

THE ACORN

SHERWOOD OAKS NEWSLETTER

100 Norman Drive, Cranberry Twp., PA 16066

www.sherwood-oaks.com

March 2023 “For the residents, by the residents” Vol. 42, No. 3

Right on time ...



Photo by Jim Mauch

Lenten Roses

Gentle Readers:

When I was a kid, at Thanksgiving Day dinner, our neighbor, when asked if he wanted "Pumpkin or Mince Pie," would always answer: "A touch of both."

It seems to me that the month of March is a matter of "a touch of both." We have snowdrops growing in the earth, and snowflakes falling in the air. You might look at the sky in one direction and see clouds, then turn your head 90 degrees and see blue skies smiling at you. There might be cold wind in your face before breakfast, warm wind caressing your cheek after lunch, or the other way around, but a touch of both, however you look at it.

My dictionary (yes, the kind with pages to turn, not buttons to press) says that the word "March" is also related to old words (in English and French) for Mars, the god of war, but also a god who "had agricultural attributes."

As I said, "a touch of both." Get used to it!

Ruth Becker, for the Editors

GRANDPARENTS BRAG!

A resident has suggested that we have a Grandparents Brag! column – what do you think? How about sharing with the rest of us when your grandchild or great-grandchild accomplishes something special? It's about time we had a place to tell our friends how proud we are of our descendants! We'd love to hear from you. Just put your message in Cubbyhole 113 or email the editor at rosemarycoffey@aol.com.

MARCH CALENDAR

Natl. Employee Appreciation Day	Mar. 3
National Grammar Day	Mar. 4
Purim	Mar. 6-7
Daylight Savings Time Day	Mar. 12
Ides of March	Mar. 15
St. Patrick's Day	Mar. 17
Spring Equinox	Mar. 20
Ramadan (until Apr. 20)	Mar. 23

THE ACORN **Editor**

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

March 15, 2023.

IN MEMORIAM

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

Shirley Kappeler February 2, 2023

Michael Rose February 9, 2023

MARLENE MORRELL - #138

By Connie Brandenberger - #602



Photo by Mike Mills

Smiling, friendly, warm-hearted: That's the way to describe Marlene Morrell, a new resident at Sherwood Oaks since December. Marlene found it very difficult to make this move, which meant leaving the home she and her husband, Bob, had built 60 years ago in the Ross Township area of Pittsburgh. Her husband passed away in 2013. He was employed at Alcoa, and that is where they met.

Marlene is a true Pittsburgher: born in the old Bellevue Suburban Hospital and having attended Avonworth High School, just a few blocks from her childhood home. She graduated from Grove City College in 1959 and attends alumni gatherings even when she is in Florida, where she and Bob spent their winters. She still has a home in Bonita Springs.

Upon graduation from Grove City College, she was employed by Alcoa in the Personnel Department as a college recruiter. She retired in 1965, when she was expecting their first child. She has three daughters: one lives in Ross Township, and the other two are in North Carolina. She speaks lovingly of her nine grandchildren, with whom she tries to

spend as much time as possible. Long-time residents of Pittsburgh may recall the Otto Suburban Dairy on Camp Horne Road. Marlene's grandfather and father founded the business. Besides the dairy and delivery service, they had a luncheonette; Marlene was a part of the work force there every Saturday during her high school days.

Marlene always enjoyed golf and tennis, but she modestly claims she wasn't very good at athletics. She likes gardening and making pies – not cakes. She was active at the Berkeley Hills Lutheran Church in Ross Township and delivered for Meals-on-Wheels. She was always involved in all of her daughters' activities.

Marlene is not shy about meeting and talking to new people. She feels comfortable entering the Dining Room and sitting with anyone. By the end of the meal, she feels she has made new friends and has learned a lot about her new home at Sherwood Oaks.

WHAT'S UP WITH PICKLEBALL?

By Denton Bond - #736

A dozen folks are having a blast playing the game! Moreover, we have room for more! There is much laughter at our games – socializing is soooo important to us. If your mobility is good, we would love to teach you how to play the game.

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday afternoons are when we'll be looking for you. Sign up in the mail room. Some of the times are for novices, and some are for experienced players. We even have residents who come to watch, and we do welcome visitors as well. Come join in the action!

