

Transition Times

A publication of the Friends House Seniors Association to chronicle our progress towards expansion and a new and improved Friends House!

Volume 3
No 2
May 2019

Update on the bee hive—how have the worker bees been transforming Friends House?



A Milestone! E-wing comes down in March to make room for the new Homes on Quaker Lane soon to come.

Below: L to R, E-wing in the past, prepared for destruction, and an artist rendering of the new building



Look inside to meet new residents, play and creativity during change, and other activities along side of construction while Spring bursts forth!!

Creative Corner

Residents are creating fantasy and fun from our experience of being dislocated and dislodged. Here are excerpts from Loraine Hutchins' and Roger Roark's recent pieces.

April Fools

Transitioning at Friends House

Twass the night before April Fools and all of the Friends House people in the motherhouse and those in the far-flung muddy cottages were happily snoring.

The day the Ride-On Bus got stuck in the meadow was long forgotten, since the tanker went down the sink hole next to what used to be the pond.

See Loraine for more.....



Another big truck? This time to tow a bus; one of several drivers that decided the walking path was the detour!



2020

The Day After Christmas: A Fantasy

Twass the day after Christmas and all through Friends House all the creatures were stirring inside and out.

Residents were snug in their wonderful new spaces in Homes on Quaker Lanes and the Lodges and Cottages were full to the brim.

The past two years have brought exciting new changes to Friends House.

It finally stopped raining in the Spring of 2019

See Roger for more.....

New Residents



**Sheila and Dave
Carrigan
C-27**

Sheila and Dave are newly weds as of March 26, 2018! They moved here from Germantown. Sheila was recovering from a stroke and Dave had been her caregiver. Prior to her stroke, Sheila had been a general office manager at NIH. Dave was self-employed and had worked for GE and Marriott also.

They are thrilled with the acceptance they found here at Friends House as people smile and speak to them often. They no longer have to use city busses and are looking forward to relying on the Friends House transportation. Dave can't get over the excellent work that Eric and Bob did to rebuild their heater and rewire the thermostats—all in one day.

You will probably see them enjoying future Friday evening folk music sessions. Dave used to play the dobro and is going to try to learn to play Sheila's guitar—arthritis permitting.

They are getting to know their neighbors. You may someday even see Sheila racing with Eleanor or Celeste. Or, you may notice that Dave rides a scooter during longer walks.

They are very proud of Sheila's two daughters. One is a staff sergeant in the boot camp at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. The other daughter just gave birth to Sheila's first granddaughter. Dave and Sheila met her at 2 days old via Skype.

They are looking forward to being in the new apartment building and the updated commons.

Welcome to Friends House, Sheila and Dave

Marty Hale



Carolyn Finegar

B-20

Meet Carolyn Finegar: Born in the coal country of West Virginia, graduated from Marshall University in English and General Science, she later taught for a time at Parkland

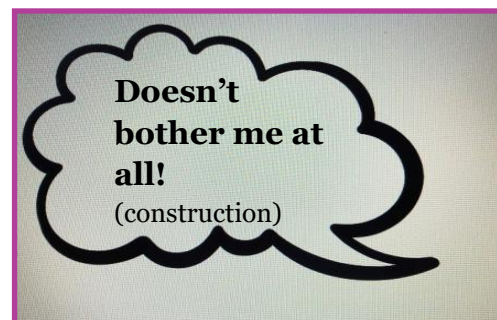
Middle School in Montgomery County. However, for a significant portion of her life she has felt like a chronic volunteer. She worked with a variety of organizations and particularly enjoyed high school counseling.

She is a devoted reader and enjoys books by Austen, Trollope, and Kingsolver among others. She loves all kinds of music from classical to rock and roll. Other interests are movies, theater, cooking, crosswords, family and friends. She especially enjoys conversation with others. She is also very interested in government.

Carolyn has 2 children and 4 grandchildren. Her son Wayne is Assistant General Secretary for Baltimore Yearly Meeting. Her daughter lives in Philadelphia. Having previously lived here, Carolyn is familiar with this area.

