

# *Voice of the Village*

A Newsletter For and By the Residents of Town Center Village



Architectural rendition of the Town Center Village Terrace Dining Room renovation as seen from the main entrance looking toward the kitchen. Part of the second floor library can be seen at the upper left.

## TCV TERRACE GETTING A FACELIFT

2018 is an exciting year for TCV as we invest in updating our 30-year-old campus. Although change is not always easy, it is exciting to share a few of the plans about the current updates going on at TCV.



**The new reception area undergoing transformation**

The goal of the office remodel is to create a more traditional reception area like we have at the Fountains along with a larger desk. A new area is being added for packages to be stored behind the desk in a secure location. The existing “heater wall” element above the main front door will be replaced by a new and improved model to stop cold air from entering each time the door is opened. Space heaters will be placed where needed under desks in the affected office space. Wende’s new office will be located immediately adjacent to the reception area. Her old office will be converted into a ‘discovery’ room where the sales team will be able to meet privately with prospects and their families. This is a space they did not have before. The current

sales office also had an interior wall removed to open up their office for better communication between employees.

As the office make-over is completed, work will begin on the wait station and bistro, as pictured above.

Melody Gabriel, Generations as shared with Jerry Thiers, Towers

## Something New For New Residents

In an ongoing effort to make the entry of new residents into their new TCV home easier and more welcoming, a new plan will soon be introduced.

The Sales staff is currently working on a new design for name tags to be given to all new residents as they move in. Green ribbons that will say "I'm New" will be attached to the name tags and can be worn by the new residents for as long as they feel "new" to TCV.

The intention is that established residents will no longer wonder silently if a person is new, but would recognize and feel free to approach and engage a new person. If established residents would think back and remember their feelings of loneliness and discomfort when they made that first trip to the dining room, alone, then this idea just might make a big difference. The colored nametags would also allow new residents to recognize other new residents and foster a kind of bonding.

Lori Lauck, Towers

## Employee of the Month



Our employee of the month for February 2018 is Tamara Kovalenko, a very familiar and friendly housekeeper for 13 years here at Town Center Village. She always has a smile and a "hello" for all she meets. A resident nominated her for this recognition saying that she feels she can trust her in her "home."

Born and raised in Ukraine, she met Eylo, married him, and they came to Oregon together. They are proud parents of a daughter and a son, and have six grandchildren with a seventh due very soon.

She loves to take a yearly trip to visit a girlfriend in southern California. She and her family are very active in their church.

All of us on the Terrace Lower South Wing have been blessed with the service Tamara has given us weekly. Congratulations Tamara, and we wish you well...

AJ Watland, Terrace

**Congratulations!....**Two Town Center Village staff have been recognized as winners of Generations Distinguished Service Awards. **Melissa Alvarez**, Administrative Assistant in the Fountains office, was named the winner of the "Teamwork Award" and **Corbett Stepp**, in Vitality Transportation won the "Sandy Warrick Award for Excellence". A big presentation will be held in April in Portland.

## Welcome to Our New Senior Executive Director



A relatively new face has shown up here at Town Center Village, in the position of Senior Executive Director. Heather Sutor has been with Generations for a year as the Quality Enhancement Director for all of their communities and replaces Krista Mattox, who has resumed her position as Director of Rehab Services in the Fountains. She has found a great group of loving and caring family throughout the Generations communities.

Heather holds an Environmental Science degree from University of Oregon, and enjoys being in the outdoors of the Pacific Northwest. Early on in college she had considered being a forest ranger. Later in her career, she earned a Human Resources certification from Portland State, and also Administrator Certifications in Washington and Oregon. She is glad that she found herself among our Senior Communities. Her office is in the Fountains, and she welcomes residents' visits.

Heather and her spouse Steve, have two children; Collin, age 12, and Skylar, age 6. As a family they do a lot of camping, hiking, bicycling, gardening, and beach-going.

AJ Watland, Terrace

## BOOK DRIVE UPDATE

Nikki Hoff, from the Friends of the Ledding Library, came to the February Residents' meeting to thank TCV for the recent successful book drive for the Library. Residents, always ready to down-size, contributed over 1000 books for the Library. Nikki updated us on news about the Library which is located in Milwaukie.

Years ago the building and land were donated to Milwaukie, with the stipulation it can only be used for a library. The current building is old and out of code, so it is less expensive to tear it down and rebuild than to repair and retrofit. Fundraisers and grants have been successful enough for this project to happen this year. The new building, expected to be ready in about 18 months to 2 years, will contain all the facilities that a modern library needs. Reading rooms of course, but also rooms for small and large meetings, and all the modern wiring, lighting, and technical details which make a modern library. In the meantime, the library will be open in portable buildings located in Milwaukie.

Nikki shared what happens to books which are donated to the library. Not a single book goes to waste. Books appropriate for the collection are kept. Some go to the annual book sale. Others go to Thrift Books, a company which sells what it can, sending a percentage back to the Ledding. Those books which Thrift Books cannot sell go overseas to countries that can use them. Scientific and medical books are in great demand in other countries. Nikki was grateful to TCV for our help with this project.

