



# THE GREEK-AMERICAN TIMES

VOLUME 7 ISSUE 3

MARCH 1, 2011



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## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST IN MARCH

- ◇ 3/2 Bible Study
- ◇ 3/3 Greek Coffee with St. Haralambos
- ◇ 3/4 St. Nectarios Mardi Gras Dinner
- ◇ 3/4 Orthodox Service with Fr. P. Dalianis
- ◇ 3/6 Hellenic Focus Society Performance
- ◇ 3/8 Mardi Gras Party
- ◇ 3/8 Book Mobile
- ◇ 3/9 Bible Study
- ◇ 3/10 Holmes Middle School Video Presentation
- ◇ 3/10 Greek Coffee with Mrs. Caralis
- ◇ 3/12 Orthodox Service with Fr. D. Treantafeles (9:45 a.m.)
- ◇ 3/14 Lia Sophia Jewelry Sale
- ◇ 3/15 Music with Joe
- ◇ 3/15 Jewish Discussion Group
- ◇ 3/16 Bible Study
- ◇ 3/17 St. Patrick's Day Social
- ◇ 3/17 Greek Coffee with St. Demetrios of Elmhurst
- ◇ 3/18 Tai Chi
- ◇ 3/19 Orthodox Service with Fr. T. Alexakos
- ◇ 3/23 Bible Study
- ◇ 3/24 Outing
- ◇ 3/24 Greek Coffee
- ◇ 3/25 Greek Independence Day
- ◇ 3/25 Tai Chi
- ◇ 3/25 Annunciation
- ◇ 3/26 Orthodox Service with Fr. S. Malamis
- ◇ 3/30 Bible Study
- ◇ 3/30 Outing
- ◇ 3/31 Greek Coffee with Ahladokampos

**Irish Blessing**  
May you always walk in sunshine.  
May you never want for more.  
May Irish angels rest their wings  
right beside your door.

## LOOK WHO'S CELEBRATING A BIRTHDAY



♣	Angeline K.	March 1
♣	Beatrice P.	March 4
♣	Dorothy S.	March 9
♣	Stella P.	March 9
♣	Joseph O.	March 14
♣	Alexandra G.	March 18
♣	Roussa K.	March 24
♣	John P.	March 24
♣	Audrey B.	March 26
♣	Ekaterini S.	March 26
♣	Gustave L.	March 28
♣	Athina T.	March 28
♣	Pope S.	March 29
♣	Angeline P.	March 30



**Friday  
March 25, 2011**



# ACTIVITY HAPPENINGS

Welcome to the March issue of the *Greek-American Times*.

We warmed up our February at the *Greek American* by staying busy. We enjoyed a trip to the movies and a delicious lunch at Demetri's Restaurant. We celebrated Valentine's Day with an afternoon social filled with sweet treats and sang along to the upbeat music of Ed. We were happy to see the students of Field Middle School and make valentines with them.

As always, we love to see our visitors from St. Haralambos, St. Demetrios of Elmhurst, Ahladokampos and Holy Apostle. We celebrated birthdays and namedays with St. George and welcomed volunteers who filled our afternoon with music.

The residents are eagerly awaiting spring and already planning outings and fundraisers. We look forward to our *Mardi Gras*, St. Patrick's Day and Greek Independence Day socials. We value the time we spend together and with our visitors and volunteers, who make all these spectacular events possible.

We would like to extend an extra special "thank you" to everyone who helped out during the big blizzard last month. Your dedication to the residents and our home is truly remarkable.

### Activity and Memory Care Wish List

- ◆ Crayola markers and colored pencils
- ◆ Scented bath oil
- ◆ Bingo prizes
- ◆ Makeup
- ◆ Fashion hats
- ◆ Music CDs



# Pinnacle Quality Insight Results



Dear Residents, Families and Friends,

We at Greek American Rehabilitation and Care Centre continuously strive to improve the overall customer satisfaction amongst all levels of care provided. We believe that one of the best ways to determine the areas that need improvement is by receiving feedback from residents and/or families that had the opportunity to spend time in our home.

