

The Kendalight

Kendal at Oberlin Residents Association

January 2024

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Welcoming 2024, Year of the Wood Dragon!

Happy New Year to all! 2024's Chinese New Year will begin on Sat., Feb. 10, my first official day of retirement! This community has prepared me well. Last year, I enjoyed comparing Kendal to the 2023 animal sign of the Chinese New Year – the Rabbit. This year, I'm drawn to reflect on how our CommUnity's character relates to this year's sign – the Dragon associated with the nourishing Wood element.

Wood Dragons are associated with growth, flexibility, and adaptability. In 2024 Kendal will grow in various ways, with new leadership relationships, expansion of space, a redesign for the Stephens Care Center, and improvement of our dining, activity, and central nursing spaces.

Wood Dragons bring the dual strengths of being highly imaginative and being excellent problem solvers. Kendal has opportunities through the year when residents, staff, and board communicate openly about important issues, sharing insights and brainstorming creative solutions when needed. Wood Dragons have a personality that draws others with the natural ability to build relationships. This can be especially important in relating to the larger Lorain Community and beyond.

Probably the most fitting description for Kendal is that Wood Dragons are drawn to music, art, and other artistic fields. How perfectly suitable for our location in a small college town. With an appreciation for nature, the Dragon's nourishing wood elements are projected to bring rejuvenated beginnings, leading to long-term success. This is especially promising as we look to the next 30 years for Kendal at Oberlin.

There are some cautions with the Wood Dragon, who can be known for impulsivity and impatience. This can lead to circumstances of an unwillingness to compromise, remaining fixed and stubborn. I feel confident our Kendal Value of being committed to work toward consensus can mitigate this weakness.

True to Kendal relationships, Wood Dragons value honesty and trust in relationships. Love for one another and affection are genuine and prove to be what brings our CommUnity together, valuing what we have achieved over the first 30 years while embracing new beginnings for an even better tomorrow.

With deepest respect, your first CEO,
Barbara Thomas

Get Ready for KORA Opportunity Fair 2024!

Behind the myriad of activities and happenings that are important in our lives here in Kendal at Oberlin – programs, movies, workshops, hearing and other health issue groups, flower arrangements, art shows, service opportunities, classes, plant sales, transportation to special events both within Kendal and without, etc. – are our volunteers. KaO is a self-starting community.

On Thurs., Feb. 29, Kendal will be given over to Opportunity Fair 2024. During the day, Kendal's numerous committees, service, support, and interest groups will have an opportunity to show what their group does and to explain what you can contribute to them.

Displays will be set up in the Heiser Auditorium and Lounge, as well as in the Craft Room, Workshop, and Art Studio (and perhaps some other spaces). You can walk along, stopping to talk with group representatives to learn about the group's activities.

Watch for more information in the next few weeks!

If you'd like to be involved in the planning and execution of Opportunity Fair 2024, contact Prudy Hall. She will find ways you can help out with planning and making the day a success.

*~KORA Opportunity
Fair Planning Committee*



Val the Volunteer

**COFFEE HOUR WITH
BARBARA THOMAS**

**WED., JAN. 10 - 9:30AM
LANGSTON, ZOOM, KOTV**

**AFTERNOON EXCHANGE
BARBARA THOMAS**

**WED., JAN. 31 - 4:00PM
AUD, KOTV**



Kendal at Oberlin Residents Association

The Kendal at Oberlin Residents Association is fortunate to begin 2024 with three officers continuing. Prudy Hall and I are beginning our second year as president and vice president, while Bruce Richards is beginning his fourth and final year as treasurer. We welcome Kathy Hazelton to the KORA Executive Committee as secretary. Three new councilors – David Dauphiné, Kerry Glaus, and Pearl Lin – will join returning councilors – George Blomgren, Kari Inglis, Tom Konkoly, Janet Newman, Barbara Pierce, A.V. Shirk, Dina Schoonmaker, and Mary Van Nortwick – to complete our 15-member KORA Council. We offer our heartfelt gratitude to retiring secretary Anne Palmer and councilors Joyce Benjamin, Rich Hall, and Phil Pritchett. They have given their all throughout this past year of celebration (KaO’s 30th anniversary) and change (the search for KaO’s second CEO).

