

# THE ACORN

SHERWOOD OAKS NEWSLETTER  
100 Norman Drive, Cranberry Twp., PA 16066  
[www.sherwood-oaks.com](http://www.sherwood-oaks.com)

October 2018 "For the residents, by the residents" Vol. 19 No. 8



Photo by Barbara Dixon

## FROM THE EDITOR

If you thought September was a busy time for the people here at Sherwood Oaks, take a look at October! Continued Learning is offering a number of presentations this month on a wide range of subjects. Then, there's Trips and Tours, our resident run activity that plans outings that range from dining out, to fun activities coupled with a dining experience, all the way up to overnight trips to a variety of interesting locations. Speaking of food, this month is the planning meeting for the annual November bake sale. Those goodies always go fast so more cooks and bakers are needed as well as helpers to do the planning.

You will notice that the Coretta McKenry Library Accessions list is back but in a different format. Please let the library staff know if you find this style easier to read. If not, the old one will return. Our library which contains over 7000 books, has been blessed by a sizable memorial donation to enable it to continue to grow and improve. If you have delayed in learning the new library system, stop down. The volunteers are more than willing to walk you through the few easy steps it takes to move into the computer age.

One last note, especially for all the residents who have moved here since last November. The October birthday dinner is a not to be missed event! A large number of the residents get a kick out of dressing up in Halloween costumes. Dress up and join the crowd for a really fun time.

Barbara Dixon



## THE ACORN

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Submissions for the October ACORN must be sent to the Editor, or Mike Rose if poetry, no later than October 15, 2018.

## **HOWARD CHARLEBOIS**

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Prepared by Howard's son Greg.



Photo by Mike Mills

Say hello to "Howdy," Howard Charlebois, father of 6, grandfather to 16, a retired dentist, and new resident here at Sherwood Oaks.

Howdy grew up in Youngstown, Ohio where he met his future bride, Julie, when he was 13 and she was just 12. Julie was the youngest sister of his best friend. They began dating when he was in college and she was an air hostess for Capital Airlines. After two years of dating, they were married and began a marriage that lasted over 57 years.

Howdy graduated from Ursuline High School in Youngstown before moving to Pittsburgh. After three years of undergraduate study at Duquesne, he was accepted into the University of Pittsburgh's Dental School, receiving his DDS in 1960. After two years stationed in Brooklyn as a Navy dentist, he continued his studies in Milwaukee at Marquette University. An offer to teach at his alma mater brought him

back to Pittsburgh for a second and final time. He taught full time for five years at the Pitt Dental School, after which he went into private practice for 35 years with offices in Oakland and Monroeville.

He won't tell you this, but he was a bit adventurous whether he was kayaking on the white water of the Youghiogheny, skiing at Hidden Valley and Seven Springs, or sailing on Lake Arthur at Moraine State Park. Howdy loves swimming and enjoyed the social aspects of playing golf.

Howard and Julie have six children, three girls and three boys. Their girls live in Harrisburg, Sewickley, and Seattle. The oldest is a counselor, the second daughter is a Court Appointed Special Advocate and the youngest daughter is a respiratory therapist. Their boys are in Michigan, Maryland and PA. The oldest works for Enterprise. The middle son runs a Ski School and the youngest son is a private chef.

Before passing, Julie was a crafts person; she knitted, sewed, quilted, made jewelry, and was a beautiful writer and loved playing bridge. She and Howard found the most joy surrounded by their children and grandchildren.



## **STAN AND BARBARA FOSTER 349**

Interviewed by Harriet Burress



Photo by Diane Setzenfand

When a fraternity brother at Penn State called Stan in a panic because he had two dates for that night, it was the beginning of a lifetime together for Barbara and Stan. Barbara said, "I was the 'cast off,' but that night began a wonderful, sweet time of college life. We didn't have protests and demonstrations, just good times along with our studies." She majored in Health and Human Development; Stan, in Industrial Engineering and Business Management.

Just prior to Stan's graduation from OCS, US Navy, he and Barbara married. He had to report to Key West ASAP. "We honeymooned in the Keys," she commented. Stan was assigned to anti-submarine warfare aboard the destroyer, DLG-6 Farragut, stationed near Jacksonville, and Barbara taught Home Economics nearby. After his military tour of duty, he pursued his MBA in Industrial Mgt.

at Wharton School of Business in Philadelphia.

Stan's career with several companies culminated in his being a vice-president of manufacturing. After 2 years at Kodak he was pursued by an electronics company to move to Singapore, build a plant and manage it. His co-workers could not believe he was leaving Kodak, but it was off to Singapore for him, Barbara, and their daughters, 2 years and 2 months old.

When they returned to the U.S. four years later, they were a family of 5. They have three daughters, one in NYC, one in New Jersey, and one in Pittsburgh. "We regret that our two grandchildren are so far away in NJ."

Barbara and Stan have lived in several localities in Western PA. In Ellwood City, he was on the board of the Historical Society. Barbara was instrumental in starting a food bank at St. Mary's. They have served together on the board of TRY, which focuses on Special Needs Children and Adults. She is a former Regent of the Fort Pitt Chapter of the DAR and was President of the Fort Pitt Block House during its 6-year restoration. Stan is a board member of the Pittsburgh Sons of the American Revolution. They are involved members of the Ingomar United Methodist Church and love music. A warm "Welcome" is extended to this couple of many interests.



## JONI PUN

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Interviewed by Jean Henderson



Photo by Ed Borreback

You'll meet a true 'woman of the world' when you get to know Joni Pun (poon). One of her quotes to me: "I'm a list maker." So here we go.

### Home Sites:

- Springdale, PA
- Lima, Peru for 48 years
- Sherwood Oaks

### Family: LOTS including many MDs

- Husband Jorge, an MD, died in February 2018, after a long bout with leukemia. They married on July 4, 1970, then they moved to Peru. (She says that she 'lost her independence on July 4.')
- A son, an MD, in Lima
- Another son, a lawyer, in NYC
- Two teen granddaughters, living in Lima, who are both excellent swimmers. One came to help her move into Sherwood Oaks.
- Brothers-in-law, MDs, in CT
- Many cousins in the Pittsburgh area

### Schools:

- Springdale High
- Indiana University of Pennsylvania
- University of Pittsburgh
- Universidad de Valladolid, in Spain

### Professions:

- High school teacher
- Artist
- Manager of a hardware store
- Importer to Peru of Chinese herbal medicines
- Manager of family-owned rental properties in Peru.

