

Voice of the Village

A Newsletter For and By the Residents of Town Center Village



With hearts filled with gratitude and best wishes, we bid the White family a fond aloha. From left to right, Benjamin and Zach with parents Jennifer and Rob, Betsy and Wendell White, Max with parents Melody and Chip and brother Tye.

2019 Will Be A Year Of Change...*This Is A Very Big Thing!*

For Town Center Village the year 2018 ends on a sad note with residents experiencing deep feelings of loss and concern. What has been 35 years of development and growth, along with the care, nurturing and inclusion of residents into a unique family, has come to an end. Generations and the White Family are relinquishing management control over TCV. The entire Generations group will leave the premises at the end of the year, but they leave a much bigger hole in our hearts and lives.

Wendell White, the founder of TCV, had the vision and the follow-through to bring to life a retirement community that truly was about the welfare of the residents. His daughter, Melody Gabriel, Generations President, continued to build the sense of "being at home" for residents and she has exhibited exceptional dedication to all residents. The whole Generations team provided a strong sense of support to staff and residents that was palpable.

Overall management of TCV will be provided by Five Star Senior Housing, with a team of skilled professionals. The company is very experienced in the field and has an impressive reputation for success with senior living programs. Members of the Five Star team visited the campus on November 13 and gave assurances that they have no plan to bring in their own staff. TCV will run, and be run, as usual, with as little upheaval and changes possible. Heather Suitor remains as Senior Executive Director, reporting to Five Star, which will not be located on campus. The most reassuring statement from the Five Star representatives was the observation that their basic core of values is nearly identical to those values that Wendell White has always advocated and lives by.

Lori Lauck, Towers

And That Is A Very Good Thing!

COUNCIL UPDATE



Left to right: Judy, Karen, Lori and Marge

And The Winners Are....The annual election of Council officers was held recently with voting on November 1 and 2. The winners were announced at the November 14 Residents' Meeting. Karen Taira was re-elected President and Lori Lauck was re-elected Secretary. Judy Kuretich, unopposed, was elected Treasurer and Marge Congress narrowly defeated AJ

Watland for the Vice-Presidency. One hundred and fifty votes were cast, indicating a 63% rate of participation. Four ballots were disqualified; two showed votes for all candidates, and two showed votes for no candidates. Thanks to all who voted!

Lori Lauck, Towers

Tammy Owen from the **Clackamas Fire District** on Fuller Road spoke at the Residents' November meeting to remind us of specific ways we can avoid fire in our apartments and left flyers and pens for distribution. Mary Litch of the Council presented Tammy with framed certificates of commendation to express our appreciation and gratitude for Fire Districts #1 and #5 who are, and have been, our reliable support and security. Donation barrels have been placed on campus to collect new, unwrapped toys for the Firefighters Operation Santa Claus Project to aid needy children in our community. The council committee also plans to personally present cookies and oranges to say "Thank You!"

Fifty fabric "cool ties" filled with channels of polymer granules, which can be soaked in water to provide cool all-day relief when worn around the neck or as a headband, have been completed by the TCV sewing ladies as a project for the veterans group led by Vitality Associate Phil Rankin. Funding for supplies was provided by the Residents' Council. The ties will be included in Care Packages as a part of **Operation Gratitude** and sent to active service personnel.

As a project for the ongoing **Employee Appreciation Fund**, more than 35 gift baskets of varied themes have been created by the Council. After weeks of planning, collecting donation items, filling and wrapping baskets, they will be offered for sale at the Holiday Bazaar on Monday, December 3. Come and support this fun-raising effort. Bazaar hours are from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Many other handcrafted items, food goodies, holiday gifts and arts and crafts will be offered by thirty vendors.

Karen Taira, Terrace



It Was A Long Wait, But All Is Well Now....



Rick and Keith

For many months TCV has been without a Director of Maintenance. But that fact was hardly noticed by residents because Rick Campbell, Maintenance, had agreed to act as Interim Director. The position had been kept open all summer and fall for a candidate from the East Coast, whose arrival was delayed because of prior commitments. Conditions and perceptions changed and that candidate was no longer considered.

But things worked out well. Rick, who has competently and admirably kept the mechanical side of TCV running smoothly, has agreed to become the permanent Director of Maintenance. Rick has been with TCV for almost four years and is known for his wide range of experience and capabilities, as well as his dependability, warmth and likability.

But there is more good news. Keith Killian, a recent hire in Maintenance, has impressed staff and residents with not only his skill and experience but also his willingness to “go the extra step” for residents. Keith is originally from Denver, CO where he climbed mountains and excelled in gymnastics. After working in the field of finance for 17 years, Keith returned to the construction and maintenance environment of his family. Keith is now the Lead Maintenance person and with Rick, they form a most effective and competent Maintenance team.

One other note regarding the Maintenance Dept., Freddy Bravo, who has worked in Maintenance for several years, has now accepted the position of Concierge.

