



The Common Times

Volume 4, No. 1

August/September, 2006

Website Gets New Look



The University Commons website has a new design. An *ad hoc* marketing committee convened by Past-President Tony Morris recommended that it was time for an updated look. We thank Tony, our site's webmaster, for the attractive new design. It's user-friendly for residents and welcoming

to web-visitors interested in our unique community. While exploring the site, take a moment to read two additions. You'll find the descriptive item by Peg Porter in the *Visitors Section*, and in the *Residents Section*, Chuck Kelly created "Know Your Community." All you have to do is log-on and bookmark www.universitycommons.org and enjoy delving into the variety of tabs and links.

From the Community Director

Margaret Stephenson

In the past few weeks we have heard about race cars, birds, health issues and a spellbinding talk about a 16th century automaton monk among other topics. I would like to thank the Program Committee and the residents who have generated the ideas for these and other program topics. I invite you to think about what you would like to hear and make those suggestions to me. *Common Time* has turned out to be a good time to exchange these ideas, as we have a chance to talk without interruption. I also hope you will guide me with your comments when topics or speakers are those you recommend we not repeat. And on the topic of preferences and tastes, the music in the common areas has been a topic of discussion of late. If you have an idea about how we can best handle the sound system, I'm all ears. One suggestion was to have a resident "DJ" for a week. Bring in 4 or 5 CD's and we'll play them for a week. Your thoughts on that topic are also most welcome.



Pictured above: 5 O'clock speaker
Liz King with her father John King

Art Committee News

Leonore Gerstein, Chair



Things tend to slow down in the UC art world in the summer months, especially with the Art Committee's chair being away for weeks at a stretch. Nonetheless, we have very gratifying news about an anticipated exhibit of black and white photographs by Bill Pelletier. Beginning in late August, these will be shown in the linking hallways between Houghton Hall and the Woodbridge buildings. Thanks to her generosity, Sun Howa Kim's work is likely to remain in that space until then. We will have a chance to tell you more about him and his work once it is installed. On the other hand, we have "lost" two of our dining-room Palazzola canvases, one through a purchase, the other piece now back in the home of

the resident who kindly loaned it to the community for over three years.

Because of changes in members' lives, our committee has shrunk in size. We hereby renew our invitation to residents, especially the new ones among you, to consider joining us. Helping to shape what our eyes take in as we walk through the many commons spaces at UC is a rewarding job. Please give us a bit of your time, whether as a permanent member of the Art Committee or as an occasional guest at our Monday meetings (once per month). Likewise, please remember that we can always use new works of art on loan from you, as replacements for some to which we have grown too accustomed, or as additions.

Along Our Roadsides

Betty Graham, Nature Reporter



Queen Anne's Lace! We see it now along our roadsides! We like it! It is lovely and white and deserves the royal title, copied for the bridal veil lace when Queen Anne married James the First. *Daucus Carota* came with the pilgrims, and we developed our edible carrot from it. Stop and pick some on your way home from Busch's.

Around the Area

Peg Porter, Columnist

This issue highlights some nearby places to visit during Michigan's spectacular autumn. Enjoy!

Historic Tecumseh

Tecumseh, a small gem of a town about 25 miles west of Ann Arbor, was the first settlement in Lenawee County. The streets are lined with historic houses of architectural styles from Greek revival to Queen Anne. Chicago Avenue contains interesting shops. Chocolate lovers will want to visit The Chocolate Vault, housed in an old bank, featuring an Ice Cream Parlor and Candy Shop. For those who enjoy a good "cuppa," head over to the British Pantry and Tea Room serving both lunch and afternoon tea.

Directions: take the Ann Arbor- Saline Road to US 12, turn right, proceed down 12 to Clinton, turn left on Tecumseh Street and continue to Tecumseh.

Apples and Cider

Wiard's Orchards



This popular orchard, east of Ypsilanti, is a family business of several generations known for its variety of apples and excellent cider. Open daily September and October.

Directions: Carpenter Road to Textile turn right, proceed to Stony Creek Road, left on Merritt. Numerous signs point the way.

Dexter Cider Mill

Take a pretty country drive northwest to the village of Dexter and the Cider Mill. The Mill is open Wednesday through Sunday, September and October.

Directions: Dexter-Ann Arbor Road, which becomes Main Street in Dexter, turn right on Central Street.



Trips and Travel Committee

Jane Gelman, Chair

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Last month we visited the Huron Valley Ambulance (HVA) Facility, where 19 of us got to see the call-in center and find out what happens when you call 9-1-1. We also got a close-up look at the ambulances.



UC Group at HVA

Coming Up: Friday, August 11 Matthaei Botanical Gardens. Sign up for this tour now!

Save the Date!

Mark your calendar for the evening of Tuesday, September 28 for the 2nd Annual UC Anniversary Celebration. Details will follow.

UMMA Announces Gift by UC Resident

If you haven't had the opportunity to see the recent edition of "insight," the UMMA's July-August Bulletin, a copy is available in the library. It highlights UC's Dr. Cheng-Yang (C.Y.) Chang in a special article about his recent major philanthropic gift honoring his late wife, Shirley, to the University's Art Museum. Along with the naming of the Shirley Chang Gallery of Chinese Art, Dr Chang also donated thirty-five paintings by his father, noted artist Ku-Nien Chang.

