FOUR CORNER’S CORNER

We continue waiting for Bruce and Louise and using our secret code, until now, known only by 4 Corner Regulars; When Bruce offers you a cup of coffee he will ask, “How would you like your Coffee”. The code is, “in a cup”. When you provide this answer to the question you receive the fresh coffee and first offering of any donuts, pastries, or cakes that frequently show up. (Thank you Miss Virginia).

Things are starting to pick up at the corner despite it being April 16 today and we have high winds, rain and SNOW.) Since I don’t have any 4 Corner stories for this month I will share one of my favorites from last year. Several times a week we would spot a couple biking up Commonwealth Ave. and we would offer them a cup of coffee. They would graciously thank us but we were unable to get them to stop without tackling and/or lasooing them. Bruce felt that approach quite possibly could violate the scripture in Mathew 25: “I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you tackled me and made me eat blue cake.” Bruce assured us that we got the scripture wrong so we came up with a new tactic. The next time they pedaled up Commonwealth we offered them not just coffee but a piece of bright blue birthday cake. That did the trick. They stopped, chose a large piece of frosted cake, thanked us and continued on their ride. About an hour later, they returned and we quickly noticed that they had shades of blue all over their faces. As they passed us Mr. Biker, stuck out his very blue tongue and asked if the frosting had been made by Sherwin Williams. We almost fell off our chairs laughing. A few weeks ago they drove by and we greeted them as “The Blues Couple”. They laughed and told us it took days for their teeth to return to white. We gave them an open invitation for coffee and cake. The Blue Couple promises to stop in one day but will restrict themselves to clear water. 😊
Well getting back to other happenings at 4 Corners. It has been obvious that 4 Corners is not 4 Corners, without Bruce and Louise. Sooooo, we have been scheming ways to entice their early return. We realize that if we can bribe Louise, Bruce is sure to follow. Louise has had two wishes that we were aware of (3 if we include getting Bruce to stop telling jokes). For years we have been unable to stop Bruce’s jokes so we focussed on two alternatives.

1) Louise frequently complains about the dirt at 4 corners. As can be seen in the photo, we have put down “naturally” colored mulch in the seating area. The thickest section is under Louis’s designated seat.

2) No matter what the temperature at 4 Corners, Louise is cold. We are going to have a sweater donation for Louise and anticipate getting enough sweaters that she can wear half a dozen of them at any given time. Todd calculates that on a hot Onset day the 6 sweaters should be enough to raise Louis’s body temperature to something close to normal.

So given the above updates we are sure Bruce and Louise will be back in a shot. When you arrive Bruce, I would like to place me pre-order for Coffee “In a cup”
It is with great sadness to report that a pillar of our community; Tommie Jeannine Leonard passed away March 4th. Jeannine was the wife of the late Ronald M. Leonard Sr. Both are so beloved by so, so many.

Jeannine was daughter of Sam Houston Morgan and Leeta (Permenter) Morgan.

Luckily for us, Jeannine moved to Massachusetts after marrying Ron. She worked for King’s Department Store in Brockton and a cafeteria worker for Brockton Public Schools.

For over 60 years, Jeanine was a dedicated member and Deacon at Community of Christ Churches in Brockton, Avon, Palm Bay-Florida, and Onset).

There is an expression, “Bigger than Life” and that certainly applied to Jeannine. She was so loved by her family and is survived by seven of her eight children, Skipper Langford, Michael Langford and his wife Michelle, Ronald Leonard Jr. and his wife Clare, Richard Leonard and his wife Bonnie, Beverly Johnston and her husband Frank, Thomas Leonard and his wife Nancy and Gloria Mitchell and her husband named David. Jeannine was predeceased by her daughter Catherine Janson.

Jeannine has 17 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren and treasured spending time with her many family and friends. When she was not entertaining, she loved cooking, baking, sewing, crocheting, and travelling. She certainly was not your typical 90-year-old and was loving referred to as the “Energizer Bunny” and the “Texas Tornado”.

JEANNINE AND RON BACK AGAIN
IT’S NOT EASY BEING AN ONSET SQUIRREL

Indeed the Onset squirrels do have a rough life. In the spring they are running all around the grounds having a festive time eating and making more baby squirrels. Then the hawks start hovering over the grounds looking for a Squirrel Luncheon. If the squirrels surive the hawks, in come the coyotes looking for a squirrel dinner. When they have had their fill, they leave and the foxes return for a squirrel breakfast. Then it seems about every other year the worst of all; Fisher Cats (mis-named: Are not Cats and don’t Fish) arrive. The Fisher cats are viracious and can out run the few remaining squirrels both on the ground and in the trees. At that point there are few squirrels remaining on the grounds but enough that the cycle of life continues.