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

By Jane Lohman, Secretary - #717

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

Data from minutes for the Feb. 7, 2023, monthly board meeting:

SORA Treasurers: The Memorial/Special Projects Fund balance is \$50,963.13. The Employee Appreciation Fund balance is \$17,619.93. The SORA bank balance is \$94,572.43. Financial reviews have been completed for the Memorial/Special Projects Fund, the Employee Appreciation Fund, the SORA Operating Budget, and the Gift Shop.

Continued Learning: 6 in-house presentations set for the Spring series, and videos for 8 months loaded on Channel 951.

Landscaping: Plans underway for paving walkway to Summer House and updating beds by walkway to mailroom.

Recycling: First TREX bench on display and work underway to secure a second bench. Volunteers needed to sort plastic in Unit 185 on Mondays at 1:00 p.m.

Dining Committee: Subcommittee has been formed to set guidelines for allowing visitors in dining room.

Library Committee: Reviewing purchase of more large-print books. Book Selection Committee is looking for new members.

Bible Study: Men's and Women's groups seeing increased participation. 31 members now in the women's group.

Focus on the World: Over \$400 in cash and 6-8 boxes of food were collected for the Food Bank.

Chapel Committee: 32 clergy have committed to the 2023 schedule, including three of our resident pastors.

Trips and Tours: Check the bulletin board in the mailroom regularly for new options.

Health Affairs: New Unit Manager, Amanda Burns, in Skilled Nursing, and more nurses being recruited.

Patching and Piecing Quilters: Now disbanded due to lack of participants.

Jigsaw Puzzles: 9 new puzzles purchased.

Executive Director: Census: IL 187/242 – 5 homes under contract; SN 31/43 (5-star CMS rating); PC: 28/42; OGC: 29/30. Dave Capan promoted to Marketing Director. Auditorium project start date moved to May 30. Community Center stairwell painting in progress.

Old Business: Frank Finley will establish a study group to upgrade the Summer House and surrounding area. Pickleball mission statement was received. During auditorium reconstruction, Card Room will be available for meetings and activities.

New Business: President appointed Kathie McCormick and Dan Cindric to recruit three members for the SORA Nominating Committee. Election will be held on **May 23**. Jean Henderson and Frank Finley will coordinate a Spring Artfest, to be held on **April 12-13**. The Resident (Quarterly) Meeting will begin at 7:00 instead of 7:15. Frank Weiss has been appointed to the Memorial/Special Projects Committee.

Jane Lohman has been appointed as Secretary to the Board through June 30, 2023, following the resignation of Dolly O'Toole.

Visitors' Comments: Betty Eichler expressed appreciation to Jason Lyle and the AV committee for the good programming on Channel 951.

Next Board Meeting: Tues., March 7, 2023, at 1:30 pm. All Residents welcome.

POWER TO THE PEOPLE

By Frank Conte - #106

As we know, electricity is one of the most fundamental aspects of our daily lives. It helps define our quality of life. Electricity provides us with the power to give us light and to drive the industries that offer us jobs and a stable economy, as well as being the source for heating, cooling, and refrigeration.

There are three basic components to this power equation: generation, transmission, and end-use. Much has been written and discussed about generation, be it by coal, oil, natural gas, nuclear fission, or renewables – namely, wind and solar. How we judge these various sources of energy drives the discussion as to which ones we choose and the nature of their effects on the economy, efficiency of use, and potential effect on climate.

Please note that the total energy we consume is not just electricity, but also that which is provided directly by oil, natural gas, and gasoline to afford us the quality of life we enjoy. If we cancel out these sources, the deficit will have to be made up with additional

renewables. Consequently, under the “green” plan, renewables must not only replace the electricity generated by fossil fuels, but also the energy in natural gas, oil, gasoline, etc., piped directly to consumers for heating, cooling, industry, farming, and the like.

We read and hear on the news that the electrical transmission grid is being strained during extreme summer and winter temperatures, when demand tends to peak and brownouts can occur. The electrical grid is a system of high-voltage wiring that delivers electrical energy to end users.

The use of very high-voltage transmission lines is the most efficient way to deliver this power. While most may focus on the generation part of the equation, much more emphasis should be given to the electrical transmission delivery system. Government and industry must work together to expand, improve, strengthen, and provide security from a possible terrorist attack.