### Talents:

- Painting: she has had her own shows and is moving about 26 of her paintings here.
- Batiking
- Sewing
- Teaching Spanish
- Writing: she has written two unpublished novels.

### Hobbies:

- Reading and enjoying book clubs
- Walking
- Crafting: making candles, soaps, angels, and Christmas decorations

### Travels:

- 40 countries on 5 continents with her favorites being Spain, France, and all of Europe

So why move to Sherwood Oaks? During college days in the 1960's at IUP, Joni and our resident Carole Fletcher, along with three other college women, studied abroad in Spain for seven months, staying in a convent near the university. In 2012, they organized a reunion for all five of them and met at the Oak Lodge here on campus ... and Joni decided this is where she wanted to live when the time came.

Thanks, Carole, for hosting the reunion here at SO! And Joni, we are so fortunate that you have joined us. A true blessing all around.

## **HERBERT WEISS**

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Interviewed by Mike Rose



Photo by Mike Mills

Need some advice about baking? Herbert (Herb) Weiss, a new resident here at Sherwood Oaks, should be of help.

Born in Bellevue, PA, Herb met his wife, Mary Margaret, at West View Danceland. Herb was drafted into the Army and served in Korea for two years. Upon his return, he and Mary Margaret married and spent 52 happy years together. Mary Margaret worked as a secretary to the Director of the Pittsburgh Housing Authority prior to opening her own business in the field of electrolysis.

Herb has three sons, a grandson, and two granddaughters. The oldest son is a long-distance truck driver, the youngest son works in a law firm in Jakarta, Indonesia, and the middle son works for Federated Investors.

Herb's baking career started when he was 12-13 years old and worked in a bakery after school each day. He eventually quit school to work in the bakery full time. Herb and Mary opened their own bakery in 1957 and he continued baking for 32 years until he retired.

Even in retirement, Herb cannot stop baking; he still works at a friend's bakery every Friday and holidays. In the winter-time he also makes chocolate candies at the Schorr Bakery on Pittsburgh's North Side.

Welcome to Sherwood Oaks, Herb. We hope that you will share some of your cookie recipes with us!

\* \* \* \* \*

## **BAKE SALE PLANNING MEETING**

There will be a planning meeting for the annual November Bake Sale on Friday, October 19, 2018 in the Auditorium immediately following the resident get-together.

All residents are invited to attend.

Kelley Noble



## **WHAT'S NEW WITH SORA? (Sherwood Oaks Residents Association)**

**NOTE: Minutes are always available for review on the SORA bulletin board in the mailroom and in the SORA binder in the library.**

Summary of reports and actions for the Sept 4, 2018 Monthly Board and the Sept 11 Quarterly Residents' meetings:

### **Introduction of New Residents:**

Gerry Dudley introduced 12 new residents: Denton and Marilyn Bond, Howard Charlebois, Rosemary Coffey, Jack and Heather Dills, Stan and Barbara Foster, Tibor and Kathy Ketzan, Marta Peterson, and Joni Pun.

### **Treasurers' Reports:**

Gary Brandenberger reported the current balance of the Memorial/Special Projects Fund is \$85,021. The Employee Appreciation Fund has a balance of \$27,014. Ray Friedel reported the SORA bank balance is \$32,452.68. Jim Donnell reported the balances of the Sherwood Oaks Fund: Unrestricted, \$30,445; Trillium, \$2847; Scholarship, \$656,232; Special Projects, \$777,559; and Garden Bequest, \$5,500.

### **PLCC Board:**

President Ron Gigler reported the next Board meeting is October 24. The audit ending June 30 will be reviewed as will the actuarial study for last year which ensures that SO continues to have enough resources to guarantee the promise of Life Care.

### **Liaison Reports:**

#### Landscape:

A \$350 donation in memory of Rusty Sweitzer has been received. Penn power will be replacing more power lines this year and next.

#### Greenhouse:

New overseers are Gussie Dimmick and LaVonne McCandlish.

#### Focus on the World:

Food Bank collection is October 14-20.

#### Library:

A \$11,000 donation in memory of Robert Williams has been received.

#### Finance:

Audits of four SORA funds have been conducted and approved.

### **Board Discussion Time:**

Small groups reviewed the SORA Mission Statement and page one of the By-Laws.

### **Recognition of Volunteers:**

Twenty residents were honored from the Library and six from the Computer Room.

### **Administration Report:**

Annette McPeek reported that required government inspections have been completed and went well. There will be no change in the medical deduction for 2018. See her full report posted in the mailroom.

The next SORA Board meeting is Tuesday, October 2 at 1:30PM.

Jean Henderson, Secretary  
with gratitude to Loretta Lippert

## A TRIBUTE FOR JEFFREY SIMPSON

Six months ago, we welcomed a new resident. Jeff was certainly easy to befriend. How quickly he was incorporated into our community. I recruited him to be part of the small planning group that became Let's Talk. It was a mitzvah!

And how quickly Jeff departed from our midst. Becoming fragile from health problems that daunted his mobility. In his New York City locale, he was an easy mark for thieves who robbed and pistol-whipped him. Here he healed and thrived – like a new celebrity in our neighborhood. A neighborhood he clearly loved, and which cared for him in his declining days.

I have a well fingered copy of John Donne's *Devotions upon Emergent Occasions*. It is the journal he wrote in each day as he suffered a disease he believed would end his life. No word of the devotions is grim or maudlin; they have a high sense of exultation throughout. Chapter 17 is a literary classic. At least three modern novels have mined these several pages of Donne's work for titles. It reads in part "... all mankind is of one author and is of one volume; when one man dies, one chapter is not torn out of the book, but translated into a better language ..." and "any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in Mankind, and therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee."

I pay tribute to Sherwood Oaks for its ready incorporation of Jeff Simpson here and how easily we put our arms around this brother.