Since 2002, the Greek American Home has contracted with a nationally recognized customer satisfaction firm called Pinnacle Quality Insight. Pinnacle conducts a range of 15-25 interviews each month of families and residents that are newly admitted or discharged. These random interviews ask family members to evaluate several aspects of the services received and their satisfaction levels. Pinnacle then reports the results of the interviews conducted as well as a comparison of each service area to other skilled nursing facilities across the state and country to us monthly for our review.

Based on the results of these interviews, Pinnacle determined that the Greek American Rehabilitation and Care Centre has qualified as **Best In Class-2010** (nationwide) for the following service areas:

- Nursing Care
- Facility Cleanliness
- Dinning Services
- Overall Quality of Stay
- Treatment/Dignity
- Laundry Services
- Recommend Facility to Others
- Professional Therapy Services (Physical, Occupation & Speech Therapies)
- Recreational Activities
- Admission Process
- Overall Customer Satisfaction
- Overall Safety

I would like to congratulate all of the staff for all their efforts and for making this recognition possible. We continuously strive to give the best care!

Again, this is only one of the tools we use to assist us with improving our customer service, therefore if you have any suggestions or feedback you would like to share please feel free to stop by my office, call or send me an email at any time. Thank you.

Best regards,

Eleni Ifantis  
847-459-8700 ext: 1017  
[eifantis@greekamericancare.org](mailto:eifantis@greekamericancare.org)

# ACTIVITY PHOTOS

# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Friends, Food  
and Fun!**



Blizzard of 2011



As the President of the Board of Directors at the Greek American Care Centre, I humbly take second place to the Resident Council, the President and their monthly meetings. This is one of the ways I can connect with our residents, their needs, struggles, visions and necessities. In addition to spending time conversing with them, I have acquired wisdom and empathy for their tenacious zeal for life.

It was one of those moments that assisted me in further envisioning the development of another wish and dream of our residents. On a beautiful spring afternoon in May, I was having coffee on the patio with a couple of our residents. As they reflected on their past with expressive and distinct features as that of a child, they shared their thoughts of peace and serenity. They informed me how they cherished life, their walks on the beach, fishing with their friends and family members, or just watching the waves of the water dance under a clear blue sky. That is when I realized what the calmness of our lake symbolizes to them as they glance across our patio. It became evident that we are in need of utilizing this lovely lake to its fullest potential for the nourishment and tranquility of our residents. This will be accomplished by creating an environment that will intensify the beauty of our lake, and provide our residents an additional place of comfort and meditation. The Gazebo, will give them an illusion of travel in beautiful countries across the world, especially to our Mother Country, Greece, where the blue waters dance under the sun. You, our residents and I, will enjoy the beauty of our four seasons through the enchantment of our lake and the activities that will be provided. Dear unending and generous supporters, I am appealing to you for help. Let us grant our residents their wish.



Resident Interviews



Valentine's Day Social

Thank you for your continued love and support.

Respectfully,

*Eleni Bousis*



# Resident and Family Interview

Conducted by Eleni Ifantis



**Mary Gurich** (Resident): I love to spend time outside and especially near the water. Water is very relaxing for me, it makes me feel wonderful...I would be on the pier all of the time.



**Demetra Georgopoulos** (Resident): Well, first I would like to tell you that I feel like my son and I hit the lottery when we found the Greek American Home. We are treated so well and it's the most beautiful home I've ever seen! I never thought that I would be in a place that makes me feel like a million dollars! I highly recommend that we add a pier and gazebo because my friend had one on her property and every time I would go to her house, we would sit in the gazebo have our coffee while we enjoyed the peaceful environment. It makes me feel heavenly!!!



