

Pickersgill

VOLUME XVII, ISSUE 2 • THE PICKERSGILL RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

NEWSLETTER SPRING 2011

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY- 209 YEARS!

Residents, staff, board members and special guests celebrate with delicious food and fellowship



Kate Robertson and Mae Adams



Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Lew



Residents and guests enjoying a variety of appetizers



209th Anniversary sheet cake



Norma Struckhoff



Mitch and Margaret Carroll



Ann Cromwell, Virginia Price, Anne Shuman and Bea Kennedy



Rosemary Berry



Erica Sanders, Virginia Frye



Kathleen Corasaniti and Eleanor Bannister



June Kimmelhue and guest



Evelyn O'Connor, Ann Beery and her grandchildren

NEW & NOTEWORTHY



Jo Ann Holbeck, New Social Worker

In March, staff and residents welcomed social worker, Jo Ann Holbeck, M.S.W. Jo Ann brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in social work to Pickersgill. She completed her Bachelor's degree in Social Work, her Master's degree in Social Work and Community Planning, and doctorate work in Social Welfare Policy at the University of Maryland. She also received a certificate in Gerontology and taught Social Work and Aging at U of M.

Jo Ann's previous work experience includes Director of Social Work and Admissions at Stella Maris, Executive Director of Suited to Succeed, and several roles at the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development.

Jo Ann's office hours are 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday and Thursday and 9 am - 3:30 p.m. on Tuesdays. Her office is next to the Activities office.

Capital Campaign Recognition Signs and Plaques

Recently, signs and plaques were installed throughout the community to recognize some of the naming opportunity donations made to help support the renovations that have transformed the community.

The renovation project began in 2005 and was completed at the end of 2009. As a result, living at Pickersgill has never been better.

Residents have improved dining options with four beautiful dining rooms and a new cafe called the PickersGrille, an updated and versatile new auditorium, 138 new and improved assisted living rooms and suites and 35 new and renovated skilled nursing care rooms.



Residents' Association Officers Elected

New officers were elected at the February 18 meeting of the Apartment Residents' Association. Pictured above from left to right:

Virginia Price, *Assistant Treasurer*

Bud Ivey, *Vice President*

Betty Eckenrode, *Treasurer*

Dick Hartman, *President*

Midge Taylor, *(not pictured) Secretary*

The Association acts as a liaison for the residents to the administration and board of directors. It also promotes fellowship and participation in cultural activities such as study groups, craft programs and social programs. Resident volunteers maintain the library, staff the convenience store six days a week and coordinate a social hour and a bingo party.

209th ANNIVERSARY PARTY



Helen Thomas sampling the desserts



Agnes Law, Claire Abernathy, Carol Burros



Dorothy Lauber, Pat Clement and Sharon O'Connor



Food service manager Frida Elonge (left) greets residents and guests



Laura Owens, Grace Harry, Harriett Greif



Jack Dohony, Walter Tacka and sister, Tess Creamer

JANE HEILL, NEWEST BOARD MEMBER

Before joining Pickersgill's board, Jane Heill had already become a familiar face in the halls of the community. She first began visiting Pickersgill to see an old family friend. "I loved taking her shopping and out to lunch and just helping her however she needed," said Jane. "I've always loved helping others and after I retired I had the time to do it."

Jane retired from her career as a Baltimore County school teacher in 2006 after working for 35 years. She was recruited by Faye Tully and Valerie Smithe-man-Brown to join the board at Pickersgill in April, 2010.

The unique, all-woman Pickersgill board has a distinguished history of governing all aspects of the operations and manage-

ment at Pickersgill. They were looking for a strong candidate to join the group. "We knew Jane would be such a valuable asset to us!" said Valerie. "She has longstanding community connections, comprehensive



knowledge of nonprofits and excellent technology and organizational skills. But most of all, we needed her amazing energy!"

Jane's high energy level has already been put to excellent use. She currently serves as the Assistant Recording Sec-

retary for the board, and is also a member of three board committees, each working on initiatives to improve the community. "Jane has been such a welcome addition to the board," said president Ann

Brooke. "We're so lucky to have her and hope to have her for a long, long time!"

