



September:

Lorna Ullstrom 9/27
Allan Reapsummer 9/30

October:

Margeurite Carrington 10/12
Rose Covert 10/14
Dagney Drews 10/14
Lucille “Lucy” Harms 10/16
James “Jim” Lurie 10/20
Lance Hall 10/27

Staff:

Erin Imes 9/6
Emily Polk 9/13
Kathleen Woodard 9/15
Misty Shrader 9/23
Lindsey Day 9/30
Alena Rodstol 10/7
Paige Thorp 10/13
Kyle Eggers 10/14
Jenny Cooper 10/26
Rebekah Price 10/27



September:

9/8 Snowy Owl Theater: Elder Speak
9/10 Muchen Haus
9/18 Fish Lake
9/28 Autumn Leaf Parade

October:

10/11 Oktoberfest



If you have any questions or wish to contact us, please call or e-mail us today to learn more about Leavenworth’s friendliest non-profit Senior Living Community!

Telephone Number: 509-548-4076

www.mountainmeadowsliving.org

**Mountain Meadows Senior Living Campus
320 Park Avenue
Leavenworth, WA 98826**

Thank you for considering Mountain Meadows in your estate planning and charitable giving.

Mountain Meadows Musings

FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



The below-normal average temperatures, cool, nippy mornings and warmer afternoons have been the perfect recipe for a wonderful summer! It is also the first summer in some-time that we have not been plagued by forest fires and smoke.

Summertime at Mountain Meadows has been a busy time! We were visited by two different State agencies: Department of Commerce and Department of Social and Health Services. Both agencies were very complimentary during their required inspections. The one notable “standout” by each agency was how wonderful our community grounds look. The beautiful floral arrangements and vine-ripe gardens at the front entry and on our patios were a huge hit with the inspectors. A special thank you is extended to Joel and Chris, Memory Care staff, and our faithful volunteer, Arlene Kaufman, for creating such a beautiful park-like environment for our residents and families to enjoy. The commercial-grade canopies and outdoor patio furniture purchased with donations from our supporters complete the ambience.

The activity department, volunteers, and staff have been very busy this summer providing seasonal activities. The Hawaiian Luau was such a big hit with the families, staff, and residents. I still receive wonderful comments on how wonderful the Kailua pork and Hulu chicken were. Of course, the annual picnic up the Icicle at Rayfield’s private campsite was well attended. Everyone enjoyed the bar-b-cued hot dogs with all the trimmings. Unfortunately, the funny bunny record was not broken again this year! Other special outings included trips to Blueberry Hill in Manson for lunch, to Lisa Bee’s for an afternoon treat of a fresh peach shake, and to a cinema showing of “The Lion King” in 3D. The big finale and goodbye to summer is scheduled for September 17. Many staff and residents will spend the day at Fish Lake, enjoying a pontoon boat ride and special bar-b-cue!

On a final note, many of you may recall that Mountain Meadows has contracted with a national firm, Pinnacle Quality Insight, to evaluate our customer service and resident satisfaction. We just received our annual report and evaluation. Mountain Meadows is proud to announce that we scored higher than the national average in all areas, and received an outstanding rating in most areas evaluated. This speaks volumes for the team at Mountain Meadows. Thank you to those who participated in the telephone surveys. We so appreciate your thoughts and comments, and we use that information to continue to enhance our quality of care and services. As the summer season ends, I wait with anticipation to what our next season of life brings. See you on the Autumn Leaf parade route!

Nate Oglesby
Executive Director



Getting to Know Barbara de Rubertis



Barbara (Barb) was born in St. Louis, Missouri on May 7, 1939, the only child to Ed and Sylvia Lehde. Barb grew up in Dallas, Texas, where her fondest memory was going to the library after spending the morning swimming at the city pool every day in the summertime. After graduating from high school, she attended the University of Colorado where she graduated with degrees in Psychology, Sociology and Political Science. She then attended Kansas State University under a Ford Foundation Fellowship, earning a double major in Education and History.

In August of 1961, just after finishing her undergraduate degrees, she married her husband, Kim de Rubertis. Together they have two boys: Corbin, 55, and Benjamin (Ben), 50. Corbin is the Vice President of Meredith Corporation (a media giant), and Ben is an architect who specializes in institutional buildings.

