

HEATH VILLAGE VOICE

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Sweet Treats and Memories at *The Automat*

Our community was very fortunate to have a special screening of the documentary *The Automat*. The film discusses the rise and fall of Horn and Hardart's iconic Automat, one of America's original restaurant chains in NYC and Philadelphia. The restaurants popularized the vending machine method of serving fresh cooked comfort food and desserts quickly and for a reasonable price. Norris Horn, the great nephew of the founder of Horn & Hardart, is one of the last surviving members of the Horn family. He attended the screening with our residents, along with the film director Lisa Hurwitz of A Slice of Pie Productions. Norris worked in one of the last standing Automats in NYC when he was younger, and his family played an integral part in the creation and success of the Automat. He also just happens to be a member of Heath Village's Board of Trustees for the last 20 years.



Director Lisa Hurwitz created this documentary because she loved eating in her school cafeteria during her college days and was fascinated by the concept of the Automat. She never visited an Automat herself but wanted to share the story and history with others who were also not able to experience an Automat firsthand. She loved chatting with the residents and staff after the film and hearing their amazing stories of visiting an Automat. Indulging in the delicious New Orleans style coffee and lemon chess pie provided at the event added something special to the whole experience.

Some of the cast members in the documentary reminiscing about *The Automat* included Mel Brooks, Carl Reiner, Elliott Gould, John W. Romas, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Colin Powell, and Norris himself. Mel Brooks played a major role throughout the documentary. He wrote and performed the title song for the film called, *At The Automat*.

This was by far one of my favorite presentations at Heath Village. So many of us had visited one of these unique cafeteria style restaurants as children or young adults. You had to experience the magic of dropping a coin in the slot, opening the little window and seeing your food appear right in front of you! My favorite memory occurred when I was in my early teens and my whole family had traveled to Madison Square Garden in NYC to see the circus. As a special treat, my parents took me and my three brothers to the Automat for lunch before the performance. We were all given nickels for dessert, and we scattered, each of us picking out our favorite treat. However, my younger brother kept returning to the table with several slices of lemon chess pie. It took a few minutes for my parents to realize that the little door that my brother kept opening remained unlocked and the person who was filling the slot from the

back never realized it until my parents intervened. We all had extra dessert that day and a good laugh!

Article by: Fran Blaskopf

Photos by: Housing & Marketing Services



Pictured is the Director of *The Automat* Lisa Hurwitz and Norris Horn, the great nephew of the founder of Horn & Hardart.



Image source: The New York Public Library
Digital Collections – Horn & Hardart Retail Shop
www.digitalcollections.nypl.org

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Creating Handmade Hugs

Some of the happiest moments in my day are sitting down and knitting teddy bears for children in need across America.

My teddy bear journey started more than 30 years ago when a friend shared with me instructions on how to knit one. I was interested in starting a new project but as the business of life can get in the way, it took me two years to get serious about knitting and committing to the project. I was living in Florida at the time and was an active member of Nefertiti Court of Ladies Oriental Shrine (LOS), which is a non-profit organization that promotes fraternal fellowship, fun, and service through philanthropic endeavors in support of Shriners Hospitals for Children.

I came from a long line of volunteers and service as my father, brother, and uncle were Shriners as well, so I learned about the Shriners Children's Hospital at an early age. I took a special interest in the Shriners Children's Hospital in Philadelphia where they treat children battling cancer, burn victims, and children in need of prosthetics, in addition to overall pediatric and orthopedic care.

One of my LOS friends and I began knitting bears that we would mail to the Shriners Children's Hospital in Philly, but we didn't stop there. After hearing from the hospital staff about how much these small bears meant to each patient, how they would play with the bears, sleep with them, and sometimes hold them during their treatments, we began knitting bears for other hospitals in Pennsylvania as well as Boston, Florida, California, Hawaii, and Mexico...to name a few.

I continue to knit and mail these little bundles of handmade hugs and have provided teddy bears to approximately 27 Shriners Children's Hospitals. To date, I have knitted 4,243 bears! This is a life enriching experience for me and I feel blessed that I have been able to spread happiness to so many children.

Article by: Shirley Peterson

Photos by: Housing & Marketing Services



Heath Village resident Shirley Peterson with her latest batch of hand-knitted teddy bears.



Bear Maker Strikes Again

Submitted by June C. Black
Regional Representative Mary Lou Rogers



Shirley Peterson, member of Harriet Greene #198, Region 11C, Hamlin, and her friend Barbara Abbott, have been busy knitting "Teddy Bears" for the Shriner's Hospitals in Philadelphia and Erie Pennsylvania, and Honolulu, Hawaii. These teddy bears will be shipped to the newest hospital in Mexico. To date, the ladies have made over 300 teddy bears to help cheer the children while at these hospitals. Sister Shirley is also a member of Nefertiti Court of Ladies Oriental Shrine in New Port Richey, Florida.