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the Staff Holiday Fund. Together, we donated \$81,159.00 to provide gifts to our dedicated staff. It’s so much nicer to pitch in together to show our appreciation so no one is left out.

In January, the Council will hold its annual organizational meeting with Standing Committee chairpersons, so our next open KORA Council meeting will be Thursday, February 15, at 10:00am, in the auditorium. Working together with you, your Council is looking forward to another great year here at Kendal at Oberlin.

~Rollin Conway, KORA President 2024



Next KORA Council Meeting
Thurs., Feb. 15 - 10:00am
AUD and KOTV

Life-Long Learning Classes in Heiser Auditorium

Doors will close at 10:35am. To register, please contact Kari Inglis (or Rebecca Cardozo, if so indicated) BEFORE the first session, if possible. There is no fee.

Genetic Engineering. Tues., Jan. 16, 23, 30, 10:30am–12:00pm. Yolanda Cruz, Professor Emerita of Biology at Oberlin College, presents a three-part course. The products of genetic engineering abound in many aspects of modern lives. How do we assess the benefits of this technology?

Session 1: Genetically Engineered (GM) Products. GM products are today a part of our daily lives. What GM products are we likely to encounter?

Session 2: Why It’s Called “Genetic Engineering.” What does “genetically engineering” an organism actually mean? How is it done?

Session 3: Pros and Cons of Genetic Engineering. The uses and abuses of GM technology. What have we learned?

Racial Politics in the Post-Obama Era. Mon., Feb. 5, 12, 19, 10:30am–12:00pm. Dr. Jenny Garcia, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Politics, Oberlin College, presents a three-part course.

Session 1: How did we get here? Origins of racial politics and inequality in the U.S., looking at the racial basis of citizenship and the election of President Barack Obama.

Session 2: The Election of Donald Trump. Role of race in elections and voting, the use of racial priming by campaigns, racial disparities in voter turnout, and the changing racial make-up of the Republican and Democratic parties.

Session 3: Where are we now? Current issues in racial politics and pathways forward, looking at the Black Lives Matter movement, the growing number of racial and ethnic minorities elected to office, and racism in the electoral process.

Lorain County’s Natural Capital and Environment Services: Much Degraded but Still Recoverable. Tues., Mar. 5, 12, 26, 10:30am–12:00pm.

David Benzing, Kendal resident and Professor Emeritus of Biology, Oberlin College, presents a three-part course on Lorain County in a time of global change: the damage already sustained and ways to do better. Lorain County’s relevant conditions include proximity to Lake Erie; intensive, mostly grain-based agriculture; and substantial urban development.

The course begins with a description of the county’s past and present cultural and natural history. Next come on-going land uses, broadly defined, along with identification of the challenges that attend the cultivation of specific crops; the management of soils, storm water, invasive species, and various pollutants; and the collection and treatment of sewage. Mitigation strategies are included.

This course is sponsored by Kendal’s John Bartram Arboretum, which was recently elevated from first to second level status, entailing educational outreach.

As two volunteers “retire” from their duties...

Sidney Rosenfeld, thank you for serving on the Sports & Recreation Committee since 2007, especially for overseeing the Table Tennis events. (Phil Pritchett now assumes that position.)

Carol Bojanowski, thank you for helping found the Dementia Friendly Discussion Group (now the Cognitive Issues Discussion Group) and for facilitating the meetings since 2018. (Jesse Carlock becomes the new contact.)



KORA Health Lectures

Substance Abuse and Addiction

Thurs., Jan. 11 - 7:15pm
AUD, KOTV

Resident Dr. Tom Klosterman will discuss his experience with substance abuse and addiction from his many years of family practice in nearby Medina, OH.

