

NEW HAVEN ASSISTED LIVING & MEMORY CARE

JULY 2019

SAVE THE DATE

July 4th BB-Q 12pm

Texas Tim the Famous Caricature
Artist will be here

July 17 & 31

Travel Talks w/ Suzana

10:30 in Memory Care

11:15 in Assisted Living

Team Members

Administrator : Mark Bearden

Resident Spotlight

Jim Pokuluda

Jim, the first of two sons, was born in Houston, TX, to his home-maker mother, Mary, and his father, Jimmie, whose parents and siblings emigrated from Czechoslovakia in the early 20th century. Jim, raised in a tight-knit family of cousins and aunts and uncles, attended a local Catholic grade school before moving to St. Thomas high school and the University of Houston where he graduated in 1961 with a degree in chemical engineering. Throughout a 35 year span, Jim worked in a chemical plant in West Virginia and later moved to chemical sales ranging from synthetic rubber, water purification { they refer to this as his work in the sewer } and eventually oil additives which brought him back to Houston after stints in Beaumont, Charleston, W.V.; Cleveland, Chicago, and back to Cleveland. Jim's career afforded him and Maria opportunities to travel on company trips and entertain customers, perks appreciated and enjoyed.

But if Jim excelled professionally, he would likely say his proudest achievements were the success and happiness of his four children, Jim, Jennifer, Joan and Mark. Despite almost constant travel, both home and abroad, Jim somehow managed to attend school programs and sporting events, where, during swim meets and baseball and basketball games, he could be counted on to old a timer, coach a team, announce a game, be an official scorekeeper, and simultaneously cheer the loudest and the longest.

Life is quieter now but memories are dear and what lovely memories they are.



Happy Birthday

Jim Pokluda July 13

Passionate Employee of the Month Jade Walker

Jade was born in the Philippines and lived there until 2014. She moved to Texas and met her now husband Truman. When Jade was in the Philippines, she cared for her grandparents, it was then she knew her calling. In her free time, she enjoys going to the gym and hanging out with friends.

Three Manly Games

Mongolia has a rich nomadic history, with many people today still living off the land of Asia's vast steppe. Out of this nomadic culture comes Naadam, a three-day festival celebrated every July 11–13, where contestants compete in the traditional games of archery, horse racing, and wrestling. These three sports harken back to the days of the Mongol empire under Ghengis Khan, when such skills were necessary to excel in the emperor's army.

Today, Naadam is a proud celebration of Mongol culture. The festival's full name is *eriin gурvan naadam*, or "the three games of men," but everyone is encouraged to participate—men and women, young and old. Archers use bows similar to those used under the reign of Ghengis Khan, fashioned out of wood, horn, bamboo, and bull tendon. Arrows are made of willow branches and feathered from Griffon vultures. It is customary for groups to stand alongside the targets singing folk songs to cheer on the archers.

The nomadic herders of Mongolia look forward to the horse racing competition as a time to show off the best of their stock. Races do not take place on a track; rather, they cross up to 20 miles of the open, windblown steppe. Winning is not just dependent upon speed, but a test of endurance for both the horse and its rider.

Archery and horse racing may be exciting tests of skill and endurance, but wrestling is the pride of Mongolia. Hundreds of wrestlers arrive each year to compete in a single-elimination tournament. There are no weight classes, so wrestlers must be ready to grapple with any and every opponent. Wearing nothing but traditional boots, arm coverings, and briefs, the massive men clash on the grassy hills. The ultimate winner is given the prestigious title of "Lion" and is revered like a folk hero in song and story.

Naadam's colorful pageantry celebrates the best of Mongolia's past and present, a performance that would make Ghengis Khan proud.