Also, government and industry must encourage the addition of skilled workers to fill the high-paying jobs needed to guarantee that these improvements will be met and sustained.

Power being made available to the people needs to be considered as a multiple-part system. I believe that focusing on just one aspect of the equation – namely, generation – is short-sighted.

When I picked up a hitchhiker, he asked if I wasn't afraid he might be a serial killer. I told him the odds of two serial killers being in the same car at the same time were extremely unlikely.

From FOCUS ON THE WORLD

By Bruce Cooper - #715

Over the last several months, Focus on the World (FOTW) has presented in-house speakers describing their efforts to make Pittsburgh, and the world, a more compassionate place.

Each organization depends to a great extent on donations from foundations and individuals to keep them solvent. If you've enjoyed what you've heard and would like to contribute to their programs, listed below are links on their websites to allow you do that:

Light in My City – Help for the Homeless: <https://seapc.givecloud.co/product/LightInMyCity/light-in-my-city>

Children's Advocacy Center of Butler County – Help for victims of alleged child abuse: <https://www.butlercountycac.org/donate>

There currently is no way on the internet to donate to Kane Woods Nature Area, where the D'Alessandros help to maintain the apiary; but here's a good substitute: Burgh Bees—<https://www.burghbees.org/donate/>

Jewish Family and Community Services – Refugee and Immigrant Services: <https://jfcspgh.networkforgood.com/projects/80254-general-jfcs>

The Lighthouse Foundation – Butler County – Food Bank and other Services: <https://www.thelighthousepa.org/donate>

As we bring other programs to you in the future, we'll let you know the best way to support them, financially or otherwise.

On **Mar. 16, at 7:00 p.m.** in the Auditorium, representatives from Prime Stage Theatre Company will join us to talk about how they entertain, inspire, and enrich audiences through professional theatre by bringing literature to life. Also present will be Lee Goldman Kikel, co-author of *Perseverance: A Holocaust Survivor's Journey from Poland to America*, to talk about its story, which Prime Stage will present as a play on **April 15-16**.

MAKE A NEW FRIEND!

By Ellen Brierly - #734

When Bob and I moved to Sherwood Oaks in 2013, we didn't know a soul. It didn't matter, because we found everyone to be friendly and welcoming. We went to the dining room every day and met new people each time. After dinner, I would consult the resident roster, checking off the names of those whom we had met.

Sometimes I made a note to help me remember them. Soon I could look at that list and realize that I knew most of those whose names were on it.

For this past Christmas Eve dinner I reserved a table for four, but one person had to cancel. I then invited a single person to join us. Two of the guests knew one another well enough to wave when passing, but they had never had a conversation. As they talked and shared their backgrounds, they found common friendships and realized that they were familiar with one another's neighborhoods. They came to the meal as strangers and left as new friends.

That is what happens when you eat in the dining room! Do yourself a favor and join your fellow residents there as soon and as often as you can.

TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

By Jason Lyle - #293

Have you ever had one of those days where your smartphone, tablet, or laptop seems to be your enemy more than your friend? Have you ever had one of those "uh-oh" moments where you believe you may have pressed the wrong button on a device, and now you can't find a simple solution? Have you ever wondered how to create and send an email, create a phone text, or save a picture sent to you by a friend or loved one?

Answers and solutions to these technical hurdles are available to Sherwood Oaks residents, and the service is FREE! We have a true gift in Scott Desmond, who volunteers his time and experience to help us solve mysteries and learn tips to better use the devices and applications which may perplex and frustrate us.



Scott Desmond comes to Sherwood Oaks on Monday mornings, from 9:00 a.m. until noon. He sets up his walk-in clinic in the Computer Lab, next to the Library. There, he greets residents who have brought along their devices for assistance, and guides them through step-by-step solutions.

In 2015, when Scott retired from his career as Director of Information Technology (IT) with BNY Mellon Wealth Man-

agement, he decided to start a "second career" based on his skills and experience by volunteering his time helping people. Scott's IT co-worker had told him about family living at Sherwood Oaks, and the proximity to his home made for an easy commute. Scott met with CEO Mark Bondi and Sherwood Oaks resident Computer Lab manager Ed Alo, who warmly welcomed his experience and personable style of teaching.

