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from the

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FRONT PORCH

A quarterly publication for residents, employees, and pathways.

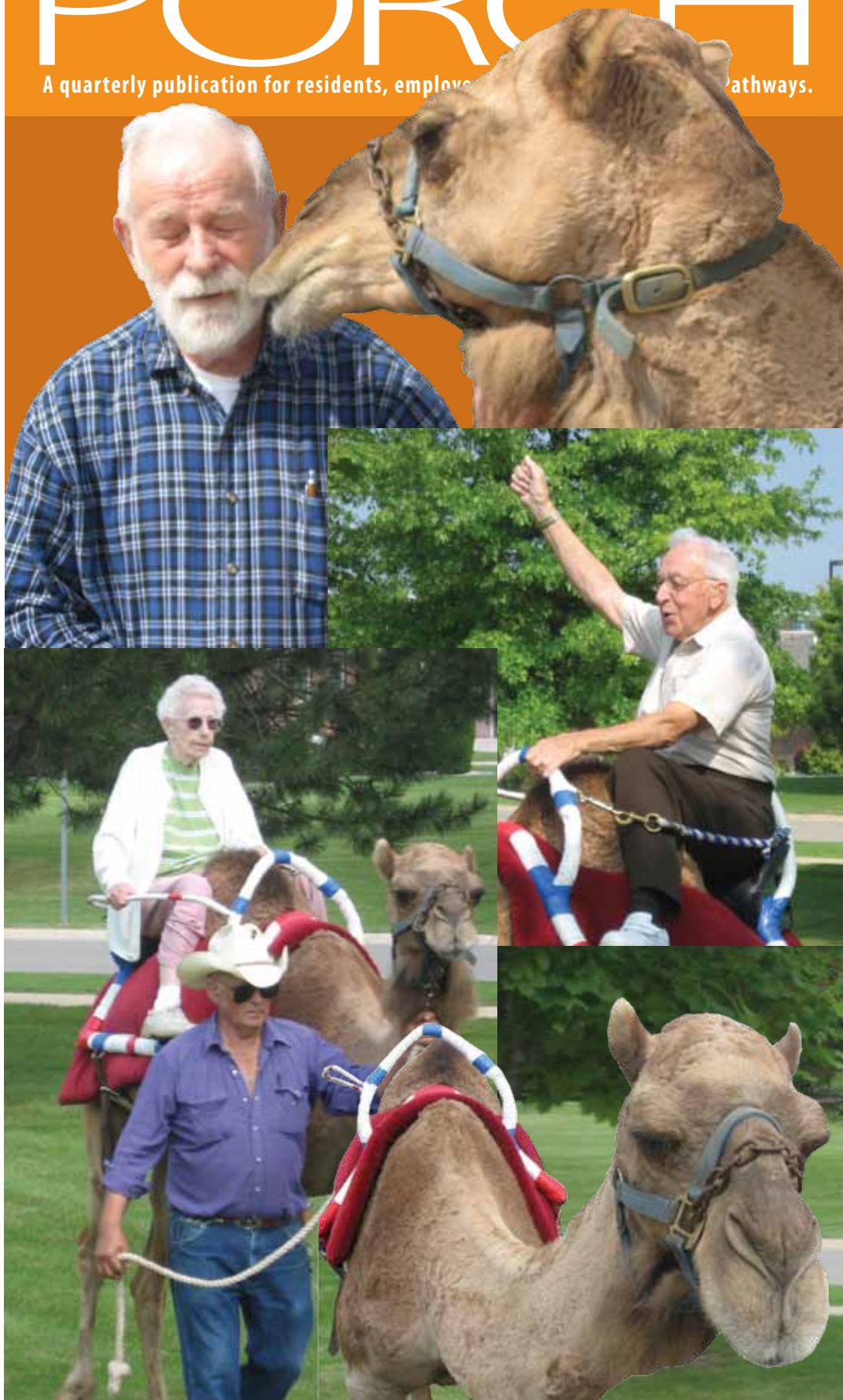
FIRST ANNUAL MASONIC PATHWAYS STEAK FRY

On September 9th, Masonic Pathways held their first annual "End of Summer" Steak Fry. Although the steak was thoroughly enjoyed by the 180 residents in attendance, the Camel Ride (part of the very popular Petting Zoo) was by far the favorite activity of the day.

