

# THE ACORN

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

April 2022 “For the residents, by the residents” Vol. 41, No. 4

*The avian mystery unravels ....*



Thanks to Google for photo

*See inside, p. 17, for the campus story.*

Dear Readers:

For this issue, we offer you a poem written by Jean Kabbert (#371) on a subject that is surely familiar to many of us now, and inevitably to more of us in the future.

- The Editors

### SORTING

I go through our closet, sorting –  
sorting things – your things –  
some to keep, some to give away.  
Suits now hang shapeless, hang cold.  
Here is the blue one, your favorite.  
Your dark eyes danced  
when you brought home this blue  
serge.  
Fingering the slacks, I smooth  
their still sharp pleat. My hand becomes  
yours,  
as I trace the lapels as you once did.  
Sharp!

Your ties lie in a heap now,  
and, like me, will never know  
the touch of your hands again.  
I'd sit and watch you weave  
and twist these very silks  
into picture-perfect form each morn:  
My very own magician, you'd enchant  
me.

How I'd tease you to wear your very  
best.

But you'd always save something,  
Put it aside for a later time.  
Now, I'm sorting and putting away –  
putting away for the last time,  
putting away the past  
and hoping you're smiling  
at what I must do –  
give away part of myself,  
as I give away a part of you.

### APRIL CALENDAR

April Fool's Day	Apr. 1
Ramadan begins	Apr. 2
Palm Sunday	Apr. 10
Good Friday	Apr. 15
Passover begins	Apr. 16
Easter Sunday	Apr. 17
Earth Day	Apr. 22
Greek Orthodox Easter	Apr. 24
Arbor Day	Apr. 29

### THE ACORN

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Submissions for the May issue must be  
sent to the Editor no later than

**April 15, 2022.**

### IN MEMORIAM

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

*Catherine "Kitty" Bohn*

*February 28, 2022*

*Robert Brierly*

*March 1, 2022*

*William "Norman" Ritchie*

*March 7, 2022*

*Jane Yager*

*March 22, 2022*

## WHAT'S NEW WITH SORA? (SO Residents Association)

By Jean Henderson, Secretary - #611

**NOTE: Complete minutes are always available for review on the SORA mailroom bulletin board, on the SO APP, and in the SORA Library binder.**

Summary of reports and actions for the **March 8, 2022**, board meeting:

TREASURERS: Memorial/Special Projects Fund balance is \$114,294. Employee Appreciation Fund balance is \$15,351.89. The SORA bank balance is \$67,165.41.

### LIAISON REPORTS:

Continued Learning. Watch Channels 900/901 for upcoming weekly programs.

Continued Learning. On April 12, Dr. Pamela Walck will speak on Integrity in Journalism.

Trips and Tours. Check the mailroom board for upcoming events.

Chapel. Good Friday service will be April 15 in the Auditorium.

Sherwood Gifts. Remodeling of the gift shop is being planned.

Programs. Monthly in-person programs will be held in the auditorium.

Focus on the World. Educational programming continues on Channels 900/901. Several in-person programs are on the schedule. Food Bank collection is April 17-22.

Curio Cabinets. Horses are featured.

Art Gallery. New hangings are in place.

Summer Garden. Plots are still available. Our SO kitchen has three plots.

ADMINISTRATION: Annette McPeek reported. Census: IL 200 units with 254

residents; SNU 30/43; PC 34/42; and OGC 28/30. Five homes are under contract. Butler County's current positivity rate is 6.5%. Visitors/families are to be masked and screened at entry. Residents should not have visitors in SO public areas, e.g., lobby, dining room, billiards, auditorium, or at chapel services. UPMC has approved the auditorium project.

OLD BUSINESS: Plans are in progress for our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. SpringFest will be on April 7, 1-3 p.m. A SORA computer is installed in the Computer Room. WiFi installation is still in progress for the Health Center. Jason Lyle, Monika Dalrymple, and Kelley Noble were elected to the Nominating Committee. The proposal for a Housekeeping Committee was approved.

VISITORS: Sixteen were present.

The next SORA Board meeting is **Tuesday, April 5**; the annual residents' meeting is **June 14, 2022**.



### **GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE**

By the Rev. Jean Henderson - #611

The Chapel Committee will present the annual Good Friday Tenebrae Service on **Friday, April 15, 2022, at 4 p.m.**, in the Auditorium/Card Room. The Office of Tenebrae, meaning darkness or shadows, dates back to the 7<sup>th</sup> century A.D. It is characterized by the extinguishing of candles as the service progresses with hymns, prayers, and scripture readings, this year from the Gospel of Mark. I will be leading this service. Please join us for this somber devotion as we prepare for Easter Sunday.

## THE LIBRARY LOWDOWN

By Anne Hunt - #308

If you have visited the library recently, you may have noticed that we have moved a group of books to a separate bookshelf. These books are the mystery series published under the names of Annie's Mysteries, Antique Shop Mysteries, Mysteries of Martha's Vineyard, Savannah Secrets, Patchwork Mysteries, Secrets of Mary's Bookshop, Secrets of Wayfarers Inn, Tearoom Mysteries, and Victorian Mansion Flower Shop Mysteries. Many of these books have recurring characters and sequential stories, so grouping them by series makes it easier for potential readers to find them rather than searching for them by author. They can now be found at the end of the oversize book section at the window side of the library.

Please remember to sign out books before taking them from the library. A book that has not been signed out is a book lost to us. You may either check books out on the computer or manually. If checking them out manually, please remember to put your name (including first initial, if we have more than one resident with your last name) and unit number on the sign-out card.

Did you know that we have low-vision readers available in the library? One of them is a magnifier and must be used in the library, as it is quite large. The other two will actually "read" a book to you and can be checked out for a period of three weeks. If you are interested in using these low-vision readers, please contact Anne Hunt (8308) or Barbara Christy (8237) for assistance.

