched by Brethren Village's ministry.

We are excited to have Dr. Otis D. Kitchen as our featured entertainment. Dr. Kitchen has an international reputation as a music director, conductor and performer. He is a retired professor of music at Elizabethtown College and performing with him will be special guest trumpeter, Chuck Few.

The Good Samaritan Banquet will take place at the Middle Creek Church of the Brethren. Tickets are \$125 per person and seating is limited. For reservations or questions regarding table sponsorship, please call the Development Office at (717) 581-4316. We look forward to seeing you there and appreciate your support!

## Did You Know That BV Recycles Styrofoam?

Brethren Village is one of only a few retirement communities committed to improving the environment and limiting landfill trash by having a Styrofoam recycling program. In 2013, over 400 bags of Styrofoam were taken to the Dart recycling center. According to the Dart recycling website, Dart's sustainability efforts save enough energy each year to heat more than 105,000 homes.

The Environmental Care Group of the Green Thumb Society has been actively recycling Styrofoam at Brethren Village since 2011.

In 2010, Lucy Eyster, of Woodcrest Villa, met with BV Resident Council members to discuss the Styrofoam recycling program at Woodcrest Villa. Following the Resident Council meeting, Bob Allen,

who served as President of Resident Council at the time, approached Connie Brown, a member of Resident Council, about developing an emphasis on environmental care at BV. Dottie Ezard worked with Connie and the soon-to-be group received significant support from Ron Dell, Gary Gaissert, Ken Beam and other administrators. Over the years, this effort has become the Environmental Care Group within the Green Thumb Society.

Styrofoam never completely biodegrades and it requires separate recycling and delivery to a recycling center. Representatives from Dart Corporation came to BV to educate the group about the process. Styrofoam is melted down into small pebbles and sold to companies who make artificial wood and plastic products — such as picture frames and outdoor tables and benches. Packing peanuts are not recyclable, but the group still collects them and gives them to local potter Steve de Perrot, of Pots by de Perrot, to use in packing orders for shipping. Steve's father, Jon de Perrot, is a BV Resident and member of the Styrofoam recycling group.

Connie, along with a team of dedicated volunteers, implemented the Styrofoam recycling program at BV by placing special boxes in the trash rooms to collect Styrofoam and educating Residents and Team Members that they can now recycle Styrofoam. Dining Services supplies the group with large, transparent bags and Connie, Bernie Jacobson, Ned Evans, Fran Knedeisen, and Pat Beamsderfer collect Styrofoam from the trash rooms at least once a week.

"Residents' efforts to clean and deposit the Styrofoam we use help both present and future generations. Your stewardship matters!"

It's a time-consuming process. For example, Bernie is responsible for four sites in Fieldcrest East, and spends about an hour and a half a week collecting and nesting the Styrofoam from the collection bins so it best fits into the transportation bags. There are collection sites at Fieldcrest, Fairview

Meadows, Village Garden, Townhouse and Oakwood House. Cottage Residents bring their items to the Fieldcrest collection sites. Once all of the Styrofoam is collected, the bags are taken to the storage shed in Fieldcrest. Jon de Perrot and Sid Long load the bags (usually 8–10 large bags, plus Styrofoam shipping aids and coolers) into Jon or Sid's vehicle and they are delivered to the Dart Recycling Center on Pitney Road.

"Residents' efforts to clean and deposit the Styrofoam we use help both present and future generations. Your stewardship matters!" said Connie.

Connie mentioned that the group could use additional volunteers to collect the Styrofoam and help transport the bags to Dart. "It's light work and more volunteers make it even lighter work!" Connie laughed. If you are interested in helping with this worthwhile endeavor, please contact Sid Long at 717.569.3077.

## Charitable Gift Annuities — A Win-Win For Everyone!

Chuck Few  
Planned Giving  
Counselor



Have you ever explored the advantages of a Charitable Gift Annuity?

If **Charitable Gift Annuities** are new to you, now is a good time to think about these simple and easy to understand gifts that have multiple benefits.

### Charitable Gift Annuities...

- provide an annual income that is guaranteed for life.
- offer rates that remain **substantially higher** than current bond and CD rates.
- can generate a significant charitable income tax deduction.
- can reduce capital gains taxes if your gift is in the form of appreciated securities.
- provide generous support to the charitable ministry of Brethren Village for Resident's who have exhausted their financial resources

A **Charitable Gift Annuity** with **Brethren Village** can be established for a gift of \$5,000 or more. Rates are determined by your age. Single or two-life annuities are available.