We compliment our Activities, Food Service, and Maintenance Departments for all their efforts toward making this new tradition such an enjoyable event. We also thank Pastor George, and all who prayed for the beautiful weather. This will be a special day long remembered by both residents and staff.

The Steak Fry was made possible by funds received from The Pagel Foundation.

(See page 3 for more Steak Fry photos.)



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10 ELEMENTS OF QUALITY

- Commitment
- Governance Accountability
- Leading-Edge Care & Services
- Community Involvement
- Continuous Quality Improvement
- Human Resources Development
- Consumer-Friendly Information
- Consumer Participation
- Research Findings & Education
- Public Trust & Consumer Confidence



Throughout the year we strive to meet the 10 Elements of Quality outlined in AAHSA's Quality First program. But how do we honestly judge ourselves ... how do we know we're achieving our goal of providing the highest quality of service possible, the leading edge care and service our residents deserve? We ask the residents and their family members.

This summer Masonic Pathways conducted two resident surveys, one for Residential residents, and one for Nursing Center/Rehab residents. Both surveys were administered by My InnerView, an independent agency noted for the profession's largest database of satisfaction and quality metrics available.

The results were amazing. Ninety-five percent of our Residential residents rated Masonic Pathways as good or excellent. They felt our staff was responsive, caring, respectful, courteous and competent. They cited safety, cleanliness, comfort and religious/spiritual opportunities among our primary strengths. Eighty-five percent of Nursing/Rehab residents rated Pathways as good or excellent. They felt respect for privacy, a competent and caring staff, a safe atmosphere, meaningful activities, and resident to staff friendships were among our strengths.

Are we happy with the survey results? Yes, but not satisfied, not until we please 100% of our population. Is that even possible? Maybe not, but I promise we will never stop trying.

Cindy Bosley
Chief Administrative Officer

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH



Geneva Pontius
July



Charolette Taylor
August



Renae Makara
September



Clayton Smith
October

WELCOME TO MASONIC PATHWAYS

6/30	Isaac & Ruby Dollar	Dutcher Lodge #193
6/30	Helen Husted	
7/1	Saima Liimakka	
7/5	Richard Zelinski	
7/6	Joyce Thrush	
7/7	Mary Weston	
7/7	Helen Egbert	
7/8	Ruby Hall	
7/9	Bruce & Dorothy Harmes	Palmyra Lodge #184
7/9	Laura Schlarf	
7/13	Elaine Larkins	Dearborn Lodge #172
7/13	Clifford Stackman	
7/15	Ivah Walton	Alma Chapter #43
7/16	Maribeth Injasoulian	
7/17	Carol Foster	
7/18	Warren McGuire	John Q. Look Lodge #404
7/22	Mary Miller	
7/23	Richard Sherbarth	Wabon Lodge #305
7/27	David & Dixie Sanders	
7/30	Lyle Lynch	
7/31	Samuel Smith	John J. Carton Lodge #436
7/31	Marydeanna Duckworth	Mt. Pleasant Chapter #55
8/3	Marjorie Bouchey	
8/5	Mary Ingram	
8/10	Alice Reihl	
8/12	Gary Bortles	Alma Lodge #244
8/14	Louis Billings	
8/15	Donna Dwyer	
8/18	Betty Miller	Alma Lodge #244
8/19	Richard Haver	Mt. Moriah Lodge #226
8/20	Olga Withey	Edmore Chapter #111
8/25	Peggy Mockridge	
8/26	Joan Wiley	
8/26	Marie Harrier	
8/31	Muriel Sherwood	Alma Lodge #244
9/3	Luella Small	
9/4	Lois Eaton	Harrison Chapter #408
9/12	Dorlene Bender	
9/14	Doris Riddle	Ithaca Lodge #123
9/15	George & Garnetta Barrett	Joppa Lodge #315
9/16	Michael Zigray	
9/17	Ronald Walker	
9/18	Carol Brown	Mt. Moriah Lodge #226
9/18	Shirley Clark	
9/18	Donna Pollack	
9/19	Jimmie Roberts	
9/20	Fayma Burns	
9/21	Fred Duckworth	
9/22	Antonia Martin	
9/23	Dixie Law	Commerce Chapter #301
9/24	Grace Schmitz	Jefferson Lodge #553
9/24	Palma Kingley	
9/25	JoAnne Garey	Crescent Stanton Chapter #47
9/25	Everett Bergeron	
9/26	Luana LeMasters	
9/28	Crystal Marcus	
9/30	Agnes Wymer	Six Lakes Chapter #417
9/30	Marilynn Palmer	Alma Chapter #43



A DELICIOUS MEAL WAS ENJOYED BY ALL AT PATHWAYS' FIRST ANNUAL STEAK FRY

(Continued from page 1)

Residents enjoyed delicious steak and great company during the Masonic Pathways 1st Annual Steak Fry.