Rosie Theirs, Towers

## Meet Your Neighbors



**Phyllis Schumacher-Burger (88)** (*Phyllis likes to be known as Phyllis Schumacher—forget the Burger*) She has lived here two years and was brought here from the hospital by her daughters. For most of her life she lived in Northwest Portland. Phyllis raised two boys and two girls and has nine adult grandchildren. Of her eleven great-grandchildren, the older five are in college and the younger six are in school. For twenty-six years she worked as a customer service manager for an optical wholesale lab. For the next twenty-eight years she worked as a sales clerk in women's shoes at *Meier & Frank* and retired when she was 84 from the same store, which was then *Macy's*. She

has done some traveling and especially enjoyed going to Europe. Phyllis enjoys the people she has met at TCV but also enjoys being alone.



**Shirley Lunstrum (89)** was born in Portland and moved here from *The Fountains* eleven months ago when her husband passed. She is recuperating from cancer. She is a delightful person to talk with. After telling me that she did not have many things to talk about, she admitted to building an *Elmer's* restaurant in Salem and cooking for two of them. She once ran a donut shop and owned a drive-in on Mt. Hood. Also, when the *Lloyd Center* opened, she ran the *Mode-O-Day* shop there. Born in Illinois, her family moved to Arlington, Oregon but when that was flooded they moved to Salem, then Portland. She raised two boys and two girls but only the girls are left. Living close by, they visit her regularly. This woman, with cancer, and still feeling the effects of the death of her husband, is positive

about life and living here.



**Barbara Vecsi (80)** has lived at TCV for three years. Before moving back to Portland (where she was born), she lived for a short time in San Jose, CA. Her husband, Frank, (now deceased) came to the United States during the Hungarian Revolution. Her one son, Dave (whom she raised alone) lives close by and visits often. She worked in civil service jobs doing bookkeeping and secretarial work while going to school to become a teacher. Barbara taught elementary school in the Gresham School District for twenty years. She hosted two foreign exchange students during this time; *Paul* from Sweden and *Finn* from Norway. Before retirement she enjoyed travel, skiing,

and singing. She still likes to travel on her scooter to Winco, Clackamas Town Center, Michaels, and On Point Credit Union. She finds that church services are very important to her. She likes movies but does not like to eat alone. So if you see Barbara at a table alone, join her.



**Dr. Ken (87) & Dr. Yvonne (84) Faler.** Both Ken and Von have been married before but after 38 years together, they feel they got it right this time. Ken’s PhD is in Physical Chemistry and Von’s is in Biology. (I don’t know how they are able to talk to each other.) They share five children, seventeen grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren. I could identify who is responsible for

each but I only have so much space. They have lived in many places besides Oregon—Wyoming, Idaho, Texas, California, Missouri, and Arkansas. Working his way through college, Ken worked as a soda jerk, packer & guide, salesman, car detailer, river rafter and also a college professor.

Von was a Girl Scout counselor, teacher in middle school, teacher in a two-room country school, teacher in a university, Child Welfare worker, researcher in streams and rivers, and also grew and sold bedding plants. (I’m not sure of the order of these activities.) One of the experiences they seemed to enjoy most was being part of a small group of passengers on an around-the-world trip on a cargo ship. They share an insatiable curiosity about the natural world and the people in it. Both of them enjoy living at TCV.

Bob Kremer, Towers

### TCV Art Show 2018

On January 26, the Terrace parlor and adjacent hallway were filled with the varied art work of TCV residents. From prose to painting, from painted rocks to photographs and from sewing handiwork to wood carving, the many talents of our community were on display.

Photos by AJ Watland, Terrace



Thelma Yount displays her needlepoint



Don DeBoer carves & paints wooden ducks



Johnette Olson’s intricate quilts



Susan Inloes displays her many paintings

## *Dear Prudence*



**Dear Readers,** It never ceases to amaze me, the vast variety of the problems with which you residents of TCV are burdened! But I am happy to say that all of your problems fall within the confines of my ability to be of help.

### *Dear Prudence,*

My wife and I actually get along pretty well, but one thing always gets me in trouble. I hate to go shopping with her, and she is always complaining that I won't go to the mall with her. Am I being unreasonable?

*-What's Love Got To Do With It?*

### *Dear Dumb Bunny*

Really, sir, you should go with her, and I'll tell you why...when you go to the mall, just hold her hand. Because if you let go, she'll start shopping. It looks romantic, but it's actually economic.

*-Financial Whizz, Prudence*

### *Dear Prudence,*

Two months ago, I moved into a studio in the Terrace. Naturally, I had to downsize drastically. Now I find that all my handy gadgets are gone. What do you recommend as the most important items for a single lady to have in case of an emergency?

*-No-Tools Tilly*

### *Dear Tilly Tooly,*

You only need two tools in life. WD-40 and Duct Tape. If it doesn't move, and should, use WD-40. If it moves, and shouldn't, use Duct Tape.

