

March 2019/Vol. 5, No. 3

By Carol Volpe, Activities Director

Girl Scouts and The Orchards residents form lasting friendships

It has been eight decades since Joyce M. was active in Girl Scouts. However, this resident of The Orchards has no problem remembering some of the activities they did when she was eight years old. “We did a lot of sewing. We met after school in a church in Bristol,” she recalled. She never expected to be involved with Scouting again until Girl Scout Cadette Troop 66130 began hosting Senior Nights once a month.

Since September, the Cadettes have met at The Orchards twice each month, first for a troop meeting and second for an activities night with the residents. The girls, sixth-graders, have been on their Scouting journey together since they were Daisies in first grade at Plantsville Elementary School.

Parents Debby Popkin and Ann Parente have led the Troop for the past three years. The time spent with the residents is helping the girls work toward their Cadette Community Service Bar, an award which is earned by completing at least 20 hours of service to a local organization, explained Popkin.



Resident Ursula W., seated, gets some decorating guidance from several Girl Scouts.



Several residents of The Orchards gather with members of Girl Scout Cadette Troop 66130 to admire the valentine cookies that they decorated together.

“This year, it is more girl-led – they have taken ownership, make the decisions and decide what badges they would like to earn,” Parente said.

Some of the special activities that the girls have organized and hosted for residents included a Halloween party, Game Night and Craft Night. In February, they decorated valentine cookies using two icings and five toppings. “I made four cookies to take to my great-granddaughter’s fifth birthday party,” said Mary Z., a resident of The Orchards. She, too, was a Girl Scout as was her daughter. “I liked the activities, the camaraderie and the trips we took,” she recalled, thinking about her childhood.

The Senior Nights have given her the chance to reconnect with Scouting. “The

See **Scouts**, page 4

Sunday(s)	Monday(s)	Tuesday(s)	Wednesday(s)
<p>10:00am CATHOLIC MASS (Channel 11 TV) & Communion - Community Room</p> <p>3:15pm COFFEE & CONVERSATION Country Kitchen</p>	<p>10:30am GET FIT w/Christine Community Room</p> <p>1:00pm CHORALEERS Practice Community Room</p> <p>1:30pm BRIDGE Veranda Dining Room</p> <p>2:30pm BINGO Community Room</p> <p>3:15pm COFFEE & CONVERSATION Country Kitchen</p> <p>6:30pm NETFLIX MOVIE South Living Room</p>	<p>9:30am NON-DENOM Service w/Pastor Vicky South Living Room</p> <p>11:00am KNITTING & CROCHETING w/Mary South Living Room</p> <p>1:15pm GET FIT w/ Christine-Community Rm</p> <p>1:30pm Wellness Clinic- 3rd Floor</p> <p>3:pm HAPPY HOUR - Pub</p> <p>6:30pm BINGO Community Room</p>	<p>9:30am ROSARY Private Dining Room</p> <p>10:30am GET FIT w/Christine Community Room</p> <p>6:30pm SETBACK Cards North Living Room</p> <p>6:30pm NETFLIX MOVIE South Living Room</p>

Events listed on the top of calendar are regularly scheduled weekly functions at The Orchards. Residents will be notified of any change in schedule. Residents are encouraged to attend out trips. Trips are weather permitting. Register for out trips with our receptionist.

<p>3</p> <p>2:00pm Music w/Bill Naughton Community Room</p>	<p>4</p> 	<p>5</p> <p>2:00pm Music w/Pierce Campbell Community Room</p>	<p>6</p> <p>1-6pm BLOOD DRIVE Community Room</p> <p>1:00pm Ash Wednesday Ashes for The Orchards residents - S. Living Room</p> <p>2:00pm Music w/Jose South Living Room</p>
<p>10</p> <p>Daylight Savings Time begins</p>  <p>2:00pm Sophistication Musical Duo - Community Room</p>	<p>11</p> <p>2:00pm National "Pay Phone Booth" Day: Learn some interesting facts North living Room</p>	<p>12</p> <p>6:30pm Choraleers "Seasons" Concert Community Room</p> <p>NO BINGO This Evening</p>	<p>13</p> <p>12:00pm Men's Group Luncheon The Pub</p> <p>2:00pm March Birth Party w/Tony Cast Community Room</p> <p>3:30pm Coffee Hour w/Wayne - The Pub</p>
<p>17</p> <p>St. Patrick's Day Green Ice Cream Floats Country Kitchen</p> 	<p>18</p> <p>10:00am Out Trip Marshall's Store Plainville</p>	<p>19</p> <p>2:00pm Food Talk w/Claribel Community Room</p>	<p>20</p> <p>SPRING BEGINS</p>  <p>10:45am Lunch Out Trip East Side Restaurant New Britain</p>
<p>24</p> <p>2:00pm Ice Cream Social Country Kitchen</p> <hr/> <p>31</p> <p>2:00pm Ice Cream Social Country Kitchen</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9:30am Breakfast Out Trip Kizl's Restaurant Southington</p>	<p>26</p> <p>2:00pm The Orchards Cooks! Country Kitchen</p> <p>6:30pm Genealogy Group - Community Rm</p> <p>BINGO-Mac Dining Rm</p>	<p>27</p> <p>1:30pm Sunshine Club - S. Living Room</p> <p>2:00pm Resident/Staff Meeting - Community Room</p> <p>3:00pm Beltone Hearing Community Room</p> <p>6:30pm Southington Arts Crafts - Community Room</p>

