

Welcome Mary Bailie and Susan Cairo!

Please join us in welcoming **Mary Bailie**, Director of the Assisted Living at Jacaranda Trace and **Susan Cairo**, Director of Marketing, the newest members in the Jacaranda Trace Team.

Mary Bailie came from Rosemont, PA where she lived most of her life. Family life for Mary seems to come in fives. She is the oldest of five children and she is married to Rick and they have five children and they have five grandchildren. As of this newsletter, Mary says they will soon have six grandchildren.



She attended and graduated from LPN school in MA. While raising her five children, she went back to school and graduated as an RN from Edison College in Fort Myers, Florida.

Mary has been working with the elderly since she was a child and she had to help watch her grandmother who had Alzheimer's. She went on to continue to work with seniors through her church and worked at a nursing home as a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) in high school. As a nurse, Mary has worked on medical surgical, neuro and ortho floors, ICU and psych units. She has been a charge nurse, MDS Coordinator and Director of Nursing. She opened 3 assisted living communities.

When she isn't working, Mary enjoys the gulf activities such as snorkeling, swimming, boating and fishing. She likes playing pool (although she confesses to not being very good) and reading.

Mary's philosophy is to "treat every individual with the respect that they deserve". She is honored to be here at Jacaranda Trace and looks forward to working with all our seniors.



Susan Cairo, Director of Marketing, relocated to Venice, Florida from Mahwah, New Jersey about eight years ago when her husband Ron decided to retire.

She worked more than 20 years in Sales and Marketing for the Ford Motor Company in their New York Regional Sales Office in Mahwah, NJ. After arriving in Florida, she worked as a writer and account executive for Venice Gulf Coast Living Magazine. She also worked as a reporter for the Venice Gondolier Sun and won an award from the Florida Press Association for a story about the Laurel Community. Another one of her stories was featured on the David Letterman Show for "Kooky Home Town News". On the home front, Susan wrote the article about Olga

that appeared in the local newspaper. On vacations from Ford Motor Company, Susan worked as a lecturer for Holland America Cruise Line.

Susan graduated from Englewood Hospital School of Nursing in Englewood, NJ as an RN. She spent 7 years in the NJ National Guard and reached the rank of E6 (Sergeant) graduating from military school with an MOS of Recruiter for the New Jersey/New York area.

Locally, Susan works on the Board of the Venice Art Center as a fund-raiser and the Venice Community Center, creating marketing events for the non-profit group.

So if you are passing by, please stop and say hello and get to know Mary and Susan!

Jacaranda Trace

Community Newsletter



Rosetta Stone Program

Arts & Leisure is happy to announce the latest addition to the Lifestyle & Wellness Program. Residents can now start enjoying the Rosetta Stone experience.

The Rosetta Stone Program is the world's leading language-learning software program. Jacaranda is choosing to offer Spanish classes through the program. The Rosetta Stone Program teaches language naturally, the same way you learned your first language, by connecting words to objects and events around you. Native speakers and real-life images help you think in the new language from the very beginning.

Participating in the Rosetta Stone Program will help you:

- Understand every day language through proficiency-based listening and reading activities.
- Pronounce words correctly after practicing with the proprietary speech recognition analysis tool.
- Speak without a script.
- Spell and write accurately, building gradually from letters to words and sentences.
- Engage in real life conversations.
- Retain what you learn.

A computer is set up Outside the Library for those wishing to participate in the Rosetta Stone Program. The program has five levels. You can learn at your own pace and interact vocally with the program.

See Arts & Leisure to sign up and for more details.

Skype Now Available

Skype is now available at Jacaranda Trace.

Skype is a way for a person to talk to someone on another computer via calls. Skype works through a web cam program and has a webcam, microphone and speakers.

With this program, you will be able to talk to friends and family as if they were in the same room. The person with which you wish to speak must have their computer equipped with the same hardware and Skype program. All computer-to-computer video chats are free.