AMONG THE PEOPLE OF PATHWAYS

by Marian Webster, MVE Resident

Health Care is one of the foremost problems facing our country today. Persons living at Pathways have an advantage. They are guaranteed that they will be given the level of care that fits their needs. Pathways offers independent living in the Village Estates, independent and assisted living in the HFA, and both rehabilitation and skilled nursing in the Jack F. Sanders Health Care Center.

The following vignettes feature persons or couples who began their residence in the Village Estates, and then moved on to different levels of care throughout Masonic Pathways continuing care retirement community.



DORIS AMSBURY

DORIS AMSBURY – is a “true blue” Alma native. She was born in Alma, educated in the Alma Public Schools, and graduated from Alma College with majors in Latin and French. Doris earned her Masters from the University of Michigan in the fields of English and Literature, and taught for 41 years.

Upon moving to the Village Estates, in April of 1999, she was pleased to discover that one of her former Riverdale students, Forrest Holcomb, lived right across the street.

Doris often visited her family-owned cottage on Lake Huron at the “Tip of the Thumb”, in Grindstone City. Named for a preponderance of stones containing the grit necessary for machines used to polish diamonds mined in South Africa.

When Doris was involved in a slight accident on her way home from the cottage, she decided it was time to stop driving. She moved to the Resident Hall in August of 2005. She has been pleased with her move. Her Detroit area friends, who have stayed overnight and enjoyed many meals at Pathways, consider it to be a “neat” place. Doris does too! When passing through the Grand Living Room you just might find her perusing the many newspapers.



JUANITA DIBERT

CARL & JUANITA DIBERT – moved to Pathways from St. Louis, Michigan in November of 1998. Carl was employed as a chemist by Dow Chemical for 40 years, where he was involved in the creation of latex paint. Juanita was a “stay at home” mom for their 3 children, Barbara, David and Mark. The family would grow to include six grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Nineteen years ago, Juanita was seriously injured in an auto accident and was in a coma for 4 years. While under treatment at the University of Michigan, she awoke with the wiggling of a toe and saying, “can’t-can”. It developed that she could and she fought her way back relearning nearly everything.

When he wasn’t fishing, Carl was very active in the government of the Village Estates. While fishing Carl injured his leg in November of 2007. When independent living became too difficult the Diberts moved to Resident Hall. There Carl enjoyed playing cards with his Coffee Shop buddies, and Juanita enjoyed her crafts. She once made 1,000 beaded necklaces, which were sold to help children in Africa and China.

In 2008 at the time of Carl’s passing the Diberts had been married for 64 years. Juanita continues to enjoy the security of Resident Hall living. She maintains a large collection of hats, and wears a different one to Chapel each Sunday.



DONNA HILLMAN

RICHARD & DONNA HILLMAN – Richard and Donna Hillman moved from a 200 acre dairy farm near Lake City to the Village Estates in January of 1992. Unfortunately, Richard was in poor health and would only live in his new home for six months.

Donna had been previously married to Lewis Lester for 34 years. Lewis was a teacher for thirteen years, prior to entering the Army for four years. When he returned, he taught Science and Technology at the University of Michigan. The Lesters lived at Belleville, near Ypsilanti, and Donna worked at the Belleville Post Office for 30 years. Sadly, Lewis passed following a surgical procedure.

Donna has been an Eastern Star member since 1950. She was a worthy Matron at Lake City, and has filled the majority of Eastern Star positions. She served as the Past Grand Representative to Nevada for three years.

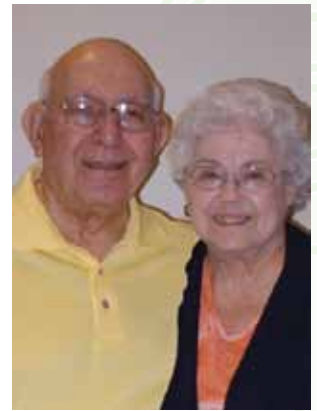
Recently after requiring some hospitalization Donna spent two weeks in rehabilitation. On September 18th she moved to Resident Hall. Her move was expedited by her niece and her niece’s husband, Henry and Diana Bollon. Donna is all settled in suite 245, and invites friends to stop by for a visit.