Nefertiti Court of Ladies Oriental Shrine newsletter article.

Fostering A Sanctuary of Love & Tranquility

Even before I was a teenager, I would look at the real estate section of the Sunday paper for farms that my parents could purchase and could become our new home. That never came to fruition during my childhood, but I was able to make my dream come true as an adult.

Forty years ago in the 1980s, my wife June and I purchased 28 overgrown acres in Sussex County and our dream of owning a farm was achieved. We built our home and 14 barns and run-in sheds for our animals. We provided foster care for cats from a local animal rescue and horses from a standardbred rescue.

At one time, we had around 75 cats and kittens in heated and air conditioned buildings on our farm, and around 10 horses in live-stock barns. We personally rescued ducks, chickens, geese, sheep, goats, dogs, cattle and a pot belly pig named Wilber, along with a farm pig that grew to 1,100 pounds! At one time, the animal count on our sanctuary farm was up to 120 animals. We even rescued a draft horse from Wild West City located in Byram, NJ. They all lived out their lives in a safe, loving and happy environment at our farm.

June and I loved being surrounded by all the animals and the more the merrier, but trust me, this was a labor of love as we ended up shoveling a ton of manure over the years. Our horses Uncle Milt and Skippen concurred! We wanted to share our unconditional love for animals on a greater scale and it seemed like a natural transition for my wife and I to start fostering horses from Standardbred Retirement Foundation (SRF).

We took the plunge about 35 years ago and began working with SRF. We always made space for a horse in need, and we felt strongly about the mission of SRF which is to rescue horses from the threat of slaughter and provide secure loving homes with a lifetime commitment to care for the horse. We continued to work with SRF and eventually our farm became the oldest permanent foster home for this non-profit organization. For my service to the Foundation, I am being acknowledged at an award ceremony this fall at the Meadowlands Racetrack and will be awarded the *SRF Foster to Freedom Award* for my dedication to the welfare of horses. This is truly an honor to receive such an award from an organization about which I feel so passionately.

When my wife passed away a few years ago, the farm and animals were too much for me to care for alone. I sold the farm earlier this year and was very fortunate to be able to come to live at Heath Village.

I have 40 years of memories that I cherish of my farm life and all the animals that we cared for and loved. I would like to think they also loved my wife and me. Now I look ahead to creating new memories with my Heath Village family.

Article by: Brian Heiser

Photos by: Brian Heiser and Housing & Marketing Services



Pictured: Heath Village resident, Brian Heiser



Pictured: Wilber



Pictured: Skippen



Pictured: Uncle Milt

Call Me Miss Eva

My fellow residents call me Evelyn but, at the Friendship Center, the intergenerational pre-school located on Heath Village's campus, I am called Miss Eva by the students and staff. I most definitely prefer Miss Eva and cherish my time spent there.

I have lived at Heath Village for eleven years. I am incredibly happy here but, in the beginning, it was a bit overwhelming for me as a new resident to meet and connect with my fellow residents. I started going on walks around campus most mornings to familiarize myself with the community and one morning I heard the laughter of children playing outside. Realizing we have young ones around our campus made me happy and makes Heath Village a genuinely unique place.

I learned that the Friendship Center was looking for a foreign language teacher to work with the four-to five-year-olds. I eagerly offered my services to teach German, which is my native language. I was eager to share my passion and love for the German language and my hometown, Berlin. I began teaching children's songs in German and the children learned a completely new language more easily when we sang it. We also explored words, animals, colors, numbers, short sentences, and beginner arithmetic. It was amazing to see how well the children absorbed all this new material and had so much fun along the way. It is so meaningful when I run into some of the students I taught years later, and they still remember a German song or story from class!

I have also been a longtime volunteer in our pen pal program where residents and students write letters to one another. Some of us even stay in touch with our pen pals as they grow and move on to middle school and high school.

New this year, our residents taught the pre-k class bocce. The children played wonderfully, and we all had a fun time together. The older children also started a garden in our community garden for the first time. They planted flowers and enjoyed watching them grow. They also use our swimming pool during summer camp and can even take swimming lessons.

I'm proud to be part of such a fantastic group of fellow residents who participate in various programs at the Friendship Center and help make an impact on these young people's lives. The volunteer opportunities in our community are endless and this is one of the aspects of living at Heath Village that I believe truly sets our community apart from others.

Article by: Evelyn Lesch

Photos by: Housing & Marketing Services



Miss Eva with her former Friendship Center pen pal from 2016, Max. Max is now in 7th grade.



Miss Eva teaching German to the students at the Friendship Center

Sharing Your Passions

Patricia Murray has been a resident at Heath Village since February 2021. Over the last four years, she has shared several of her passions and hobbies with the community, a few centered around her love of gardening, animals and designing artwork.

