thought this was a cool middle name for their youngest child. Chris is a hometown guy, born and raised in Kitsap County. He has an older brother and sister, who showed no interest in cooking. Chris, on the other hand was fascinated by the delicious meals both his mother and grandmother made. Chris is part Italian, part Spanish. He loves to cook on the grill, especially Italian foods. He worked in some of our local restaurants, Burrata Bistro and Sonjno de Vino both in Poulsbo, before becoming a chef at The Wyatt House. Chris loves all sports but is especially skilled at Track and Field. During his sophomore year in high school, his team went to State Championship in Pasco, WA. Chris was one of the fastest runners, helping his team break many records. Chris is also very adept at computers. He loves programming and video game design. Many of the Wyatt staff seek out Chris when they have computer problems. He is always willing to help. What Chris is mostly known for is his delicious meals and trickster personality. We are grateful for both, his great food and playfulness.



MADRONA CAREGIVER, ALEXIS MURO



Alexis Muro was born in Washington, but moved frequently during her childhood due to her father serving in the military. In addition to Washington, Alexis has also lived in Virginia, Hawaii and Puerto Rico. Her favorite place she lived was Virginia. Alexis Muro has two younger sisters whom she is very close to. She even works at

the Madrona House with her sister Miranda, who is also a caregiver. Alexis met her husband in Virginia two years ago. They have a little boy who is only 9 months old and already learning to walk. Alexis lights up every time she talks about her son, it is obvious she is such a good mom. Her hopes for her son are that he grows up to be kind and goes to school. Alexis really enjoys cooking, the outdoors and traveling with her husband. Alexis' ideal place to live is anywhere warm and sunny. In high school, Alexis was involved in gymnastics, she inherited talent from her dad who was gymnast. Alexis became a caregiver at the age of 19. She enjoys helping people and truly loves the residents at the Madrona. She aspires one day to become a nurse. Alexis has always wanted a large family she hopes to have seven kids. Alexis is passionate about caring for people and it shows in the quality of care she provides everyone. I have yet to see Alexis without a huge smile on her face, she is very warm and welcoming.

MADISON AVE. HOUSE, JESSICA CAMPA

We at the Madison are glad to have Jessica Campa as the new office manager. Jessica comes to us from Tucson, Arizona. She has two children one living in Tucson (Marisa) and one (Michele) who enjoys the company of the residents at the Madison on some Saturdays. She has spent the last 8 years traveling the United States looking for a friendly community; finally finding Bainbridge Island. Jessica truly enjoys calling Bingo and taking the time to enjoy the residents of Madison. When she is not working she is sewing, cooking, and taking online classes along with exploring the great Northwest. Please stop by the front office to share exciting places she and her family need to see.



NEWSLETTER

GOOD TIMES



May your clovers have leaves for four and may your luck be ever more.





The birds are back and the flowers awake. The world is all shining and new. And I echo their cheer as for old times sake. Wishing a Happy Easter to you!

JIM VAN DRIMMELEN, WYATT HOUSE

Jim was born in Newton, Iowa and grew up on farms near Newton. From early childhood, he loved to draw and paint and "make things." It was natural that he later became an architect. His time in the Navy was brief (1945 – 1946). During his Navy days, he studied electronics in Chicago, Monterey and Treasure Island in CA., receiving his Electronics Technician rating. After that, his active duty assignment was to cruise across The San Francisco Bay on a mine space sweeper, towed by a tugboat. Upon his discharge, he attended lowa State College where he received a BA degree in Architecture. This was like going home for Jim.

Jim met his wife, Arlene in 1946. They were married in 1950 and had a son and a daughter. The family moved to Seattle in 1956 due to Jim's work and in 1959, they decided to move to Bainbridge Island. They bought a 100 year old bungalow then remodeled and expanded it. The house and garden were influenced by Jim's passion for Japanese design.

