

Home Times Monthly

A newsletter for Pond Home residents with all the news
that's fit to print

November 2011

volume 55

To My Dear Residents:

I hope our October snow storm is not indicative of things to come this winter. It is sad to see how many trees lost branches or were destroyed with the heavy wet snow causing electric and cable outages all over New England. This experience is one more reminder of how lucky we are to have the systems we have at Pond Home. Unlike most in the area Pond Home is able to keep all major services up and running (heat, cooking facilities, elevator, and lights) while many in the area were trying to get by in cold dark homes. I know many of you are happy to have access to television once again now that cable and electricity are up and running. I'm happy to have the computer back in functioning order. We are so very lucky these were our only inconveniences here as many are still without power in their homes, including some of our employees.

Thanks for reading,

Becky Annis, Administrator

Resident Spotlight



Resident Spotlight

This month's highlighted resident is **Josephine Stark Shiebler**, known to everyone as **Jo**. She was born in Calgary, in Alberta, Canada during the 1918 flu epidemic. Her mother was suffering from the flu and two and one half months before her due date she went into labor – on Labor Day! She was the third child to be born, with two older sisters. Later a younger brother came along to add to the family. The family moved to New York for a period of time and then Massachusetts, following her father's business. Jo attended Medford High School and then went on to Chandler College, a business college. Her first job was working at Larsen Machine, a division of

Pratt & Whitney. The first three days were spent on the assembly line, and Jo hated every moment of it. She went to the office to tell them she wasn't cut out for this work when the president of the company told her he had been watching her and thinking about a better fit for her. At his direction, the next day she reported to the office where she happily worked for a year. After that she started as a teller at Wellesley Trust (which later became part of Baybank). She worked hard and was promoted many times over the years, from teller to Assistant Treasurer and Officer-in charge. Her career in banking is what led her to become an ardent baseball fan. Ted Williams and Dom DiMaggio were frequent visitors to the bank and dropped off promotional tickets to Red Sox games. She married William "Bill" Shiebler in 1950. She had known Bill for years and they were already family by the time they married because Jo's brother married Bill's sister! They bought a home in Natick and lived there for a few years, saving for their dream of building a home closer to Bill's company, Franklin Paint Co. They bought land in Wrentham on a lake where Bill fulfilled his dream of designing and building a home where they could raise their family, which included daughter Gail. In later years Bill and Jo enjoyed many vacations together including a 17 day trip to Europe that Bill organized. Sadly, Bill died in 1978 shortly after their return home from Europe to Wrentham. Jo has been a member of Trinity Episcopal Church in Wrentham for years and has found her religious beliefs to be a support all her life. She retired from the bank after 34 years proud of the career she made there. Her daughter has three daughters of her own and Jo is now a great grandmother to four. She moved from her beloved lake home to The Community at Pond Meadow when it first began accepting residents in 1999. This woman who prefers to see the glass as half full, who loves purple and values her relationships with people above all else moved to Pond Home in December of 2010, adding her warm smile to the mix.

Activities Highlights

~On the 3rd at 10:15 The Original Congregational Church of Wrentham will hold a Protestant Church Service in the living room.

~ On the 8th in the morning we will be making a trip to the Wrentham Senior Center for a coffee social and cribbage

~ On the 16th be sure to come to the living room to hear Joey Canzano, known in Las Vegas as "The Man of Many Voices". Close your eyes while he is

singing and you will think this Revere native is channeling Elvis Presley or Frank Sinatra!

~ Catholic Mass will be held on the **18th** at 10am

~ On the **22nd** a Non-Denominational Church Service will be conducted by our own staff person Sue Stravinski

~To get everyone primed for the eating that is Thanksgiving we will hold an ice cream social on the **23rd** in the afternoon

~ On the **30th** a trip is planned for lunch out at Bristol Commons in North Attleboro. Sign up with Barbara if you are interested in attending.

~The Wednesday afternoon visits with the IN2L ("Whatchamacallit") have been going over very well. Everyone loves what the new technology can do - touch screen puzzles and travel videos! If you would like to schedule a visit - please see Barbara to make sure she stops by to show you just what it is capable of doing!

November Birthdays

Please give a big Happy Birthday to the following residents celebrating their birthdays this month:

15th ~ Ruth Fredrickson

18th ~ Jean Campbell

27th ~ Evelyn Verna



New Cleaning Products in Use

As of Monday, Oct. 24th the Housekeeping Department, **Maria Lima & Maria Moreira** during the week and **Carolina Duarte** on the weekends, has begun using Proctor & Gamble products formulated for health care settings for all their cleaning products. These include product names we are all familiar with – Spic & Span, Comet, Mr. Clean, Febreze, and Swiffer – all professional grade. These are Green Guaranteed products meeting the U.S. EPA standards, so I am pleased to say we are continuing to use a green cleaning system at Pond Home, as we have for years.

Heritage Health Services, the company who provides our Housekeeping Services made the decision to switch to Proctor and Gamble products for a

number of reasons. Because they are concentrated and less product is needed to do the job right they are less costly. The products are more effective against microorganisms often found in health care facilities, which will help to keep us all healthy. And finally, the products have a scent that people associate with cleanliness.

Just for Fun

On the first day, God created the dog and said, "Sit all day by the door of your house and bark at anyone who comes in or walks past. For this I will give you a life span of twenty years."

The dog said, "That's a long time to be barking. How about only ten years and I'll give you back the other ten?"

So God agreed.... On the second day, God created the monkey and said, "Entertain people, do tricks, and make them laugh. For this, I'll give you a twenty year life span."

The monkey said, "Monkey tricks for twenty years? That's a pretty long time to perform. How about I give you back ten like the dog did?"

And God agreed.....On the third day, God created the cow and said, "You must go into the field with the farmer all day long and suffer under the sun, have calves and give milk to support the farmer's family. For this, I will give you a life span of sixty years."

The cow said, "That's kind of a tough life you want me to live for sixty years. How about twenty and I'll give back the other forty?"

And God agreed again.....On the fourth day, God created humans and said, "Eat, sleep, play, marry and enjoy your life. For this, I'll give you twenty years."

But the human said, "Only twenty years? Could you possibly give me my twenty, the forty the cow gave back, the ten the monkey gave back, and the ten the dog gave back; that makes eighty, okay?"

"Okay," said God. "You asked for it."

So that is why for our first twenty years, we eat, sleep, play and enjoy ourselves. For the next forty years, we slave in the sun to support our family.

For the next ten years, we do monkey tricks to entertain the grandchildren. And for the last ten years, we sit on the front porch and bark at everyone.

Life has now been explained to you.