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Augsburg Lutheran Home & Village

BULLETIN

CARING FOR A CENTURY...CARE FOR A LIFETIME • FALL 2011

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Making a Real Difference!

I suppose it's possible that someone out there has actually read the 62 articles I've previously written for the *Bulletin*. If they have, or for the folks who may have read more than a few; I think they may have an inflated idea of my importance at Augsburg. As Executive Director for 16 years, I write articles; I give speeches; I give tours to VIPs; I sign important documents; etc. One might get the idea that I'm responsible for making Augsburg the great place it is. Well, sometimes I'd like to believe that; but, it's simply not true. I'm way down the list. So, let me tell you about some folks that truly make a difference in the lives of our residents, by filling you in on the activities of Augsburg's culture change committees.

Know the Person: This committee is led by Bonnie Ruff, activities worker for Assisted and Independent Living. Bonnie volunteered to head this facility wide committee that is dedicated to ensuring that residents and staff come to truly know each other as individuals to promote a genuine family atmosphere. The latest project of the Know the Person Committee is to create a digital picture frame for each neighborhood that flashes pictures and biographies of the residents. Eventually pictures of staff will be added. If you have the opportunity to visit Augsburg, please make sure you see this—it's a wow!

Staff Empowerment: We believe that a motivated employee is the greatest influence on the quality of resident care. Employees want to be part of the decision making process and they want the opportunity to make decisions in situations in which they are experts. Norman Hebron, maintenance mechanic, has headed the Staff Empowerment Committee for the last year. Their chief task is to create an environment and structure in which staff empowerment can take place. That includes training the staff and



The Staff Empowerment Committee, from left to right, Monica Mulder, Frank Cooper, Denise Avara, Sybil Taylor, Bonnie Ruff, and Pushpa Nallaboutula.

supervisors. Their latest endeavor has been to create a video that promotes courtesy among staff at Augsburg which can be seen on one of Augsburg's Kiosks—another wow!

Aroma: I like to call this the "smells" committee as it gets right to the point. The first thing many do when entering a nursing home is the "sniff" check. The Aroma Committee, chaired by Larai Gaither, medical records clerk, has the job of promoting policies and procedures to eliminate unpleasant odors and introduce pleasurable aromas. Positive fragrances don't have to come from a spray can either. Each of our new neighborhoods has a full kitchen and residents will



Glenn Scherer,
Executive Director

smell coffee, soup and bacon—many of the pleasant smells we take for granted. The committee also produced a video which describes in great detail the rapid removal of all trash and sources of odors from the neighborhoods. It's as funny as it is informative.

Appearance: Denise Johns, Admissions Coordinator, has run the Appearance (or Walls) Committee for almost three years, though it's been her passion forever. The committee

lays down the law as to what goes on the walls and the general look of each neighborhood. They ensure that the residents have the greatest voice in what goes where, as Augsburg is not just a work place; but, it is primarily the home of our residents.

Sounds: From the descriptions above, I suppose I don't have to say too much about this committee that had been led by Betty Jones, Therapeutic Recreation Manager, until her recent retirement. Tara Simmons is Betty's replacement in position and on the committee. The Sounds Committee ensures that TV's, radios and other audio visuals are utilized for and by the residents. The first thing they did two years ago was to eliminate paging throughout the facility. It was quite a challenge for communication; however, we accomplished it because it was the best thing for our residents.

These committee chairs and members are just a few of those employees doing great things at Augsburg. I get to write the articles and sometimes be the "face" of Augsburg; but, now we have a better idea of who changes the lives of our residents, and for those we praise the Lord.

Glenn Scherer

News Briefs

■ **Assisted Living Enjoys Hawaiian Luau Birthday Celebration.** On August 4, Assisted Living residents and family members enjoyed a tropical Luau party. Participants wore leis and grass skirts. A Luau dance was provided by the staff and residents to the music of "Tiny Bubbles," as well as the "Limbo." Everyone had a blast!



■ **Auxiliary Sponsors Wine Tasting Event.** On July 19, Augsburg Village residents were treated to a wine tasting event by the Augsburg Auxiliary. Residents enjoyed wines and special baked hors d'oeuvres from the Augsburg cookbook.

