Walking Back Into the Future

By David Denton, President/Executive Director

This article is dedicated to the extensive list of the visionaries, the leaders, the kind and generous, the tireless men and women who have poured their hearts and souls into pursuing our Mission and Vision during these first 80 years. For that, we are eternally grateful for the fruits of their labor; Asbury Methodist Village. Marshall Grotenhuis is also to be acknowledged and commended for the countless hours he has devoted as archivist and the author of the book that memorialized the story of this remarkable community and of those who have turned dreams into reality.

The 75th Anniversary in April 2001. For that reason, let me start this journey back into the future at the Rosborough Cultural Arts and Wellness Center, which was dedicated and named during the 75th Anniversary in April 2001.

Upon arriving at the Rosborough Center, it is hard to miss the tall bronze statue of Francis Asbury, the first Methodist bishop ordained in America, standing watch over a small, but pristine portion of the 130-acre property purchased from Walter Magruder for $25,000 in 1823. Francis Asbury's fortitude and intensity as a missionary and pioneer of Methodism in the United States carried a lot of weight in choosing his name for our community.

As one enters the Rosborough Center, one's curiosity begs the question, who is Rosborough? Dr. James F. Rosborough Jr. is the longest continuously serving Asbury Board Member who has been a pillar in forging the roads of progress for our organization and one of the greatest benefactors of this community. In fact, he has already volunteered more than thirty years of service to Asbury.

The gigantic three-faced clock welcoming visitors at the main entrance to the Rosborough Center is a subtle reminder of the countless hours spent during these past 80 years building upon the modest beginnings of one of, if not the original continuing care retirement communities (CCRC) in the United States. The Center is now one of the eleven buildings that comprise what is the tenth largest not-for-profit CCRC in the nation.

Directly behind the clock is a room showcasing items supplied from the Williamsburg Lane Museum rooms in the original Home, along with contemporary artistic contributions from current residents. Included in the displays is a small sampling of the Lute Ferrell doll collection, one of the largest in the country. Further investigation reveals one of the interesting stories behind the dolls. That is the story of Mrs. Hughes' history at Asbury Methodist Village, where she eventually became a resident in 1980. In 1991, Margery received the first Asbury Chairman's Award for her gracious and dedicated giving of time, talents and gifts to the residents, and for establishing a standard of excellence in ministry and service to older persons.

Beyond the gallery, one continues on a fascinating walk through time, taking in the exhibits displayed within the panels along the corridor surrounding the 268-seat theatre. Each panel contains a glimpse of significant history in the story of Asbury Methodist Village, along with current exhibits of collections, work and hobbies of residents, and other timely materials suitable for display.

Continuing on through the Rosborough Center, one is likely to find residents in the state-of-the-art Smithy Technology Center writing emails engrossed in research, working on a project, or simply relaxing by enjoying a game of Solitaire.

The resident volunteers who started the Computer Club in the 1990's have been instrumental over the years in educating residents in the value of computer literacy. More recently, the Club has been expanding its reach by creating an Intranet site full of valuable information bundled together as a resource center for

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Asbury – Then and Now

By Erwin Vogel, DFF, Diamond

I
n anticipation of Asbury’s 8thtieth anniversary celebration, I wonder, and I ponder:

What might it have been like for the pioneers of 2wenty 6ix, when they lived here?

How did like 8ighty years ago differ from ours?

None of us was here, then. We can’t remember, personally, but, we can conjecture, use our imaginations. And, there are some things we do know: For example, the first residents were a more homogeneous crowd, the original Asbury was a home for retired clergy. Every apartment housed a retired minister. None of our present diversity.

The quarters must have been extremely austere by our modern standards. Certainly, none of the conveniences we now take for granted—refrigerators, washing machines, dishwashers, microwaves, TV and so on. There may have been a few amateur ‘electricians,’ hobbyists assembling the new radio apparatus and entertaining their friends and neighbors with this new technological wonder!

Back then the quarters were smaller, and I believe the bathrooms were down the hall, communal. Certainly no telephone in every apartment—back in ’26 even Mr. Coolidge, the president, didn’t have a phone in his Vermont residence. As I wonder and ponder, I imagine that Asbury’s intellectual life, then, was as lively as ours.

The residents all had copious private libraries and collections, and they must have discussed everything, both pious and profane. And, I do wonder: with every resident a reverend, who was chosen to preach on Sunday mornings?

I imagine the meals were also not as diverse as ours. Certainly, they were prepared by cooks, not by a chef! Therefore, most likely it was a plainer fare, with vegetables locally grown and in season, no such luxuries as artichokes or kiwi fruit. However, I imagine that everyone enjoyed their meals without a thought or worry about calories or cholesterol. Neither one had been invented, then.

After dinner, I can imagine a row of distinguished ministers, sitting in rocking chairs, smoking their pipes, while digesting the noontime pipe. I’m sure that life was less hectic, then.

A Ground-breaking Experience

By George Porter, Bldg. 419

Some residents may remember the large tent erected for the ground-breaking event for Building 419. My wife, Billie, and I were present, and to our surprise we were asked to join Connie Morella, the then Congresswoman from Maryland, to form the ground-breaking team. Billie stood next to Mrs. Morella with shovel in hand, but found she could not break the sod. Mrs. Morella asked if she had ever done any gardening, and Billie sheepishly admitted she had not.

At this, Mrs. Morella grabbed Billie’s handbag and threw it over her shoulder into the crowd.

This spurred Billie to try harder, and she came up with a half-inch of dirt. Afterwards Charlie Graham, one of our distinguished Council Members, who had caught the handbag, returned it to Billie, so all ended well and we became friends of Connie Morella.
In the early days when Asbury Methodist Village was called “The Home of the Aged and Orphans of the Baltimore Conference at the Methodist Episcopal Church South, Inc.” a little booklet with 24 rules and regulations was handed out to all applicants and resident members of the Home. For your amusement, here are excerpts from that original rule book of 1930. Could you live by these rules today?

