

THE BRANCHLANDS TIMES



Resident Spotlight
Norma Stimler



Norma Stimler was born in Brooklyn and met her husband, Irving, in high school. They were married for 67 years and had "four wonderful children" - Richard, Katherine (who died at 53), Michael, and Ian. Norma was working for the CEO of Robbins, Feist, and Miller (the largest music publishers of the time) when she became pregnant with her first child. She returned to work while Richard was a baby, but again became a full-time mother when she was pregnant with Katherine.

Irving was a record producer for Decca when they were transferred to California. After he produced the smash hit, "Volare", Decca brought them back to New York, and Michael was born in Brooklyn. Irving also served as executive producer for "Superfly" but preferred the music business to movie-making.

When Richard graduated from high school Norma wanted to do something special for him and the other children. Although pregnant with Ian, she took the three children to Europe for three months, staying first in France; Irving met them in Italy for the last month. There she had taken a villa where their neighbors included the French star, Alain Delon on one side and on the other, George C. Scott, who was filming a Biblical epic. After shooting scenes late at night, Scott was often awakened by the children cavorting in the swimming pool. She remembers him as invariably kind and amiable even when stumbling out bleary-eyed in his pajamas.

Another time Norma decided to take the children to visit National Parks and drove coast-to-coast all summer with them. As she says, she "never stopped traveling" from the time she and Irving first went to Paris around 1950; she sailed to Europe five times!

Irving bought up the rights to an extensive list of foreign films which were put out on video by his company "Water Bearer Films". Michael managed the financial side of the business while his father concentrated on the artistic side.

With Ian in school, Norma began her own business as a travel agent. After 15 years, she gave up her corporate business but continued to work with individual clients into her mid-seventies.

Somehow Norma found time to gamble. She was a high roller at casinos in New York and Atlantic City, once winning two jackpots at Caesar's Palace- one for \$8000, and another for \$20,000! She looks forward to Branchland's next trip to Hollywood Casino in West Virginia!

By Mary Rodriguez

The Lucky Star

By Jean Baker

My mother used to say
"How fortunate you are
To be born under a lucky star."
Back then I shrugged it off
As older people's stuff
But now a nonagenarian
Looking back I see
She was a "forecastarian".

In my early years
We moved so much
I never knew where
I was - - which end was up!

Looking back now I see
She was right
About the star
Because I learned so many things
I enjoy sorting them out
In a lengthy memoir.

Some memories are benign
Some others hair-raising
But here I am at ninety-eight
In a beautiful dwelling
With a husband who is first-rate.

Oh "lucky star"
Wherever you are
Thank you for following me
In some early places
I never wanted to be!

Ode to Teacher

By Jean Baker

There is a talented teacher
Domiciled at Branchlands
Who listens to poetic chatter
She never even scolds
When students get too bold
Rustling their papers
And making naughty faces
While some classmates
Look through their little efforts

Oh teacher, please give us some
More of thy well-learned wisdom!

'Lunch In' – Taste of China

This month we are trying Chinese. 'Taste of China' has a wonderful lunch menu which includes Egg Roll, Entrée, Fried Rice and Dessert for one low price. There is a sign up sheet and menu in the Manor House lobby. Make your choice and turn your money into the office - cash payment please. We will order and pick up everyone's lunch on the designated day and bring it to the Arts & Crafts room where you can enjoy lunch and conversation with your friends. Time: 11:45 am. Regular coffee and water will be provided.

New Transportation Schedule

In an effort to improve and simplify the transportation process, you no longer have to sign up to go grocery shopping, to the mall or to the bank at the designated times. Just show up and ride the bus.

All personal appointments should be given to the office by 2:00pm the day before by filling out the 'transportation Request Form' and dropping it in the mailbox outside the Manor House Office (On the wall near the elevator). The form will be put back in your folder by 3:30pm the day before your appointment with the departure time noted.

Happy Birthday to...



Earl Davis - Jan 2
Miles Vance - Jan 2
Bill Cohen - Jan 4
Arlene Goodyear - Jan 20
Sandy McLaughlin - Jan 25
Marge Wolfrey - Jan 29

Chestnut Grove Baptist Church Chorus – Grades 2- 5 Dec 11, 2017



Holiday Party Dec 15, 2017 Music by "Martha & Me"



Holiday Tea Party Dec 17, 2017 (Assorted Holiday cookies and Hot Drinks)



More pictures of all the wonderful December events can be seen on the Bulletin board in the Sargent House Connector.

Happy New Year

Find and circle all of the words that are hidden in the grid.
The remaining letters spell the name of a popular location for celebrating New Years Eve.

S E I B A B N E W Y E A R S E V E Y
 G C H A M P A G N E T Y I M N S T T
 E N S S U E T H C D A N C E D R H R
 S Q I N F E T O O D M U A Y O E I A
 E F C G F I N A S L S U E R F K R P
 D H E F N F R R R R I A S E D A T S
 A I U S E I A S E B R D N I E M Y K
 R B B T T E S M T I E S A F C E F R
 A M T A Y I A N N O R L A Y E S I O
 P I S W L E V R O E F T E E M I R W
 N D E A R L E I N I H J V C B O S E
 D N E T R V O N T E T E A S E N T R
 A I S W I A A O R I N A S N R O H I
 Y G Y E O B I T N T E I R R U K C F
 O H W I N E I T S S K S I O H A T S
 N T Y L I M A F N O I S A C C O R T
 E T S A E F S N O I T U L O S E R Y
 S R E Z I T E P P A Y F R I E N D S

APPETIZERS	DECORATIONS	HATS	PARADES
BABIES	END OF DECEMBER	HOLIDAY	PARTY
BALLOONS	EVENTS	HORNS	PUNCH
BANNERS	FAMILY	KISS	RESOLUTIONS
BUFFET	FATHER TIME	MIDNIGHT	SINGING
CELEBRATE	FEAST	MUSIC	STREAMERS
CHAMPAGNE	FESTIVITIES	NEW YEARS DAY	THIRTY FIRST
CONFETTI	FIREWORKS	NEW YEARS EVE	TIARAS
DANCE	FIRST OF JANUARY	NOISEMAKERS	WINE
DAY ONE	FRIENDS	OCCASION	YEAR IN REVIEW

Construction Tidbits

They are still on schedule to complete the construction phase March 28.

They completed the cement walkways in front of the Linden House along Branchlands Drive.

The plan is for the paving of both the front and back parking lots to occur in January. We will keep you posted when we get closer to the date as we will have to coordinate moving all the cars.

Most of the work is now happening inside the building.

Stay tuned for more updates at the next monthly Resident Meeting. Next meeting is scheduled for Jan 24th at 2:30pm in the Langman Room.

Linden House at Branchlands



A PLACE TO LIVE/ A WAY OF LIFE

BRANCHLANDS PROPERTIES

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Coming Attraction in February

Mama Mia – Fredericksburg Matinee Theatre – Wednesday, Feb 28, 2018. \$78.00 all inclusive. Ticket, Lunch with gratuity and transportation. Sign up no later than Feb 10th so we can reserve good seats. Minimum of 7 and maximum of 14. Sign up early, you don't want to miss out!

Look for these in the future months

Music – Friday, March 9, 2018. 'Me & Martha' will be back to entertain during Happy Hour.

Clothing Drive – April. Clothing donated to 'Twice as Nice'. It's time to de-clutter the closet. Start putting aside those seldom worn clothes someone else would love.