Rural Response Network

Tues., Jan. 16 - 7:15pm
AUD, KOTV

Marla Brewer, Oberlin Community Services Community Coordinator, and Debbie Kelly, Rural Response Network Project Coordinator, will introduce and discuss the Rural Response Network (RRN).

The RRN is a federally funded initiative dedicated to reducing overdoses and overdose deaths in Oberlin, Wellington, and surrounding rural townships in Lorain County.

Crossing the Bering Land Bridge, 25,000 Years Ago

Mon., Jan. 22 - 7:15pm
AUD, KOTV

Resident David Scholl will present a documentary about his recent cruise in the Bering Sea that focused on the first peopling of the Americas by Asian folks who, to get there, had to cross or boat along the Bering Land Bridge 25,000 years ago.

Readers Theater: *Unsolicited Advice* by Don Parker

Fri., Jan. 26 - 1:30pm; Sat., Jan. 27 - 7:15 pm - AUD, KOTV

In this play advice comes in several flavors – helpful, irritating, even leading to an unexpected encounter. When advice is not only unsolicited but also anonymous, how do you respond to someone you don't know but who seems to know you? Come to see *Unsolicited Advice* and find out.

Image by Potjanun Surirug; <https://www.vecteezy.com/png/18249019-withered-flowers-in-a-vase-transparent-background-for-decorating-projects-unrequited-sadness-concept-isolated>



Lunch Bunch

Mercy Allen Hospital Cafeteria
Wed., Jan. 10 - 12:00pm
Kendal bus lv. 11:45am 🚌

Join us for lunch at Mercy Allen Hospital and visit our former chef Scott Stonestreet who is now the hospital's chef. Bus is free. Lunch on your own. Sign-up sheet is posted by the open mailboxes.

Salem Witch Trials of 1692: Putting Puritan Persecution in Perspective

Wed., Jan. 3 - 7:15pm
AUD, KOTV

Sue Wurster, a retired teacher of English, speech, and theater, takes a fresh look at what led to the Salem witch trials of 1692.

In *The Crucible*, Arthur Miller expressed the echoes he saw of the earlier time in the McCarthy era. And we've been hearing about "witch hunts" recently. Sue talks about various parallels in the three eras.

National Theater Live

The Crucible 🚌

Wed., Jan. 17 - 7:00pm - Apollo

In this contemporary new staging, Arthur Miller's parable of power is captured live on London's Olivier stage at the National Theatre of Great Britain.

Sign up for the Kendal bus. Tickets: \$20 at the door.

This is the first in a monthly series of National Theater Live presentations at the Apollo Theater.

🎵 Live Music at Kendal 🎵

Sun., Jan. 7, 4:00pm, AUD Kendal Presents: Kendal resident musicians. Catharina Meints Caldwell continues her series on her collection of antique violas da gamba. Also, OC student Amanda Vosburgh, cello, performs.

Sun., Jan. 14, 4:00pm, AUD Oberlin Conservatory student Maya Ridenour plays baroque cello with harpsichord accompaniment.

Sun., Jan. 21, 4:00pm, AUD "The Sax Machine" saxophone quartet will play old standards.

Sun., Jan. 28, 4:00pm, AUD Woodwind chamber music with George Cyphers and friends.

Verona String Quartet

Mon., Jan. 15 - 7:15pm - AUD

Before leaving on its tour, the Verona String Quartet will try out its program in Kendal's Heiser Auditorium.

Examining Racism in America
to Forge a More Equitable Future

Racial Equity Forum

A New Citizenship:

Reparations for the Eras of Slavery, Lynchings, and Jim Crow

Mon., Jan. 29 - 7:15pm
AUD, KOTV

A distinguished panel of experts – Dr. Charles Peterson and Dr. Pam Brooks, professors of Africana Studies at Oberlin College, and Dr. A.G. Miller, professor emeritus of Religion and Africana Studies – will present the case for reparations to African Americans for the eras of enslavement, lynchings, and Jim Crow segregation in the U.S., and why this is essential to consider in our present moment.