*-Hardware Store Graduate, Prudence*

### *Dear Prudence,*

I keep hearing all this talk about healthy eating and the dangers of junk food. Is it all hype or do they really know what they are talking about?

*-I Like My Marshmallows*

### *Dear Marshy Molly,*

Luckily, I have done extensive research into the debate on healthy vs. junk food and I have come to two main conclusions: (1) Brownies are a health food—if you count mental health, and (2) Twinkies and Ho-Ho's may be things of the past, but the world will always have plenty of Ding-Dongs.

*-Sweet Talkin' Prudence*

### *Dear Prudence,*

The years are slipping by—I'm still waiting for the wisdom that supposedly comes with old age. Seems like a long wait.

*-Still Hanging on the Vine*

### *Dear Hanging There,*

Rest assured, it is true...with age comes wisdom. Apparently wisdom weighs about 20 pounds.

*-Ripe and Wise, Prudence*

Lori Lauck, Towers

### Raising the Roof for Mardi Gras



The afternoon of Friday, February 9 seemed like a normal quiet time at TCV. But as residents filled the seats in the gaily-decorated dining room and the “Hurricane” cocktails and cider began to flow, the undeniable beat of **The New**

**Iberians and Zydeco Band** erupted to the delight of all. Bodies started to sway and toes began to tap as if on their own accord. The casually-dressed seasoned entertainers never seemed to tire as they continued for an hour and a half, intermittently inspiring staff and residents alike to take to the dance floor. The gray-mustached guy in the middle, who played the washboard hung across his chest, seemed to tickle everyone with his energy and personality.



Vitality Coordinator  
Stephanie Ribas-Stepp  
dances with son Cohen

Karen Taira, Terrace

### CROSSING THE COLUMBIA

Residents of TCV crossed the river to Vancouver twice in February. On February 1, Corbett took a bus load of happy, hungry diners to Fort Vancouver for a gourmet lunch at Grant House, located on Officers Row. The day was cold and clear, and we arrived ready to try the fantastic food. The dining room was crowded. Besides being a popular restaurant, Grant House, like all the buildings on Officer’s Row was restored to its glory as it was in the 1800s. Lunch was great, and we learned that President Grant never resided in Grant House, although he was stationed in Fort Vancouver before the Civil War. After lunch, Corbett drove us through Officer’s Row so we could see all the restored buildings. He took us on four rounds of the round-a-bout before taking us all back to TCV.

On Thursday, February 15, Shirley took another busload to Vancouver for an evening at the Magenta Theater. In her most thorough manner, Shirley made a trial run early in the morning to be sure she knew where the theater was. We arrived an hour early, so Shirley found a safe place to park and she regaled the group with stories of her youth. It seems that in the ‘80s Shirley was one of the teens who inhabited 82nd Avenue on weekend evenings, with slow-moving cars, greeting friends and hanging out. It seems that one evening Shirley was in Lent Park after curfew and was asked by the police to call her family on the phone. She tried and tried to reach them but no one answered, so she was finally sent home. Upon reaching home she replaced the receiver of the family phone which she had removed and taken with her, thus restoring the service. After her story was told, it was time to go to the theater. When we got there the place was dark. Wrong night? No. Wrong place? The address seemed right on the tickets. Shirley got on the phone and found that the theater had moved eight blocks down the street. We got there just in time to see an English farce adapted from PG Wodehouse’s stories of Jeeves, the greatest valet in British literature. What a wonderful night.

Rosie Thiers, Towers

**Lunch at Henry’s and Browsing at Powell’s**

On Thursday, February 8, the TCV bus was loaded with 15 residents, Vitality Coordinator Shirley, and with our bus driver Corbett, rode to Portland and to Henry’s Tavern. Lunch reservations had been set for 11am and although we were early, they made us feel so welcome and offered great service and a great food selection.

At noon, we made a short walk to Powell's Books for a wonderful two hours of browsing and purchasing. A World Coffee Shop was tucked in the first of the three floors of this 70,000 sq. ft. building which covers 1.6 acres.

The bus ride back home took us through some older districts of Portland with lovely early homes and the "bicycle bridge" along the Willamette River. Arriving back home around 3pm, everyone agreed that we had a great time.

AJ Watland, Terrace

**Congratulations to Fountains resident Gwen Mallonee who celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday on February 7. Happy Birthday, Gwen!!!**

**Welcome**

**Towers**

Kaino Dionne

**Terrace**

Swan Hodges  
Marty Barney

**Fountains**

Eleanor Williams

**In Memoriam**

Ben Alderman  
Richard Chan  
Irene Harrison  
Robert Mackey  
Rudy Rael

Lenora Brown  
Charlotte Finke  
Bill Hupfer  
Daneene Pearson

Lorraine Brown  
Don Gibb  
Colleen Isotalo  
Charles Pio  
Chaplain Alma Steinhauer

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