Paul D. Wierman

## A COURTYARD SCULPTURE

Have you visited the courtyard outside of patio home 193? If so, you may have seen a striking sculpture of a Native American astride a rearing horse nestled among the artfully planted shrubs. This bronze work is about four feet tall and belongs to Joan Rycheck who gets to see it every time she walks out her front door.

This sculpture came to Joan and her husband, Russ, by way of her son who knew the sculptor and his wife. The artist is John Rhoden, an African-American sculptor in wood and bronze who was born in Birmingham, Alabama, in 1918 and died at age 82 in 2001. Following service in World War II, Rhoden studied painting and sculpture at Columbia University and was named a Fulbright Scholar in 1951.

His commissioned pieces include "*Mitochondria*" at Bellevue Hospital Center in Manhattan; "*Curved Wall*" at the African-American Museum in Philadelphia and "*Zodiacal Structure*" at the Sheraton Hotel in Philadelphia. In 2019, the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts will open a new art center named in honor of John and his wife, Richanda.

An avid painter, Richanda, who painted almost every day until she was 99, is currently having a selection of her paintings exhibited at the Soloway Gallery in Brooklyn, NY. This exhibit was recently written up in the *New Yorker* as well as *Art Forum*.

Russ and Joan, both hope you enjoy the sculpture.

Barbara Dixon with  
Michael Rycheck, son

Refer to the sculpture on the front cover.

## IMPERSONATION

Pretending to be another person can yield serious consequences. Impersonating a police officer can get you ten to twenty years in the slammer. Showing up to take your buddy's board exam may go 'way beyond' embarrassing.

But re-enacting a famous person's life can elicit universal attention and perchance make you fabulously wealthy. My example ... Alex Hamilton! Quite recently in jeopardy of dropping off the sawbuck's surface, Hamilton's etched visage on the \$10 has now been preserved and his reputation again rocketed into national prominence by an impersonation.

Lin-Manuel Miranda's astounding virtuosity in writing a musical play, and then in person staging Hamilton back to life is, by all standards, the greatest impersonation of the decade. If you have a Broadway connection, get me tickets, please! I'll float a loan.

I have pretended to be a variety of historic persons. My favorite was Laughlin MacIntosh. MacIntosh was born in Inverness in the Scottish Highlands, a place known for scenic beauty and fierce warriors. MacIntosh's father, one of those fierce warriors, was hired by Oglethorpe's Georgia Plantation to head that colony's militia. He was to beat back the pesky Spanish military troops on the hotly contested Georgia/Florida border. Young Laughlin grew up in that colony and followed his father into the Georgia militia. He became a Brigadier General in the Continental Army.

To learn more of MacIntosh, take a trip to Beaver, PA and see the foundations of Fort MacIntosh there, built by and named for the general. The fort sits high above the Ohio's big bend and now sports several canon replicas. I helped dedicate one of them. If you are still puzzled about this close friend of George Washington's and wonder what the Georgia native was doing on the western colonial frontier, know this: MacIntosh shot signer of the Declaration of Independence, Button Gwinnet, in a duel. Gwinnet was wounded and died, MacIntosh was wounded and recovered.

The death of Gwinnet sent General MacIntosh to the Ohio territory and explains my involvement with this local hero. I was "tapped" to impersonate Laughlin MacIntosh at Beaver's Independence Day celebration. What better idea than to have the General 'appear' near the cannon on the site of Fort MacIntosh and give some personal history? A friend in Beaver owned an exact replica of a Revolutionary War General's uniform and it fit!

So, on that glorious Fourth, I donned the uniform, addressed the small gathering, and astounded them with my approximation of a Scottish brogue.

No surprise then, that my brief impersonation of Brigadier General MacIntosh touched me deeply. You don the britches, blouse, and boots; strap the sword around your waist, button the top buttons on the long coat, position the hat and then envision yourself as the Brigadier General.

Personally, my highest military rank was corporal. Still, for a moment of time, I **was** General MacIntosh. My heart is warmed by the remembrance of that July day. Beyond patriotic ardor, double layers of wool heated much more than my heart!

Paul D. Wierman

Refer to the photograph on the back cover.

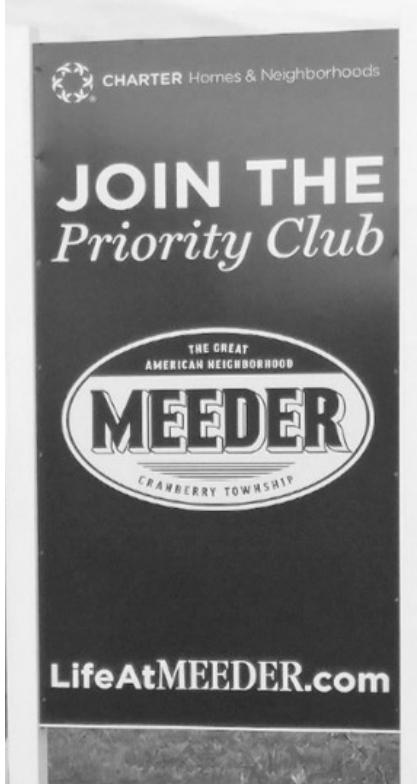


Photo by Barbara Dixon

## THE MEEDER FARMS DEVELOPMENT

A roomful of inquisitive Sherwood Oaks residents packed into the Auditorium on September 11 to look over drawings of the proposed Meeder Farms/Rochester Road development. Meeting them was a trio of Cranberry officials who fielded inquiries on everything from sewer and water impact to changes in traffic patterns on both Rochester Road and Route 19. Jerry Andre, Township Manager, assured the assembled "the goal is to extend this community's (Sherwood Oaks) vibrant life for years and years to come."

Those gathered learned that the Meeder property has been of interest to a number of different developers over the years but, for zoning and other reasons, an agreement was never reached. The other proposals, said Andre, called for a higher percentage of commercial to residential use than the township or the Meeder family felt was acceptable.

Charter Homes, based in central Pennsylvania, finally proposed a plan agreeable to both the township and the Meeders. The Meeder homestead will remain and be preserved as a historical site. The Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation may be involved in that aspect of the plan.

The new development, projected to be completed in seven to ten years, will comprise a mix of 635 residential units, including single family homes, two apartment buildings, loft townhouses, carriage homes, and traditional townhouses. Home to a total of about 1200 residents, 290 of them will live in the two 4-story apartment buildings. There will also be a number of "mom and pop-type" retail stores, two parks, trails, sidewalks, and bikeways.