In 1972, Jim opened his own consulting business planning hospital space and supply systems. Jim designed over 100 clinical laboratories in his career and travelled extensively in the U.S. and Canada, as well as Singapore and Japan.

When Jim moved to The Wyatt House in July of last year, he brought with him his two beloved guinea pigs, Scooter and Watonka. Jim made it clear in the beginning, "Take me, take my guineas."

We're so happy we did.



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MARILYNN MORRIS "MIM", MADRONA HOUSE



Marilynn Morris also known as Mim, was born in Grove, Oklahoma. She has 3 sisters and one brother. Mim attended a very small high school, with only sixty kids in the entire school. During her time there, Mim was a cheerleader and school officer. While Mim was going to college she worked at the local soda fountain. It was during her employment there where she fell in love with all the law enforcement who would frequent her soda shop. Her experience at the soda shop motivated her to become a Police Officer. She had two male partners and they were referred to as," the three musketeers." During her seven year career as a police officer, she arrested the famous singer Fats Domino on a drug charge.

Mim met her husband in Oregon at the lake, a local hangout. After instantly connecting, she was surprised to find out that his father was her father's boss. They only dated six months before they took the plunge and tied the knot. Her husband was drafted in the military shortly after getting married which resulted in relocating to Italy. While living in Italy, they had nine Italian roommates and did not have a vehicle. Mim instantly fell in love with

the 2 little kids she lived with. She often joked that she might take them with her when she had to move home. Time sure has flown by and those two little kids Mim spoke of are now in their sixties. She dreams of going back to Italy to visit the children one last time. In addition to her career as a police officer, Mim also owned six fabric stores. Sewing was not a talent that Mim possessed when Mim first began opening her fabric stores. She also was employed as a book keeper in Alaska. It was a great experience for Mim.

She loved the scenery especially all of the snow capped mountains. They lived on a harbor where they loved to fish. She recounts all the amazing people she met during her time there. Mim had multiple careers during her life but her favorite was her time being a 4H mom. Mim adopted 2 children and then later had a third child. Her children are truly the light of her world. As a 4H mom they owned 3 horses and at one point had a total of 50 animals on her farm. Later in Mim's life she tragically lost her farm in a fire. During the devastation she got a call from a friend who told her she needed to come visit. When Mim got to her house, her friend was holding a tiny little fuzz ball for Mim. Mim fell in love with her new dog and named it Tamarack or Tammy for short. It's not very often that you see Mim in the halls without her loyal dog Tammy. Mim describes Tammy as a perfect dog, who is constantly by her side. Mim purchased Tammy a beautiful dog bed but there isn't a night that Tammy doesn't jump in Mim's bed to sleep with her. It is truly a joy to see Mim every day with her little girl Tammy.

WARM WELCOME HELEN HANDLEY TO THE MADISON

Madison Avenue House would like to give a warm welcome to Helen Handley. Helen graduated for Leonardvill High School in 1940. There was a waiting list at the hospital for the nursing program, so she went to business school in Kansas City. She worked at, Kats a drug store out of college and shared a small apartment with a girlfriend. Her girlfriend had been talking to a boy from the Navy and wanted to introduce her to his friend, Jerry. Over, four years, she corresponded with Jerry without ever meeting him. One evening, Jerry surprised her at her sister's house and introduced himself to her. They spent a week getting to know each other. After a few weeks she received a letter asking if see would come to Seattle and marry him. "Though that's not quite how things were done," she giggles, "I went!" They were married in August of 1944. In Jerry's Navy carrier, they moved to Washington, Virginia, Maine and as far as Okinawa. After their son Joe was born, they moved to Norfolk, Virginia and stayed for four years, this was the longest stay anywhere. Jerry retired in 1962, they moved to Puget Sound and bought a home in Bellevue. Their son Joe graduated from Sammamish High School.



Joe followed in his father's footsteps by joining the Navy. Helen is happy to be living at the Madison because she is closer to her daughter in law who lives in Poulsbo.

She says that staying busy is how she stayed so happy, "Never a dull moment."