

Westbury World

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Westbury World's 25th Anniversary

Editor's Note: Twenty-five years ago in July 1997, the first issue of *Westbury World* was published. Following is a condensation of the history of its creation by the late Les Hubert, its founder and sole editor from 1998 until his death at age 100 in September 2014.



Until 1997, SVWC published a monthly newsletter called *The Chatterbox*, edited by the director of the Activities Department. It consisted mostly of notices of scheduled activities, items from residents about visiting families and other contributions, especially

original poetry. *The Chatterbox* was distributed to residents, families of those in Health Care or Assisted Living (then called "Catered Living"), the Board of Trustees, and future residents.

In late 1996, the Executive Committee of the Residents Association proposed to assume responsibility of the monthly newsletter. The

purpose was to produce a high-quality publication that better reflected the community's character. Such a product would be more interesting to residents and other readers.

The committee's idea was to find a resident who would co-edit the paper with a staff member. Duplication and distribution would remain a staff responsibility. The resident editor would assemble a Publications Committee to assist in producing a monthly edition. Once these objectives were achieved, the publication was launched in July 1997. Before then, a contest was run to find a name for it. Committee member Lynn Young's entry, *Westbury World*, won first prize, a lifetime subscription.

Some residents were upset by the prospect of *The Chatterbox's* demise. To calm their misgivings, the first paragraph of the first article of the first issue of *Westbury World* (Volume 1, Number 1, July 1997) stated: "What?! Another publication? More papers to read? Don't be alarmed. *Westbury World* is really *The Chatterbox* with a new name, a new format and with additional elements. The mutated creature has not shed *Chatterbox's* features. Rather, it will add newsy stories about our community."

Westbury World

Volume 1, Number 1

July, 1997

Staff Co-editor: Annette Lear
Resident Co-editor: Les Hubert

W/W Committee
Chairman: Marvin Gore
Members:

David Angevine Nancy Crosby
Robert Hubbell Janet Waller
Susie Waterman Lynn Young

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From the President/CEO



Every two years, SVWC partners with Holleran to conduct a resident engagement/satisfaction survey. This year, the survey ran from March 14 to April 4. Resident engagement is defined as (1) Creating a culture where resident voices are heard, personal connections are rich, fulfillment of life goals is achieved, and well-being is enhanced and (2) A campus environment that supports and encourages successful aging. There was concern that the restrictions resulting from the Covid pandemic would be reflected in the results and that was certainly the case.

Survey results are measured and quantified by the following four domains: voice, connection, fulfillment, and well-being for residents in Independent Living (IL) and Assisted Living (AL). The Health Care (HC) survey was strictly a satisfaction survey. On a scale of 1-8, SVWC scored a 4 on the IL and AL engagement index. Engagement results were listed by domain followed by satisfaction results. The highest and lowest scoring factors were listed, as well as areas of strength and areas of opportunity.

Some of the highest-scoring factors included friendliness of staff, quality of the billing department, quality of transportation, emergency medical response, and the opportunity for privacy and care in AL. The lowest scoring factors across all three levels of care include the temperature and quality of food, as well as the variety of menu selections. There is also an opportunity to educate residents on the role and activities of the Foundation.

The overall satisfaction score on a five-point scale for IL was 4.31, while AL and HC both scored 4.42. An important question that is asked on each survey is would you recommend SVWC to a friend or relative? 85.1 percent of IL residents said they would recommend SVWC. 97.8 percent of AL residents responded they would and 100 percent of HC residents (or responsible parties) said they would also recommend SVWC.

A representative from Holleran presented the results to department directors and the cor-

porate Board of Trustees in May. On June 8, Donielle Palmer and I presented the results to residents after Coffee with Administration. Holleran's presentation and the reports are on the resident portal.

Now that the survey is over, what happens? Low-scoring factors and areas of opportunities will be incorporated into departmental goals and monitored going forward. The survey will be completed again in the spring of 2024 and target surveys may be completed in the interim to monitor specific areas.

While it is important to focus on improvements, it is also important to celebrate successes. Since staff friendliness scored very high in all three levels of care, we do plan to celebrate and thank our staff for their incredible service and dedication to SVWC. Stay tuned for more details.

I do want to thank everyone who participated in the survey. The engagement and satisfaction of our residents always have been, and always will be, our top priority.

Jeannie Shiley

Bill Everhart is SVWC's New Chaplain

Bill and his wife Ruth live in Woodstock, VA. He is the father of two daughters, Anna and Ashley, who both live in New York City. Ruth, also the mother of two daughters, is a retired elementary music specialist, having taught for 25 years in Centreville, VA. Bill is an avid musician who enjoys reading, cooking, and old movies.



