

Newsletter Named!

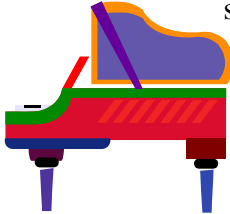
Many residents submitted suggestions in response to the informal name-the-newsletter contest. The Common Times was the biggest vote getter among the twenty or so names Alisande presented to both of our boards of directors. The suggestion came from the Kinleys and Betty Graham. Congratulations, Betty, Mary and Bill! Close runners-up were Common Times (no "The"), The Common Courier, and Uncommon Times.

As you may recall from our first issue, The Common Times is written and produced by our own members, with the assistance of Alisande Cutler. The editors want to see The Common Times become a true forum, one that reflects our communal life and the views of any of our members who care to voice them. We hope that all the readers will accept this invitation to submit a piece for inclusion in the next issue. And please tell us what other features you would like to see in these pages.

Favorite Concerts

Word has gotten out to musicians about UC's fine piano and recital hall. In fact, performers are starting to take the initiative and call us to arrange for their recitals here. Two recent performances stand out in this writers mind: Louis Nagel's July 31st piano recital and the September 10th program of German lieder offered by Lydia Qiu, piano and David Dillard, baritone.

Prof. Nagel played two Schubert pieces, the Sonata in D and the Wandererfantasie. In the hands of this pianist, so deeply sympathetic to Schubert, these large-scale Romantic works were engrossing and moving. As always, Prof. Nagel had interesting things to say about the works. Qiu and Dillard were fresh from a 5-week workshop at the Franz Schubert Institut in Austria, where they studied the Romantic poetry and unsurpassed



music of the nineteenth-century German art song. Dillard proved to be an expressive musician with a resonant voice that occasionally became a bit dry. Qiu's playing was superb, and the program took us well beyond the over-familiar works in this genre. This writer especially liked the songs of Hugo Wolf and Franz Schubert.

Local Art

The art committee continues to receive gifts and works on loan from our residents. We have been hanging the pieces that residents have chosen in Woodbridge South and North. Take a look! And now you have the chance to enjoy a docent-led tour, as we have one coming up at 4:00 on September 26th. Diane Kirkpatrick, and donors who wish to talk about their works, will take us on a tour of Woodbridge North 3rd floor. We will assemble in the Brass Rail

Café at 4:00 and conclude just before Common Time begins at 4:30. We will have a similar 20-30 minute tour every Friday till all has been surveyed.

Giving Time to the Community

One of our neighbors is the University of Michigan's Northwood Family Housing complex. It is a bit like a sprawling village, filled, in fine weather, with the voices of children whose parents more often than not come from overseas. The complex offers several communal activities, one of which is eager for volunteers, namely, the **Conversation Partners** program. The volunteer meets with the student to practice English conversational skills once weekly (or more often) at a mutually agreeable location. The program director, Tatiana, told me that they have one faithful volunteer who is ninety years old! If interested in learning more, please call Tatiana at 763-1440.

Tech Committee Plans

The UC Tech Committee met recently to continue planning for ways to help residents make better use of available technical resources. Security, support and education are key issues. You will hear much more about security as the Tech Committee continues to provide information and resources to help you with one of your important tasks - making sure your computer has the best possible de-

fense against the onslaught of hackers that we hear about in the news. Support includes the website Forum, Users Group - which will continue on Thursday morning and individual support from fellow residents (as well as "for hire" outside resources). Education will be based on the Rookie/Explorer series that Jack Baker initiated last year. The new Explorer series will kick off soon and be Tuesday mornings at 9:30.

The first topic will be word processing, followed by spreadsheets and then specific topics such as Quicken, music CDs (from records and tapes), genealogy, photography, web hosting, etc. If you have not yet been to a class or Users Group meeting, check with a neighbor that has, attendees find both very useful. Stay tuned, as an exciting fall unfolds.

UC Tech Committee



Local Flora

“Leaves of three, let it be.”

Poison Ivy is a native plant that we shy away

from because the sap can cause an unpleasant, itchy rash. It climbs as a vine on trees and buildings and can grow as a small bush. It grows along the edge of our woods here at the Commons and we spray regularly to eradicate it, but birds swallow the berries and pass the seeds on to start new plants.

Identification is tricky because there are several other plants that resemble the three-leaved stem. I've worked and walked in the

woods for 40 years and only got poison ivy once; it's not hard to recognize so long as you are aware of it.

Once the sap gets on the skin it soaks in quickly. Washing with soap and cool water within 20 minutes may prevent the rash. The sap persists on clothes and they should be thrown in the washer. The rash cannot be spread by scratching or by the blister fluid. There are over-the-counter medications that may provide relief.

If you are interested in more information or would like to see an example, let me know. Poison ivy leaves will be wearing their red colors as autumn comes on.

Betty Graham

The Taste of Common Time

Here is the recipe for Anita Lim's **Vive La Difference Fruit Salad** that won raves at a recent Common Time:

Slice a balanced amount of: peaches (sprinkled with lemon juice to prevent turning brown), raspberries or strawberries, tomatoes (seeds removed), red onions, sliced thin, fresh basil leaves.

Combine the above and sprinkle with a small amount of sugar if needed. Coat with a dressing made of good balsamic vinegar and olive oil, with a pinch of salt. (Anita did this in a fine dice.)

Security Alert!

One day last week, around 7:00 pm, people (perhaps two groups) were at the main entrance to Houghton Hall and tried to get in to visit a resident who happened to be away at the time. We received

a call from the front door (probably because our name comes first on the list) asking to be let in. We refused and tried to reach the resident, without success. When I went over to check who was at the front door, two of the three people who were trying to get in were already inside the building. Apparently someone entering or leaving the building had let them in.

Please do not let anyone in after hours unless they are visiting **YOU**. Even if they tell you they are expected, you must ask them to use the keypad outside the doors to call the person they are visiting, who can then choose to let them in or not. It would also be a good idea, if you have visitors who are leaving, to remind them not to let anyone else in the door when they leave. It would be best if you accompanied your visitors to the building entrance doors, but we realize that sometimes this is not possible. Thank you for your assistance in helping to maintain the security of our buildings and the safety of our residents.

Lydia Bates

SEND IN YOUR NEWS FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER!

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