

# Connections

NEWS AND EVENTS FROM THE ARBOR ACRES COMMUNITY



## Statue Dedication

On a bright morning in August, residents gathered for the dedication of "Girl with Doves," a beautiful statue given to Arbor Acres by Sara and Curtis Long. Highlighting the ceremony was the release of five white doves. A plaque beneath the sculpture reads "May Love, Hope, and Peace Surround You Forever," a sentiment perfectly captured in the graceful

lines of the dancer and birds. The statue was created by Richard Hallier of Boone, NC.

*Sara Long releases a dove at the dedication*



## President's Message

*by W. David Piner*

This week I hurred through cyberspace a Board report that read like a Christmas brag letter. It celebrated the Fitzgerald Health Center's deficiency-free state survey; the retention of our A-Fitch Rating; the selection of a poised and splendid professional as our new Director of Nursing; and the opening of the Asbury Neighborhood – all significant accomplishments that bode well for Arbor Acres' future.

Accomplishments that further the goal of institutional perpetuity often pale alongside the luminosity of Arbor Acres' timeless mission. But a mission that is neither marketable, nor financially viable, dies. Mission and institutional survival are complements, sunlight and shade offsetting one another. Recently the Board of Directors engaged a national consultant who shared a slide of hands on a rope, locked in a tug of war. The caption read "Mission Stickiness versus Market Demand." It portrayed a fundamental truth: the inescapable tension between the mission to current residents, and "market" forces that persistently, annoyingly, exert pressure toward growth and change.



*W. David Piner*

New buildings, high ratings, the advancing skill and professionalism of staff: these fall squarely within the institutional mandate that for the sake of long-term survival Arbor Acres must remain forever fresh, competitive, attractive, and strong. Such accomplishments lose their shades of meaning, however, without the incandescence of a mission that is bright and shining. The "stickiness" of mission is the firm grip on the rope of luminous values that prevents Arbor Acres from gaining the world at the price of its very soul.

The soul of Arbor Acres, its mission, manifests when the new Director of Nursing kneels before a dying resident, hugging him to her shoulder. It gleams in the laughter of residents and staff as they rehearse the theatrical that is the centerpiece of the Meals-On-Wheels fundraiser. It shines in the smiles of new residents riding in their golf carts, and in the courage of long-term residents bracing for transition to new assisted living accommodations. Ours is a vibrant and living soul.

The flowering of the soul of Arbor Acres occurs like the blooming of the lotus, the most perfect of flowers. The beauty of the lotus emerges from the mud that feeds it. Thus the mud of market demand, the force that has altered repeatedly the appearance and make-up of the campus, that demands the regrettable sacrifice of trees for the sake of new neighborhoods and buildings, even the literal mud of new construction, likewise provides the fertile bed required for the mission's perpetual and perfect blooming.

## A New Look to Our Arbor Acres Website

Arbor Acres is pleased to announce the launch of its new web site. Please visit us at:

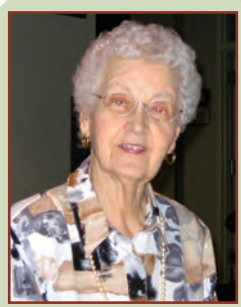
[www.arboracres.org](http://www.arboracres.org)



# Mary Dalton

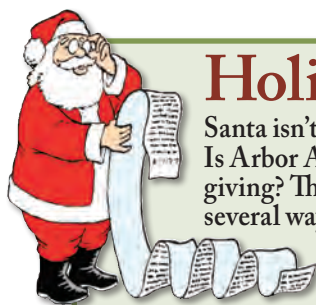
*A Rare Treasure*

Arbor Acres' library is a peaceful oasis in our busy Berrier building, thanks in large part to Mary Dalton, a resident who, in 1997, offered to process the library books. Mary, a retired teacher and school librarian, had the skills, time and patience to keep the library looking fresh, the book collection growing, and the space inviting – just no food or drinks please! Miriam Bumgarner, who knew Mary for nearly 50 years, described her as “physically tall in stature, and efficient in leadership...” Miriam treasured their friendship, explaining that they often “began each morning at breakfast and many nights ended with a conversation to hash over the events of the day.” In 2005 the Arbor Acres library was dedicated and named the Mary Dalton Library.



Mary grew up in the West Bend community, and was married to the Rev. George W. Dalton, a United Methodist minister. Always a planner, and wanting to leave a gift to the Assistance Endowment Fund, Mary created a charitable remainder trust and included Arbor Acres as a beneficiary. When Mary died this past spring, Arbor Acres became the recipients of a gift from her estate in the amount of \$306,000, which will be used to establish the George W. and Mary H. Dalton Fund for financial assistance. This legacy will make a difference to residents (38 last year) who need benevolent care now and in the years to come. Mary Dalton certainly touched our hearts in many ways, and because of her thoughtful generosity, will continue to inspire us.