Following the end of the total COVID lockdown, Scott has resumed his help sessions once a week on Mondays. Of the many problems he has seen, the top three items perplexing residents are: (1) New device tutorials; (2) Applications (APPS) troubleshooting; and (3) Password help/resetting. Scott is experienced with both Apple and Android devices, and his patient, non-"tech-speak" approach instills confidence in those of us who may struggle with the new language of wordless icons and "right-click/left-click" mouse and keyboard shortcuts. Scott is quick to assure residents there are no stupid questions when it comes to technology.

Scott doesn't perform hardware repairs, but he is able to properly identify problems and recommend outside vendor services to minimize the fear of paying for repairs not needed.

When your kids have gifted you with a new device that you don't quite understand, or when your device is asking for actions you don't trust, come visit Scott in the Computer Lab. There are no appointments – walk-ins only, first come, first served. You will be so glad you did!

My wife asked me to take her to one of those restaurants where they make food right in front of you. I took her to Subway.

SORA QUARTERLY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION MEETING

March 14 at 7:00 P.M.

By Gary Brandenberger - #602

Please plan on attending the Residents Association Meeting on **Tues., Mar. 14, at 7:00 p.m.** – NOT 7:15. The time was changed to reduce the waiting time between dinner and the meeting.

In addition to the usual agenda items, you will meet the five members of the Nominating Committee, who will nominate officers and directors for 2023-2024. You will also be updated on and reminded of the features of the recycling program, an important activity that requires our attention. In addition, you will hear updates about two of our new activities: Pickleball, and Roots and Branches (genealogy).

GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE

By Jean Henderson - #346

The Chapel Committee will present the annual Good Friday Tenebrae Service on **Friday, April 7, 2023, at 4 p.m.** in the Auditorium/Card Room. The Office of Tenebrae, meaning darkness or shadows, dates back to the 7th 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 Matthew. Leading the service will be resident Rev. Dr. Jean H. Henderson and Timothy Heaver, cantor. Please join us for this somber devotion as we prepare for Easter Sunday.

PLANNING AHEAD: ART FEST – 2023

By Jean Henderson - #346

Our semi-annual SORA-sponsored ART FEST will be held on **Thursday, April 13, from 1 to 5 p.m.** in the Auditorium/Card Room. This is a great opportunity for resi-

dents and staff to display your artwork and hobbies. Categories include painting, drawing, photography, fabric arts, paper arts, woodworking, glass arts, metal or wire art, pottery, ceramics, jewelry, weaving – whatever creative art work you have! To register for a table, please pick up a sign-up sheet at the front desk. Contact me at 8346 for more information.

THE LIBRARY LOWDOWN

By Anne Hunt - #308

Did you know that we have three health newsletters available in the library? They are located at the back of the library, just to the right of the magazine racks.

Need ideas to entertain your grandchildren? We have children's books and also several DVD's for children. These are now located on the bottom shelf at the beginning of the large-print book section.

For newer residents and those of us who need a reminder, the following are easy ways to access the library's online catalog from home:

Bring up the Touchtown app on your device and click on the "Library" link. At the bottom of the page, click on the link in blue. This will take you to the red and white online catalog screen. From there, you can use the search box in the upper lefthand corner to find a book by title, author, or subject.

Alternatively, you can access the online catalog from home by entering www.sherwoodoaksrc.booksys.net in your search engine and clicking on "Display."

Having trouble using the online catalog? Call Barb Christy (8237) or Anne Hunt (8308).

CONTINUED LEARNING

By Bruce Cooper - #715

The committee hopes that the videos that have been presented on Channel 951 each Tuesday have been of value. The general themes for the videos each month are as follows:

First Tuesday – Fine Arts

Second Tuesday – Science

Third Tuesday – Travel/Local Interest

Fourth Tuesday – Religion

Fifth Tuesday – Environment

Mark your calendar! The spring series of in-house presentations, all on Mondays at 7:00 pm in the Auditorium, are as follows:

- **March 6** – Mark Williams from The Carter Center will discuss the state of elections in the United States from the perspective of an official observer of the 2020 and 2022 elections in Georgia
- **March 13** – Dr. Moni McIntyre will present “The History and Traditions of Lent”
- **March 20** – David Setton, a PhD candidate at the University of Pittsburgh Department of Physics and Astronomy, will provide “A Close Look at Early Results from the James Webb Space Telescope”
- **March 27** – Dr. Tracy Vitale, Superintendent of the Seneca Valley School District, will speak
- **April 3** – Our own Jno Hunt will discuss “Jazz Royalty,” including Duke Ellington, Count Basie, and the King of Swing, Benny Goodman
- **April 10** – Bruce Cooper will ask the question, “What’s the Climate for Climate Change Legislation?”

