

THE ACORN

SHERWOOD OAKS NEWSLETTER

100 Norman Drive, Cranberry Twp., PA 16066

www.sherwood-oaks.com

January 2024 "For the residents, by the residents" Vol. 43, No. 1

Winter Scenes at Sherwood Oaks



Photos by Jim Mauch and Kathie McCormick

Gentle Readers,

When the number of the calendar year is divisible by four (as in 2024), we all know that there is a bumpy and engaging road ahead – that is, national elections. When we were young, we would say, "Remember, vote early and often," and then snicker.

But let's take a look at our responsibilities as US citizens, world citizens, even: not to lord it over one another, or kick the other guy out of our way, or ignore the person next to us or the persons halfway around the world.

When I googled "What are the seven cardinal virtues?," this is what I found: Chastity ("Mom, what's that?"), Temperance ("You mean I can't party all night?"), Charity ("Give 'til it hurts. Ouch."), Diligence ("Boring"), Patience ("More of the same"), Kindness ("Is that the same as sappy?"), and Humility ("No way. You'll never get anywhere").

What if each of us dedicated a few minutes every day in 2024 to examining ourselves in light of one virtue or another ... maybe one per day ("It's Tuesday, charity day.")? Or do it by chance. Would that temper the way we think and act about government, the political processes engulfing us, the way we support our candidates and parties as well as the other guys' candidates and parties?

Let's dream, imagine, plan, and work toward food for all, safe housing for all, appropriate work and wages for all, dignity for all. Surely virtue can go hand in hand with our political/common life. Let's give it a whirl.

– The Editors



Memorial Donations and Remembrance Cards

Did you know? Donation envelopes and remembrance cards are located on the memorial table in the lobby. The donation envelope lists many options to choose from when contributing in memory of a resident or loved one. Remembrance cards can be filled out and placed in Cubby #346; they will be collected and given to the spouse/family.

JANUARY CALENDAR

New Year's Day	Jan. 1
Feast of the Epiphany	Jan. 6
Orthodox Christmas	Jan. 7
Friday the Thirteenth	Jan. 13
Martin Luther King, Jr., Day	Jan. 18
Lunar New Year	Jan. 22
National Chocolate Cake Day	Jan. 27
National Puzzle Day	Jan. 29

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Submissions for the February issue must
be sent to the Editor no later than
January 15, 2024.

IN MEMORIAM

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

Jean Conte

December 6, 2023

ROBERT STAWARZ - #108

By Connie Brandenberger - #602



Photo by Scott Vogel

If you see a man walking around the campus with two hiking poles, that's Robert Stawarz. He is an avid hiker and outdoorsman. The joy of his life is walking, hunting, and hiking, as he enjoys nature in all its beauty – observing birds, animals, the woods, the lake, the sky.

Living in the Laurel Highlands as a youth stirred his interest in the outdoors. One of his many blessings is that three of his four children share his enthusiasm for hiking and love of nature. The walls of his home are covered with photos of their many adventures in National Parks such as Yellowstone, Glacier, Zion, and Arcadia (in Maine). Their idea of hiking is “not for the faint of heart,” as they walk on ledges 18 inches wide on the side of a mountain. They survived a snowstorm, which taught them a lesson, but did not stop them from pursuing their exciting adventures. His daughter has even climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro.

Robert was born in the small town of Windber, PA. He received his doctorate in pharmacology at West Virginia University, following a BS in pre-med from the University of Pittsburgh. His career was always in research, along with teaching,

at Vanderbilt University and WVU. As he followed his career path in the pharmaceutical industry, Robert found himself living in Wilmington, DE, and in Tennessee, New York, and Louisiana. He was always able to find another mountain to climb!

When asked, “What encouraged you to come to Sherwood Oaks?,” his reply was: “A tick.” After being bitten by a tick, he suffered a severe reaction, which led to hospitalization, renal failure, and dialysis. At that time, he was told that he might require dialysis forever and need specialized care; in addition, his driving days were over. With that information, his daughter, who lives in Gibsonia, began the search for a retirement facility that would be close to her. They chose Sherwood Oaks.

Meanwhile, to everyone's surprise and delight, Robert has made a complete recovery, requires no further dialysis, and is back to hiking, walking, and exercising every day. You may see him in the woods, on the walkways, by the Summer House area, or circling the lake. He enjoys sharing his experiences and his photo collection of the scenic beauty of our country. Take a walk with Robert, and enjoy his enthusiasm!