MAY AND JUNE BIRTHDAYS

May 4th Gayle LeMotte
June 4th Peter Cook
May 12th Sylvia Armeson
June 6th Steven King
May 13th Betsy Firby
June 7th Mark Booth
May 18th Jim Brown
June 7th Matt Booth
May 22nd Jennifer Nicholls
June 10th Janet Mangan
May 29th Danny Minkle
June 16th Tom Sohre
May 29th Chris Fisher
June 17th Frederick Munson
June 18th Cheryl Yost
June 21st Rachael Bohan
June 30th Beth Brown
UPDATE TO LAST MONTHS QUANDRY

*****From the last newsletter you might recall that the months of March and April have the smallest number of COC birthdays. That means romance was slowest during the months of June and July when most members are on the grounds. We asked members to send us their theories as to why this anomaly occurs.

Judy takes the award for the number 1 theory.

1) Tents and cottages have thin walls.
2) The daily activities exhausted members
3) “Lobsta” and clams are an anti-aphrodisiacs
4) Snowbirds cannot get warm enough

WAREHAM COVID VIRUS REPORT

We are glad to report that most people on the grounds have been vaccinated against Covid and can breathe easier. Thanks go out to Laura who spent many hours booking vaccinations and providing travel for 16 people!

Unfortunately, however, we are not out of the woods yet. Wareham has again been categorized by the State as a red zone. This week, 46 residents (6% of those tested) had the virus, and the graph is trending upwards again.

According to the New York Times, in Plymouth County there have been 50,000 people diagnosed with Covid and 1,400 deaths. The highest number of deaths occurred in April-20 when on average, 15 deaths per day. Currently that 7-day average is down to 1 death per day.
We have been quite busy dealing with the trash and recycling situation. The problem came about when Wareham’s trash/recycling contract with Republic ended and they contracted with ABC Disposal. Republic then informed us that they no longer will provide curb side pickup in this area and offered several dumpsters that would be placed around the grounds. As you can imagine, nobody wanted dumpsters and we suddenly learned where this term came from: “They have us over a Barrel”.

We entered into negotiations with ABC Disposal and their quote was twice that of what we had been paying Republic. It would cost $240 per year which would be a financial hardship on many. After hours of negotiations with ABC Disposal we were able to reduce the per cottage cost from $240 per year down to $110. Per the agreement, we received 36 trash and 36 recycling bins for full time residents. Trash will be picked up every FRIDAY and recycling (the red topped barrels) will be picked up bi-weekly, (also on FRIDAYS). For the Summer season we will have an additional 19 sets of bins delivered. Until then we can share bins with our neighbors.

**NOTE:** We are permitted to place removeable stickers on the bins but cannot paint or permanently mark the bins in any way.
We have many amazing people on the grounds and often they are so modest that few of us know of their accomplishments. Thanks to the research of one of our top reporters, our congratulations goes out to One Nick Bankson; alias (Nicky Nine-Toes). Many of us didn’t know that Nick had had a long and successful career as a leading Speech Language Pathologist. He has authored several textbooks and two speech and language evaluations for children with speech challenges. The book below, “Speech and Sound Disorders in Children”, has been the gold standard for 40 years and will be published in its 9th edition in August! Countless children and adults, around the world, have benefited from Nick’s work and no doubt have had richer lives thanks to him.

New edition of gold-standard textbook on articulation and phonological disorders—now published by Brookes!

Speech Sound Disorders in Children
Articulation & Phonological Disorders, Ninth Edition

For forty years, this textbook has been the gold-standard resource for providing speech-language pathologists with a strong foundation of knowledge on speech sound disorders.

Previously published as Articulation and Phonological Disorders, this core text is now in its ninth edition, fully updated and expanded to meet the needs of today’s clinicians as they work with children of all ages.
April’s Funniest Joke on the Grounds

We recently received Massachusetts Waste Disposal Guidelines. They were being read out loud and we were surprised by some of the restrictions. It listed the following items as not qualifying to be disposed in the trash: **Anything: radioactive, explosive, volatile, highly flammable, or hazardous.** Ray immediately retorted, “DARN What am I going to do with them now!”

FYI- Since I am poking fun at their recycling guidelines, I should include a little bit of useful information:

- The following items **SHOULD BE RECYCLED,** *(not placed into trash bins).*
  - CLEAN Aluminum, metal, recyclable plastic bottles/jars/jugs/or tubs, glass containers, recyclable paper and cardboard

- The following **SHOULD NOT BE RECYCLED** and *(placed into trash bins)*
  - Plastic bags or wrap, food or liquids, clothing, Bruce or Ray.

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