**Rules and Regulations of Home**

**Rule 1.** Applicants (not under sixty-five years of age) who shall be recommended by the Pastors and Stewards of the churches in which they hold their membership, or shall give such other satisfactory evidence of their good standing as members of the Methodist Church, South, within the bounds of the Baltimore Conference for ten years prior to the time of their application, upon the payment of three hundred dollars ($300), and required wearing apparel, may be admitted to the benefits of the Home, upon the approval of the Executive Committee, and in conformity to the rules governing the Home.

**Rule 2.** In cases of extreme urgency and merit, the Executive Committee may, by a three-fourth vote of the members present and voting, at any stated or called meeting, admit applicants failing to measure up to the requirements of Rule 1...except no applications from members of churches other than the Methodist Episcopal Church, South...No person suffering from an infectious or contagious disease, or from any disease requiring hospital treatment, shall be admitted.

**Rule 3.** Applicants having property of any kind, real, personal or mixed, shall be required to convey the same to the Home previous to their admission to its benefits, and may receive 3% interest on the same during their lifetime....

**Rule 4.** If at any time it is learned that deception has been practiced...he or she will be called upon to correct the matter or leave the institution.

**Rule 5.** Furniture and all articles brought into the Home by the applicants or by their friends shall be the property of the Home....

**Rule 6.** Applicants, before they can be received, must bind themselves to keep their person, clothing and room in order; to obey all rules the Board of Trustees may enact...and to be helpful according to their ability in the affairs of the household.

**Rule 7.** An applicant is required to bring with him to the Home a supply of clothes sufficient to last for at least two years.

**Rule 8.** At the expiration of three months (the period of probation), the Superintendent shall have an interview with such probationer, reading the rules, explaining the conditions of permanent residence, and if the applicant has been and promises to be a satisfied and satisfactory member of the Home, he or she may be continued as a permanent resident; if otherwise, the applicant shall be required to leave...

**Rule 9.** After applicants enter the Home, relations and friends who have placed them in our care cannot interfere with the rules and regulations of the Home....

**Rule 10.** No relatives or friends of a deceased member of the Home shall remove the body without the approval of the Superintendent; furthermore, the Board of Trustees refuses to meet the expenses of a funeral that does not take place from the Home.

**Rule 11.** Applicants being received into the Home must agree to accept location of room assigned them by the Executive Committee, which shall have power to make all necessary changes in the occupancy of all rooms.

**Rule 12.** The Matron shall have entire charge of the house and keep it in neat order...she is to enforce the rules of the house, to be present at meals, see they are properly served, that everything possible is on the table before the family sits down...She must be respectful and kind...She sees that all unnecessary lights are put out by 10:30 o'clock. In the absence of the Matron some responsible person must be left in charge of the Home.

**Rule 13.** It will be required of those who are able to make their own beds and sweep their rooms, and perform whatever other duties are necessary for its proper cleaning and condition, and assist those who are unable to do for themselves.

**Rule 14.** All that is necessary for a comfortable support for the members of the Home will be furnished from the funds of the corporation; therefore, no individual will be permitted to leave the institution to solicit assistance, procure work, or dispose of any article made by themselves.

**Rule 15.** Residents of the home shall remain as members of the churches from which admitted to the Home.

**Rule 16.** Breakfast will be served at 8:15; dinner at 12:30, and supper at 5:00, with the exception of Sunday when a light supper will be served....

**Rule 17.** Visitors are not expected to remain to meals, but should anyone request to do so, the Matron shall collect the sum of fifty cents for the same except on Sunday and holidays when the charge will be seventy-five cents for dinner....

**Rule 18.** When resident members desire to be changed from one room to another, the change shall be made by vote of the Executive Committee on recommendation of the Superintendent and Matron.

**Rule 19.** When resident members desire to visit, they shall inform the Matron personally or by note before leaving...No resident shall be out later than ten o'clock unless specially excused.

**Rule 20.** Any resident having a grievance or complaint to offer shall make it to the Matron, Superintendent or President of the Board of Trustees, who shall, if necessary, report the same to the Executive Committee. In no case shall complaint be made to any one other than the above named persons.

**Rule 21.** It is required that all visitors be treated with respect and attention...

**Rule 22.** To preserve perfect harmony in the family the strictest attention must be paid to the rules of the Home...

**Rule 23.** All this is meant in the full sense to be a Home, all those properties and courtesies that adorn a home are expected to be observed, such as tidiness of dress, kindness and forbearance with each other, and general lovingness and cheerfulness of spirit. Person and room are always expected to be presentable to visitors.

**Rule 24.** It must be understood that these rules are absolute, and must be obeyed at all times; any violation will result in the removal of the offender from the Home.
Food for Thought: Celebrate Life

By Martha A. Brown, Director of Pastoral Care

I don’t know who invented parties. Maybe it was Adam and Eve when God forgave them for eating the fruit from that tree in the middle of the Garden. Whoever it was, they did a good thing. Parties give us permission to dance and laugh and sing and play ... all of which rejuvenates and adds years to our lives.

My understanding of life is that it extends beyond the event of death and, because of God’s expansive love for creation, the life that is “not yet” can be experienced, in part, in the “here and now.”

I have it on good authority that the life beyond this life is a celebration. That sounds like a party to me. And that means that some of the dancing and laughing and singing and playing that is to come ... is already here.

Here and now, we can celebrate! We can trade in our frowns for smiles... even when we don’t think we have much to smile about. Here and now, we can feel perky and upbeat. After all, God is the life in our party.