Because her parents lived at Friends House for about 5 years, she is well-acquainted with life here. These past associations and health issues led to her join us. You will find her walking the halls with great enthusiasm. She invites you to join her. B Wing is greatly pleased to welcome this open-minded, interesting, joyful personality to our midst.

Irene Ramsay



New Residents



**Shannon Wagner
and Wallace
Watson**

17211 Quaker Lane

Shannon grew up in upstate New York and majored in French at Colby College. Rejecting teaching she began the first leg of her career as a secretary and legal assistant. She married and had children, living in a variety of places including Winnipeg, Canada. Inspired during her time as a legal assistant, she graduated from Duquesne law school at age 61 and practiced law at the Pennsylvania State Education Association.

It was in Pittsburgh where she met Wallace. A highlight for Shannon is the small island purchased by her family in the St. Lawrence River where she and Wallace enjoyed vacationing. In 2011 they moved to Eco Village, an intentional community near Ithaca NY partly to be closer to the island. Shannon has two daughters; one is a Presbyterian pastor in St. Louis and another is an assistant professor at George Washington University. Shannon has enjoyed singing including choral, opera chorus, and a symphony.

Wallace Watson grew up in South Carolina, majored in English at Wofford College and then attended Duke Divinity School with the intention of becoming a Methodist minister. Dropping out, he moved to Bloomington, Indiana where he got a PhD in English. He taught English, film studies and journalism, most recently at Duquesne University where he was the Dean of College of Arts and Sciences before returning to teaching.

There he was involved with the Pittsburgh Interfaith Impact Network. Wallace is interested in and has written a book about the German filmmaker Fassbinder.

Here at Friends House Wallace is already involved in the garden and hopes to continue to write. Shannon is looking forward to singing, perhaps with the Friends House Chorus.

Welcome Shannon and Wallace!

Kendall Anthony



Peggy Paris

C-15

When I met Peggy she told me she was just a “normal old Grandma.” She was born in North Carolina, and her voice still carries that soft accent.

But she has led a very interesting life, in a variety of locations.

Peggy and her husband Charles, attended the University of Georgia, where Charles was enrolled in the School of Forestry and Peggy worked for the university. Upon Charles' graduation he accepted employment with the U.S. Forest Service in Oregon, and the family moved there.

Unfortunately, Charles was severely injured in a forest fire accident, and he and Peggy and their two sons returned to Maryland for medical care.

Peggy and her family lived in the Olney area for many years before her recent move to Friends House

Welcome Peggy!

Ann Gerike

Friends House Seniors Association (FHSA)

We don't ignore the Elephant (shop) in the living room! It is the heart of Friends House



An Elephant is a wonderful thing, and we are fortunate to have one of our own here at Friends House. The Elephant Shop produces revenue that helps fund programs of **Friends House Seniors Association, Inc. (FHSA)**. The heart of an elephant weighs 26 to 46 pounds; the Elephant Shop pumps the life blood of Friends House. Elephants are big; the Elephant Shop fills 3 apartments. Elephants have wrinkled skin; so do we. They have sparser hair with age; so do we. Elephants are social and show empathy; the Elephant Shop is a great place to meet people and hear the latest news. Sometimes elephants are in zoos and circuses; the Elephant Shop is full of exotic items and costumes.

Elephants browse. You should browse in the Elephant Shop. Elephants can stay underwater and use their trunks as a snorkel. The Elephant Shop provides FHSA with oxygen.

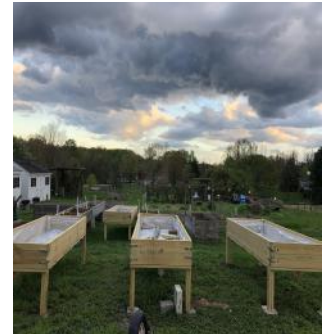
Thank the workers who sort, stock and sell the items in the Elephant Shop to keep the Elephant Shop healthy and able to fund all the activities we enjoy. Elephants walk on their tiptoes. You should tiptoe into the Elephant Shop to shop - **and to volunteer.**

Nancy Rea



At our **April FHSA meeting**, Rich Liveridge, President, with the help of Claude Bennett, presented a Goose (door stop) to **Fred Swan** in appreciation of his "coming out of retirement" to continue to sweep our walks and roads. Thank you Fred for your service!

