

Westbury World

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Highly Successful Clothing Drive for Afghan Refugees

Photo by Bill Young



In late October, word reached SVWC that endangered Afghans who fled Kabul two months earlier had reached the Shenandoah Valley. They were being housed temporarily at a church retreat center in Harrisonburg. They had only their summer clothes as winter approached and needed warmer garments.

News of this need spread among residents, at first by word of mouth. In five days, residents and staff donated three truckloads of warm outer coats, blankets, sweaters, shoes, and more for about 30 men, women, and children sheltering in the retreat center. A baby girl, two months old, got special attention.

By early November, over 50 refugees had arrived in Harrisonburg, and the number was expected to grow, perhaps significantly. By mid-November, the first six refugees had moved to Winchester into apartments furnished in part by donations from residents and our Resale Shop.

Church World Service is the agency designated to welcome and resettle refugees throughout the Shenandoah Valley. Winchester volunteers, many from SVWC, are working closely with CWS to help more Afghan arrivals become our neighbors. More volunteers are needed.

Cari Sherwood

From the President/CEO



As we come to the end of 2021, we need to remain diligent in our efforts to keep everyone as safe and healthy as possible. SVWC has been busy implementing policies and procedures as it relates to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services guidance that was released in November. The guidance states that visitation is allowed for all residents at all times. Visitation can be conducted through different means based on the community's structure and residents' needs, such as in resident rooms, dedicated visitation spaces, and outdoors.

SVWC continues to monitor the transmission rates in both the City of Winchester and Frederick County. Once these rates drop to low or moderate levels for a period of time, we will look to open up some of the common areas on campus such as the Bistro.

As part of the new guidance, SVWC needs to educate and encourage visitors to become vaccinated. That is the reason for the bulletin board in the lobby which will be updated on a regular basis. Please note that visitors are not required to be tested or vaccinated as a condition of visitation. That is why it is so important for all of us to follow the core principles of COVID 19 infection prevention which are:

- Visitors who have a positive viral test for COVID-19, symptoms of COVID-19, or currently meet the criteria for quarantine, should not enter the facility.
- Vaccination is strongly recommended.
- Hand hygiene (use of alcohol-based hand rub) should be performed frequently.
- Face covering or mask (covering mouth and nose) is required regardless of vaccination status.
- Physical distancing of at least six (6) feet between people is required regardless of vaccination status.

- In the event of special circumstances, we will post additional signage.
- SVWC has adopted a thorough and frequent cleaning and disinfection protocol.
- SVWC staff use Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when it is appropriate and recommended.
- SVWC may engage in cohorting of residents based on known or suspected risks (e.g., combining residents in separate areas dedicated to COVID-19 care).
- We provide appropriate testing of residents and staff, as required by law and consistent with applicable CDC and Virginia Department of Health recommendations.

With the holidays upon us, my hope is that we get to spend quality time with those we love but we have to continue to make smart decisions to protect ourselves and others. Blessings to you and your families for a safe, healthy, Merry Christmas.

Jeannie Shiley

Remembering Terry Sinclair

It is with heavy hearts that SVWC said goodbye to our dear friend and resident, Dr. Terry Sinclair, on November 26. He was a member of the Board of Trustees from 1999 to May 2017, and served as Chair from May 2003 until May 2017. He was also a member of the Development Committee and later served on the Foundation Board.

During his tenure on the Board, SVWC experienced significant growth to include 23 additional cottages, Winchester Hall, the Vitality Center, the Chapel and a renovated/expanded Health Care Center.

His leadership, warmth, and sense of humor will be missed throughout our community. He was my mentor and a dear friend, as well. I cherish all the wonderful memories of the times we spent together. Please keep Diane and his family in your prayers.

Jeannie Shiley



USA

Annual Display of Crèches From Around the World

Photos by Bill Young



Germany



Germany



Swaziland



Germany



Peru



China

SVWC Foundation's Charitable Activities

In this season of giving, the Foundation has been sponsoring several charitable projects. The *Let's Get Together* cookbook is wrapping up sales with over \$7,500 raised for the Fellowship Fund. Everyone was able to sample some of its recipes, thanks to Dining Services including them in dinner menus. The Fellowship Committee for Special Events will begin working on its next fundraising venture in the New Year. Thanks to all those that contributed recipes and purchased copies of the book.

