

Voice of the Village

A Newsletter For and By the Residents of Town Center Village



Weeping sprays of lavender at the Vitality Center entrance



A white canopy in the Terrace putting green



Bursts of pale pink arch skyward between the Vitality Center and Fountains

TIPTOE THROUGH THE TULIPS

On April 14, nineteen brave TCV residents boarded the bus for the Wooden Shoe Tulip Fields. The weather report predicted heavy rain, but the lure of the tulip festival was too great to ignore. Our driver, Phil, took us on a scenic route while residents talked about what they wanted to do upon arrival.

Plans included the gift shop, elephant ears pastries, pots of tulips, cut tulips, and rides and thrills of the playground always set up at the festival. The weather held up, and we arrived after an hour-long drive and enduring the traffic jam waiting to get into the parking lot. Some years the line can be very long, but this year it lasted only the last two miles, and the time passed quickly.



The place was crowded, but all desires were met. The gift shop was full of wonderful stuff, the elephant ears were sweet and tasty, the pots and cut tulips were beautiful, and the tulip fields were spectacularly stunning. The nearest field was all in mixed colors, and further down the road were beds after beds of solid colors: red, yellow, pink, purple, and white.

As we boarded the bus to return to TCV everyone was happy. Susie Gallagher was especially elated. She had ridden the zipline at the playground! Phil drove down the road beside the fields of color before we left the festival for one last look at the beautiful tulips. As we settled down for the ride back home, he put on a tape of love songs from the 60s. The rain held off until we were home. It was a wonderful day.

Rosie Thiers, Towers

NEW LANDSCAPING COMPANY

Beginning April 1st we have had a new landscaping company in charge of our beautiful campus. Landscaping East & West, has started out with impressive work. Already we have tidy edgings on the lawns, neatly pruned shrubs, and trimmed ivy. This reporter spoke with one of the gardeners on the first day of the new contract. He was coming out of the garden next to the pool. We chatted in the street near the visitors' entrance to the Gables and Towers. Beside us was the manhole which has leaked water for months. He told me that this shouldn't happen anymore. He had uncovered a sprinkler head which was leaking, and turned it off and capped it. The manhole fountain disappeared in the next few days. This may distress the pair of mallard ducks which had taken up residence in that garden, but should help the soggy lawn and lower the water bill.

Residents will notice the results of these gardeners as the weeks go by. There is mulch and fertilizer in flower beds. The divots in the lawns from the heavy mowers should fill in. The hedges will take on the neat look we all love. And the incredible noise from the blowers every Monday will no longer disturb us. Landscaping East & West uses quieter blowers, lightweight mowers when the grass is wet, and come on Wednesdays instead of Mondays. Peace, quiet, and beautiful gardens. How wonderful. Rosie Thiers, Towers

What Goes Up... Must Come Down...?

Not necessarily, when we are talking elevators. For five days last month, approximately 45 residents on the 3rd and 4th floors of the Towers were in the unfortunate situation of having to climb (and descend) up to four flights of stairs—difficult for many, impossible for several. An unhappy situation, yes, but made bearable by TCV's work staff, maintenance people and administration personnel.

A sincere and special word of thanks goes to the dining room staff, especially Karmen, for delivering trays of meals. And a most heartfelt gratitude to the Towers housekeeping staff, Sue Ann and Lisa, who climbed the stairs many times each day, leaving their carts and carrying their cleaning equipment from floor to floor. Mechanical equipment does fail occasionally, but TCV's work and service staff never seems to fail us. We are grateful to you all.

Lori Lauck, Towers

Coming Soon—To Your Door

Later this month you will receive the final draft of the Residents' Association Bylaws. A "dry and unexciting document" you might be thinking, but it is a necessary one. It defines who, why and how all the residents are represented and served by the Council. It also outlines what the Council is, what it does, and how its members are chosen and/or elected.

It is sincerely hoped that all residents will read the document and determine if it answers all your questions about the Council and its representation of each of you. If you have questions or concerns about the Bylaws, please use the Suggestion Boxes to submit them, in writing and signed (if a more personal response is called for). At the June Residents' Meeting, there will be an open discussion with, hopefully, final acceptance of the revised Bylaws with a vote by show-of-hand.