The Deer Forgot to Check in at the Campus Gatehouse

By Mary Jane Dillon, 419

They scampered along, all seven of them, on the lower level lawn next to the 419 building.

Where were they headed? Perhaps their usual gathering place under the apple trees near the shed, or down by the pond.

Alas, although the temp was 50 degrees the Flowers had not budded yet, so what could they find to eat? Or were they even hungry?

No gardeners were out to scare them away, they don’t scare easily anyhow, just put their noses in the air and move on.

Most visitors have to announce their arrival at the gatehouse before entering the campus; residents have a bar code on their autos so no problem there. But the deer, oh my; they just sneak in the back way, either from Russell Avenue or Goshen down the hill or Odendhal, prissy as they can be, minding their own business (whatever that may be is anyone’s guess).

Of course in the late spring and summer they dance through the lovely west and east garden plots and seem to delight in munching on the yellow gladiolas or purple tulips. They are very fond of tulips. They are particular, picky you might say; they don’t like marigolds or chrysanthemums or boxwood, so gardeners have learned to vary their plantings and read the garden catalogs with extreme care and select deer-proof plants.

A Writing Adventure Comes Full Circle

By Ann Giaquinto, Director of Resident Services, Kindley

Several students from St. Martin’s School and a handful of residents from Assisted Living embarked on a journey together recently that proved to be an Intergenerational program of which an Activities Director dreams.

Incorporating areas of her curriculum, Language Arts Teacher, Julie Arnsberger developed this “Seasons of Life” program. Through a series of weekly one on one visits, the students conduct an oral history, all the while learning history, good citizenship and social service from these “seasoned citizens.” St. Martin’s School, located just around the corner from Asbury, is no stranger to our campus. In fact, Julie started bringing students to Ashbury’s Wilson Health Care Center several years ago. Over the years, Julie’s program has become a high point for the students, one which they all look forward to with great anticipation.

The program begins with two important ingredients, a willing student and a receptive resident; after that, the rest is gravy! With each visit the student and resident become more like old friends. The initial awkward stage gives way to smiles and warm greetings as the student checks off his/her weekly assignments, while at the same time gathering important information about life “back when” and life’s experiences shared and learned along the journey. At the conclusion of this eight-week adventure, each participating resident is presented with published memoirs in a book format called Seasons of Life.

I am pleased to share our news and inspired by the experiences afforded our residents through our community’s generous outreach programs. We look forward to next year, when a new group of students visit and learn important lessons about life that could never be learned in a class room.
A Pile of Pizzas and Many Thanks

By Betty Savage, Edwards-Fisher

On Friday, March 3, I was enjoying lunch with a friend in The Shoppe when a Domino's delivery man came in and placed a dozen boxes of large pizzas on the table next to us. He returned with eight more boxes!

Curiosity got the best of us so we asked Catering Coordinator, Griselda Campos, what was happening to warrant the sky-high pile of pies? We had seen the round tables covered with white clothes and blue napkins set up in Community Rooms A, B and C. Griselda informed us a Celebration/Appreciation Luncheon was being held for all the Dining Services personnel.

We saw Tim Rinkel setting up the buffet table when we were walking back to our building. "Who’s putting on the luncheon?" we asked. He and all the Dining Services Managers were involved in doing this to recognize how hard the employees worked preparing and delivering meals to Kindley, Wilson Health Care, and Meals On Wheels as they also continued to serve in the walkway to Kindley. They gave more than 100% each day.

Sixty to seventy employees feasted on pizzas, chicken fajitas, and vegetarian dishes. In addition, prizes included gift cards from Safeway and Target and the ultimate prize was an iPod. Congratulations to our Dining Services Management for recognizing a job well done.

Increasing our safety here at Asbury!

We have all heard of friends who have fallen; some have been hurt very painfully and seriously. One of the things that we are very lucky about here at Asbury is that we all have a Lifeline system in our residence. But do those of us who live alone wear our Lifeline Personal Help Button all the time?

I have recently learned of a neighbor who took off her Lifeline Personal Help Button when going to visit her doctor off campus. She forgot to put it back on when she returned. She fell that night and seriously injured herself, could not get up and was not found for hours.

Many only take off their Button when taking a shower. The Lifeline Personal Help Button is completely waterproof and need not be taken off when showering. After all you can fall in the shower.

If you would prefer to have your Lifeline Personal Help Button on your wrist rather than around your neck, just call Care Management at 4275 and arrange the change with them.

There is no charge for this.

—Frank Young, Villa 592
Concerts by the Choir, An Art Exhibit and A Plea for More Parking

Peek at the PACs

By Jeanne North, Troll

Spring has arrived at Asbury in all its frenzy and its finery. Activities abound, not least of them the Big 80th Anniversary Celebration, and the PACs have a hand in many of the campus doings.

The Religious Life PAC, led by Resident Co-Chair Norman Heim, announces three concerts by the Asbury Choir. Helen Podolsky of the PAC reported for the Jewish community that a Seder has been planned for Monday, April 17, at 4:30 p.m. in Parker Hall. Dinner will be served thereafter. All are invited, but reservations are requested.

Mary Lou Luff and Ed Caffrey reported for the Catholic community that the Sunday morning services are very successful, with upwards of 30 people in attendance.

Shuttle bus service to the Guild Memorial Chapel on Sunday mornings is now available. Check bulletin boards and the scroll for the schedule.

Vesper offerings in April will go to Religious Life ministries, in May to the Brown Bag lunch program at Grace United Methodist Church.

Rev. Martha Brown, Associate Co-Chair of the PAC, announced a new focus for the Pastoral Care department, shifting away from emphasis on preparing students for ministry to emphasis on residents and their concerns.