Lori Lauck, Towers

Employee of the Month - November



The Employee of the Month for November 2018 is Elise Gassman, a Physical Therapist in Rehab. Elise has been employed at TCV since April 2014. She actually had worked here for a few years prior to that, left for a short time and then returned to the TCV family. She is married and has two children. Her life with her family keeps her busy when she is not at work. Elise was nominated by many co-workers who recognize her as an invaluable member of the Rehab team. Their comments indicate that she is an active listener, is someone who ensures every patient gets the best care and is a strong advocate for patients.

Elise is the “backbone” of the therapy department and pours her heart and soul into everything she does and everyone she touches! We are lucky to have Elise as part of the TCV team and as a Therapist in Rehab.

AJ Watland, Terrace

Dear Prudence



Dear Readers,

Before I enter into my annual holiday eggnoggy happy haze, and while I am still able to think clearly, I feel I must share my deep and true thoughts about the holidays. For instance, I have a hard time believing the story of the Three Wise Men. One, maybe...but three? And then at what other time of year do you sit in front of a dead tree in your living room and eat candy out of your socks?

Still Full of Jolly Cheer, Prudence

Dear Prudence,

This year I am attending a Holiday Cookie Swap. Do you have a favorite cookie recipe that you could share?

-Ginger Snap

Dear Ginger Snap,

A Holiday Cookie Swap? No siree, not for me! I would rather have a cocktail swap. Same calories, cleaner kitchen.

-My Newest Tradition, Prudence

Dear Prudence

As I get older, I feel that I have lost my childish love of Christmas with all the carols and presents, and I am grumpy and crabby. For instance, my Christmas cards this year all say the same thing: 'Forget about the past, you can't change it, forget about the future, you can't predict it, and forget about the present, I didn't get you one'.

-No Tinsel on My Tree

Dear Tinsel Tilly,

Oh, I hear you loud and clear, Miss Grumpy. For me, it's the part about buying gifts that causes pain. I know I would buy a lot more presents if the Dollar Store had layaway.

-Dollar Store Diva, Prudence

Dear Prudence,

I love Christmas with all the lights and decorations! But I do dread all the work of putting up decorations and then taking them down. It really ruins my Christmas spirit.

-Love the Glow, Gloria

Dear Glow Girl,

I think I have the perfect solution for you. For example, untangling Christmas lights gets much easier after a glass or three of wine. Or maybe you just stop caring. It's really a case of more than just the tree getting lit.

-Shinin' My Lights, Prudence

Dear Readers,

Let me take a few minutes to thank, in advance, all of you who bring those healthy, organic treats to all the holiday parties and get-togethers. Those extra five minutes in a nursing home are sure to be heavenly.

-Love My Plum Pudding, Prudence

Lori Lauck, Towers

EVERGREEN AVIATION MUSEUM EXCURSION



Some of the residents who enjoyed the museum outing, including driver Mars Meadows (back row in pink).

On October 20 at 9:00 am, our driver Mars Meadows drove 21 aircraft enthusiasts through the scenic Oregon countryside to the Evergreen Aviation Museum near McMinnville. Starting with an accurate reproduction of the Wright brothers' original plane, complete with Orville in the piloting position, we spent a fascinating two hours viewing and reading details of the history of

flight in the U.S. We were able to immerse ourselves in the design, construction, testing, and experiences of the various aircraft and pilots of our nation. The main attraction was the "Spruce Goose," the gigantic, wooden aircraft, a creation of Howard Hughes. In small groups we stood in the cavernous "cockpit" and heard the entire story told by one of the knowledgeable attendants of the museum.



The huge size of the Spruce Goose is contrasted with the US Air Force fighter jet.

The speaker answered our questions, enhancing the presentation. The complete collection of stunt planes, mail and passenger carriers, jets, and helicopters kept our focus throughout the visit. There was even humor; on the side of a small "home built" plane, an arrow below a window pointed up reading, "Break glass to reach crowbar." Sure enough, there was a crowbar displayed inside the window! Our excellent bus driver, Mars, drove us home by another scenic route.

Jerry Thiers, Towers

A SALUTE TO VETERANS AT TCV

A very meaningful ceremony honoring veterans and spouses of veterans was held in the Fountains dining area on November 8. A wide variety of military songs was provided by pianist Judith Gascon. The colors were presented in strict military fashion by the Color Guard from Oregon City High School. Our national anthem was sung by Ingrid Borlind, Rehab Occupational Therapist. Master of Ceremonies Chaplain Bob Weinberger, summarized the history of Veterans Day, setting the stage for the ceremony, and the hymns of the five branches of service were played by the pianist.

Chaplain Weinberger introduced each veteran and each spouse as they received their memorial lapel pins and a round of applause from the residents gathered to honor them. Pinning of the veterans was done by the Oregon Army National Guard; pinning of the spouses by Mindy Barella of the Little Chapel of the Chimes, who contributed to the organizing of the event. Chaplain Weinberger thanked the Patriot Guards who were also present. This is a group dedicated to honoring the sacrifice of deceased veterans. Refreshments were provided following the ceremony.