## CHAPEL NOTES

By Gary Brandenberger - #602  
For the Chapel Committee

**Sunday Services begin at 2:00 p.m. in the Auditorium.**

Bring a friend.

Sunday, April 3

Rev. Robert Kennedy  
Retired Presbyterian clergy

Sunday, April 10 – Palm Sunday

Rev. Tom Parkinson (Communion)  
Dutilh United Methodist

Maundy Thursday – April 14 – 4:00 p.m.

Rev. Alick Kennedy (Communion)  
Sherwood Oaks

Good Friday – April 15 – 4:00 p.m.

Rev. Jean Henderson  
Sherwood Oaks

Sunday, April 17 – Easter

Rev. Liddy Barlow  
Christian Associates of SW PA

Sunday, April 24

Rev. Beth Wierman  
UP/Zion First Lutheran

*"The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and full of steadfast love."*

*Exodus 34:6*



*Over the years, the Editors have received a couple of complaints from readers that some stories we publish are of no interest to them. We received such a submission for this issue and decided to leave it out.*

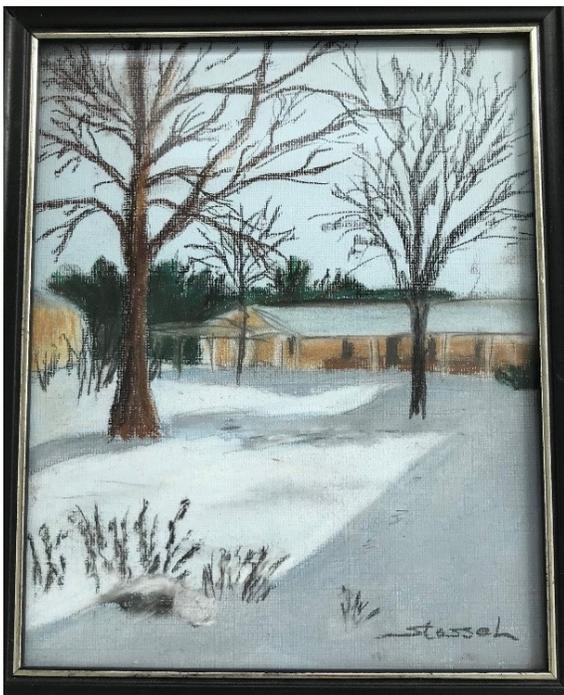
*– The Editors*

## RESIDENTS' ART GALLERY

By Joni Pun - #304

At the suggestion of a friend, the May and June exhibits will feature artwork, needlework, or other crafts done by the mother or father of our residents, to honor both parents' days. Works done by other family members will also be accepted. The works must be ready to be hung, with a wire on the back. The resident should include a small card – no larger than 3" x 5" – that has the resident's name, along with that of the relative, and any additional explanation that may be useful.

I hope that many of you are considering doing works that incorporate scenes or activities of Sherwood Oaks for an exhibit later this year, to coincide with the celebration of our forty years of existence. I myself have been busy trying to capture some of our gorgeous snowfalls (which I hope will have ended by the time you get this newsletter!).



Painting by Joni Pun

## SHERWOOD OAKS GOLF GROUP

By Gary Brandenberger - #602



We expect to resume our golf group as soon as weather permits. The Cranberry Highlands Golf Course is once again providing us Thursday morning tee times every week, except when the course is closed for events. When this happens, they will try to provide another day, which is usually Wednesday. Our tee times start about 9:30 a.m., and we usually reserve four times.

Any Sherwood Oaks resident is welcome to participate. Men and women golfers can play 9 or 18 holes. The course "programs" our golf carts to provide more convenient access on the course. The only request Cranberry Highlands makes is that we keep up with the pace of play. This has never been a problem in the past.

I will notify you by email over the preceding weekend of the tee times "Cranberry" is assigning to us. Please respond via (<[gbrandenberger@webtv.net](mailto:gbrandenberger@webtv.net)>) as soon as you decide whether you are playing **or not**. I will arrange the groups by Tuesday afternoon and let you know what they are, again by email. Unused tee times will be released back to the course. When we have Wednesday times, we back everything up by one day.

Please let me know by email if you expect to participate this year. This will allow me to ensure that I have your correct address. It would also be helpful to have your phone numbers for any last-minute changes.

## FURRY FELINES OF SHERWOOD OAKS: PART III

By Kathie McCormick - #188

Although Katherine Montgomery (#214) moved into Sherwood Oaks in October, her 18-year old cat **SAMANTHA** has a much longer connection to the community.



Years ago, she was rescued by Darla Gates [from Special Services] near her home after the cat's owner had died. Darla was working for Katherine's mother Ruth at Sherwood Oaks at the time, and Samantha ended up making the ten-hour trip to western Kentucky to join Katherine's family. Unfortunately, Samantha is a people-lover, not a cat-lover, and she was not happy with the Kentucky cat family. When 97-year old Ruth's old cat died, her vet recommended that she get another for company! Samantha was the perfect choice, and back she came to Pennsylvania. She loved Sherwood Oaks, but when Ruth died 5 years later, Samantha had to return to Kentucky for a few years. Now she is back in Sherwood Oaks and is much happier, despite still having to live with other cats. She loves the sunny patio room and has become much more active in the last few months. She knows that Sherwood Oaks is her forever home.



Meet **MOLLY**, the 6-year-old Snowshoe rescued from the Beaver Humane Society three years ago by Barbara Dixon and Dennis Lynch (#335).



Barbara reports as follows: "Molly was not keen on our dog Maggie when they first met, nor was the dog keen on the cat. There was much hissing from one and slinking around tail-between-the-legs from the other. Things have improved over the years. In some ways, they are alike in their preference for silence: Maggie doesn't bark, and Molly purrs so quietly that you can feel her but not hear her. Ours is a pretty quiet home.