The apartments will be the only rental units on the site. The home owners' association will initially be managed by Charter Homes, and gradually turned over to the residents. Officials speculated that a management company will assume day-to-day management of the property. Meeder Farms, as it will be called, will be the second largest development in Cranberry in the past twenty-five years. Ron Henshaw, Cranberry's Director of Development, said that Phase 1 of the project, which includes the Rochester Road widening, should be complete "in about a year."

Both Henshaw and Jason Kratsas, Director of Engineering for Cranberry, responded to a myriad of questions about water and storm water runoff, and other environmental implications for Sherwood Oaks. Kratsas noted that the township has "been proactive about storm water management since the 1990's," and has a long-term plan in place. He said the required environmental impact assessment and traffic study have been completed and approved by the Board of Supervisors. He indicated that the Meeder family has signed off on those as well.

## ONE OF THE MEEDER FARMS PLANS ON DISPLAY

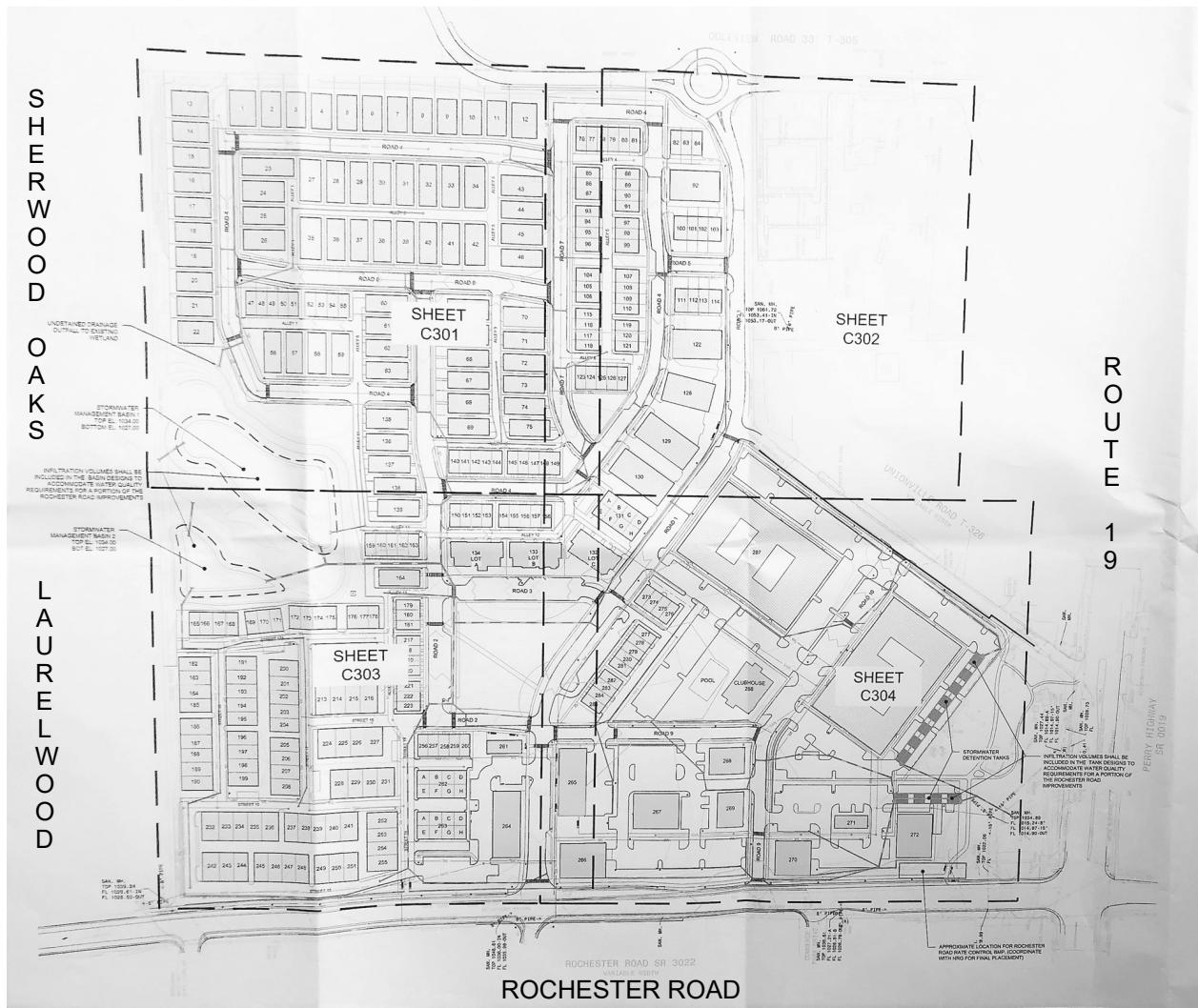


Photo by Tabby Alford

The development will have two storm water basins, which will collect storm and water runoff before it is fed into the stream that ultimately runs into the lake at Sherwood Oaks. The basins will also collect silt and will be drained periodically. One audience member asked if there would be increased silt draining into our lake. Officials said they are currently looking into that issue.

Andre noted that Cranberry's current population of 31,000 will grow to a projected 50,000 in the coming years. The current police force of 32 officers will be expanded to about 50 as the population increases. The Seneca Valley School District is on board with the Meeder Farms project, said Andre, as "healthy schools make healthy communities and vice versa."

Sherwood Oaks residents were encouraged to look over all the plans and continue to bring concerns to Cranberry officials.

Jan Wendt

## BOOTS, OUR BOXER

Boots was so much a part of our lives for many years that we asked our two daughters, Pat and Anne, to share some of their memories.