After Barb and Kim were married, they moved a total of 20 times. This included a move overseas to Iran, where Kim worked on a major dam project and Barb taught the elementary grades at an international school. After 5 years in Iran, they moved back to the States and eventually settled in Cashmere, WA, in 1974. There, Barb continued to teach school for 31 years, retiring 10 years ago. While teaching Middle School in Cashmere Barbara applied to NASA’s Teacher in Space program. She was selected as one of the ten finalists in Washington State. This took Barb on a trip to California where she watched a space shuttle land and then was able to listen to the astronauts speak directly after exiting the space shuttle. “One of the saddest days of my life, was when Christa McAuliffe and the astronauts were killed in the space shuttle launch”, Barbara said.

At the age of 50, Barb began writing children’s books and has 65 books in publication today. Barb’s favorite part of living at Mountain Meadows is the people. She hopes that everyone appreciates what a wonderful place this is to live, with the scenic views, caring staff, good food, and interesting entertainment.

Employee of the Quarter
Brittany is the Best!



Brittany Lanning is the recipient of the Mountain Meadows second quarter employee service award for 2019. The department head supervisors unanimously chose her for this award. With this honor, Brittany receives a \$50 gift certificate and a day off with pay.

Brittany has been employed for 3 years as a personal caregiver on our memory care unit. Her prior years of experience as a CNA in a skilled nursing center, and her excellent customer service, reliability, and strong work ethic were some of the many accolades shared on her behalf.

Except for a few years in Nevada, Brittany has been a lifelong Washington resident. For the past 10 years, she has lived in Dryden and is the proud mother of Luna Dawn, her 2-year-old daughter. During her free time, she enjoys spending time with family and crafting jewelry. When asked, “What do you enjoy most about your job?” Brittany replied, “I so appreciate the clean and welcoming environment, strong standards, and wonderful co-workers.”

Mark the Date . . . You Won’t Want to Miss “Elder Speak”!

On Grandparent’ s Day, September 8, the Ripple Foundation will again present an “Elder Speak” program at Snowy Owl Theater from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm. The first Elder Speak program was held in 2015 and every year since then, a select panel of seniors have shared their wisdom and life experiences.

Elder Speak was created to foster a positive connection between elders and younger generations. It provides an opportunity for elders to share their unique life experiences and allows the younger generations to ponder a different way of looking at present-day life.

This year’s panelists are from the Leavenworth/Wenatchee Valley. The four Elders include Suzanne McPherson, former mayor of Cashmere in the 1980’s; Everett Burns, retired entomologist, farmer, and community volunteer; Mae Hamilton, former Real Estate agent in the greater Wenatchee area; and Jim Wills, retired Director of Grant and Research Development at Washington State University.

Mountain Meadows will be providing transportation for those residents who wish to attend this special event. See Fern for more details.

Mountain Meadows also wishes to extend a special “Thank You” to the Ripple Foundation for sharing 50% of any donations received from this event with Mountain Meadows.

Retro – The Re-Introduction of “Old Stuff”

By: Christine Groen



I find it interesting and amusing, that there are things from “my” generation (baby boomers) that have become popular to the generation of my own kids. So much so, that the word “retro” has been fashioned to define this interest in “back then but not so long ago.” It’s rather a strange middle mix of icons pulled from the decades before they were born, but not too far back. Icons which are old enough to seem “new”, but new enough not to seem antiquated. And at a time when most kids strive to differentiate from their parents as much as they can, it seems ironic that we should be bonding on things such as music, clothing, and decorating schemes.

I experienced this during a day of activities at Mountain Meadows recently, when I put together some activities that felt “retro” to me, but touched on the memories of the residents who attended. I had no idea just how much “milkshakes, french fries, and 50’s trivia” would pique the interest of the 23 residents who showed up. Indeed, retro sells! Our morning activity consisted of a twist on the game show, “The Price is Right”, with two teams competing at guessing the prices of items sold at the Leavenworth Safeway. The fact that most residents don’t do a lot of grocery shopping made the competition even more interesting, as they compared “old” prices with new. (And as far as bonding over milkshakes, perhaps that will never change!)

So, what can we take from all this? My feeling is that we inherently have a desire to feel connected to the generations from which we come. We just don’t always know how to do that well. We rebel at times, not to reject our past, as much as to forge something of our own. And to the generation before us, that “something” all too often is seen as scandalous or defiant. But finding those threads of connection that we can still share our own spin on, might allow us to learn more from each other. Integrating the generations, rather than segregating them, starts with asking and listening – two things ALL generations can benefit from. And if “retro” gets us closer to that, then I’m happy to show up!