WILL ROGERS ON GROWING OLDER

You know you are getting old when everything either dries up or leaks.

I don't know how I got over the hill without getting to the top.

One of the many things no one tells you about aging is that it is such a nice change from being young.

One must wait until evening to see how splendid the day has been.

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 Dec. 5, 2023, monthly board meeting:

SORA Treasurers: Memorial/Special Projects Fund balance is \$37,680.40, with \$157,986.22 in the Employee Appreciation Fund, plus a short-term CD of \$20,000. On Dec. 7, employees will receive appreciation checks based on the number of hours worked during the year. The SORA operating treasury balance and CD investment come to \$92,818.54. A \$10,000 short-term CD has been approved for purchase with funds from the Library budget.

Award Presentation: A certificate was presented to Bethany Martin for receiving the Pennsylvania Assisted Living (PALA) Keystone Award for her 13 years of outstanding service in the Oak Grove and Skilled Nursing centers.

Liaison Reports:

Dining Committee: Private dining room is now open for larger parties of 11-20.

Focus on the World: A video titled "Living Soil" will be shown on Channel 951, Dec. 21 and 23.

Technology Committee: Frozen audio on TV channels has been occurring with increasing frequency. Residents are asked to report problems to the receptionist or the Maintenance Dept.

Living with Loss: The annual memorial service was held in November, with over 80 people attending, including 30 guests/relatives. The Longest Night Service was to be held on Dec. 21.

Drama Club: Dinner/theater will be held on Feb. 15/17, 2024. Auditorium stage floor issues have been corrected, and storage areas have been created for Chapel, Chorus, and Bell Choir supplies.

Sherwood Gifts: A donation of \$5,000 will be given to the Memorial/Special Projects Fund.

New Year's Eve: A party is being planned from 9-12 p.m. It will feature dancing, games, prizes, and snacks.

Health Affairs: The Emergency Notification System has been tested. Hard-of-hearing residents who desire a visual alert should contact the maintenance department

So and Sew: Final count of "Caps for Kids" is 795 from residents, with employee efforts still to come.

Executive Director: Census: IL 194/251 – 3 homes are under contract. SN: 33/43 (5-star CMS rating); PC: 32/42; OGC: 29/30. Resident Satisfaction Surveys were distributed and due for return by Dec. 18. Marketing events are scheduled for December through March.

The local fire department responded to smoke detector activation in the lobby on Nov. 30. Source was broken bulb in ceiling; Maintenance called in to resolve. Congratulations given to Jesse Komara, Dining Manager, for 30 years of service at SO.

Old Business: Director McPeck gave a detailed breakdown of the costs, funding sources, and phases of the auditorium renovation project, in response to a request at last month's SORA meeting.

New Business: Employee Appreciation checks were to be distributed in December. An Activities Fair is planned for Mar. 19.

Next Monthly Board Meeting: Tues., Jan. 9, at 1:30 p.m. in the Card Room. All Residents are welcome.

The SORA Quarterly Meeting originally scheduled for Sept. 12 was to be held on Dec. 12 at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium.

CONTINUED LEARNING

By Jno L. Hunt (#308)

We have scheduled a regular series of programs on Channel 951. Initial airings on Tuesdays are at 10:00 a.m., 3:30 p.m., and 7:00 p.m. Encore presentations are usually on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Tues., Jan. 2: Leonard Bernstein – The Art of Conducting. Encore on **Thurs., Jan. 4.**

Tues., Jan. 9: Inventions (23 & 24). Encore on **Thurs., Jan. 11.**

Tues., Jan. 16: A Wintery Journey to the Arctic Circle. Encore on **Thurs., Jan. 18.**

Tues., Jan. 23: Lost Christianities (1 & 2). Encore on **Thurs., Jan. 25**

Tues., Jan. 30: Most Powerful Forces on Earth - Polar Vortex. Encore on **Thurs., Feb. 1.**

Every fourth Tuesday of the month we show a presentation on religion. This year we will be presenting a series titled “Lost Christianities.” In the first centuries after Christ, there was no official New Testament. Instead, early Christians read and fervently followed a wide variety of scriptures – many more than we have today. What did these “other” scriptures say? Do they still exist today? If such beliefs were once common, why are they no longer so? These are a few of the many provocative questions that will be explored by this series throughout 2024.