■ **Wii Table Tennis!** Village residents have added Wii table tennis to their Wii sports repertoire, which also includes bowling.

■ **Clothing Shop Donations Requested.** Please consider donating any unused clothes to the clothing shop. We accept donations in any quantity! Clothing can be dropped off seven days a week by placing the bags in front of the clothing shop door, by seeing Rich Parron, or by stopping by the shop when it is open on Friday mornings from 9:30 a.m.–12 noon. Residents are able to purchase much needed clothes for .25¢ and all proceeds support resident needs at Augsburg.



■ **Volunteer Opportunity!** Augsburg is always looking for volunteers. Currently, we could use volunteers for our gift shop. Hours are flexible. Please contact Rich Parron at 410-486-4573, x147.

■ **Become a Facebook Friend with Augsburg!** Become a Facebook friend and suggest our Facebook page to others!



Augsburg Featured on Fox 45

On Thursday, July 21, when the region was experiencing a severe heat wave, Augsburg was featured on the local Fox 45 News morning show. The Fox 45 News team wanted to highlight the specific issues involving excessive heat and seniors, by periodically broadcasting remotely from a senior living facility like Augsburg.

The broadcasts were from 5:00 a.m. through 9:30 a.m., with remote broadcasts from Augsburg about every 30 minutes. Both employees and residents were interviewed at various times. Village residents Lou and Angie

Attanasio, Jane Johnson and Mabel Pascale were interviewed, and were asked how they modified their behavior during excessive heat situations.

Employees were also interviewed. Operations Manager, Clarence Riddic, was asked about the challenges of keeping a facility cool. LPN Cheré Cofield was interviewed three times regarding specific concerns seniors may have with heat, such as how medications can sometimes dull the senses making people unaware of oncoming heat exhaustion, and what to do if someone is experiencing a heat related health



Assistant Director of Nursing, Pushpa Nallaboutula, discussed how seniors should be careful in excessive heat.

problem. Assistant Director of Nursing, Pushpa Nallaboutula, also discussed issues related to seniors and excessive



The Fox 45 News team: cameraman, Luke Rollins and reporter Joel D. Smith, with Augsburg nurse, Cheré Cofield.

heat, including medications, diet, and checking on neighbors to make sure they are O.K.

Profile

Meet Edward Jameson



Edward Jameson with daughter Marsha.

Edward Jameson was born in Baltimore, but grew up in St. Mary's County. He attended Banneker High School where he played volleyball and ran track. He excelled in the 100-yard dash and the 660 relay.

At the age of 18, he joined the Marines where he served as a radar operator for two and half years at camp Lejeune in NC during World War II.

After his time in the military, he returned to Baltimore where he worked as a brick layer for local construction companies for nearly 45 years. For 27 of those years he worked for Cherry Hill Construction company. He helped to build some of the major sites in the Baltimore area such as Owings Mills Mall, Marley Station and the Baltimore metro system.

He has one daughter, Marsha, who loves to visit her dad. Marsha has fond memories of her dad making their house a wonderful home. She says her father took very good care of his family and was amazed how he would work full-time and still work around the house by washing clothes, cooking dinner and doing anything else that needed to be done. He has a big heart! Even after he retired, he played a major role in his community by frequently helping his neighbors. He cut their grass, helped with the upkeep of their property, as well as other services, all out of the goodness of his heart.

Today, Mr. Jameson enjoys being outdoors and staying active. Often you will see him out and about enjoying the weather with friends or in the Village Café having lunch with his family. He is also an enthusiastic Ravens fan. His favorite players are Ray Lewis and Ray Rice.

Mr. Jameson has been a resident at Augsburg for two years and enjoys living here very much.

—Remota Tripplin, Development and Marketing Assistant

The Auxiliary Presents
**Augsburg Shopping
Event and Fashion Show**

October 10, 2011
11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Martin's West

- Gourmet Luncheon
- 50/50 Raffle
- Silent Auction

Tickets are \$38 each.

To purchase tickets or for more information please call Cheryl Weidley at 410-665-4884.

