



Getting Involved...Getting Connected...

***Community is much more than belonging to something:
it's about doing something together that makes belonging matter. — Brian Solis***

Have you ever thought about joining one of the many Crosslands committees or attending one of the fitness classes? Have you ever wanted to know more Crosslands residents than you currently do or wanted to learn something new? Have you ever considered teaching fellow residents something about which you know quite a bit? If this perhaps is a New Year's Resolution, with so many committees and activities from which to choose, how do you begin?



PHOTO BY PAUL STEVENS

Margareta Tuckman in the Wood Shop

Just dive right in as Margareta Tuckman did when she decided to learn woodworking. She visited the Crosslands Wood Shop and asked the members to teach her how to use the tools and develop woodworking skills. Monday through Friday, from 10 am to noon, Margareta, now a Wood Shop member, is in the shop working to refurbish a small vanity which belonged to a

relative of a Cartmel resident. She also assists other wood shop workers with their projects, and she knows she can call on the "guys" if she needs assistance.

If diving right in is not for you, arrange to visit a committee or activity as a "Try Us." Contact the activity leader to make arrangements. Talk with neighbors to learn about their Crosslands involvement. Perhaps they participate in a French conversation group or assist in sorting clothing donations for the AFSC Clothing Donations Committee or working in the AFSC Shed.

Maybe you want to join others learning more about a certain topic or start a committee with periodic programs on the topic. Since 2021, Spiritual Life, Writer's Group, and Essential Tremor/Peripheral Neuropathy are just three groups which have started at Crosslands. Participating in the Teaching and Learning program is another way to start. Jill Murray



PHOTO BY JILL MURRAY

Mahjong players — Some residents learned the game at a Teaching & Learning class.

started teaching Asian mahjong as a Teaching and Learning class. Now mahjong players gather

Continued next page...

once or twice a week to play. They like the social interaction, the fun, and the mental stimulation.

Sometimes a resident gets involved on a smaller scale. Pete Lane reads to a group of Firbank and Audland residents Thursday



PHOTO BY PAUL STEVENS

Pete Lane and Friends

mornings. Other residents develop and assist Firbank and Audland residents in craft projects, while others play the Penny's Lounge piano for all who gather to listen and sing. Some residents visit Health Center residents for one-on-one conversations or take their dogs, who have been approved, to visit the residents. The 40-year-old resident-led Exercise to Music class is the ideal small class for residents who want to gently exercise their bodies up to three mornings a week without stress or pressure. Crafting in Company is an Arts and Crafts Room activity where residents work on their craft projects, get ideas for craft projects, and/or socialize/get to know other residents in an informal setting.

Being asked to join is often the key to getting people involved — not necessarily asking residents to join a committee or take a class, but rather asking neighbors to join you for a meal in the café or dining room or inviting residents to attend the monthly CRA Board meeting, a concert, movie, or lecture with you. Through mealtime conversations, residents get to know one another and often discover and appreciate connections, commonalities, and differences. Conversations before and after events in the William Penn Room often build connections, to say nothing of the laughter attendees might share during a movie or Light and Lively program.

Diana Stevens

From the CRA President



Ceasefires rarely last,
But wonders never cease.
And I've heard how once on Christmas Eve
Combatants left their barbed-wired trenches
For soccer and to serenade with Stille Nacht
On that Silent Night most rare.

In the close, dark womb a baby bobs,
Eyes perceiving but feathery phantoms,
Ears hearing but way off whispers,
Not yet forming into friend or foe.

What will this child find on her arrival?
Will flares light a way to her enemy's ruin?
Or will she brave a vigorous truce
With adversaries poised to do her harm,
And practice stark tranquility
Until all lay down their arms?

*Tranquility, by David Cameron
Friends Journal, Dec. 2023*

Resident Moves

Annalee Cohen	Firbank 702
Spencer Ervin	Firbank 601
Margery Moretzsohn	Firbank 813
Jean Perkins	Audland 510

In Memoriam

Robin F. Harper	December 4, 2023
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Is Bigger Always Better?



Panoramic View of Janet Terry's One-Room Apartment

PHOTO BY JIM SALVAS

In recent years, residents have noticed the number of smaller units at both Kendal and Crosslands campuses has been dropping off. Marketing and Sales staff explain that their mission to keep occupancy percentages high has involved combining small units in order to meet the desire for larger accommodations. This strategy has resulted in long waiting lists for the larger units, while the smaller units are not always easy to fill.

There are 72 studios and one-room cottages at Kendal, out of 250 units, while Crosslands offers 76 smaller units out of a total of 260 cottages and apartments. The average annual turnover at Kendal/Crosslands is 40 to 50 units. Turnover in the smaller units is more frequent, which means they are more often available, and that presents challenges to sustaining occupancy levels.

Kendal residents met in 2022 to voice their concern about the reduced number of small cottages. They met with the KRA president, Lisa Marsilio, Ed Plasha, and Seth Beaver, resulting in Ed Plasha's encouragement to work with Marketing to identify potential candidates for smaller units. Marketing agreed, and a letter was sent out to Unitarian Universalist pastors in Wilmington, extolling the virtues of Kendal as a perfect place for congregants who may have limited means and are reaching the age where they want to downsize and assure their future security and care. The effectiveness of this letter has not yet been assessed.

