



the Grapevine

THE CAMBRIDGE HOMES

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www.TheCambridgeHomes.org

Winter 2009

Newsletter Editor: Lisa Lambert, Program Director



Upcoming Events at The Cambridge Homes

February 12

Clara Sandler will perform
a Soprano Concert with
her pianist accompanying

February 17

Memories in Melodies
with Stanley Macht

February 21

The Jeopardy Game
with Sue Sherer

February 24

A Performance by
The Arlington High School
Madrigal Singers

February 26

A Trip to
The JFK Library

February 28

A Classical Piano Performance
with Fred Moyer

March 6

"Under the Petticoats"
A fascinating peek at the
lives of our Colonial Ancestors
Presented by Pat Perry

March 16

"The Irish Music Guy"
Kevin Farley will perform
a collection of songs while playing
a variety of instruments

March 20

Naturalist and Wildlife Expert
Maya Ruttger-Cruciana
will teach us about wild turkeys

March 24

Slide Show & Lecture
with Award Winning Photographer
Don Gurewitz

Holiday Traditions at The Cambridge Homes

The holiday season at The Cambridge Homes was full of good cheer, festivities, laughter, singing and plenty of delicious food. The annual Holiday and Santa Parties, much anticipated events for residents and staff, lived up to all expectations!

Along with an assortment of delectable goodies prepared by our executive chef, holiday guests at the Annual Santa Party enjoyed a delightful tray of baklava made by our new social worker, Ann Menzie. What a scrumptious treat it was.

And of course no Santa party would be complete without the jolly one himself! We are so fortunate to have board member Bill King as our own Santa Claus. Not only does Bill keep meticulous minutes at the board meetings, he truly delights both residents and staff with his wit, jovial nature and sense of humor. With his characteristic good cheer, he assisted executive director Helene Quinn in distributing gifts to residents. Helene personally selects the gifts for each resident herself. She truly enjoys her task, taking great care to choose something she thinks will be meaningful to each person. Santa also distributed holiday bonuses to the staff, another annual tradition.

Prior to Santa's Party, The Homes hosted our Annual Holiday Party for families, friends, volunteers and staff to celebrate with residents. This year was filled with music provided by Joel LaRue Smith and his jazz trio and of course plenty of food and drink for everyone. This is a wonderful event where folks mingle and chat with one another. It is a lovely chance to meet families and friends of both residents and staff. It is always well attended and this year was no exception.



Entertainer Pat Parry

Another highlight of the holiday season was a delightful program entitled "A Victorian Christmas" presented by one of our favorite entertainers, Pat Perry, from Sneak Peek Productions. She appeared in beautiful, authentic Victorian clothing to share stories and traditions of the elegant Victorian era. In addition, she gave each person in attendance a handmade Victorian cornucopia filled with hard candies. It was a charming afternoon.

Our holiday traditions concluded for another year, we look forward with anticipation to 2009!



Executive Director Helene Quinn
with Friend Bill King as Santa



Welcoming Two New Staff Members

Linda Powell and Ann Menzie

The Cambridge Homes would like to introduce you to two of our newer staff members, Linda Powell, Resident Care Director, and Ann Menzie, Social Worker.

Linda Powell, RN, has over 30 years experience as a nurse in a variety of settings including acute care, long term care, pediatrics, geriatrics, infectious disease and end-of-life care.

Linda comes to The Cambridge Homes from Sunrise Senior Living where she was a Healthcare Coordinator for six years. (Sunrise Senior Living has no affiliation with Senior Living Residences, the management company which oversees daily operations here at The Homes). In addition to her position as Healthcare Coordinator, Linda also served as a mentor for other Sunrise community nurses providing training, advice and supervision, when needed.

Prior to her role with Sunrise, Linda worked as a hospice nurse for eight years as a RN Case Manager at Healthcare Dimensions an affiliate of Dana Farber. In this position she provided care for terminally ill patients in private homes, nursing homes and assisted living communities. In this capacity Linda provided symptom management and emotional support, and coordinated all aspects of comfort care. Hospice nursing is a unique experience and allows one to become very close to both the patient and their

family. It was through hospice care that Linda was introduced to the “residential vs. medical model” of assisted living and embraced its culture of independence and choice for residents.

Linda’s background and passion for seniors led her to The Homes. She is a wonderful addition to our management staff with her easy going style and great sense of humor. Residents have responded well to her and frequently say how much they like her. Linda says she “feels right at home here” and we have to agree that she is a great fit for us as well.

Ann Menzie, LSW, our new social worker, has a broad background in elder services and long-term care. Prior to joining The Homes’ staff, she worked as a social worker at Belmont Manor and the Stone Institute in Newton Upper Falls for a combined 12 years. Ann earned her license in 1971 and began her work with seniors as a supervisor at Cambridge Somerville Elder Services. She then took several years off to raise her two children. Ann resumed her career at Belmont Council on Aging. She grew up in Belmont and continues to live there today. She is very familiar with the services offered in the Belmont area and is now learning about all the services available to seniors in Cambridge. She says

she appreciates that Cambridge is such a “pro-active community.”

Ann has been with The Homes since July and she says “It’s a wonderful place to be. I enjoy the fact that residents are encouraged to be as independent as possible here.”

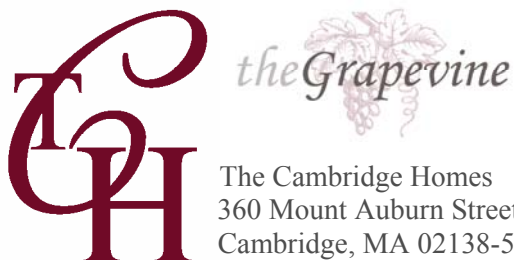
We are pleased to have both Ann and Linda as part of The Cambridge Homes’ team.



***Our two new staff members!
Social Worker Ann Menzie (left) and
Resident Care Director Linda Powell***

*The Cambridge Homes is not-for-profit assisted living residence that has been serving the elderly community for over 100 years. Along with our wellness programs we also offer a wide variety of cultural, educational and social activities for our diverse population of seniors. The Homes is conveniently located next to Mt. Auburn Hospital at 360 Mt. Auburn Street. For more information go to:
www.TheCambridgeHomes.org*

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