The Pie in the Leader's Face contest ended on November 24. There was no winner, because a majority of kind-hearted residents voted against the idea, preferring the whipped cream go on top of desserts instead. Even so, the contest raised around \$1,000 for the Employee Emergency Fund, which saw an increase in need this year. The Fund helps provide support for employees in crisis. Examples of support include helping with medical bills during an illness and helping pay essential bills when a spouse has lost a job.

More than 600 pounds of food has been collected thus far for C-CAP, a food bank serving the Winchester/Frederick County area. Nonperishable items will be collected until December 17. Collection bins are on the first floor of Shenandoah Hall, Bistro information area overlooking the pool, main lobby entrance, and in Wappacomo Hall. So keep donating!

The annual Santa Paws donation drive of dog and cat food for local animal shelters is underway. Donations can be placed inside the double doors beyond the Gift Shop. The drive ends on December 8. Anyone bringing a donation to the Abbey on that day between 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. will receive a free "grab and go" breakfast courtesy of Dining Services. The program is offered in conjunction with Omps Funeral Home, which will again match donations pound for pound. SVWC has always been the leader in this event.

Results of the Turkey Trot walkathon are still being tabulated and will be announced soon.

Melissa Boies

Various Christmas Activities

Resale Shop Christmas Sale:

Dec 2 at 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Abbey

Art Sale:

Dec 3 at 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Abbey

Door Decorating Contest:

Judging Dec 21

Winners announced at CWA on Dec 22

Variety Show: (pre-recorded)

Dec 22 at 2:00 p.m. on Channel 970

Santa's Schedule:

Dec 16 at 2:30 p.m. Happy Hour
at Wappacomo Hall

Dec 22 at 2:00 p.m. distribute gifts in Health
Care

Dec 23 at 2:30 p.m. visit Blue Ridge Hall

Christmas Lights Rides (6:00 p.m.):

Dec 6 Health Care

Dec 7 Blue Ridge Hall

Dec 8 Wappacomo Hall

Christmas Lights Rides IL (6:30 p.m, lobby)

Dec 13, 14, and 15 ; Dec 20, 21, and 22

Caroling: (11:00—11:30 a.m.)

Dec 14 Wappacomo Hall

Dec 15 Health Care

Dec 17 Blue Ridge Hall

Twelve Days of Christmas: Daily drawing for prizes on Dec 9 and 10 and on weekdays until Dec 24

Floor Parties: See signup sheets in Bistro information area for details.

Laura Hager

Cottage Luminaria

On December 22 from 4:40 to 9:00 p.m., cottage residents will illuminate their streets with hundreds of twinkling luminaria to brighten the holiday season. Stroll or drive through the area at dusk to hear music by carolers and see gaily decorated cottages. You may even catch a glimpse of Santa. The glow will continue through December 26.

Margie Sheppard

Results of Employee Appreciation Fund Drive

Photo by Bill Young



Department Heads with EAF Gifts

Almost 85 percent of residents contributed to this year's Employee Appreciation Fund, and this increased the amount of each gift by about 4.5 percent over last year. The total of the gifts was \$245,205. The gifts were given to the department heads at Coffee with Administration on November 17 for distribution to their employees.

Cathie Russell



Dickens Street Scene from Collection of the Late Bill Mills

Wilfred “Wil” Pieper to Mark 102nd Birthday

Photo by Amber Daniel



Wil was born in Loretto, MN, on December 5, 1919. After graduating from Minneapolis School of Art and Design, he joined the US Army Air Corps in January 1942 and remained in the service in the USAF until he retired in 1968. In World War II and the

Korean War, he flew 234 combat missions, earning the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal. After retiring from the military, he served as Special Assistant to the Secretary of Transportation until 1982.

In true retirement, he built and flew his own small airplane and joined his son Steve in collecting and restoring classic automobiles. Their collection, tucked away in an isolated warehouse near Edinburgh, VA, is a veritable auto museum. It includes a streamlined race car they built that attained an average speed of 320 mph in Bonneville, UT.

But as many residents can attest, Wil's interests and abilities were not confined to aircraft and automobiles. He ranks as SVWC's most creative and versatile artist. His interests have included painting, wood carving, sculpting, and stained glass. He created the glass doors to the Chapel as a memorial to Lois, his wife of 67 years, who died in 2008. He also designed and installed the Chapel's windows. In addition, he designed the stained-glass panels in the Vitality Center and the Art Studio.