Bill grew up in Wilmington, Delaware, and holds degrees from West Chester University, the University of Delaware, Union Theological Seminary, and Eastern Mennonite University. He is an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church (USA), and has served churches in North Carolina, West Virginia, and Virginia. He is also a Licensed Professional Counselor, working for many years both in private practice and for community agencies.

Sue McKenzie



Residents Association Officers Installation

On June 13, the Residents Association held its first meeting for the 2022-2023 year. CEO Jeannie Shiley, administered the oath of office to the new executives: President, Sylvia Wilson, Vice President, Cathie Russell, Secretary, Pam Curtis and Treasurer, Bill Young, and the new Members-at-Large, June Dunn, Kay Jones, Barbara Leonard, and Peter Gates. The Association meetings will continue to be televised and streamed for at least three months. The meetings have a new look with “Meditation” and “Pleasures of Life at SVWC” added to the agenda.

Bruce Jackson



RA Members-at-Large, Past Presidents and Committee Representatives

Donielle Palmer Receives Prestigious Award

SVWC's Director of Resident Services Donielle Palmer was presented with LeadingAge Virginia's 2022's Advocacy award for 2022 at LeadingAge's conference in Roanoke on June 15. She was recognized for championing resident life enrichment and exceptional care delivery.

Donielle says, “What an amazing day! I was surrounded by professionals from all over Virginia who are like-minded and know the importance of taking care of older adults. I am thankful for and humbled that my team and co-workers think so much of what I do at SVWC and in the greater community. Advocacy is not to be taken lightly. You may have to be the only one standing in a room of people sitting down. You have to be a voice; you have to ask the hard questions and you have to have compassion. I enjoy what I do. I want to continue to lead by example. Most importantly, I want to always fight for the rights of older adults, we are all aging.”



Donielle at center

Another Bistro Concert

The Justin Lees' jazz trio will play Friday evening, July 15, at 7:30 in the Bistro. Justin is the son of resident Alice Lees.

Justin's trio has been a fixture in the Bistro series since 2015. Justin plays regularly in New York City's leading jazz venues. In his prior Bistro performances, Justin has been joined by two other outstanding jazz musicians. They played together some years ago in one of Washington's top jazz spots. For July, only Aaron Clay is available. Aaron, a member of "the President's Own" U.S. Marine Corps Band, has played double bass in many Bistro performances. (A drummer for July will be named soon.)

In the past, we have called Justin's music "Greenwich Village Jazz." It is meant to point to his virtuosic, nuanced style of easy swing that typifies the sophisticated jazz often heard in the Big Apple. Many in the Bistro audiences have been astonished by the brilliance of his playing.

Great news. As SVWC continues to open, not only will residents be able to attend this concert, but those on our futures list who are fully vaccinated and boosted will be invited.

Again, as in May, because we are short of staff, the tables will not move from the Bistro. They will be rearranged to improve sight lines and make space for the trio. Those who dine in the Bistro before the concert are asked to finish eating by about 6:45 so there is time to clean the tables before concertgoers enter.

Admission will be \$10 per person at the door, cash only (to pay the musicians). This far in advance, masks will not be needed, but this could change. Seats will be available about 7:00, after tables are cleared.

We hope you will enjoy this second step toward the full Bistro Concert format, when we can again invite the public.

Bob Sherwood



New Board of Trustees Member

Libba Pendleton was elected to serve as a Class I member of the Board of Trustees.



Libba and her husband reside in Winchester. She has served as the SVP Managing Trust Officer at the Bank of Clarke County since 1998.

Libba received a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of North Carolina, a Master of Liberal Arts degree from John Hopkins University, and a Juris Doctorate from the University of Maryland Law School.

She is a member of the Maryland Bar Association, Louisiana Bar Association, and Tri-state Estate Planning Council. She serves on the board of the Free Medical Clinic, Freemont Street Nursery, and Winchester Rotary.

She served on the SVWC Foundation Board from 2015 to 2021.

Afghan Refugee Update

Since last November, Winchester has welcomed 88 newcomers from Afghanistan. Men without their families came first. Jobs were found for them. Families arrived later. Two babies were born here. The kids are in school. All are settling in, learning new ways of living. The trauma of their brutal exodus haunts them all.

A little girl sits in her classrooms and cries. Culture shock greets teens in high school. The women feel isolated. The men struggle with manual night work. Many are now finding work better suited to their high levels of education. The kids learn English quickly. Their mothers worry they will abandon their own culture. One illiterate older fellow without family is floundering. Life for our newcomers is turbulent, but they are safe and learning to thrive.

Church World Service, the State Department-designated resettlement agency for our area, is slowly building a local professional staff. They will gradually supplant the network of volunteers, many from SVWC, who achieved the initial welcome. Resettlement is currently paused. No newcomers have been sent here since April. More will surely come, but federal authorities have provided no plan yet. So, we wait, ready to help.