Kendal residents are now working on a new letter of outreach to former AFSC staff and Friends Center employees that attempts to persuade prospective residents that a studio is the best

choice, reasoning that small units encourage simplicity, result in a smaller carbon footprint, are more affordable, and often mean less of a wait time. Whether persuaded by these arguments, or having reached a similar conclusion, Ed Plasha and Seth Beaver have given a commitment not to combine any more of the smaller units.

Marketing's new approach is to educate prospective residents about the advantages of downsizing, and moving to a smaller unit sooner rather than later. They can enjoy the social activities and health benefits offered by Kendal/Crosslands while waiting for a bigger unit to become available. Delaying the decision to move can be problematic because prospects may wait too long and fail the cognitive test or experience a health crisis that makes entry impossible.

Occupancy levels are now at an all-time high. The current level is 97%. Only one studio is vacant right now at Kendal. There are ten small unit vacancies at Crosslands — with eight already sold and undergoing renovations — that will be ready in the spring. Turnover takes a minimum of four to five months. The average annual cost for a vacant one-bedroom unit is about \$56,000.

Marketing continues to grow the ready list for smaller apartments and cottages so that more prospects are available to contact when those units open up. The Marketing Collaborative Committee is exploring outreach to people who are a good fit for the smaller units. Meanwhile, Barb Smith and friends are working on their next letter, and more letters are planned for the future. If you are interested in helping this effort, you can contact Barb Smith at Kendal.

Lyn Back

Who Are Crosslands Residents?

A Comparison between the Resident Population in 2014 (or 2017) and 2023

Crosslands has been blessed with residents (Hollis Scarborough, Val Suter, and Joe Savery to name a few) who are biographers and statisticians and are fond of dealing with numbers to keep track of our community. Here is a glimpse of how our demographics have changed over the years from 2014/2017-2023, from BC (before Covid) to nearly the present.

The obvious (12%) increase in the number of residents is largely due to the availability of new housing units. Over this same time, we see no significant change in the percentage of women residents, the distribution of religious affiliation, and an insignificant rise in the number of American-born residents. The only upward change in data is seen in the number of residents with college degrees (both bachelor's and higher degrees – MA, PhD, MD, etc.) and an interesting trend upwards in the youth of our residents.

Do you want to learn more? Check the **Biographies Committee page** on the Crosslands Residents Website.
Julie Knobil (with the aid of Hollis Scarborough)

	2014	2023
Number of Residents	357	400
% Women	69%	67%
Religion		
Quaker	20%	20%
Protestant	36%	34%
Catholic	6%	7%
Unitarian-Universalist	6%	7%
Jewish and Other Non-Christian	4%	4%
No Stated Religious Affiliation	28%	28%
Birthplace & Residence		
Born in the USA	89%	92%
Born in USA and Lived in other Countries	25%	26%
Born outside the USA	11%*	8%**
Education		
College Graduates	89%	93%
Advanced Degrees (MS, PhD, MD, etc.)	42%	59%
	2017	2023
Current Age		
60's and 70's	20%	28%
80's	49%	43%
>90	30%	29%

*mostly England and Germany
**from 20 countries from Australia to Vietnam

Website Tidbits

Have you noticed the new accessibility symbol at the bottom left of the **Crosslands Residents' Website**?

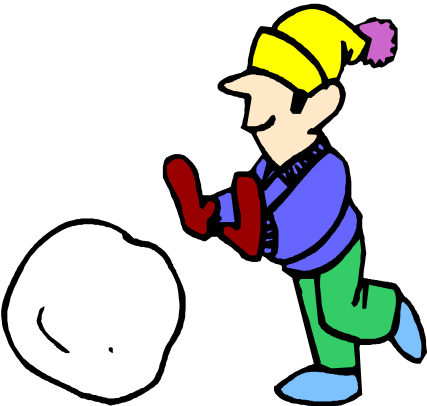


Clicking on the symbol gives you access to a number of accessibility settings:

- Change contrast
- Highlight Links
- Change size and spacing of text and lines
- Hide images
- Make the cursor larger
- Set a guide to follow as you are reading
- Change color saturation

Please let the **website editors** know what you think. We would love to hear about your accessibility needs and how best to meet them.

Leslie Gifford



Composting Food Waste

You probably know that in the United States, one-third of the food grown for human consumption is thrown away. You may also be aware that when such food is deposited into a landfill, it decomposes and emits methane, a gas far more potent than carbon dioxide. Both are major contributors to climate change.

Whereas many people feel helpless that they can do anything significant toward reducing climate change, we can plant more trees and we can find other ways to assuage what some refer to as environmental anxiety.

One of those “feel good” efforts is a small company that collects food waste from subscribers in five-gallon buckets on alternate weeks for \$25 per month. Such waste is composted by a local farm/orchard where it is used to grow fruit and vegetables. This service already provides buckets to six Crosslands residents (serving 15 residents) who live in areas served by five parking lots. NOTE: upon request, subscribers can expect delivery of 40 lbs of compost in the spring.

Even if you generate only a small amount of food waste, you might contribute to a neighbor's bucket, and for those who still cook, perhaps it would be worth it to pay \$5 for a second bucket. Sharing a “drop in a bucket” could be an opportunity to feel good and to experience how environmental anxiety may be alleviated. In any event, to learn more, please contact one of the authors of this article.

*Sally Kaesemeyer and
Jennifer Allcock*



The Big Woods A 2024 Update



Three years ago, a Big Woods Strategic Plan was developed by a combined staff/resident committee. Two years ago, a 4-Community Woods Committee (4CW) was formed. After much research and deliberation, in February 2023 the KCC Administration approved the 4CW Committee recommendation that to keep deer from eating the future forest, two fences would be installed.