<p>Thursday(s)</p> <p>1:15pm GET FIT w/Christine South Living Room</p> <p>3:00pm HAPPY HOUR - Pub</p> <p>6:30pm BINGO Community Room</p>	<p>Friday(s)</p> <p>10:00am STOP & SHOP</p> <p>1:45pm BINGO Community Room</p> <p>3:15pm COFFEE & CONVERSATION Country Kitchen</p> <p>6:30pm CORDIALS & CONVERSATION with Trivia South Living Room</p> <p>6:30pm GAME OF POKER South Living Room</p>	<p>Saturday(s)</p> <p>10:00am GET FIT w/ video Community Room</p> <p>11:00am ROSARY Private Dining Room</p> <p>3:00pm HAPPY HOUR - Pub</p> <p>3:15pm COFFEE & CONVERSATION Country Kitchen</p> <p>6:30pm BINGO Community Room</p>
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**MARCH
2019**

<p>7</p> <p>1:30pm Noodle/Balloon Volleyball Community Room</p> <p>2:00pm Painting Tulips on Pallets Community Room</p>	<p>1</p> <p>2:00pm Let's Make Homemade Peanut Butter Country Kitchen</p> <p>8</p> <p>2:00pm Famous Faces and Facts North Living Room</p>	<p>2</p> <p>10:00am "GET FIT" w/ Video Community Room</p> <p>1:15pm Movie Matinee Community Room</p> <p>9</p> <p>10:00am "GET FIT" w/ Video Community Room</p> <p>1:15pm Movie Matinee Community Room</p>
<p>14</p> <p>2:00pm Noodle Balloon Volleyball Community Room</p> <p>6:30pm Bingo Macintosh Dining Room</p>	<p>15</p> <p>10:00am Common Infections: What you Need to Know w/Sandy Community Room</p> <p>12:00pm Book Club Luncheon - Pub</p> <p>2:00pm Scrabble South Living Room</p>	<p>16</p> <p>10:00am "GET FIT" w/Video Community Room</p> <p>1:15pm Movie Matinee Community Room</p> <p>1:30pm Out Trip Southington High School Drama Club Presents: Grease</p>
<p>21</p> <p>2:00pm Women's History Month "Patriots of Liberty" w/Patty Carver Community Room</p>	<p>22</p> <p>1:30pm Out Trip - Carousel Museum Bristol</p>	<p>23</p> <p>10:00am "GET FIT" w/Video Community Room</p> <p>1:15pm Movie Matinee Community Room</p>
<p>28</p> <p>2:00pm Noodle/Balloon Volleyball South Living Room</p>	<p>29</p> <p>2:00pm Scrabble South Living Room</p>	<p>30</p> <p>10:00am "GET FIT" w/video Community Room</p> <p>1:15pm NETFLIX Movie South Living Room</p>

The Orchards at Southington



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Scouts from page 1

girls are joyful and helpful. It is uplifting. I love participating," she said as she packaged her cookie plate.

The Scouts, who are nearly seven decades younger than their new, older friends, said the intergenerational get-togethers have been fun. "I like to give back to all the people. They have so much fun. I like to see their reactions," said Julia O'Neill, 11, who attends John F. Kennedy Middle School.

Cara Stahl, 11, said she likes hearing the residents' stories including when they were Girl Scouts. On Game Night, she enjoyed playing the Game of Life even though they didn't get to finish. Being a Girl Scout gives her the opportunity to do for the community including making toys for animals at the Newington Humane Society; assembling toiletry kits for a homeless shelter; and cleaning up a beach.

Kylie Baden, 11, like the other girls, is busy with other activities including Drama Club, Swing Choir and gymnastics. But she always looks forward to "spending time with the elderly," she said after eating three of the five cookies she decorated.

"This intergenerational relationship building has been a wonderful way to build friendships. The Orchards residents and Girl Scouts have all benefitted from this program and enjoy their time together," said Carol Volpe, activities director.

"The girls are completely invested and engaged. It's a sisterhood. They support each other. It's very rewarding," Parente said.

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For more information, call
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