



SHEPHERD'S CENTER OF COLUMBIA

PRESIDENT: BETSY SIEMERS

DIRECTOR: EUNICE SABO

ADMIN. ASSIST.: LORENE MCGUIRE

Website: shepherdscentercolumbia.org

Phone: 803 779-4449

Email: shepherdscent626@bellsouth.net

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ARE YOU WONDERING WHAT YOUR SHEPHERD'S CENTER FRIENDS ARE DOING THESE DAYS TO KEEP THEMSELVES OCCUPIED?

CAROL FORE has made over 70 blankets for children at Camp Kemo and has read 80 books since the pandemic struck.

PHIL MOORE stays busy riding his bike, hiking, and taking photos at our national and state parks. He is also a ham radio operator and enjoys playing his guitar.

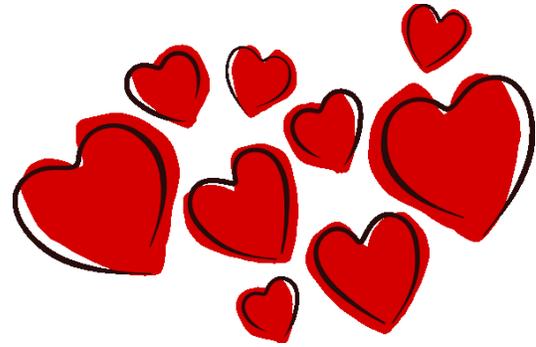
CAROL WAITE walks every day, has completed 25 jigsaw puzzles, and has read lots of old magazines.

JOHN FINCH has set a goal to learn a total of 75 Smoky Mountain hymns on his ukulele.

EDITH HINES is sewing masks for friends and is also making pet accessories such as bandanas for her daughter's business.

SUSAN RAYBOURNE is designing elaborate note cards for friends and family, hosting neighborhood zoom meetings, and making masks for a homeless shelter.

EUNICE SABO is writing a book of Tiny Tales for her daughters. So far she has written 41.



IT'S HAPPY HEARTS MONTH!

LATEST NEWS ON ZOOM CLASSES

Due to personal commitments and busy schedules, the Technology Committee has not yet been able to finalize plans for offering Zoom classes. We hope that in the near future we will be able to work out all the details so you can participate in these classes. In the meantime, we hope you are enjoying classes offered by other groups and perhaps zooming with your extended family. We thank you for your patience.



SC stands for Shepherd's Center. This snow scene was taken on Valentine's day, Feb. 14, 2014.

TINY TALES

Please email us an original story of approximately 100 words. It just might appear in one of our newsletters!

WHO KNEW?

When we were in third grade, Claudius came over to visit. I was sitting on the front porch petting my German Shepherd dog named Rex. Suddenly, Claudius kissed me, declared his love, and asked me to marry him. I said, "Are you crazy? We are only in third grade!" "I know that," he said. "I'm not stupid! But we could become engaged and get married when we are old enough. This way I can be sure that you won't marry someone else." But, sadly, I knew that he was not the man for me. In the first place, he had a yucky name, and all he wanted to do was read. Since I wanted to be a quarterback, I knew I had to turn him down. At our 50th high school reunion, Claudius and I had a chance to talk and I realized then that perhaps I had made a big mistake. He had become a federal judge!

Eunice Sabo

**WE CAN COMPLAIN BECAUSE ROSE
BUSHES HAVE THORNS OR REJOICE
BECAUSE THORN BUSHES HAVE ROSES.**

URSULA CALVERT

A GLORIOUS DAY!

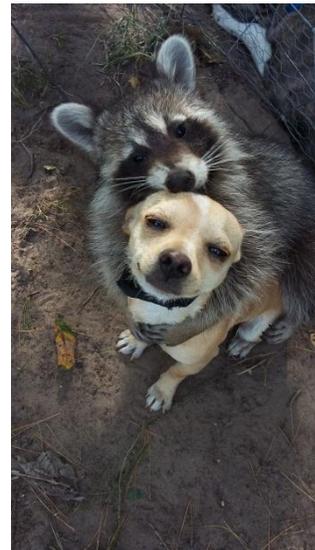
To my surprise, one day there appeared in my mailbox a birthday card from Troy McQueen. We had been college sweethearts at LSU, but I had not heard from him in 45 years! How could he have remembered my birthday after all these years? We began exchanging emails, revealing the different paths our lives had taken. Eventually, he decided to move to Columbia so we could actually spend time together. It was all we hoped it would be! We were married in 2007 in a beautiful Scottish wedding by the lake at Ft. Jackson, complete with bagpiper. What a glorious day!