Gratitude to **Alan DeSilva** and **Roger Roark** for building new raised beds for gardeners.



Annual Meeting

May 9th 7:15 pm

First annual meeting since FHSA became a not-for-profit organization supporting seniors in our community

Please Come to:

- ♦ **Elect one new officer (others continue for another year)**
- ♦ **Approve budget**
- ♦ **Update the Procedures Manual**

Environment— We Care Recognition and Beauty



County Recognition for Food Scrap Recycling or COMPOSTING

Friends House was recognized by Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection, Waste Reduction and Recycling for our outstanding composting program. 30,000 lbs of food scraps per year since 2014 which becomes compost for our numerous gardens around the campus. This community effort was commemorated with a plaque that sits in Anne Derby's office at the moment. Maybe we will find an honored place for the plaque when our construction is complete!

The Pond in Spring



Spring has Sprung!

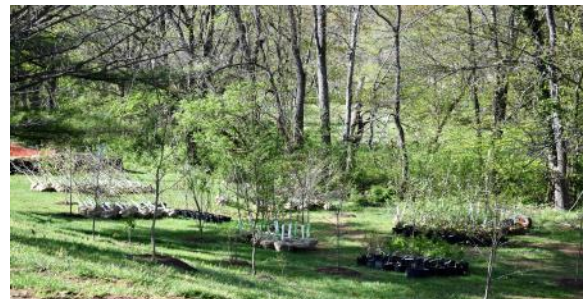
Beauty in the midst of mud, dust and trucks gives us pleasure as we anticipate a beautiful campus in the future.



600 new trees

are being planted around campus this spring; American Hornbeam, Sweetgum, American Sycamore, Redbud, and Chestnut Oaks will be added to all the other flowering trees, bushes, bulbs and flowers. 600 more trees will be added this fall for a total of **1200 new trees.**

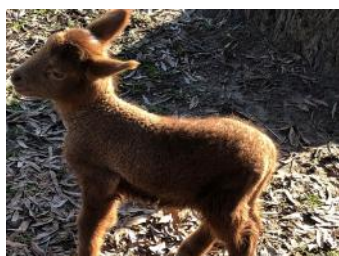
Look—New Trees!!



Around Campus



Spring Lambs—new life in our community across the street through Bancroft at the Gibian Farm. The little guy to the left bottom was saved in a spring snow storm by Kymani, the young man from the family who tends all the animals on the farm.



Rolling out the ground after strengthening soil—making way for lodge foundations coming soon.

Reflections on Quaker Knoll Road. Who stole Quaker Knoll????



Transition Times Update — May 2019

NEWEST RESIDENTS

David and Sheila Carrigan C 27
Carolyn Finegar B-20
Peggy Paris C-15
Wallace Watson and Shannon Wagner
17211 Quaker Lane

IN MEMORY

Patricia Selmanoff

New trees in the flood plain.



Breaking News

*Friends House has received an award from Montgomery County for our **re-cycling program**. More information coming soon!*

*The State has awarded Friends House **\$100,000 to help plan Phase II** of our transformation. Our State Senator and Reps facilitated this award.*

Gratitude to all!!

Transition Times PRODUCTION

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Transition Times

will replace Friends House Letter during our expansion and will be published every few months while our community undergoes transformation.

We would like to reduce use of paper and mailing costs by sending this electronically to as many as possible. Please **let us know your e-mail address** so we can keep you updated as to our progress and include you in our celebrations as we move forward.

Please respond to Joan below with an updated e-mail address.

The Editorial Committee.

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**L: Ice cream on
the Hirshhorn
field trip**

**R: AARP help-
ing with taxes**