ART & KATIE JACOBS— moved to the Village Estates on August 28, 1999. Art had been involved with camera shops in both Battle Creek and Kalamazoo for 30 years. Katie was a “stay at home” mom until Jodeen Rae and John Arthur were well launched in school. The Jacobs are proud to claim four grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.

Katie became interested in working with developmental needs children in the State Home in Fort Custer. She worked to improve their “range of motion” and became a massage technician. Katie was involved with Rainbow Girls and often had them entertain the children.

The Jacobs moved to the Resident Hall in December 2005. Having already participated in many Pathways activities, they had many friends and knew the staff well. Art’s melodic, sonorous voice made him a perfect choice for participating in many Veterans’ Salutes and other Masonic events. Art has taught Katie the art of photography and she is seldom seen without a camera.

“There are perks for both living in the Village Estates and the Resident Hall”, says Art. Both Katie and Art advise other Seniors to move to Pathways before they require nursing. They both agree that moving to Pathways was a very GOOD MOVE!



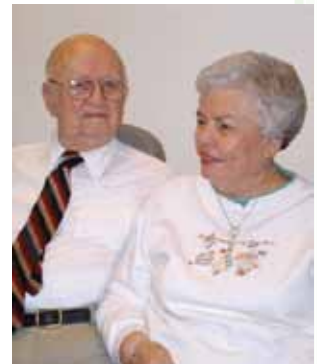
ART & KATIE JACOBS

LEON & BEVERLY (BEV) MARX – moved from the Battle Creek area to Masonic Drive in February of 2002. Leon had been an engineer for Clark Equipment Company for 30 years and 1 day. Along with rearing their son, Bev worked at various Chambers of Commerce for 30 years. Son Donald presented them with grandchildren, Don Jr. and Stephanie, who subsequently gave them great grandchildren, Austin and Alexis.

Bev was already utilizing a motorized cart when they arrived at Pathways. In February of 2005 when independent living became difficult the Marxes moved to Apartment 79 of the Resident Hall. During this past year, Bev and Leon have shared a room in the new rehab center on One South. Health improved, they are now happily back in Apartment 79.

Leon was in the Air Corps and stationed in Iceland in 1941. He was associated with SHAEF (Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Forces) in both England and Russia from 1944 to 1945. Leon was with General Eisenhower in England, and served under General Dean in Russia. Through it all he held a very important job. He was a cook! If the “Army walks on its stomach, surely the Air Corps flies on it!”

Leon says this of Pathways, “I like it here. You receive good care. If you can’t live at home, this is the next best thing.” Bev agrees.



LEON & BEV MARX

ED & MARCIA MISHLER – moved from the Edmore area to the Village Estates in June of 1998. They were originally from Wyandotte where Ed had worked at Graylick Steele for 35 years. Marcia and Grace Smock grew up together. Thus, the Mishlers were instrumental in convincing the Smocks to move to Pathways.

The Mishlers were parents to 3 daughters, Sandra, Kay and Tracy, and one son, Clark. All of the Mishlers were fascinated with Alaska where Kay, Tracy and Clark now live. At one time, Ed and Marcia spent several summers in Alaska, running a bed and breakfast for Clark. Sadly, Sandra would succumb to cancer.

After Ed’s passing in 2003 Marcia remained in the Estates until a fall occurred while walking on Masonic Court. With the assistance of neighbor Carolyn Burkholder, Marcia was transported to Gratiot Medical Center, where they discovered she was in need of a “new” right knee. In October of 2006 Marcia moved to the Resident Hall where she continues to enjoy many Pathways events. Once a skilled seamstress, Marcia enjoyed participating in “The Stitchers”. Marcia says, “It’s very nice living in Resident Hall. Everyone is extremely helpful.”



MARCIA MISHLER

MEL & LAUREL ROUSH – were longtime Alma area residents. Laurel was born in Northshade Township near Middleton. Mel’s father was a minister and served a parish in Alma. Mel and Laurel were married in Carson City where Laurel taught for 6 years and Mel served as a butter maker in the Carson City Creamery. The Roushs have 2 daughters, Connie and Venita, 5 grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren. They moved to Alma when Connie was two. They bought Martin’s Men’s Store, where Laurel handled alterations.