Dr. David Park announced the following events:

- **Tuesday, April 11**
  - at 7:30 in the Guild Memorial Chapel: a Lenten Cantata;

- **Sunday, April 23**
  - at 2:30 p.m. at the Kindley Worship Service, the choir will sing;

- **Sunday, May 7**
  - at 7 p.m. in the Hefner Auditorium: a Choir reunion. Anyone who has ever sung in a choir is invited to join the choir in singing for the vespers service.

The Cultural Arts PAC, led by Resident Co-Chair Jo Yount and Associate Co-Chair Joanna Davis, has sent out forms soliciting works for its May Arts and Crafts Exhibit, an annual event held in celebration of Older Americans Month.

To show off the talent of Asbury residents, the PAC will display paintings (any medium), drawings, photography, quilts, afghans, jewelry, needlework, knitting, carvings, sculpture, pottery and more.

Any resident who would like to exhibit his or her work is invited to fill out the form (if you’ve lost yours, you can get another at the Apartment Center) and return it to Hope Marindin, Edwards-Fisher 301 by April 12. For more information on the show, call Jean Emery at 4846.

The exhibit, to be held in the Hefner Auditorium, will open May 1 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and run through the entire month. One day will be set aside for artists to demonstrate their craft.

The Religious Life PAC, led by Resident Co-Chair Sidney Mintz and Dan McMurdo and Lenny Hines, Associate Co-Chairs of the PAC, for their consideration. Lenny Hines said he would pass the idea on to the head of the facilities master plan, because such action would affect land, runoff, drainage, and would need approval by the city and possibly the county.

PAC members also heard reports on building projects, including trash rooms renovation, elevator door jamb work and the Mund entrance roof, as well as grounds work (mulching, fertilizing, road repair—coming in the summer—and campus signage).

Building and Grounds PAC members heard a plea at their March meeting for more parking for Edwards-Fisher residents. Betty Savage, a visitor to the meeting who had submitted a PACgram, said that there are only 69 parking spaces available to E-F residents, who have a total of 73 registered cars among them. Ms. Savage offered a sketch of a possible parking site, located in the space next to the walkway from E-F to the Trott building.

Ms. Savage submitted the sketch to Resident Co-Chair Sidney Mintz and Dan McMurdo and Lenny Hines, Associate Co-Chairs of the PAC, for their consideration. Lenny Hines said he would pass the idea on to the head of the facilities master plan, because such action would affect land, runoff, drainage, and would need approval by the city and possibly the county.

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Deborah Yancer, President of Shady Grove Adventist Hospital will speak on April 11 in Parker Hall at 2:00 p.m. The topic is: Expanding to better serve our growing community.

Medicare Part D Reminder

May 15th is fast approaching. This is the last day to join a Medicare Part D plan offering coverage for 2006. The next opportunity to enroll will be the period beginning November 15th and ending December 31st, 2006. If you enroll during this period, coverage will not begin until January 1, 2007.

If you do not have prescription drug insurance that is at least as good as the Medicare plan you will pay a penalty if you do not join a Medicare plan by May 15th. This penalty is 1% of the plan premium for each month after May that you do not have coverage. The penalty is cumulative and lasts as long as you have a Medicare Part D plan.

If you have been waiting to join a Medicare plan, now is the time to take action. The Medicare website has tools which can be helpful when you are considering which plan to join. I would be happy to help you navigate the website, or print a report for you showing several plan choices. Just call NeighborCare at extension 4372 or drop by the pharmacy any afternoon.

—Angie Schneider, NeighborCare

Are you watching Asbury View? If not, then why not?

Contests, news, information, comedy, drama and words of wisdom and inspiration!

By Asbury and for Asbury. Weekdays. Everyday.

Be in Touch with Asbury View
Ever since recorded time, thousands of generations have looked to the sky, fascinated by the beauty of the stars, the changes of the moon and the seasonal changes of the sun. Always it was, “What is it all about? How large is our universe?”

Now in the Space Age scientists know many things. They have told us that Halley’s Comet was last seen in 1986 and that it will come back in 75 years—in 2601. Scientists have also said that Project STARDUST landed in the Utah Desert bringing valuable samples of 4.5-million-year old dust particles from Comet Wild-2.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration missions have gone to almost all the planets. The latest was one sent off to Pluto. It will take nine years to reach its destination. There are 100 astronauts involved in NASA at the present time.

Isn’t this all mind-boggling? But it does make us appreciate our Keese School of Continuing Education where we can learn through lectures and trips. Such was the case for 20 Asbury residents who signed up for Course No. 232. On Monday, March 6, we went to the Challenger Learning Center at the International Headquarters for Space Science Education in Alexandria, Virginia. It is one of 51 similar centers which were founded by Dr. June Scobee-Rodgers, widow of the commander of the ill-fated Challenger which exploded in 1986 leaving behind a stunned and grieving nation. The families of members of the crew are also involved. If you remember, one was a teacher.

So these centers are for teaching Middle School students, trying to get them interested in science, math and related subjects, preparing them for the Space Age of the future.

The week previous to our trip, Commander Carlos Nunez came to Asbury and gave us a briefing of what we could expect on our visit. He told us all about comets, and he even make a “dirty snowball” to show what is brought back from a comet mission.

When we arrived at the Center the group was divided: One half were to go to the Space Station area (they were given blue vests for identification). The other half were stationed in Mission Control. After an hour’s work in these positions, they exchanged places so that each participant had the opportunity to work in both areas. Each person was assigned a work station, as per the graph. There were impressive consoles, TV monitors and other equipment to make this hands-on experience very realistic.