- I don't remember my childhood without him.
- He was more than a dog; he was friend in whom I would sometimes confide as a child.
- He was gentle, yet VERY protective.
- He slept at the top of the stairs when Dad was out of town.
- He had a big dog house outside our home on the farm and inside the garage in PA.
- When we gave him a bath, we always got as wet as he did, but we didn't mind a bit.
- I remember his very glassy, cataract covered eyes as he grew older, but blindness didn't slow him down. I still felt sorry for him.
- When he died, I cried like a baby."
- "Although I was not quite three when we moved to PA, I remember Boots barking at the garbage men who opened the garage door to retrieve the garbage cans. Of course, he had been brought inside the house on that day, or no pick-up.
- He slept on a rug upstairs.
- I told my grandmother on the phone, 'Daddy made Boots a first-class dog house.'
- When Daddy mowed the back hill, many of the children on the street came to pull the rope attached to the lawn mower. Boots was right there, up and down, cheering us on.
- After he was blind, Boots followed me when I went to play by sniffing. Once he walked into the front of a neighbor's car. She had stopped to let him pass. Although he bumped his head, he moved to the side and continued down the middle of the street to find me."

John needed a dog to help him herd cows on the farm. Boots was given to us by a neighbor who could not keep him because he chased hogs. Just like some sheep dogs, he had his own unorthodox way of moving the cows from one pasture to another, from the head instead of from behind.

When we moved to Pittsburgh 52 years ago, we pulled our second car which, except for the driver's seat, was loaded with boxes of household items. That is where Boots sat, behind the steering wheel. It was hysterical to see the faces of those who passed us on the highways; they were turned around not believing what they had just seen, a boxer driving a car. He was big and sat tall, such a beautiful Boxer with four white feet, thus the name Boots.

John has said many times, "My family was better protected when I was away, than when I was at home. No one would have walked over him on his rug upstairs." I would look out the front door and know where Anne was playing because Boots lay at the front door of wherever she was. He was a neighborhood pet, a protector of his turf, a gentle companion to our girls, but a terror to those who crossed him. We had eggs delivered, and one day the egg man came unexpectedly. I thought I had secured Boots downstairs but forgot that the garage door was open. When the deliverer came toward the front door, his driver started blowing the truck horn. The guy at the door saw Boots coming around the corner, opened the door and jumped into the house with me. Boots charged the front door, and we never had eggs delivered again.



Memories of BOOTS  
By the Burresses

## **SUKKOT, A JEWISH HARVEST FESTIVAL, BECOMES PERSONAL**

Our family of five arrived in Rehovot, Israel, during the harvest festival of Sukkot in 1964. We were armed with suitcases and racquets as my father planned to play a mean game of tennis along with his work during a sabbatical at the Weizmann Institute of Science. We spent the first evening on our host's screened porch enjoying a festive meal commemorating the sheltering of the Israelites in the wilderness. We ate fresh veggies and fruits from an updated country, certainly no wilderness, though the porch reminded us of the tents in which the Israelites dwelled in during the 40-year trek.

When we arrived, I knew little about Israel, less about Judaism, and absolutely no Hebrew. I also knew nothing of the harvest which I would continue to reap from Israel in the coming weeks, months and years.

Shortly after our arrival we went to the beach one day. We had been told there was not only the warm sea to greet us but an old Roman pottery "dump" nearby. We quickly became archeologists digging up handles and shards of pots, harvesting the ancient history of the area.

During our stay, my sister was home-schooled, my brother attended a local school, and I, having graduated high school, further educated myself. I quickly read all the non-scientific English books in the library. One scientist then suggested I go to live on a kibbutz, one in the north, founded by Canadians and Americans. They spoke English, were familiar with basketball and the game of Bridge. I was welcomed, and between Israelis and

visitors my age from the United States, I started to learn about modern Israel and absorb some Hebrew.

I picked oranges, worked in the Gan (garden), attended classes and learned ancient and modern folk songs and dances. I explored caves on the Lebanese border.

I made friends and one Israeli in particular caught my eye. And, I guess I too made an impression on him. In time he became my husband. Another harvest offered to me by the country.

Most Israelis are secular; traditions are a part of daily life; no one has to think of "being a Jew." It just happens. Holidays are celebrated as cultural elements to be harvested on a personal level in many forms.

At the conclusion of Sukkot, Jews immediately begin the annual cycle of Torah reading, celebrating Simchat Torah. The highlight of this holiday is the boisterous singing and dancing in the synagogue as the Torah scrolls are paraded. By the time it is over, Jews have experienced a spiritual roller coaster, from the introspection of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur to the giddy joy of Sukkot and Simchat Torah. It is time to use the inspiration of the season to propels us to greater growth, learning, and devotion in the year ahead; to propel us to a harvest of life within Judaism.

Since that first Sukkot in Rehovot, I have made Israel home on several occasions, embraced Judaism, and learned just enough street Hebrew to be dangerous. Sukkot, the harvest festival, also remains my favorite.

In 2018, Sukkot was celebrated from September 23-30.

Julie Yael Eden

## PUMPKIN DECORATING CONTEST

You know Halloween cannot be too far away once we start promoting our Annual Pumpkin Decorating Contest. The contest is open to any resident, staff or family member who would like to enter this fun event.

Start thinking of how you want to decorate your pumpkin (no carving, please) - creative, funny, scary or beautiful. Pumpkins will be on display in the Lobby area October 29 - 31.

Prizes will be handed out to the top three entries receiving the most votes.

Questions? Call the Recreation Therapy Department #8471

Laura Childress



## PIANO RECITAL

Kazumi Petinaux and her talented students are returning for an afternoon of wonderful music. The students usually come around this time of year wearing their Halloween costumes.

This year's recital will be held in the Auditorium on Saturday, October 20 at 1:15 PM.

Refreshments will be served. Everyone is invited to enjoy.

Laura Childress

## THE LIBRARY LOWDOWN

Would you like to see what books are available or reserve a book from the comfort of your own home? It's easy to do.

From the search box in your browser, type: sherwoodoaksrc.booksy.net (all small letters and no spaces). Click on display. This will take you to the Sherwood Oaks online catalog.

To see if we have a book in our catalog, type the name of the book in the search field on the top left of the page. This will bring up all the books we have with a similar title. If we do have the book you are looking for, you will be able to see if the book is currently in or out on the far-right side of that book's listing.

If the book is checked out and you would like to reserve it, click on the book title. A screen will come up with the book's summary. On the right side of that screen, click on the box that says "reserve." Click on "reserve" again on the next screen that is displayed. You will then be asked to enter your user name and password. Enter your Sherwood Oaks ID number in both fields (the same number that is on the ID card you use in the dining room). You will be asked one more time if you wish to reserve the item. Press "ok" and you are done.

