



## Look! Look! Look!

Betty Graham, Nature Reporter

We are in the midst of the “Greatest Show on Earth!” The trees on our common ground are calling it quits for 2006. The leaves are turning and preparing to fall. This color performance only happens in Northeastern China and Eastern North America!

Color Key:

**Yellow** – Hickories, Locusts, and Aspen

**Scarlet** – Red Maples

**Red** – Sugar Maples, Sumac, and Dogwood

**Brown** – Oaks

## Fall Programs

Elizabeth Dexter, Program Chair

October will bring us four outstanding Five O'clock programs. We begin on October 4, with Sister Luise Radlmeier, who on October 5 will receive the Wallenberg Medal for humanitarian work with refugee children from the Sudan. Her accomplishments are truly outstanding.

On October 9, David Canter, senior vice-president of Pfizer Global Research and Development, speaks on the intriguingly titled *Everything You Need to Know to Discover and Make Your Own Medicine*.

On October 11, our chance to hear one of our own distinguished faculty members, Gayl Ness, who offers us his “favorite” lecture: *Our Western World. Why it is*

*Western and Not Chinese*. Let's bet that this may inspire others here to revive a favorite.

The photographer artist, Bill Pelletier, whose works currently are displayed in our corridors, will speak on October 16 of *Glyphs and Icons*.

Note an added treat, on Sunday, October 8, a piano trio (piano, violin, and cello). You may remember the pianist who played at the Asa Gray Event, Christine Chun.

Mark your calendars, and we welcome you to join us on October 5 at the Program Committee meeting.

## Goings-on in the Shop

Claude Morehouse, Shop and Craft Co-Chair

Since I returned from Arizona in May, activity in the shop's been quite busy. Listed here is a sample of projects: a 12 ft. geodesic playground item, two cherry cabinets for a music center, trays for walkers, along with a variety of repairs, including one of a cabinet door for one of the residents. Others have used the shop for repairing items such as drawers for a desk and polishing a pan for a grill. Currently, I am in process of building a long cabinet for our unit. I also restored a hobby horse for one of my great-grandchildren. We have some new equipment which includes 5 new 3' clamps, a first aid kit, and a dado saw blade kit. Also, there's a variety of cans of paint, finishing stains and protective oils.

It's been suggested that a class in woodworking be conducted. I would be glad to do this if there is interest. Please contact me.



Claude Morehouse busy at work..

## President's Note

Jeff Stross, for the Board



The Board is now half way through our first year and is diligently working out the new operational procedures needed after the consolidation of the two Boards. We are doing well, and this administrative change has given us an opportunity to look at what we have done in the past and make improvements along the way. We have been presenting a series of operational policies to more clearly define who has responsibility for maintenance, etc. We are also trying to simplify many of our ongoing activities so that the workload is minimized for those individuals responsible for

Common Time, Dining, Programs, and Educational activities.

A major reason for the success of University Commons is the tremendous support of the activities by the residents. While we have a small staff dedicated to programming, it is the work of the committees that help to make this a vibrant community. We appreciate the effort put forth by everyone and hope that each resident will continue to find activities that they enjoy and want to participate in.

## Messages from two grandfathers...

Enid Wasserman

Matthew Morris, the youngest son of Penny and Tony Morris, is a unique blend of his two grandfathers. Matt's paternal grandfather was Chief Test Pilot for Sikorsky Aircraft in the 1940's and was the first licensed helicopter pilot. When he was 14, Matt showed the first signs of having the same natural flying ability.

Matt attended the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown on a Navy ROTC scholarship, after which he received helicopter flight training. Following service around the world, he became a Seahawk Weapons Tactics Instructor at Fallon, NV, the helicopter counterpart to the Navy's "TOPGUN" school for jet pilots.

Though he loved flying helicopters, at 31 Matt embarked on a new path. Like his maternal grandfather, a Harvard law graduate who turned down judgeships to serve as Connecticut's Chief Public Defender, Matt decided to become a lawyer. He attended Michigan's Law School as a Darrow Scholar and served as an editor of the Law Review. But it was only after graduation last spring that he discovered his passion for representing the poor and the powerless. Thus Matt has emerged as an interesting amalgam whose talent for flying and intelligence coupled with a kind heart are his grandfathers' legacies.

## Community Director's Corner

Margaret Stephenson

We had a glorious summer at the Commons and the pace has started to pick up for what promises to be a busy and beautiful fall. As we add programs and concerts to the schedule, I have become more aware of (and even more grateful for) the assistance of the Speaker and Reception Hosts, and certainly for our Audio Visual Technicians.

A heartfelt **thank you** goes out to the many residents who have supported our programs and receptions in such a skilled and pleasant manner. We have great classes running this fall and an

amazing line-up of 5 O'clock Talks and Recitals. Without the help of our hosts it would simply not be possible.

If you would like to join our stellar group of resident volunteers, please stop by the office and let me know you are willing to take on a hosting or technical responsibility for an upcoming event. We would love to have you as part of our program crew.



## Mini-Profile of UC Resident Lee Curtner

Frieda Morgenstern, Special Features Editor



Lee Curtner has the distinction of being the only resident at UC who calls the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy his *alma mater*, graduating with a B.S. Degree. On active duty in WWII from 1942 – 1948 and in the reserves until 1964, he sailed the Atlantic, Pacific, and the frigid Arctic where he delivered supplies to Russians in Murmansk, receiving five medals during his war service. (No Purple Hearts, he is quick to point out.)