"They both have access to our patio room, where Molly has the high ground on her cat tower, able to watch and talk to the birds and squirrels at our bird feeder when she's not napping. Maggie, on the other hand, has command of the sofa for her naps and watching the birds, squirrels, and bunnies in the backyard. M & M are on opposite sides of the room.

"Molly is what I'd describe as a 'patter,' always reaching out with a front paw to pat (snag?) Dennis or me when she wants something, be it attention, food, or treats. She also pats the dog in more of a "Tag, you're it" kind of fashion. Early on, Maggie was intimidated by those pats. But now, it's more of a 'Yeah, whatever' kind of response, even when Molly chases

after her, planting both paws on her side. I think Molly would really like to play with the dog, but I interpret the dog's looks and actions to read, 'Eat your heart out, Cat. It isn't going to happen as long as you've got claws.'

"Nighttime is truce time. They will both routinely lie down **ON** me, not beside me, while I'm in bed watching TV, while Dennis reads. Molly and Maggie get really close to each other, but there is no actual touch. Sniffing each other is okay, but their rule seems to be, No touching. When it's lights out time, Dennis will tell the dog, 'Noddy-blinkums, Maggie,' and she will reluctantly leave the bedroom. Frequently, Molly will chase after her or ambush her from under the bedroom chair as the dog leaves. What happens after that, we just don't know."

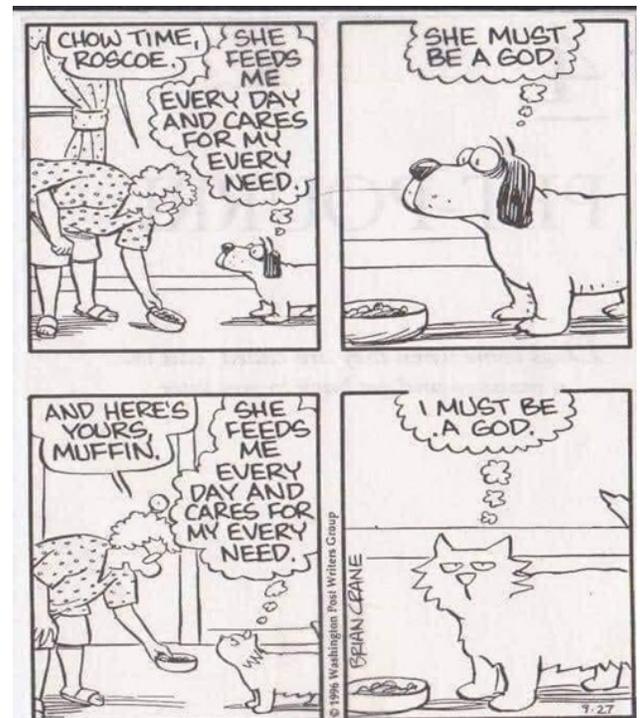


My name is **LUCY**, and I live on the lap of my mom, Mary K. Whitehouse, in Lakeside apartment #735. My furrever family adopted me from Petco, Cranberry Twp., in 2008, when I was approximately 9 months old and my favorite thing to do was eat. Commonly known as a Hemingway cat, I have thumbs on both of my front paws (see photo below). The fancy name for me is a *polydactyl* cat

from the Greek word for "many fingers." My mom and I have been constant companions ever since we lost my dad, and we are both so grateful that Sherwood Oaks recognizes the importance of little friends like me and the mutual love and care that exist between pet and owner.



If any of the rest of you wish to have your feline buddy featured, please contact me at 8188 and we'll go from there!



## FOCUS ON FORTY

By Jean Henderson - #611

Over the forty years Sherwood Oaks has welcomed residents, one of the most unusual welcomings was for a woman who came to us right off the plane from Fiji!

Abby Croly Gross Hvitfelt died at age 90 on January 23, 2010. After two marriages and divorces, she left behind five children, three grands, and two greats. She was trained as a private duty nurse, summer camp nurse, and professor of nursing at SUNY–Delhi.

When Abby retired at age 66, she joined the Peace Corps and was assigned in 1986 to teach nursing in Fiji. Having decided to stay after her PC days, she became the Health Officer for the American Embassy in Fiji. During her 22 years there, she personally made and delivered over 22,000 stuffed animals to hospitalized children.

At age 89, she moved to Sherwood Oaks to be near her youngest child. Her ex-husband also lived at SO. Her residency here was a short one, but very active, indeed! She was ill only three days before dying.

I am in possession of two documents she wrote about her life. One of them she presented to residents about her life in Fiji, having been invited to do so by Merle Wagoner. She showed a 40-minute film about Fiji – I wonder where it is now? The second covered her early life, as well as her stay in Fiji. Here are some quotations from her writings:

“You are looking at a very lucky lady. My father died suddenly when I was sixteen – I chose to become a nurse, as it was the cheapest education available. It did

not take me long to fall head over heels in love with the nursing profession and that love affair still burns brightly today.” [Later on she earned a master’s degree in education at age 53.]

“In Fiji, English is the official language, but all Fijians (49%) speak Fijian and the Indians (46%) speak in Hindi. I was given a crash course in each language, but happily I was to teach in English at the brand-new nursing facility donated by Japan. No TV! No Sunday paper! No junk mail! I thought I had gone to heaven. Petrol was sold by the liter; it was 60 cents a liter then.”

“Fiji is a tropical Paradise, and its largest source of income is tourism. The next biggest industry is now the sale of bottled water! A host of foreign countries have a hand in holding this country together. France heads the list, along with Australia, New Zealand, and Japan. Can you guess the USA’s big contribution? Commercial hotspots like McDonald’s! The national sport of Fiji is rugby. Our teams have competed in four World Cup finals. My favorite sport to watch was the Rugby Sevens matches.”