Please plan to attend.

SATURDAY NIGHT MOVIES

By Diane Neely - #351
and Bill Lefler - #103

Hey, Residents, come and join us! We miss you! Just a few of you have continued to come to the Saturday evening movies in the Auditorium, which now start at 6:45 p.m., so you can head over there right after finishing dinner *and* get home earlier. The films are seldom any longer than two hours, so you should be safely home by 9 p.m. You can even call for a bus, if you don’t feel like walking at that time of night. The movies are shown on a big screen (definitely larger than your TV at home!). Below are the names of the movies scheduled for the next three months, so you can plan ahead:

Mar. 4 The Gondoliers - 1982

Mar. 11 The King’s Speech - 2010

Mar. 18 UP - 2009

Mar. 25 News of the World - 2020

Apr. 1 The Taming of the Shrew - 1995

Apr. 8 A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum - 1966

Apr. 15 The Electrical Life of Louis Wain - 2021

Apr. 22 Witness - 1985

Apr. 29 Green Zone - 2010

May 6 A Chorus Line - 1985

May 13 Ghost - 1990

May 20 The Russians Are Coming, the Russians Are Coming - 1966

May 27 The Father – 2020

FITNESS CENTER CONTEST WINNERS

By Rosemary Coffey - #113

Between Dec. 5, 2022, and Jan. 31, 2023, SO Residents were encouraged to record all their visits to both the Bill Schenk Fitness Center and the Cranberry Lake Fitness Center classes by scrawling their names on the backs of tickets and dropping them into any of five large bags. The staff estimate that the total number of tickets signed was between three and four thousand by the time the contest closed. Residents could also play any of seven little games located on a table in the Center and garner a ticket for completing each of those challenges as well.

Michelle Bender, Fitness Assistant, and the three current interns pulled the winning tickets from the five bags. The winners were: Bob Jackson, Kelley Noble, Georgeanne Yurasko, Elizabeth (Bebe) Ward, and Herb Weiss.

The winners each received one of the following awards:

1. A \$50 Amazon gift card
2. A \$50 certificate to their choice of a local restaurant
3. A package of fitness gadgets
4. Several entertaining books
5. A seasonal decorative package with signs that could be changed to fit the time of year

In addition, the winners of the games were Denton Bond, Larry Brown, Rosemary Frelke, Nicki Meder, and Joni Pun (3!). They received bragging rights, along with a certificate of achievement to post in their homes.

Congratulations, not only to the winners, but to all the participants! Whether you won or not, you're certainly stronger and more flexible than you would have been otherwise.

PLEASE DON'T CLICK AWAY!

By Dennis Lynch - #335

Here we go again! Another year and a half of this stuff. The items below are direct quotes from the subject line or the first line of recent emails.

Please read. Don't delete.

>Chip In Now

Dlynch3pa@gmail: you've been selected!

>\$5 or \$3 or whatever -

Don't check your texts.

Don't check your social media accounts.

Whatever you do ...

DON'T CLOSE THIS EMAIL!

>\$5

Wait, Dennis!

Please don't click away!

We're BEGGING you to read this email!!

>8 bucks

2:45 p.m. update—we're just 1,693 donors shy of reaching our match goal. DENNIS, MATCH YOUR GIFT.

>Donate 15 dollars

[Below are the subject line and the first message line immediately following it:]

This is a long email but please read the whole thing.

Dennis, I'll keep this short because \$16.39 has been our average donation

X Wait, Dennis!

XX Don't click away!

XXX We're BEGGING you to read this email!!

>Can you donate \$25?

Dennis Dennis Dennis [*repeated 16 times!*]

>Please DONATE!

