

The Phyllis Siperstein Tamarisk Assisted Living Residence

Resident Spotlight: *Renaissance*

This month I would like to introduce everyone to Ed, a resident of Tamarisk's *Renaissance* Memory Support Program.

Q: How do you like living at Tamarisk?

A: I think it is a very nice place.

Q: What is your favorite meal to eat and why?

A: I have always enjoyed breakfast the most. I like to eat pancakes in the morning and read the newspaper.

Q: Have you made friends here?

A: I'm friends with the people at my table. They like to talk and I like to listen.

Q: What do you like about your room?

A: It has a lot of space to move around.

Q: Are there any other spaces that you like to hang out in?

A: I like the garden outside. The flowers are always pretty. It is a nice place to walk around.

Q: Your niece Roberta is the Executive Director here and your sister in law lives at Tamarisk. What is that like for you?

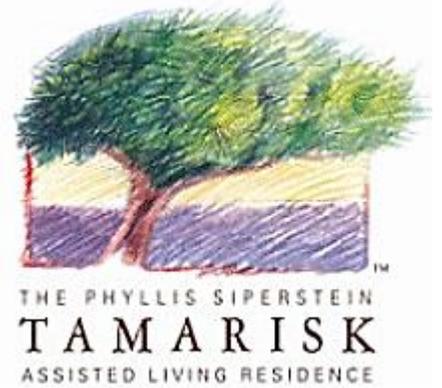
A: I love seeing Robbie and her two dogs all the time. My sister in-law Blanche visits with me. It is so nice to have family around.

Q: We all love to call you Uncle Ed. How does that make you feel?

A: It makes me feel good. All of you are my family.

For further information about Tamarisk, Director of Marketing and Outreach Susan Adler can be reached at (401) 732-0037 or susana@tamariskri.org.

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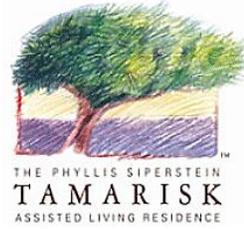


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Ed enjoying his pancakes for breakfast.

Message From Our Executive Director



Roberta Ragge, MS ALA Executive Director

"I'm a great believer in luck, and I find the harder I work, the more luck I have."

-Thomas Jefferson

It's hard to fathom that one year ago this month, our world changed. Words like pandemic, masking, social distancing and quarantine became the 2020 buzz words and I have never worked harder, worried and prayed as much as I did this year. As luck and G-d would have it, our Tamarisk community has done very well in keeping our residents and staff safe and healthy through it all. We are also very lucky to have such a dedicated and hardworking staff whose uplifting spirit fills each resident with hope and laughter every day in spite of COVID-19 restrictions limiting our daily lives. One of our residents, Bea, just celebrated her 102nd birthday and beneath her mask, wearing her lipstick you can "see" her beaming smile. Things such as this fill our lives with joy.

Now that our residents, staff and essential caregivers have all been fully vaccinated, my focus will be on continuing to keep a watchful eye on updates and changes from the RI Department of Health regarding COVID-19, as well as the latest trends in the medical world and how they pertain to our residents. My commitment, drive and hope for the future of Tamarisk is just as strong as it was when I started here 20 years ago and I pledge to continue advocating for my residents and staff to provide a safe and nurturing environment for them to live and work in. Truth be told, I am the lucky one to have both the honor and pleasure to work among these amazing individuals whom have taught me so much!

Sincerely,

Roberta Ragge, MS ALA
Executive Director

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Spotlight On Staff

Certified Medication Technician

Pat Wicker

When you look in the dictionary under the word loyalty you will find a picture of Patricia (Pat) Wicker. Pat has now worked for the agency for 25 years. She began her career as a Certified Nursing Assistant at Comprehensive Adult Day Services and you could see early on the devotion and care she had for seniors.

Over thirty years ago, Pat was the caretaker for her beloved mother. She saw first-hand the hard work and dedication that hospice provided for her mother. From that experience, her career as a professional caretaker was born. Pat soon went to school to become a certified nursing assistant.

Currently, Pat is a certified medication technician in our *Renaissance* Memory Support Program. She has taken the time to get to know each resident very well. Simply put, her job is much more than just giving residents their medication. “I try to do the best I can every day I’m at work. I really try to make a difference in all of their lives,” said Pat of her job.

Nancy Hagenston, Director of our *Renaissance* Memory Support Program, is very appreciative of Pat as an individual. “I can always count on Pat. She is a dedicated employee. She never hesitates to pitch in and help. I am so proud of her,” said Nancy.

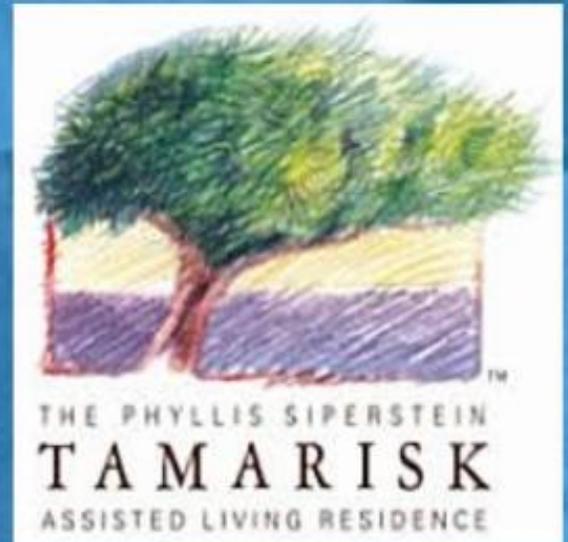
The truth is, we have all learned so much from watching Pat over the years. Anyone walking into *Renaissance* can see the love and devotion that Pat has. What impresses us the most is how Pat helps those who have progressed with their cognitive impairment. She takes her time coaxing them with encouragement and patience. Everyone should feel a sense of peace knowing Pat is a member of the *Renaissance* team.

Thank you Pat for your dedication. We salute you for your commitment to Tamarisk!



LIVING WITH DEMENTIA

1. Agree, never argue
2. Divert, never reason
3. Distract, never shame
4. Reassure, never lecture
5. Reminisce, never say "remember"
6. Repeat, never say "I told you"
7. Do what they can do, never say "you can't"
8. Ask, never demand
9. Encourage, never condescend
10. Reinforce, never force



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