The two most popular ways to enjoy Skype are Skype-to-Skype Voice Calls where you can speak to anyone in the world for as long as you want. The second way is Skype-to-Skype Video Calls. With this method you can talk face-to-face with family and friends and it won't cost a thing.

Skype-to-Skype calls are free so seeing your friends and family won't cost a thing no matter where they are in the world.

Have you Skyped today?

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

April - Earl Gorgia - Food Service
May - Hollie Neitzey - Security
June - Josie Cutsinger- Concierge/Security

Winner of \$600 Travel Voucher
selected from January to May entries
Hollie Neitzey

A GLIMPSE INTO MY LIFE

Meet Ann Blakeslee Black and her companion...Winnie the Pug!



Ann was born in New Rochelle, New York but has lived in Connecticut, Massachusetts and now calls Florida and Jacaranda Trace her home.

She attended Cornell and majored in early childhood studies. After leaving college, Ann first taught nursery school. Later, she went onto become an elementary school teacher where for 19 1/2 years she taught children to read. Being dyslexic herself, Ann was passionate about teaching children that they were not "dumb" and that they could read. She spent the last fifteen years of her teaching career teaching children with learning disabilities.

Ann's hobbies are "collecting of antique embroidery tools, primarily thimbles, traveling, antique shows, concerts and embroidering."

If I had to select two words to describe Ann Black, it would be "passionate collector."

Ann's love of embroidery led her to begin collecting thimbles. The first thimble was given to her by a neighbor in 1961 as a gift but this gift would lead to a passion that lasted many years and allowed Ann to put together a very impressive collection.

To quote Ann, "collecting has been called many things; insanity...an escape...an

education...an investment...a fad...even a disease. It may be all of these things depending on the collection. As for myself, it definitely was not a fad. I did not know of another thimble collector when I started collecting. As for being an investment - it did not enter my head but it turned out to be one. The good and better items have kept pace with inflation while the best have far exceeded it. Now, as for the disease, my case has been serious. It is incurable and addictive but neither genetic nor contagious. My collection spans all ages, all walks of life and includes objects from all over the world."



Ann's collection is vast and fascinating in its range and even includes a thimble which was brought up from one of the Spanish Treasure Fleet of 1715 salvaged by Mel Fisher. At one time, she owned 38 18th Century Meissen (German porcelain) thimbles out of 250 18th Century Meissen Thimbles known to exist. Today, only 33 remain in her collection.



When asked where did she find all the thimbles? Ann noted the best place was the market at Portobello Road in London or she purchased from Christies Auction House. Antique dealers would often call Ann with a new treasure. What was her most expensive thimble? Ann tells the story of her husband once giving her a choice between a Mercedes and a thimble and she chose the thimble. **Now that is a true passion!!**

Ann's other passion is embroidery and over the years she has created many beautiful works of art with needle and thread some of which are proudly displayed in her home.



Ann's handwork on display in the bedroom of Kelsey House.

A trip to the home of Henry Francis du Pont's Winterthur Museum by Ann and Robert Blakeslee awakened an enthusiasm for collecting antiques and surrounding the antiques with traditional crewel embroideries. The Blakeslee's 1750 farmhouse, Kelsey House, in Killingworth, Connecticut along with Ann's embroidery were featured in "Treasure Rooms of America's Mansions, Manors and Houses" by Rita Reif.

Being passionate about thimbles and 18th century antiques had a "ripple effect" for Ann's collecting. Soon her collection branched out and she found herself collecting antique scissors and chatelaines.

Proverbs 31, verse 13 says, "She seeketh wool and flax and worketh willingly with her hands." This is a perfect description of Ann Blakeslee Black. If you enjoy needle arts and history, spending an afternoon with Ann would be a perfect way to pass the time.

Jacaranda Trace Keeps the Beat!!

Top left to counter clockwise: Residents Robert Svozil, Janet Marine, Frank Corica and Peg Ottaviani help Jana Broder of Drum Magic keep the beat at Jacaranda Trace's first ever Drum Circle.



*"Funga Alafia Ashe!!"
We welcome you in peace.
Amen.*

