

# The Gables Messenger

A Publication of The Gables at East Mountain

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## Gables Dining Services has New Chef/Manager

When The Gables set out to find a new dining services manager late last year, the staff and residents were hoping that a skillful chef with managerial experience would emerge as a candidate. The Gables is one of very few independent living senior communities that offers a full dining program—breakfast, lunch and dinner Mondays through Saturdays, and a brunch buffet on Sundays—so it was imperative to find the right person for the position.

In January, after several months of searching, Richard LaPierre walked through our welcoming doors. He brought with him not only a wealth of experience, but a vision for enhancements to The Gables dining services. For 30 years, Rick had worked on Martha's Vineyard in the hospitality field. In addition to holding chef and managerial positions at various island



A light lunch option: Grilled peach salad with pecans, Vermont Gorgonzola cheese and a Vermont honey drizzle.



Gables new chef/manager Rick LaPierre (left) with resident Thelma Ellerin.

restaurants, Rick was the owner/operator of The Captains Table in Oaks Bluff. When his kids were grown, he and his wife decided to move to Vermont. "Our five kids were all grown and we became empty nesters. It was time to start something new," states Rick.

Rick's first job in Vermont was that of kitchen manager at the Reluctant Panther in Manchester. Working for another restaurant, however, was no longer fulfilling. "I needed a bigger change," explains Rick. "I always felt a strong connection to seniors and working for a retirement community was a way to use my skills while making a difference. It is gratifying to be able to provide meals that are flavorful, fresh and nutritious to the residents of The Gables." 🏠

# New Residents



## *Marjory Perkins*

**Background:** Marjory was born in Rutland, Vermont and attended Rutland High School. She then went on to Emerson College in Boston where she double-majored in English and Drama, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree. Marjory married fellow theatre student Eugene Roche, who went on to become a working character actor on both the stage and in film. While raising their nine children (six boys and three girls), Marjory also assisted her husband with his career. They moved around a lot, especially for summer stock theatre, but lived for a span of eight years in Liberace's former home.

After the children grew up, Marjory moved back to Vermont to be near her parents as they aged. She built and designed a house in Mendon, and at one point briefly shared her grounds with three llamas! Marjory worked at the Cortina Inn Art Gallery and had a deep interest in promoting eco-tourism.

**Interests:** Reading, swimming, family.

## *Bob and Susan Lloyd (and dog Mazie!)*

**Background:** Bob was born and raised in Exeter New Hampshire. His father taught English at Phillips Exeter Academy and therefore Bob attended boarding school as a "faculty brat." Bob went on to Harvard College, majoring in Architectural Sciences and then attended Harvard Graduate School of Design, graduating in 1959 with an M.Arch. degree.

Susan was born in New York City and attended the Putney School in Vermont, happy to do the farm work that supported every scholarship student. The Putney School, and later Cornell and Radcliffe, nourished her love of chamber music. It was through music that Susan met Bob (he was dating one of her closest college friends). In 1956, in the middle of their senior year, they married.

In 1959, Bob apprenticed with a custom furniture designer and maker. In 1962, he began working at Phillips Academy in Andover, MA, teaching architecture and supervising the woodworking shop. Bob worked for 35 years before retiring. Upon graduation from college, Susan became a teaching intern at the Kingsley School in Boston, then a remedial school some of whose youngsters had been involved in Juvenile Court or the Baker Guidance Center. After three strenuous years and two babies (Susan and Bob would go on to raise three sons), Susan quit teaching. Eventually she found in the graduate study of history the origins of the Vietnam war and the civil rights movement, and taught these—along with other controversial topics—for 30 years at the newly coeducational Phillips Academy.

**Interests:** *Bob*—Reading, singing, map-making, land-use planning and conservation, making dvds, occasional woodworking projects; *Susan*—Reading, walking, directing the Tinmouth church choir, serving as a Guardian Ad Litem in Rutland Family Court, helping Tinmouth neighbors with farm chores; *Together*—Bob and Sue have led a small a cappella group in some form since 1954 and continue to this day.

