

# Kensington Park

RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

July  
2010  
Edition

## “Chatter in The Park”



### Members of the Marine Corp League Visit the Woodlands to honor Gordon Ward

We were honored to host guests from the *Marine Corp League* this past month at the Woodlands. They were here to present Gordon Ward, Woodlands resident, with a certificate of honor for his witness of the raising of the Iwo Jima flag. Bob Rossi, a member of the *Marines Helping Marines* coalition, was the spokesperson for the group. The men held a strong presence in the room as they walked in, in joint uniform of red shirt and hats. Even the two Marine dogs

were garbed in red, as they meandered around the room for a little pat on the back themselves. They like a little petting under the ear, too! There was such union felt in the air, it was evident that once you were a Marine, you had a brother or sister for life.

Bob Rossi, being the emcee of the program, put on his anchor reporter hat and imitated a typical TV interview. Gordon responded well to the questions, and proudly shared his stories of two Navy Corpsmen who lost their lives trying to save him, to the shooting of the Japanese, to watching the raising of the flag on Mt. Suribachi. It was then that Woodland resident George Lehman revealed it was his Coast Guard ship that the second flag was taken to raise on Mt. Suribachi. It was a special moment, and there was not a dry eye in the house. This feeling spilled over the room, as there was heartfelt inclusiveness and respect of every service member attending this assembly.

This was a proud moment for us all, and we humbly extend our appreciation and gratitude to all our residents who have served in past wars. For all those that are serving currently, we send strong support and recognition for your sacrifices.

~Marty Wash, Director of Resident Services



### It's a Shout Out to All Bridge Players!

There are so many new residents, that we don't want to miss one!

Are you interested in playing bridge, if so  
we would love to get a new group together!

This is a great way to spend time with friends.

Call X 5017 or contact John, Suzanne, Michael or Marty,  
your Resident Services Staff if you are interested.

**Kensington Park is proud to announce  
Employees of the Quarter**



**John Burrows, Activity Coordinator**  
receives his award from Marty Wash,  
Director of Resident Services



**Evelyn Eka, CNA**  
Receives her award from  
Jacqueline Collins, Director of Nursing



**Sergio Vargas, Maintenance**  
Receives his award from Jamal Foster,  
Director of Maintenance and Plant Operations



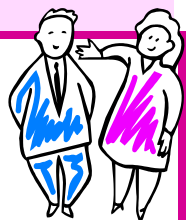
**Claribel Hernandez, Server**  
Receives her award from Steve Fernandez,  
Director of Culinary Services

**Who knew how great the Woodlands residents were  
at doing *Words in a Word* ?!**

During a recent Words in a Word game, Lorraine Roberts came up with the word “Shenanigan”.

The group then took that word and changed it to “Shenandoah Virginia”. And the challenge began!

We closed the hour with an unbelievable 200 words found! WOW, congratulations!



## *Neighborhood Biography ~ Mary Bell from the Groves*

Mary Bell, of the Groves, was born into FDR's America at a time when its people had little in their pockets, but a great deal in their hearts. Mary grew up near Morgantown, West Virginia, where mountaineer fortitude defied the winds of the Great Depression. With Dad being a doctor, and Mom a nurse, she and her sister, Barbara, witnessed the pronounced suffering that appeared at their front door in the faces of neighbors. Mary's father treated countless patients who were unable to pay for his services, because he was a healer above all. This was a vivid lesson in compassion, never to be forgotten by his daughters. Thus, despite the hard times, Mary came of age in an environment where the giving of oneself was the supreme mission in life. After attending Marjorie Webster Junior College, she relocated to the Washington area to teach first grade in the Maryland public school system. Mary devoted several years to the education of little children, a period that she recalls with a joyous satisfaction.

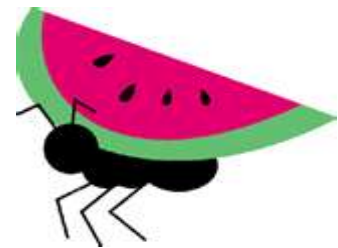
In the meantime, she had met her future husband, Richard, who was a driver for the Coca-Cola Company. They were married in 1955 and settled in Wheaton, where they raised a son and daughter, Bill and Nancy. After the kids had reached a certain age, Mary returned to teaching in a substitute capacity in order to keep one foot in both home and community. She and Bill were quite active in the local Episcopal Church, and also shared frequent social gatherings with their neighbors over the years. In addition, the Bells would come to derive much pleasure in having 4 grandchildren to cherish and spoil. Following Bill's death, Mary moved to an apartment in Wheaton in the 1990s, and became one of our residents just last year. Even in her short time at Kensington Park, she has continued a lifelong commitment to being active whenever there arises an opportunity to discover enrichment and plain old fun. Mary is a regular participant in almost every Activities program on the calendar. Her example of personal initiative is no small reason why she has recently been appointed the new Resident Council President of the Groves. Congratulations, Mary, and please keep leading us through that vibrant search for adventure!

~ John Burrows, Activity Coordinator

### **HIGHLANDS ENJOY A PICNIC AT ROCK CREEK PARK**

Sef our driver, and Michael our Activity Coordinator, suit up with their grilling mitts and head out to Rock Creek Park to cook up a storm with the Highlanders. As luck would have it, we were the ones to have the storm here on campus with a deluge of rain, while they were all at Rock Creek having a ball without a drop of rain!

Sef geared up with his own tools of the trade and shared his grill master skills with our residents. Sef and Mike had a shelter full of helpers, enjoying the festivities and the beautiful scenery of the park!



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Director of Administrative Services

**Marty Wash**

Director of Resident Services



**The greatest gift of the garden is the restoration of the five senses.**

~ Hanna Rion

Ellen Dashner, [left] Master Gardner and resident of the Woodlands along with Mary Bell [right] of the Groves tend to the picnic area gardens. Ellen has been providing "Garden Club" lectures in both the Woodlands and the Groves in which these two horticulture lovers became friends. Ellen keeps our birds happy and fed, which has been wonderful entertainment for all those out walking, or sitting on the sun porches. Just the other day, we saw a hummingbird on her red feeder. These are for all to enjoy!

*Thank you, Ellen!*



*A Special Time to say  
Thank You and Congratulations  
to our Volunteer Gabby*

Congratulations to our volunteer, Gabby Gillenwater! She was recently awarded her Master's in Human Sciences, specializing in Gerontology, and becoming certified in Thanatology from Hood College in Frederick, MD. In celebration of her accomplishment we threw a party at the Highlands on May 21st in the Bistro. Who better to celebrate with than Chyp and Andrea, with the sounds of Motown.

Gabby you have been such a gift to all the residents in each house here at Kensington Park. We have been fortunate to have your enthusiastic nature and your effective support. You always have a home here at Kensington Park and we wish you the very best in your endeavors.