Continue the Conversation over lunch on Tues., Jan. 30, at 12:00pm in the Fox & Fell Den.

Orfeu Negro (Black Orpheus)
Tues., Jan. 9 - 7:15pm
AUD, KOTV

Because of the great response to the two samba programs in December, we will have a special showing of this 1959 film. The Brazilian film won the Palme d'Or at the 1959 Cannes Film Festival and the 1960 Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film. The story takes place during *Carnaval* in Rio de Janeiro and is based on the tragic Greek legend of Orpheus and Euridice.

The film is noted for its soundtrack by two Brazilian composers, Antonio Jobim (*The Girl from Ipanema*) and Luiz Bonfá. The *Carnaval* setting results in a lot of samba and bossa nova dancing as the various dance schools practice and compete during the parade.

Saturday Night Movies
7:15pm - AUD, KOTV

With opening and closing commentary by A.V. Shirk followed by discussion in the auditorium.

Jan. 6 - The Third Man (1949) One of Orson Welles' most famous roles in Carol Reed's great film, set in post-WWII Vienna.

Jan. 13 - Ladron que Roba a Ladron (Thief who Robs a Thief) (2007) Wonderfully comic heist movie set among Hispanic immigrants in the U.S. In Spanish with English subtitles.

Jan. 20 - Richard III (1955) Laurence Olivier's brilliant performance in one of Shakespeare's most popular plays.

For movie descriptions and details, see www.imdb.com.

The Kendal cable channels are:

- WKAO: 919, 19-1, OR 95-100
- KOTV: 920, 19-2, OR 95-101
- WSCC: 921, 20-1, OR 96-100

Art Gallery News

The current show in the **Kendal Gallery**, *Viewer's Choice*, includes a wide variety of artworks chosen by Kendal at Oberlin residents from the collection of the Artists Archives of the Western Reserve. An Artist's Talk is scheduled for Fri., Jan. 12, starting at 4:00pm in Heiser Auditorium. Mindy Tousley, director of the Artists Archives, will talk with us about the Archives, and one of the artists whose works are in *Viewer's Choice*, Mona Kolesar, will talk about her own work and what being an archived artist has meant to her. This show will be replaced by a one-person show of works by Mindy Tousley on January 29.

The **Community Gallery** will continue to present *Kendal Staff Creates* through Thurs., Feb. 1. Be sure to see this display of the artistic skills of our staff and the variety of media in which they have expressed their creative visions. On Fri., Feb. 2, an exhibition of

drawings and watercolors by resident Sheila Eckstein will fill the walls.

The current **Friends Gallery** show of photos related to winter and the holiday season will be followed in January by a new collection of seasonal photographs by members of the Kendal Photography Interest Group. We are fortunate to have works by these resident photographers brighten the walls of the gallery during this extended period of renovation and new construction. The current show has photographs by Kathleen Cerveney, Sally Nelson-Olin, Kathy Caldwell, Sally Lloyd, Nancy Lombardi, and Rebecca Cardozo.

The delightful exhibit, *Antique Toys and "Antique" Toys* in the **Curio Cabinet**, displaying "vintage" toys from the collections of Frankie Long, Satsuki Annino, and Nina Love, continues through the end of January.

The **Marketing Display Window** continues to display ceramic pieces made in a craft co-op in Ayacucho, Peru, from Ted Wolner's collection.

