



THE CHERRY PIT

ALWAYS BUSY, ALWAYS ACTIVE



Barbara Janac

As I entered Barbara Janac's living room, I was greeted by a statue of Quan Yin, the Chinese goddess of kindness, mercy and compassion. As anyone who has had the pleasure of meeting her knows, these are the qualities that Barb embodies. Many residents here at Cherrywood have met her because of her friendly and outgoing nature.

Barb's father was born to and raised by Chinese immigrants in Oregon. At age 20 he travelled to China and met and married her mother. Although it was an arranged marriage, they were in love their entire marriage until death. Barb was born in Hong Kong, China in 1933. They moved to the US in 1934 and settled in southeast Portland. Her mother learned to read and write English by looking at the comics in the newspapers. To support the family in the early years, her father worked three jobs. He worked at the shipyards, a Chinese casino and started his photography business. He eventually established a prominent Portland photography studio on East Burnside.

Barb, the eldest of four children, contracted rheumatic fever in grade school which made her very shy. In high school she was plagued by eczema which contributed to her shyness. Finally the doctors discovered she was allergic to rice. She read extensively, was a good student and developed an interest in art, especially pen and ink and water color. Now she's learning acrylics at CherryWood.

After graduating from Franklin high school, Barb worked as an assistant to a female writer. A year later she became the receptionist at her father's photography studio. She worked from 10am to as late as 2am. Besides being a receptionist, she was a photo finisher and assisted in the business any way she was needed. The studio closed in 1979.

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Barb met the man she would marry, Al Janac, in 1957. Because they were of different races, she Chinese and he Czech, they had a difficult time getting together; at first their families were not accepting of each other. They overcame the difficulties and were married in a full Church ceremony. They had a son named Michael. Their daughter, Rhisa, was born in 1972. When their daughter entered kindergarten, she became close friends with a girl in her class named Irene. Irene became like a sister to Rhisa and as a daughter to Barbara and Al. The couple were married for 45 years until Al passed away of lung cancer in 2005.

When her daughter entered preschool, the school required that all parents assist and fundraise. It was a new experience for Barbara. In 1976 she was in charge of the annual fund raiser. Instead of the usual coffee and bake sale, she organized an auction and wine tasting held at the Forestry Building. They had great success and netted \$1,200. At Edward's Grade School, the next stage of her daughter's life, Barb assisted in the classroom, helped students with reading, did PTA fundraising, chaperoning, etc. She enjoyed volunteering. When Rhisa was in high school, Barbara worked a few years at Emanuel Hospital at their Short Stay Department and the gift shop. She then worked 16 years at H & R Block, retiring in 2006. In the mid 1980's Barb volunteered at the Portland Civic Theater which specializes in musical theater. It nurtured her love for musical theater. This led to her volunteering as an usher for Portland 5 Center of the Arts, Portland Center Stage and Triangle Theater. She was a volunteer at Visitor Information at the Oregon Convention Center. When the China Exhibit arrived at the Oregon Art Museum, she volunteered at their gift shop. She found it very interesting. She also volunteered at the Rose Center, a Salvation Army senior center that is now closed.

In the years since she's been a widow, Barb has travelled extensively. She's been on many cruises and taken trips to Europe, China and Australia. One trip to China cost only \$49 for lodging, meals and sightseeing (She had to pay extra for airfare) because China was promoting Chinese citizens who lived abroad to visit their native country.

Barbara moved to Cherrywood two years ago. She has a garden plot, grows vegetables and loves to cook. Since the 1980's she has worked as a temporary employee for the Multnomah County Elections, and she worked the last election. She stays involved with family, including a brother and two sisters. She's very grateful that her children and their families live close by so that she can be involved in her grandchildren's lives. And she is always friendly and helpful to everyone she meets.

Janet Sciolaro, Wynridge



A Girl From Yamhill

by Beverly Cleary

In my first year of living in Oregon, it seems only right to review a book by Beverly Cleary. She has been in the news a lot since she died in March at the age of 104. She is well known as the author that changed literature for children in the United States, opening the world of reading-for-pleasure for many children who had, previously, struggled or hated reading. But *A Girl From Yamhill* is neither a book of fiction nor a book aimed at children. It is the first of two autobiographies by Cleary.