I'm going to be blunt: I'm going to ask if you can pitch in with a donation before tomorrow's FEC deadline. Please chip in \$40 or more.

Guys, what, exactly, will you do with my \$\$?

CURIO CABINETS FOR MARCH

By Janet Desko - #210

Once again, the residents of Sherwood Oaks outdid themselves with so many beautiful items for the theme of "Love and Marriage." As I was looking at all the lovely treasures, I became very emotional, sharing memories of weddings and personal love mementos with everyone! I feel that this display is worth keeping until mid-March.

Peggy Meister and I will be filling the Cabinets for the end of March and April with the theme of "**Tea for Two.**" After all, the third Tuesday in March is "**Tea for Two Day.**" We will be looking for tea cups, tea sets, tea pots, and anything related to the drinking of tea. I know someone out there has a Japanese tea service!

On **Tues., March 14, from 10:30-noon and 4:30-6:00 p.m.**, please pick up your items currently in the cabinets.

On **Thurs., March 16, from 10:30-noon and 4:30-6:00 p.m.** please bring your new "**Tea for Two**" items.

I thank all of you for your help. I'm sure we will have another fabulous show for the last two weeks of March and the month of April.

THE PICKABLE GARDEN

By Jane Lavender - #253

Those of you who have walked the garden trail at the Summer House may have noticed the herb garden. It is the only place along that circular path that is meant for savoring with the taste buds. The rest of the beds are there for savoring with the eyes only. Indeed, you are encouraged to visually devour the flower beds. You are also most welcome to judiciously pick from the herbs, inhale deeply, take a few home for dinner, and devour. Bon appétit!

CHAPEL NOTES

By Gary Brandenberger - #602
For the Chapel Committee

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

Everyone is welcome. Bring a friend.

Sunday, March 5

Rev. John Guest
Christ Church at Grove Farm

Sunday, March 12

Rev. David Gieschen
Sherwood Oaks

Sunday, March 19

Rev. Ron Brown
Hope Lutheran, Cranberry

Sunday, March 26

Rev. Ben Robbins
Northmont Presby. - McCandless

"A joyful heart is good medicine, but a broken spirit dries up the bones."

Proverbs 17:22



Photo by Jan Wendt

New groundskeeper Amy Welch and Landscape Committee member Ann Ferguson trim some bushes to get ready for spring!

A THANK YOU

By John & Harriet Burress - #112

“Sherwood Oaks”

Poem by Wallace Hedberg for Sherwood Oaks's 10th Anniversary

Sherwood Oaks, Sherwood Oaks, the place for you and me.

Started by a few good folks, it's great now, you'll agree.

Fellowship and friendly care, the Sherwood spirit we all share,

A beautiful place, a caring place, it's Sherwood Oaks for me.

For 13½ years, Sherwood Oaks has been our home, and thankfully so. We moved here impressed with the medical/health care at that time, and for the last three months we have experienced it firsthand. Since John's fall on December 9, his care by the nurses and aides in Skilled Nursing has been outstanding – filled with expertise, on-the-scene help when needed, kindness, and lots of Tender Loving Care.

We want to share our appreciation to all the staff of Founders Hall, the Therapy Department; to those in the Dietary, Support Team, and Medical departments; and (we have to include it) the Security staff, who provided transportation during the Christmas storm. You all are great professionals, and we have truly been impressed and blessed.

Sherwood Oaks is the Place to Be!

SETON SINGERS HONOR FORMER SHERWOOD OAKS RESIDENT

By Ruth Becker - #338

On Sunday evening, **Mar. 12, 2023, at 8 p.m.**, *Una Voce*, a 30-voice ensemble from Seton Hill University, will join the

Pittsburgh Compline Choir in Heinz Chapel to sing “Prayer at the Close of Day.” Dr. Mark Boyle directs both choirs, which will be singing and chanting the music by John Becker, a Sherwood Oaks resident from May 2008 until his death in December 2021.

John was the founding Director of the Compline Choir. His 96th birthday would have been Sat., Mar. 11, and this presentation is a memorial tribute. The prayer service lasts a bit over half an hour.

Sherwood Oaks buses are not available for this event. But, if you hope to attend, check the signup sheets posted in the Mail Room. One sheet is for those seeking a ride, the other for those who are able to drive and accept passengers.