Sunday Movies
7:00pm - WSCC

Jan. 7 - When Harry Met Sally (1989)

Jan. 14 - Won't You Be My Neighbor? (2018)

Jan. 21 - A Walk in the Woods (2015)

Jan. 28 - Nyad (2023)

Monday Documentaries
1:00pm - WSCC

Jan. 1 - Cave of Bones (2023)

Jan. 8 - The Lost Pyramid (2023)

Jan. 15 - *Holiday Movie* Selma (2015)

Jan. 22 - Killer Robots (2023)

Jan. 29 - Cosmic Time Machine (2023)

Tuesday Themed Films
1:00pm - WSCC

Jan. 2 - Indiana Jones: Raiders of the Lost Ark (1981)

Jan. 9 - National Treasure (2004)

Jan. 16 - Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest (2006)

Jan. 23 - Jungle Cruise (2021)

Jan. 30 - Night at the Museum (2006)

Thursday Movie Musicals
1:00pm - WSCC

Jan. 4 - Funny Girl (1968)

Jan. 11 - La La Land (2016)

Jan. 18 - Annie (1982)

Jan. 25 - Shall We Dance (1937)

Looking for Someone? Find profiles of all residents, newcomers and old-timers alike, in *Who's Here* on the Kendal Library center bookcase.



The next *Art in Our Lives* session is on **Thurs., Jan. 4 at 1:00pm**. Presenters will be David Coffin showing and describing his interpretive oil and mixed media

paintings on glass and board, and Betsy Allen showing and talking about her origami art and her cowl scarves made from men's ties.

Several people are creating small ceramic cabins that fit the size and era of Don's Hoot 'n' Holler Garden Railroad. Look for them on the railroad next summer (near parking lot 6).

Joyce is planning a workshop to create quirky and whimsical imaginary creatures from natural found material on Tues., Jan. 23, and Thurs., Jan. 25, 2:30–4:00pm. Watch the Art Studio bulletin board to sign up.

Kathleen Cerveny is planning clay workshops for early in the year.

Look for further information on the Art Studio bulletin board in the hallway and in the occasional email newsletters. (Let Joyce and Kathleen know if you want to be on each list.)

For the Thurs., Feb. 1 *Art in Our Lives*, check posters and WKAO for presenters and subject. Also in February there will be classes in watercolor and acrylic pour-painting. ~Don Parker

Community Conversations Admissions at Oberlin College Today Wed., Jan. 17 - 7:15pm AUD, KOTV

Ben Jones, Oberlin College Associate Vice-President of Admissions Communications, will talk about the admissions scene today and then lead an interactive session in which audience members will choose among competing applicants. Ben (OC'96) is the son of resident Nan Holben.

**Introverts Unite!
Contact Suzanne McDougal**



CEO Transition Team Update – A Happy New Year!

This 2024 New Year is bringing new beginnings for Kendal at Oberlin. Our new CEO Seth Vilensky will join us on Mon., Jan. 29. From his many experiences, Seth brings a vision of where the senior care market is headed. He has been a CEO and understands the responsibilities of managing an organization. In our conversations, he came across as willing, informed, and a proponent of the values we share at Kendal. Seth, his wife Emily, and their two children live in Solon.

Seth looks forward to the camaraderie of being with people in the community and being involved with an active senior campus. He also shared that he knows this is a once in a lifetime opportunity and will do everything within his power to make it a success for everyone.

Our sense is that Seth will surround himself with smart and talented people and let them do their jobs. He has a strong business sense and good management acumen and style. Changes in direction will be thoughtfully and collaboratively considered by the Board with input from all stakeholders. He will likely bring new partnership opportunities. We see in Seth the potential to spread the Kendal values beyond Oberlin.

We all thank Barbara Thomas for her leadership, making Kendal at Oberlin one of the strongest and most admired senior communities in the country. Barbara has been on this Kendal journey since the beginning, confidently helping develop the programs that make Kendal at Oberlin home. We will miss her and wish her all the best as she begins the next great adventure of her life.

The Transition Team thanks everyone who supported us in the search process. You filled the Heiser Auditorium to hear updates, asked great questions, and gave good advice. We appreciate the time and talent you have shared.