Cleary gives her reader a clear vision of her early life in Yamhill and later in Portland, Oregon. Sometimes we tend to think of that time as “the good old days” and yet there was nothing easy about living through the Depression, worrying about having enough food or a place to live. It was a dark and sad time for many. Girls were often discouraged from considering any future but marriage and motherhood as their only choice and even if they found work, it was frequently in an unfriendly environment and low pay. Yet the energy and vivacity that imbues Cleary’s writing as she experiences many of these difficulties holds the reader rapt and the underlying humor which characterizes all of Cleary’s writing is ever present.

In her early school experience, as so often occurs through a teacher, Cleary’s third grade teacher inspires her saying, “Use your imagination and write a story”, and the writing bug is firmly planted. She was excited because no one had ever told her to use her imagination before.

Cleary’s desire as a child was to feel loved by her parents, to be told by her parents they loved her, and those instances were few and far between. Her mother’s motives as Cleary grew older into her teens were puzzling and their troubled relationship might have changed Cleary’s future entirely if she had not found some supporters and true heroes to inspire her along the way.

In a recent New York Times book review by Dana Shapiro, she wrote, “The urge to excavate memory does not come from a place of contentment” and maybe this is the underlying force of most autobiographies. So, whether the best autobiographies come from a place of difficulty and struggle, Cleary has written a compelling book that rings with realism.

Norma Doyle, Orchards 320



Chapel Services continue at 11 o'clock on Saturdays and Sundays. Song and Praise is ongoing on Friday evenings at 7 o'clock.

There is now a service at 9:30am Sunday for those in Assisted Living. Please sign up at the Nurse's office.

Chaplain Mick



Calling all those who have sight issues...

In an effort to ensure that everyone who lives at CWV can take advantage of all activities and stay informed of other information distributed to your apartments, we are asking for the names of those who have macular degeneration or other sight issues to contact Judy Keiper, Mike Sands, Pam Cogswell, or Forrest Robertson. We ask for residents who know of someone on their floor to let us know as well. They would be unable to read the Daily Beat or read the information on Channel 1971. We want to ensure that all residents can stay informed.

Thanks for your assistance in this very important matter.

Your BOD/Resident Council

From the Dining Services Committee:

Just a few reminders of the reservation protocols at the Village Square Restaurant.

- To place a To Go order, please call 503.946.0218.
- Delivery times are between the hours of 11:00 – 12:00 or 1:00 – 2:00. You can also place them downstairs in the restaurant. To place orders to go, please call between 10:45 – 1:00 for lunch deliveries and 3:45 – 6:00 for dinner deliveries.
- Reservations are required. Unclaimed reservations will be cancelled after 15 minutes.
- Please be respectful when asked to wash your hands, have your temperature taken, and answer all the required questions. These are COVID health guidelines.

The residents and staff are anticipating the day when we can go back to what used to be NORMAL. No masks, no Plexi-glass, no six feet distances, and the ability to come down to the restaurant for all three meals. Patience is hard for all of us but know that those are the goals of the staff.

CHAPEL SERVICES continue at 11 o'clock on Saturdays and Sundays. Song and Praise is ongoing on Friday evenings at 7 o'clock. There is now a service at 9:30am Sunday for those in Assisted Living.

Please sign up at the Nurse's office.

Chaplain Mick



From the desk of Mike Sands, acting President:

I am pleased that management has acted so quickly to fill the management vacancies. Jennifer Jenkins is our new Human Resources Director and Jeffrey Wilson now Dining Services Director. Be sure to introduce yourself when you meet them on campus. At the same time a great big THANK YOU to Manuela Estaniloa for running the dining room in the interim.

And speaking of dining services, we have seen many changes during the past month, with more to come. As of this writing the dining room is now open to all IL residents every day. When this first occurred there was a lot of confusion about the process, and at times residents without reservations were turned away even while tables sat empty. This was due to the tables being reserved. To remedy the problem the dining room has established two seating's for lunch and dinner. This will allow everyone to make a reservation and be served, but you won't have time, especially at the first seating, to sit around and talk, as the staff needs to clean and sanitize the tables for the second seating. It is strongly recommended that everyone make a reservation, and if you can't appear for your reserved time please notify the dining staff.

The other day a new resident asked me if we have a Cat Co-op. I had no idea what she meant, so she explained that cat owners form a cooperative to assist each other. When one member is leaving CherryWood for a time, for a medical reason or vacation, etc., others will come in to feed the cat and clean the litter box, and possibly even play with the cat. I don't know how many cat owners there are at CherryWood, but it sounds like a good idea to me. If you are a cat owner and are interested, please email your name, phone number and email address to me at 1419ms@gmail.com.