Live Better, Make Money, Sell Now!

Waiting for the housing market to improve could drag on for years. But why wait indefinitely when selling your home now could be more cost effective than later? Thinking you will gain more from the sale of your home in a year or two is a gamble. The housing market could drop even lower, while your out-of-pocket expenses will likely be higher. Property taxes, insurance, maintenance, and other related home owner expenses continue to climb. The future is in God's hands, but you can help control your own destiny and gain peace of mind by planning your future.

If you are experiencing the "sell now or later" debate, I have good news for you! Retired homeowners really have the upper hand, even in this depressed housing market. More than likely, if you have lived in your house for decades, you paid off your mortgage years ago, and your home is worth many tens of thousands more than what you paid for it. If this is your situation, you are in a prime position to be as aggressive as you care to be, to sell your house fast, and still enjoy a substantial profit.

The housing market is saturated with foreclosures, short sales, and an over abundance of inventory. A prospective buyer is looking for a "deal" and most want to buy a house in occupant-ready condition.

This is where retired homeowners can seize an opportunity. When it comes to home sales many realtors often recommend giving your home a face lift without breaking the bank. By preparing your house for sale—sprucing it up by painting, replacing flooring, refinishing hardwood, if applicable, and replacing kitchen counters, you could position yourself for a quick and profitable sale. These cosmetic improvements will give your house an updated appearance without going over-the-top.

Making a move into a senior living community, like Augsburg, will give you peace of mind, reduce living expenses, and keep you in a safe, health conscience environment. You will rid yourself of the financial and unsafe trappings of home



Evelyn and Edwin Burlin

ownership such as property taxes, fixing appliances, cleaning gutters, mowing grass, raking leaves, shovelling snow, and navigating stairs. Meals in a senior living facility are often more nutritious than what you might have at home. Plus, social opportunities such as clubs, outings, parties, and health classes help facilitate meeting new friends.

So many of our residents are amazed at how their quality of life improves when they move to Augsburg. Evelyn and Edwin Burlin, residents since 2009, said "we never knew how much fun we could have in retirement years till we moved to Augsburg! We have made many new friends. Without the hassles of home ownership we have much more time to do the things we enjoy with those we love. We only wished we had done it sooner!"

Augsburg is the most affordable continuing care senior living community in Baltimore County, where our residents are first and foremost. Nearly every day, when asked, one of our residents will tell a prospective resident, "this is the best move we could have made. Do it as soon as you can."

Rather than wait for the unknown, you can plan your way to better living now. Please call me directly at 443-471-0720 to discuss your needs, come in for lunch, or take a tour. Let us show you how you can keep more of your hard earned income in your pocket and live in a maintenance-free community that is faith-based and very affordable.

—Barton Stonesifer,
Marketing Manager

What Gives You Joy?

When asked by a granddaughter, "Who should receive the mantle clock when you pass away?" Jane was reminded of Luke 12:13 which says "someone in the crowd spoke to Jesus. 'Teacher,' he said, 'tell my brother to divide the family property with me.'"

As Jane pondered an answer for her granddaughter, she drew upon wisdom gained from years of living and from her study of scriptures. The granddaughter's inquiry reminded Jane that it was important to keep her will and beneficiary forms current and complete. But Jane also knew that the lives of those she loved would never be made truly better through an abundance of possessions. In reality, all of Jane's family and

friends would be most happy if Jane's gifting plans were simply based upon whatever gave her joy. Knowing this,

Jane decided to update her will and beneficiary forms to reflect her lifetime of joyful giving to family, church and charity.

To learn more about ways to make planned gifts from your estate for those you love and for any of the ministries and organizations that you care about, contact David Whitenack CFP® with Lutheran Gift Planning at 800-652-9416 or by email:

David.whitenack@elca.org.

Consultation with David is available at no cost to individuals through underwriting provided by Augsburg Lutheran Home and Village and the Lutheran Community Consortium.

Welcome!

We welcome the most recent additions to the Augsburg family. Names and home congregations, when known, are listed so readers can send a word of encouragement.