“Fiji has much to offer but very little in the way of elder care. So here I am, enjoying a new and exciting chapter in my life.”

Please contact me if you’d like to read more of her writings.



*I came. I saw. I forgot what I was doing. Retraced my steps. Got lost on the way back. Now I have no idea what's going on. But I did remember to send this to you, so here it is.*

## **HIGH DEFINITION COMES TO SHERWOOD OAKS**

By Jason Robert Lyle - #293

You are seeing things. No, you're not imagining it. You ARE seeing things. Channel 900 and Channel 901 have just completed a major upgrade in the quality of the image and of the sound. New High Definition (HD) encoders have replaced the obsolete Standard Definition (SD) encoders. The improvement is profound.

Now there is a significant sharpness and clarity to the slides. Small typeset is no longer blurred and unreadable. The slide pictures and illustrations are crisp and clean. The entire image can be seen at full 16:9 aspect ratio, with 1080 lines of resolution to match all televisions sold since 2010.

The old-technology Standard Definition encoders squished our slides and videos to a 4:3 aspect ratio, with only 480 lines of resolution. This was "okay" to view a slideshow, but the addition of Channel 901 brought movies and videos into our homes, and watching an HD movie in SD quality was noticeably unpleasant. With the upgrade to HD encoders, movies and videos on Channel 901 look amazing. Of course, the slides look amazing, too. And the sound has improved as well. No more "hum" is heard during quiet times of the slideshow music or quiet scenes in a movie. Enjoy the new High Definition look of Channel 900 and Channel 901!

### **SUE GARTON, HANDBELL SOLOIST**

By Jane Lavender - #253

Sue Garton, nationally known handbell soloist, will be performing in our auditorium at **7:15 p.m. on April 28.**

Sue, who played for us several years ago, is pleased to be returning. Note that she plays four octaves of bells alone, whereas we in the Sherwood Oaks choir can barely manage four or five bells apiece.

Sue worked with a handbell choir in Kyiv, Ukraine, while presenting concerts there and in Presov, Slovakia. She has also been a featured performer at concert series throughout the United States, including Handbell Musicians of America events in Orlando, San Francisco, Nashville, and Dallas. She was a member of the 2003 Dream Team quartet that performed and taught at the Solo-Ensemble Extravaganza in Colorado Springs. Fifteen of her handbell solo arrangements have been published.



### **SOMETHING OLD**

By Dorothy Fitzpatrick - #334

The Painting Studio is presenting works in the Scooter Gallery by current and former Sherwood Oaks residents as of March 14. These works, principally landscapes from around Sherwood Oaks, were previously hung in the Fitness Center.

If you enjoy painting in any of its forms, come join the group! The painting class is held every Monday from 1 to 3 p.m. in the studio on the Center's lower level, just off the Craft Room. Beginning supplies are provided.

## FROM THE ARCHIVES . . .

By Joe and Peg Rychcik - #297

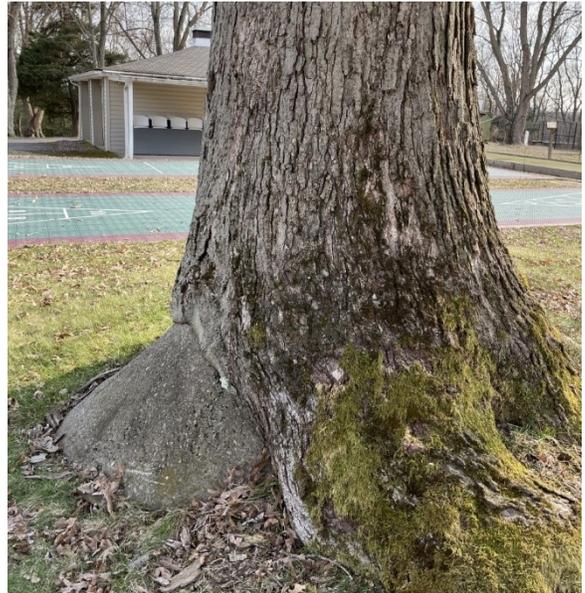
Trees and Sherwood Oaks are synonymous. Look in any direction on campus, and you will see varieties of large shade trees, pines, and ornamental trees. But have you ever heard about the historical events involving trees at Sherwood Oaks?

In October 1980, during the process of developing Sherwood Oaks, it was discovered that 35 oak trees valued at \$25,000 had been chopped down from the large grove of oaks and stolen over a two-week period. This heist also left ruts in the ground, created by the logging trucks, which added an additional \$1,000 to the damages caused. In November 1980, three owners and one employee of Marshall Logging Company in Ohio were arrested at the Howard Johnson's Hotel in Hampton Township for the theft. An additional suspect from Cranberry Township was also arrested.

Trees were so important to the founders of Sherwood Oaks that, when they saw a magnificent oak tree, near what is now the Summer House, with its structural integrity compromised, they used a unique method to strengthen it.



The large cavity at the base of the “wounded” tree was plugged with concrete on May 5, 1987, as you can see in the photo below. The founders would be pleased to know that the tree continues to thrive because of their efforts 35 years ago.



When we look around Sherwood Oaks today, it's hard to realize that, when the campus opened in 1982, there were no trees amid our patio homes.



How did Sherwood Oaks transition from a plain landscape to the tree-filled campus we enjoy today? According to the June 1984 issue of *THE ACORN*, large trees began appearing on campus in May 1984. Tall pines were planted next to the visitor parking lot and on the bank of the

lake behind the Community Center. Afterwards, large oaks and maples were planted nearby. The value of all these trees, which were donated, was estimated at \$30,000. Sherwood Oaks bore the cost of an additional \$20,000 to move and plant them. A single donation of \$10,000 covered half of that expense. We are grateful to the founders and early residents who provided us with their legacy of trees.



