



**Wesley Palms Resident Meets Needs by
Producing Audio Recordings
*Phil Migdal records in-house
newsletter so sight-impaired residents may enjoy***

Meeting needs, instead of just providing services - that is the Front Porch mission that it instills in its staff. But while staff evoke our mission each day, one enterprising resident decided to do so as well. Wesley Palms resident Phil Migdal, an avid reader of the Wesley Palms in-house newsletter, *The Breezes*, saw a need and decided to meet it.



"There are a number of residents here who are visually impaired, so after consulting with *The Breezes* editor, Wesley Palms resident Bob Haas, we decided I should make an audio recording for them," Phil said. "*The Breezes* is of interest to everyone so everyone should be able to enjoy it."

Published bi-monthly, *The Breezes* contains community events, resident profiles, photos, short stories, poems and other interesting items about Wesley Palms and the people who live there.

With a background in amateur radio operation, Phil thought he could use his skills to record the entire publication. "It takes about an hour to record using audio software that came with my computer," Phil said. "Wesley Palms residents were recently informed that the audio recordings are available for the asking and already several have been requested." As an added bonus, the Wesley Palms Club, a residents group, purchased portable CD players to loan to residents so they can listen to the recording.

"I'm legally blind and usually read with the help of electronic magnifiers," said resident Jeanne Moorhead. "But usually the type is muddy and it's difficult to read. When I received the CD recording of *The Breezes* it made all the difference in the world. Now I look forward to each issue."

"I'm very pleased with the entire project," Bob said. "Phil has a nice voice and he reads well. Some folks have trouble reading even with magnifiers. The audio recordings give them an alternative."

So far, two issues of *The Breezes* have been recorded. Phil said for the next recording he has asked Wesley Palms Executive Director Ben Geske to record his regular column. "I just thought it would be nice for residents to hear it in his own voice," Phil said.

"Phil's ingenuity to create an audio version of *The Breezes* for those residents with sight impairments truly exemplifies the spirit of kindness and compassion for those with special needs and deserves recognition," Ben said.