

The Village News



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Election Meeting

A pre-election meeting, the shortest meeting in the history of the SGV Resident Association, was held on April 1. The large group of residents was greeted by **Tom McWhirter**, President of the Association. He expressed his appreciation for the work of Election Committee members Chairman **Forest Jones, Henri Bonvin** and **Bud Might**. The candidates for the three Council positions are **Arthur Bishop, Ginny Boll, Mike Dolan, Petie Freeman, Marilou Harvey, Jewel Lamica** and **Mike Leslie**. Forest reviewed the election procedure, stating that the ballots will be distributed on April 15 and collected on the 22nd. Each candidate gave a brief summary of their qualifications for Council membership, and the meeting was adjourned by Tom McWhirter

Election Results

Mike Dolan, Jewel Lamica and **Mike Leslie** were elected to the Resident Council as Directors replacing **Tom McWhirter, Mary Apps** and **Petie Freeman**, whose terms expired on April 30. Officers will be elected by the Council from among the seven Directors.

SGV Birthday Parties

A monthly party for residents sharing their birth month is held in the Bistro. **Kristin Copeland**, always a smiling, gracious hostess, makes each resident feel special as she pours the punch. After a brief candle lighting and extinguishing ceremony, generous servings of cake and ice cream are served. Many of the parties are enhanced by the performance of one of the SGV resident pianists, and the group photos taken by **Kay & Sam Briggs**. A final handshake for each celebrant creates a warm feeling of friendship ending the celebration.

A Tribute to Forest Jones

From April 4 to April 25, Forest Jones was available to assist residents in completing tax forms. He was trained and certified as an AARP Tax Aide Specialist, a member of the nation's largest volunteer-run tax preparation assistance services. Residents owe thanks to Forest for being one of the dedicated individuals who help others.

The Radio Hour

It was a nostalgic trip down memory lane on April 2 for the residents who came to hear **Chaplain Jim Johnson**. He had assembled his interesting collection of radio memorabilia to create an entertaining evening of songs, advertisements and programs from the "old days." Chaplain Jim began the program with a brief history of his life, then interspersed the audio tapes with an engaging question and answer period, including a discussion of Abbott and Costello's "Who's On First" skit. The evening concluded with the playing of the Les Brown recording of "Sentimental Journey" sung by Doris Day. The responsive audience really enjoyed the show.

SGV Giveback

The first SGV Giveback clothing drive will be from May 1 through May 3. Unwanted clothing should be placed in the Refuse Room Giveback bins.



Monsignor William Hoffman was born in Hot Springs, AR., where his father was posted by the U. S. Forest Service. Transfers moved the family to North Carolina, Tallahassee and then to Gainesville, GA, where Bill and his siblings graduated from high school. Bill attended Georgia Tech for a year, and then became a seminarian at St. Bernard, Cullman, AL., followed by four

years at the American College in Rome, Italy. Following ordination as a priest, Msgr. Hoffman was posted to parishes in Atlanta and Athens, then as principal of Atlanta's Drexel High School, Emory University Catholic student chaplain, and the parish in Austell. He then spent ten years at the San Pedro parish in Andahuaylas, Peru. Msgr. Hoffman returned to the U. S. to become the diocesan director of the Hispanic ministry for three years, then pastor at St. Jude in Atlanta, St. Michael in Gainesville, and finally at Dalton's St. Joseph until he retired. He took a sabbatical leave in 1993 to take a six month, 2,100 mile, hike of the Appalachian Trail from Georgia to Maine. Ten times he was in the Peachtree Road Race and the Bicycle Ride Across Georgia. While his official residence is St. George, Msgr. Hoffman helps in various parishes, and Marriage Encounter and Retrouvaille ministries in English and Spanish, and also serves as chaplain to Scouting groups in the

April 25 Special Town Hall Meeting

Executive Director Tom Olsen convened a special meeting on April 25 to announce the budgeting outcome for FY 2008-09. The bottom line, received with a round of applause, was that monthly fees will only increase 3% this July 1 compared with 4.5% for the past two years. A number of factors contributed to this reduction, the most important being the recent conversion to an "employee leasing" contract that will save about \$400,000 during the upcoming fiscal year, and will continue to generate savings thereafter.