Today we benefit by having The Arboretum at Sherwood Oaks on our doorstep. After the Landscape Committee initiated its vision of an arboretum in 2000, it was achieved through the combined efforts of groundskeepers and residents, who worked diligently to plan where the many varieties of trees would be planted. They also supplied the necessary hard work to bring to fruition a campus arboretum. A map showing the tree species and locations on campus that comprise our arboretum is located in the hallway by the Scooter Room. Why not seek out the unique varieties of trees during your campus walks?



*For solace, look to God; for solutions, look in the mirror.*

*Innovation always starts with a stupid question.*



### **SHERWOOD OAKS SPRING PLANT SALE**

By Ann Ferguson - #269

Forms will be in your cubbyholes at the beginning of April, while pictures of the plants will be in the lobby.

Orders and payment are due by **Thursday, April 28**. Please place your orders in cubbyhole 269.

Pick-up and delivery will be on **Thurs., May 12, beginning at 12:30 p.m.**

### **FOCUS ON THE WORLD QUARTERLY COLLECTION FOR GLEANERS' FOOD BANK**

By Nancy Paul - #167

**Sunday, April 17 – Saturday, April 23**

People in our area struggle with deciding how to pay for food along with housing, utilities, medical expenses, and other essentials. Some buy cheaper, less nutritious foods or skip meals so that there will be enough to eat. One in five children faces food insecurity.

We can help. Every \$1 donated to area food banks will buy \$5 worth of food for those whose level of hunger we probably can't imagine.

Checks can be written payable to Gleaners' Food Bank and placed in cubbyhole 348, or written and sent to a food bank of your choice. Thank you, as always, for your generosity.

## A MULTIVERSE OF S.O.'s?

By Dennis Lynch – #335

For many years I have been a regular reader of a magazine called *Science News*. I also enjoy reading popular science non-fiction like that by Brian Greene, Katie Mack, and Max Tegmark. So, for a boy who never got past trigonometry in high school, I am at least conversant with the propositions that we are living in one of an infinite number of almost identical universes, and – even more scary – that we may be avatars cavorting in the equivalent of a virtual reality game operated by the equivalent of a couple of pimply teenagers living in the equivalent of ... anyway, I can accept the idea that there is a community nearly identical to Sherwood Oaks on the Kentish High Weald in Britain.

The name of this community is Coopers Chase Retirement Village, and it forms the backdrop for the action in Richard Osman's book *The Thursday Murder Club* (Viking, 2020). Four residents there, the Club, make up some of the protagonists of this story.

Actually, there are more protagonists than you realize at first glance. And if you start to reread the story, you realize that clues have been dropping since the first chapter, so pay attention!

Clues to what? To the murder, of course. No murders in *our* CCRC so far, but the century is young. And how many murders do we have to contend with at Coopers Chase? Well, no spoiler, but not just one. And it really depends on what you are willing to call a murder, anyway, doesn't it? Old folks do tend to die.

The scenery there is grand. For a police presence, there is a stolid male DCI (we're in Britain, remember) and a pistol of a young female PC who would rather chase dope dealers than be asked to make the tea. Our library has the first volume, while the Cranberry library also has vol. 2, *The Man Who Died Twice*.

This CCRC campus is dominated by an old convent and an old cemetery. It has a herd of twenty llamas. The owner (the villain?) bought two of them to look "quirky" in sales brochures, and it got out of hand. Like S.O., this CCRC has a swimming pool, a therapy pool, an exercise room, a space for big and more controversial meetings, and the "Jigsaw Room" for gentler activities. Someone once put a fax machine in one of the recycling bins. The residents seem to drink a lot.

The Murder Club is ruled by Elizabeth, "who admires suspicion above all else." The Club's activities are "a few glasses of wine and a cold case mystery – very social, but also gory. It is good fun." Their "evidence" has been liberated from the police. They meet in the Jigsaw Room under the activity name, "Japanese Opera: a Discussion," which ensures that they will be left in peace.

Then comes the (first?) fresh murder. The Club sees a wonderful, real-life opportunity to help the police, but the DCI and his PC see a damn nuisance – until the Club members get ahead of them.

And the action starts in earnest.

I found this twisty plot a fun read, with enough action and interesting (quirky) characters that I immediately ordered the second volume from the library.

Give it a try!

## RESETTLING AFGHAN AND UKRAINIAN REFUGEES IN THE PITTSBURGH REGION

By Nancy Paul - #167

**Thurs., Apr. 21, 7 p.m. – Auditorium**  
(presented by Focus on the World)

Since Sept. 2021, Pittsburgh's Jewish Family and Community Services (JFCS) has been working hard with other agencies to relocate over 500 Afghan refugees in the Pittsburgh area, many of whom arrived with as little as eight hours' notice. Resettlement took a lot of hard work and time, as relocating doesn't mean just finding housing but providing a completely new life for those who have fled their homelands to safety.

As millions of people began to leave Ukraine after the Russian invasion, JFCS began receiving calls from local people wanting to apply for help for their Ukrainian relatives. In response, the agency committed itself to resettle Ukrainian refugees; as a first step, it has set up an information page, including a form for people seeking US residency. Learn more about this local response to two world crises by visiting <<https://www.jfcsppgh.org/services/>>.

[Information provided by Dana Gold, Chief Operating Officer, Jewish Family and Community Services]



## COOPER'S CLIMATE CAPSULE

By Bruce Cooper - #715

Unit 3 of the Climate Solutions 101 program produced by Project Drawdown is titled *Reducing Sources*. The description

of the unit is as follows: "How can we stop harmful emissions in their tracks? Discover fascinating, up-to-date methods for halting emissions before they reach the atmosphere. This unit walks through the five largest sources of greenhouse gases – electricity, food, industry, transportation, and buildings – bringing into sharper relief the path to a safer, low-carbon economy. Learn which sources make up the biggest slices of the global emissions pie." Watch Channel 901 on **Monday, April 11, 10:00 a.m., 4:00 p.m., or 7:30 p.m.**

In a report published by the IPCC in February, the first conclusion set out for policymakers states that "(h)uman-induced climate change, including more frequent and intense extreme events, has caused widespread adverse impacts and related losses and damages to nature and people, beyond natural climate variability. ... The rise in weather and climate extremes has led to some irreversible impacts, as natural and human systems are pushed beyond their ability to adapt." The climate emergency isn't some future problem for our children and grandchildren to tackle ... it's here now.

