

Home Times Monthly

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

September 2020 volume 149

To My Dear Residents -

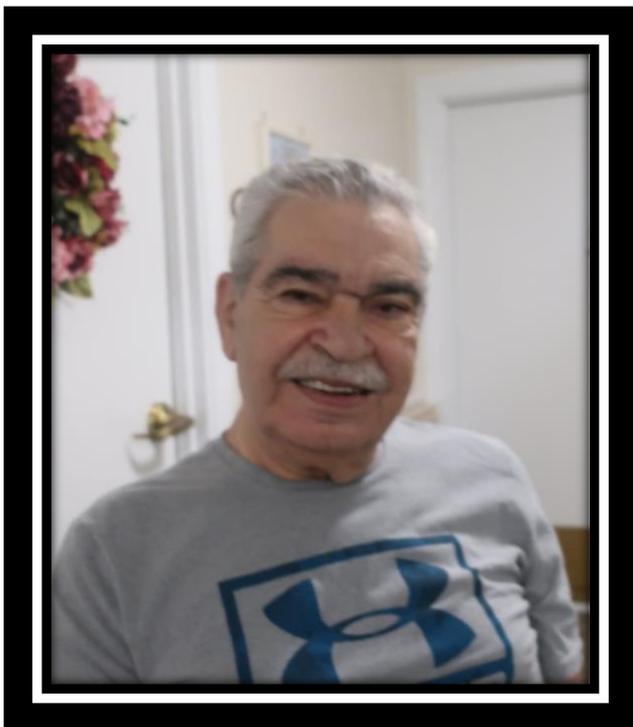
These 'interesting times' that we are all living through are frustrating, annoying, and anxiety provoking. But these less busy times are also giving each of us an opportunity to take some time for ourselves and consider what is important. What really matters to you? Once you figure that out, then plan how to respond to that knowledge you gain about yourself.

Most of us, when asked, would say our family and friends are what matter most to us. If that is true for you, I encourage you to connect with them by telephone or send a letter or card. In this time of high speed and short communication, a REAL letter or card in the mail is so special. We have plenty of note cards or cards for special occasions we are happy to provide for you. Let our staff know if you would like some and we will help you get them.

Thanks for reading,

Becky Annis, Administrator

Resident Spotlight



This month's spotlighted resident is Faiz Loulache. Faiz was born on May 20, 1942 in Tripoli, Lebanon. He had two older brothers, an older sister, and eventually a younger sister too. At two years old, he contracted polio, which caused loss of muscle on his left side and partially paralyzed him.

Faiz shares that his father was supportive but pushed him to rise above the challenges that polio caused him with his mobility. He found ways to provide unconventional physical therapy, like getting him to learn to swim and giving him motivation to make the challenging climb on

a ladder up to the roof of their home. He also fashioned a bike for him to ride on. Faiz still remembers that at 7 years old he stood on his own for the first time since polio. His family was so happy they had a celebration, and Faiz remembers his father was passing out drinks to the neighbors in the street!

Houses in Tripoli did not have shingled roofs as we have here. The roof on their home was cement and flat. Faiz raised and trained homing pigeons up on the roof. He said they would come back and feed from his hand. They also had chickens on the roof, and at one time, he had a young goat he kept up there too! He had a German Shepard dog named Laka also who slept in a cage on the roof.

He admits he did not enjoy school. He wanted to learn enough to be able to read the paper, sign his name, and manage his money. He must have gotten very good at climbing up on the roof quietly because some days he would tell his mother he was heading to school and sneak up to the roof. Despite his disinterest in school, he later learned French and of course English, when he came to the U.S.A. His native language is Arabic.

After completing his schooling, he worked with his father running a liquor store. Faiz's father died of a heart attack when Faiz was just 16. This was the same year his mother was diagnosed with Cancer. Thankfully, his mother survived for four more years.

Faiz continued to run the liquor store but noticed a change in Tripoli. As more people of the Muslim faith came to the area, liquor was viewed in a negative light. He feared for his safety, so he converted his store to sell coffee, candy, boiled eggs & corn, string beans, and sandwiches to order. He said he sold whatever he could to make money. He reflects on how lucky we are in this country to have the abundance of food we have available to us.