Wil's family includes his daughter Marcia, four grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

Paul Arnold

**Merry
Christmas**

Chaplain's Message

Here we stand again at the threshold of Advent and Christmas. We know the story of Jesus coming to the manger so well we can repeat it in our sleep. We know the characters that will cross the stage — shepherds, angels, Mary and Joseph, the star and the stable, and eventually the wise men. Maybe that is the problem. We know it so well we do not pay attention to the details, much less the meaning.

We enter this season with preparations, anticipation, excitement, and hurry, hurry to be “ready.” But “ready” for what? The party, the family gathering, the giving and receiving of gifts? And, often, on the evening of December 25, many experience a letdown.

Can we listen to or read this story paying attention to the details that we think we already know, listening to each word for something new? Instead of reading the whole story all at once, read one section at a time, taking time to hear and see the context and implications. Read about the angel coming to Mary and consider her shock for a while. Read and enter into the scene when Mary and Elizabeth meet. Imagine being on that hillside when the angels appear to the shepherds. This year, let the expectation, preparation, and anticipation be focused on the fact that God is coming into our everyday lives just as vividly as each of those stories.

Be “ready.” Prepare to have Emmanuel with you beyond the tinsel. Anticipate being changed by this story. Expect to know the peace, joy and hope that we sing about long after the decorations are stored. And hope. Hope that the reality of this season will bring lasting change in your life rather than temporary celebrations.

Elizabeth Lewis

Welcome to our New Neighbors

Paul Miller and Laurraine Landolt moved into 524 Shenandoah Hall from Lovettsville, VA.

Mike and Fran Jeffries moved into 311 Shenandoah Hall from Winchester, VA.

Dolores Lowe moved into 207 Shenandoah Hall from Berkeley Springs, WV.

Photo by Sue McKenzie



Karen and Linda

New Front Desk Receptionists

Two new Front Desk receptionists, Linda Rollins and Karen Franzen, were hired in November. Both were previously employed as receptionists at the George Washington Hotel in Winchester.

Linda moved from Mt. Vernon, VA, to Winchester in 2016. She has a daughter, Kylee, and one grandchild. When not working, Linda likes to spend time with her family and friends. She also enjoys thrift shopping, antiques, and reading.

Karen and her husband have lived in Winchester since 2006. She also enjoys thrift shopping, as well as crocheting.

Sue McKenzie

Current Wappacomo Hall Art Exhibit

The Wappacomo Hall mini gallery is displaying paintings by the following seven residents: Edwina Apostle, Pat Baldwin, Debbie Brewster, June Dunn, Nancy Law, Monna Pugh, and Audrey Shropshire. Their work reflects creativity and imagination. Some have shifted from watercolors to acrylic painting.

Gale Bowman-Harlow

Photos by Peggy Jackson



Library News — December Acquisitions

FICTION

The Santa Suit	Mary Kay Andrews
Over My Dead Body	Jeffrey Archer
God Rest Ye, Royal Gentlemen	Rhys Bowen
Once Upon a Wardrobe	Patti Callahan
Breaking Silence	Linda Castillo
State of Terror	Hillary Rodham Clinton/Louise Penny
Cloud Cuckoo Land	Anthony Doerr
Enemy at the Gates (LP)	Vince Flynn
The Judge's List	John Grisham
The Book of Magic	Alice Hoffman
A Line to Kill (LP)	Anthony Horowitz
Silview	John LeCarre
The Wish	Nicholas Sparks
The Butler	Danielle Steel
Oh William!	Elizabeth Strout
The Lincoln Highway	Amor Towles
Harlem Shuffle	Colson Whitehead

NON-FICTION

Keep Sharp: Build a Better Brain at Any Age	Sanjay Gupta
On Animals	Susan Orlean
E.R. Nurses (LP)	James Patterson

Thursday Night Programs

December 2. Bob Sherwood will describe the support efforts, especially the substantial contributions of warm weather clothing and other necessities SVWC residents have provided to Afghan refugees from Kabul who are being resettled in the Shenandoah Valley.

December 9. *Handel's Messiah.* The 2019 concert by the Arts Chorale of Winchester.

December 16. *The Nutcracker.* Starring Mikhail Baryshnikov and Gelsey Kirkland and members of the American Ballet Theatre.

December 23 and 30. No programs.

All programs are televised on Channel 970 starting at 7:30 p.m.

Photo by Peggy Jackson



Newly Added Winchester Hall Portico

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