A fence to enclose 1.5 acres north of Bennett's Run was installed in April 2023 as a demonstration area. Before leaf fall, signs of regeneration could already be seen, and over 100 seedlings were planted.

Early in 2024, a new fence enclosing the 25-acre spray fields south of Bennett's Run will be established. A mix of capital funds and monies donated by residents will be used to pay for the fence.

Details: The fence will be eight feet in height and about 7,200 feet long. Apertures in the fence will allow small animals to move in and out. There will also be seven 8-foot pedestrian gates with spring closures installed along various trails and occasional vehicular gates to aid in fence repair and access for planting. Residents will aid the staff in fence maintenance (e.g., vine removal) and fence patrol to assess storm damage.

A resident and staff education program includes five PowerPoint programs listed on the Natural Areas Committee web page. To see the rationale for excluding deer from the Big Woods, click [here](#). If you have additional questions, please contact the authors.

*Jennifer Allcock, Crosslands resident
Seth Beaver, KCC Vice-President for
Community Affairs*

Community Gallery Show

One year ago, the Crosslands Art Committee sponsored the popular community gallery show, "Trees." Following on that success, the themed show this year is "Land," scheduled February 15 through April 24.

All residents are invited to submit their original artworks to the "Land" show. Submissions may be in any two-dimensional or wall-hangable medium. Drawings, paintings, etchings, photographs, collages, as well as fiber and paper are welcome. Art works may be realistic, abstract, fantasy, or a combination. The only restriction is that submissions must be about land, and "about land" is a wide-open definition. Mountain scenes? Country lanes? Cracked earth? Night scenes? Farmland? Ecological statements? Yes to all.

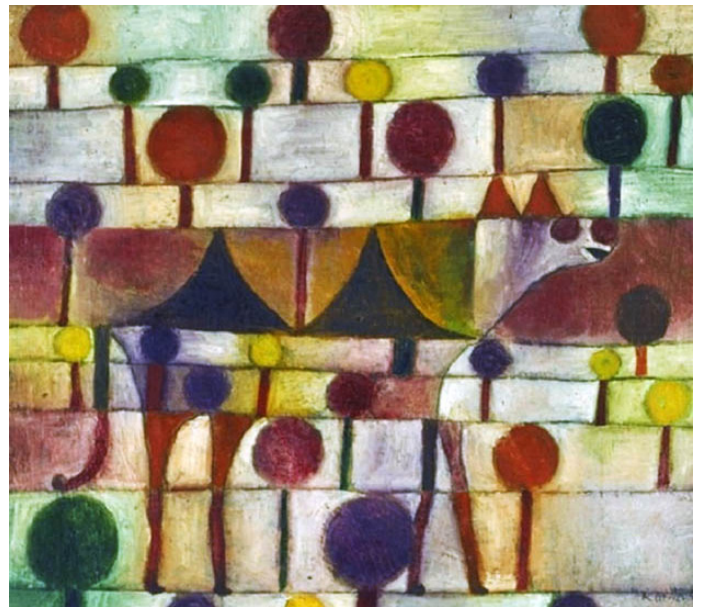
To enter one to three pieces in the show, print and complete the **Crosslands Art Exhibit Entry Form**, found on the left hand side of the **Art Committee page** of the Crosslands resident website. Be sure to carefully follow the instructions on that form and on **Information for Submitting Art to a Group Exhibit**, which is directly below the entry form.

Drop off your artwork and completed entry forms at 9:00-10:00 am on February 15 in the

gallery area of the main building. You need to sign in with an Art Committee representative before leaving your artwork.

Submission requirements:

- We have a limited area for display, and while it is our policy to hang at least one themed piece by each artist, we may not be able to hang your second or third piece.
- Your art work's hanging method must meet the needs of our museum-style hanging system; be sure to read the Submitting Art document.



***Camel in Rhythmic Landscape with Trees,
Paul Klee, 1920***

Artwork not meeting these requirements cannot be hung and will be returned to the artist.

The above is for inspiration and reflection. We look forward to the participation of many residents in what we anticipate will be another visually-rich art show! After all, this land is our land.

Questions? Contact Diane Hulse, Exhibit Coordinator.

Diane Hulse

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Photos from Barbie-fest December 7



PHOTOS BY BOB SUTER • ARRANGED BY STEVE SANDER

Events

Forum

Israel and Palestine: Conflict and Reason for Hope

**Presenters: Jon Evans, Sheila Weinberg, and
Martha Ackelsberg**

Tue, Jan 16 7:30 pm WPR / TV13



The surge in violence is a stark reminder that the root causes of the Israeli - Palestinian conflict have yet to be resolved. The brutal October 7 Hamas attack on Israeli communities and the devastating bombing of Gaza by Israel make it challenging for people to feel empathy with the “opposite” side. People on all sides are grieving the loss of loved ones and feeling deeply the pains of war.

Fortunately, there are individuals and organizations committed to nonviolence and finding common purpose among Palestinians and Israelis. On January 16, Crosslands will host a conversation with three activists who know the area well and traveled together to Israel and Palestine in October 2022.

