

Be of Good Cheer

The late Maurice Chevalier, French actor, singer and popular entertainer, was once asked how he managed to be so cheerful. The entertainer admitted that even though he invariably appeared to be cheerful, he didn't always feel that way. But he added, "When I sense an audience responding to the gaiety I am trying to give out, I feel gaiety coming back to me. It is like a boomerang – a little blessed boomerang. This works not only for the performer. It is a good game anybody can play.

"A man goes to his office," Chevalier continued. "He is grumpy, growls a greeting to his secretary. She may have awakened spirited and jaunty, but right away the ugliness is contagious. Or, in reverse, he comes in whistling. Maybe he has picked a flower from his garden for his buttonhole. He extends a merry greeting. It boomerangs. The office brightens.

"There are targets everywhere. Just take aim and let go with good cheer," said Chevalier. "The business of getting back something for what you give appeals to my practical French nature, especially when the something benefits you so much. It is what they call in business *a high rate of return.*"

Chevalier's advice is particularly true in Life Care, Century Park and Life Care at Home, where good humor and a positive spirit are always in demand.

--Beecher Hunter