*If you would like to include Arbor Acres in your will or estate plans, please contact Pat Hunter, Director of Development, at 336.748.4640.*



## Holiday Gift Ideas...

Santa isn't the only one making end-of-year gifts. Is Arbor Acres on YOUR list for 2011 end-of-year giving? There are real tax advantages. Here are several ways to make a difference:

**Cash/Checks:** Honor a friend or family member with a tribute (a gift in honor or in memory of) with a check, or use Visa/Mastercard on our secure website at [www.arboracres.org](http://www.arboracres.org)

**Gift of Securities:** Transfer or wire securities. Please notify us so we will know to expect the arrival.

**Name Arbor Acres as your beneficiary** in a bequest, IRA or life insurance policy.

Contact Pat Hunter at 336.748.4640 for additional information, or email her at [phunter@arboracres.org](mailto:phunter@arboracres.org).

## Our Wish List

Please consider making a gift of one of these “wishes” which will provide extra, non-budgeted enhancement to Arbor Acres.

- “Never 2 Late” computer system (\$7,500), a software system that provides interactive programs for health care residents.
- “Remembering Summertime” media presentation on DVD, songs on CD's and booklets (\$300).
- Giant/Magnetic/Thick Puzzles (\$30).

# Fitch Reaffirms Arbor Acres' A- Rating

In its bi-annual review of the financial strength of CCRCs, Fitch Ratings has reaffirmed Arbor Acres' A- rating. Of the 1,862 CCRCs in the country, only 33 – less than 2% – received A's. “This is about financial viability but it's also about peace of mind,” says Ken Boyles, Arbor Acres' CFO. “Residents and prospects alike want to know that the community they're living in is going to be around for a long time. We absolutely will be.” David Slack, consultant with the Aging Research Institute, agrees. “Arbor Acres is a strong organization with a good staff and board. It's well-maintained, the food is delicious, and looks like a fun place to be. The fact that even in these difficult times you received an A- is huge, and is a real compliment to the entire team.”

## CAR★WARS

**The Force... er, Ford... was with Us!**

Arbor Acres roared into outer space in September as we presented “CAR Wars” for the annual Meals-on-Wheels fundraiser. Honda Solo, Princess Kia, and a Jetta Knight were just a few of the characters in the musical. As a play on Star Wars' theme of the Force, the cast sang about “the Ford,” which turned out to be none other than love, “the power deep within your core.” This was proven many times over by the end of the night, when the total raised was tallied: \$30,293!



Top: Dark Vega and Juke Skylarkler battle.  
Bottom left: Helen Christie as an alien.  
Bottom right: Ellie Rein with Star Wars character CP30.

# Kathy Gwyn

*Director of Nursing*

Kathy Gwyn's office is filled with pictures of her family – her husband, her three daughters, her grandchild. It's also filled with angels. When asked about their significance, she pauses, then says, "Angels give me a sense of peace that comes with the knowledge of being cared for and loved by God." As our new Director of Nursing, Kathy's goal is to provide that same comfort to residents – and their families – at Arbor Acres.



*Kathy Gwyn shares a moment with resident Ola Mae Bruce*

After gaining clinical experience working with stroke and head injury patients at local hospitals, she started at Arbor Acres as a part-time registered nurse. Ten years later, Kathy, then nursing supervisor of the East Wing in the Fitzgerald Health Center, decided to apply for the Director of Nursing position, and was offered the job. "I'm overwhelmed with joy and excitement," she responds when asked how she feels about it, "and am so thankful to have this opportunity."

Kathy's new responsibilities span the entire continuum of care at Arbor Acres. She supports the nurses, resident assistants and staff who provide day-to-day services in the Fitzgerald Health Center, Corpening Building, and the Clifford W. Perry Clinic; and works with our medical director, nurse practitioners and physician assistants. She confers with off-campus doctors, dentists, and medical supply companies, and serves on several in-house wellness committees. It's a big job, but Kathy is up for the challenge. "We have such a talented and dedicated group of health care professionals here," she says. "Together we can make such a difference in the lives of our residents and their families."

## First Residents Move Into New Asbury Neighborhood!

### *Winborne and Chan Chandler*

When Chan and Winborne Chandler decided to downsize, they looked no further than Arbor Acres. As the first residents to move into our new Asbury neighborhood, these pioneers have quickly become a familiar sight driving around campus on their golf cart. "We love the independence of living in a house, but feel drawn into the great activities and programs that are offered here," says Winborne. "Chan has started playing croquet and I've joined the Sharps and Flats percussion band. Once we signed up to live here, we never looked back." Chan, a recently retired dentist, and Winborne also enjoy visits from their grandchildren, who love to feed the ducks!