Editor's Note:

We are delighted with the enthusiastic resident participation in this edition of the newsletter. The newsletter volunteer staff wishes to acknowledge the administrative assistance provided by Tracy Vincent. We also appreciate Margaret Stephenson's input and support.

Deadline for the October/November issue is:

Monday, September 25, 2006.

Contact Karen Stutz at

krjstutz@msn.com or phone 213-7461.



Mini-Profile of UC Resident Agnes Waddell Hannahs

Frieda Morgenstern, Special Features Editor



Agnes was born and grew up in Dearborn, Michigan, a place that was developing but still had dirt roads. She remembers it as “a place of great beauty, serenity, and safety.”

She and Eugene were at the University of Michigan at the same time, Agnes to get her degree in political science, Eugene to get his in Engineering, but they did not meet until mutual friends introduced them some time later. They have four children and several grandchildren, one of whom you may recall (Lance) as the engaging violinist who played Irish traditional and 19th century tunes for us last St. Patrick’s Day.

Agnes also received an MS in Education at Indiana University and an MA in Linguistics at Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan. While the children were growing up she devoted much of her time to them, but managed to become active in assorted groups while they lived in Dayton, Ohio: the Dayton Literary Society, where they discussed and wrote papers; a Christian, Jewish, Muslim group, where different aspects of each religion were discussed with a view to greater understanding; and she taught ESL (English to Speakers of Other Languages) to college-bound international students whose goal was to enter schools of higher education in the Dayton area.

The Hannahs moved to University Commons to be near their daughter Kristen (mother of Lance) - and because they love Ann Arbor. Kristen had them meet her friends, Chuck Kelly and Diane Kirkpatrick, who showed them the advantages of being residents here. Although they have been at the Commons only since last September, they are already partaking of various activities, both as facilitators in the Shakespeare Group, Agnes on the Program and Library Committees, and recently even added the Book Club to her list.

Agnes enjoys travel, while Eugene likes to stay at home. She has taken off by herself on occasion to Scotland, Newfoundland, and once went backpacking on a three month trek to the Outback in Australia with the help of the ever-present guidebook called The Lonely Planet, a book for adventurous travelers.

Her hobbies include riding her tricycle, listening to great music, reading good books, taking part in dance groups, and being outdoors. But “language is my passion,” she says, attesting to her degree in Linguistics. “As to the future, I want to be able to go on to be very much part of life of the community of University Commons and Ann Arbor.”

Passages

Congratulations to:

Jeff Stross on receiving the Paul DeKruif Lifetime Achievement Award from the UM Department of Medicine.



Mike and Glenina Nolte (pictured to the right) on crossing the finish-line in the Dexter-Ann Arbor Run, a 10k run/walk.

Happy Birthday wishes to:

Bea Lawrence, 90th
Al Feuerwerker, 80th
Harriet Gales, 80th
Clare Tyler, 75th

Condolences to:

Randy Berg on the passing of her father and UC resident, Jesse Thackston.

Newcomers:

Welcome to Fred Bachman, #208.

Ed. Note: We apologize for any omissions of notice for life-cycle milestone events during this issue’s time period. A master list of birthdays and anniversaries (divisible by 5) is in process.



Note: Part III of the Series on Computer Safety will appear in the next issue of the newsletter.



The Commons Celebrates the Fourth

Peg Porter

About 75 residents, friends and family members marked the nation's 230th birthday with a cookout on July 4th. Our celebration was marked by a unique Asian twist thanks to neighbors C.Y. Chang, and Marcus and Margaret Chao who provided chicken and salmon for grilling as well as egg rolls compliments of community friend Chef Zhang. Other neighbors brought a variety of salads and desserts. Organizer Chuck Kelly and committee decorated the patio and Brass Rail with red, white and blue bunting, kept the buffet tables well supplied, did clean-up duty and generally assured a memorable celebration. A good (and "filling") time was had by all.

Photos by Brad Bates



L-R: Joyce Crane, Betty Michael,
Lydia Bates



Jean Greenfield



Nagesh and Vijaya Nagesh



Jeff Stross and C.Y. Chang on the grill

Library Latest

Ellen Stross, Chair

Stop in and look for changes in the library:

- We have expanded the space devoted to information about Ann Arbor, the University, Transportation, Healthcare, and many other such categories. There is a lot to look through, including a notebook with recommendations by your neighbors for services and businesses, information on Learning in Retirement, and other activities around town, and brochures on various health issues, too.

- Crossword puzzlers, trivia *aficionados*, and film buffs should all be pleased to know that we have *Halliwell's* and *Maltin's* 2005 movie guides, shelved below the videos.

- Special Note: All toys and games have been moved to the Craft Room. Feel free to borrow things for use in your own unit, or remain and supervise children's play in the room. As a courtesy to the next users, please repackage game pieces 'like new'.



Health Committee Update

Joyce Crane, Chair, Health and Fitness Committee

Looking for Health-Related Resources?

If you are looking for health-related resources in the Ann Arbor area, be sure to check the reference shelves in the UC Library!

Installation of the Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

The AED has been installed in the Brass Rail Café, just under the counter beneath the telephone. If you have not yet been trained in the use of the AED and are interested in learning about it, please contact a member of the Health and Fitness Committee.

Advance Directives and Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care

During his recent presentation, Ed Goldman (Associate Vice-President and Deputy General Counsel, UM Health System) indicated that he would leave information and forms from the UM website for those interested. This material is available on the resource shelf in the library; the web address is www.med.umich.edu/patrel/advance.htm.