Commander Sylvia Scott and Commander Carlos Nunez each took charge of a group. Thus started our “rendezvous with a Comet.” Instructions for each work area were available. Some had more work than others. Many got the hang of the work very easily. Others said their instructions were not so clear. They thought, “If Middle School kids can do this, why am I having so much trouble?” Eventually, all went quite smoothly. One had to don gloves and put their arms through two holes in a box and weigh items inside the box. The Communicators were responsible for all verbal conversations between the two groups. Little yellow post-its were given those Communicators when there was a question or answer being transmitted to the other group. After an hour, the two sides changed and took the opposite position.

Some of our people were extremely excited by their experience. Others said that although their instructions were confusing, it was a great experience. We were served a very nice luncheon. We went home tired but having learned a lot.

Turner Wiley, Diamond resident, was responsible for planning the trip. He has been very interested in the Learning Center and has supported it for a number of years. He also suggests that TV Channel 21 carries daily dialog mission control at Houston and the Space Station now in orbit 225 miles above.

Thank you, Turner, we had a great day and from now on we will be watching Channel 21.

Decontamination after returning from space is a necessary procedure.

Asbury Astronauts take their places in Mission Control.

Asbury Astronauts Rendezvous with a Comet

Photos: Mike Hua

Village Life April 2006
Asbury in 2006: It’s a Family Affair

By Mary Anstead, of the Villas Family

The Asbury Methodist Village “family” can be defined in many ways. In past issues, residents who found a family-like kinship within their labors of love were featured. Traveling together has bonded others into a family. The Keese School family provides many of us with the opportunity to appreciate the many talents within our larger campus family. In addition to the kinship fostered by common interests and experiences, Asbury also has true family members related by blood and marriage living here. Sisters, brother, cousins, parents—yes, we’ve got them all. There are even associates with relatives on campus.

Few relatives reside in the same building, but we’re glad the appeal of Asbury brings and keeps families together, as is shown by these examples.

In addition to the pictures shown, there are, Anna Maria Digiulian and sister, Corinna in Diamond; Louise Bowling and brother, Rev. James Pyke in Mund; Marjorie Voud, sister, Kathleen Murphy in Mund; and sister, Mildred Snyder in Wilson Health Care. Sandra Matthews, in Edwards-Fisher and her mother Mildred in Wilson Health Care.

Special thanks goes to Hal Gaut for all the footwork and shutter clicking!

Asbury View’s Calendar Girl, Bettina Curtis of the Villas welcomed her sister, Edith Picken to Asbury. Edith lives at Park View.

Sisters, sisters, there were never such devoted sisters as Florence Robinson in Diamond and Dorothy Johnson in Trott!

Brotherly love extends from Edwards Fisher, where Whitney Coe resides, over to Park View where brother Dayton Coe now lives.

Who are these two belles of the ball? On the left is Asbury View Camerawoman Barbara Mars of Edwards-Fisher, and on the right is sister Constance Cole, who recently moved into Mund. They weren’t available for a current photo, but this one couldn’t be lovelier!

Above, twins sisters Ellen and Anne Mehu share more than their appearance; they also share an apartment in Mund.

At left, Distant cousins, but close neighbors, George Cary and Howard Criswell both enjoy the views at Park View.

At left, distant cousins, but close neighbors, George Cary and Howard Criswell both enjoy the views at Park View. Brother and sister, Barnett Broughton in Park View and Eloise Elenine in Trott, extend their family tie across the campus.

Margaret Pyles of Diamond and sister, Eleanor Halstead of Mund pose together. Lovely ladies, both!

Mary Merhing lives in the Villas, but keeps a close watch on her mother, Mary Weber, in the Wilson Health Care Center.

Trott’s got the lot! Harriet Rennison and sister Ruth Plume share a building, but not an apartment. What fun to run into each other on the elevator, though!

Songstress Lydia Skinner of Edwards-Fisher visits her mother, Gladys Boyle, in the Wilson Health Care Center.

Dorothy McCutcheon in Diamond has a sweet sister, May Thornton, close by in the Wilson Health Care Center.

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Asbury’s Four-Legged Residents

By Virginia Williams, Trott

Though we seldom see them, nine dogs and six cats make their home at Asbury. Five of the cats reign at Park View, while one resides at the Villas. Six dogs live in the Villas and only one cat.

Nancy Caldwell brought her two Maine Coon cats, Maggie and Sassy, from Maine when she moved to Asbury. They have not only adapted to their new home but feel they are Empresses as they survey the Asbury scene from their balcony vantage point.

John Timberlake’s cat, Camouflage (“Cami”), didn’t like her move, but after receiving Valium has adapted to indoor life.

Jeanne Novotny’s fourteen-pound cat, Max, has taken over a window sill for his observation post onto the Asbury world. He also has the sole use of one bathroom.

Judy and John Bankson’s Seal Point Siamese cat, Layla, kept them calm throughout their move. No matter where she lives, she willingly adjusts to her new life. After moving here, she not only located her items but immediately found where the sun moves for her warm naps. The Banksons’ move was made easy because Layla became their “transitional object”!

Anita Taylor’s faithful companion, Lucky, is a Doberman “mix Do.” He adjusted with clear pleasure after living in a kennel for a short time. Anita says Lucky has adjusted “a whole lot easier” than she has.

Lydia Page brought her ten-year-old German Shepherd/Great Dane, Henry, to Park View, where he has been warmly welcomed. After his morning walk he stops at the reception desk, where he receives a treat from Joann. He also loves to stand in front of Park View and trigger the automatic opening door!

Mon Cher Rogue (otherwise known as Rocky) is a three-and-a-half year old brown Miniature Poodle who formerly had a large fenced-in yard for his domain. He has adjusted to wearing a leash when he goes outside and has made many good friends. He loves Asbury—as do his owners, John and Elizabeth Harvill.

We also have four-legged residents at the Villas. First we want to give our condolences to Frank and Jean Young whose Rachel II recently died of a pulmonary embolism. On the bright side, the Youngs recently adopted an abandoned Chihuahua mix that they picked up on a busy highway!