If you would like to renew a book you have already checked out, follow the above directions to log onto the online catalog and then log onto your account in the upper right-hand corner by entering your Sherwood Oaks ID in both boxes. Click on "items out," and the items you have checked out will be displayed. Click the box in front of the item you wish to renew and click on the "renew" box on the right side of the screen. That's all there is to it!

Note: if someone has reserved a book that you currently have checked out, you will not be able to renew it.

Anne Hunt



## HOLIDAY OBSERVANCES

From time to time I have written about my Jewish faith and our holidays. I appreciate all the thoughtful comments I receive about them and it has encouraged me to continue and I will. Now, *THE ACORN* would like you to submit pieces about how your family observes the December holiday season. We also welcome learning about favorite Thanksgiving traditions that you and your family have observed over the years.

Many of our residents, having lived overseas, may have participated in fall and winter festivities, religious or not, that made an impact on them and their families. *THE ACORN* invites you to share these memories as well. During these upcoming fall and winter holidays, your memories no doubt will be stirred. We look forward to your sharing them with us.

Thanksgiving observances due to *THE ACORN* box in the mail room no later than October 15.

December holiday observances due to *THE ACORN* no later than November 15.

Julie Eden

## TRIPS AND TOURS NEEDS NEW MEMBERS

The trips and tours committee's mission is to provide entertaining, educational and enjoyable off-campus experiences, many involving food. Our current offerings are posted on the transportation bulletin board in the mail room. The committee is seeking new members who have ideas for trips and are willing to plan them. We meet at 1:30 PM on the second Tuesday of each month. If you would like more information, please contact Charles Cullen (8313) or Barbara Scruggs (8317).

Our ideas for events come from our archives of successful past events, suggestions by committee members and other residents, and reports in the local papers. Restaurant visits are a regular and popular feature. Most of our events are day-trips but we occasionally schedule overnight junkets. We carefully monitor the sign-up sheets in order to keep transportation costs at a reasonable level and cancel if the response is inadequate.

Our upcoming schedule includes:

- 10/10 Boat ride on Lake Arthur with lunch at the Log Cabin
- 10/17 Dinner at Mallorca
- 10/24 Grove City outlets, lunch at Iron Bridge, Wendel August Forge
- 11/1,2 Overnight trip to Lancaster to see "Jesus" and the Flight 93 National Memorial
- 11/9 Fall Flower show at Phipps with lunch at the Grand Concourse
- 11/16 Rivers Casino
- 11/24 Boar's-head Festival with dinner at Shakespeare's
- 12/14 Dinner at the Wooden Angel
- 12/16 Christmas Pops at Heinz Hall

Charles Cullen

# Continued Learning

It's here! That is, October and our Continued Learning programs. The only change in speakers from the descriptions given it the September ACORN is the addition of resident, Chuck Gourley, speaking on October 26.

Following 20 years' service with the Los Angeles Police department, Chuck held law enforcement positions in several different communities. While serving as Chief of Police in Rogers, Arkansas, Chuck was informed that David Duke had rented the local armory for a KKK rally. This unfortunate news and how Chuck responded to the news will be the subject of our Friday, October 26, program.

The next page has the calendar for the October events that has also been placed in your mail boxes:

Jim Miller

*THE ACORN* invites you to submit documents for publication. We prefer that your document be in Microsoft Word, Arial font, 14 point, and that it be sent to the editors as an email attachment. Email poetry to Poetry Editor Mike Rose at [MIKE1005@zoominternet.net](mailto:MIKE1005@zoominternet.net) and all other submissions to Editor Barbara Dixon at [dixonb1@verizon.net](mailto:dixonb1@verizon.net).

If you cannot do this, *THE ACORN* will still accept any document created by any word processor, or typewritten, or printed, or legibly handwritten, either as an email attachment or placed in *THE ACORN* mailbox located in the mailroom, no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.

All non-poetry submissions may be edited for length, clarity, and accuracy.



**Continued Learning**

# October 2018

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	1	2 Bill Markus, Political Science	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 Bill Markus, Political Science	10	11 Stuart Knoop Resident “Breaking Out of The Box”	12 Ron Carter, Director Strand Theater	13
14	15	16 Bill Markus, Political Science	17	18 Wallace Christy, Resident “Growing up in India/ Pakistan”	19 Jason & Kate Lyle, Residents  Building a Home in the Dominican Republic	20
21	22 Bill Markus, Political Science	23	24	25 Don McBurney Resident “You and Your Aging Senses”	26 Chuck Gourley Resident  “When David Duke and the KKK Came to Town”	27
28	29	30	31	Nov 1	2 Barbara Rankin, Resident  Storyteller	

All Programs are held in the Auditorium 10:30-11:30 AM

## **THE NEXT QUARTERLY FOOD BANK COLLECTION IS OCTOBER 14-20**

The next collection for the local Gleaners' food bank will be October 14-20. Donations may be left in the Scooter Room on the benches. (Please do not leave items prior to October 14).

Things to remember about the quarterly food drive:

- The Gleaners Food Bank provides food to Cranberry Township residents in need, many of whom are senior citizens.
- This is the last food drive at Sherwood Oaks before Thanksgiving and Christmas. We have the opportunity to help our neighbors have better holidays.
- Average sizes of all items are (the most useful and) preferred; residents receive their food by weight.
- Paper goods (toilet paper and paper towels, etc.) are welcome but each item (roll or package MUST BE) should be individually wrapped.
- All items should be unopened, unexpired, and non-perishable.

Thank you in advance for your donations.

Julie Eden  
Focus on the World

## **CASINO DAY**

The North Hills Kiwanis Club is sponsoring another Casino Day at Sherwood Oaks! Come try your luck at blackjack, bingo, horseraces and the slot machines!

This is a free event for all! Gift baskets will be raffled off. Refreshments will be served.

Casino day is scheduled for Saturday, October 27 at 1:15 PM

**Calling all Blackjack Dealers...we need you!**

Please call #8471 if you are interested in being a card dealer for this fun event!

