

**Residents
In the
Spotlight**

Written by Barbara Kellar

This month the Spotlight shines on a couple; they are new residents to Cornell Estates. Jake and Carol Jelley have been here only three months.

Jake & Carol Jelley



Carol was born in Royal Oaks, Michigan, where she lived until age seven, when her family moved to Portland, Oregon, where Carol graduated from Roosevelt High School. She has one sister and a half brother. Under somewhat mysterious circumstances, the family left Michigan because of rumors of a possible other child, later to be discovered as Carol's half brother when Carol studied genealogy.

Jake's story is quite different. His grandfather was a missionary to India, where Jake's dad was born into a bi-racial marriage. Jake was born in Comanche, Oklahoma, making Jake a quarter East Indian. He grew up in a very strict environment which banned dancing, cards, movies, etc. He had an older brother and a younger sister. Many years later, Jake met Carol at a church in St. Johns, Oregon, and they married there, she age 18 and he age 20.

Following their marriage, they moved around a lot because of Jake's job as a government surveyor which required him to re-establish old boundaries on government land. The couple had one son (deceased) and two daughters, with now nine grandchildren.

They retired to Lookingglass, Oregon (a small community west of Roseburg in Southern Oregon) where Jake became a pilot and, learning the art from a friend, began making violins. He says that he sold maybe three and gave 25 away, including one to the Oregon Symphony. Carol says this skill was "just in him". Jake also restored possibly another 25 violins and six violas. He later handcrafted "little stools" in his small shop, which he greatly misses. He still occasionally makes little bird houses.

Meanwhile, Carol completed Community College and briefly worked as an office manager for a dental office. Then she began her travels: first to India to see relatives with some friends, and later, again with friends, to China, where she met a young man, high in government leadership, at a breakfast table in a café. He invited her to visit at his house. Hitting it off as friends, she and Jake later visited him again, for a total of four visits. Carol says she became like his mom, and is still trying to contact him again in China. Her granddaughter, through a teaching job in China, also met

Management Team

Mikayla Valencia
Administrator

Karen Fowler
Community Relations Director

Olivia Cardillo
Business Office Manager

Lee Reck
Health Services Director, LPN

Julia Solano
RN

Dylan Ferguson
Resident Care Coordinator

Jennifer Meabe
Dining Services Director

Jake Stone
Maintenance Director

Peg Bussell
Activities Director

December Resident Birthdays

12/5 Daniel Ambrose
12/12 Diane Whitehead
12/17 Lazaro Pichardo
12/21 John Van De Graaf
12/30 Mary Najera
12/30 Taylor Thomas

December Employee Birthdays

12/5 Maria Jimenez Sanchez
12/9 Adelle May
12/10 Aaron Reyes
12/12 William Fallau Jr.
12/21 Tevon Tadd
12/27 Ana De Vera-Fonseca



Season's Greetings from the Cornell Estates Family!

As the holiday season approaches, I want to take a moment to express my gratitude for the ongoing support I've received in my role as Administrator of Cornell Estates. I am truly thankful for this opportunity, and for the wonderful team of staff members and residents who make this community a special place. Together, we've shared many memorable moments, and I'd like to highlight just a few of them.

Peg Bussell when reflecting on this year, fondly remembers the laughter shared during bean bag baseball and the residents creativity during art. Peg and Annie's work in Activities has brought joy to our residents. We're grateful for their dedication to creating fun and engaging moments throughout the year.

Jen Meabe can't pick just one favorite memory. She says, "I just love coming into work," and the family-like atmosphere is what she enjoys most. Watching Jen grow in her role has been a true pleasure. We're thankful for her incredible ability to prepare delicious meals that bring comfort and satisfaction to our residents every day.

Olivia Cardillo's favorite moment was coordinating our Halloween photo. Getting everyone together for a photo and having us all smile at the same time was a fun challenge. Olivia has taken on significant responsibility and continues to demonstrate dedication and a willingness to learn new things. We appreciate her hard work and perseverance.

Jake Stone's favorite memory was a bus trip to pick up furniture. He fondly recalls the laughter and jokes shared during the trip. Jake has embraced his role with enthusiasm, constantly learning and doing his best. We're thankful for his efforts and positive attitude.

Lee Reck's most memorable moment was receiving her new office, where she can now meet with residents and families. As our Health Services Director, Lee brings years of nursing experience and provides expert oversight and compassionate care for all our residents. We are deeply grateful for her leadership.

Julia Solano, our newest Registered Nurse, has been enjoying getting to know our team and community. While she's just getting started, we're excited to see the positive impact she'll continue to have in the future.

Dylan Ferguson has too many memories to count. As a key leader of the Health Services team, Dylan and his assistant Jae, manage the care of our residents and play an essential role in ensuring the success of their department. Thank you both for

your unwavering dedication to providing the highest level of care.

