

THE ACORN

SHERWOOD OAKS NEWSLETTER

100 Norman Drive, Cranberry Twp., PA 16066

www.sherwood-oaks.com

March 2025 “For the residents, by the residents” Vol. 44, No. 3



Photo by Lori Greer

OH, THOSE WINTER SUNSETS

(see more p.7)

Dear Reader –

"Beware the Ides of March". Those words were important to Julius Caesar and, perhaps, to us back in the days when income taxes were due on March 15...

So, look at what we might want to "beware of": icy sidewalks, hidden guns, contagious diseases, etc. I think we all have lists (which might differ, but have many similarities).

What about making lists of those things of which we are **wary**? Some of those items are unpleasant but helpful, like food allergies or the orange paint where one sidewalk slab could cause us to trip.

Then, make another list of the lovely things we are **aware** of: daffodil blossoms, the sun hitting the wall of the building across the way, a tree swaying in the wind, a relative's birthday/anniversary, a book to read, a letter to write, a phone call to make, a smile to share, a "thank you" to say? There is always enough downtime to take stock of what we like, what we can embrace, what we are thankful for.

"Be ware" gives us encouragement to avoid things that weigh us down: note them...do not ignore them... then scratch them off the list.

Eventually, "Being aware of" can encourage us to take stock of the beauty and hope in our lives.

A person's "Be aware of" list is not a laundry list of blessings; it resembles an income tax column of what enriches our daily lives.

~ Ruth Becker

Memorial Donations and Remembrance Cards

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

MARCH CALENDAR

Women's History Month	March 1
Mardi Gras	March 4
Ash Wednesday	March 5
National Napping Day	March 10
Purim	March 13
St. Patrick's Day	March 17
National Cocktail Day	March 24
National Crayon Day	March 31

THE ACORN

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Submissions for the February issue must be sent to the Editor no later than **February 15, 2025.**

IN MEMORIAM

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

Frederick Parsons *January 27, 2025*

Carole Timblin *January 31, 2025*

CONTINUED LEARNING

By Jno L. Hunt - #308

We have finalized our presentations for March and April. The series will be on Mondays at 1:30 p.m. in the Auditorium.

March 3: Brenda Tate comes to share a memoir of her varied and intriguing forty-year career in law enforcement as one of the first female African American Pittsburgh Police officers.

March 10: Jno Hunt, Ph.D., will present the story and music of Puccini's masterpiece, *Madama Butterfly*.

March 17: Prof. Rachel Bezanson from the University of Pittsburgh will speak on the recent revelations of the Webb Telescope.

March 24: Mary Ann Craig, Prof. Emerita, and retired conductor of bands at Montclair State University will share her experiences over several years of conducting ensembles in Russia.

March 31: Edd Hale, a retired middle school history teacher, will present the amazing story of the Great Castle Shannon Bank Robbery.

April 7: Thomas Wendt, Prof. of Jazz at Duquesne University (and son of Jan), will present the Life and Music of Teddy Wilson.

April 14: Bruce Cooper, Advocate for Environmental Action, will present "The Planet is Getting Tippy" in recognition of Earth Day.

Due to several issues, our presentations on Channel 951 are suspended until further notice.

COOPER'S CLIMATE CAPSULE

By Bruce Cooper - #735

Man-made Climate Change is NOT a Hoax

The devastation of the California wildfires is difficult to look at. But think back to 2020, when wildfires swept through most of the populated areas of Australia and Tasmania, affecting 3 billion animals, including 60,000 koalas killed or hurt.

How did this happen?



It turns out that national governments have been resisting the need to do something about climate change since the 1990s. Australia, together with the United States, failed to ratify the 1997 Kyoto Protocol, which committed developed countries to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. Why? Because fossil fuels, especially coal, continue to make up a large portion of the country's economy.

To see where the drag on progress by the Australian government may lead, be sure to watch the climate change video when it becomes available on Channel 950 or 951.

The U.S. is now entering a period where government actions will be a drag on progress against the climate crisis. As individuals, we must do everything we can to reduce fossil fuel emissions that continue to heat the planet to unacceptable temperatures. Earth will appreciate the help.

Watch *Australia – The Coming Climate Hell* on Channel 950 or 951 when the system becomes fully functional again.