Laura Childress



## **REMINDER ABOUT LIBRARY DONATIONS**

While the Library Committee is grateful for all the wonderful donations residents have made, we wish to remind you that our space in the library is limited. Therefore, donations accepted will be:

Fiction: hardback books within the last two years

Biographies: hardback within the last five years

Non-fiction: within the last five years, preferably hardback

Barbara Christy

## **THE BOY, THE TREE, AND ME**

RINGS IN THE TREE TELL YOU IT'S AGE, MY BOY.  
IS THAT WHY YOU COUNT THE LINES ON MY FACE,  
HOPING TO GUESS MY AGE?  
IT'S TRUE. LIKE THE OLD TREE OUT BACK,  
I TOO AM AGING, DRYING OUT.  
SAP FLOWS SLOWLY IN WINTER.  
BRANCHES SNAP.  
DRY TWIGS NO LONGER BEAR WEIGHT,  
AND YES, LIKE THE OLD TREE,  
I TOO, NEED SUPPORT.  
TRUE, MY HAIR IS SPARSE  
LIKE LEAVES LONG GONE.  
BUT WINTER WILL SOON BE OVER.  
THE TREE ONCE AGAIN  
WILL BE CROWNED WITH LEAVES.  
BRANCHES WILL STRETCH, GROW,  
REACH UP TO THE SKY,  
AND WHEN THE WARM WIND BLOWS  
THE LEAVES WILL DANCE,  
MAKE A MUSIC AS YOU PLAY IN THEIR SHADE.  
THIS OLD TREE IS REBORN EACH YEAR.  
SHE HAS MANY SPRINGS.  
WHAT'S THAT YOU SAY, DEAR BOY?  
OH, NO, NO LITTLE ONE,  
I NO LONGER DANCE  
TO THE SONG THE TREE SINGS.  
SPRING IS LONG PAST FOR ME.

Jean Kabbert

## **CANDIDATES NIGHT ALERT**

Thursday, October 11, 2018 at 7:15 PM is the date and time for Candidates Night, a program to which all candidates on our ballot running for public office in the fall general election are invited. All residents of Sherwood Oaks are invited. This is an opportunity to meet the candidates, hear their reasons for seeking office, and asking

questions. Sponsored by the Civic Affairs Committee, this is a non-partisan event for residents only: no reporters, no photographs. A list of candidates who agree to be present and a prototype of the ballot which will appear on the voting machines will be available at the meeting. Please put this date on your calendar.

Sherwood Oaks residents have a reputation for being civic minded, and a sizeable percentage of residents vote in each election. Let's keep up that reputation.

James Mauch

## **CURIOS CABINETS**

We were fortunate to have the wonderful Faberge-type eggs to delight us this summer. Thank you, Donna Montgomery! The current display is A Salute to Dogs, honoring the brave dogs that work to keep us safe, as well as our loving companions that make each day just a little bit better.

In October we will have our annual fun fest for Halloween.

Please pick up Salute to Dogs items on Tuesday, October 9, 10-12 AM and 4:30-5:30 PM. Bring Halloween items on Thursday, October 11 from 10-12 AM and 4:30-5:30 PM.

Gussie Dimmick

## OCTOBER MOVIE SCHEDULE



### OCTOBER 6 – OCTOBER SKY (1999) PG - 1 hr 48 min

The true story of Homer Hickman, a coal miner's son who was inspired by the first Sputnik launch in October 1957 to take up rocketry against his father's wishes. (IMDb)

Rated PG for mild language and some brief teen sensuality. No nudity.

### OCTOBER 13 - PATERNO (2018) TV MA 1 hr 45 min

Penn State's Joe Paterno, who, after becoming the most successful coach in college football history, is embroiled in the Jerry Sandusky sexual abuse scandal, challenging his legacy and forcing him to face questions of institutional failure regarding the victims. (IMDb)

Rated TV-MA for severe, harsh language (numerous F-bombs) and graphic verbal descriptions of sexual assault on children. No nudity.

### OCTOBER 20 - OUR SOULS AT NIGHT (2017) TV-14 1 hr 43 min

In a small Colorado town, a widow and widower who have lived next to each other for years, establish a connection and make the most of the rest of the time they have. (IMDb)

Rated TV-14 for mild language and adult themes. No nudity.

### OCTOBER 27 - YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN (1974) PG 1 hr 46 min

An American grandson of the infamous scientist, struggling to understand that his grandfather was not as insane as people believe, is invited to Transylvania, where he discovers the process that reanimates a dead body. (IMDb)

Rated PG for mild language (no F-bombs) and comedic sexual themes. No nudity.

Jason Lyle



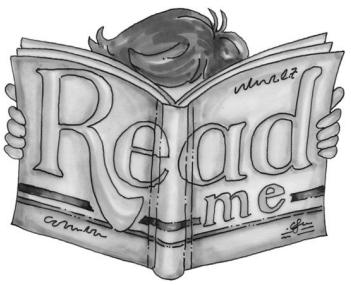
## COLETTA McKENRY LIBRARY ACCESSIONS

### FICTION, INCLUDING LARGE TYPE

<b>A Fatal Arrangement</b>	Roper, Gayle	©2018	F/ROP
<b>All We Ever Wanted:</b>	Giffin, Emily,	©2018	F/GIF
<b>Auntie Poldi and the Sicilian Lions</b>	Giordano, Mario,	©2018	F/GIO
<b>Before Everything</b>	Redel, Victoria,	©2017	F/RED
<b>The Bookshop of Yesterdays:</b>	Meyerson, Amy,	©2018	F/MEY
<b>Brimming with Questions</b>	Adams, Elizabeth	©2017	F/ADA
<b>Colors of Christmas</b>	Newport, Olivia	©2017	F/NEW p.b.
<b>Do You See What I See</b>	Dodge, Vera	©2018	F/DOD
<b>How to Find Love in a Bookshop</b>	Henry, Veronica,	©2016	F/HEN
<b>Inception</b>	Sowell, Lynette	©2010	F/INC DVD
<b>The Mistletoe Murder</b>	Steel, Danielle,	©2018	F SOW
<b>Property of a Noblewoman:</b>	Banks, Iain,	©2016	F/STE
<b>The Quarry</b>	Stuart Woods	©2013	F BAN
<b>Standup Guy</b>	Patterson, James,	©2014	F/WOO l.t.
<b>The 17th Suspect</b>	Kostova, Elizabeth.	©2018	F/PAT
<b>The Swan Thieves:</b>	Donnelly, Jennifer.	©2010	F/KOS p.b.
<b>The Winter Rose:</b>	Connelly, Michael	©2008	F/DON p.b.
<b>The Wrong Side of Goodbye</b>	Woods, Stuart,	©2016	F/CON
<b>Turbulence</b>		©2018	F/WOO