Jon Evans served as Catholic Relief Services' Representative for Jerusalem, West Bank and Gaza (1992-1997). Since 2010, he and his wife, Melissa Graf-Evans, have led 11 study trips to the area. A rabbi for 17 years, Sheila Peltz Weinberg is an author and teacher who has lived in Jerusalem. She has published widely on social justice and is a founder of the Philadelphia Chapter of the **American Friends of Combatants for Peace**. Martha Ackelsberg is a Smith College Professor Emerita of Government. Her teaching and research are centered on the nature and structure of political communities. The speakers will offer personal stories and reflections grounded in their longstanding relationships with the people of Israel and Palestine, while also commenting on local and global elements of the conflict.

Attendance will be restricted to 125 people by order of the Fire Marshall.

Tom Kaesemeyer

Forum

The New Kennett Library and Resource Center

Tue, Jan 30 7:30 pm WPR / TV13

Christopher Manna, Executive Director of the new Kennett Library and Resource Center, will present a program about the library which recently opened in the summer of 2023 after more than 25 years of work and dedication by the community.



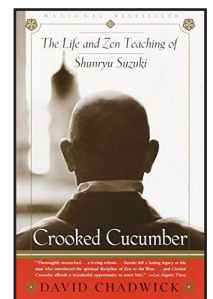
This new 34,000 square foot facility is state of the art, offers fifteen meeting rooms, is fully ADA compliant, has a 110 seat auditorium, two makerspaces and a sound proof A/V studio, and multiple other amenities that demonstrate how a 21st century public library serves its community. This presentation will explain what literacy is in the 21st century and how it's been redefined in public libraries.

Bunny Lawton

Buddhist Book Group

Thu, Jan 4 10:00-11:00 am Café

Join the new Zen Buddhist Book Group on Thursdays, 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. in the Café starting January 4. Our first book for discussion, *Crooked Cucumber*, by David Chadwick, offers a biographical account of Shunryu Suzuki, one of the first Japanese Zen Masters in America. Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact Parnel Wickham.



Parnel Wickham

Events

Great Decisions

Pandemic Preparedness

Moderator: Leo Gilmore

Mon, Jan 22 9:30-10:30 am Zoom Only

Our 2024 Great Decisions monthly series begins in January. It will host great reviews and group Zoom discussions on the fourth Monday of each month.

Each session is based on the Foreign Policy Association's article on the topic and a 30-minute video. You can order your own 2024 Great Decisions book (\$35) at www.fpa.org or read the monthly article in the library starting in January.

Please save the fourth Monday of each month to experience 75 minutes of very interesting insights and discussions on these important topics.

NOTE: We need moderators for our upcoming NATO and Indonesia topics. Please contact Leo Gilmore to explore this moderator role — just reading the article and giving short introduction.

Leo Gilmore



Be on the TLC Lookout

Sessions Begin Feb 18

The Teaching & Learning Committee is back with a full roster of courses for the spring — some old favorites (AI and Line Dancing to name just two) and some new ones (Hinduism, World of Wines, Documentary Film Making, to name a few more).

The semester terms run from February 18 through March 30 and March 31 through May 11. Class registration runs from January 21 through 31. Look for course descriptions, schedules, and registration forms on the **TLC web page**, in open boxes, and in the library.

Fran Riddle

Camera Club

Winter Themes

Fri, Jan 19 7:30 pm WPR / TV13

Jim Salvias:	<i>Christmas at Longwood in Recent Years</i>
Manya Bean:	<i>Winter Here & Elsewhere</i>
Tom Kaesemeyer:	<i>Where the Moose Live</i>
Cindy Arrouet:	<i>Winter Reflections</i>
Bob Suter:	<i>Antarctica during Our Winter</i>

Winter brings not only colder weather, with its clear nights, frosted windows, picturesque snowfalls, and winter sports, but also socially important rituals and gatherings. Against that background our photographers have assembled five distinctively different collections of images with which to celebrate this interesting and photogenic season. This program should raise your spirits and may even reveal new ways to enjoy the world around you.

Bob Suter

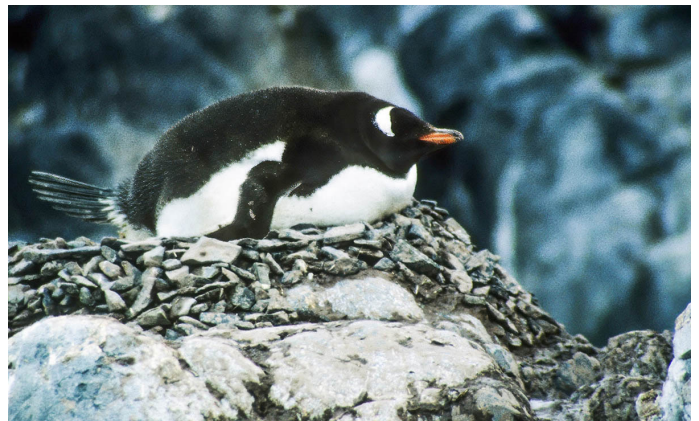


PHOTO BY BOB SUTER



PHOTO BY JIM SALVIAS

Events

Opera Lecture Series



Our annual series of four opera lectures is held on Friday afternoons to coordinate with the live Metropolitan Opera HD Broadcasts at the Brandywine Regal Theatre on Route 202 the Saturday afternoon immediately afterward. As always, our presenter is Robert Rowland from the Academy of the Vocal Arts in Philadelphia. The lectures last one hour and include interesting information about the operas, the composers, and any important historical information as well as musical excerpts. Questions? Please contact Ted Farraday.