HEALTH AFFAIRS UPDATES

By John Houston - #617

The Health Affairs Committee met on January 17th and among the topics discussed were the following:

- Jean Henderson suggested the committee review the Senior Blue Book, a publication providing information on resources available for seniors. The committee thought the publication would be useful to Sherwood Oaks residents and, at no cost, procured 200 copies and distributed them to residents. We hope you will find the publication useful.
- There are five AEDs (automated external defibrillators) located on campus at the following locations: the medical office, by patio homes 328 and 228, in Oak Lodge, and on the first floor of the apartment building. An additional AED will be installed at the Summer House. The committee identified the necessity of improving the signage to assure that residents are aware of the locations. Signage updates will be addressed by Administration.
- We explored the possibility of providing a senior driving class on campus. AAA has such a program and would provide it on campus if we have at least 18 residents agree to take it. The cost is \$18 for AAA members and \$25 for nonmembers.

Check with your auto insurer to determine if taking the course will reduce

your premium. If interested in the class, sign up on the sheet posted in the mailroom.



- Respondents to the recent Health Affairs Committee survey indicated an interest by residents to learn more about medical cannabis. In response, Antoine B. Douaihy, M.D. a nationally known expert on the subject, will speak on March 3 at 1:30 p.m. in the auditorium.

Finally, the committee continues to play videos on channel 951 which provide information on a variety of health-related subjects. Please contact a member of the committee if there is a medical subject you would like to see explored.

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## POTTERY CLASSES RETURN

By Joni Pun - #223

Arts and Crafts, which offered pottery classes last fall, hopes to schedule a new session with our instructor, tentatively starting sometime in March.

Notices will be put in your cubbies when details are finalized.

All are welcome.

## Barn in Cranberry Township

By Julie Eden - #290



a relic now amid  
new apartments  
part of a worn-out history  
sitting unencumbered  
on the narrow lane  
sharing a voice of yesterday.  
I see it from a doctor's  
office waiting for an eye  
exam, a window giving me clues I relish.

today weathered  
and peeling paint  
creates a patchwork  
in different lights  
of browns and tans.  
some raw timber shows  
the test of time gone by.

an arch at one end  
created a hayloft no doubt.  
now melting into the roofline  
planks there even rougher.  
one can almost hear the  
horses neighing inviting  
me to come inside.

tufts of grass still  
grow around its base.  
my thoughts drawn away  
and settle in the past.  
sparkles of ancient dust spin endlessly  
through the air.

imagine the land it served  
once an anchor there  
now wearing away  
I see the long honored past.  
a farmer with a wilting walk  
heading out each morning  
and evening to this  
long unused barn.  
I peel back the shadows  
of yesterday  
this haunting memory  
drains away my thoughts  
as I sit and see it in a  
window across what was  
acres once.

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## SORA BOARD NOMINATIONS - 2025

By Jean Henderson, SORA President

Every March through May, a SORA Nominating Committee is appointed to fill upcoming officer and Board vacancies for the next year (July 1-June 30).

The Nominating Committee consists of two members of the current Board and three residents-at-large. Elections will be held at the Annual Meeting of residents on June 10, 2025. According to the By-Laws, the ten directors on the Board can serve only two, 2-year terms to allow for a continuance of new ideas from new residents. The six officers' terms are also limited. A list of current Board members is posted in the Mail Room.

Sherwood Oaks is blessed with residents who possess amazing capabilities and experiences, along with energy and ideas to enhance our community.

If you are asked to consider standing for election, I ask you to seriously consider agreeing. You and your service will be appreciated by us all!

## EVENINGS WITHOUT TV

By John Bridges - #122

In the 1950's there were many activities in Kenya, including an Arts & Crafts Society with a very active puppet theatre. This held about 50 and the glove puppets would have been about two feet tall if they had had legs. Twisting the wire frames, molding faces, making hands and costumes kept a group of artists busy for weeks. Scenery had to be cantilevered from the sides since there was no floor and the movement of puppets was arranged around these obstructions.

Children's shows such as "Treasure Island" were popular at Christmas. Operas were well attended, and we preferred using 78 rpm vinyl records for rehearsals, rather than the more delicate recently produced LP's.

Shows would usually run for two weeks and if a party came from Government House on a Saturday night, the whole audience would be with bow ties and full evening dress. Unnecessary maybe, but a memorable occasion.