HARPISTS COMING ON MARCH 28!

By Jane Lavender - 253

Gretchen Van Hoesen, principal harpist in the Pittsburgh Symphony, will be bringing some of her outstanding harp students to entertain us. Originally scheduled to come a year ago, they were cancelled due to Covid. Her students range from a 17-year-old in 11th grade to others earning master's degrees at Carnegie Mellon's School of Music. The program will start at 7:00 in the auditorium. It's sure to be a heavenly evening.

RESIDENTS' ART WALL

By Joni Pun - #304

I was glad to see that there were several new participants in the current exhibit, as well as a significant handiwork presence along with the paintings. Please keep in mind that, for May, we will again highlight works made by family members.

WORTH A LOOK BOOKS NEW TO OUR LIBRARY

By Barbara Christy - #237

Her Hidden Genius by Marie Benedict. Fiction. Rosalind Franklin is another of Marie Benedict's "extraordinary" women." Awarded a fellowship to study crystalline substances, Dr. Franklin is instead ordered to use her expertise in crystallography in the interdisciplinary world of DNA research. Her new lab has been given a newly developed concoction of DNA, and her boss wants to use it to uncover the secrets of passing genetic material from cell to cell, thus "winning" the genes race. Despite numerous slights and a hostile work environment, she persists in her research on the double helix, finally obtaining revealing X-ray photographs of the helix, a major step to unraveling the mysteries of DNA. But her colleagues Watson and Crick get an unauthorized copy of her films, make the report, and go on to glory. F BEN

Picture in the Sand by Peter Blauner. Fiction. Dad, an Egyptian émigré, is arrested and held overnight as a terrorist. Although the FBI recognizes the error and apologizes, the shock throws his son Alex into the arms of Arabic terrorists. Giving up a scholarship to Cornell, Alex, now demanding to be called Abu Suror, disappears into the Muslim Brotherhood underground in Syria. The only contact with his family he will allow is through his grandfather. Grandpa Ali offers to tell Abu his long-hidden life story in exchange for continued contact. His goal is to help Abu see the myths behind the positions of his new comrades. Thus begins a story focused on life in Egypt, while Cecil B. DeMille is making "The Ten Commandments," through Grandpa

Ali's religious zealotry and national terrorism, prison, and near-death under Nassar's reign. F BLA

The Cloisters by Katy Hays. Fiction. Can Tarot cards really tell the future? When Renaissance art history major Ann Stilwell relocates from Walla Walla, Washington, for an internship at the New York Museum of Art, she expects to be assigned to the upcoming Giotto exhibit. Instead, she is moved to The Cloisters, at the city's northern edge. Assigned to help develop an exhibit on divination, including cleromancy, augury, and astrology, Ann discovers a deck of fifteenth-century Tarot cards – and a lot of secrets that will change her life. F HAY

The Prisoner by B. A. Paris. Fiction. Orphaned by the death of her father, sixteen-year-old Amelie moves to London to work and start saving money for college. But seven months later, she has lost her restaurant job and is living on the street. In a café she meets Carolyn, a successful executive with her own business, newly deserted by her housekeeper husband. Amelie is hired to replace him "without the moaning," and embarks on a life that "couldn't be more perfect" as Carolyn's cook, housekeeper, and friend. Through a friend of Carolyn's, Amelie meets, then marries, a handsome young multimillionaire. But all is not as she thought, and she quickly begins to think she is in danger. Then they are both kidnapped. F PAR

The Beauty of Dusk by Frank Bruni. Non-fiction. Frank Bruni woke up one morning to find that a thief had stolen his sight during the night. After determining the problem was not gunk in his eye, or a hangover from the night before, he tried a shower and a jog in the park.