Lori Lauck, Towers


Nothing Trivial About This Trivia Event

The game of Trivia reached new heights last April 11 for TCV residents. Nine teams, composed of residents and some staff members, competed for both glory and money prizes. It was "The Yellow Team" with Stan and Betty Hirota, Jerry Stewart, Andy Nebergall, and Ken Taira, which claimed the big first prize of \$50 for each team member. These geniuses had 66 correct answers out of a possible 110. A total of \$480 was given as prizes to the top three teams. It was an evening of fun and friendly competition with laughter, some outrageous boasting, and lots of "I know that...I know that...it's on the tip of my tongue!". The crowd was also well-fed with plates of very substantial and tempting hors d'oeuvres.

But the evening belonged to Ron Shipman, Vitality, who served so well as MC. It was Ron who developed all the questions, allowing a range of difficulty that satisfied the egos of everyone; he kept the evening lively with jokes and dance moves while the judges determined the scores of each innings' answers. It was a lot of work on Ron's part, a lot of fun for the residents, and it all added up to a most successful and entertaining event.

Lori Lauck, Towers

"STICK WITH IT" FITNESS GAME



Many residents made resolutions to exercise on a regular basis. Sometimes it becomes difficult to "stick with" our resolutions. Over the past three months many of us were helped in this matter by participating in the "Stick With It" fitness game conducted by the Vitality Center. In this game each participant played the role of superhero Spider-Man, with the goal of rescuing Gwen Stacey (Spidey's girlfriend) who is trapped on the top of a building. Every minute you exercised raised you higher up the building toward rescuing Gwen, your progress being displayed on a model of the building erected by Ron Shipman near the Vitality desk. As you climbed, you met foes of Spider-Man, representing the non-physical aspects of vitality (spiritual, social, intellectual, and emotional). You had to defeat each foe by completing additional minutes of the activities aspects represented. For each foe defeated your name went into the drawing for cash prizes, with an additional two times for rescuing Gwen. The prizes were awarded at the April Residents' Meeting to the following participants: Ilene Holman, Jerry Thiers, Diane Klingman, Carleen Luck, Ida Bauman, Pat Richard, and Betty Beckwith.

Jerry Thiers, Towers with Ron Shipman, Vitality Coordinator

A Mixed Culinary Review

The dinner excursion to Clyde's Prime Rib Restaurant and Bar on March 29 began with much anticipation and hungry appetites. We were off to an old well-established popular restaurant noted for its good food and fun ambiance in NE Portland's Hollywood District.

Arriving at Clyde's after a 30-minute ride, we were immediately ushered all the way to the back of the main dining area into a windowless, undecorated private room, save for a single fireplace. There was some difficulty fitting all 31 of us, some walkers and a motor scooter, as the tables and chairs were rather tightly arranged. Servers had difficulties too, so diners were forced to help pass plates at their tables.

And then...the WAIT! We arrived at 3:30 and the last of us did not leave until 6:30. Despite Shirley confirming our reservation (twice!), it seems there was inadequate staff as there were long waiting periods between ordering drinks, entrees and desserts and the actual serving of each. At our table, two attempts to serve the drinks were made before the third attempt brought the correct orders. Apparently, this was not unusual at other tables too.

The food quality was spotty at best, ranging from great flavors to tough beef. John Salmon suffered the worst indignity and discomfort when red wine got knocked onto his clothing by his server. (His only compensation was apologies and no charge for his drink.) The story is that Phyllis Wade, "the spot-removal queen," bravely offered to clean the mess, so upon returning home, she followed John and instructed him to "take off your shirt and pants." Not having club soda, she tried every cleaner she had, finally succeeded, and returned said clothes to John, freshly pressed, the next day.

The moral of the story seems clear to me: even Portland's finest establishment can almost always show improvement and we need to be grateful for what we receive at the Terrace Dining Room. The service and food at home can stand up with the best Portland had to offer on that March afternoon.

Karen Taira, Terrace

HOMETOWN HARMONY

On April 14, over 40 lucky residents gathered in the Vitality community room for a wonderful evening. The Curiosity Club arranged for their April meeting to be about barbershop quartets and invited all residents to attend. Resident Marge Congress arranged for the *Hometown Harmony Singers* to come and inform the group about the history and intricacies of the art form. The group was very entertaining, singing several songs in perfect harmony. They also gave us lots of information about barbershop music. It is one of two music styles which originated in the US. The other style is jazz. The 20's and 30's were the heyday of the quartets, but the style is making a comeback. And it isn't just in the U.S. anymore. Many countries in Europe love barbershop, and singers in Sweden have won international championships. One of the most important annual competitions for barbershop is in Forest Grove, with foursomes and choruses from all over the world competing. The *Hometown Harmony Singers* have placed 4th in this competition. On the 14th they gave us a wonderful evening of songs and smiles.