SGV Dietician



Janet Slive has been the SGV Dietician for two years. Her primary responsibilities include assessing and monitoring the nutritional needs of the residents in Skilled Nursing who need therapeutic diets, or foods prepared so that patients can eat without difficulty. Special attention is given to residents who have changes in medical or nutritional status such as difficulty in swal-

lowing, weight changes or heart disease. Janet creates the menus for therapeutic diets, and works with the health care staff reviewing kitchen safety and sanitation procedures. She also monitors the dietary department to insure that SGV is complying with Health Department regulations. Janet is available for private consultation with residents who want information about dieting and weight change. She may be contacted through Wellness Nurse Janet O.

April Town Hall Meeting Highlights

Executive Director Tom Olsen opened the meeting at 1:30pm on April 15.

Marketing Director Lisa Timm announced that Independent Living should be at 100% occupancy by May 1. Overall occupancy is currently at 96.4%. She also said that SGV is running ads in local news media that describe the features of the newly available modified lifecare contract. As a follow-up, Tom explained that an active Marketing effort will always be necessary so that promising prospects will be available anytime an apartment becomes vacant.

Director of Resident Services Kristen Copeland reminded residents of the remaining events on the April calendar. She then gave a first glimpse of the May calendar which will include special events for the Kentucky Derby, Cinco de Mayo, Mother's Day, and Memorial Day, and for outings to Barnsley Gardens, Madison, GA, and the Dawsonville Outlet Mall. Kristen also introduced **Elaine Hauenstein** who is a massage therapist providing services to SGV residents on-site. Elaine described the benefits of massage therapy, and stated that she would be happy to extend her current one day per week at SGV if resident demand dictated.

Director of Food Services Daniel Shaffer discussed the "China Roundup Day" emphasis which he has initiated in conjunction with the Food Committee. All residents are requested to check their apartments for any SGV dishes or utensils that they may have accumulated, and return them to the Dining Room. Daniel also acknowledged some concerns that food temperatures were not hot enough on buffet nights and for Sunday brunch. He advised that chafing dishes cannot do their job when the tops are left open, and he requested that all residents close the tops once they have served their plates even if someone is right behind them. In the way of future plans, Daniel announced that Food Services is exploring "going green". This will require finding biodegradable substitutes for the plastic bags and styrofoam containers that are currently used. Finally, Daniel requested that residents using ambulatory aids such as walkers, scooters, etc. park them in designated areas while they are in the Bistro or Dining Room so that the devices are not an impediment to other residents. This last request by Daniel resulted in a resident making the comment that she would like to keep her walker at her table until after her order was taken so that she could use it to go to the salad bar. Tom Olsen addressed this comment by stating that there were two diametrically opposed opinions on this subject, only one of which was represented by the comment. He said that he hears from a number of Independent Living residents who object to the "nursing home" image projected by the myriad of such devices around the Dining Room at every meal time. He stated that he is trying to satisfy both sides by accommodating those who need the devices to travel to the Dining Room with the requirement that the devices must be immediately removed to a designated area so as to not impede traffic or generate a safety hazard. He said that like most attempts to satisfy everyone, this policy is apparently not satisfying anyone. The wait staff is currently instructed to remove these devices from the Dining Room as soon as the user has been seated, and this policy will continue until further notice.

Director of Plant Operation Kyle Montague reported he's hopeful that the leaks in the lake have been repaired. Kyle also announced that soon his forces will begin putting fluorescent bulbs in the installed fixtures of all IL apartments. This is expected to make a significant contribution to SGV's cost saving efforts. He cautioned residents to be careful if they are ever handling one of these bulbs. The bulbs contain a small amount of mercury, and, if broken, clean-up should be done cautiously and the debris placed in a sealed plastic bag. Maintenance should be called to dispose of the bag, and, if the resident prefers, Maintenance will handle the clean-up as well. On a separate note, Kyle advised residents to test their air conditioning at the first convenient opportunity so that any necessary repairs can be requested before the weather makes cooling essential. Finally, Kyle stated that the fire alarm system has been split into two independent systems, one for IL and one for Wellington Court. This will prevent interruptions for IL residents caused by the more frequent requirement to test the alarms in Wellington Court.

Director of Nursing Mary Anderson reported that construction of the new wing for Skilled Nursing is now complete, and the wing should be open for occupancy around mid-May. Mary also requested that all residents remember to advise the Front Desk when they plan to be away on a trip or when they go into a hospital on a planned or emergency basis.

