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HOLIDAY LIGHTS!

It's time for our annual Christmas Lights Tour. Please join us and *ooh* and *aah* with us as we drive by Frederick's sparkling display of lights. Departure dates and times are:

- Garden House: Thursday, Dec. 15 at 6 p.m.
- Independent Living: Wednesday, Dec. 21 at 6:15pm. *(leaving from Manor House)*

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Chapel Funds Help Area Nonprofits

Growing school children, developing youth, and immigrants to our community will receive much-needed support thanks to Edenton residents. Their generosity in the offering basket at Sunday services adds up to significant gifts for organizations caring for needy members of our community.

This year's recipients of approximately $500 each include:

Blessings in a Backpack mobilizes communities, individuals, and resources to provide weekend food bags for school-aged children who might otherwise go hungry. The results? Nourished kids ready to learn. Food is an essential building block, and in this case, it is truly a blessing, especially to a hungry child!

I Believe in Me operates a before- and after-school program designed to help break the generational struggles for families in Frederick. It uses volunteer mentors who have made life-changing decisions to challenge youth through mental, physical, and social activities that foster self-respect and respect for the world around them.

RISE (Resources for Immigrant Support and Empowerment) is a volunteer led coalition in Frederick that educates and empowers immigrants, offering access to resources to improve their quality of life. RISE coordinates food drops, runs a Spanish language resource webpage, offers trainings and translation services, and advocates for local government to steer information and resources toward the immigrant community.

Contact Chaplain Thérèse (ext. 141) for more information about any of these groups, or if you would like to contribute to Edenton's Chapel Fund.

Page Turner's Book Club

This month's book selection is *Glass Houses* by Louise Penny.

When a mysterious figure appears in Three Pine one cold November day, Armand Gamache, Chief Superintendent, and the rest of the villagers are at first curious. Then wary. When the figure vanishes overnight and a body is discovered, it falls to Gamache to discover if a debt has been paid or levied.

Join us for the book discussion on Thursday, December 22 at 3 p.m. in the library.

Welcome, Neighbor, to Edenton

Lisa Ambrose, Life Enrichment Director

We welcome to Apartment 605 **Mr. Edward and Mrs. Beverly Shelton**.

Mr. Shelton was born in Lawton, OK, and had one brother. He earned both his Bachelor's and Master's degree from Oklahoma State. After graduation, he entered the Army as a Second Lieutenant. He served in Vietnam and was stationed in Korea and Germany. He retired as a Colonel after 27 1/2 years.

Mrs. Shelton was born in Frederick, OK. She had one brother and one sister. She graduated from Kansas State University. She worked in real estate in Oklahoma and in Maryland and also worked for the Frederick County Builders Association here in Frederick.

Bev and Ed went to the same high school. But they didn't meet until playing flag football. Not knowing how to play the game, Beverly tackled him. After that they started dating and became high school sweethearts. They graduated from high school on May 28, 1959, and they got married the very next day— May 29. They adopted their eldest daughter while stationed in Germany, and then their son and a daughter came along. They moved to Frederick in 1981. They have eight grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and a beautiful dog named Molly.

Welcome, Ed and Beverly, to our Edenton family!

Welcome, Neighbor, to Orchard Terrace

Andy Wright, Life Enrichment Coordinator

We welcome **Mr. Russel Smith,** Room 707! He grew up on Long Island, New York, graduated from high school, then attended Cereal Post College to study Industrial Management. Later, Russ ended up working with computers, or as Russ calls it, "those old dinosaur computers from way back in the day," as a systems analyst for a defense contractor. He loves music, especially jazz, swing, and blues. In his free time, Russ enjoys playing bingo, dominos, scrabble, and any activity that gets his brain cogs churning.

Welcome, Russ!