But his sight wasn't better. When, three days later, he finally consulted a doctor and then a neuro-ophthalmologist, he learned that the thief was a stroke, and it was only one eye. But the other eye was at serious risk as well. What follows is a moving story of his journey in accepting aging and mortality, in finding joy in living and loving, and in becoming the hero of his own story. 362.410 BRU

All the Broken Places by John Boyne. Fiction. Ninety-one-year-old Gretel is a Mayfair, London, transplant from Germany via post-war Australia and France. She has survived difficult years that she never talks about, especially the fact that her father was a commandant of a concentration camp under the Nazis. Now Gretel's well-to-do life is settled, reclusive, and very protected. But when her neighbor in the flat downstairs dies and is replaced by a young couple with a nine-year-old son, Henry, she unwillingly gets caught up in their troubles and is finally challenged to face not only their issues but her own long-buried ones as well. F BOY

SASHA'S FAVORITE ACTIVITY



Photo by Jim Mauch

WITH APPRECIATION TO MIKE ROSE

[who submitted many poems to the *Acorn* during his lifetime]

POETIC DYSFUNCTION

A paucity of poetry
Makes this petty poet pout.
Though words are swimming in my head,
I cannot get them out.

My meter broke; my rhymes don't rhyme.
My iambic won't pentameter.
I know what I would like to say,
But can't find a parameter.

My poetic pipe is plugged;
I can't get it to drain.
I wish there was a small blue pill
To increase blood flow to the brain.

THE OPEN MIND

Tell me what you think.
But before you do
Let me take the time
To express my view.

There! Thanks for listening.
Now you understand
Why any thinking man
Would adopt my plan.

Now ... What do *you* think?

ALONENESS

One in a world of twos
A single among doubles
Half of a pair
I am alone
But in good company
Aloneness is a state of mind.

Thank you, Mike, for sharing your triumphs and disappointments over the years with your friends at Sherwood Oaks.

THE COLETTA MCKENRY LIBRARY ACCESSIONS

FICTION, INCLUDING LARGE TYPE

Caught Redheaded	Fields, Jan	c. 2022	F FIE
The Crowning Glory of Calla Lily Ponder	Wells, Rebecca	c. 2009	F WEL CD
Death at High Tide	Dennison, Hannah	c. 2020	F DEN
Do or Diamond	Kemp, A. F.	c. 2022	F KEM
Final Resting Vase	Harper, Sophie	c. 2022	F HAR
Home for Christmas	Cole, Courtney	c. 2022	F COL p.b.
The House of Wolves	Patterson, James	c. 2023	F PAT
Hunting Time	Deaver, Jeffery	c. 2022	F DEA
Livid	Cornwell, Patricia	c. 2022	F COR
Oath of Loyalty	Mills, Kyle	c. 2022	F MIL
Racing the Light	Crais, Robert	c. 2022	F CRA
A Spicy Secret	George, D. Savannah	c. 2012	F GEO
A Tournament of Murders	Doherty, P. C	c. 1997	F DOH
The Undomestic Goddess	Kinsella, Sophie	c. 2005	F KIN CD
Zelig	Zelig	c. 1983	F ZEL DVD

NONFICTION, INCLUDING LARGE TYPE

The Hill to Die On: The Battle for Congress and the Future of Trump's America	Sherman, Jake S.	c. 2019	324.973 SHE
What to Eat During Cancer Treatment	Besser, Jeanne	c. 2019	641.5 BES p.b.

COOPER'S CLIMATE CAPSULE

By Bruce Cooper - #715

All of us have been affected by the inflation that became prominent in 2022. Just about everything saw massive price jumps, with a dozen eggs recently costing almost \$5.00.

Most people know that inflation is active by using a simple barometer – the price of gasoline. This is what was seen on every corner in California a few months back:



That's a lot of pain for everyone who drives, especially those with low incomes who have to

decide between driving to a low-paying job or feeding their children.

But here's the rub ... instead of doing the right thing and reducing profit margins to help out, 'Big Oil' kept their windfall profits:

Company	2022 Profit	Vs. 2021
Chevron	\$36.5 billion	Doubled -
ConocoPhillips	\$18.7 billion	Doubled
Exxon	\$55.7 billion	Doubled ++
Shell	\$40.0 billion	Doubled +

And in January, Chevron announced a \$75 billion stock buyback. What's wrong with this picture? Part two of *Frontline's* series – *The Power of Big Oil, "Doubt,"* chronicles how, as scientific evidence of human-caused climate change mounted in the 2000s, the industry continued to question the science, and went to new lengths to shape American politics and stall climate policy. **Watch it on Channel 951 on Mon., Mar. 13, at 10 a.m., 3:30 p.m. or 7 p.m.**

*Do these February flowers really know
what they're doing?!*



Photos by Bill Lefler on S.O. Campus