In 1974, he came to America with his younger sister Georgette. Faiz was 32 years old and has a picture of himself in his room from when he first arrived here. He and Georgette were sponsored by their brother Fouad, who had married a U.S. citizen in 1968. After arriving in the U.S., they both lived with their brother in Westwood and got jobs at Polaroid Corporation in Norwood. He continued at Polaroid for 22 years, until his deteriorating muscles forced him to go on disability and retire.

He met Catherine Solomon at a cousin's wedding in Rhode Island. Six months later, in 1990 they married. They lived in Medway, where Catherine was the manager of the dairy department at Stop & Shop. Kay, as she was known and Faiz, moved to The Community at Pond Meadow in 2000. They enjoyed being a part of that community. While living there, Faiz loved to go to the Wrentham Dunkin' Donuts for coffee each morning. That is where he met and became friends with Steve Raymond, who works part time at Pond Home.

Faiz and Kay enjoyed 16 years of marriage, until 2006 when Kay died. After she passed, Faiz continued to live at Pond Meadow until earlier this year.

He moved to Pond Home in July of 2020, among our very first admissions following the Covid-19 Pandemic. He shares he feels happy, safe, and secure living here knowing he will be supported by loving people. We are thankful this delightful man with a great sense of humor has joined our community.



Staff Spotlight Nancy Melanson

I enjoy working with the residents and love seeing the smiles I get after helping them. I enjoy hearing the stories about the families and their lives. I miss their hugs but have been giving air hugs and am looking forward to real hugs when things settle down. I am married with two children who are the light of my life. I also have a very active 8-year-old lab named Jack. Family is very important to me. I come from a family of 6 kids and am a transplant from Northern California. I moved to Massachusetts 20 years ago with my husband and 2 children, with a contract to stay 2 years; we never went

back. We love New England and the four seasons. Fall is a real favorite and I find myself loving the beautiful colors. I love nature and photography. We love to travel and cannot wait to start again after things settle down. I also have a jewelry business. I have been making jewelry for almost 15 years. It all started with sea glass collecting and taking metalsmithing classes. Now you can find me working in my home studio when I am not working at Pond Home. My most recent collection is my "Lighthouse Collection" I released earlier this summer. We also have a boat and you can find us out on the local lakes, and Maine in the summer.



“Lighthouse Collection”

Lee's corner:

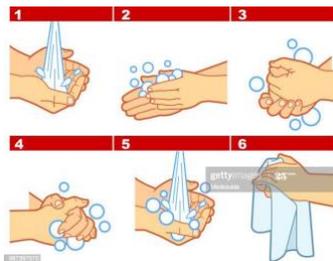
In an effort to bring some lightness to your day, I am sharing these sentiments.

-As I remind myself: we are survivors. We have survived and thrived after many challenges, traumas, and tragedies and we are fully equipped to deal with this.

-You have lived through so much! You are a survivor and a source of wonderful expertise share it with as many people as you can.

-Start a gratitude list and add one item each day. Bet your list will get long!

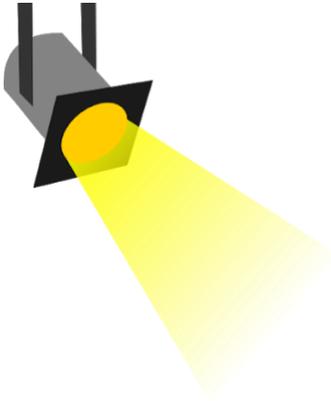
-Hang in there. All will be well in time!



Remember to wear you mask and wash your hands and if you are
Unable to wash them use the hand sanitizer!



September Birthday – Adrienne Ciapciak 24th



Activity Highlights for September

- 9th Entertainer - Sean Fullerton, 4:00, CY
- 16th Entertainer - Jorlene, 4:00, CY
- 23rd Entertainer - Doug Robinson, 4:00, CY

Bus ride are every Tuesday and Thursday from 1:30p – 2:30p
see Fran to schedule

*Hairdresser will be here week of 14th actual days TBA

Key code
CY=courtyard/blooming corner