Rosie Thiers, Towers

Dear Prudence



Dear Readers: I have just returned from my monthly three-week sabbatical and I have come away with some profound thoughts to share with you all. For instance, there are five stages to a woman's life—to grow up;- to fill out;- to slim down;- to hold it in,- to heck with it.

-Refreshed, and Ready, Prudence

Hey Pru,

It's me again, the smart **High IQ Guy**. I just want to thank you for that last response you gave me. You just may have turned my life around! I tried to use your last "lock box" of a computer password which included "lyrics to an obscure Beatles song". But I had to go to the library to find such a thing, and I needed help to search the files. To make a long story short, I met *Marian the Librarian* who was so helpful and so beautiful and now I am in love! So Pru, you're not so bad after all!

Wouldn't Believe My IQ, Believe My Heart

Dear Goopy IQey,

Well, well, well...It's officially a fact: the brain is the most outstanding organ. It works 24 hours a day, 365 days a year from birth...until you fall in love! (This should be a roller-coaster of a romance; please keep us posted, Goopy)

-I'm A Pushover for Love, Prud

Dear Prudence,

With younger people moving into TCV, I find that I am intimidated by those women who have maintained some of the perks of their youthful appearance. Am I a bad person because I envy them?

-Droopy Dora

Dear Double D,

Rest assured, even the Roman Empire fell, and those will too!

-Pretty Perky Myself, Prudence

Dear Prudence,

Does it really do any good to start exercising at my stage of life? I'm 65 now and I just want to enjoy the time I have left.

-Lazy Lucy

Dear Lazy Lucy,

Just walking can add minutes to your life. This would enable you, at 85 years of age, to spend an additional three months in a nursing home, at \$7,000/mo.

-Your Choice, Prudence

Dear Prudence,

My husband is a computer nerd and doesn't even know I'm alive. I'd like more attention from him. Is there a perfume that smells like a computer?

-Smelling OK, but Lonely

Dear Lonely Lou,

Not that I know of, but try this: get a can of beer, shake vigorously, open, let the fine, refreshing mist spray over you. Guaranteed to attract men and bees.

-Household Hint #72, Prudence

Lori Lauck, Towers

NEW FACES AROUND CAMPUS:



Dorothy Kreamer Dowty is a Terrace resident less than a year. She was born in Montana but moved with her family to the Portland area where she worked as a waitress. Later she also worked at the Telephone Company. It was in Portland that she met her future husband, Archie, a mechanic; they had three children, Marilyn, Cheryl, and Emmanuel. In her spare time she enjoyed sewing and fishing. Her family recently helped Dorothy celebrate a special birthday, 85 years young, with her favorite, a pizza party. She is active in her church and her family. She likes to be helpful to others in need. Welcome to your new home.



Lori Patton Kattenberg recently moved into the Terrace after her spouse, Craig, passed away; they had shared 36 years of a wonderful marriage, moving often because of her husband's executive transfers within the Fred Meyers Corporation. Lori enjoyed a 19-year career in the hotel/restaurant business. She was born in Alaska, where her father was the mayor in Seldovia; her mother was one of the first female post-mistress when they lived in California. Lori shared that in grade school a teacher asked her, "Are you related to George Patton?" and she proudly replied, "Yes, 9th cousin". From then on he called her "Blood and Guts" throughout her school years. Lori volunteered, "I've always been a big mouth." Lori has two daughters and 5 grandchildren. She is experiencing a serious type of cancer, but she is thankful for new technology and for having Kaiser Health Care. Lori enjoys Town Center Village. We are happy to have you with us Lori.



Roberta Ward Hanscom was born in Illinois, and later moved with her family to Indiana. She met her future husband, John, at a choir camp. They traveled with the Air Force for a decade, and landing in Alaska, they decided to call it home. Roberta has a degree in business administration and John was an ordained deacon in the Episcopal Church. They served together for 42 years in three parishes on the Lower Yukon River. It was John's Air Force friend, Larry Kangas, the mural artist who did several wall paintings around TCV, who suggested they look into TCV for their retirement. They did, and they liked what they saw. John passed away the day after Christmas 2016; Roberta is still exploring the many activities here and has joined a few and is making new friends. Her two sons and their families are within driving distance, which makes the move to Oregon a good one. Welcome, Roberta.