One evening, I was working late with the producer and electrician when a servant from down the road came running up, shouting, "Sir! Sir! Come quickly! The madam, she be very bad." We hastened to find said lady crawling along the ditch on all fours, naked without a stitch of clothing, repeatedly saying "Hee-Haw" and thinking she was a donkey. A blanket was hastily produced, we lifted her into the back of my pickup, and I drove as fast

as possible to the local mental hospital. Her cries of "hee haw", mixing with the moans and screams of the residents coming from the dark shadows created by a bright full moon, gave an atmosphere as dramatic as seen on any TV show.

The black & white films we enjoyed came from Hollywood or Pinewood Studios by boat and so were not exactly the latest offerings. As a change for evening entertainment, I sometimes went to the Indian Shah Cinema with its modern concrete shell roof painted blue inside to represent the sky. When there was a more elaborate production with dance sequences, the saris would often have been hand coloured by paint on the 35 mm film strip.

American Square Dancing had been introduced by the USIS and become popular in the expatriate community. We had live music and gave weekly classes in the high school for girls.

There was an active Mountain Climbing Club with use of a room at the Arts Centre. There we would hold slide shows, prepare the monthly newsletter, and plan the next climbing trip.

Tropical nights are as long as the days, so evening entertainment was important. Radios often used short wave, but reception was good at high altitudes, and I often listened to programs from Japan.

A few years later, I was in Chile, and still no TV. There, when a group of friends gathered, a guitar would always be produced and everybody, yes everybody, was expected to play their party piece.

## MEDICAL MARIJUANA SPEAKER SCHEDULED

By Warren Howe - #337

Last summer's Health Affairs Committee survey revealed a strong interest by residents in learning more about medical marijuana use by seniors. In response, the committee searched for a knowledgeable professional to make an objective presentation for us.

We are happy to announce that Antoine Douaihy, MD, who is professor of Psychiatry and Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, will speak to us on Thursday, April 3 at 1:30 p.m. She has a strong interest and reputation in the field.

Her talk, "Medical Marijuana Use by Seniors", will be open to all residents, with guests welcome, too, and will include ample time for questions to be directed to Dr. Douaihy.

This promises to be a worthwhile talk, and anyone with a remote interest in learning more about the topic is encouraged to attend.



*Indoors or out, no one relaxes in March,  
That month of wind and taxes.  
The wind will presently disappear,  
The taxes last us all the year.*  
-Ogden Nash



Photo by Kathie McCormick



Photo by Diane Horn

The era of the smartphone has enabled amateurs to be nature photographers, at least for a moment, and who can resist the fleeting beauty of a spectacular winter sunset? The Acorn was happy to entertain an assortment of nice shots taken by residents from their patio rooms and on the way home from dinner.

Thanks, and keep them coming.

*For most of history, Anonymous was a woman.*  
- Virginia Woolf

## TRIPS AND TOURS

By Linda and Arthur Sommer - # 115

Trips and Tours is one of the SORA committees. Our function is to arrange tours of interesting sites around the Pittsburgh area and trips to local restaurants which have been recommended, as well as other places of interest.

To find out what is planned, please look at the bulletin board in the mail room. Our flyers are located between the posting of new resident photos and the many weekly offerings of local transportation. Our bulletins give descriptions of the trips as well as signup sheets. Most of the restaurant trips are limited to 14 participants, but museum trips can be larger. Transportations costs are divided among the participants and added to their monthly Sherwood Oaks statements.

Recent tours have included a cruise at Lake Arthur, The Frick Museum, and the exhibit of musical instruments at the Bayernhof mansion. Upcoming trips include a visit to the Heinz History Center and the National Aviary in the Spring.

Restaurants we have sampled include Saga Japanese steak house, Walnut Grill, The Wooden Angel, Grand Concourse, Hartwood Restaurant and Whispers Pub.

If you have any suggestions or requests, please contact us by a note in our mailbox or give us a call. We hope to see you on one of our upcoming trips.

## CURIO CABINETS FOR

### MARCH/APRIL

“Go Green”

By Janet Desko - #210

All your “Treasured Books” were delightful - so many special volumes that you were willing to share with other residents. Thank you!

On **March 6**, please pick up your Treasured Books from **10:30 a.m. – noon** and from **4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.**

For our March/April cabinets, we will celebrate all things green - “**Go Green**”. Please bring anything green, including dishware, anything Irish, St. Patrick Day items, Earth Day objects or, perhaps, Easter or spring goodies. On **March 7**, please drop off your “**Go Green**” items from **10:30 a.m.– noon** and from **4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.**

We look forward showcasing your green, green, green! Our pickup and drop-off days are back-to-back this month; mark your calendars.