The pool repair has started and should be completed in June.

**Greeting Cards**

Many of you probably remember the rack with a lot of beautiful greeting cards in the Café. What you probably do not know is they are available to purchase and can be seen in a binder. Our own artist, Susan Howard, has been making unique cards to sell for \$4.00, with \$3.00 going into the Employee Appreciation Fund. So come down to the Café for your special treat and have a look at all the cards that are available. She also has copies in all elevators that can be purchased. It is a great and convenient way to donate to our Employee Appreciation Fund.

EAF committee



Back in the 1930's and 1940's, there was a very famous voice that came over the radio. It was Walter Winchell, and if you recall he would start his program by saying, "Greetings Mr. and Mrs. America and all the ships at sea" and then he would spend the next fifteen or twenty minutes giving all the listeners choice bits of news, some of which could be interpreted as gossip.

In the same business was Hedda Hopper who brought us all the goings on in Hollywood and now and then a movie star was startled to hear his or her name mentioned in a manner that could be dubbed as gossip, began to come over the airwaves.

Then there are people whose very existence is news and they are shocked to hear some of the talk that is not very flattering. Others are equally surprised, but as the saying used to go "I don't care as long as they spell my name right".

I tend to fall into the second category. Still I was surprised when a gentleman came to my table in the dining room and began to tell me that he heard I was in charge of the survey being taken by residents here at CherryWood. He went on to say that he also heard that I didn't like the uniforms that are coming out in the near future. He claimed he knew this because I write for the Cherry Pit.

WOW! After I had a moment or two to collect my better judgment, I advised him that I had no part in the writing of or putting out of the survey in question. I did, along those lines, encourage those who would be contacted by a third party survey and assured that it was anonymous and being offered by the Administration here at CherryWood. It was their opportunity to stop grumbling and to offer their feelings to those who could do something about it.

As for the comments on the uniforms, I had no part in that issue either, and used my right of free speech.

I am a resident, same as all the other residents, and if I have a real issue, I would take it to those who can help with it.

I will be taking July and August off from writing for the Cherry Pit. Editor Joan Walborn has worked to keep the Cherry Pit relevant and useful. If you have something to say that others would like to hear, I am sure Joan would be pleased to give you space and opportunity.

Enjoy your summer and remember those masks.

Donna Winkler – Royal Anne resident

NEEDED – Items for the Cherry Pit. Any poetry, prose pieces fewer than 400 words, classified ads, stories, letters, recipes, jokes, puzzles, etc. **must include your name and telephone number** in case we need additional information. Hand items in at the Front Desk and ask that they be forwarded to Editor Joan Walborn.



Help, please: Since moving to CWV, I have shrunk almost 3" and I am starting to walk on the hems of my pants. Is there someone out there who can shorten three or four pairs of silky fabric pants? I will pay the asking price.

Donna Winkler RA 243 503-442-3793

FOR SALE: Roland Digital Baby Grand Piano - 56 ½" x 37 ½".

Price Negotiable. Herta Tortora, Orchards 412. Tel (503) 206-7619

FOR SALE: A lot of very old antique croquette balls. All colors.

What's your best offer? Becky McGowan, Gardens 205 – 503-206-5807



WOODY'S WISDOM

I finally got eight hours sleep.
Problem is, it took me three days.



CherryWood Direct Lines

Front Desk: 503-546-7917

Cherry Delight Café: 503-546-7947

Vitality Desk: 503-546-7924

Hair & Nail Salon: 503-946-0227

Carrie, Nail Salon: 971-295-9279

CWV T-shirt Spirit Days are June 10th & 25th

WELCOME NEW RESIDENTS

Lynn Joseph, Royal Anne 107
Beverly Newton, Wynridge 511
Barbara Roberts, Cottage 1602A
Judi Schmitt, Gardens 208
Mildred Solstad, Royal Anne 128
Art & Chris Tegger, Wynridge 406

IN MEMORIAM

Martha McMinn, Royal Anne

**CHERRY PIT
Staff**

Joan Walborn, Editor
Karen Arendt, Proofreader
Susan Howard, Art Editor
Clara La Marche, Reporter
Janet Sciolaro, Reporter

The purpose of the Cherry Pit is to get news to the residents, furnish some entertainment, provide little-known facts of CherryWood, and have fun.

Deadline for ads for the next issue is 3pm on 4th Monday of the month.

*The pit is the heart
of the cherry.*

JUNE 2021

