

The Oak Leaf

A newsletter from
Trinity Oaks Retirement Community
Salisbury, North Carolina



How Do I Love Thee? Let Me Count the Ways. New Jersey couple is enthusiastic about Trinity Oaks.

Despite being seashore people from Vineland, New Jersey, Diane and Gary Molnar have settled into a cottage at Trinity Oaks. Although the nearest beach is four hours away, they love their new digs. So what was the attraction? You better get a cold drink and put your feet up. This is a rather long list.

First, there is the maintenance issue. "The upkeep on our home was too much," said Gary, age 66, a former glass decorator and head custodian. His three-quarter acre yard always needed mowing. At Trinity Oaks, someone takes care of all that.

Then there is the natural environment outside their back porch. North Carolina has rolling hills. New Jersey was flat. And their cottage came with a screened-in porch; a similar porch was thousands of dollars extra at another retirement community they visited.

Their cottage is bigger than their home in New Jersey and it comes with a garage, lots of closets, a second bathroom, garbage disposal and a dishwasher, luxuries they did without in Vineland.

Then there is the food, Diane's food. Since she loves to cook, the Molnar's opted out of the Trinity Oaks Dining Services meal plan. They have their meals together in their new kitchen with its adjoining eating area. In New Jersey, they ate all their meals in the dining room.

Taxes were also a consideration. New Jersey's state and local taxes are the highest in the nation. Property taxes there – like all of the Mid-Atlantic states – are among the country's highest. At Trinity Oaks, residents do not pay property taxes at all.

"We don't have to drive to take advantage of the activities here," said Diane. And the continuum of care available at Trinity Oaks is "a wonderful idea."

Diane deserves most of the credit for finding Trinity Oaks. Her sister-in-law's best friend is Char Molrine, a Trinity Oaks cottage resident. "We had been looking for a retirement community for a couple of years," said Diane.

Char's enthusiasm made its way to Diane.

By profession, Diane is open to new ideas. She was an elementary school teacher for 31 years; her grades were first and fourth with a few years in Basic Skills education. She graduated from Glassboro State University in 1968. During her junior year, Glassboro was the scene of the famous summit meeting between President Lyndon Johnson and Soviet Union Premier Aleksei Kosygin. President Johnson returned to Glassboro to address Diane's graduating class.

Diane's son, Scott Blakesley is a helicopter mechanic at the Army National Guard Armory in Waterloo, Iowa. When he comes to visit with the couple's two grandchildren, they'll use the cottage guest bedroom, another Trinity Oaks luxury for the Molnars.



Diane and Gary Molnar

Trinity Oaks Staff

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Second Floor Half Back

Georgina Ryon likes puzzles, good food and Trinity Oaks

When you grow up in West Virginia, retire to Florida and then go north to a retirement community in the Carolinas, you're tagged a "half-back." That's Georgina Ryon, a new resident in 218B.



Georgina Ryon

The move north brings Georgina closer to her two daughters, Jennifer Church and Holly Snedegar, both of whom live in Concord with their families.

After the death of her husband, Lee, Georgina (pronounced *George-ina* after her father and mother) looked at various retirement communities in the Carolinas. Trinity Oaks had one big advantage: "The people," said Georgina. Both staff and residents were friendly. When

you factor in changing foliage, a balcony in the trees, no cooking, no clean up and a quick commute to Concord, the whole package had sales appeal. Georgina moved to Trinity Oaks in May.

Georgina met Lee when she worked as secretary

for the president of The Greenbrier, the luxury resort in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia. He was an assistant manager at The Greenbrier, a position that required wearing a tuxedo to work every day. The good looking man in the uniform caught her eye! "It was love at first sight," she said. Georgina left The Greenbrier when her family came along.

She is now a valued half-back on the T.O. team.

Give a Big Trinity Oaks Welcome to . . .

- ♥ **Anne Godfrey** moved to 316B. She is a retired paramedic from China Grove, North Carolina. She attends a local Methodist Church and enjoys reading. Her mother is Trinity Oaks resident Ann Honeycutt.
- ♥ **Elizabeth "Lib" Cooper** hales from Salisbury. She is a retired executive secretary and has communed at First Presbyterian Church for 45 years. She enjoys reading and is an avid sports fan. Her daughter Anna Mills Wagoner resides in Salisbury; her son Greg Scarborough, Jr. lives in Richfield, North Carolina and son Joseph "Chip" Cooper is from Fairfax, Virginia. Lib moved into 109A .
- ♥ **Shafer Eller** of 333C comes from a family of four sisters and two brothers. His working life was spent as a cost accountant in Salisbury, Winston-Salem and Burlington. He has been a member of Milford Hills Methodist Church for the past 19 years and has volunteered at Rowan Helping Ministries.