Nabucco

Fri, Jan 5 4:00 pm WPL

Nabucco was the third of Verdi's 26 operas. Following the death of his young wife and two very young children in quick succession, Verdi almost gave up writing operas. But, convinced by the Director of La Scala to keep writing, he produced *Nabucco*, based on the Biblical story of Nebuchadnezzar and in the process composed perhaps the most famous operatic chorus ever: *Va pensiero*. The opera is an exciting combination of massive choral numbers, leading roles that are fiendishly difficult to sing and highly dramatic situations, all with religious and political overtones. Verdi's career took off after *Nabucco*, and he wrote one masterpiece after another.

Carmen

Fri, Jan 26 4:00 pm WPL

One of the most popular operas today, *Carmen* was a total failure when first produced in 1875. Bizet died shortly after its premier never knowing the impact his masterpiece would have

on the world. Everyone knows at least one aria from this opera. The story of a free-spirited gypsy who falls in love (temporarily) with a soldier whose background includes rage, murder, and jail time, ends with a frighteningly realistic altercation between the jilted soldier and the unrelenting gypsy culminating in her violent murder on stage. The Paris audience at the Opera Comique of 1875 was scandalized that such a thing would be put on the stage at a "family theatre."

Ted Farraday

Light & Lively

The Dukes of Destiny

Sat, Jan 27 7:30 pm WPR/TV13



Get ready to rock as the Dukes of Destiny return to Crosslands. One of Philadelphia's best-loved blues bands, the Dukes will entertain us with an energetic mix of seminal rock and roll, sixties soul, R&B, and — of course — classic, lowdown, pure-bred blues.

Peter Brown of *Philadelphia Weekly* wrote, "Veteran musicians all, this band knows rock 'n' roll and its contributing forms backwards and forwards. The Dukes of Destiny are hard to beat for a good time."

Steve Sander

Events

Spiritual Life Committee

How to Talk with a Tree

Presenter: Atala Toy

Wed, Jan 24 3:30pm WPR/TV13



Atala Toy, a tree whisperer, will discuss the energetic principles that permit humans and trees to share information and to cooperate on common environmental issues. She will discuss how today's environmental problems require a different approach to the ways humans and nature interact.

Throughout her life and varied careers, Atala has focused on the need for clear compassionate communication to facilitate peaceful resolutions to common issues. She has been a social activist in the fields of Quakerism, yoga, the United Nations, her own metaphysical company, and as a glitch eco-art photographer of sentient nature beings.

Atala has published several books on this topic, including *We are Not Alone*, *Nature Spirits*, *Spirit Guides and Ghosts*, and *Truths the Nature Beings Have Shown Me*. Atala has been a Crosslands resident for a little over two years and is chair of the Spiritual Life Committee.

Elisa Barbis

Artist Talk

The Things We See

Looking through the Artist's Eyes

Presenter/Artist: Cyndy Falcoff

Thu, Jan 11 3:00-4:00 pm

**Crosslands Gallery Wall
across from the Conference Room**



Dining al Fresco at the Beach

A mix of styles, methods, and materials meets the viewer's eye as we look at this varied and exciting exhibition of predominantly new and a few older artworks through the artist's eyes.

Cyndy currently works in chalk pastel and oil paints. Her art has been in many shows in Delaware, Maryland, Michigan, and Pennsylvania. She especially enjoys pairing her poetry with her art.

Cyndy will speak about her work and process at an Artist Talk and Reception at the Gallery Wall in the Center at Crosslands. Refreshments will be served.

Diane Hulse



Events Concerts

Delaware Music Festival Reunion Barbara Govatos and Philadelphia Orchestra Colleagues

Tue, Jan 9 7:30 pm WPR / TV 13



This is our long-awaited (twice postponed) concert that will be funded by our share of the Ray Firman bequest — a string quartet of Philadelphia Orchestra players plus piano — a stunning A-List ensemble. Barbara Govatos violin, Hirono Ono violin, Burchard Tang viola, and Clancy Newman cello, with Marcantonio Barone piano. The photo is a vintage one of the same group of players, taken about ten years ago for the festival, for which we always sent a Crosslands bus.

Anne Gross

Christine Delbeau and Donna Beech Piano Four Hands

Tue, Jan 23 7:30 pm WPR / TV13



ZALONARTS.ORG



FARNSWORTHMUSEUM.ORG

Our Music Committee member Tricia Reed heard this concert a year ago and knew we would all love it as much as she did. So here they are. Christine Delbeau is a longtime member of the Piano Faculty at the University of Delaware School of Music. She has played concerts all over this country and all over Europe as well as joining with chamber ensembles. Donna Beech, with a Performance Doctorate in Music from Catholic University in Washington, DC, has taught for decades at the Music School of Delaware and performed as solo pianist and chamber musician throughout the Mid-Atlantic area and New England. She recently retired as music director at Lower Brandywine Presbyterian Church. This is an absolutely delightful concert.

Anne Gross

Tuesday Edition

On Becoming a Professional Juggler

Presenter: Randy Lyons

Tue, Jan 9 11:00 am WPR / TV13

Randy Lyons was an engineer and sales support manager for a large controls company nearby, and his hobby was being a performer all over this area including at various retirement establishments. In fact, he had performed at Light & Lively presentations at Kendal and Crosslands before retiring here. What is it like being a professional juggler? Listen and watch.

