



# HART HERITAGE HERALD



**Hart Heritage Estates of Forest Hill**

**1915 Rock Spring Road, Forest Hill, MD 21050**

**December 2017**

**Virgil Stemple**



Virgil was born on July 18, 1926 in Philippi, West Virginia. He was drafted into the Navy in World War II while still attending high school in 1944. After the war he attended college on the G. I. bill and graduated from West Virginia Wesleyan College in 1950. He played semi pro baseball until age 29. He married Mary Ann Simons in 1948. After being deputy sheriff and then owning his own service station in Buckhannon, WV he moved to Baltimore in 1958. At the age of 30 he started a career in education. He taught a Parkville Senior high and was a guidance counselor for 19 years at Ridgley middle school. Later Virgil was commanding general of the Maryland State Defence Force, retired as a brevet Brigadier General, and he is also Master Mason Emeritus of 64 years standing. He and Mary moved to Edgewood in 1961 and had three children- two sons and a daughter. Mary passed on in 2010 after 62 years of marriage. Both parents were very active in Presbury United Methodist Church of Edgewood and Virgil was the Lay Minister for over 15 years. He was still playing golf with his son Phil at the age of 83[he was an avid golfer]. Now days Virgil loves to read military history and especially the battles of the Civil War.

## A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and Happy New Year!



In 1903, a breakthrough in electric lighting technology came when GE offered the first pre-wired string of tree lights to the public. The string of lights, called a "festoon," consisted of a string of eight pre-wired porcelain sockets, eight Edison miniature colored glass lamps, and a screw-in plug for a wall socket (the length of wire all this was attached to was not made by GE, but the American Eveready Company, which would go on to become part of the National Carbon Company and give the world the long-lasting alkaline battery).

Festoons were still pretty expensive at \$12 per string (slightly less than an average week's wages for many people), but that problem would be solved when GE attempted to patent their Christmas lighting festoon. The patent application was refused, because the product was based on knowledge that an ordinary wireman possessed. With the market wide open, other companies and inventors began to produce their own tree light sets and the American Christmas light industry was born.



Why are Comet, Cupid, Donner, and Blitzen always wet?

Because: they are rain deer. Ha! Ha!



## The Gold Wrapping Paper - An Inspirational Short Christmas Story

Once upon a time, there was a man who worked very hard just to keep food on the table for his family. This particular year a few days before Christmas, he punished his little five-year-old daughter after learning that she had used up the family's only roll of expensive gold wrapping paper. As money was tight, he became even more upset when on Christmas Eve he saw that the child had used all of the expensive gold paper to decorate one shoebox she had put under the Christmas tree. He also was concerned about where she had gotten money to buy what was in the shoebox. Nevertheless, the next morning the little girl, filled with excitement, brought the gift box to her father and said, "This is for you, Daddy!" As he opened the box, the father was embarrassed by his earlier overreaction, now regretting how he had but when he opened the shoebox, he found it was empty and again his anger flared. "Don't you know, young lady," he said harshly, "when you give someone a present, there's supposed to be something inside the package!" The little girl looked up at him with sad tears rolling from her eyes and whispered: "Daddy, it's not empty. I blew kisses into it until it was all full." The father was crushed. He fell on his knees and put his arms around his precious little girl. He begged her to forgive him for his unnecessary anger. An accident took the life of the child only a short time later. It is told that the father kept this little gold box by his bed for all the years of his life. Whenever he was discouraged or faced difficult problems, he would open the box, take out an imaginary kiss, and remember the love of this beautiful child who had put it there. In a very real sense, each of us has been given an invisible golden box filled with unconditional love and kisses from our children, family, friends and God. There is no more precious possession anyone could hold.

**God Bless Us All!**

We have started a new craft once a month Courtney, Joy, and Joe from St Ignalius Church will be coming to make rosary beads. Our first session went very when. The ladies worked very hard to make rosary beads for everyone. Great job!

Joe and Sheila finishing their Rosary.



Vicki and her daughter [ Torie ] having fun together.



Jeanette did a great job. Courtney tied all the knots for us.



*Merry Christmas to All Our Residents, Family Members, and Staff*

We all had a great time making decorations and decorating the tree.

Jane and Sheila: making paper chains.



Reenie did very well making paper chains.



Eleanor and Margaret: showing off their holiday owls for the Christmas tree.



Marge and Sheila adding the ornaments we made to the tree.



Jean and Jane: decorating the tree.



This Christmas season Hart Heritage is proudly sponsoring the Boys and Girls Club(s) of Harford County.

We will be accepting unwrapped clothing items for boys and girls age 9-16 from now until December 21<sup>st</sup>. Please drop off all donating at our Forest Hill Location (front deck).

Thank you for your donations and have a Merry Christmas!!

# Hart Heritage



## Craft Corner

Everyone works hard and does a great job.  
Pine cone Turkeys were the craft of the day.



Virginia is very proud of the turkey she made.



Bob even joined in on the fun.



We also made these very cute snowmen with Christian bookmarks.



Margaret, Reenie, and Mary loved their bookmark snowmen.



## Food Club

We made lots of good treats this month. The oreo truffles were a big hit.



Jeanette and Mary are playing bingo and eating Truffles. That's the best of both worlds. Ha-ha



Ann Marie really enjoyed her Truffles.



We made sauerkraut and polish sausage and cranberry brie cups.



All the ladies watching me put the brie cups together.



Jane, Margie, and Sheila, really enjoyed our Thanksgiving snack.



**It's ok, they will just think Santa ate them.**



## Bingo

The winners for the extra bingo games got to pick their prizes. Congratulations Ladies!

1<sup>st</sup> place - Eleanor Little



2<sup>nd</sup> place – Fran Gossett



3<sup>rd</sup> place – Jane Kendzierski



## December Fun Facts



Birthstones for December are- Blue Topaz, Tanzanite, and Turquoise

December flower                      Narcissus

Zodiac signs - Sagittarius November 22to  
December 21<sup>st</sup> and Capricorn from December  
22 to January 19<sup>th</sup>

### Holidays in December

Advent Begins	12/3
Feast of the Immaculate Conception	12/ 8
Full Moon	12/14
Winter Solstice	12/ 21
Christmas Eve	12/24
Christmas Day	12/25



### Birthdays

<b>Dr. Robert White</b>	<b>12/09/1931</b>
<b>Marge Wisnom</b>	<b>12/11/1937</b>
<b>James Soutar</b>	<b>12/14/1922</b>
<b>Roger Eldridge</b>	<b>12/16/1953</b>
<b>Thelma Bauguess</b>	<b>12/27/1930</b>
<b>Robert Letschin</b>	<b>12/28/1925</b>