Summer Reading Challenge VI

Four great books, a play, a film and a reception hosted by Trinity Oaks

Trinity Oaks residents are again participating in the Summer Reading Challenge, this year sponsored by the Rowan Public Library and Waterworks Visual Arts Center. The theme of the four books selected is *The Art of Being Human*. Now that's a topic about which Trinity Oaks residents have a lot to contribute.

The books for this year's challenge are *Distracted* by Maggie Jackson, *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley, *Olive Kitteridge* by Elizabeth Strout and *Unsuspecting Souls* by Barry Sanders. All readers are asked to bring their

opinions and reactions to Waterworks Visual Arts Center on Tuesday, October 12 for a light dinner provided by Trinity Oaks Dining Services. Following dinner, four professors from area colleges will summarize each book and solicit discussion. New this year are a film and play on the theme. The classic 1931 film *Frankenstein* starring Boris Karloff as the monster was shown in July. *Vesta: A Play* will be performed by the St. Thomas Players at the Lee Street Theater in September. *Vesta* concerns facing death as the final act of living well.



Trinity Oaks Dining Services is keeping busy this year. Besides catering the Summer Reading Challenge reception, they are providing refreshments for all the opening receptions for Waterworks Visual Arts Center. In July, they supplied refreshments for the Chamber of Commerce Business-After-Hours at The Salisbury Post. The food for the June Business-After-Hours at Trinity Oaks was such a success that the Post asked the Dining Services team for a repeat performance. Bravo!

Six Degrees of Separation, Trinity Oaks-style

Linda Agner and resident Reba Cauble connect

It's a small world. Here's a story that proves it.

While Reba Cauble's son was completing the Trinity Oaks entrance forms for his mother, Marketing Assistant Linda Agner chatted with Reba. There are a lot of Caubles in Rowan County and Linda asked about some of the Caubles she knew. Reba wasn't kin to any of them.



Reba Cauble (left) and Linda Agner

It was then Reba's turn. "Are you related to Dr. Agner?" "My husband was kin to him, although distantly," said Linda. "I only married an Agner. My maiden name was Eagle."

"Mine too," said Reba. "My great grandpa Eagle lived on Liberty Road and ran a broom factory," said Linda. Reba said, "Uncle Joe?"

It turned out that Reba was a first cousin to Linda's grandfather. Her father and Linda's great-grandfather were brothers.

That conversation occurred in 2007. Since then Linda and Reba have become dear friends. Reba's two sons, Mike and Ron, are included in the friendship. Reba attended Linda's father's 70th birthday party and, for the first time, met all his brothers and sisters.

"I have no doubt that I would have never met Reba if she hadn't moved to Trinity Oaks," said Linda. "We have shared old pictures and stories, and we even have very similar senses of humor! Her son, Mike, is very organized and meticulous, just like most of the Eagle men in my family. It has been a true blessing for me to meet her and have her in my life."

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Goins to Chair National Organization

Lutheran Services in America has elected Ted W. Goins, Jr. of Salisbury as chairperson of its Board of Directors. Goins is president and CEO of Lutheran Services for the Aging, the parent organization of Trinity Oaks. He joined the Lutheran Services in America Board in 2008.



Ted Goins

Lutheran Services in America is a national alliance of more than 300 health and human service organizations that serve more than six million people – one in 50 Americans each year – and have aggregate annual incomes over \$16.6 billion.

Ted Goins is no newcomer to aging services. He was administrator of Lutheran Home at Hickory for 13 years before being named Lutheran Services for the Aging president in 2000. He received a bachelor's degree from Lenoir-Rhyne University and is a licensed nursing home administrator and certified nursing assistant. Goins has served on the N.C. Study Commission on Aging and the N.C. State Board of Examiners for Nursing Home Administrators. He serves on the editorial board of the North Carolina Medical Journal.

Opportunity's Knocking.....



Are you getting closer to a decision to move to Trinity Oaks? The discounts and bonus package we are currently offering should help you decide that "now" is the time. Save 10% on the apartment Entry Fee (80% refundable plan) and 20% on all cottage Entry Fees and let us help cover your moving costs.

Or join us for an upcoming event to experience life at Trinity Oaks.

- ♥ **August 11:** Mimosas and Me – Ladies Only Spa Day
- ♥ **August 31:** "Dem Bones" – Your Knees and Bones with Dr. Gary Blabon of Ro-Medical
- ♥ **September 30:** A Cottage Country Hoedown

Call the Marketing Office, 704-633-1002, ext. 225 to learn more about our discounts, bonus packages and events.