Indeed, we must take action now! In a Continued Learning in-house presentation scheduled for **April 4**, I'll be using material from Project Drawdown and the En-ROADS climate model to get you engaged in determining a way forward.

### Current "Carbon Tax" Legislation

Learn more about the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend bill, with 95 co-sponsors, at <[www.energyinnovationact.org](http://www.energyinnovationact.org)> For constantly updated information on the climate crisis, please follow @CCLSlipperyRock on Facebook.

## WORTH A LOOK BOOKS NEW TO OUR LIBRARY

By Barbara Christy - #237

*Lightning Strike* by William Kent Kreuger. Fiction. Cork O'Connor, 12 years old, loves exploring the forests around his home on Minnesota's Iron Lake. But then he stumbles upon the body of a respected mentor, apparently a suicide. As his father, the sheriff, questions the easy answers initially presented by the body at the scene, Cork begins to look for answers on his own. F KRU

*Autopsy* by Patricia Cornwell. Dr. Kay Scarpetta has relocated to Alexandria, VA, and taken on a troubled agency. Soon she is called to a crime scene near the railroad tracks. As she begins work on this mystery, yet another grabs her attention. Appointed to the Doomsday Commission specializing in national security cases, she is asked to learn what happened to cause a catastrophe in a top-secret lab in outer space. F COR

*The Last Passenger* by Charles Finch. Fiction. Slumped in a first-class car at Paddington Station is the body of a young, handsome gentleman. The initial assumption that his was a natural death is questioned by Scotland Yard Detective Lenox. The corpse has no luggage, nothing in his pockets, and no evidence of illness. Pursuing his own investigation against the wishes of Scotland Yard, the detective encounters every obstacle London has to offer in 1855, from obstinate royalty to class prejudice to the intense grief of his closest friend. F FIN

*Nothing More Dangerous* by Allen Eskens. Fiction. Jessup, MO, is not high school sophomore Boady Sanden's idea of a place to live out his life. Yearning to

leave his lonely and poverty-riddled situation for big cities and adventures, he finds instead excitement at home when a black family moves in next door. As Boady makes friends with his privileged neighbor, he unexpectedly gets caught up in the town's reaction to a black man moving up in the local corporate world. As events unfold around him, he suddenly realizes that there has been much more happening in Jessup that he was not paying attention to – including the mysterious disappearance of an African American woman. F ESK

*The Heron's Cry* by Ann Cleeves. Fiction. Rural Devonshire in midsummer is marked by tourists everywhere enjoying the bucolic atmosphere. But when Detective Matthew Venn is called to a crime scene at the home of a group of artists, what he finds is not bucolic at all. Rather, it appears to be the elaborately staged murder of one Dr Nigel Yeo. A good man and dedicated public servant, the unlikely victim has been fatally stabbed with a shard of one of his glassblower daughter's broken vases. Then another body is found, killed in a similar way. Matthew soon finds himself treading carefully through the lies that fester at the heart of his community and a case that is dangerously close to home. F CLE

*The Lincoln Highway* by Amor Towles. When Emmet Watson returns home from a reformatory after serving his sentence in the accidental death of a classmate, he finds nothing there to hold him to the land. His father is dead, his mother has decamped to California, and the farm is in foreclosure. His young brother Billy is eager to go in search of his mother and has already mapped out the road from

Nebraska to San Francisco on the Lincoln Highway. But, before the brothers can get underway, two escaped inmates show up with a plan to take them to New York to reclaim an inheritance wrongfully diverted. Thus begins the tale of ten days of travel, self-discovery, and adventure in 1950s America. F TOW

*Call Us What We Carry* by Amanda Gorman. Non-fiction. Even if you don't normally like poetry, this book is worth a look. Gorman, who was the 2020 Presidential Inaugural poet, here presents a collection of poems that includes the stirring one she read at that time. In this book, she explores history, language, identity, quarantine, and racism, with a very personal creative touch. Harnessing the collective grief of a global pandemic, her poems shine a light on our history and our present, revealing that Gorman has become a messenger from the past, as well as our voice for the future. 808.81 GOR

*Philip of Spain* by Henry Kamen. Biography. Philip II is known chiefly for the political events of his time: his ill-fated marriage to Mary, Queen of England; the equally ill-fated Armada sent to destroy Queen Elizabeth; and, in between, a resurgence of the worst atrocities of the Inquisition. But Philip was much more than this reputation. A cosmopolitan prince, consummate soldier, and diligent apprentice king in his youth, as king of Spain Philip ruled the most extensive empire in the world for over half a century. Drawing extensively on Spanish archives and personal documents never before used, Kamen has produced the first personal biography of Philip II ever written. BIO PHI

## THE LAKE

By Mike Rose - #503

Tranquility reigns.  
The lake is calm.  
On a surface of unblemished sky,  
ducks glide in pairs  
without cares,  
free of strife.

Moments ago  
turmoil ruled.  
Swans chased geese,  
geese scattered ducks,  
and ducks fought each other  
for territory and mates.

It's a big lake  
in a big world  
with ample room  
for ducks, geese, and swans  
to live in peace  
and prosper.

What law of nature  
fuels war between species  
and dictates that  
when another is unavailable  
we must fight our own?