In her free time, Jane enjoys playing with her dog, a Chinese Shar-Pei and canning pickles and jellies for family and friends. She also enjoys creating computer graphics and pro-

duces the labels and packaging for her canned items on her computer. An avid beach lover, in the winter she spends a few weeks in Florida and in the warmer months she enjoys her vacation home in Ocean City.

AFRICAN SAFARI WALKING PROGRAM



With all the ice, snow and freezing temperatures this winter, walking outside for Pickersgill residents was not an option.

Instead, each Wednesday from January through March, they grabbed passports and pith hats and



Pharmacy student, Ian

headed off on an African safari.

Each safari began with an informational briefing

about the African country they would explore. Grouped by walking pace, the residents were led by volunteer guides dressed in traditional African attire. They hiked from Morocco to Egypt and Senegal to Marrakech. Along the way, they encountered strange and wonderful sights, hunted wild animals (to shoot with a



Shirley Knode

camera) and enjoyed the camaraderie of friends, all while benefiting from walking in climate-controlled comfort.



Victor Mastropieri



Rachel Smith



Sister Denise



Eileen Maloney

At the end of each safari, residents' passports were stamped, providing an official record of the country they visited. To celebrate the completion of their adventures, a Safari Party was held on March 23, complete with refreshments, stories of their trips and raffle prizes.



Laura Owens

"I want to thank all the people who helped with this extremely popular walking program," said Lynn Hunovice, Director of Activities. "The food service staff provided amazing food that was actually native to the African regions we visited. We had so many wonderful volunteer guides, including pharmacy students from the University of Maryland. Most of all, I want to thank board member, Valerie Smitheman-Brown, for the terrific safari walking program idea. And get ready for the next walking program adventure- a trip down the Amazon!"



Bridget Baker

HOMESTYLE DINING MAKES A COMEBACK

On February 1, Sodexo began a new dining service for residents living in the personal care area of Assisted Living and The Decker Center.

“Our goal is to improve the quality of life for our residents through good nutrition and pleasant social interactions at meals,” said Laure Sullivan, General Manager of Food and Nutrition Services.

“Open Dining” is designed to meet residents’ individual requests and improve satisfaction with the food. It consists of several changes from the old dining service.

First, the menu itself has changed. Residents are now offered a choice of home-style foods that are more like those they might have enjoyed at home. Choices include “comfort” foods such as meat loaf, baked ziti, roast turkey breast and homemade soups and desserts.

Now, the food is no longer brought up on trays that have been assembled in the kitchen and stacked in carts. Meals are served in the dining room, restaurant-style. Residents may also choose to dine anytime within a one hour time span, instead of everyone

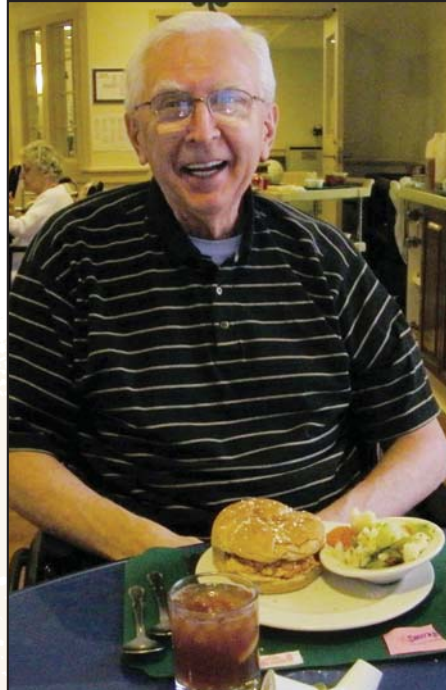
being seated at once. Most residents agree that the food is consistently hotter, the food choices are more enjoyable and the variable serving times make the meal more relaxed.

Shirley Knode, a volunteer who helps residents in The Decker Center dining room says, “It’s a big switch but a good change. It takes time for everyone to get used to it but it is getting better.”