And we look forward to your help in developing a strong transition, orientation, and onboarding process to welcome Seth and to begin a new era at KaO.

Please reach out with any questions or suggestions to jpvilla@oh.rr.com.

~The CEO Transition Team: Barb Benjamin, Rollin Conway, Rey Carrion, Amy Harrison, Terry Kovach, Tangi McCoy, Toni Merleno, Scott Emory Moore, Liz Schultz, Jack Southworth, Dominique Stecker, and Joan Villarreal

Barbara Thomas' Farewell Reception Fri., Jan. 19 - Program: 2:00–2:30pm - AUD, KOTV Reception: 2:30–4:00pm - Heiser

KaO Board Chair Joan Villarreal will lead a brief program honoring Barbara Thomas' over 30 years of friendship and service to our community. Watch in person or at home, then please attend the reception throughout Heiser. The stage screen and the large TVs in the Dining Rooms will display a continuous loop of pictures.



Previewing Ancestra: Director Anjanette Hall and Actors Tues., Jan. 23 - 7:15pm - AUD, KOTV

Student actors will join Assistant Professor of Theater Anjanette Hall to present key scenes from this Oberlin College Winter Term play. Inspired by the 1853 National Women's Rights Convention, it weaves a historical account of the pioneers for women's rights with the intimate biography of a contemporary journalism student who writes about reproductive healthcare. Residents can receive free tickets to attend the play on Sun., Feb. 11, at 2:00pm at OC's Wurtzel Theatre. The Kendal bus will provide transportation.

More About Kendal's Residents



Elisabeth (Betty) Mahjoub

I was born in Lorain, OH, as a first-generation American and youngest of three. Our mother was born of a German family in Brazil and moved to Lorain in 1905. Our father came from Germany in 1927 as a young engineer.

Music has been important in my life: At 5, I began piano lessons; at 8, violin lessons; at 13 piccolo lessons; at 14, I bought a second-hand silver flute. I continued playing flute and piccolo throughout high school, college, and during my employment in Tunisia.

In 1959 I graduated from Miami University (Ohio) with a BA degree in microbiology, and after a year as a University Hospital microbiology lab tech, I worked as a research assistant at the Department of Tropical Medicine and Public Health at Harvard Medical School in Boston. In the 1960s, I learned to grow tissue culture from "scratch," isolating disease viruses in tissue culture. In 1964, I accompanied my research chief and his family to Bahia, Brazil, for six months to establish a tissue culture lab.

In 1969, I graduated with a master's in public health (MPH) from the Yale School of Public Health and Epidemiology and worked in Tunisia, North Africa, to assist in developing a Ministry of Health family planning education effort. During this time, I met my future husband, a Tunisian man.

We lived in Tunisia, where I worked with two successive organizations: first with Project HOPE and finally with Care Medico.

Our only child, a son, was born in 1976; five years later we divorced. My son and I returned to the U.S. and moved to Oberlin, where I worked at Elyria Memorial Hospital. When my son went to college, I took a position as the lead poisoning prevention program administrator for the Missouri State Department of Health and Senior Services. I retired in 2004 and returned to live in Oberlin.



Thomas (Tom) Riis

I was born in Concord, NH, the oldest of three boys, raised in Upstate New York. My mother, having noted my propensity as an infant for spinning little yellow plastic records, wasted no time in finding an instrument for me – I think to keep me out of trouble. The cello was the only thing left in the third-grade music room, so the choice was easy. Mom was also a deft homemaker, secretary, seamstress, and volunteer for many community and church groups. Dad was a 30-year veteran of IBM and avid airplane pilot.

I attended Oberlin College, then the University of Michigan where I completed degrees in music history, and took up with "early" – that is, 12th-to-17th-century European – music performers. As a professor, I especially enjoyed writing and teaching about 20th-century African American music, at the University of Georgia until 1992, then at the University of Colorado, where I retired in 2018.

