



accents

FORTNIGHTLY PUBLICATION - JANUARY 8 - 21, 2021

2021

Perhaps A Return To Normalcy

HUMAN CONTACT

The back door opened. "Waiting long, your highness?" Impatiently, she brushed past him. Was that sarcasm? She headed straight down the long hall glancing neither left nor right. Inviting aromas, soft cushions, warm fire...all calling her. Pull yourself together, she thought--get this over with once and for all.

At the front door she waited, sensing him behind her. Never look back, never plead. She held her breath. Slowly, without touching her, he turned the knob. Success!

Out of sight, she dropped to the ground, exhausted. That made three times today.

But then, it was hard working, training a human.

~~~~~Joan Ambers, Monterey

From a recent Monterey County Weekly 101-Word Short Story Contest



### SMILES

Contributed by Theo Fowler



"A smile costs nothing but its value is priceless. It enriches the one who gives it, yet it impoverishes him not.

It happens in a flash but the memory may last for days. No one is so rich that he can get along without it.

No one is so poor that he cannot afford to give it.

A smile generates happiness in the home and good will in the business world.

Because it says, "I like you. You pleasure me."

If you meet an acquaintance or a friend who is too busy to give you a smile... leave one of yours.

No one needs a smile so much as the person who has none to give.



Theo Fowler is the mother of Manor resident Connie Reeves. Theo died February 28, 2019 at the age of 102, having lived at the Manor for nearly 30 years.

L to R:  
Connie  
Reeves,  
Great great

granddaughter Alina, Granddaughter Karen, Great Granddaughter Jenna





**NEXT COUNCIL MEETING**  
**TUESDAY JANUARY 12, 2021**  
at 9:30 am

Please join this Virtual meeting via ZOOM,  
hosted by Ken Johnson. Residents wishing to attend  
should contact Ken by email: [kjohnson99@aol.com](mailto:kjohnson99@aol.com)

## NATIVE AMERICAN PRAYER

I give you this one thought to keep -  
I am with you still - I do not sleep.  
I am a thousand winds that blow,  
I am the diamond glints on snow,  
I am the sunlight on ripened grain,  
I am the gentle autumn rain.

When you awaken in the morning's hush,  
I am the swift, uplifting rush  
of quiet birds in circled flight.  
I am the soft stars that shine at night.  
Do not think of me as gone -  
I am with you still - in each new dawn  
- Author Unknown-

## BISHOP IN A BOX

Why does anyone want to be an author  
when unsold books pile up ad nauseam,  
titles of the famed and unknown equally obliterated  
on remainder tables, limbo of tomes  
en route to the library graveyards,  
book sales of the afterlife, archival mausoleums,  
storage lockers, small-town thrift shops. Words,  
millions of words swirl through the overcast afternoon,  
significance lost on distracted shoppers  
occupied with their devices. The writing, then,  
what is it for? Perhaps to leave your remains  
in such a lovely case as one day some browser  
may be drawn, may touch and be surprised  
to find a feeling of what you were.

-Stephen Kessler

### NEW/SOON-TO-BE RESIDENTS

Hersch & Shirley Loomis  
Barbara Fowble  
Sandy Storm  
Martin & Karen Wiskoff

Beverly Hamilton  
James & Betty Kasson  
Roberta Bialek-Elliott

WHEN AUTUMN LEAVES START TO  
FALL~~~~~  
THE AUTUMN LEAVES OF RED AND  
GOLD



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

1/9 Lavern W.  
1/12 Marilyn H.  
1/19 Al C.

## IN MEMORIAM

12/27 Ruth Rosen  
12/28 Gunhild Beardwood  
12/28 John Sanders



# LIBRARY NOTES

## BOOKS SELECTED FOR JANUARY 2021

### Fiction

A TIME FOR MERCY  
THE BOY IN THE FIELD

John Grisham  
Margot Livesey

### Mystery

THE KINGDOM  
ONE BY ONE\*

Jo Nesbø  
Ruth Ware

### Combined Biography/Autobiography

MODERN WARRIORS\*\*\*  
A PROMISED LAND\*

Pete Hegseth  
Barack Obama

### U. S. History

THE VIRGINIA DYNASTY: Four  
Presidents and the Creation of the  
American Nation

Lynne Cheney

\*Donated      \*\*MacCullough Fund      \*\*\* Wagner Fund

\*\*\*\*\*

## DVDS CHOSEN FOR JANUARY 2021

THE OUTSIDER

MYSTERY ROAD (Seasons 1 & 2)

TONI MORRISON

SUITS (Seasons 1 & 2)