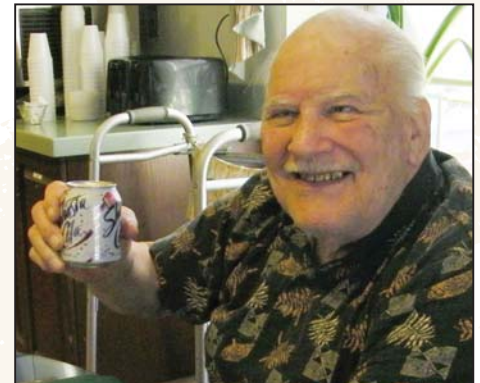
Vici Heineman, R.N., Director of Nursing in Comprehensive Care agreed. “The residents seem to like it. They have more choices and the food is hotter.”



Emelia Plecker



Ron Kitting



Jim Donahue

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Mission Statement

Pickersgill is a nonprofit retirement community with a strong heritage of benevolent purpose. Begun in 1802 by a small group of caring women, Pickersgill is dedicated to helping each person achieve, with dignity, the proper balance between independence and assistance. We take pride in our blend of traditional values with contemporary living. We provide a comfortable home and high-quality care at a reasonable cost, and promote each resident's vitality of spirit.

Pickersgill Retirement Community Board of Directors

Mrs. Brian Brooke
President

Mrs. Carlyle Barton, Jr.	Mrs. Henry C. Lancaster
Mrs. G. Wayne Berry	Mrs. William A. Mangels
Mrs. Valerie Smitheman-Brown	Mrs. Russell P. Rich
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Mrs. Ronald Harman	Dr. Kate Tully
Mrs. Jane S. Heill	Mrs. Stephen Tully

Pickersgill newsletter is published by Pickersgill Retirement Community for residents, families and friends. Please call the Development office at 410-842-0420 to be added to our mailing list. Or write to us at 615 Chestnut Avenue, Towson, MD 21204, if you wish to have your name removed from further Pickersgill materials.

IT'S A SMALL WORLD

Baltimore is often called "Smalltimore," and for good reason- it seems like everyone is connected. At Pickersgill it's no different. The following are just a few examples of friends reconnecting at Pickersgill.



Alice Smith



Thekla Fitzpatrick

Alice Smith and Thekla Fitzpatrick renewed their high school friendship after not seeing each other for over 50 years.



Kay Small



William Gross

Kay Small's husband built the house that William Gross and his wife moved into in the 1960s and lived in for many years.



Agnes Law



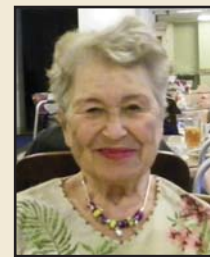
Clara Nardini

Agnes Law was born and raised in Paisley, Scotland. Clara Nardini's parents owned the ice cream store in Paisley that Agnes and her family and friends frequently patronized.

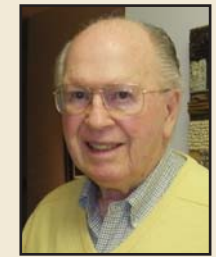


Jane Creager, Ardis O'Connor and Shirley Anderson

Jane Creager, Ardis O'Connor and Shirley Anderson have known each other for over 60 years.



Betty Murkey



Ray Smith

Ray Smith was an usher in Betty Murkey's wedding.



PICKERSGILL
Retirement Community

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www.pickersgillretirement.org

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Upcoming Events

The Decker Center Dedication

MAY 19, 2011, 2 PM

Join us as we dedicate The Decker Comprehensive Care Center in honor of the late Virginia Decker, philanthropist and wife of Alonzo G. Decker of the Black & Decker Corp.

Flag Day Celebration

JUNE 14, 2011, 7 PM

Pickersgill Retirement Community will host its annual Flag Day Celebration on Tuesday, June 14 at 7 p.m. Free and open to the public.

Mary Pickersgill Society Afternoon Tea

JUNE 23, 2011, 4 PM

A traditional afternoon tea is planned to honor the members of the Mary Pickersgill Society.

Spring Fashion Show

Featuring

TaylorMarie's Apparel
modeled by Pickersgill residents

When: April 15 at 10:30 am

Where: Willard Auditorium

- ◆ High quality brands
- ◆ Affordable jewelry
- ◆ Variety of handbags

Refreshments will be served.