**Tessie Pitt** (Resident): I love spending time outside and so does my roommate Ramona, adding a pier and gazebo would give us more of a reason to spend time outdoors. I grew up living around Lake Michigan and have always felt that being around water me is very relaxing and therapeutic. I already admire the patio and pond area every time I go outdoors or look outside my window...I call it the "enchanted garden." Could you image how beautiful it would look if we add a pier and gazebo?



**Janet Indovina** (Daughter of Joyce Mesi): I think it's a great idea! The sound of the water would be very calming. I believe that it would get more residents to come outside more often and they would enjoy watching the ducks, geese and fish.

**Question Posed:** We are considering adding a pier, gazebo and fountains to our pond, do you think it would be a benefit to you and to the other residents and please give me some examples why or why not?



**Angie Stotis** (Daughter of Ekaterini Stotis): I believe that it would make the patio feel very expansive and it would add another dimension of a home like environment. The residents will enjoy seeing the ducks, birds and other wildlife around the pond. My mom is from an island and being on the water would remind her of her childhood. I am sure that if we bought some fishing poles, she would even fish!



**Connie Kochkin** (daughter of Lavina Wehmer): I think that adding a pier and gazebo is a fabulous idea! The fresh air, the beauty of the environment and the excitement of being on the water will really benefit the residents. For people that grew up near the water, it would remind them of their childhood and for those people that like to vacation, it would feel



**Toula Cokinos** (Daughter of Georgia Koromvokis): The pier and gazebo will give the residents a lot of pleasure and happiness. I also like that it will give them another point of interest and another area to socialize. I think it's a great idea and a beautiful project. I also want you to know that the residents here are treated so well and wouldn't be treated better anywhere else. I just visited someone in another home and the smell hit you the minute you entered the door!

**Eugenia Pieropoulos:** I love going outside very much! I enjoy drinking Greek coffee, so maybe I can drink my coffee outside in the gazebo.



# LETTER FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

Dear Residents, Families and Friends:

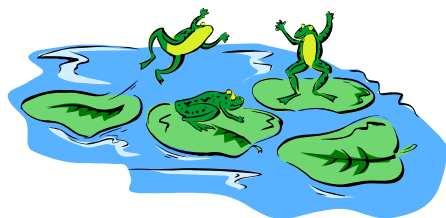
For as long as I can recall, while employed at the Greek American Rehabilitation and Care Centre, a topic of interest that would surface from time to time amongst residents, staff and guests was the idea of adding a pier and gazebo to our pond. In planning for the future of our home and the types of services and accommodation we provide to enhance the lifestyle of our residents, we all agreed that it was an extremely worthwhile investment. With another summer approaching, I felt that this was a good time to bring it to everyone's attention.

Over the last year I have researched the cost of implementing this project with the goal of providing an enjoyable and safe environment for all of our residents. The estimated cost is \$55,000, which will include an 8ft x 20 ft walkway/pier that would open up to a 20ft x 20ft deck/gazebo with a 24ft x 24ft roof, a door securing the entrance to the walkway, the installation of electricity for lighting, security, and two water fountains on each side of the pond.

These improvements to our pond will increase activity options for our residents, add additional areas for socialization, meditation and therapeutic programming along with enhancing the elegance and beauty of our property.

Whenever there are needs, you never fail to support our requests. If you would like to assist us by making a donation that will go towards this project, please complete the form attached and send it to the Greek American Rehabilitation and Care Centre, ATTN: Eleni Ifantis. All donations are greatly appreciated and as a not-for-profit organization your donation is tax deductible. As always, thank you for supporting our home!

Best regards,  
Eleni Ifantis  
Administrator



# Donation Slip



**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone #** \_\_\_\_\_

**Donation Amount: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

### FOR OFFICE USE:

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

American Rehabilitation and Care Centre is an Illinois Not for Profit Corporation exempt under Section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue

**Here are some example photographs to give you a better understanding of how our pier and gazebo will look!**