Bob Sherwood

Edging toward “Normal”



Karaoke in the Tavern



Photos by
Bill Young

Bistro Concerts



Pizza Bingo in The Abbey



Art Reception in the Lawrence Hall Lobby



Concert in the Health Care Courtyard



Cottage Ice Cream Social

Lawrence Gallery Features Needlework Exhibit

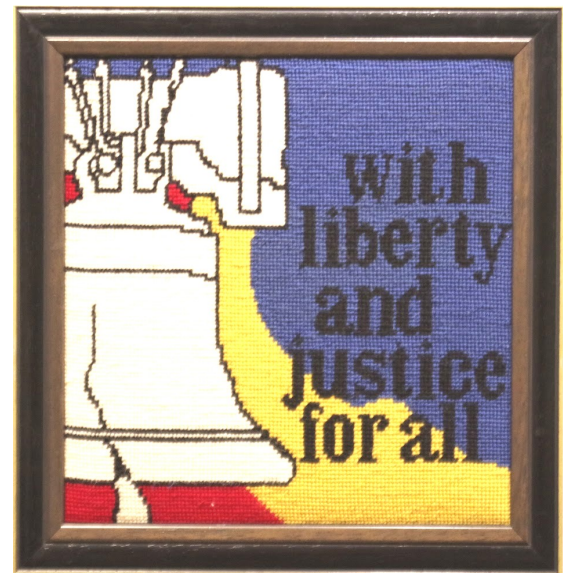
On June 13, the Lawrence Gallery Art Committee installed a new show called “Fancy, Fun and Family Needlework”, which will remain until September 9. Seventeen residents are sharing their creations in the Gallery and in the glass display cases by the Gift Shop. Nine residents are exhibiting for the first time.

Several residents had been in previous Embroidery Guild of America shows held in the Gallery but were able to bring additional items for display. The diversity of needlework includes cross-stitch, needlepoint, applique, bargello blackwork, hardanger, and crewel, in quilts, pillows, footstools, fancy dresses, and a Christmas tree skirt. They range in size from a five-foot diameter tree skirt down to a three-by-five-inch quilt for a dollhouse bed.

Beginning in October 2010, a formal opening reception has been held after each show was installed. With an acceptable covid status, the committee hosted its first opening reception on June 17 in over two and a half years, for residents. A PowerPoint presentation was played during the reception introducing the 17 show exhibitors.

The committee also honored three founding members who passed away in recent months: George Burgess, Wil Pieper, and Raymond Wrenn. Each of these treasured members brought many talents to the committee over the past 12 years and are dearly missed.

Jim Anderson



Photos by Bill Young



Photo by Kitty Zuckerman



Establishing a Wildflower Meadow

Mother Nature's Team has taken the first steps to create a mini wildflower meadow above Goff Pond. It will feature warm-season grasses and wildflowers native to Frederick County. Once established, such meadows support pollinators, add beauty, and reduce maintenance needs.

Recently, the first steps were taken toward establishing the meadow, which will take three years. Its area, less than 0.1 acre, was tilled; and clear plastic was spread to solarize and eliminate the existing cold-season grasses and weeds. The plastic will remain until the first frost next fall, when it will be removed and the seeds for the meadow spread. Selective mowing and some hand treatment over the next two years will eliminate weeds that appear.

After the third year, a single annual mowing and monitoring of stubborn weeds will be the only maintenance required. We look forward to seeing the beauty and the increase in pollinators: butterflies, and other flying insects, and birds.

Judi Booker



Photo by Bill Young

Wildflower Meadow Plastic Sheetting



Library News — July Acquisitions

FICTION

The Homewreckers (LP) *

Mary Kay Andrews

Thrill of the Hunt

Rita Mae Brown

The Grand Design: A Novel of Dorothy Draper

Joy Callaway

Bloomsbury Girls: A Novel Trust

Natalie Jenner

Hernan Diaz

Delphine Jones Takes a Chance (LP) *

Beth Morrey

22 Seconds (Women's Murder Club) (LP)

James Patterson

The Book Woman's Daughter

Kim Michele Richardson

Beautiful (LP)

Danielle Steel

The Good Left Undone (LP) *

Adriana Trigiani

Remarkably Bright Creatures

Shelby Van Pelt

NON-FICTION

Unmasked: My Life Solving America's Cold Cases

Paul Holes

Riverman: An American Odyssey (LP)

Ben McGrath

The Last Slave Ship

Ben Raines

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Welcome to our New Neighbor

Mary McIntyre moved into 106 Shenandoah Hall from Alexandria, VA.

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Summer's Sweet Treats from Smiley's Ice Cream

Photos by
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