Ginger spices up the lives of new owners Frank and Jean Young in the Villas.

Asbury’s Best Kept Secret

By Anonymous (J. North)

Let me make one thing perfectly clear: he is not really my cat. Much as I would like to, I can’t really claim him; he came with the apartment. Ever since I moved in, he has shown up at my patio door morning and afternoon and waited to be fed. He sits there, imperiously, sometimes, if I’m slow at bringing his dish of cat food, climbing on the screen to signal his impatience. Cuddly he is not. Nice and furry, yes, but feral, with an air of Don’t You Dare Touch Me! about him. If I open the door, he will come in, ever so briefly. But stay? No thank you! Let me out, he says, heading for the outside.

Still, when I came back from an extended time away, he was, I am gratified to report, very glad to see me. He cried, and cried, and cried, and came in when I opened the door and cried some more. And then he stretched out on the rug, every once in a while lifting his head to look at me and whimper a little, as if to say, Why did you stay away so long? I’m glad you’re home.

Even if he’s not cuddly, even if he’s not mine, he is company. And I intend to keep feeding him.
In the February issue of Village Life, my neighbor, Reg Westlake, wrote a very flattering article about my many volunteer activities.

I truly enjoy volunteering because it gives me an opportunity to repay, in a small way, all of the blessings that God has given to me throughout my lifetime. I can’t tell you how much I’ve enjoyed and been enriched by serving on the various volunteer activities with which I’ve been associated. To some degree, this is because my professional background is Nuclear Engineering, and I worked for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission through much of my professional life. While there, I was responsible for review of the safety of many nuclear power plants located throughout the United States. Later, I assumed the responsibility of managing the preparation of Environmental Impact Statements for all nuclear power plants licensed in the United States. Throughout this time, my only work product was lots and lots of paper. Volunteering gave me an opportunity to do something tangible, and at times directly see or experience the results of my efforts.

What I did when I was working might sound slightly impressive, but let me tell you honestly why I became active in so many volunteer activities. It starts like this, ‘Dan, you are so good at — something or other — and I think it would be wonderful if you would be willing to — do something or other.’

This message was invariably delivered by a woman. Now I like to think of myself as a cool guy that resists this type of message, but I guess I’m a soft touch when it comes to pleasing ladies. I just can’t say no.

That’s my secret, and I’m sticking to it.

VOLUNTEERS

By Reg Westlake, Villas

We are not a choir, we are not performers. We are just people who care. We want to bring sunshine and joy and comfort and to share our blessings with others to encourage and comfort.

These are the words of Bennett Easterling who, with his wife Dot, brings a group of singers from the Church of the Redeemer in Gaithersburg to the Wilson Health Care Center every month. They visit Asbury and four other nursing homes.

It all started 8 years ago, following a request by an Asbury chaplain who was a member of their church. At first it was a group of male singers but now it is mostly ladies. The service of words and music takes place in the lower Activities Room in Wilson and lasts just under an hour.

On their latest visit, on 14 March, there were some 30 residents, nearly all of them in wheelchairs accompanied by the attendants who had brought them there. Bennett and Dot greeted every one of them. Then, after an opening hymn, they gave a short address in which he adapted an old commercial ad to give him his theme “Alka Seltzer for the heart” before reciting the opening verses of Psalm 32, in which King David extols the blessing of forgiveness and the relief it brings. Relief — that was what Bennett wanted to stress.

Then came five more hymns, Bennett’s final prayer, and a blessing, before the gathering dispersed and the residents were taken back to their rooms.

Bennett and Dot pay tribute to the help they get from the Activities direction and staff. “They are a very helpful and cooperative staff and we depend on them,” he says. But Asbury in its turn is grateful to the dedicated group from the Church of the Redeemer who come every month to bring gospel words and music to the residents of the Health Care Center.

One of that day’s hymns contained the words

“Are we weak and heavy laden Cumbered with a load of care”

For anyone there who was so afflicted their spirits would have been uplifted by the contribution of these volunteer visitors to our community.

They’re wonderful, and that’s the Gospel truth!

Photo: Tom Wilkinson
Meals on Wheels Needs YOU

You've helped with the relief efforts for tidal waves, hurricanes, and earthquakes so now this is your chance to make a big difference here at home. Volunteering to drive once a week for about 1 and 1/2 hours in the middle of the day will make it possible for some of your less fortunate Gaithersburg neighbors to receive nourishing food and a friendly greeting. Contact Mary (301 253-4626) or Joan (x5065) and become part of Gaithersburg Meals on Wheels. We need you.

FOUR-LEGGED

Continued from page 10

ful black Miniature Poodle called Glory. Emma says that nary a day goes by but that Glory makes her laugh.

Another senior four-legged resident is Misty, a thirteen-year-old West Highland White Terrier. Misty is a family member of Jim and Mary Mehring. They say she is the smartest dog they have ever owned. Misty is now quite deaf but they hope to have her for a few more years.

And there is a new kid on the block at the Villas. Glenn Gilliam has acquired a tiny cross mix of a Pekinese and a Poodle, which he named Peke-a-Poo. Melva Williams has perky little Monique, an adopted mixed female. Melva says that if the Villas did now allow pets, she and Monique would not be here! That statement could probably be echoed by all these pet owners!