AJ Watland, Terrace

To All the Moms at TCV.....



EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Meet April 2018 Employee of the Month, Lisa Hoff. Lisa joined the Town Center Village housekeeping family in 2010. Her supervisor says she can be asked to step in anywhere on the campus and she gets the project done. She is currently in the Rehab Department and when I came to interview her, she was sterilizing an empty room, getting ready for the next patient. She really feels that her job is to be complete and thorough.

Lisa is from the Philippines and was working there as a service cook. She found herself serving a house guest, who was experiencing a heart attack. She stayed with the guest and took him in a taxi to the hospital, where she was asked to sign admission papers. After that experience, Lisa left the

Philippines and never looked back. She has been married to Ted Hoff (the house guest) since 2009, here in Oregon. They both are active with their local church and help with those in need, buying extra groceries to share with those less fortunate. When I asked about her hobbies, she showed me photos of her orchids; she loves and cares for approximately 30 beautiful plants. She and Ted both enjoy hiking together as well as cooking together, trying out vegetarian recipes. Congratulations to this deserving employee of the month.

A.J. Watland, Terrace

GENERATIONS HONORS CORBETT AND MELISSA



The Generations Distinguished Service Awards are given to staff in recognition of exceptional performance, achievement, or demonstration of supreme qualities of character and culture so extraordinary as to set the individual apart. The 2017 winners included two members of the Town Center Staff: **Corbett Stepp, Transportation Coordinator**, and **Melissa Alvarez, Administrative Assistant**. Seven awards are conferred each year by Generations; and each recipient receives a \$1,000 gift contribution to their 401k.

Melissa received “The Teamwork Award.” One of the most competitive awards, the winner fosters cooperation, exhibits flexibility and motivation, helps in the development of a peer, performs job duties with excellence, and exhibits humility, integrity, compassion and inclusiveness. She joined TCV in 2009 and her work has included accounting, billing and business office support, reception support, skilled nursing admissions and census and administration support and a great deal more. She is most celebrated for her behind-the-scenes efforts that foster responsible stewardship and the Generations mission while cherishing employees and residents.

Corbett received “The Sandy Warrick Award for Excellence.” Open only to staff in service for ten or more years and requiring a minimum of three nominations, winners have campus wide positive impact on both employees and residents and are considered best-of-the best among peers and a consummate role model of the Generations mission. Corbett has been at TCV for 18 years, initially as a driver, with the recent addition of his duties as Transportation Coordinator. He is the first staff member this reporter met at TCV, stopping to help us move in and advising us in adapting to our new surroundings. His empathy, listening skills, and earnest interest in others have built treasured personal connections here, including that of his wife, Stephanie, our choir leader.



Other winners included **Marcia Parisi** of Fairfield Village—Robert W. White Vitality Award, **Michelle Dossier** of Paradise Village—Rookie Award, **Laura Lee Cook** of CherryWood—Mabel Maddock Service Award, **Cindi Gies** of Wheatland Village—Stewardship Award and **Ole Lindbo** of CherryWood Village—Wendell White Leadership Award.

The 2017 awards ceremony was held at the Waverly Country Club in Portland on Wednesday, April 18, 2018. To view interviews of the winners go to <https://vimeo.com>. Nominations for each year can be submitted by staff, residents, and family members from any Generations community. Forms are available at the Generations Office, Terrace Office, Vitality Office, or on the Employment page of the TCV website (<http://towncentervillage.com/employment-opportunities>). Nominations for the 2018 awards can be submitted any time during the year (cut off is midnight on 12/31/2018). Do your best to participate by nominating staff members you find performing particularly outstanding service!

Jerry Thiers, Towers and Rebecca Stayner, Generations

WELCOME

Gables

Ken Mladenka
Arlene Murdoch

Towers

Carol Warner

Terrace

Khing & Gwat Goei

Fountains

Violet Aldridge
Donald DeBoer
Caroline Hobson
Chere Leahy
Margaret Ratzlaff
Fouard Roufail
Samira Roufail

**Remembering Our Veterans
With Gratitude
On
Memorial Day May 28**



Newsletter Staff...Editor-Karen Taira; Assistant Editor-Lori Lauck;
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