Elizabeth Rhoads



Events Movies

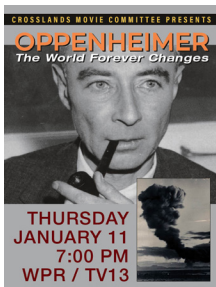


Legally Blonde (2001)

Sat, Jan 6 7:15 pm WPR / TV13

A stereotypically superficial sorority girl from laid-back California enrolls in Harvard Law School, where her boyfriend is a student. Will she have what it takes to succeed among the intense students and demanding professors there? With Reese Witherspoon. 96 Min. English with subtitles.

Bobbie Roberts

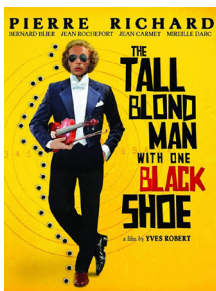


Oppenheimer (2023)

Thu, Jan 11 7:00 WPR / TV 13 Note the Earlier-than-usual Start Time

A *New York Times* review describes Oppenheimer as, “a drama about genius, hubris, and error, both individual and collective.” It brilliantly charts the turbulent life of the American theoretical physicist who helped research and develop the two atomic bombs that were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki during World War II. English with subtitles. 180 min. Rated R (Nudity, Language, Some Sexuality).

George Helton



The Tall Blond Man With One Black Shoe (1972)

Sat, Jan 20 7:15 pm WPR / TV13

Francis Veber's distinctly sick but very funny movie about a violinist who is carrying on an affair with his best friend's wife and gets caught up in a power struggle between two factions of France's Counter Intelligence Ministry. This movie includes one of the funniest concert sequences ever filmed. With Pierre Richard, Jean Rochefort and Mireille Darc. 90 min. French with English subtitles.

Ron Broude

So You Think You Know Crosslands

Can You Locate This Month's Teaser? Send your guess to chronicle@crosslandsres.org or put it into the Chronicle's open box.



PHOTO BY RANDY LYONS



LAST MONTH: Twelve-piece coffee service that Marion Schroeder gave to Crosslands when she moved to Firbank. They hang at the entrance to Firbank East. It dates from 1905 and was given to her by her grandmother on her 23rd birthday.

Brigitte Alexander was the only person to correctly identify it.

Meet Jean and Steven Epstein #13

Jean and Steven Epstein came to Crosslands from Lawrence, Kansas, in July 2023. Ready to move back East, Jean happened to read her Swarthmore College Bulletin, in which Diana Stevens mentioned Crosslands. The Epsteins investigated and determined Crosslands would be right for them.

Jean and Steven both went to Swarthmore College. They met sophomore year when Jean was working and shelving books in the basement of the library, where Steven was studying. He majored in history while she majored in religion. Steven says he's still "agog" at having studied at Swarthmore.

Jean grew up in Yeadon, Pennsylvania, with an older brother, sister, and her fraternal twin, Joan. Jean says she was always the extrovert, the natural leader, "The Boss," and "always a diva." She remembers spinning the playground merry-go-round so fast that the other kids called the twins "The Green Bay Packer Girls." Jean liked to be active and played field hockey, lacrosse, and basketball in college.

Here at Crosslands the Epsteins love walking and going to concerts. Being "foodies," they like to try new area restaurants.

Steven grew up in New Jersey with a sister. One memory from childhood was when a teacher taped a pencil to his right hand so he would learn to write right-handed. Being left landed, Steven admits he often secretly ripped off the tape and quickly wrote with his left. He failed penmanship, and he still uses his left hand. As a child, Steven became interested in coins. He built a collection and especially cherishes the antique dollar coin his grandmother gave him.

After Swarthmore Steven was honored with a scholarship to St. John's College in Cambridge University in England, where he earned a B.A. and M.A. in history. He then gained an M.A. and Ph.D. in history at Harvard University. He went on to teach European and medieval history at

Harvard, the University of Colorado (19 years), and the University of Kansas (20 years). Steven says he never got tired of teaching. In addition, he taught Sunday School. Both he and Jean have made church a priority. Jean was inspired by Young Life experiences and her religious studies as she seeks to live out her faith.



PHOTOS BY BOB SUTER

While Steven was teaching, Jean had various work and volunteering experiences. She worked for Houghton Mifflin Publishing Company and three high-tech companies. In Colorado she worked in benefit consulting and banking, while in Kansas she worked in the university provost's office. In addition, she was an active volunteer with Big Sister, Suicide Prevention Hotline, and the Salvation Army. She volunteered at the Pregnancy Hope Center and Lawrence, Kansas Visitors' Center, as well as with church events, the Festival of Trees, and Family Promise.

Here at Crosslands the Epsteins love walking and going to concerts. Jean enjoys exercising and playing ping pong. Being "foodies," they like to try new restaurants and visit Longwood Gardens. With the Visitation Committee, Steven wants to read to Audland residents, and Jean helps with the arts and crafts there. She also likes the 1st Wednesday Art sessions since she loves creating.

How would their family describe them? Well matched.

Connie Strickland

Meet Sue Clayton #102

Did you know that in her former life, Sue Clayton competed in barrel races at rodeos in her native Missouri? On a shelf in her cozy office/den is a photo of Sue and her husband Dick dressed in their cowboy finery with their faithful horse, Dick Clayton — really, the horse's name was Dick Clayton — looking over their shoulder.

On the shelf just above stands an impressive row of tennis trophies alongside a photo of Dick in tennis whites with his arm around Billie Jean King. Catty-corner from that shelf hangs a striking photo of Sandstorm, a hunter that Sue and her husband owned, with a certificate above it, naming Sandstorm as the National Junior Jumper of the Year. Sue says, "We had lots of fun."