Health Center

Herman Berger 7/26/2011
Lutheran

Josephine Butler 6/16/2011
Unknown

Cora Day 7/15/2011
Baptist

Doris Doyle 06/24/2011
Emmanuel Lutheran

Amanda Gutberlet 6/27/2011
Holy Nativity Church

Norma Horichs 7/27/2011
Lutheran

Herbert Keyes 8/5/2011
Catholic

Kathryn Mand 6/16/2011
St. John's Parkville

Henry Runion 8/5/2011
Methodist

Ethel Slade 8/8/2011
Baptist

Assisted Living

Margaret Richter 6/22/2011
St. Peter's Lutheran Church

Ruby Ruth 8/5/2011
Amazing Grace Lutheran Church

Romaine Spielman 8/11/2011
Lutheran

Welcomed to New Life

Frances Amos 7/12/2011
Lutheran

Clarnel Belcher 8/18/2011
Holy Nativity Church

Ida Bennett 6/10/2011
Lutheran

Ida Deviese 3/14/2011
Lutheran

Zelma Gavitt 7/3/2011
Baptist

Ann Greene 7/31/2011
Baptist

Marion Harvey 6/11/2011
Episcopal

Agnes Holland 6/17/2011
Baptist

Annie Johnson 7/28/2011
Lochearn Presbyterian

Louise Kautsch 6/22/2011
Bethlehem Lutheran

Eunice Leven 7/3/2011
Jewish

Barbara Pillion 7/9/2011
Lutheran

Ethel Robinson 4/16/2011
Lutheran

Lottie Smith 6/17/2011
Unknown

Lois Stalfort 7/17/2011
Methodist

Marlene Stratmeyer 8/9/2011
Lutheran

As of 8/24/11

David Whitenack,
Financial Gift
Planner

Many Thanks to our Circle of Love Contributors!

We are grateful to all who have helped our residents in these trying times. The outpouring circle of love to those who helped create the world in which we live was remarkable once again this year. Thank you for your generosity and willingness to make a difference in other people's lives!

Circle of Love
Surrounding those in need
with love.



Marie & Albert Exner
Thomas Fischer
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Mr. & Mrs. Clarence A. Fry
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In Memory

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Mr. Howard Ziethen



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Mr. & Mrs. Otto Reinbacher
Albert Kerner on Father's Day
Mr. & Mrs. Victor Saville
Genevieve Tilghman
Mr. Daniel Smith
Essie M. Chase
Estelle Smith
John & Doris Doyle
Gary Stiegler

Correction. In our previous issue First English Lutheran Church was mistakenly excluded from the list of churches who supported Augsburg in the last year. We offer our sincere apologies!

Chaplain's Word

It's Going To Be Too Hot, Again!

Recently, a long-term resident at Augsburg passed away. She was always the first person to arrive in the chapel. Every Sunday morning, she made the constant complaint, "Pastor Mike, get them to turn the air-conditioning higher. It's too hot in the room today!" I would always tease her back and tell her, "That's God's way of warning you what it's going to be like if you don't listen to Him and behave!" Then we both would laugh, shake our heads at the system we couldn't control, and look forward to praising God in our worship.

At Augsburg, our resident's average age is 83 when they come to live here. We spend our time together with people who come from different



Pastor Mike Hagebusch

backgrounds: professors and nurses, housewives and sales-clerks, company executives and bus drivers, school teachers and retired military. We've experienced most of what this world offers, both for good and bad, in so many different forms, and we're always learning from one another.

I think that the greatest gifts we've learned to practice for life with each other are the gifts of patience and understanding. Picture living in our Health Center early in the morning as people wake up and wait for breakfast (when I usually make my morning visits). The staff starts bringing the meals around, starting at one end of the area. When you are at the far end,

what can you do but wait? If by chance, coffee has been placed on your tray, instead of the tea you've always requested, does it do any good to raise a fuss with the server? You simply ask for what you need and wait for the right order to arrive. You need to keep your sense of understanding and realize that the world and the people in it are not perfect. You need the patience that allows you to appreciate God will take care of you, even when you have to depend on others.

