

## Eye on Ewe

In each newsletter, we introduce you to one staff member and one resident, each of whom helps make Lamb a unique, supportive family.

### For Jim Smith, Lamb Is a Family Affair

Working at Lamb Foundation is a family affair for Jim Smith, his wife Bonnie, and their daughter Jenn, who was featured in the last Ewes News. Jenn began working at Lamb first, and a year ago, asked Bonnie to consider working as the manager of Sweet Repeats Thrift Shop. Bonnie said yes, and several months later asked Jim if he'd be



Jim Smith makes certain all appliances sold at Sweet Repeats Thrift Shop are in good working order.

interested in working at the thrift shop, too. "I've been a fixture here ever since March," says Jim.

If anyone at Lamb Foundation has phone trouble, they know to call on Jim and his many years of experience at Verizon. Jim fixes small appliances and electrical items donated to Sweet Repeats. One of his current projects is fixing the speaker system at Sweet Repeats.

When he's not fixing something, you can find Jim behind the counter at Sweet Repeats helping customers and staff or going on field trips with Lamb residents. "I'm a people person and enjoy interacting with customers and residents," says Jim.

Learning how to work with adults with mental, physical, and developmental disabilities was initially challenging for Jim, but has since become one of the rewards of his job. "I enjoy working with the folks at Lamb and helping to make their lives easier," says Jim, adding, "I have great respect for residents at Lamb, as well as for Donna Mengel, Lamb Foundation director, and how she handles everything."

In addition to working for Verizon, Jim was a communications specialist, sergeant E-5, in the U.S. Army for seven years and was in the reserves for one year. When he's not at Lamb, Jim enjoys reading, especially about the military; working with computers, including his newest one; spending time with his grandchildren; riding his all-terrain vehicle; and being a novice carpenter.

### Johnny Morrow Brings Life to Lamb's Parties

Of all the holidays, Johnny Morrow's friends at Lamb know he loves Christmas best.

As each year rolls out, Johnny arrives at Lamb holiday dances dressed for the occasion: he's Cupid for the Valentine's Day dance, a leprechaun for the St. Patrick's Day dance, and something new for each Halloween Dance. Last year, Johnny came as Uncle Fester, and his housemates at his East



Johnny Morrow likes to stay busy by working at Sweet Repeats Thrift Shop.

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114 North Main Street  
North Wales PA 19454

**Holiday Spirit Fills Lamb Homes.  
See page 2.**

The Lamb Foundation provides supportive housing for 150 adults with mental, physical, and developmental disabilities in Montgomery County's North Penn community. Lamb Foundation living arrangements include more than 40 fully furnished apartments, studios, twins, and single homes. Many of the Victorian, Colonial, and Federal style homes are located on the Main Streets of North Wales, Lansdale, and West Point, PA.

#### Lamb Council

- **Jenn Smith**, President
  - **Linda McComas**, Vice President
  - **Jeannie O'Donnell**, Communications
  - **Fawn Mengel Spurio**, Secretary
  - **Tom Sittler**, Treasurer
- #### Lamb Cabinet
- **Mike Spenser**
  - **Erica Dillon**
  - **Carole Ellis**
- #### Lamb Foundation Director
- **Donna L. Mengel**
- #### Lamb Community Advisory Board
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  - **Daniel Cheney**, Founder and Director of Danellie Foundation and former owner of Springhouse Corporation
  - **Joseph Evans**, RN, Head Emergency Room Nurse at Central Montgomery Medical Center
  - **Charles Hoefflich**, Chairman Emeritus, Uninvest Corporation of Pennsylvania
  - **Mary Louise Jackson**, Director of Fourjay Foundation and Healthlink Medical Center
  - **Robert Kulp**, Robert Kulp Paving, Inc.
  - **Pamela Learned**, President, Word Work Communications, Inc.
  - **Linda McComas**, Lamb Foundation Development
  - **Daniel O'Connell, Sr.**, Lamb Foundation General Counsel
  - **Rev. William J. Rudolph**, Lamb Chaplain

## We're on the Web!

Lamb's website, [www.lambfoundationpa.org](http://www.lambfoundationpa.org), offers a glimpse in words and photos into what life at Lamb is like. You will find information on what we offer and how to contact us. You can also download resident application intake forms. Visit us soon.