PHOTO BY BOB SUTER

These days, Sue enjoys a different lifestyle, also fun. Having lived in Kennett since 1969,

Sue would meet the hobos on the lane as they headed toward town and hand out the food as they hurried on to catch the next train.

Sue maintains her ties in the region, which is why she is always on the go. Two daughters live nearby, and she still runs her own travel agency, Longwood Travel. She also belongs to the Longwood Rotary Club, the Spade and Trowel Garden Club, and the Kennett

Square Golf and Country Club, where she enjoys a round of golf. She says she always knew about Crosslands and decided to move here because she has friends already living here and friends who are coming in the near future.

An interesting memory from childhood, Sue remembers living in Kirkwood, Missouri, in a large house near the Missouri Pacific Railroad tracks. When she was still quite young, she would take food her mother had prepared down the private lane that ran by their house and meet hobos who had jumped off the boxcars before the train got

into town. She would meet the men on the lane as they headed toward town and hand out the food as they hurried on to catch the next train. The men were usually friendly, and she never thought much about it at the time, but it remains a vivid part of her childhood.

Sue has been a widow for 28 years, and she says the biggest challenge for her was losing her husband and going back to being single in a world of couples. She is thankful for friends and family that helped so much. It also helped that she had already started her travel agency, and that kept her busy. In addition to her daughters, she has two stepdaughters who live out of state, plus grandchildren who describe Sue as the "most fun person to be around."

Sue says she has been thinking about which of the many activities she might be interested in joining at Crosslands. Whatever she chooses, she'll bring energy and a sense of joy.

Lyn Back

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



Did You Know That...

...the small shed which used to house AFSC donations was relocated to the community gardens for tool storage?

...Crosslands bike riders are back to riding Saturday mornings at 9:30 a.m. on Crosslands roads? Sometimes they may pack up and ride off campus as 7 bikers did in the fall enjoying the C & D Canal bike trail. Contact Ernie Novak for information.

...only stick pins with clear tops are to be used for posting **ALL** items on the Center's bulletin boards? Clear stick pins to use are on the bulletin boards or in a container in the bulletin board box on the shelf directly below the Community Bulletin Board.

...150 pounds of potatoes are peeled and cooked when potatoes are served for a meal?

...five Crosslands residents planted 150 daffodils along the Service Road side of the Crosslands lower vegetable garden? Most of them are early bloomers. 70 late blooming varieties were also planted. KCC Grounds staff provided the dirt needed to build the beds which also protect the vegetable garden from flooding. See box, right, for more details.

...the Kendal Hike Group meets Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in Kendal Parking Lot 13? The group hikes in Kendal and Crosslands and occasionally goes off campus to places like the Laurel Preserve. Crosslanders are welcome. To be added to the group's email list, email Tony Bosworth at Kendal.

...the Culinary Services Advisory Committee welcomes and finds valuable resident comments, either electronically or on the paper comment cards? A table of residents may fill out one card for a meal, listing all of their comments.

...Thanksgiving 2023 was the fourth year Kendal ~ Crosslands staff members received a turkey from KCC? Approximately 390 turkeys were given out the week before Thanksgiving.

...Crosslands Culinary Services Department does an excellent job catering, everything from dinner to a cheese board, to a bowl of fresh fruit? Contact Culinary Services Manager, Darlene Parrett-Harris for information.

...to help the environment and decrease their use of plastic detergent bottles, Crosslands residents may purchase Laundry Detergent Eco Strips in the Sunflower Shop?

...each of the milking cows at Walmoore Holsteins, Inc., which several Crosslands residents visited, drinks an average of 30 gallons of water a day?

Diana Stevens

Pick-Your-Own Daffodil Bed Expands



In November, resident members of three committees — the Flower Growers, Horticulture, and Vegetable Garden — planted 220 daffodil bulbs along the west side of the Crosslands vegetable garden. These bulbs join about 350 others planted along the south side in late 2022.

This is a pick-your-own planting. Any Crosslands resident will be free to pick daffodils planted along the outside of the fence. The members of the Flower Growers & Harvesters Committee also will pick from these beds for the use of the Flower Arrangers and Life Enrichment.

Garry Stone

What's New at the Library

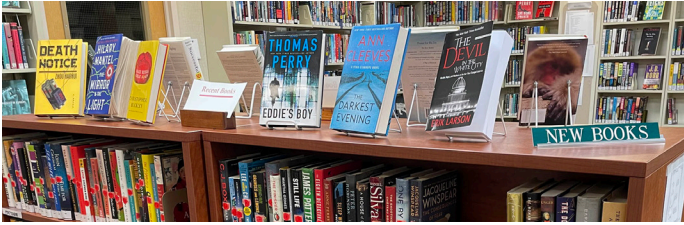


PHOTO BY STEVE SANDER

FICTION

Baldacci, David..... *The Edge*
 Berry, I. S. *The Peacock and the Sparrow*
 Cussler, Clive..... *The Corsican Shadow*
 Erickson, Carolly.....*The Last Wife of Henry VIII*
 Follett, Ken..... *The Armor of Light*
 McDermott, Alice*Absolution*
 Prose, Nita *The Mystery Guest*
 Wiggs, Susan *Welcome to Beach Town*

MYSTERY

Cornwall, Patricia..... *Unnatural Death*
Deaver, Jeffery..... *The Watchmaker's Hand*
McDermid, Val *Past Lying*