The center point of the Gospel stories comes when Jesus tells His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem to suffer and be killed and be raised on the third day. Peter protests, "No! This must never happen to You." Jesus has to tell him, "Peter, your hard head has

got you wanting what you think is best for you—that's Satan's way. You've got to start thinking God's way. Realize what's best for the world. Learn to stop putting yourself first (deny yourself), do that work I've set before you (your cross), and let Me lead you through life with joy."

All of us, seniors and younger people, need to keep growing in that faith. God has promised to care for us in all that happens. Even when we have to drink coffee instead of tea, His love never stops. When our rooms are too cold, His presence and promise keep us warm. Keep praying, "Lord, give us understanding and patience for our journey through this world."

—Pastor Hagebusch,
Chaplain

Spotlight on Our Supporting Churches
Holy Comforter Lutheran Church

What a way to spend a New Year's Eve! On December 31, 1911, a handful of people gathered at a social hall in Govans, a town north of Baltimore, to organize a new Lutheran Congregation. The mother church was St. Paul's in Lutherville, whose pastor saw a need to plant a church to minister to the growing population of Govans.

One hundred years later, Holy Comforter is still in Govans, located on York Road, not a block from where it was organized. The neighborhood has changed, but the congregation has changed also. In the 1970s and 1980s, while many churches in Govans left the city for the suburbs, Holy Comforter decided to stay.

Holy Comforter is a multicultural

congregation, 50% White and 50% African American, African. It is a warm community of faith where people find joy in diversity. A jazz ministry has sent us in new directions. Who knew, in 1911, that the congregation would look as it does, both in membership and worship styles. A festival service will be held this year on December 31 to mark our 100th anniversary. We can truly say, "Happy New Year's Eve." We look to the future, confident that the Holy Spirit guides us.



Pastor David Eisenhuth

AUGSBURG BRUNCH AND OPEN HOUSES

Independent Living and Assisted Living Fall Events!

Independent Living Gourmet Brunch:

✓ **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1**, 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m., Augsburg Lutheran Village Town Center. **Please R.S.V.P. to 443-471-0513.**

Assisted Living Open Houses:

✓ **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25**, 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m., Augsburg Assisted Living. **Please R.S.V.P. to 443-471-1019.**

✓ **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29**, 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m., Augsburg Assisted Living. **Please R.S.V.P. to 443-471-1019.**

Augsburg Lutheran Home of Maryland, Inc. is owned and operated by 86 member churches from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Delaware-Maryland Synod and from the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, Southeastern District. Member congregations have three Delegates each who attend the Annual Meeting of the Corporation in May of each year and who elect a 27-member Board of Directors who are responsible for the Corporation. Membership is open to any interested Lutheran Congregation. Please send all inquiries to the address at right. Augsburg's Executive Director is Glenn Scherer. The Chairman, Board of Directors is David Daneker.

Augsburg Lutheran Home of Maryland, Inc. is also pledged to the letter and spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the nation. We encourage and support affirmative advertising and marketing programs in which there are no barriers to obtaining housing because of race, color, religion, gender, handicap, familial status or national origin. Augsburg Lutheran Home gives priority to Lutheran applicants, but does not exclude other applicants.

The *Bulletin* is published quarterly for friends and residents of Augsburg Lutheran Home and Village. Questions about the *Bulletin* should be directed to George Clemes, publisher, at 443-471-0514. If you would like to have your name removed from our mailing list please contact Remota Tripplin at 443-471-0513.



BULLETIN

Augsburg Lutheran Home of Maryland, Inc.
 6811 Campfield Road
 Baltimore, MD 21207

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Visit us at www.Augsburg.org

To schedule a tour or for admissions information call:

Independent Living:

Bart Stonesifer

Assisted Living:

Midge Creamer

Health Center:

Denise Johns

Rehabilitation:

Denise Johns

410-486-4573

TTY for disabled /Maryland Relay Service
 1-800-735-2258

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Augsburg Lutheran
 Home & Village

BULLETIN

*Caring for a century...
 Care for a lifetime*



*Serving our residents as if
 they were the Lord Himself.*

**FALL
 2011**