We also extend a warm welcome to **Mr. Thomas Caner** who now resides in Room 721. Tom also grew up on Long Island. After high school he attended Hofstra University and studied accounting. He met his wife, Debbie, at Hofstra, and later became a CPA and worked at Hofstra for many years. Tom and his wife have one daughter. He shared that he had a rather "quiet college career and lifestyle." Tom is easygoing, loves country music and is quite the family man.

We're glad to have you with us, Tom!

A bit of holiday sparkle

Lisa Ambrose, Life Enrichment Director

The campus will be beautifully decorated! We kick off the holiday season with Edenton's annual tree lighting ceremonies.

On Saturday, December 3, Garden House will start by lighting their tree.

Then, on Monday, December 5, the rest of the campus will join in the splendor of the holidays. Don't forget that Edenton's main tree in the dining room will be lit at 6 p.m. following the announcement of Edenton's new mayor. We look forward to seeing all the beautifully decorated buildings and trees around campus as we enter this festive holiday season.

Wearing PJs to dinner!

Lisa Ambrose, Life Enrichment Director

Independent residents enjoyed a special theme night dinner in November. It was breakfast for dinner night and residents were treated to a smorgasbord of their favorite breakfast foods. Several residents really got into the spirit of things and came to dinner in their pajamas! *(photos at right)*

Thank you, Jane and crew, for a wonderful evening.

Pearl Harbor Day and our National Pledge

Lisa Ambrose, Life Enrichment Director

There are two special observances that we don't want to forget during the month of December. On Wednesday, December 7 at 10 a.m., Blossom residents will remember Pearl Harbor Day with a look back. They will also be observing a moment of silence on this very solemn day of remembrance.

On Wednesday, December 28 at 10:30 a.m., we will rise and recite the Pledge of Allegiance together in honor of National Pledge of Allegiance Day. This day commemorates the date Congress adopted The Pledge into the United States Flag Code. God Bless America!

Homemade Crafts

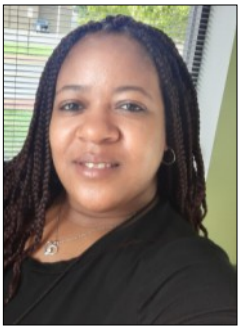
Lisa Ambrose, Life Enrichment Director

This holiday season Fiddler's Green will be busy decking the halls with homemade crafts. On Thursday, December 1, we'll make homemade pinecone wreaths. On Wednesday, December 7, we will assemble Frosty the Snowman crafts. Then, on Thursday, December 8, our craft will be snowflake ornaments. Finally, on Thursday, December 15 we will design our own handmade holiday cards.

Get ready for some creative fun as we make everything merry and bright!

Welcome, Schrae Ritter to Edenton

Lisa Ambrose, Life Enrichment Director



It is my pleasure to introduce **Schrae Ritter**, our new Blossom Place Life Enrichment Coordinator. Originally from York, PA, Schrae has lived in Frederick for 30+ years. She is a mother of three, ages 17 to 24.

She has been in the healthcare field for over 20 years and has always had a passion for working with seniors. She enjoys making people smile and being able to bring joy and encouragement to people. She also enjoys reading, cooking, dancing, all things spiritual and taking care of her family. Schrae is looking forward to her new position here and can't wait to meet the residents and staff. Welcome, Schrae!

Ugly Christmas Sweater Awareness

Andy Wright, Life Enrichment Coordinator

Christmas is just around the corner! 'Tis the season for twinkling lights, cheerful tunes, stockings hung by crackling fires, warm, seasonal holiday treats, good ol' Saint Nick, and best of all…ugly sweaters!

Join us Friday, December 16, as we celebrate Ugly Sweater Day by wearing your loudest, fuzziest sweater. Friends and family, join the fun at Orchard Terrace at 1:30 p.m., and at Fiddler's Green at 3:30 p.m., for an ugly sweater design contest. Then, stop by during the week, from Dec.17-21, to check out our ugly sweater designs and vote for your favorite!

