

THE SERENDIPITOR

The Brooks-Howell Official Newsletter

BROOKS-HOWELL IMPLEMENTS COVID-19 PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES

By Carole Gilham, Executive Director

Brooks-Howell is taking significant steps to protect the health and wellness of our residents and staff from the COVID-19 virus. These steps are based on CDC recommendations and our Medical Director, Dr. Hiran Patel. These steps include restricting visitors to our campus, screening all staff each day upon arrival, and securing the skilled nursing staff units. Our Independent Residents are encouraged to remain in their accommodations as much as possible and large group activities have been suspended.

Please share this precautionary plan with others who may be planning a visit to our community. I continue to be impressed with the many actions of care for one another as we face these difficult times with faith and perseverance.

We thank you for your cooperation and patience as we seek to ensure the well-being of all of our residents and staff.

BROOKS-HOWELL'S LIBRARY FEEDS THE SOUL AND MIND

by Marcia Knight, Independent Resident

The Brooks-Howell library provides a quiet comfortable place to read the daily news, catch up with your favorite magazine, or browse for a book. There is a cozy place to try out a book before you check it out or perhaps you will want to browse the books on the display table which features a different theme each month. There are friendly volunteers to help you check out or renew a book. Library volunteers can also help acquaint you with the library layout. Their days and hours are posted on the library door. If you are interested in being a volunteer, there are a few vacancies.

A new feature has been introduced for our BTU Health Center residents on the first Friday of the month in the lounge. A mobile library arrives at 10:30 am with a variety of books and residents can request special orders which will be immediately granted.

(Continued page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

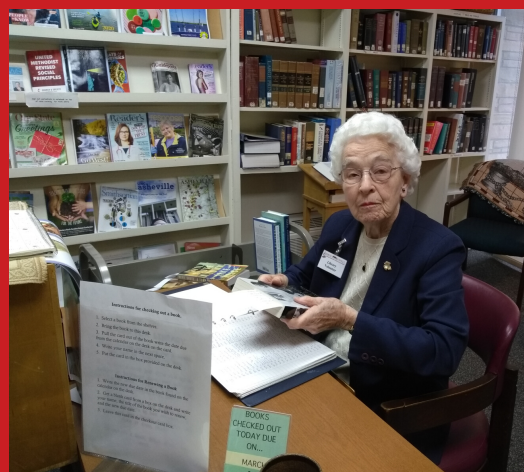
New books are offered regularly in both regular and large print. So before you buy a new book, come to Your Library. It might just be here. Watch the bulletin board on the library door for information about new books. If you have suggestions of books you would like to see added to the library, please leave a note at the desk behind the display table including your name if we have a question. The library has a busy behind the scenes operation. Checking books in, cataloging books which includes accessing, computer input to generate cards and labels, equipping new books for the shelves and the necessary information to check them out.

A monthly newsletter will appear in resident's mailboxes to inform residents of events and what book is given the honor of Book of the Month. Be sure to read and come take a browse. You never know what you might learn.



Susan Carmichael enjoys keeping up with current events.

**Barbara Campbell,
Deaconess, Library
Volunteer**



EQUIPPING THE SERVANTS

BROOKS-HOWELL SUPPORTS DEACONESS CANDIDATE EDUCATION

By Tracey Owens, Deaconess and Director of Activities

A long-time Deaconess shares "My ministry is truly a ministry of love, justice, and service. Love is the preeminent focus: love God, love all, recognize the sacred worth of all, and act to create systemic change in order to build the beloved community."

True to its heritage, Brooks-Howell supports the United Methodist Deaconess/Home Missioner candidate education program by periodically hosting the Theology of Mission classes conducted by Rev. George McClain (D. Min.) through the St. Paul School of Theology in Oklahoma City, OK. The intensive week-long class is part of the five core studies in preparation for consecration and then commissioning by their area Bishop to the mission work the Deaconess/Home Missioner has been called. Some of the other core studies (Old Testament, New Testament, UM History and UM Polity) are also held at Brooks-Howell.

Deaconesses/Home Missioners are laity in the United Methodist Church who feel called by God to make a lifetime commitment to full-time cutting-edge ministries of love, justice and service. Candidates at Brooks-Howell have an opportunity to interact with the 14 Deaconesses currently residing at Brooks-Howell.

Brooks-Howell continues its staunch support of equipping Deaconesses & Home Missioners for their call to serve. For more information about becoming a Deaconess/Home Missioner, go to www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/dhm.