Tom Olsen followed Mary's comments with the following announcements: **#1.** The conversion of employees from the Archdiocese to Oasis is complete, and is expected to produce dramatic cost savings. Thanks to **Director of Finance Angela Tucker**, the changeover went very smoothly. **#2.** Window tinting in the Dining Room to reduce the glare from the afternoon/evening sun is planned and will be expedited. **#3.** Kyle is responding to resident complaints that the auditorium is too cold during the heating season, and the problem should be solved by the next heating season. **#4.** The exam rooms for on-site doctor visits should be ready in two to three weeks. **#5.** Thanks to help from resident **Petie Freeman**, SGV has been successful in lobbying for Georgia Senate Bill 539 which will now permit SGV to admit patients directly into Skilled Nursing without the previous requirement that the patients had to be a pre-existing resident of SGV. This will be valuable in helping fill the new beds that come available soon. SGV will protect resident access to Skilled Nursing by focusing on outside patients who have relatively short term needs for such care, thereby assuring frequent turnover of beds. **#6** A special Town Hall meeting will be held on April 25 for presentation of the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 SGV budget. Tom expects a monthly fee percentage increase less than the past two years.

Director of Human Resources Suzanne Hungerbuhler introduced employee **Shanekia Brown** who is a member of an Employee Advisory Committee. Shanekia revealed the circumstances that led her to suggest a "SGV Giveback" project which has been adopted. Twice a year boxes will be placed in the Refuse Rooms for residents and employees to use in depositing clothing, shoes, etc. that will be picked up and distributed to needy persons by the St Vincent de Paul Society.

The meeting ended shortly after 2:30pm.



Dorothy Dembo was born in Washington, PA. and grew up in Waynesburg, PA. After high school graduation she worked in the business office of the telephone company. In 1943 she joined the Navy Waves and after Storekeeper School in Milledgeville, GA., she worked in the Supply Department at the Naval Reserve Air Station in Green Cove Springs, FL where aircraft carrier pilots were trained. She is still in contact with her roommates from that time. Dorothy married **William Dembo** in 1947, and they raised three children. He was her hometown boyfriend, and a Chief Yeoman in the Navy Seabees. He became a certified kitchen designer and worked in the Pittsburgh area. In 1968 they opened a custom kitchen business in Arlington, VA. Kitchen Classics, Inc. designs are in many northern Virginia homes, but the Dembo home didn't receive its custom kitchen until 1979. Dorothy remained in the area near her two daughters and three grandchildren after she was widowed in 1984. Her son lives in Atlanta and guided her move to SGV. Dorothy enjoys being near her fourth grandchild, and is trying to read the many books she brought here, and organize her photograph collection.

Great Decisions

Lauren Forbes, Research Associate at Atlanta's Southern Center for International Studies brilliantly moderated the lively April 21st discussion of "European Integration." Most of the 30 participants thought it was a stimulating and educational experience. The group is indebted to **Joan and Tom Schoonover** for sharing Lauren, their accomplished granddaughter, with SGV residents. The May 19 meeting on global vision will cover terrorism in a discussion titled "Blacklisting The Enemy."

Messages Box

Please be sure that the recipient's apartment number is clearly marked on anything placed in a resident's Message Box. Then it can be returned to the correct box if it was removed by mistake.

Fashion Show

SGV models were featured in the classy Collection Spring Fashion Show on April 22 wearing clothes appropriately selected for the audience. Once again **Kristin Copeland** provided an opportunity for SGV residents to keep up with current fashions.



SGV University

Dr. Kelly Browning, Professor of Sacred Theology at Southern Catholic College conducted two April sessions on Christianity titled "Loving Mary as Jesus Loves Her." Dr. Browning made a scholarly, biblically documented outline of Mary, mother of Jesus from "Genesis" through "Revelations." He covered the history of worldwide visions, miracles, aberrations and devotions to Mary from 45 A. D. to the present. "Dynamic and inspirational" were two of the many favorable comments on the programs from audience members. "Aging" will be the topics for the May 13th and 27th meetings.

Representative Tom Price

Rep. Tom Price (R), of Georgia's 6th District spoke to residents and then answered questions on April 22. He was an orthopaedic surgeon who became a candidate for political office after realizing that decisions about health care and doctor's relationships with patients were being made by people who didn't fully understand the subjects or the problems. Rep. Price will be a candidate for reelection in November.