They moved to the estates in March of 1999. Mel’s health required a move into Ashlar Hall, the Alzheimer unit, where he lived for about a year. Further health declines necessitated a move to the Nursing Center, where he passed away on October 5, 2001.

Laurel has been very active since moving to Pathways. She has worked in both the Gift Shop and the Boutique. She has been active in the Chapel service, particularly in preparing for monthly Communion. Just this August Laurel moved into the Resident Hall. Her advice to others is to move to Pathways early while you can join in the fun activities.



LAUREL ROUSH



THE PASTOR'S PEN

by Pastor George Ayoub

Surviving in Tough Times- Job did it and so can we!!!

Over the past years we have seen the thriving economy of Michigan collapse and with it jobs and livelihoods went down the drain. Most of us know of at least one family member or friend who has lost a job, a house, a dream! Students have been pulled out of college because their parents can no longer afford tuition, or the loans that will come with borrowing the money in the hope that times will be better later. I have a friend who has been out of work for two years. His company closed, and because of his age he is overlooked for any work he applies for.

People are crying for help. Families are sending members to other states to find work. Money is tight, jobs are scarce, yet there is hope! There is a way to survive in tough times!

In the Old Testament, Job did not know why he lost all he had worked for. He lost his home, his flocks, his family, his health, his wealth... everything! Although he did not know why, he never lost faith.

“Be silent before me so that I may speak; then let come on me what may. ...
Though He slay me, I will hope in Him.” Job 13:13 &15

- With faith we have hope for the future.
- With faith we can see the light at the end of the tunnel and walk toward the light with integrity and strength.

I have asked some people what they are doing to survive these tough times. The responses I have received are worth thinking about. Here are a few to ponder:

- “We are not buying anything we do not really need. We think twice before buying!”
- “We eat at home more. Home cooked meals are back for us!”
- “We’ve cut back on everything possible: trips in the car, phone calls we have to pay for, meals out, movies out, even the temperature we keep the house. We are finding free or inexpensive ways to have fun with our family. It is surprising how much we can do to have fun with each other.”

Job did not give up... neither do the people of Michigan! Our faith can make us strong! Michigan has seen hard times in the past. We were hit hard in the Great Depression, but that did not stop us. Did you know the Michigan Masonic Home was built during the depression? This was faith at work. The people who lived before us had faith in God and their fellow human beings. Masons helping Masons... no matter what! Our Brothers had enough faith to move ahead and build! Everyone worked together to make the project happen and it did.

As we face the hard times of today, we too are called to have faith. The faith of Job to handle the hard times, and the faith of those who walked this land before us. Faith that will cause us to make hard decisions, and to tighten our belts, to stand tall and reach out to others. We CAN survive tough times. Our FAITH tells us we can, and I for one believe it!

Peace,
Pastor George



Memoriam

Deaths 6/30/09-9/30/09

- 6/30 **Lyla Jane Napieralski**
Breckenridge Lodge #406
- 7/9 **Margaret Hart**
- 7/18 **Ormond Walsh**
- 7/29 **Duane Smith**
Attica Imlay Lodge #295
- 8/4 **Ardith deKalands**
Genesee Lodge #174
- 8/7 **Estel Whightsil**
Ithaca Lodge #123
- 8/8 **Dixie Sanders**
- 8/10 **Larry Lynch**
- 8/15 **Robert Paterson**
- 8/16 **Melvin Brown**
- 8/22 **Betty Miller**
Alma Lodge #244
- 8/23 **Louis Billings**
- 8/25 **Samuel Cole**
Farmington Lodge #151
- 9/2 **Eleanor Bradley**
Ithaca Lodge #123
- 9/8 **Peggy Mockridge**
- 9/9 **Doris Graham**
Owosso Lodge #81
- 9/13 **Mary West**
- 9/14 **Shirley Dietz**
- 9/16 **William Freeman**
- 9/17 **Katherine Fairlie**
Perfection Mosaic Lodge #530
- 9/18 **Wayne Anderson**
Clam Lake Lodge #331
- 9/20 **Sarah Alice Gerred**
- 9/22 **June Hodge**
Okemos Lodge #252
- 9/25 **Lillian VanSoest**
Charlotte Lodge #120
- 9/27 **Viola Hare**
St. Charles Chapter #313
- 9/29 **Larry Shinabarger**
- 9/29 **Louise Hinton**
- 9/30 **Beatrice Haering**
Center Line Lodge #550
- 9/30 **Barbara Stith**

ART & CARRA SMITH – were a couple with a history that reads like a combination of Horatio Alger and a romantic love story. Art was reared by his mother and arrived at Alma College via scholarships and grants. After graduation, to pay off his debts, he remained working at the college for two years. This was the hand of fate.