TREASURED MEMORIES



Above: Doug Wingeier & Bev Reddick at Halloween Party

Right: Art Swarthout at Christmas Talent Show

Below: Goodies for Christmas Open House





**Left: Dedication Event of
Brooks-Howell's 200 year-old
Tree by GreenWorks and City of
Asheville**

Below: New Year's Celebration



Below: Valentine's Tea



WELCOME NEW RESIDENTS!

Jane Christiansen became a part of Brooks-Howell on January 10th and comes to us through our referral program by her long-time friend, Carol Greenspan. Jane was a frequent hiker with Carol. Jane was an adjunct professor of English and Composition at UNCA and her community service includes Meals on Wheels.

Bettie Linville moved in on February 7th, and she recently moved to Asheville from Winston-Salem. She is active at St. Paul's United Methodist Church so she already knows several of our residents. In 1989 Bettie joined Ardmore UMC in Winston-Salem and served as a preschool teacher and Vacation Bible School volunteer and served in other ways.

Dot Fielder joined us on February 10th and moved here from Mount Juliet, TN and served in the Tennessee Conference as a United Methodist Associate Pastor for eight years and a pastor for eight. In addition, she has served as an elder. She is an avid cross stitcher whose works adorn her apartment.

Beverly Cuddy joined our community on December 9th and has served in the United Methodist Church in various service positions for over 40 years. She joins us from Florida and enjoys traveling, swimming, reading and writing her memories. She said "I am looking forward to this new chapter of my life at Brooks-Howell."

Nancy Bretz has also been a long-time United Methodist Church member and has lived in Memphis, TN and Perry, GA where she was a member of Crossroads UM Church. She has 3 children and 5 grandchildren, and her career included working in banking and she has worked at the Biltmore House. She is an avid Rummikub player and is looking for others to play with! She joined us on February 26th.



Left: Dot Fielder
Right: Nancy
Bretz

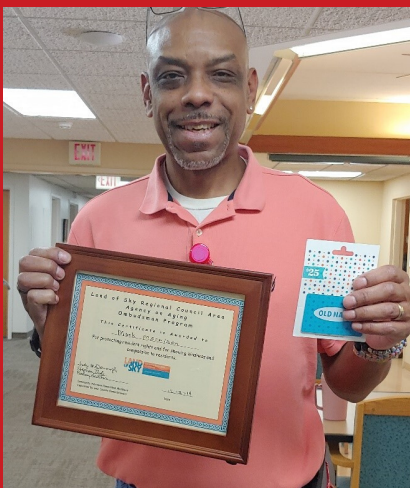
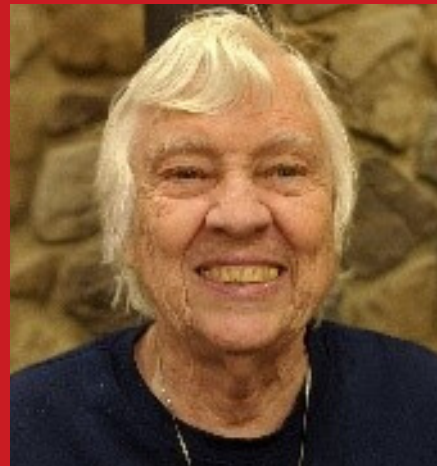
More pictures
page 7



Above: Jane Christiansen

**Above right: Bettie
Linville**

Right: Beverley Cuddy



AWARD TO MARK MORRISON, RN, FOR COMPASSION AND KINDNESS By Carole Gilham, Executive Director

Mark Morrison, RN, was given a special award from the Ombudsman program honoring him for his kindness and compassion in caring for our health care residents.. During their last visit, Mark was observed giving outstanding kindness and compassion to his residents that they don't see very often at other facilities. We are grateful he is part of our Brooks-Howell team. Way to go Mark!!

Contact Us

Brooks-Howell
266 Merrimon Ave.
Asheville, NC 28801
828-253-6712
www.Brooks-Howell.org



BROOKS-HOWELL'S COVID-19 EMERGENCY FUND

Many in the larger Brooks-Howell community have asked how they can help Brooks-Howell during the COVID-19 crisis; for instance, to purchase additional PPE and other critical supplies. Monetary donations may be sent by check, noting it is for the Emergency Fund.

Your continued thoughts and prayers are truly appreciated!

Go Green! Notify living@brookshowell.org to receive The Serendipitor by email.



BROOKS-HOWELL HOME
 266 Merrimon Ave.
 Asheville, NC 28801



U. S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 Permit No. 396
 Non-Profit
 Asheville, N.C.