### NON-FICTION, INCLUDING BIOGRAPHIES

<b>A Lucky Life Interrupted</b>	Brokaw, Tom	©2015	BIO/Bro
<b>A Full Life</b>	Carter, Jimmy	©2015	BIO/Car
<b>The Restless Wave</b>	McCain, John	©2018	BIO/McC
<b>Unfinished</b>	Stearns, Richard	©2013	248.4/Ste
<b>Jimmy Carter: The Liberal Left and World Chaos</b>	Evans, Mike	©2009	327.56 EVA
<b>The Evolving Constitution</b>	Lieberman, Jethro K	©1992	342.730 LIE
<b>Into the Raging Sea</b>	Slade, Rachel	©2018	363.12 SLA
<b>The Glass Universe: How the Ladies ... Took the Measure of the Stars</b>	Sobel, Dava	©2016	522.19 SOB
<b>Why Time Flies: a Mostly Scientific Investigation</b>	Burdick, Alan	©2017	529.2 BUR
<b>Planet Earth As You've Never Seen it Before: The Complete Series</b>		©2007	910 PLA DVD
<b>Rick Steves' Europe All 100 Shows</b>		©2013	914.04 STE DVD
<b>The Wives of Henry VIII</b>	Fraser, Antonia	©1992	942.05 FRA



## SPOTLIGHT ON NEW BOOKS THE BOOK SELECTION COMMITTEE

These recently purchased books will be on the new book shelf in our library. If a book you seek is not there, you can fill out a reserve slip.

**Us Against You** by Fredrik Backman. Fiction. By the author of *A Man Called Ove* and *Beartown*. “If Alexander McCall Smith’s and Maeve Binchy’s novels had a love child, the result would be the work of Backman” (*Washington Post*).

**The Other Woman** by Daniel Silva. Fiction. Spymaster Gabriel Allon hunts for a mole in Britain’s MI6. Russia may be involved. “Gripping as always and grimly realistic” (*Kirkus starred review*).

**There, There** by Tommy Orange. Fiction. Written by a member of the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes, this is a story about present-day complex characters who are “Urban Indians” living in Oakland, California. “A vivid and moving book” (*Kirkus starred review*).

**Give Me Your Hand** by Megan Abbott. Fiction. Two ambitious women who are ex-friends are in fierce competition for a research position in a male-dominated scientific lab. The author of the thriller *You Will Know Me* has been praised as “one of the most intelligent and daring novelists working in the crime genre today” (*New York Times*).

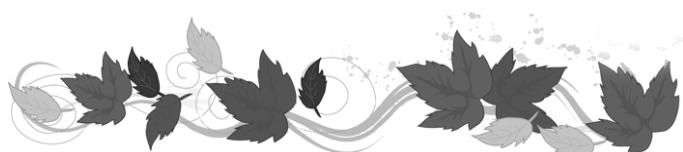
**Cottage by the Sea** by Debbie Macomber. Fiction. The popular author’s new novel concerns a “tragedy and triumph that is emotionally engaging from the outset and ends with a satisfying conclusion” (*Publishers Weekly*).

**The Language of Kindness: A Nurse’s Story** by Christie Watson. Nonfiction. This memoir by a retired nurse is “written with warmth and a sense of empathy for her patients.... A beautiful homage to the dignified, unsung heroes of hospital care” (*Kirkus review*).

**Andrew Jackson and the Miracle of New Orleans: The Battle That Shaped America’s Destiny** by Brian Kilmeade and Don Yaeger. Nonfiction. This thriller-like popular history has been recommended by a resident who has read it. In an online review, an historian of the period gives some support for the subtitle, writing that “The Battle of New Orleans was indeed a turning point in American history” (*Politico*).

**First in Line: Presidents, Vice Presidents and the Pursuit of Power** by Kate Andersen Brower. Nonfiction. “Brower delivers what she did in her previous books (*The Residence* and *First Women*), a readable, insightful account of how the vice presidency has evolved” (*USA Today*).

Tom Fararo



## FYI

When the new computer system was installed, the committee decided that the easiest identifier to use for a library card was the Sherwood Oaks resident card. This identifier is the one tied to your patio home or apartment – that is, there is one number per residence. That means a couple SHARE one number. Sometimes the number is listed in the woman's name, sometimes in the man's. There is no preference intended but your family will have only one library number per unit.

Barbara Christy

**IN MEMORIAM**

*Memories are precious possessions that time can never destroy. For it is in happy remembrance that the heart finds its greatest joy.*

*William Jeffrey Simpson  
August 24, 2018*

*Eleanor Hagmann  
September 16, 2018*

## CHAPEL NOTES

Leading Chapel Services during October will be the following. (All services at 2PM in the Auditorium.)

October 7 - The Rev. Jean Henderson, Sherwood Oaks. This will be a Communion Service.

October 14 - The Rev. Dean Ziegler, Coraopolis Methodist Church

October 21 - The Rev. Amy Mickelson, Hope Lutheran Church

October 28 - The Rev. Charles Partee, Sherwood Oaks

Everyone is welcome. Bring a friend.

Gary Brandenberger  
Chapel Committee

## ACTIVITIES IN THE CHAPEL

Women's Bible Study  
First and third Monday of the month  
Promptly at 10:45 - 12 noon

Men's Bible Study  
Weekly, Wednesdays  
10:00 – 11:00 AM

Holy Communion, Episcopal Rite  
Second Monday of the month  
11:00 AM

Rosary – Led by Chester Ludwicki  
First, Second, and Third Fridays  
9:30 AM

Quaker Meeting for Worship  
Fourth Sunday  
10:30 – 11:30 AM

*Brigadier General Laughlin MacIntosh AKA Paul D. Wierman  
(see story on page 9)*



Photo by Jurgen Steinmetz