

# Transition Times

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

Volume 2  
No 1  
February 2019

**Our campus has become like a bee hive,  
swarming with worker bees; transforming  
Friends House.**



**Our worker bees have been slowed down by wet weather and recently snow and the polar vortex. Creative solutions are being implemented to move our transformation along.**



**Look inside to meet new residents, see progress from the worker bees, and activities that have brought the community together for fun, service, fellowship and celebration.**

## A Tribute to Mary Oliver

**Mary Oliver**, a Pulitzer prize-winning poet whose work, with its plain language and minute attention to the natural world, passed away last month. She was known for her abiding communion with nature, and often compared to Walt Whitman and Robert Frost. Many at Friends House and in our wider community find her poems describe our own appreciation for the natural world that surrounds us. Here is one of her poems with scenes of our natural world here at FH.

### Of What Surrounds Me

*Whatever it is I am saying, I always  
Need a leaf or a flower, if not an  
Entire field. As for sky, I am so wildly  
In love with each day's inventions, cool blue  
Or cat gray or full  
Of the ships of clouds, I simply can't  
Say whatever it is I am saying without  
At least one skyful. That leaves water, a  
Creek or a well, river or ocean, it has to be  
There. For the heart to be there. For the Pen  
To be poised. For the idea to come.*

~ from New and Selected Volume Two (Beacon Press, 2005)



Extraordinary cool, blue sky over Friends House



A walk across the street from Friends House will take you to the Gibian Farm where you will find sheep and other farm animals. Check out the lambs this spring!!



Right: Friends House Pond taken from a drone. We also have a creek and the Sandy Spring (see arrow on picture) to inspire our hearts and souls!

# Resident Highlights



## Pat Else D-25

Pat was born in Thomasville, Georgia and grew up in Florida. It was during her college years at Florida State and Hofstra University when she developed a strong interest in issues of peace, justice and the position of women in the developing world. These interests led her to take a job with the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) after moving to Philadelphia.

During her time with AFSC she traveled everywhere that organization was conducting programs; reporting to audiences in the United States about what they were supporting when they contributed to AFSC. She did fund-raising in the countries of Europe which had received aid from AFSC, finding a great deal of generosity which underwrote many projects in Africa and Southeast Asia.

Since retiring from AFSC Pat has volunteered with numerous nonprofits. Especially rewarding was her time on the board of Grandmothers Beyond Borders which helps to support women in Africa who are raising grandchildren as a result parental death from AIDS. As a board member she also traveled to Uganda.

Pat has two children each of whom has two children. At present she is active in the lives of her son's children who live in Bowie. When Pat first came to this area to live she settled in Annapolis where she was an active participant in that Friends Meeting. And now that she has become a member of our Friends House community we hope that she will become active here. We are delighted to have you, Pat, and hope that you find a very fulfilling life with us.

Helen Louise Liversidge



We are delighted to have Sandy Spring Friends School students on Thursday helping residents with technology.

Many residents are actively speaking their truth in the community. Judith can be found in Olney frequently on Saturday morning.



The coffee klatches will be moving to the Miller Center. And Susan Kaul will continue her presence on Monday mornings as A Friendly Ear.



Free food on Thursday now in Miller Center.

## Times for Fun, Learning, Celebration & Service

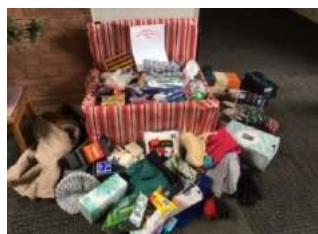
### Women's and Men's Breakfast in the New Year



### Sandy Spring Friends School Filling shoeboxes for SOME (So Others Might Eat) before Christmas



Ninth grade class at SSFS



Resident's contributions to the shoeboxes

### Wellspring Artists

has reexamined its purpose and is expanding its scope beyond encouraging artists to create works for display in Flower Alley. The new focus is to provide all residents, artists or not, **ways to engage with creativity**. Wellspring will invite residents to engage in discussions of art and encourage residents to create things, decorative or useful. Art and craft work may illustrate or interpret the world or your feelings in any media, or just keep your mind and fingers busy. We want to enjoy what others create. Recently the group held a reception at Judith Simmons' cottage, organized a museum tour, and hosted a Christmas party that featured a slide show of FH art. The group is now working on a catalog to showcase the creativity of FH residents and looking for other ways to expand appreciation of all types of arts. All residents are welcome to join!



Top: Christmas Party and artists works

Below: Wellspring artists in Flower Alley



# Friends House Celebrates the Season

## Friends House

### Christmas Concert

Held in January instead of December due to illness. We noted that Christmas goes well into January for many. We are flexible!!



The Star over Stabler Hall shines Light on us and our neighbors in the dark of winter.



Trees inside and outside for the season.



## Staff Appreciation

An annual event in December is to let our staff know how much they are appreciated. A luncheon from management and cash gifts from the residents are provided. This year we raised about \$20,000 that was divided among 150 staff.



L: St. Nick (aka Kevin) greeting staff with good cheer and cash gifts.

Below: Many staff brought family members to enjoy a great lunch and celebration of



# Around Campus

## Construction Haiku

by Carole Marks

Sooo many trucks



Sooo many shapes and sizes



go up and



down our lanes



We have experienced many changes during this transformation. Some changes are bearing new fruits (or ice cream like Klondike bars—see below). Creative use of existing space means many important touches like our lovely fresh flowers are still gracing our community. The temporary entrance is enhanced with our receptionist Rae St. John welcoming visitors and residents .



L: Maris and Dian arrange flowers in the new space.



R: Jim and the new refrigerators with freezers for ice cream!



L: Rae at temporary entrance with Nick, our shuttle bus driver.



Kevin's weekly coffees now in Miller Center.

# Around Campus



Storm water management work continues, albeit slowly, given the rain and snow!



MUD Pies all over and clogging the machines. Workers must stop work and unclog.



Our beloved trees being removed to make room for a lodge.

## Transition Times Update — February 2019

### NEWEST RESIDENTS

Pat Else D-25  
David and Sheila Carrigan C 27

### MOVED OUT

Marie McQuilken  
Jon Weiss

### IN MEMORY

Ruth Doak  
Jack Fogerty  
Capi Fleuchaus  
Emily Swet



Library gone? Temporarily only. During transition Maris will check out books from the Olney library .

### 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.*

***Please send email address to  
Joan Dyer Liversidge***



L: Preparation for lodges and cottages

R: Future lodges and cottages