NONFICTION

Bass, Gary J	<i>Judgement at Tokyo: World War II and the Making of Modern Asia</i>
Inskeep, Steve	<i>Differ We Must: How Lincoln Succeeded in a Divided America</i>
Maynard, W. B.	<i>The Brandywine: An Intimate Portrait</i>
Mowday, Bruce E.....	<i>Stealing Wyeth</i>
Plokhly, Serhil	<i>Nuclear Folly: A History of the Cuban Missile Crisis</i>
Renkl, Margaret	<i>The Comfort of Crows: A Backyard Year</i>
Richardson, Heather Cox	<i>Democracy Awakening: Notes on the State of America</i>
Smil, Václav	<i>Numbers Don't Lie</i>
Van Es, Bart.....	<i>The Cut Out Girl: A Story of War and Family, Lost and Found</i>

Whiteman, Noah..... *Most Delicious Poison:
The Story of Nature's Toxins,
From Spices to Vices*

BIOGRAPHY

Streeter, LuLynne *Frozen Lives:
Karl and Anna Kuerner,
Andrew Wyth's Iconic Couple*

DISPLAY TABLE

What's Happening to Our Climate



Jumble

Unscramble the words; then use the circled letters to complete the sentence.

ASSGN

CISKK

NYTSIA

EGUNHO

Answer here:

"THE STORY OF MY
LIFE WOULD MAKE A
GREAT MOVIE"



ADOBE FIREFLY AI

THE PEOPLE ON
SKULL ISLAND
WORSHIPED A GIANT
APE. THAT RELIGION
MADE THEM A...

REGISTRATION

JUMBLE BY STEVE SANDER

LAST MONTH: CHIME, JACKS, RACKET, INVEST. CHRISTMAS “EAVE”

January 2024 Calendar

Mon	Jan 1	Name Tag Day. International Folk Dancing. 2:00-3:30 pm. Multipurpose Rm.	Forum. Palestine/Israel: Conflict and Reason for Hope. 7:30 pm. WPR/TV13. See p. 8.
Tue	Jan 2	CRA Board Meeting. 10:00 am. WPR/TYV13. All are invited.	Wed Jan 17 Administration Dialogue. 10:30 am. WPR/TV13/Zoom.
Wed	Jan 3	Writers Group. 3:00 pm. Conference Rm.	Writers Group. 3:00 pm. Conference Rm.
Thu	Jan 4	Grief Support Group. 10:00 am. Wyeth Rm. Buddhist Book Group. 10:00 am. Café. See p. 8. January Birthday Celebration. 5:30-7:00 pm. MDR Alcove.	Thu Jan 18 Buddhist Book Group. 10:00 am. Café. See p. 8.
Fri	Jan 5	Opera Lecture. Nabucco. 4:00 pm. WPL. See p. 10.	Fri Jan 19 Camera Club. Winter Themes. 7:30 pm. WPR/TV13. See p. 9.
Sat	Jan 6	Movie. Legally Blonde. 7:15 pm. WPR/TV13. See p. 13.	Sat Jan 20 Movie. The Tall Blonde Man with One Black Shoe. 7:15 pm. See p. 13.
Mon	Jan 8	Healthy and Wise. 10:00 am-noon. Zoom/TV13.	Sun Jan 21 International Folk Dancing. 2:00-3:30 pm. Multipurpose Rm.
Tue	Jan 9	Tuesday Edition. On Becoming a Juggler. Presenter: Randy Lyons. 11:00 am. WPR/TV13. See p. 12. Essential Tremor/Peripheral Neuropathy Support Group. 2:15 pm (Note new time and location). Nature Rm. Music. Delaware Music Festival Reunion, 7:30 pm. WPR/TV13. See p. 12.	Mon Jan 22 Great Decisions. Pandemic Preparedness. 9:30 am. Zoom only. See p. 9.
Wed	Jan 10	Annual Memorial Service. 2:00-3:00 pm. WPR&L. Poetry Group. 3:00-4:00 pm. WPL.	Tue Jan 23 Music. Christine Delbeau and Donna Beech. Piano Four-Hands. 7:30 pm. WPR/TV13. See p. 12.
Thu	Jan 11	Buddhist Book Group. 10:00 am. Café. See p. 8. Artists Talk: Cyndy Falcoff. 3:00 pm. Center Hallway. See p. 11. Movie. Oppenheimer. 7:00 pm. WPR/TV 13. See p. 13.	Wed Jan 24 Spiritual Life Committee. How to Talk with a Tree. Presenter: Atala Toy. 3:30 pm WPR/TV13. See p. 11.
Mon	Jan 15	Name Tag Day.	Thu Jan 25 Buddhist Book Group. 10:00 am. Café. See p. 8. Horticulture Committee Winter Meeting. 11:00 am-noon. WPR.
Tue	Jan 16	CRA Concerns Session. 10:00-11:00 am. Music Rm.	Fri Jan 26 Opera Lecture. Carmen. 4:00 pm. WPL. See p. 10.
			Sat Jan 27 Light & Lively. Dukes of Destiny. 7:30 pm. WPR&L/TV13. See p. 10. Deer Season Closes.
			Tue Jan 30 Forum. The New Kennett Library and Resource Center. Presenter: Christopher Manna. 7:30 pm. WPR/TV13. See p. 8.



Venues, times, and other details may change. Please watch for announcements on the **Crosslands Website**, bulletin board, and TV9.