HEALTH AFFAIRS ON CHANNEL 951

By Warren Howe, C’tee Chair - #337

The Health Affairs Committee has decided on a new educational venture: screening a selection of videos on health-related topics monthly on Channel 951. Topics of particular interest to our resident population will be selected, and videos on those topics from

various sources will be shown on the **third Wednesday of each month, at 10:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.** Each set of videos will total about one hour in length, and there will be an “encore” presentation of them on the **third Friday** at the same times.

The first topic, “Walking,” will cover the health benefits of walking, tips on the technique of walking, thoughts about how much walking is necessary for a health benefit, and the role of walking in helping to prevent falls. It will air on **Jan. 17**, with an encore showing on **Jan. 19.**

This being a new venture for the committee, we will be eager to hear comments and criticisms from those who watch. We’ll certainly be looking for our audience to suggest topics that would be desirable to cover.

CHAPEL NOTES

By Gary Brandenberger - #602

For the Chapel Committee

Services begin at 2:00 p.m.
in the Card Room.

Everyone is welcome. Bring a friend.

Sunday, January 7

Rev. Dena Roy

Cranberry Community Presbyterian
Communion Service

Sunday, January 14

Rev. Dean Ziegler

Coraopolis United Methodist, Retired

Sunday, January 21

Rev. Moni McIntyre

St. Stephen’s Episcopal, McKeesport

Sunday, January 28

Greg Cox

Ingomar United Methodist
McCandless Twp.

*“And let the peace of God rule in your hearts ...
and be ye thankful.”*

Colossians 3:15

LIBRARY LOWDOWN

By Anne Hunt (#308) and Barbara Christy (#237)

We have a low-vision reader available for residents to use in the library, located on the window side of the room. It is very easy to use and instructions are on the reader.

We are still looking for volunteers for our book selection group. This is something you can do totally from home; moreover, it involves absolutely no meetings and could bring you great satisfaction – as well as exposing you to book ideas that others are recommending. Each month you are asked to suggest 3-5 books that you think the library should purchase. Mary Bouwkamp compiles the suggestions, along with a short summary for each book, and emails the list to the group. Members vote, up or down, on items they think the library should own. That's it – easy, peasy! Please contact Mary Bouwkamp (8601) or Barb Christy (8237), if you think you might be interested.

WORTH A LOOK BOOKS NEW TO OUR LIBRARY

By Barbara Christy - #237

The Berry Pickers by Amanda Peters. Fiction. The berry fields of eastern Maine, 1962. An indigenous family from Nova Scotia, there for the eight-week berry harvest, is camped on the side of the lake not favored by the wealthy white people. Brother Joe is assigned to watch 4-year-old light-complexioned Ruthie, when she goes missing. Still not found after a six-week search, the family returns to Canada without her. Fifty years later, dying of cancer, Joe is still riddled with guilt and the

family is still dealing with the loss of Ruthie. Separately, in Boston, a young girl, an only child in a wealthy family, is growing into a woman with strange dreams of a different mother, camp life, and brothers and sisters. F PET

The Heart Goes Last by Margaret Atwood. Fiction. Stan and Charmaine, a married couple down on their luck and homeless in bad economic times, decide to sign into a utopian walled community project called Positron, where everyone has a job, a roof over their head, and, most importantly, safety. But the benefits come with a hitch. The research model on which Positron is based is that private prisons can create model communities. In alternate months, Positron members are required to spend their time working at jobs in a jail, while their alternates live in their shared house. Time passes; Stan fixes scooters, and Charmaine is promoted to Chief Medication Administrator, while beginning an affair with Max, the male alternate in their house, setting off a sequence of events that reveals all is not Paradise in Positron. F ATW

Sleeping with the Ancestors by Joseph McGill, Jr., and Herb Frazier. Non-fiction. The Slave Dwelling Project officially started in 2010, but the idea began in 1999, when Joe McGill asked to sleep in one of the slave cabins at Boone Plantation for one night. After years as a Civil War reenactor, tour guide at Fort Sumter, director of history and culture, and an historic preservationist, Joe had come to realize that most Civil War restorations focused on the white owners, with little or no attention to the lives of the black slaves that made those plantations possible. He began finding and sleeping in places where slaves had lived, in urban

and rural, northern and southern, states, to draw attention to this overlooked aspect of our history. The Slave Dwelling Project had grown from a southern slave cabin initiative to a nationwide program that, in telling the actual stories of specific people, has stimulated many difficult conversations about slavery, race, and the meaning of freedom. 306.36 MCG