Most of us are content growing tomatoes, string beans and flowers in our garden, but not Pat. Some of the plants Pat grows around her apartment include strawberries, blueberries, plums, grapes, and cherries. She studies and discovers every plant, learning how to give each one just the right care to thrive and produce its bounty. If you're in her neighborhood maybe you'll meet Sweetheart, the baby chipmunk that visits Pat regularly at her patio screen. Pat has told me that Heath Village should consider building an airport landing strip in her backyard for all the birds and wildlife that stop by to visit.

Another of Pat's passions is drawing. When I noticed that she wasn't attending the art groups in the main building, I asked Pat if she might be interested in designing themed artwork to decorate envelopes for birthday cards that the Housing Department sends to each resident on their special day. We started with a few envelopes, and they became so popular that Pat now comes by regularly to pick up new envelopes to decorate with her customized artwork. Her specialty is using sparkly pencils that shine just like her personality, and I have heard many residents say how much they loved the beautiful designs on their birthday card envelopes and how much it meant to them.

We feel strongly here at Heath Village about the importance of residents and employees sharing their passions, working together and inspiring one another. By doing so, we make such a positive impact on each other's lives and our amazing community.

Article by: Patrica Cristo, Housing Coordinator at Heath Village

Photos by: Housing & Marketing Services



Heath Village resident Pat Murray designing birthday card envelopes for her fellow residents.



Newcomers



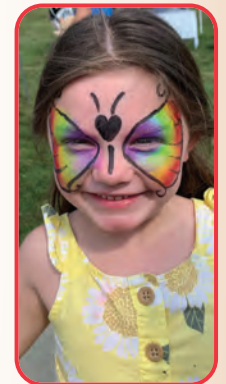
Wild, Wild West Village Heath Village Gone County!

Family Day, one of Heath Village's most anticipated annual events, was outstanding once again this year. This year's theme was *Wild Wild West Village!* There was live music & entertainment, line dancing, pony rides, therapy goats, hayrides, old-time photos, cowboy roping, amusement rides, delicious food and much more!

What makes Family Day so special is the unique opportunity it presents for residents and employees to relax with one another as well as with their own family. It is a true celebration of our Heath Village family. And like every year prior, children of all ages could be found laughing and having a boot-stompin' good time!

Article by: Housing & Marketing Services

Photos by: Housing & Marketing Services



In Memoriam

Shirley Phillips
Josephine "Jody" Teaze
Robert "Bob" Jones

July 12, 2024
July 27, 2024
July 30, 2024

Christopher Kuras
Douglas Hinton

August 10, 2024
September 5, 2024

Heath Village
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Celebrate Fall at Heath Village! Call 908-684-5009 today to schedule a private tour and visit our beautiful campus. Like & follow us on Facebook to stay up to date on all the activities at Heath Village.

The Friendship Fund Charitable Gift Annuity

Making an annuity gift: You irrevocably transfer money or securities to our Friendship Fund. In exchange, we pay you (and another, or a survivor, if you like) a fixed amount annually for life. In effect, your transfer is doing two things -making a charitable gift and purchasing a fixed income for life.

Income tax benefit: You get an income tax charitable deduction in the year you make your gift. If you let us know your date of birth and the amount of your contemplated gift, we can calculate your deduction.

How annual payments are taxed: A large portion of each annuity payment received is tax-free. The tax-free amount is fixed at the outset and remains constant for the period of your life expectancy.**

The rate of return is attractive and guaranteed for life - without investment worries or responsibility.

Rate Examples: One-Life Annuity Rates 1/1/2023

Age**	Rate
75	7.0 %
76	7.2 %
77	7.4 %
78	7.6 %
79	7.8 %
80	8.1 %
81	8.3 %
82	8.5 %
83	8.7 %
84	8.9 %
85	9.1 %
86	9.3 %
87	9.5 %
88	9.7 %
89	9.9 %
90+	10.1 %

The Friendship Fund Charitable Gift Annuity is a wonderful opportunity for giving, as it benefits the donor as well as residents of Heath Village. We hope that you will discuss this opportunity with your legal or financial counsel.

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Independent living in one of the garden-type units ranging in size from studio apartments to two-bedroom cottages. Dining and meal plans are optional.

Mayflower House is a residential health care facility with 24 hour staff, meals, housekeeping, laundry, medication monitoring all included in the monthly cost.

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The Meadows Nursing & Rehabilitation offers long-term care, sub-acute, rehabilitation and respite care services in a new state-of-the-art facility.

All monthly rates include 24-hour emergency call service and annual carpet cleaning; use of lounges, chapel, library, swimming pool, computer equipment, craft rooms, fitness center and other community facilities; bus service to Hackettstown, club cart service within the Community and on-site parking.

Affordable monthly rates.

Optional community fees.

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Call 908-852-4801 for an appointment.