Eunice Sabo

**If you are alone on Valentine's Day,
just think, you are in really good
company!**

Take a bubble bath.
Buy yourself something sparkly or drink something sparkly.
Work on an art project.
Play dress-up.
Try a new hobby.
Take part in a virtual "happy hour."
Enjoy a spa night.
Take a walk.
Send friends a Valentine.
Make sweet treats for family and friends.

WILL YOU BE MY VALENTINE?



FINDING A MATE

Finding a mate is not always easy, especially in the animal kingdom. Animals have developed many unusual mating rituals, which are anything but romantic.

Praying Mantis – Having been lured to the female by pheromones (secreted chemicals that trigger a social response), males may not get to mate before the female bites their heads off and eats them. Some do get away uninjured, fortunately. Males make up 60% of the female diet during mating season, and those that eat males seem to lay more eggs.

Honey Bee – Mating occurs in mid-flight. Males only get to mate once as they die soon after their reproductive organ is ripped from their body and remains in the female.

Red Garter Snake – When it is time to mate, up to 100 males can go after a single female at the same time. She will end up in the middle of a large mating ball!

Garden Snail - Snails have both male and female organs. Sperm is injected by stabbing the other snail with a sharp reproductive organ – a “love dart.” Being stabbed repeatedly over time sometimes results in death.

Pufferfish – The male spends days creating symmetrical patterns in the sand that can reach up to about 6 feet in diameter. If the female is happy with his creation, she will lay her eggs in the center of the circle.

Black Widow Spider – The male will do a song and dance on her web by plucking the strands of the web as he walks around. He then starts to tap on her body. Once his sperm has been deposited, he hurries off before the female, if she is hungry, can eat him. Now you know how the species got its name.

...derived from LiveScience

LET'S SMILE A WHILE...

On Valentine's Day, a young man walks into a lingerie shop and buys a lacy black negligee. An elderly farmer who is next in line says to the saleslady, “Would you happen to have something in black flannel?”

He: I love you!

She: Is that you or the wine talking?

He: It's me talking to the wine.

Boy octopus to girl octopus: Can I hold your hand, hand, hand, hand, hand, hand, hand, hand?

Why shouldn't you fall in love with a pastry chef? He will eventually dessert you.

What did the Starbucks manager say to his girlfriend?

“Words cannot espresso what you mean to me!”

What is the best part about Valentine's Day?

The day after when all the chocolate is half-price.

In Memory of Mary Garrison
By Debbie Whitemore

Our friend and colleague, Mary Garrison, passed away Dec 29, 2020. Mary was an important part of the writing classes at Shepherd Center. She had an extensive background in teaching, writing, and editing. She put those skills to great use in our prose and poetry classes. She also helped edit *The Shepherd's Pen*, the writing publication that the class produced. Mary was a good friend, too. She and I co-taught many classes and became close. I learned of her deep love of her family, of her extensive knowledge of genealogy, of her strict adherence to the rules of grammar. One of her haikus in the 2019 *Shepherd's Pen* sums up these qualities.

*Love
Time and endless miles
Divide long-entangled souls.
Love ties last forever.*

Mary was a lover of the natural world, too. She wrote *Your River* for the 2016 publication.

*Native spirit revisits a river's bank,
bends, cups his hand and drinks.
This was once our river, he says in silence.
Our road, our giver of food and life.
It quenched our thirst, watered our souls
with its constant, flowing beauty.
Soon it will nourish nothing.
This is not our river.
It is yours; we know it not.*

Mary encouraged many of the students in the writing classes. She gave thoughtful critiques and courteous suggestions. Thank you, Mary, for your friendship, your generous spirit, your kindness. You will be missed by all of us.