At the Water's Edge by Sara Gruen. Large Type. Maddie and Ellis are spoiled, entitled, and living a privileged, high-society life in Philadelphia, when they blow it all by misbehaving at a New Year's party in the middle of WWII. Ellis and his friend Hank, both designated 4F, occasionally disparaged by acquaintances regardless of how valid the status, are overly sensitive and eager to escape censure. Virtually disowned by their socially conscious families, they decide to poke at a family sore spot by reopening Ellis's father's quest for the Loch Ness monster in Scotland. Once the men are settled with Maddie in the Highlands, at a hotel with no electricity but with plenty of unfriendly natives, things deteriorate and Maddie begins to realize what a privileged life she has led. Then, when Maddie overhears a conversation between the two men, she realizes what a sham her marriage has been. Desperate for a friend during an extended absence by Hank and Ellis, Maddie pitches in to help the overworked staff, in the process growing up and meeting a handsome widower. F GRU L.T.

A Beautiful Blue Death by Charles Finch. Fiction. Amateur detective Charles Lenox is back, this time enjoying a cup of tea in front of a roaring fire in his Victorian townhouse. But his life is never quiet for long. His friend and neighbor Lady Jane sends a note to report that a former

servant, Prudence, is dead of suspected suicide, and Charles agrees to go to the palatial home where she was working to inquire. Assured that it was murder, Charles is having trouble convincing the maid's employer to let the police investigate, but a week later a man is stabbed to death in the servants' hallway of the same house – and the hunt for the killer is on. F FIN

The Bookbinder by Pip Williams. Fiction. In 1914, twin sisters Peggy and Maude live on a narrow boat on the Thames River and work in an Oxford book bindery, folding pages and enduring the boredom. Peggy craves the opportunity to read what she's folding, but instead she has to oversee Maude, who is mentally limited and whose work is not as accurate as it should be. After war is declared, sixty-five young male recruits march out of the building, and life in the bindery, in Oxford, and in England, changes. Opportunities open for girls who want to learn. F WIL

Popular authors recently added:

12 Months to Live by James Patterson and Mike Lupica. F PAT

The Twelve Topsy Turvy, Very Merry Days of Christmas by James Patterson. Large Type. F PAT

Alex Cross Must Die by James Patterson. F PAT

Judgment Prey by John Sandford. F SAN

The House of Secrets by Brad Meltzer. F MEL

After watching how some people wear their masks, I understand why contraception sometimes fails.

FROM FOCUS ON THE WORLD

By Bruce Cooper - #715

With our country honoring Martin Luther King, Jr., on Jan. 15, the Focus on the World Committee is pleased to present Rev. Ralph Lowe, the Associate Minister for Justice Ministries at Pittsburgh Presbytery, on **Thurs., Jan. 18, at 7:00 p.m.** in the Auditorium. Rev. Lowe will be speaking on the broad subject of racism in 2024. Please plan to attend this most important discussion.

Meanwhile, the winter food drive supporting the Lighthouse Foundation will occur **Jan. 11-18**. Please put your contributions in the boxes on the bench in the Scooter Room. If you would prefer to make a cash offering, make your check payable to The Lighthouse Foundation and place it in the small box on the Scooter Room bench or in Cubby 715. Thank you!

HEALTH AFFAIRS COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

By Wally Christy - #237

In addition to monitoring the usual parameters of illness, immunizations, and falls, we are reviewing how our providers – Community Nursing, Genesis Medical, and other physicians in the community – work together to provide our health care. For example, are the results of lab work and other tests available to each care provider? Are changes in therapeutic plans also shared among all caregivers?

We have invited outside speakers such as Dr. Michael O'Malley and Dr. Thaddeus Osial to talk about common medical problems. The Health Affairs Committee is also planning to develop some workshops on common everyday activities to improve and maintain wellness. These workshops could be presented via video

clips or by our physical therapy workers to keep us moving safely.

If you have any specific topics that you'd like to hear more about, please let us know!

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY ACTIVITY

By Safwat Habashi - #320

All residents (women as well as men!) of Sherwood Oaks are invited to join the Men's Bible Study meetings every **Wednesday** morning from **10 to 11 a.m.** As of January 2024, we will be embarking on a new format focused on studying the lives of biblical men and women to enrich our knowledge with their motivation and spirituality. Their lives and the power behind them left a lasting effect on Christianity. The format will be open to participation and contributions by all attendees based on their personal life and knowledge. Come join us! You will not want to miss this opportunity. Formal membership is not required.

