

Home Times Monthly

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

February 2023 volume 184

To My Dear Residents,

Remember what it was like the first day of school or a new job? The apprehension you may have felt about the UNKNOWN. I am sure you can remember a similar feeling when you first moved into Pond Home. Everything and everyone is new, and you're not sure what is expected of you.

Luckily, most people soon learn that we will do our best to accommodate your interests and schedule. Yet, no matter how 'homelike' we work to make it here moving into a group living situation is an adjustment for everyone. Suddenly everything about you and your family is "exposed" to strangers' scrutiny.

Thankfully, none of us stay strangers for long! The warmth and friendliness that makes Pond Home so special and comfortable for those of us who work and live here comes shining through. During this month of February, when the focus is on love, let's keep spreading that love through kindness to everyone.

We have had several new residents move in during the month of January with more to join us this month. Please show them your warmth and kindness.

Thanks for reading,

Becky Annis, Administrator



Resident Spotlight



This month's spotlighted resident is none other than **Jackie Darling!** Jackie grew up in nearby Woonsocket, RI. Jackie and her brother Paul were raised by her amazing mother, Irene Latraverse. Irene was a fabulous role model! She was a professional blues singer and had her own radio show on WWON using her stage name of Irene Delroy! During WWII, as the men went off to war, it was suggested to her to apply to be a cab driver. She got the job, and the Providence Journal did a phenomenal article on her as the First Female Cab Driver in the state of RI. Jackie has a beautiful collage of the article proudly framed in her room as a reminder of the hardworking mother she had. A woman who worked tirelessly to provide for Jackie and her brother Paul. Jackie has always felt blessed to have had such a

fabulous mother but as the years go by, grows more and more appreciative of the tremendous role model and gift she was in her life.

Jackie found what everyone searches for, her true love. Jackie was lucky enough to marry her High School sweetheart, James Walter Darling. Walter put himself through Providence College, and during his Senior year, the couple married. Jackie will proudly tell you Walter received his highest grades that year! Soon after his college graduation, Walter enlisted in the Marines and the couple moved to Quantico, VA where they welcomed the first of their five children. The couple then moved on to Walt's first Tour of Duty to live in Kaneohe Bay, Oahu Hawaii. Their growing family then moved on to Ohio and Maine before settling back here in Massachusetts. Walter worked hard in sales. When he was in his 30's, he decided to follow a dream and went to Law School at Suffolk Law at night, while working full-time, being an involved father and loving husband, and serving as a Norfolk Selectman for 3 years. He passed the bar the first time around and opened his own law practice in Norfolk. Jackie also did her part, as well as raising her beautiful family, she worked in a mill, was a telephone operator and drove a school bus (where her youngest son Jesse tagged along at the age of 3) until she finally found her place, as a Pathology Secretary at Norwood Hospital. Jackie really took to the profession and stuck with it for 20 years until she and Walter finally retired.

Jackie and Walter loved their next stage in life! They travelled to many countries, including - Ireland, France, London, Spain and Italy. They moved to a beautiful small ranch house down the Cape where they golfed, sailed, enjoyed their close friendships, and Jackie became involved with the Council on Aging. It was there that she learned to quilt. She checked off a bucket list item, learning to quilt. Jackie was determined to create a beautiful quilt for each of her children that was designed specifically for them. Walter then turned to her, "What about me?" Jackie will proudly show you the beautiful quilt she designed for Walter, showcasing his love for the marine corps.

After 64 love filled years, sadly, Walter passed, and Jackie found herself entering yet another chapter. Luckily for us, she found her way to Pond Home. Although she could have remained living independently, she was really looking for a sense of community. We are so happy that she found that here with us. She loves popping in and out of activities, as the mood strikes her, and truly just loves being around everyone here and seeing the laughter and fun to be had. Watch out for her during the Bocce matches, she is AMAZING! Thank you for choosing Pond Home Jackie, we sure are lucky to have such a kind and interesting woman such as yourself!



Jackie & Walter

DEBBIE'S WISDOM

February is the month to treat your heart to love!

As we approach the final leg of our mortal journey of life, little details such as a caress, a smile, a kind gesture, an unexpected surprise, a cheerful presence and love, become even more acute, meaningful and important. Let's spread love by being the light for others. Expand your soul with love rather than fear and socialization instead of isolation. Find your days' treasures, practice gratitude, and appreciate all that is around you. Small acts of kindness and care are essential and a great way to circulate love. Kindness, love and giving are contagious because they light up the pleasure center of the brain which releases serotonin and oxytocin which improve our mood and overall feelings of wellbeing. Wishing you all grace, peace, contentment, and lots of love in this month and beyond.



February Birthday's

NO FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Employee Spotlight



My name is Jaynah (pronounced Jay-nah) Jimenez. I am 25, will be 26 on Feb 16th. I have been working in this field since I graduated from Waltham Sr High in 2015. Working at Pond Home has given me new opportunities and insight. I love hearing everyone's life stories and advice. At home, I have two cats, 3 reptiles, and a dog named Chico. In my spare time, I love to take Chico on walks or play with him in the backyard. My family is from Puerto Rico, so every few years, I go back and visit a lot of family. I love the warm weather and beaches.



Activity Highlights for December

Weekly shopping-Stop & Shop and Target Wednesday's at 10:00

Mystery rides Thursdays leaving at 1:30

Exercise daily at 9:15

Monday Matinee - 1:15, LR

2/6 - "The Sting"
2/13 - "Me Before You"
2/20 - "13 Days"
2/27 - "TBD"

Evening Movies - 6pm, LR

2/1 - "TBD"
2/5 - "The Aviator"
2/9 - "As Good as it Gets"
2/12 - 10am - "Invincible"
2/14 - "An Affair to Remember"
2/16 - "Pay it Forward"
2/19 - "TBD"
2/23 - "TBD"
2/26 - "TBD"

2/3 - Entertainer - Chuck Dee
2/8 - Trip to Patriot Place - "80 for Brady" Movie
2/10 - Entertainer - Robert & Marcus
2/12 - Superbowl Sunday - Game on 6pm
2/14 - Valentine's Party - Greg Peters Entertains
2/21 - Mardi Gras - Parade then Party
2/25 - Halfway to Labor Day Beach Party - Glenn McAuliffe
entertains



HAIRDRESSER THURSDAY & FRIDAY