Karen Fowler will always remember the trip to Heritage Farms. She describes it as “a perfect day” filled with sunshine, vibrant fall leaves, and plenty of laughter as she walked the property with residents. Karen’s commitment to our community over the past 11 years has been invaluable, and we are grateful for her ongoing leadership.

While the big events of the year have been wonderful, it’s the everyday moments that reside with us. As we reflect on these special times, we are reminded of what truly matters: the love, laughter, and memories we create together.

As we celebrate this holiday season, we want to send our warmest wishes to all of you. May your days be filled with peace, joy, and the company of those you hold dear. Thank you for being a part of our lives, and we look forward to creating even more wonderful memories together in the year ahead.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

With love,

Mikayla Valencia

Administrator, Cornell Estates

Spotlight Story continued from front cover –

this man, and later, on another visit, took her own



husband and son to meet the now family friend.

Carol, herself, has been to China and India four times.

Carol and Jake’s life is a little quieter these days. She enjoys working on genealogy on her computer, while Jake plays the guitar and builds his birdhouses. Together they exercise daily on the bike machines here, and are often to be found working on jig-saw puzzles on the third floor. They are an interesting couple to get to know. Maybe Jake will even give you a CD of his music!

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4TH

Intel Singers

A Christmas Concert

**2:30pm
in the
Party
Room**



Lightopia
Drive #1 Dec. 12th
Drive #2 Dec. 26th
6:00pm

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6th

Jingle & Mingle

Join us for soup, a variety of hors d'oeuvres, desserts, assorted beverages and live music from the Upfront Band

4:00pm - 6:00pm

**Independent Dining,
Front Living Room &
quiet seating in Assisted Dining**

DOOR DECORATING CONTEST

*'Tis the Season to
Create a Festive Door*

A Prize will be awarded to an Assisted and Independent Resident during the Thursday Dec. 19th Happy Hour. Thank you to Gloria Cox with “Meals on Wheels People” for Judging the doors.

Judging takes place on
**Wednesday,
December 18th**

**You Could
Win a
Fred Meyer
Gift Card**



December Shopping Trips

- 12/3 1:30pm **Fred Meyer***
- 12/10 1:30pm **Dollar Tree***
- 12/17 1:30pm **Walmart***
- 12/24 1:30pm **Bi-Mart***

**Remember your money for these outings!*

December Outings

- 12/5 10:00am **Visit Brookwood Library**
- 12/5 1:30pm **Hobby Lobby***
- 12/12 11:00am **Lunch Hug Grill Chinese Buffet***
- 12/12 6:00pm **Lightopia #1** Stay on bus to see Christmas lights at Hillsboro Stadium
- 12/19 10:00am **Scenic Drive**
- 12/26 11:00am **Lunch Hales Restaurant***
- 12/26 6:00pm **Lightopia #2** This is the 2nd group to see Christmas lights at the Stadium

About Shopping Trips and Outings

- Sign up for shopping trips & outings at the front desk.
- Cancel if you are not able to attend.
- Please arrive 10-15 minutes before bus departure time.
- Please **empty your walker** so it can be folded up on bus trips.



*Welcome
Our Newest
Resident to
Cornell Estates*
Sue Jones

November Employee of the Month

Alex Contreras, Prep Cook

Alex has been a valued member of the Cornell Estates team since April 16, 2024. He consistently demonstrates excellence in the kitchen by going above and beyond his responsibilities. Whether he's assisting his team by putting away dishes, prepping for the following day, or helping with delivery orders, Alex is always willing to lend a hand. We appreciate his dedication and willingness to step up when needed to ensure an outstanding dining experience. Thank you, Alex!



Thank you!

Resident Council Members:

Lois Ashe, Jeanette Weverka, Roger Ensrud, John Van De Graaf & Marcia Harrington

Playing the Piano:

Elizabeth Simons & Patti Hart

Taking Care of Cornell Estates' Gardens:

Arden Sheets, Shirley Osborne, Shirley Van Dyke, David Cliffe, Sharyl MacDonald, Roger Ensrud & Lazaro Pichardo

Reading to the Residents: Anne Cliffe

Sunday Worship Service: David & Anne Cliffe

Spanish Through the Arts: Cyndi Turtledove

Taking Care of Cornell Estates Library:

Debbie Pentkowski

Taking Care of Cornell Estates Sewing Room:

Mary White

Writing the Residents Spotlight: Barbara Kellar

Birthday Bell Ringer: Lunada Stuart

For Being so Helpful: Jeanette Weverka, Janice Sticka, Billie Crandall, Irene Mathern, Lexie Richey, Teresa Heysler, Nancy Allison, Naomi Mendelson & Laurie Van De Graaf