CRANBERRY MEN'S CHORUS

By Jane Lavender - #253
Chair, Program Committee

Many of you heard this group of men perform elsewhere during the holidays, so you already know how well they sing and how much fun they have doing it. The Cranberry Men's Chorus will be entertaining us in the auditorium on **Thurs., Jan. 25, at 7:00 p.m.** Resident Jim Hvidding is a member who has been known to sing their praises and enthuse about what a pleasure it is to sing with them. Come, listen, and have some of those good feelings rub off on you as we start another year together!

EMPTY SPACES

By Joni Pun - #304

I am always bothered when I see empty spaces on the walls of the Gallery Art Exhibition, because some people remove their works without consulting anyone. Generally speaking, when you hang a work in the gallery, you should plan on leaving it there for several months. If you must remove something for some reason, please consult Barbara Dixon (8335) or me (8304) first. If you have another work to hang in the empty space, that would be ideal. If not, a call will alert us so that we can look around for another work to fill in the space.

As always, we welcome works such as paintings and drawings, but also crafts, stitchery, carvings, etc. – in short, anything that is ready to hang with a wire in the back. We replace the items on a rotating basis, moving around the walls starting from the doors on the left to the back, then to the right side, and ending by the doors near the mailroom.



Photo by Joni Pun

BAKED BEANS

By John Bridges - #122

Baked beans have a bad reputation for causing burps from bloated stomachs; however, they can also produce explosive effects when canned. My first story concerns a peaceful summer evening in England. A next-door neighbor called at our house for a social visit; as she left, she commented that she had to go home “because I left a can of beans on the stove.” My father observed that he hoped she had punctured a hole in it. A few moments later, my uncle came in from the conservatory, with a puzzled look on his face, saying, “Look at this which just landed on the roof ... and it’s warm!”

Yes, indeed! The can had exploded, wrecked the old kitchen stove, flown across the kitchen, negotiated a short passage, flowed through the open kitchen door over a 10-foot-high fence, and landed on the roof of our greenhouse.

My second story concerns a quiet evening at a Police Post at Mioro, in Kenya, during the height of the Mau Mau terrorist uprising. The day patrol had returned, and the night patrol was preparing to go out on ambush duties, when there was a muffled explosion. The sentry sounded the alarm, and we all rushed to our pre-planned defensive positions. I walked round the camp and gazed out, unbelievably, at a peaceful African countryside. Eventually, I went into the kitchen, where I found the cook covered in baked beans from head to foot. Like the neighbor, he had put a can on the stove without puncturing a hole in it. Beware! the next time you heat up a can of beans.

Don't be worried about your smartphone or TV spying on you. Your vacuum cleaner has been collecting dirt on you for years.

CLIMATE CHANGE DECISIONS

By Frank Conte - #106

What are the fundamental scientific facts upon which the concept of “Catastrophic Climate Change” is based? Do these facts derive from computer models?

The earth has existed for many years, during which time climate change has been a constant phenomenon. Carbon dioxide, with varied concentration, has been a part of the atmosphere all along. Without carbon dioxide, plant life on earth would be impossible; in exchange, plants give forth oxygen!

From Nov. 30 to Dec. 12, 2023, the annual UN climate summit met in Dubai (UAE) to prop up the UN’s Paris Accord with far higher energy and transfer payments, along with economic planning. The purpose of this meeting, as with those in the past, was to limit the use of fossil fuels across the globe.

At this gathering, there was a debate on incremental rises in temperature that lead to a “tipping point,” at which time a relatively small change in temperature results in an effect that is irreversible over long periods of time and raises the cost of climate change. The existence of tipping points between 1.5 and 1.8 degrees Celsius *could* (my emphasis), as stated, be enormous in terms of damages. Again, what is the scientific basis for this conclusion?

One area of discussion at the UN summit was a call for a “global tax on fossil fuels.” Attendees called for restrictions on the world’s poorest residents, who must now focus on delivering climate-positive growth. By denying them the use of fossil fuels now and in the future, Africa and other developing countries are denied a means to achieve economic

growth and an improved quality of life. These countries are told that they cannot improve their situation, and that other countries will dictate what they can and cannot do based on the planners’ scientific understanding of climate change. This stance is more than denying the use of fossil fuels: it is a moral issue.