Painting by Richard Pospistle

## **THE COLETTA MCKENRY LIBRARY ACCESSIONS** **FICTION, INCLUDING LARGE TYPE AND DVDs**

Autopsy	Cornwell, Patricia D.	c. 2021	F COR
A Bone to Pick	Y'Barbo, Kathleen	c. 2021	F Y'B
Boxed In	Kelly, Karen	c. 2021	F KEL
Emeralds in the Attic	Fields, Jan	c. 2015	F FIE
Lightning Strike	Krueger, William Kent	c. 2021	F KRU
The Maid	Prose, Nita	c. 2022	F PRO
The Night She Disappeared	Jewell, Lisa	c. 2021	F JEW
Sapphire Secret	Chase, Marlene	c. 2021	F CHA
The School for Good Mothers	Chan, Jessamine	c. 2022	F CHA
The Sentence	Erdrich, Louise	c. 2021	F ERD
Sharpe's Assassin	Cornwell, Bernard	c. 2021	F COR
The Shawshank Redemption	SHA	c. 2007	F SHA DVD
Shelter	Yun, Jung	c. 2016	F YUN
Vortex	Coulter, Catherine	c. 2021	F COU

## **NONFICTION, INCLUDING BIOGRAPHIES**

Philip of Spain	Kamen, Henry	c. 1997	BIO WRI
Call Us What We Carry: Poems	Gorman, Amanda	c. 2021	808.81 GOR
Disloyal: A Memoir	Cohen, Michael	c. 2020	973.93 COH
Thirteen Days in September: Carter, Begin, and Sadat at Camp David	Wright, Lawrence	c. 2014	956.048 WRI

### **SPRING REALLY IS COMING!**

By Jane Lavender - #253

The snowdrops showed up early in the Wimbledon Garden. to be followed by the daffodils and other emerging bits of greenery.

This garden can be a real showstopper: all it needs is a little help from its friends. In this, our 40th year, it is hoped that we'll see more outsiders coming to visit. We'd love to impress them and let them know, too, that the residents here are alive and well enough to delight in tending to beauty.

The Wimbledon Workers gather once a week or so, depending on the weather, to weed, deadhead, rearrange, edge, and the like. We're asking for that "little help from our friends" and would love to include some male gardeners as well.

Other beds on campus that would also benefit from extra resident efforts are those near the Summer House walking trail.

So, friends, if you enjoy seeing things grow and want to be a part of the process, consider yourself invited. Please contact me at 8253. You will be warmly welcomed.

### **OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF BABES...**

By Joan McBurney - #206

Joel, five years old, was shivering in the swimming pool, and his lips were turning blue. I told Joel and three-year-old Erica to get out of the pool and get warmed up. Erica said she was *not* cold and wanted to know why Joel was. So I explained that Joel didn't have much fat on his body for insulation, to which Erica replied, "Gee, Grandma, you must be *really* warm!"

## WHAT'S WITH THE NEWSPAPERS?

By Terry Neely - #351

Well, the newspapers taped to the sidewalk windbreaks certainly got people's attention! Fortunately, they also got the attention of their intended target, our local Cedar Waxwings.



Photo provided by Diane Neely

Here's the story. Early in March, my wife Diane and I saw dead birds starting to pile up below two adjacent sections of the glass sidewalk windbreaks. In just a couple of days, the body count was up to ten dead birds, all the same species. We decided to investigate to figure out what was going on.

The only dead birds were near the windbreaks – that is, we found none out on the lawn or under the nearby crabapple trees or bird feeders. Our Audubon bird book identified them as Cedar Waxwings, with one Bohemian Waxwing in the mix. These fruit-eating birds are known for getting drunk by eating fermented fruit that had overwintered on the local trees.

There were four crabapple trees with berry-size fruit on them next to these windbreaks. Had we found the smoking gun? Just as we pondered this possibility, bang! A waxwing hit the glass beside Diane and broke its neck. We both said, "Oh, crap!"

So, how might we keep drunken birds from hitting the glass when they are too bleary-eyed to see the tape strips already there? Maybe make the glass more opaque? But how? With limited materials at hand, taping newspapers from the recycling bin onto the glass seemed like the best course of action. But would it work? Sherwood Oaks staff were consulted, and I began taping up newspapers.



Photo by Diane Neely

It has been a week and a half, as of late March, since I put the newspapers up. Nearly all of them actually *stayed* up. More importantly, we have found no new dead birds. The effort actually seems to have worked and possibly saved the lives of many birds. We did have one report of a possible dead bird in the area, but were unable to locate it to confirm its species.

The waxwings, who have not been seen for a few days now, are known to move on to new fruit trees as needed. Since the glue on the tape is starting to give out, I'm taking the newspapers down, in hopes that all the fermented fruit has been eaten and that the dry fruit left on the trees is alcohol-free.

*birds feast on tree berries  
found beneath the feathered snow  
drunken chatter resumes*

- Haiku by Julie Eden

## **SPRINGFEST REMINDER**

**Thursday, April 7, 2022**

**1:00 - 3:00 p.m.**

Auditorium and Card Room

By Frank Finley - #615

At Sherwood Oaks the residents themselves determine the activities, entertainment, and special events to make our lives rewarding and fulfilling, mainly by staffing committees and planning activities.

Springfest provides residents an opportunity to meet with people who will be able to describe the various committees and activity opportunities to help you decide which areas best fit your skills and interests.

There may be short presentations, along with tables set up representing the many areas of interest. Most of all, you will meet some new friends and have a good time at this spring event. **Don't miss it.**

### **A SPECIAL GROUP: BORN BETWEEN 1930 AND 1946**

[From OnePoliticalPlaza.com]

Today, you range in age from 75 to 92. Here are some interesting facts for you:

You are the smallest group of children born since the early 1900s.

You are the last generation, climbing out of the Depression, who can remember the winds of war and the impact of a world at war that rattled the structure of our daily lives for years.

