



FAMILY ROOM

MEET THE PEOPLE IN OUR PAGES

It was God alone who aligned our paths,” says **Sandy Blair** (*Still Serving*, page 26) of Caity Casey, the communications director of her nonprofit, Operation WEBS (Women Empowered Build Strong). In one of their early conversations, Sandy and Caity discovered they had not only both grown up in south New Jersey but had similar Air Force career paths—just 15 years apart. Now residing in California, they guide the veterans in their stability house through the benefits process, starting with a meeting with the local Veterans Affairs representative to help them figure out their immediate and long-term needs. One former resident is now a VA employee. Operation WEBS’ other main project, building a farming community of tiny homes on wheels, is on hold due to the Covid-19 pandemic. But Sandy is optimistic. “We want to provide more than a roof over our sister veterans’ heads,” Sandy says. “We’re changing their lives for the better.” For more information, visit **operationwebs.org**.



BLAIR Sandy builds tiny homes for women veterans.

GUIDEPOSTS editors discovered **Jill Suttie** (*The Ninth Step*, page 38) through an article she wrote for *Greater Good*, a digital magazine published by the Greater Good Science Center at University of California Berkeley. The magazine uses scientific research to advise readers on how to live a happier, more meaningful life. “It’s my passion to bring this science to the public and help foster a more compassionate, cooperative society,” Jill says. You can see her work at **greatergood.berkeley.edu/profile/jill_suttie**. Jill also writes music. She learned how to play



SUTTIE Jill is a psychologist and musician.

FROM TOP: DAN MACMEDAN; COURTESY JILL SUTTIE

guitar to accompany summer camp sing-alongs; after performing with her husband's band for a few years, she started writing her own songs. Her second album, *Come and Find It*, won a Philby (awarded by radio host Phil Mag). "I may get back to writing songs when the pandemic ends," Jill says. "I tend to write my songs while hiking in the Point Reyes National Seashore, but it's been closed." For more on Jill's music, visit jillsuttie.com.

Guideposts Impact



"I work in a faith-based hospital and use Guideposts materials to provide comfort to our patients and their families. A chaplain visit is great, but the booklets are an in-hand lasting word."

CHAPLAIN DIANNA WENTZ,
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center
Mercy Hospital, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

For more information on Guideposts' outreach programs, visit guideposts.org/helping-others, write to **GUIDEPOSTS FOUNDATION**, 100 Reserve Road, Suite E200, Danbury, CT 06810 or e-mail us at outreach@guideposts.org.



RADICE Dan donates plasma after recovering from Covid-19.

Cardiac exercise specialist **Daniel Radice** (*Intensive Care*, page 32) had a lot of people cheering him on and praying for him as he recovered from coronavirus this spring. There was Dr. Richard Pitera Jr., his favorite knucklehead, of course. But also the GUIDEPOSTS staff—he's the brother-in-law of our longtime production editor, Celia Gibbons. Now that Dan is well on the road to recovery, he's helping other patients by donating his plasma. According to the American Red Cross, "Patients who have fully recovered from Covid-19 have antibodies in their plasma that can attack the virus." Have questions? Visit redcrossblood.org for more information.

TOP: COURTESY DAN RADICE

"I wasn't sure who was happier I was back at school—my students or me!" says **Marie G. Nuzzi** (*Hand Cream and Lip Balm*, page 58) of her homecoming after being called up in support of Operation Desert Storm. Her group spent only a few weeks at Camp Pendleton before being sent home; Marie immediately returned to her classroom. She was also glad to get back to her Marine Corps Reserve Center. "It was good to reconnect as a team and discuss our deployment on all levels—politically, personally, emotionally, financially," Marie says. "Coming together again bolstered



NUZZI Marie is now retired.

our camaraderie and made our training that much stronger." Today Marie is retired from both careers. "I consider myself very fortunate to have had the opportunity to fulfill two passions in one lifetime," she says. "Each taught me different lessons, but together they taught me one irreplaceable value—service to others."

Life is getting back to normal for **Raylene Nickel** (*The Voice I Needed to Hear*, page 52). "My sister, Karen, and I started meeting again for weekly visits when weather permits," Ray-

lene says. "I bring my own lawn chair and coffee, and we sit outside at a distance. Though she and I had been keeping in touch by e-mail, it is so good to see her face-to-face." Raylene has also reunited with Julia and Mirek Petrovic, who own the Farmtastic Heritage Foods Hub, a farm-to-table restaurant in Anamoose, North Dakota. Raylene and her late husband, John, befriended the couple eight years ago, and Raylene started selling them grass-fed beef last year. Raylene enjoyed a rhubarb scone and bought a meal to go when she returned to the restaurant. "It was great to catch up with them," Raylene says. "And I got to hear about everything that Julia has planned for the fall."

NICKEL Raylene tends to her farm.



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