Ginny Dufraine Williams, born in 1929 in Greenfield, MA., was the middle child of five born to Alexander and Mabel Dufraine. A graduate of Holy Trinity School and Greenfield High, Ginny was a legal secretary. **Walt Williams**, born in 1929 on a farm in Decatur, MS., was the second child of Walt and Glenna Williams. In a one room schoolhouse he went through seven grades in five years, and graduated from Mississippi's Newton County Agricultural High School at 16 and at 17 his parents permitted him to stop farm work and join the Navy. While visiting a Navy friend in Massachusetts, he met Ginny, and they were married in 1951. Walt's Navy service took the family to bases in Rhode Island, Virginia, Tennessee, Florida and Georgia. He primarily worked in Naval Aviation and served on aircraft carriers as he moved from Apprentice Seaman to Lieutenant Commander. The day after his retirement, Walt started one of the first NJROTC units in Georgia. He was a naval science instructor at Osborne High School in Cobb County for 18 years. He earned a B. S. in Business and an M. S. in Education during this time. Ginny was busy keeping track of their five children, all graduates of Georgia colleges, who gave their parents nine grandchildren. After 42 years in uniform, Walt retired, and he and Ginny began their travels through fifty states, Europe, and the Caribbean, participating in Elderhostel programs, and visiting relatives. They moved into SGV in November 2005, and enjoy the activities, the wonderful residents and the great work of the staff.



Reverend Richard Morrow, resident SGV priest, entered the Diocese of Savannah-Atlanta in the 1950s. He completed theological studies at St. Bernard Seminary in Rochester, NY in 1955, and was ordained to serve the Church in Georgia. The first assignment of his half-century of ministry was St. Patrick's in Augusta, then an assignment

as Associate at Our Lady Of Assumption in the newly formed Diocese of Atlanta where he witnessed Atlanta's elevation to an Archdiocese. Fr. Morrow's first pastorate was in Cedartown where he developed a new parish and church in Carrollton and another in Smyrna. This was followed by Pastorates at St. John's in Hapeville, St. Jude's in Sandy Springs, Prince Of Peace in Buford, and Good Shepherd in Cumming. His priestly service can be summarized into three ministries. 1) Home visitation by knocking on doors and ringing doorbells. 2) Hospital visits/Care Of The Sick He made visits to the V. A. hospital, and to Piedmont, St. Josephs, and other Atlanta area healthcare centers. 3) The Sacrament of Penance, a bestowed gift to priests, but invited people daily into homes and hospitals to make "a good confession." Ministry means reaching out to help and to serve. In his fifty years of service Fr. Morrow has demonstrated extraordinary skill as an organizer and builder. For 15 years Fr. Morrow has been a Vicar for the clergy, and his continuing service belies the word "retired."

A Journey To Paper Land

On April 17, a dozen residents had an educational experience visiting the Georgia Tech Paper Museum. A student guided the group through the paper-making process. The interesting tour was followed by lunch at Copeland's Cheesecake Bistro, where the food was not made from paper.

On April 1 it was reported that, due to high operating costs, St. George Village will soon be demolished. It will be replaced by a facility similar to the one shown below. The new facility will be less expensive to maintain, and more exercise options will be available to the inmates.



La Boheme

About 25 SGV opera lovers enjoyed the familiar favorite, Puccini's "La Boheme", at a Merchant's Walk movie theater on April 5. "It's as if you are there in person, only better" was the quote from one pleased resident. As viewers watch the performance, they can also read the translation of the lyrics at the bottom of the screen. The camera also scans the audience, back stage and the orchestra pit, making it a more personal experience for the audience. The Metropolitan Opera Live series is made possible by a grant from the Neubauer Family Foundation. The April 26 showing of Donizetti's "Daughter Of The Regiment" will be the final performance of the season.



Joseph Vogt, an only child, was born in Davenport, IA., and graduated from Central High School as an R. O. T. C. 1st Lieutenant. A medical condition prevented his entry into the armed services. He then worked for Chicago Ordinance, a company that builds tanks for the Army. Joe started Valley Vending, which grew to be the largest independent food vending company in the Iowa-Illinois quad cities area. **Nadine Vogt** was born in Wheatland, IA. After high school graduation, she attended Scovill Business College in Clinton, IA. She worked as a secretary, and also acquired a pilot's license. Joe and Nadine met at a church-sponsored skating party where they skated "hand in hand." The Vogts have two daughters and four grandsons, but lost a son to leukemia. Joe's interests include the stock market and stamp collections. For 62 years the Vogts have continued to skate "hand in hand", while their family in San Francisco and Atlanta continue to keep their attention.