## WHAT'S NEW WITH SORA?

(SO Residents Association)

By Rosemary Coffey, Secretary - #113

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

Excerpts from minutes for the **Feb. 4, 2025**, monthly board meeting follow:

SORA Treasurers: The balance as of Jan. 31, 2025, for the Memorial/Special Projects Fund was \$26,584, and that for the Employee Appreciation Fund was \$16,538, for a total of \$43,122. The total SORA checking account balance came to \$88,495.

### **Liaison Reports:**

Security & Transportation: The total number of off-campus trips in 2024 was 1,654, accommodating 3,981 passengers.

Pool, Spa, and Locker Room: The time for Aquacize classes has changed from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. A monthly calendar of activities is now being distributed by Fitness Center staff.

Dining: Jesse Komara and associates are choosing new themes for the monthly birthday celebrations; kitchen tours will be resuming.

Resident Arts and Crafts Wall needs drawings, paintings, needlework, and weavings from residents, their relatives, and SO employees.

Sherwood Neighbors: IL residents are encouraged to visit with residents of Skilled Nursing and Oak Grove.

Health Affairs: A seniors resources booklet has been made available to all residents. A speaker on medical cannabis is scheduled for Mar. 3.

Drama Club: Plays were to be presented on Feb. 20 and 22.

Handbells & Chorus: The group continues rehearsals for a concert on May 7. Carol Harvey has taken over as the new chair.

Continued Learning: On Apr. 14, at 1:30 pm., there will be a presentation titled "The Planet is Getting Tippy."

Landscape: As of Dec. 12, 2024, there was an account balance of \$2,123.04. The handrail in front of the Community Center was removed and will be repaired in the spring. The walkway behind Oak Lodge was to be replanted. If residents would like to have their gardens filmed to provide a short clip for the SOAPP committee, contact Ruth Lasure at 8306.

Recycling: Each new bench on campus is the result of our collecting 1,000 lbs. of plastic bags. We expect to have earned our fourth bench by the summer; each is worth about \$350. Talk to Ruth Inkpen (#225) if you want to help.

Sherwood Gifts: Total sales for Dec. came to \$1700, with a profit margin of 96%. The committee continues to search for a new shop manager. Meanwhile, watch Channel 950 for the introduction of new items.

Maintenance: Five units are being upgraded for new residents. We have had two copper waterline leaks this year. Eleven items have been removed from the maintenance request list and three added.

Administrator's Report: Census: 187 IL units are inhabited; we also have 33 residents in Skilled Nursing, 35 in Personal Care, and 40 in Oak Grove. The "You Rock Program" allows residents and staff to recognize employees for exceptional service.

Old Business: Jean Henderson provided a Wish List update. The date for the Arts Fest is Mar. 7. We will celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> birthday of the USA in July 2026.

New Business: The SORA Board approved the request for \$1,878 from Lori Greer, Personal Care Admin., to install a curtain in Oak Grove to shield residents from the sun. Jason Lyle announced his retirement from Channel 951 as of the end of February.

Future Board Meetings: The next Monthly Board Meeting will be held on **Tues., Mar. 4, 2025, at 1:30 p.m.** in the Card Room. The next Quarterly Meeting will take place on **Tues., Mar. 11, at 7 p.m.** in the Auditorium. An Easter Sunrise service will occur at the Park Pavilion on **April 20, 8-8:30 a.m.**

## 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, March 2

Rev. Ron Hoellein  
St. Paul's UMC (Retired)  
Allison Park, PA

### Ash Wednesday March 5 – 4:00 PM

Rev. Alick Kennedy, Sherwood Oaks  
Rev. Jean Henderson, Sherwood Oaks

### Sunday, March 9

Rev. Ben Robbins  
Northmont Presbyterian  
McCandless Township, PA

### Sunday, March 16

Rev. Ron Brown  
Hope Lutheran Church  
Cranberry Twp., PA

### Sunday, March 23

Rev. Tom Parkinson  
Dutilh UMC  
Cranberry Twp., PA

*“Trust in Him at all times, pour out your  
heart before Him; God is a refuge for us.”*