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## Gift-giving Traditions at Lamb



Since moving to Lamb five years ago, not one Christmas has gone by without Johnny Morrow's Lamb housemates receiving a new, hand-loomed potholder. John's sister, Jackie, gives him a hand this year.

Despite the fact that most of Lamb's 150 residents have incomes below the poverty line, gift-giving is a hallmark of the holiday season at Lamb. "We believe that there isn't anything you can't make, do, or offer to serve to the people you live with," says Donna Mengel, Lamb Foundation director.

In addition, many family members of Lamb residents generously provide gifts and funding for gifts. For example, Joanne Dhody, sister of resident Steve Santa Maria, has crocheted now-treasured scarves, hats, and gloves as gifts.

"We make sure everyone has a gift under their tree on Christmas morning," says house supervisor Becky Dagutis.

With this spirit, gifts of manicures, hair and make-up services, breakfast in bed for a week, or taking on someone's chores for a week are common gifts at Lamb. Those at 309 East Walnut Street look forward to handmade potholders from Johnny Morrow, whom you can read more about on page 5.

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## Lamb Welcomes Your Gifts

As a tax-exempt nonprofit organization, Lamb Foundation depends on the support and generosity of families and friends. Thanks to the grants and donations received this year, we have increased by 10 the number of seniors and adults with special needs for whom we can provide affordable and attractive homes.

The gift of time came earlier this year, with the settlement of a major lawsuit that protected the homes of Lamb residents. Donna Mengel and Daniel O'Connell, Lamb Foundation's Director and General Counsel respectively, have been able to return to the first mission of Lamb Foundation — making life at Lamb just like home. "With the lawsuit settled, we were freed up to do more garden planting and to take on bedroom renovations," says Donna.

While the homes and gardens were spruced up this summer, Lamb Getaways multiplied to include more people at the weeklong camp and the introduction

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Scenes from Christmas 2003 at Lamb.

## Holiday Spirit Fills Lamb Homes

Holidays at Lamb revolve around a busy social calendar, with trips to holiday performances and long-held traditions of decorating, gift-giving, and Christmas meals.

Favorite holiday performances to catch are *The Miracle of Christmas* musical at Sight & Sound Theatres in Lancaster, the *Christmas Shoes* performance at Family Worship Center in Lansdale, Pa, and the *Messiah* at local churches.

Although each Lamb home has its own decorating traditions, residents especially enjoy gathering to decorate the Lamb office tree. This year everyone is looking forward to hanging the gingerbread ornaments they made last year. The Christmas Dance, held at the Lamb warehouse and set this year for December 16, is another tradition. "Everyone especially looks forward to the holiday dance," says Becky Dagutis, house supervisor at 121 North Main and 1848 and 1852 West Point Pike. And, on Christmas morning, everyone from Lamb gathers for a festive Christmas breakfast at the Main Lamb at 200 South Main in North Wales.

### Traditions at home

Christmas traditions abound at each house as well, including these:

#### Tree Decorating

"We all decorate our tree, Johnny Morrow puts the lights on, and we make cookies and hot chocolate," says Jenn Smith, a house supervisor at 309 East Walnut Street.

#### Christmas Lights and Caroling

"Everyone enjoys having the Christmas lights on in the evening," says Dolly Danca, house supervisor at 200 South Main. Another tradition is a night of Christmas caroling and refreshments.

#### Christmas Dinner

"One tradition our houses look forward to is a traditional Christmas dinner with all the works," says Sue Mengel, house supervisor at 143, 145, 147, and 149 North Main Street, who says Christmas music plays at each home throughout December.

These traditions, big and small, help build our community at Lamb and truly turn our houses into homes for each resident.



# SAVE 20%

## Off your next total purchase of holiday items at Sweet Repeats!

This coupon is good for a one day total purchase through January 15, 2005.

Location: 115 South Main Street, North Wales, PA 19454 • Phone: 215-661-8800

Hours: Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Sunday, we honor the Sabbath

## A Giving Season

During this season of giving, The Lamb Foundation welcomes donations of all kinds — financial, clothing, household items, food, and volunteer time.