Jerry Thiers, Towers, and Phil Rankin, Village Veterans' League Coordinator

A TOWN CENTER VILLAGE PET GALLEY

This month, in place of our usual column “New Faces on Campus,” we present some of our furry residents and their owners. Photos by AJ Watland, Terrace



Rescued cat Violet with Mistress Gayle Sinclair, Terrace



Papillon dog Jake and Mardelle Griggs, Towers



Bob Austin, Towers enjoying recently adopted Aki



Oreo with Virginia Landon, Terrace

WHERE IN THE WORLD....?

Last month it was noted with horror that our pink flamingos Francisco and Francesca had disappeared. Our intrepid reporter who was assigned to the case has unearthed a few clues:
(And the hunt will go on!)



**The flamingos have been spotted
Their escape is well plotted
Seen in the Pub, imbibing the wine
This bit of adventure is feeling so fine**



**One last elegant dinner
Before they depart
A few things they must yet do
As escapees, they have to be smart**

Joint Project by Karen Taira, Terrace and Lori Lauck, Towers

WHEN VISITORS COME

Recently our daughter visited from the East Coast. During past visits we have put our guests up in a nearby motel. This time, we decided to rent the guest apartment available here at TCV. The experience far exceeded our expectations.

I called Sales and made the arrangements. On the day of our daughter's arrival, we got the key to the apartment from the desk and stocked the refrigerator with breakfast items. When she arrived later, instead of renting a car, she used Lyft from the airport. This was a little pricey, but no rental car was needed. She went to the Terrace desk, was given a key, and led to her apartment right there in the Terrace. There was not only a cozy bed, but nicely-appointed furnishings in the living room, a coffee maker, and tea and coffee makings. There were also kitchen towels, lovely bath towels and personal-sized shampoo and soap; just like a first-rate hotel. There were dining room coupons for each day of her stay. All this, as well as a TV, and a selection of books to read were provided. We saved the cost of a rental car, the apartment rental was less than that of local motels, and she was close to us without being crowded in our apartment. It was a wonderful visit. Jerry and I recommend this service. Rosie Thiers, Towers

TIPPY CANOE AND A GREAT RIDE TOO

On Saturday, November 17, Driver Mars Meadows took 22 residents on a drive to the Sandy River. It was a glorious morning, with the last of fall colors on the trees. Our destination was the Tippy Canoe Restaurant via some of the most beautiful back roads of western Oregon. Upon arrival at the restaurant which was set in a grove of the tallest Lodgepole Pines, right on the river, we were shown into a room set up for us, and greeted by Shirley, the proprietor. We completely filled the space which was set up with settings for us all. The area must have been the salmon room, because it was filled with life-sized carved and cast salmon. It, like the entire building, was decorated with every symbol of Christmas. The menu was extensive, with breakfast, lunch and dinner all available. Soon the food began to arrive; burgers the size of boats, eggs benedict with ham and salmon, soups, salads, and omelets, never-empty coffee cups, huge glasses of iced tea, and spectacular Bloody Marys. We were happy as we left for the bus, most of us carrying leftovers. On the way out, we were regaled with the music and movements of the many action figures--dogs barking out Merry Christmas, Mickey Mouse dancing and Santa, wearing a sarape and sombrero singing Feliz Navidad. The ride home was just as beautiful. Rosie Thiers, Towers

CIVIL WAR WAGED AT TCV

The traditional football civil war between the University of Oregon Ducks and the Oregon State University Beavers was viewed in the TCV Parlor on the afternoon of November 23. Those who signed up enjoyed pizza and beer along with camaraderie and friendly competition. Winners of the football pool were Phil Rankin, Phyllis Wade and Mary Litch of \$25 each and the big winner of \$125 was Duncan Kline. Oh, by the way, the Ducks won, 55 to 15! Karen Taira, Terrace



The long-awaited “dressing” of the small bus finally has been completed and has received excellent reviews. But look! It seems Santa’s elves have already been busy...

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!!

‘TIS THE SEASON

For the last three months the **Village Voices** have been practicing carols and holiday music. They are filled with the spirit of the season. At last, they are ready to share their efforts with residents, staff, and visitors. Be sure to be there to begin this wonderful time of year with music and joy. The Village Voices will present their holiday concert on Thursday, December 6 in the Terrace dining room. Rosie Thiers, Towers

Another Town Center Village musical group will also be presenting their **Hand Chimes Concert** on Monday, December 10 at 10 AM, also in the Terrace dining room. The hall will be filled with the magical sounds of Christmas. Karen Taira, Terrace

IN MEMORIAM

Nanny Bakema

Betty Caramella

Illene Holman

Louvenia Jellerson

Sadie Komlofske

Dennis Kucera

Gwendolyn Mallonee

Irv Weissman

Adele Wilder

WELCOME

Towers

Sue Lang

Judy Rust

Terrace

Bob & Janie Davis

Sue Simms

Gables

Josephine “Joey” Valero

Andrew Freinkel

Fountains

Barbara Mauget

Phyllis Sherwood



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