The opportunity to cover a wide range of historical styles, "from Plato

to NATO" as one of my teachers quipped, has given a lot of satisfaction. My position at Colorado encouraged me to plan a raft of seminars, conferences, classes, etc., devoted to such diverse subjects as medieval French lyrics, the creative lives of Black singer/actors, the music of Josef Haydn and Charles Ives, and the extraordinary effects of music on the brain. Lots of variety. Lots of fun!

I'm an un-spoused, single gay man, who is nevertheless blessed with a large family by blood and choice, most of whom live closer to the East Coast than the West, partly explaining my move to Kendal.

I continue to write about music, play the cello and viola da gamba, sing, and coach choirs and small ensembles. Besides music, my hobbies include reading (biography, ancient history, language, religion, British cozy novels), hiking, biking, travel, and classic films.

Movín', Movín', Movín'

Recent Moves

Ted Muenk to Patterson in mid-November.

Aleta Duey from Oberlin to an apartment in early December.

Linda Marshall to an apartment in mid-December.

American Sign Language Jan.–April - 1:40–2:20pm Ed Center Training Room

You can still attend the ASL classes:

- Jan. 25 - Medical signs
 - Feb. 8 and 29 - Feelings/personality and activities/leisure signs
 - March 7 and 21 - Family signs and jobs/occupations
 - April 11 and 25 - Education/schooling, sign an easy song
- Question? Email Michele Tarsitano-Amato at mtars@kao.kendal.org.
ALL are welcome to attend.



Library Notes

Some Notable Books of 2023

Before the new year reveals the books that may be in store for our reading pleasure in 2024, a selection of books available in the Kendal Library published in 2023 follows.

- *The Fraud*, by Zadie Smith. This historical novel is based on a 19th century trial in England involving a person charged with impersonating a nobleman.
- *Birnam Wood*, by Eleanor Catton. By the author of *The Luminaries*, this novel also takes place in New Zealand involving conflicts between a gardening collective and a billionaire with opposing views.
- *Hello Beautiful*, by Ann Napolitano. A complex family drama involving four sisters over four decades.
- *The Covenant of Water*, by Abraham Verghese. By the author of *Cutting for Stone*, this novel follows the story of a family in India across 77 years.
- *Tom Lake*, by Ann Patchett. A mother relates her past life as an actress to her three daughters.
- *Crook Manifesto*, by Colson Whitehead. This is a story of Harlem in the 1970s.
- *The Heaven and Earth Grocery Story*, by James McBride. Immigrant Jews and Blacks deal with intolerance in a run-down city on the edge of a Pennsylvania town.
- *The Wager: A Tale of Shipwreck, Mutiny and Murder*, by David Grann. This true story is based on the shipwreck of the HMS Wager in 1742 off the coast of Patagonia and those who survived. ~Joan Long

Newcomer Introductions Wed., Jan. 17 - 4:00pm - KOTV

Don't miss this opportunity to become better acquainted with your new neighbors!
~Sharon Furrow

Transportation News

Whether you own a car or don't, drive or don't drive, Kendal offers transportation options for everyone.

Begin with the KORA website: Go to the Menu on top, find "Services Available" and look at "Transportation Requests."

Information is available about: medical appointments (with a request form to complete), personal trips, shopping shuttle, K-car, Ride Share program (register to drive others to medical appointments outside Lorain County, or sign up to be a rider), and the Oberlin Connector (on-call bus service, also called LCT Lorain County Transit, for trips in Oberlin and to nearby venues).

Also on the KORA website: A category under "Bulletin Board" called "Requests," and one called "Offers." Residents can post transportation offers (e.g., "going blueberry picking; have space for three in my car") or requests (e.g., "looking for ride to Crocker Park/Trader Joe's; day and time flexible").

Look for more details in next month's Transportation News column.

Questions? Ask Gerry Findlan, Transportation Committee Chair, or Anne Martin.