Single Life Rates								
Age	55	60	65	70	75	80	85	90 & over
Rate	4.0%	4.4%	4.7%	5.1%	5.8%	6.8%	7.8%	9.0%

Rates shown above are suggested by the American Council on Gift Annuities as of 1/1/13. Calculations and estimates of gift benefits may change depending on the timing of your gift.

Interested? Questions? Please give us a call. We will provide you with a confidential, no-cost analysis which can be discussed with your accountant or financial advisor. There could be several reasons a gift annuity could strengthen your financial and charitable objectives. **Let's talk!**

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Jon de Perrot, Connie Brown, Fran Knedeisen, Bernie Jacobson, Sid Long and Ned Evans pose with collected Styrofoam. Pat Beamsderfer (not pictured) is also a member of the group.

# Children's Swimming Lessons



**BV is excited to host children's swimming lessons in our warm water pool!**

Three sessions (6 lessons in each) on Wednesday & Friday evenings:

- #1 March 12th–28th
- #2 April 9th–25th
- #3 May 7th–23rd

Cost: \$45/session  
Ages 6 months+

Call 717.581.4295 or visit [www.bv.org/senior-wellness/aquatic-programs.asp](http://www.bv.org/senior-wellness/aquatic-programs.asp) for more information.

## Save the Date!

### Caring for the Caregiver Series

The public is welcome to attend these complimentary events held at 6:00PM in Wolfe Auditorium. Please call 717.581.4438 to reserve.

#### March 10

Kathryn Kilpatrick author, geriatric communication consultant and national speaker presents "Connecting While Caregiving: Staying in Tune with Your Loved One."

#### May 13

Dennis McCullough, MD, family physician, geriatrician, Dartmouth Medical School faculty member and author of "My Mother, Your Mother" presents "Slow Medicine: Bringing Better Understanding to the Aging Journey."

### All are invited to attend BV's Quality of Life Wellness Fair!

Join us on **April 15** from 8:30AM–1:30PM in Wolfe Auditorium to visit with local health and wellness vendors.

### The Taylors are coming to BV

Sunday, **August 17** at 9AM for a Gospel Quartet Concert!

Additional details regarding their performance at Brethren Village will be included in the Summer Villager. For questions, please contact Joanne Stehr, Director of Development, at 717.581.4316.



**November**  
Miltam Butz, Oakwood House, formerly of Lancaster  
Caroline Ciappa, Fieldcrest, formerly of Lancaster  
Ronald & Sandy Daub, Fieldcrest, formerly of Denver  
James & Regina Forsha, Cottage, formerly of Mannheim  
Helen Kinzel, Fieldcrest, formerly of New Oxford, PA  
Margaret McGeown, Village Gardens, formerly of Lancaster, PA  
Alma McMahon, Village Townhouse, formerly of East Millinocket, ME  
Loumarie Mayhew, Oakwood House, formerly of Ephrata  
Gladys Shenk, Oakwood House, formerly of Leola  
Ruth Wolgemuth, Village Townhouse, formerly of Mannheim

**December**  
Fae Allen, Village Townhouse, formerly of Silver Spring, MD  
Arlene Early, Village Townhouse, formerly of East Petersburg  
David & Friedlinde Ebersole, Fieldcrest, formerly of Lancaster  
Carl & Elizabeth Gregory, Village Townhouse,  
formerly of Philadelphia  
Janet Herr, Fieldcrest, formerly of Lancaster  
David & Mary Ann Hughes, Fieldcrest, formerly of Speculator, NY  
David Willoughby & Barbara Marts, Cottage,  
formerly of Elizabethtown

**January**  
Phyllis Kveragas, Village Gardens, formerly of Ephrata, PA  
Jacquelyn Sheaffer, Fairview Meadows, formerly of Lancaster, PA  
Doris Smith, Fieldcrest, formerly of Lancaster  
John & Judy Velonis, Cottage, formerly of Fort Worth, TX

Welcome to New Residents

**BV Brethren Village**  
3001 Little Pike, P.O. Box 5093  
Lancaster, PA 17606-5093

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