*Winborne and Chan Chandler tour the neighborhood*

### *Judy Hardy*

A day after the Chandlers arrived, Judy Hardy, a retired teacher, moved into one of the new patio homes. It wasn't long before she was hosting a dinner party on her outdoor terrace. "It's so inviting and there is always a nice breeze," she says. Judy and her husband had planned to move to Arbor Acres together but Nash died a little over a year ago. "He'd be happy to know that I am here," she muses. "This is my new home, my new chapter of life. There's nowhere else I'd rather be." Judy shares the house with her Himalayan cat, Shadow, and can be seen mornings on her daily four-mile walk.



*Judy Hardy enjoys her new home in Asbury*



### *Jean and Tom Stockton*

A couple of weeks and a few hundred boxes later, Tom and Jean Stockton moved into their Asbury neighborhood home. When asked how she feels about their relocating to Arbor Acres, Jean refers to T.S. Eliot: "...the end of all our exploring will be to arrive where we started and know the place for the first time." The Stocktons know what it means to explore – Tom served as Methodist minister in North Carolina and as a Bishop in Virginia, so they've moved a lot. "We've been away from Winston-Salem for a long time and now are coming back to where we began," she explains. "Tom and I look forward to knowing this town as we've never known it before – as adults." Jean, who taught modern dance and is a sculptor and painter, plans to take some art classes here, and both Tom and she are happy to be closer to Tom's twin brother, Dick, and his wife, Bunky, long-time residents of Arbor Acres.



*Jean and Tom Stockton*

### *Phoebe and Bill Satterwhite*

Newest to Asbury, but not Arbor Acres, are Bill and Phoebe Satterwhite. "I always tell Phoebe how lucky we are," says Bill smiling at his wife, "and we always have been." As luck would have it, the Satterwhites sold their house quickly, so moved to a temporary location within Arbor Acres until their new home in Asbury neighborhood was finished. Phoebe recently played Princess Kia in CAR Wars, and she and Bill, a retired physician, volunteer at the Community Care Center in Winston-Salem. "I can't begin to say how happy we are to be here," exclaims Phoebe. "I dreaded the move. Every time we've moved I would cry for days but I haven't cried once since we've been here. This is where we are supposed to be. How lucky we are."



*Phoebe and Bill Satterwhite with their dog, Lily*

## Dr. James W. Ferree

*Arbor Acres Board Member*

Born in Randleman, North Carolina, Jim Ferree attended Livingstone College, Hood Theological Seminary in Salisbury, and received his Doctor of Divinity from High Point University. As pastor, Jim served churches in the Western North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church; as District Superintendent, he served the Gastonia district from 1979 - 1984 and the Winston-Salem district from 1988 - 1995. Jim and his wife, Doris, have three children and four grandchildren.

To maintain ties with churches in the Triad, Arbor Acres invites area District Superintendents to serve on its Board of Trustees. Jim began his tenure when he first arrived in Winston-Salem; seven years later, as his official church responsibilities came to an end, Arbor Acres president David Piner



*Dr. James Ferree*

asked him to remain on the Board. "Jim Ferree brings a wealth of Arbor Acres history with him," says David Piner. "He believes deeply in our mission and is a wonderful parliamentarian. His keen insights are greatly appreciated."

Having served Arbor Acres for well over a decade, Jim has seen many changes. "The Board today is different than it was when I first joined," he says. "It's more transparent, and differing opinions are encouraged. The Board is very collegial, and the more diverse membership brings in much outside experience, which makes us all stronger. I feel good about the direction Arbor Acres is taking."

Jim is a major proponent of strengthening the connection between Arbor Acres and United Methodist churches in the conference. "As a United Methodist minister, I think it is important that Arbor Acres and area churches continue to nurture their unique relationship. We need to encourage pastors from the Triad

# Upcoming Events

Thursday, October 13  
7:00 p.m., Nick Bragg,  
Renaissance Man

Thursday, October 20  
Pink Ribbon Day in  
recognition of Breast Cancer

Thursday, October 27  
Tapas Night in the Arbor Room

Thursday, November 10  
& Friday, November 11  
Veteran's Day celebration  
with a special luncheon and  
a performance by the  
Andrews Sisters II

to host meetings at Arbor Acres, to urge their congregations to support the Mother's Day Appeal, and to suggest to senior members of their congregations that they consider moving to Arbor Acres."

### Board of Directors

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