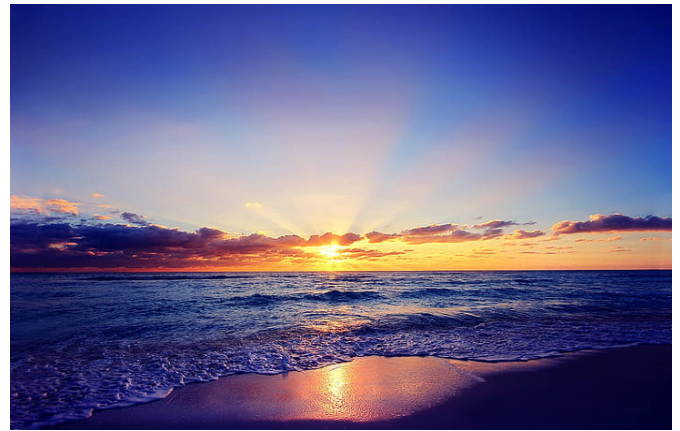
Psalm 62:8

## SUNRISE SERVICE 2025

By Jean Henderson - #346

A Sunrise Service on Easter Sunday, April 20, 2025, will be held at the Sherwood Oaks Park Pavilion from 8-8:30 a.m. with residents leading the service. Chairs and a sound system will be provided. A bus will begin rounds at 7:30 a.m. to pick up residents and take them to the park and will return residents to their parking lots after the service is over.

Please sign up in the Mail Room so we can adequately prepare the Pavilion for the service. We hope this Sunrise Service will be helpful to those who cannot attend services at their places of worship.



*It was one of those March days  
When the sun shines hot and  
The wind blows cold:  
When it is summer in the light  
And winter in the shade.*

- Charles Dickens

## “THANKS” DOESN’T QUITE SAY IT

By Jan Wendt - #158



In my travels around campus the past couple of weeks, many of you have asked, “please put something in *The Acorn* to thank Jason for all he has done with Channel 951.”

Of course. How could we not acknowledge his donation of talent and zillions of hours into creating, growing, and maintaining this wonderful resource? The result of his labor has kept us informed, connected, and entertained. A survey of communities like ours reveals that virtually no one else has anything like 951.

Administration and others are now exploring ways to upgrade some of the equipment and options for continuing the 951 in some way. Please speak up if you want to help in this effort.

When folks on the younger side of “old age” move into a retirement community, it is sometimes assumed they can shoulder more of the burden for activities and projects. It would be good to remember that younger residents, too, are retired, and we should not take their initiative and energy for granted.

If you haven’t spoken to Jason, be sure to let him know how 951 has enhanced the quality of your life here at Sherwood Oaks.

## SPRING PLANT SALE

(Spring is coming - We can't wait!)

By Ann Ferguson - #269



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA](#)

Ordering for the annual plant sale will begin April 7, with orders due by April 28. Delivery is slated for May 8.

The offerings will be similar to last year’s plants. Look for the easel in the Lobby to see pictures of the plants. And visit the greenhouse to see the variegated geraniums and fuchsia from last year. They are still blooming and spectacular!



*Only in America...can a pizza get to your house faster than an ambulance.*

*Only in America...are there handicapped parking spaces in front of a skating rink.*

*Only in America...do people order double cheeseburgers, a large fry, and a diet coke.*

*Only in America...do banks leave both doors open and then chain the pens to the counters.*

## A LITTLE RUFUS OVER MY HEAD

By Dennis Lynch

This is a story about the Marx Brothers movie *Duck Soup*, and our no longer new cat Molly. It begins in a dentist's office.

I had had one of those "procedures," and the dental assistant was holding my coat for me to put on. The normal drill would have been for me to walk to her, turn 180 degrees, and put my arms back for her to slip the coat on.

But the ghost of Harpo Marx appeared with the honk of one of those horns he carried, and a scene came into my mind. The brothers were in some kind of medical office. Groucho and Chico were wearing white lab coats, and a nurse was holding one out for Harpo to put on. Harpo moved toward her, arms outstretched, but instead of turning, he went straight on, slipped his arms into the sleeves, and gave her a big hug.

I couldn't resist, so I duplicated Harpo's move but with a briefer and more chaste squeeze.

I walked myself back and said, "I apologize! It was too good a chance! Do you remember Harpo in that movie?" Blank look. "Harpo Marx?" Blank. "You know, the *Marx Brothers*?" Well obviously, she didn't know. Probably had never seen a rotary dial phone either.

That's the lead-in to the cat story. We have seven pounds of rescue cat, about four years old, Molly by name. She is Siameasy, ostensibly a "Snow-shoe Siamese," a thousand bucks from a breeder but only fifty from the Beaver County Humane Society. She is finally getting comfortable with our patio home.