IN MEMORIAM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resident</th>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>Date of Death</th>
<th>Resident</th>
<th>Facility</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wanda Erickson</td>
<td>E-F</td>
<td>02-20-06</td>
<td>Helen Stephenson</td>
<td>WHCC</td>
<td>02-28-06</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clara Mason</td>
<td>WHCC/Kindley</td>
<td>02-21-06</td>
<td>Mary Saunders</td>
<td>WHCC/419</td>
<td>03-04-06</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joyce Fowler</td>
<td>WHCC/E-F</td>
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<td>Villas</td>
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<td>WHCC</td>
<td>02-27-06</td>
<td>Agnes Hood</td>
<td>WHCC</td>
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Wayne Brubaker has a past. We knew when he moved into Trott that he would have a present. He quickly made himself an indispensable member of the Trott household, lending a hand with putting up the Christmas tree, joining in festivities, adding a helpful, jovial presence to every gathering. What we didn’t know right away was that he has a past, and that his past is part of ours, and Asbury’s.

Now it comes to light. It’s right here, in a black and white picture, Wayne Brubaker as a boy back in perhaps 1939, standing with his mother (on the left in the picture), along with Mr. and Mrs. John Houck, whom they were visiting that day. Mr. Houck, was, no less, the manager of the Asbury Farm, the property that Trott and other apartment buildings now occupy. Those of us latecomers to Asbury who never knew the countryside around us in earlier times, before development, can lament what we have missed: gently rolling hills dotted with clumps of trees, simple homes and barns, fields of corn and grazing cows. The pasture land that surrounded the farming community of Gaithersburg was home to dairy farms whose cows supplied Washington with milk and other dairy products. One such farm was the Magruder farm in Gaithersburg.

In 1923, writes Marshall Grotenhuis in his 1999 history *Asbury Methodist Village, published by the Gaithersburg Historical Association, “the Baltimore Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, purchased the Magruder farm to be a home for elderly Methodist ministers and parishioners.”

Once the farm was purchased, plans for the construction of a “Methodist Refuge for Elderly Folk” were announced almost immediately. An architect was named, construction went forward, applications for admission flooded in and the formal opening of the Home (now the Administration Building) came about on April 15, 1926, when the first five residents moved in.

With the new Home in operation, a first order of business was to manage the farm. In 1929 the Rev. A.B. Sites was appointed to handle that job. Shortly thereafter, his successor, J.T. Houck, took over. During Houck’s tenure, the 106-acre farm flourished, supplying milk, meat and vegetables to the residents and producing vegetables, corn and wheat in abundance.

The Farm’s Manager, referred to in the Grotenhuis book as J.T. Houck, is pictured in the photo with his wife, Wayne Brubaker and Wayne’s mother, Margaret Brubaker. Houck served with distinction for 14 years, and he and his wife eventually became Asbury residents.

The house shown in the photo, now painted, still stands, at 210 Russell Avenue. In the background can be seen the roof of the present-day Administration Building. And look very closely: doesn’t Little Wayne then look just like Big Wayne now?
In this spot you shall find a variety of ponderings from a man who bails from the other side of the pond. We’re glad he’s on this side of the pond now.

Idle Thoughts
By Reg Westlake, Villas

The Recalcitrance of Inanimate Objects

In other words, little things are sent to try us. Little things that have a mind of their own.

“Open — Push & Turn” it says on the lid of the pill bottle. So you do. It doesn’t work. You try again. Still doesn’t work. And again and again. All you’ve done is hurt your wrist. So you try Science. You pour hot water on the lid, trying to avoid the bottle and scalping your hand. Still no luck. Finally, a resort to brute force. You hang the lid with something and eventually you can unscrew it. Then the open bottle tips over and the pills go all over the place.

The tab on a can is too stiff to lift. Then it breaks off. The metal is too tough for the opener. If it is a sardine tin the opener doesn’t like the shape.

A drawer gets stuck. Something drops down the unreachable back.

A letter to finish and the mailman due any minute to collect; the pen runs dry.

A shoelace gets into an impossible knot.

Dressing to go out, running late — and the zip jams.

And the winner of the Super Bowl for recalcitrance — the computer.

Perhaps it’s us becoming a bit recalcitrant as we get older. But that’s alright — so long as we don’t become inanimate.

Mystery Solved: No Reservation Needed

By Jeanne North, Trott

The much-ballyhooed, long awaited opening of the Park View dining room drew an enthusiastic crowd on opening night, March 15, but the Ides of March proved no problem for the dining staff of Park View. The whole crew hovered in attendance, from Dining Chief Andrew Lindquist, to Park View Dining Manager Patricia Lenahan, Head Catering Honcho Tim Rinkel down to the prize, experienced dining staff stolen (just kidding) from Crawford—Austin, Mary and Bedig, bless them — and Julius Caesar went unchallenged. Unlike in Roman days, when catastrophe struck on the Ides of March, no disaster befell the occasion.

On the contrary: all tables in the elegant dining room were filled, but with no long lines of waiting patrons. The platters of shrimp, crepes stuffed with crab and asparagus, scalloped potatoes with cheese, summer squash, and tender, tasty roast beef—all made their timely appearance at the buffet table. Servers refilled coffee cups (and oh what good coffee!), the fancy cakes disappeared from the dessert table and the intimate dining room was replete with good cheer. We would have liked Half and Half, but none was available, only “Coffee Whitener,” “Amaretto” and other artificial creamers. Fortunately, the coffee was so good we could drink it black. If the dining room seemed a bit noisy, no doubt it was just the excitement and conviviality that suffused it. (Could tapestries on the walls soften the sound?)

The one mystery that marked the day was, did we need a reservation? Yes, said some, no, said others. Telephone messages went unanswered, but finally, a trek to the Park View kitchen and a visit with Dining Manager Patria Lenahan resolved the question: no reservations are needed, except for very large parties. (In such case, call Ms Lenahan at extension 4737 and leave a message.)

If you take the shuttle over, however, be sure to have your POS card with you. You will need it not only to check in at the dining podium, but to enter the building. (The receptionist, Joann Hampton, goes off duty at 4 p.m.) Of course, you can also punch in the code or ring the buzzer to gain entry to the building.