Jolly Old Saint Nick

Marie O'Callaghan, Life Enrichment Coordinator

One of the most endearing, Christmas traditions is Santa himself. Santa Claus is most likely based on the Dutch *Stinkerklass* or Saint Nicholas, the patron saint of children. Early Dutch settlers in New York brought their tradition of Saint Nicholas bringing gifts to children on Saint Nicholas' Eve with them. Most English settlers adopted this custom, but some did not approve.

In 1809, another writer created his version of the tradition by adding a fur-lined suit and a sleigh pulled by reindeer in the poem, "A visit from Saint Nicholas." Now commonly known as "Twas the Night Before Christmas," this poem is largely responsible for the image of Santa we know today.

At Garden House on Saturday afternoon, December 17, we'll read the famous poem together and share favorite memories of Santa and holiday traditions. We'll also enjoy some holiday music and holiday treats.

From our house to yours, wishes for a very merry and healthy holiday!

Resident Spotlight

Andy Wright, Life Enrichment Coordinator

This month's resident spotlight shines on Orchard Terrace resident, **Lois Tokar**! Lois was born August 22, 1942, in Edwardsville, PA. At age 1, she contracted polio, which she recovered from after a lot of therapy. She played the trumpet and was a cheerleader in high school and always looked up to her older brother, Danny. She graduated from Edwardsville High School in 1960, and married John Michael Tokar on October 17, 1964. They were happily married for 57 years.

Lois attended nursing school at Wilkes Barre General Hospital in Wilkes Barre, PA. She was a labor and delivery nurse, as well as postpartum nurse, at two Maryland hospitals, Holy Cross in Silver Spring and Shady Grove Adventist in Rockville. Lois and her husband spent much of their retirement years living in Georgetown, DE. She loved going to weekly bingo nights and on shopping trips with her friends, especially her best friend, Mary. An avid reader and crossword enthusiast, she often stayed up reading long after everyone else had gone to bed.

Lois has three children, daughters TraceyAnn and Cindy, and son Michael, and eight grandchildren, all of whom she adores. She is godmother to her granddaughter, Abby, a role she cherishes.

Her happiest times were family gatherings at home for Sunday dinner or to celebrate a special holiday or birthday. She loves watching sports on television. Her favorite teams are the Baltimore Ravens and Orioles. She loves watching college basketball as well.

Lois is, and has always been, a genuine and kind soul, and we enjoy her company!

Our Sincere Condolences

All of us at Edenton extend our heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends of those in our community who recently passed away.

You will be missed.

Mrs. Marcelene Tissue

Holiday Highlights

Lisa Ambrose, Life Enrichment Director

The holiday season is in full swing and there will be many exciting things happening around campus. So Independent residents, mark your calendars now so that you don't miss all the fun. Let's take a look at some of the highlights:

On **Friday, December 2**, from 11 a.m. til 3 p.m., we'll host a Holiday Bazaar in the Manor House Community Room featuring many homemade items. Bring cash and do some early holiday shopping!

On **Saturday, December 3**, join Lisa at 10 a.m. as we work on a snowman craft project. Please sign up in advance so that we have plenty of supplies.

Then, on **Friday, December 9**, join the holiday happy hour at 2 p.m. in the Community Room.

On **Saturday, December 10** at 1 p.m., join Jane in the restaurant to bake and decorate Christmas cookies *(and sample a few, too!).* Please sign up so Jane can prepare supplies for all the bakers!

On **Tuesday, December 20** at 5 p.m. the FCF Church choir will sing Christmas carols during dinner.

At 6:15 p.m. on **Wednesday, December 21** the Christmas Light Tour bus departs from the Manor House. ($8 fee).

Closing out our holiday entertainment, Mark Hanak will share some of the *Sounds of the Season* on **Thursday, December 22** at 1:30 p.m.

Mark your calendars and make plans to enjoy the return of all of our holiday activities...all month long.

EDENTON
RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

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