### Your support stays local

When you donate to or shop at Sweet Repeats, you give back to your community. Fully 100 percent of all sales go into Lamb Foundation's general fund to support the organization's housing programs. Financial, food, and time donations directly and fully benefit Lamb residents. All donations are tax deductible, and a receipt will be provided for your records.

### Donating made convenient

Lamb Foundation's Sweet Repeats Thrift Shop is conveniently located with pull up and drop off accommodations and a warehouse with a loading dock. If you have large, clean items to contribute, we can pick up your donations in our 20-foot truck within a week of your call.

### Make a statement that lasts

A donation to a nonprofit through your will demonstrates what you valued most in your lifetime. You might consider donating to Lamb Foundation in your will. Bequests to nonprofits also are exempt from inheritance tax. If you would like to include Lamb Foundation in your will, an attorney can assist you with the process.

## Donation Guidelines

**Clothing and Household Donations Drop-off:** Sweet Repeats, 115 South Main Street, North Wales, PA 215-661-8800. Hours: Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Sunday, we honor the Sabbath

**Food and Furniture Donations:** Call 215-699-5600 or email MarianneMessina@lambfoundationpa.org for pickup or delivery.

**Financial Donations or Volunteer Opportunities:** Please call Donna Mengel at 216-699-5600 or email DonnaMengel@lambfoundationpa.org.

*Please note: If you give to Lamb, we will not sell or give away your name or contact information.*

## Lamb Dance Card

The Lamb Foundation sponsors dances throughout the year for residents and members of other service provider agencies. DeeJay "Luke the Duke of Sound" spins tunes, while Lamb provides refreshments. The next Lamb Dance is set for:

**December 16 ~ Christmas Dance**



### Lamb Welcomes Your Gifts (continued from page 1)

of day trips to places like Terry Hill Water Park, Skippack Village, and Ocean City, N.J. Book and Bible studies, as well as movie nights and discussions, have continued to grow in popularity.

### Housing, medical needs grow

As we reflect on our blessings and growth in 2004, Lamb's staff of 40 also looks ahead to the challenges in 2005. The need for quality housing continues to grow, as evidenced by our significant waiting list. To meet that need, Lamb Foundation recently contracted to purchase an apartment building in downtown North Wales. Once renovated, Lamb will be able to offer homes for approximately 20 more individuals. At the same time, as medical costs, especially for prescription drugs, continue to rise across the nation, Lamb Foundation is challenged with helping residents choose how to cover these costs.

The gift you make to Lamb directly touches the people at Lamb. Your contribution allows us to continue to provide quality homes, meals, and care to the more than 150 Lamb Foundation residents. Thank you for supporting Lamb's mission to provide housing for seniors and special needs residents.

### Johnny Morrow Brings Life to Lamb's Parties (continued from page 5)

Walnut Street home made up the rest of the TV-based Addams Family. "I might go as Lincoln this year," Johnny said in early October.

At the Lamb Christmas dance, Johnny takes center stage as Santa. But long before the dance, he's decorating the tree at his house and topping it with his special star—Christmas traditions Johnny looks forward to. Of course, getting gifts is another tradition. In addition to getting gifts, Johnny also gives gifts. He is well known for the woven potholders he makes his housemates.

In between holidays, Johnny likes working at Sweet Repeats Thrift Shop, where he helps bring in donations and bag up seasonal items. "It keeps me busy," he says. Before this job, Johnny worked on the Lamb cleaning crew for four years and also worked at a paint company putting labels on cans.

### Someone we count on

You'd never know Johnny was 61 — he has the energy of someone far younger. He loves bowling and owns his own bowling ball, spends time riding his bike around North Wales, and enjoys cooking breakfast for his housemates, especially eggs, scrapple, and pancakes. Back at his house, 309 East Walnut Street, Johnny takes the trash out and is a support staff person for his house, meaning he knows who to call in case of an emergency. He's also certified in CPR and First Aid.

After growing up in Philadelphia, Johnny says he likes being out of the city and at Lamb. "I have more freedom and have made lots of friends here."