## Staff Spot - A brief profile of our staff



Our Longest Employed of the Dining Room Services Staff Nghien Ho (pronounced Nym) started working here at the Manor in 1984. During the last week of this past December, on the lunch menu was “house made egg rolls” –they were cooked by Nghien--an example of the diversity of what he does here, sometimes planned, sometimes pitching in to fill a needed job. He says the egg rolls are not like what gets delivered by the US Food truck, which become “spongy” after defrosting. He does the scheduling and oversees the Wait Staff among other things and is the Dining Room Services Manager.

Nghien “escaped” from Vietnam in 1979 on a small fishing boat, a journey, it turned out to Thailand, that took four days, with his older sister and 30 other people, following the tumultuous war years. He had for many years dreamed of coming to the United States. (The war, with US involvement, had started in 1964.) His father, a member of the South Vietnam military was killed in 1974 when Nghien was 10 years old, and he worked to help support his family from then until the present day. He is still in touch with his 5 sisters in Vietnam

concerning what they might be needing.

Nghien came to the US in 1981, hardly being able to speak English which he then learned by enrolling in High School here. He graduated High School in 1984. This was when he started his job here at the Manor. He considers the Manor as being “like family”, and he has assumed the role here, as in his family, of helping out beyond his assigned duties. He is very glad to be part of the Manor.

Selma Petker

\*Note: In response to residents asking about the “Staff Spot” column, it was conceived by Jane Upp, the column named by Janet McDaniel and given her blessing to be part of the “ACCENTS” Bi-Monthly, photographs taken by Kass Schwin

Selma Petker

## Invitation to the Sewing Room by Diana Kitchen



Many of you have seen me in the sewing room, working on a quilt for my soon-to-be college freshman granddaughter. I have spent many happy hours during this time of COVID working quietly in this well-equipped space.

Over time, a number of you have stopped by and during your visits it became clear to me that there is interest in using the sewing room especially if you had a bit of guidance about the sewing machines and their functioning, and perhaps, some help in getting started.

I decided that this would be a worthwhile project for me. So, I have embarked on an effort to educate myself about the machines, so that I could make myself available to anyone who would like to learn how to use them.

There are 8 sewing machines in the sewing room, all of which are available for use by Manor residents. They are Swedish machines manufactured by Husqvarna. They are sturdy, easy to use, and have quite a few capabilities. There are now several copies of the Manuals, left out in the sewing room for your use. There is also a wonderful cutting table and 2 ironing boards.

Did you know that the sewing room used to house patients before the Health Center was built, and sewing took place in the "Game Room"

downstairs, currently the employee dining room? That bit of history came from Janet Morse, who has a wealth of historical information about our Manor.

If you are interested in any kind of individual sewing, from clothing repairs, to creative projects, I would like to hear from you. I want to get a sense of how much interest there is in sewing. Perhaps some residents would even like to do a group project, when COVID rules allow it. I envision a project that could benefit the larger community, furthering the Manor's outreach program. Many projects come to mind, from quilts and throws, to tote bags, aprons, place mats, runners, coasters, oven mitts.

Please contact me by email ([diana@wyokitchen.com](mailto:diana@wyokitchen.com)) or phone (415-518-1388) (Manor phone 4844) if you would like to be introduced to the sewing room!!

### PUBLICATION STAFF

ACCENTS is published by and for the residents of Carmel Valley Manor, a Life-Care Community at 8545 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel, CA 93923.

Editor: Janet McDaniel  
[janlaine@comcast.net](mailto:janlaine@comcast.net)

Publisher: Celina Manzanarez

Photographers: Sheila Cooper  
Jerry Kitchen  
Kass Schwin

Contributor: Joan Ambers  
Diana Kitchen  
Selma Petker  
Connie Reeves

Information regarding the Manor can be obtained from  
[WWW.CVMANOR.COM](http://WWW.CVMANOR.COM)  
or from the Director of Community Relations, Angie Machado

(831) 626-4867 or (800) 544-5546

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