You are the last to remember ration books for everything from gas to sugar to shoes to stoves.

You saved tinfoil and poured fat into tin cans.

You saw cars up on blocks because tires weren't available.

You can remember milk being delivered in glass bottles to your house early in the morning and placed in the "milk box" on the porch.

You are the last to have seen the gold stars in the front windows of grieving neighbors whose sons died in the War.

You saw the "boys" home from the war build their little houses.

You are the last generation who spent childhood without television; instead, you imagined what you heard on the radio.

With no TV until the '50s, you spent your childhood "playing outside."

There was no Little League. There were no city playgrounds for kids.

The lack of television in your early years meant that you had little real understanding of what the world was like.

INTERNET and GOOGLE were words that did not exist.

On Saturday afternoons, the movies gave you newsreels sandwiched in between Westerns and cartoons.

Telephones were one to a house, often shared (party lines) and hung on the wall in the kitchen (no cares about privacy).

Typewriters were driven by pounding fingers, throwing the carriage and changing the ribbon.

Newspapers and magazines were written for adults, and the news was broadcast on your radio in the evening. As you grew up, the country was exploding with growth.

The Government gave most returning veterans the means to get an education, and spurred colleges to grow. Loans fanned a housing boom.

Pent-up demand coupled with new installment payment plans opened many factories for work.

New highways would bring jobs and mobility.

The veterans joined civic clubs and became active in politics.

The radio network expanded from three stations to thousands.

Your parents, who were suddenly free from the confines of the Depression and the war, threw themselves into exploring opportunities they had never imagined.

You weren't neglected, but you weren't today's all-consuming family focus. They were glad you played by yourselves until the street lights came on. They themselves were busy discovering the post-war world.

You entered a world of overflowing plenty and opportunity; a world where you were welcomed, enjoyed yourselves, and felt secure in your future, though Depression poverty was deeply remembered.

Polio was still acrippler.

You came of age in the 1950s and 1960s.

You are the last generation to experience an interlude when there were no threats to our homeland. The Second World War was over, and the Cold War, terrorism, global warming, and perpetual economic insecurity had yet to haunt life with unease.

Only your generation can remember both a time of great war, and a time when our world was secure and full of bright promise and plenty.

You grew up at the best possible time, a time when the world was getting better ... you are "The Last Ones."

More than 99% of you are either retired or deceased, and you feel privileged to have lived in the best of times!

## LEFT BEHIND

By Winnie Dietz - #725

It was a delightful river cruise around France, with many optional tours, so I chose the Louvre in order to see the Mona Lisa and other famous paintings. Our group was to meet at the glass pyramid structure at 3:30 p.m. for the return trip. Our tour leader was in a hurry and not very personable, but we had those little tour boxes hanging from our necks, which helped.

When the time came to meet up, a fellow passenger assured me that it was too early, so I browsed around in the shops. When I returned, no one was there! I waited until I realized I had been left behind.

Wending my way down the corridors, I finally came to where our tour bus had dropped us off. There I told a man who was selling tour boxes that I had been abandoned. What an angel! He expressed his dismay in about six languages, after which he read the information on my tour box and made some phone calls in various of those languages. Then he told me to follow him.

We went out of the building, down the street, and then up another street. He found a taxi, jabbered to the driver, and told me to get in. Somehow I trusted him, so that's what I did.

We took off, driving back on the streets I remembered from the bus ride. Then the driver said, "Me city driver, not river driver!" Uh-oh ... but then, at the corner, I looked down the street and saw my ship!

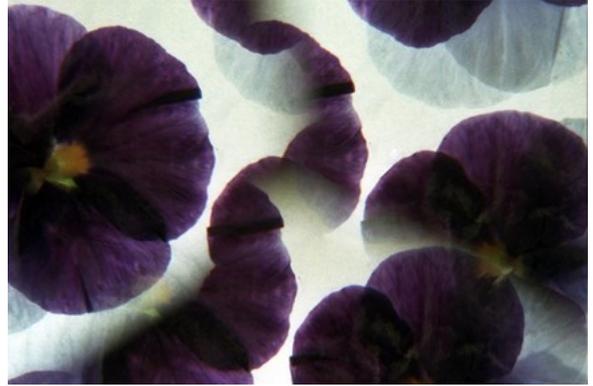
Our cruise director came out and paid the driver 13 euros, but she clearly was not happy. My tour companions had tried to tell the guide that I was missing, even describing my outfit and my red lipstick, but she was adamant that she had everybody in tow. I was certainly happy for the help of the man of many languages who sold the tour boxes. God is good!



# Flowers that move us into spring...



the calm morning air  
winter no longer holds us  
the presence of peace



stepping stone pathways  
wandering through the garden  
spring is slow, but here



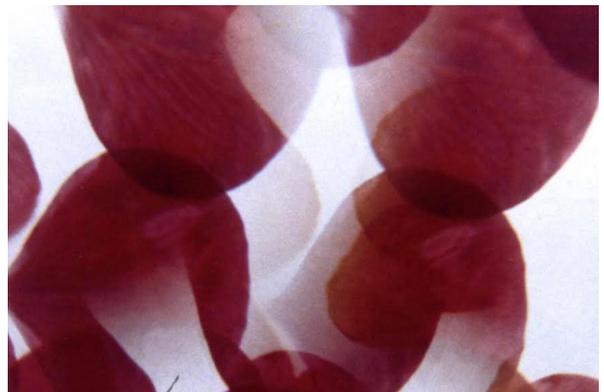
feel the refreshed sun  
Lily of the Valley sings  
spring's new soul takes flight



silk petals unfold  
revived by the thread of sun  
the garden smiled



petals strewn about  
drift into the waiting shadow  
the porch welcomes them



whispering among pines  
one stream, or are there two here?  
only the wind knows

Photos and haiku by Julie Eden