As for payment for your meal, no cash is accepted. For Wednesday night buffets, the cost to your POS card is a flat $15.95, and there is no supplementary charge for overhead, as at Crawford and Hefner. For Sunday brunch, which is from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., the charge is $19.95.

To the resident who said to me that the Wednesday night buffet was good, “but not worth three times the price,” I would say, the meal was indeed worth the $3.65 extra I paid. The gentleman was mistakenly comparing the $4.80 on his regular meal slip with the $15.95 on the buffet ticket. Added to the $4.80 is the $7.50 cost of overhead, which is not added in the case of meals at Park View.

As Dining Services Chief Andrew Lindquist explains it, “The ‘actual’ cost of a meal valued at $4.80 in Crawford or Hefner equates to 12.50 when the overhead is taken into consideration.” Three times the price of that meal would be $56.90, not the $15.95 for a Park View buffet.

Lindquist goes on to say that “Ninety percent of the menu items in Park View are those which cannot be offered in Crawford or Hefner at this time.” Dining at Park View is meant to be a totally different experience, equivalent to dining in a truly fine restaurant. On Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights the menu will be a la carte, with choices ranging from Stuffed Pork Medallions ($14.95) to Grilled Lamb Chops ($16.95) to Grilled Lobster Tail ($18.95). And oh yes, you can also get Pizza, cooked to order ($11.95) or a Lean Burger, served with Lettuce, Tomato and Onion ($12.95). Many more items are on the menu, tantalizing in their descriptions.

And oh yes, I forgot to mention: if you favor a glass of wine with your meal, bring your own bottle. The servers will supply glasses.

Our party had an altogether pleasant experience and recommend this dining venue with three stars. A fine night out.
Virginia moved to Asbury October 1, 2005. She was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She received a B.A. from Occidental College in Los Angeles in 1943 and was Phi Beta Kappa. She studied Chinese language and history at Yale University School of Oriental Studies in 1946 and also at Peking Language School in Beijing, China 1947-48.

Virginia was an English language teacher at Tientsin China Middle School and Yenching University (Beijing U.) from 1947-1950. And she has been a co-leader on six tours to China.

She is a pianist and organist, and is interested in historic preservation, genealogy, Asian art and history, sewing, quilting, reading and cooking.

As a volunteer, Virginia worked at the Tenafly, New Jersey Preservation Commission and United Church Women in 1963-2005. She was a substitute organist in a Congregational church in New Jersey.

Virginia has three daughters and one son and eight grandchildren. She is a member of the United Church of Christ.

—Marjorie McFarland, Diamond

Mac and Minette are native Washingtonians and graduates of Woodrow Wilson High School. Mac received his MA from George Washington University, worked for the federal government for 30 years, and for two professional associations for ten years. Minette taught bird identification classes in Montgomery County’s Adult Education system for 15 years and for Montgomery College for several years. She was also a licensed bird bander for many years.

The McCulloughs have always been active in their local United Methodist Church—teaching, serving in leadership capacities, and doing mission work. They have been members of Faith UMC in Rockville for the past 33 years. Having nearly 30 members or former members of Faith already living here at Asbury made their move easier.

Mac and Minette have 4 children, 12 grandchildren, and five great grandchildren to show for their 58 years of marriage.

—Marjorie McFarland, Diamond

Happy 80th Anniversary Asbury Methodist Village!
Join the 80th Anniversary Week of Celebration
The week of events opens April 17th and runs through April 21st

Monday April 17th
1:30 PM Francis Asbury rides in on horseback announcing the opening of the week’s events in front of Kindley.
1:40 PM Ann Giaquinto welcomes everyone to the event and introduces President/Executive Director David Denton.
1:45 PM David Denton welcomes Gaithersburg Mayor Katz who will read a Proclamation.
2:00 PM the Equestrian Event will commence.
3:15 PM there will be an opportunity for photos. There is also a campus wide Ice Cream Social from 2-3:00 PM for residents and associates location to be announced.
7:00 PM Tour apartments, Kindley and Wilson Health Care Center to see “Life at Asbury” portrayals.

Tuesday April 18th
11:30-1:00 PM Kindley and Wilson Health Care Center will have their noon meal with entertainment in celebration of the 80th Anniversary.
2:00 PM Movie Matinee in the Theatre, the films of Bette Davis and history by Ernest Liotti. Kindley and Wilson Health Care Center will also be having a special event at this time.
4:00-6:30 PM Special menus for dinner in Hefner and Crawford Dining Rooms with entertainment. (Dinner is not served on Tuesdays in Park View.)

Wednesday April 19th
11:00 AM “The John Wesley Asbury Quilt” display and lecture by Judy Shapiro in Jones Chapel, Epworth Hall.
1:00 PM Volunteer Recognition Celebration in the Rosborough Theatre with entertainment by Daytones Men’s Chorus, Reception to follow in the Rosborough Community Rooms.
7:30 PM Pianist Eileen Guenther performs; arrangements made by Dr. Norman Heim.

Thursday April 20th
MAIN EVENT DAY – Reservations Required for all events this day.
9:30-10:30 AM Service of Thanksgiving and Park View Dedication with Bishop Schul.
11:30-1:00 PM VIP Luncheon in the Hefner Auditorium.
1:00-2:00 PM Pianist Dale Jarrett is the welcoming entertainment in the Rosborough Theatre.
2:00-3:00 PM Keynote speaker Jack LaLanne presentation for the Residents.
3:15-4:00 PM Reception for residents in the Rosborough Community Rooms.

Friday April 21, 2006
2:00 PM Thank you to the Asbury Guild — Butterfly Release, dessert party, and surprise singing performance by Louise Stewart and Associates on the grounds between Kindley and Wilson Health Care Sensory Garden.