She is still uncomfortable with our rescue hound, Maggie, but has all 55 pounds of Mags under her paw because she can spit and yowl and leap and look like a Halloween cat, and Maggie can't.

So, the other night we were all in our living room. The sliding glass door to the patio was half open. It was light inside, but dark in the patio, and the glass acted as a mirror. Molly was heading toward the patio to try to look outside. When she got close to the door, she noticed her reflection. "There's a cat on the patio!"

"There's a cat out there! First the dog, and now this!" Molly's idea of defense is a good offense, so she carefully put her head around the door to confront this interloper in the flesh. But there was no cat behind the door! She quickly came to the front again to check, and there, surely, was that blasted cat. Catch it quick and give it what for! Around the door again: no cat. Back to check: cat. She moved a little away from the opening and the other cat followed her. Ha! Around to the back for a quick check and once again, no cat. Well, Molly would not be played for the fool. She turned and walked as calmly as she could, tail twitching, slowly back through the living room and into The Closet for a cooling drink of water.

I was bursting with suppressed laughter. And I could hear Harpo's horn again. The episode had been so like the funniest scene in any film (in my opinion)—the one in *Duck Soup* (1933) where Harpo pretends to be Groucho's reflection in a non-existent mirror. If you haven't seen it, rent or borrow the film—it is in the Butler system. It is a classic situation, as Molly discovered.

## WORTH A LOOK

Books New to Our Library

By Barbara Christy - #237

***Counting Miracles*** by Nicholas Sparks. Fiction. Tanner Hughes is an Army Ranger, footloose and fancy free. An orphan, he was raised by his career-military grandparents. He is happiest when off to a new adventure. When his dying grandmother advises him to “find where you belong,” she also gives him the name of his father – a person he didn’t know existed. On leave between assignments, he goes to Asheboro, North Carolina to satisfy his curiosity and meets a recluse living in the forest with a mission to defend a white deer from poachers. He also meets Kaitlin Cooper, single mom and the town’s doctor. And the miracles begin. F SPA

***We Solve Murders*** by Richard Osman. Fiction. Osman is the author of *The Thursday Murder Club*, but this book is less charm and more harm. Amy Wheeler is a bodyguard specializing in high-celebrity targets. She is currently on a private South Carolina island protecting a famous author. Her father-in-law, a former detective himself but now retired, follows her career with great interest. When it

appears that Amy is being set up to take the fall for three murders, she calls on her father-in-law for help in identifying the real murderer. Thus begins an adventure crossing three continents with the very rich and very bored author tagging along. F OSM

***The Lost Bookshop*** by Evie Woods. Fiction. A book written by a book lover for book lovers. The three characters live in different eras but share a love of books and bookstores and a search for meaning in their lives. In 1921, Opaline escapes to Paris to avoid a forced marriage to a man she dislikes. Reassured by the very presence of books, she finds a job in a bookstore. Despite romantic and other entanglements, eventually she moves to Dublin and owns a bookstore of her own - at 11 Ha’penny Lane. Meanwhile, last year in rural Ireland, Martha escaped from an abusive husband and found shelter as a housekeeper to a widow in Dublin with a lovely Victorian house at 12 Ha’penny Lane. She meets Henry, an academic and connoisseur of rare books who is looking for a missing bookstore - at 11 Ha’penny Lane. All three have interesting stories, but when the bookstore begins appearing and disappearing, the fun really begins.

***Karla's Choice*** by Nick Harkaway. Fiction. This tribute to John Le Carre is a novel which fits seamlessly into the George Smiley narrative between *The Spy Who Came in from the Cold* and *Tinker, Tailer, Soldier, Spy*. As the novel opens, George has left the Circus and the British spy network is in disarray. Control asks Smiley to do one last task—interview a Hungarian employee of a defector who has gone missing for clues as to where he might be. But, of course, it is never that simple and George finds himself on the wrong side of the border being tailed by Russian agents. F HAR

***Book and Dagger*** by Elyse Graham. Non-fiction. As thrilling as fiction but true. This tale involves how a Yale literature professor, a Harvard anthropologist, and a U of Chicago archivist became part of the newly created OSS, the spy agency set up specifically to win WWII. Starting with their recruitment, through their training and onto their escapades in the field, culminating in recognition of their contributions to spycraft in general, this is a thrilling, fascinating story. 940.548 GRA