Carra Jones arrived from Midland and it was love at first sight. Carra would be the first homecoming queen, and the first freshman to be given that honor. Art taught in Southern Michigan for 2 years and returned to marry Carra following her June graduation, in June of 1942. He was drafted into the Army and became a 2nd Lieutenant. He joined the Air Force in 1951, during the Korean conflict, and mustered out with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in 1956. The Smiths would have 3 children, 7 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren. Art returned to Alma College as the Athletic Director in 1956 where he stayed for 19 years.

The Smiths moved to the Village Estates in November of 1998. First Carra, then Art, required assisted living and moved to Resident Hall. After a lengthy stay in the Nursing Center, Carra passed in January of 2008. Art now resides in the Nursing Center. The Smiths enjoyed 65 years of marriage and Art retained their Village Estate home until July of this year. As long as they were physically able they enjoyed returning for short “visits”. Throughout his career Art coached nearly every sport but golf was always his passion. He continues to enjoy music and is an avid participant in Rhythm Band sessions held in Nursing each Tuesday. Art loves to sing, and occasionally will burst into song.



ART & CARRA SMITH

LLOYD & GRACE SMOCK – Lloyd and Grace moved from Wyandotte, Michigan to Masonic Pathways in December of 2004. It was a horrible, white knuckle, snowy day. They are grateful that life has been quite peaceful ever since.

Grace attended school with Marcia Mishler in Wyandotte. They met their husbands, and the two couples have enjoyed a long association.

Lloyd worked in a local bank for 31 years. After their two children, Ellen and Paul, entered middle school, Grace would work for attorneys for 15 years. The Smocks have four grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

In March of 2007 when Grace began to experience walking difficulties, they moved into the Resident Hall, where Grace could receive therapy. This was a much less traumatic move than the one in 2004. Grace now gets about with a walker, and has a motorized Jazzy for “longer trips”. Both of the Smocks agree to having found happiness at Masonic Pathways.



LLOYD & GRACE SMOCK

JACOBUS (JACK) & ANNE VALKENIER – Jack and Anne Valkenier were both born in the Netherlands. Anne’s father was a talented painter and her brother a concert pianist. Anne, too, loved music, eventually performed in the string section of the Alma Symphony Orchestra. Jack served in the 6th Regiment Storm Troopers of the Dutch Army, in Indonesia on the Island of Java, and was an ally of the US in WWII.

The Valkeniers would immigrate to Canada. They later required a sponsor to enter the USA, and Pathways’ Dr. Sanders signed the papers. Anne would serve as Dr. Sanders’ nurse and technical assistant. Jack managed a coin-operated laundry.

They moved to the Estates in September of 1997. Although Anne lost much of her eyesight she did not allow it to become a handicap. She and Jack walked “hand-in-hand” every evening, with Anne striding along confidently. Anne fought but could not defeat cancer. She passed on February 5, 2007. We are sad to say, just prior to the printing of this issue of Front Porch, Jack passed away. We felt his story was still well worth sharing.



MABEL HAMMEL HONORED AT ALUMNI BANQUET

Mabel Hammel was honored as the oldest attending alumnus at the Lakeview High School Alumnus Banquet held in the school cafeteria on September 13, 2009. Having turned 96 on August 26, 2009, and having graduated in 1933, Mabel was a “shoe-in” for the honor.

Mabel is not the oldest living alumnus for the High School located in Lakeview, Michigan. That honor belongs to her older brother Franklin, who is 97. Franklin’s health did not allow him to attend the 53rd annual affair. Mabel and Franklin are two of a nine member family unit who all are Lakeview graduates, with the exception of a brother who died in infancy. Three other siblings are now deceased.



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SALUTING ALL VETERANS!

**10TH ANNUAL
VETERANS DAY EVENT
DOIG CHAPEL
WEDNESDAY Nov. 11
EXHIBITS OPEN AT 9:30 AM,
CEREMONY AT 10 AM**

Join us as we pay tribute to the Veterans of Masonic Pathways with a musical rendition reminiscent of the war years.



Special guest:
Captain Rosalie Greenwood Korson
*Pediatric Nurse Practitioner,
United States Naval Reserve Corp.*