In the Nov. issue of *The ACORN*, the climate capsule article stated: “Our tampering with the world’s interdependent life ... *could* [my emphasis] trigger widespread adverse effects ... we only imperfectly understand.”

Recently, President Biden, using emergency wartime power, allocated \$169 million from the Inflation Reduction Act to accelerate electric pump manufacturing to replace natural gas heating. So ... what is a heat pump? It is a heating/cooling system that produces cooling in the summer and heating in the winter. Electric power is required at all stages of operation. No natural gas is involved. Removing natural gas as a heat source in the winter means that the energy source has to be made up by increasing electric power generation and requiring more capacity on the electric grid. As with other proposals on this subject, I question if the proponents ever thought through the implications of these implementations.

In my opinion, the concept of catastrophic climate change is not a settled science. Many effects of climate change can be mitigated by our human intelligence and innovation, rather than by demanding lifestyle changes and committing trillions of dollars to an unproved scientific recommendation.



THE COLETTA MCKENRY LIBRARY ACCESSIONS

FICTION, INCLUDING LARGE TYPE AND DVDs

The 9th Man	Berry, Steve	c. 2023	F BER
12 Months to Live	Patterson, James	c. 2023	F PAT
All the Demons are Here	Tapper, Jake	c. 2023	F TAP
At the Water's Edge*	Gruen, Sara	c. 2015	F GRU L.T.
The Berry Pickers*	Peters, Amanda	c. 2023	F PET
Blessing of the Lost Girls	Jance, J. A.	c. 2023	F JAN
The Block Party	Day, Jamie	c. 2023	F DAY
The Bookbinder*	Williams, Pip	c. 2023	F WIL
Devil's Delight	Beaton, M. C.	c. 2022	F BEA
A God in Ruins	Atkinson, Kate	c. 2015	F ATK L.T.
The Heart Goes Last*	Atwood, Margaret	c. 2015	F ATW
The House of Secrets	Meltzer, Brad	c. 2016	F MEL L.T.
The Intern	Campbell, Michele	c. 2023	F CAM
Judgment Prey	Sandford, John	c. 2023	F SAN
The Twelve Books of Christmas	Carlisle, Kate	c. 2023	F CAR
The Wind Knows My Name	Allende, Isabel	c. 2023	F ALL

*Books reviewed in this issue.

NONFICTION, INCLUDING BIOGRAPHIES

The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Olympics	Daniel James Brown	c. 2013	797.12 BRO L.T.
Retire Secure for Professors and TIAA Participants	Lange, James	c. 2023	343.73 LAN
The Swan	Schuyt, Malcolm	c. 2012	598.4 SCH
Tambora: The Eruption that Changed the World	Wood, Gillen D'Arcy	c. 2014	363.34 WOO

COOPER'S CLIMATE CAPSULE

By Bruce Cooper - #715

The 28th Conference of the Parties (COP28), under the presidency of Dr. Sultan Ahmed al Jaber (see the December Climate Capsule), ended in “overtime” on Dec. 13, with the final document, which must be approved by all of the 200 countries participating, once again failing to include a call for the “phaseout of fossil fuel use.”

Along the way, Dr. al Jaber had this to say about the role of fossil fuels in the climate crisis: “There is no science out there, or no scenario out there, that says that the phase-out of fossil fuel is what’s going to achieve 1.5C. ... Please help me, show me the roadmap for a phase-out of fossil fuel that will allow for sustainable socioeconomic development, unless you want to take the world back into caves.” Terrific leadership!

There are, however, some positive outcomes included in the COP28 final document. One is language that urges countries to “transition away from fossil fuels in energy systems.” The agreement calls for a tripling of renewable energy capacity and a doubling of energy efficiency, both by 2030, but it also pushes concepts such as carbon capture and sequestration, which so far haven’t proven scalable.

The U.S. is now the #1 producer of fossil fuels. We simply must get the decision-makers inside the Beltway to stop subsidizing the fossil fuel industry. Once again, the names for us in Cranberry Twp. are Kelly, Casey, and Fetterman. Let them hear your voices.

Watch *Climate Change – Averting Disaster* on Channel 951 on Mon., Jan. 8, at 10:00 a.m., 3:30 p.m., or 7:00 p.m. Encore presentations are on Wed., Jan. 10, at 10:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

All-Out Response to Broken Fluorescent Bulb in Lobby Ceiling on Nov. 30



Photos by Wally Christy