“Sea Going” was only one of three careers that Lee has had. Receiving an MA degree in Industrial Organizational Psychology and an MBA in Management at the University of Detroit catapulted him into 25 years in Business Management with AT&T and other firms, including being Initial Staff Consultant for Assessment Center’s techniques. His third career was as Executive consultant, Vice President and General Manager for three international consulting organizations for business and government clients in the United States and Canada, such as General Motors, American Express, Standard Oil, Canada Ports Commission, *et al.*

Lee was born in 1923 on the banks of the Mississippi, “on the border between Missouri and Arkansas,” he specifies, having to leave his childhood home because of the ‘Katrina’ of the period, the Mississippi Flood in 1927. The next moves were to Livonia in Michigan, Toronto in Canada, and Fripp Island in South Carolina before coming to University Commons in 2005 to be near family. Lee has been married to Esther for 62 years, which he calls “the best accomplishment of my life.” Their attachment to the U-M is through a son, daughter-in-law and granddaughter, all of whom are alums. They are both active at UC, Esther on the Dining Committee, Lee on the Library Committee. Additional hobbies are playing tennis, bookbinding and repairing damaged books. He also enjoys using the fitness room to work out – as well as to shadow-box, which elicits “interesting comments from onlookers who happen to be present,” he adds wryly.

### Passages

*Congratulations to:*

**Bill Kinley**, on the special feature about him in the *Riverside Arts Center Newsletter, Fall 2006*. He’s been at the helm of the RAC Foundation Board for ten years. Please read this impressive highlight of one of our own. A copy is available in the UC Library.

**Marcia and Leon Friedman** on their twin grandsons becoming a *Bar Mitzvah*.

**Jean and Don Smith** on their 60th anniversary.

*Please Welcome:*

**UC Newcomer Evelyn Thomas, #351.**

### Computer Safety Part III

Mike Nolte, Technology Committee Chair

You might feel that entering a password every time you turn on your computer is extremely tedious. But a good password makes it much harder for the miscreant who is attacking your computer’s administrator account to succeed. Doing your banking over the Internet is convenient and secure as long as no miscreants have obtained unauthorized access to your computer. Also,

please remember, when using e-mail, unsolicited offers for products and services (“Increase Your Internet Speed!”) may look interesting, but opening the accompanying attachment might just destroy your hard drive.

In the end, only you can determine the balance between convenience and safety. I vote for safety.

### From the Editor:

The *Common Times* staff appreciates your contributions and input.

We hope you enjoy this once-a-year color printing for the autumn issue. It comes to you courtesy of the editor and her husband, David.



The deadline for the Winter Holiday Edition, December/January is Monday, November 27, 2006.

Contact Karen Stutz, Editor

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## Around the Area

Peg Porter, Columnist



Autumn is here. Harvest festivals are underway, the color is at its peak and the weather varies from warm

to downright chilly. This issue highlights events and activities for rain or shine.

### **Quilt Exhibit, Ypsilanti Historical Museum, through October 15<sup>th</sup>**

Those who participated in June's trip to Ypsilanti will remember some quilts displayed in conjunction with the Underground Railroad. A larger collection of quilts is highlighted in this special exhibit.

*Directions and Hours:* The Museum is located on North Huron between Washtenaw and Cross Street. It is

open Thursday, Saturday and Sunday afternoons, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. A \$3.00 donation is suggested.

### **Schmidt's Antiques Monthly Auctions**

For "Cash in the Attic" fans and anyone else who enjoys antiques, auctions, or both, plan to attend one of the monthly auctions at Schmidt's on West Michigan. The Schmidt family has been in the business for almost 100 years. They feature everything from fine European and American antiques to collectibles.

*Directions:* Schmidt's is located between US 23 and I-94 on the north side of Michigan Avenue. The October auction begins 6:00 p.m. on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Items may be previewed.

### **A Local Color Tour—Huron River Drive, north and west**

Follow Huron River Drive upriver and view the colors on the trees and reflected in the water. For a

quick "visit" to New England, drive north on Webster Church and stop by the white frame church sitting on a small rise surrounded by a churchyard with interesting old headstones. Just beyond the church on the opposite side of the road, there's a collection of Webster Township buildings from the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

*Join West Huron River Drive by heading north on Main St. or Maple.*

**Note:** This will likely be my last column as I am purchasing a house on the west side of Ypsilanti, my "home town." I hope you will explore Washtenaw County and beyond. This is an area rich in history and scenic byways. I am indebted to my mother who shared her love of local history through our trips down country roads.

## Meet Chef Jim

Chef Jim Moschini

I received my formal training at Oakland Community College and graduated with honors and culinary Student of the Year. I have competed in several culinary competitions and have been awarded Gold and Silver medals. I held the position of Sous Chef for 5 years at Oakland Hills Country Club, the number one rated country club in Michigan. While there we hosted the US Amateur, and the Ryder Cup. I was also one of

the lead Chefs at last year's Masters in Augusta and the Super Bowl here in Detroit. Each year I attend the Culinary Institute of America to continue my culinary education. I joined the culinary staff at WCC last year and continue to work at the Detroit Athletic Club.



## Trips and Travel

Jane Gelman, Chair



UC Group at Matthaei Botanical Gardens

In August we visited Matthaei Botanical Gardens, followed by lunch at Lord Fox Inn. Later in the month we attended *Honus and Me* at the Purple Rose Theatre in Chelsea.

Our latest trip took us to the Toledo Museum of Art and included a visit to the new Glass Pavilion.

Look for a Fall Color Tour on the Southern Michigan Railroad, coming soon. We are also planning a visit to the nearby Bentley Historical Library following a 5 o'clock talk by Karen Jania, the head reference librarian.

## Library Latest

Ellen Stross, Chair

### **Reminder: Paperbacks and magazines Can be taken and NOT returned.**

There are some terrific books in paperback which would be great for those going on trips. All you have to do is remove the colored tape on the spine of the paperback and enjoy!