***A Certain Idea of America*** by Peggy Noonan. Non-fiction. Over 40-plus selections from recent

writings by Pulitzer Prize winner Peggy Noonan focusing on anything American. From Billy Graham and Prince Harry to Uvalde, Ukraine and universities. These short snippets are a smorgasbord from which the reader can pick and choose or gorge himself on candid, witty, acerbic commentary on American life. Noonan's writing style informs, even inspires, but does not inflame. She captures the national mood of disquiet without succumbing to despair. 973 NOO



**Do you know?** Our lovely Lobby atrium, previously maintained by a professional service, is now cared for by Landscaping, and Amy from Grounds. Seasonal decorations have been contributed by Mara, evening receptionist. Does anyone have information about the serene sculpture in the garden's center?

**THE COLETTA MCKENRY LIBRARY ACCESSIONS**  
**FICTION, INCLUDING LARGE TYPE AND DVD's**

|                                                      |                                  |         |            |
|------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------|------------|
| The Blue Hour                                        | Hawkins, Paula                   | c. 2024 | F HAW      |
| Christmas in Bethel                                  | Evans, Richard Paul              | c. 2024 | F EVA      |
| End of Story                                         | Finn, A. J                       | c. 2024 | F FIN c. 2 |
| Foyle's War, Set Six                                 |                                  | c. 2010 | F Foy DVD  |
| The Harbor                                           | Engberg, Katrine                 | c. 2022 | F ENG      |
| Holmes is Missing                                    | Patterson, James                 | c. 2025 | F PAT      |
| The House of Cross                                   | Patterson, James                 | c. 2024 | F PAT      |
| The Last One at the Wedding                          | Rekulak, Jason                   | c. 2024 | F REK      |
| The Letter                                           | Evans, Richard Paul              | c. 1997 | F EVA      |
| The Lost Bookshop                                    | Woods, Evie                      | c. 2024 | F WOO p.b. |
| Midnight Cowboy                                      | MID                              | c. 1969 | F MID DVD  |
| The Restless Wave: A Novel of the United States Navy | Stavridis, James                 | c. 2024 | F STA      |
| Robert B. Parker's Hot Property                      | Lupica, Mike                     | c. 2024 | F LUP      |
| Private Beijing                                      | Patterson, James &<br>Adam Hamdy | c. 2022 | F PAT      |
| Sleeper                                              | Sleeper                          | c. 1973 | F SLE DVD  |

**NONFICTION, INCLUDING BIOGRAPHIES**

|                                                                                                                                  |                |         |                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|---------|------------------|
| The Lincoln Chronicles                                                                                                           | Lincoln        | c. 2013 | BIO LIN DVD      |
| Desire of the Everlasting Hills: The World Before and After Jesus                                                                | Cahill, Thomas | c. 1999 | 232 CAH          |
| Heretics and Heroes: How Renaissance Artists and Reformation Priests Created Our World                                           | Cahill, Thomas | c. 2013 | 270 CAH p.b.     |
| The Gifts of the Jews: How a Tribe of Desert Nomads Changed the Way Everyone Thinks and Feels                                    | Cahill, Thomas | c. 1998 | 909.04 CAH p.b.  |
| How the Irish Saved Civilization: The Untold Story of Ireland's Heroic Role from the Fall of Rome to the Rise of Medieval Europe | Cahill, Thomas | c.1995  | 941.501 CAH p.b. |
| Mysteries of the Middle Ages: The Rise of Feminism, Science, and Art from the Cults of Catholic Europe                           | Cahill, Thomas | c. 2006 | 909.07 CAH       |
| On Wings of Eagles                                                                                                               | Ken Follett    | c. 1983 | 955.054 KEN p.b. |
| Perennials                                                                                                                       | Oster, Maggie  | c. 2004 | 635 OST          |
| Prehistoric Planet                                                                                                               |                | c. 2002 | 567.9 PRE DVD    |
| Sailing the Wine-dark Sea: Why the Greeks Matter                                                                                 | Cahill, Thomas | c. 2003 | 909.09821 CAH    |





**M**AY THE ROAD  
rise up to meet you.  
**MAY THE WIND**  
be always at your back.  
**MAY THE SUN**  
shine warm upon your face;  
**MAY THE RAINS**  
fall soft upon your fields,  
and until we meet again  
**MAY GOD HOLD YOU**  
in the palm of His hand.

TRADITIONAL GAELIC BLESSING 