

# The Meadian



*A newsletter published periodically for families, friends and residents of St. Anne's Mead*

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## Building Friendships Best Part of Chris Stone's Job

You might run into Chris Stone any day or night of the week, called in for one job or another. That's OK with him because taking care of the building and doing odd jobs for the residents is far better than freezing in a shaky bucket 30 feet off the ground while repairing a high-voltage line that's arcing. Chris should know. He has had to do it many times when he was working for an electrical contractor.



*LIKE A ROLLING STONE: Moss has no time to grow under the feet of Chris Stone, Facilities Engineer, who finds that there is never a time when there is nothing to do.*

“What I enjoy most as Facilities Engineer is helping the residents with minor repair jobs like tightening screws on a cover plate or unstopping a drain,” says Chris. “They appreciate what I do, even if what I do is very simple. Then too, I’m a good listener, and each one of the residents is eager to tell me a great story. It’s that kind of relationship day-to-day that makes me happy in my job.”

“Here, I’m not just a number sent out on an emergency call. What I do every day is appreciated as much by management as the residents,” says Chris, who may be doing a drywall repair one moment and filling a resident’s birdfeeder the next.

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Indoors or out, Chris rarely comes to work without a plan even though dozens of additional requests will be waiting for him when he arrives. “I just wish sometimes there were two of me so I could get more done,” says Chris.

Two of him there aren’t, but there are two Stones rolling together at St. Anne’s Mead. Chris is married to Jennifer Stone, Life Enrichment Coordinator. “At home, Jen tells me about her day and I get to tell her about mine. That’s good because we can better relate to what’s going on and better understand residents’ situations when they come up.” Chris and Jen are expecting their third child this summer.

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## New Board President John Lynch Aims to Bring Sustainability to St. Anne’s Mead

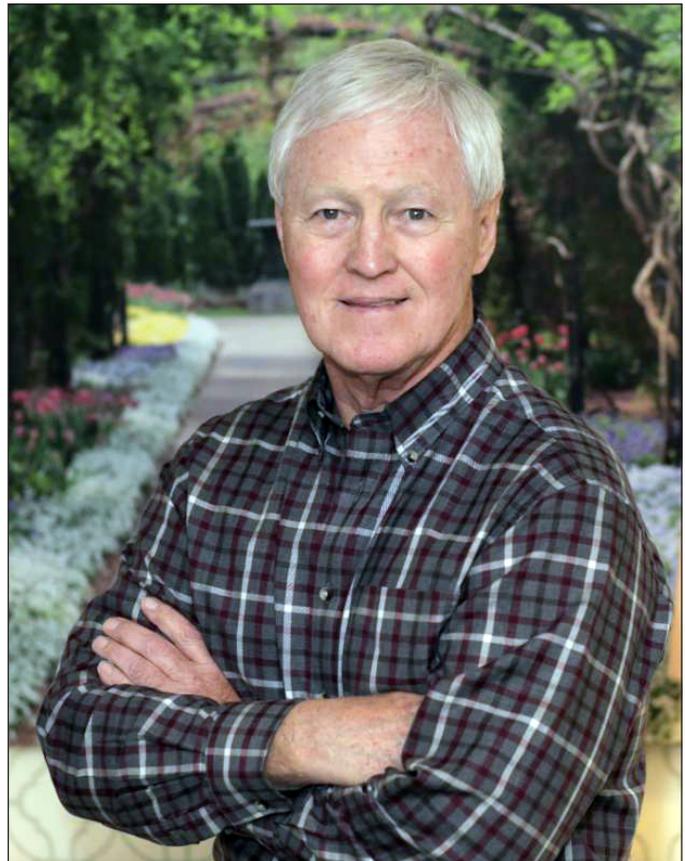
Every few years, a new president steps in to assume the helm of the Board of Trustees at St. Anne’s Mead. This year, John Lynch takes over from Fred Capaldi.

By profession, John is a lawyer at Vandevor Garzia in Troy, Mich. He specializes in mediation and arbitration, both being alternatives to lengthy trials. In arbitration, a case is decided not by a judge or jury but by a knowledgeable attorney, an arbitrator. By contrast, a mediator does not make a decision, rather he helps the plaintiff and defendant reach a decision on their own.

In his work, he regularly assembles teams of colleagues to resolve disputes involving their clients, or to help them reach specific objectives. Acting as a captain, he draws on the skills of those around him to get things done. “That is exactly the role of the president of St. Anne’s Mead’s Board,” says John, adding, “along with the goal of continuing the tradition of excellent resident care.”

The kind of work required in his new role is not new to John. He has served, or serves, on other boards, including charitable foundations, corporations, church committees, and service organizations.

“Being named president at St. Anne’s Mead was a natural progression up through the ranks here,” he says. “but I hope to contribute as much as Fred (Capaldi) did in unifying a vision for the the board and



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contributing to the Staff Leadership team. I think it is imperative that we develop a plan for sustainability that does not diminish our high quality resident care,” he says. Regarding recent improvements at St. Anne’s Mead, John says, “We need to maintain the momentum started last year in order to remain competitive and provide accommodations and care that feel like home to the residents, and a workplace that is fulfilling for the staff.”

“My interest is both personal and professional,” says John. “Both of my parents lived long lives. Mother died at age 88; Dad at 93. Both needed daily assistance at an ever increasing rate for the last 10 years of their lives. My brothers and I, to honor their requests, arranged for care in their own home. The complexity of reliable staffing and coordination of care was significant. That experience gave me great appreciation for the wonderful care given here to our residents,” says John.

An avid boater, John holds a USCG 100-Ton Captain’s License. “We keep our 50 foot power boat in Petoskey but we’ve explored the entire Great Lakes system and its many ports. Over the winter we go to our condo in Fort Myers, Florida. Both my wife Anne and I enjoy visiting the many wildlife refuges and beaches,” he says.

John’s credentials include being listed in DBusiness magazine’s inaugural list of “Top Lawyers in Michigan” in 2009, and being singled out as a Michigan Super Lawyer each year from 2009 through 2013, in the fields of Mediation and Alternative Dispute Resolution. Crain’s Detroit Business recognized him as a Top Attorney in mediation and alternative dispute resolution law, and Detroit Business magazine named him a Top Lawyer in Litigation and Alternative Dispute Resolution.

John and Anne’s son, also named John, lives in Bethel, Conn., with his wife. They have two children: Hunter, 9 and Logan, 7.



## **Worth Repeating**

### ***Here’s what they’re saying about St. Anne’s Mead***

“A friend had been in three nursing homes but St. Anne’s Mead was the place. Best care, and best out of all three.”

--Kristine Frias, LMSW, Independent Supports Coordinator

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# Easter Creatives Emerge from Their Shells

Children of resident families and staff dropped in on Saturday morning before Easter to engage in an Easter Egg hunt, listen to stories and hone their creativity doing art-related projects. Here, clockwise from top left are Emma Stone, Ca'Rhonda Simmons, Haiden Simmons, Katie Collins, Tim Collins and Joshua Rogers.



*Be sure to check our Facebook page for photos, videos and comments.*

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## Our Mission

St. Anne's Mead mission is to provide compassionate and professional health care and supportive services to seniors in a safe, secure, and loving home.

In keeping with our faith-based traditions, we endeavor to serve the unique needs of individuals and their families while preserving dignity and enriching lives.