Scariest Jack-o'-Lantern's No Longer Anonymous

This year's Halloween pumpkin carving competition had an all-time high of 18 entries from both residents and staff. Late congratulations to Dining Room Manager Nicole Cottrell, the winner in the Scariest category with her uncredited *One-Eyed Purple People Eater*. She joins winners Lilly Long (Originality with *Cinderella's Coach*) and Nick Long (Most Humorous with *Pinocchio*). ~Dan Reiber



Kendal Kryptogram #222 – by Nina Love

A YEARS AR YOUNG LX YEO WHP'G

UOGLQZYALRG, RLY YEO POHUG.~EORUP NLLUO

Solution to Kryptogram #221: "Autumn shows us how beautiful it is to let things go." ~Unknown



Federal Aviation Administration

Kendal Bus Trip FAA Cleveland Air Route Traffic Control Center Tour Wed., Jan. 24 - 10:00am–12:00pm

We have a unique opportunity to tour the Cleveland ARTCC in Oberlin, the third busiest of the 22 U.S. Air Route Traffic Control Centers. It oversees airspace over portions of Maryland, Michigan, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia, as well as the southernmost portion of Ontario, Canada.

Limit 20; you will need to provide full name, SSN, photo ID. Details will be sent to those who sign up. No charge. Sign up for Kendal bus.

BIG BUS to Cleveland Museum of Art Fri., Jan. 5, 2024 9:30am–3:30pm



Just a reminder if you reserved a bus seat for this trip!

Our bus will leave Heiser Center at 9:30am, returning to Kendal around 3:30pm.

Questions? Ask Gerry Findlan.



Could You Be a Medical Companion?

Medical companions are resident volunteers who accompany other residents to medical appointments. They help residents by riding with them on Kendal transportation, giving them physical assistance by pushing a wheelchair, helping them find the proper office, or simply providing emotional support. Sometimes the companion carries an envelope with patient information to the office, and sometimes, if the patient wishes, the companion goes in with the patient to hear what the doctor says or just to give support.

The Medical Companion coordinator gets requests for companions from the Stephens Care Center staff, social workers, or the resident. The coordinator calls volunteers with information about the date and time of the appointment. Volunteers are free to accept the assignment or not (no excuses needed). If you might like to join the Medical Companion team (no meetings), contact Jan Larsen.

KORA House Committee Needs Your Help

The beautiful grandfather clock, the Steinway piano, the TV lounge, the table tennis setup, and the comfortable furniture we are accorded make it a pleasure to relax in the Heiser Lobby and to walk through the Heiser Community Center and the apartment building.

Would you like to be part of the group that makes this all possible? The House Committee is eager to hear from you. Contact A.V. Shirk.

Employee Appreciation Gift from Our Residents: 2023 Holiday Fund

With the warm message of deep appreciation delivered from KORA President Rollin Conway, 223 Kendal at Oberlin employees received a Holiday Fund check with amounts ranging from \$75 up to \$662.26 on Fri., Dec. 8.

A total of \$81,159.00 was generously given by our residents from which payroll taxes were first deducted, distributing \$75,391.55 via direct deposit to employees. For those who are new to Kendal, the distribution of gift amounts is determined by employee hire date (tenure) and average work hours. Department Heads are never recipients of these resident gifts.

With great gratitude from our Staff Teams, THANK YOU for your great generosity and expressed appreciation for their services to you!

~Toni Merleno, Director of Human Resources & Operational Services



Oberlin Equity Conversation Thurs., Jan. 25 - 1:00–2:00pm - Green Room

Terri Richardson-Sanders, City of Oberlin Equity Coordinator, will join us for conversation about our city, what she hopes for in 2024, and how we can support equity in Oberlin. This will be a recurring conversation on 4th Thursdays at 1:00pm. Terri is part of the City of Oberlin's Planning and Development office, which is working on transportation, housing, and other needs including medical debt.

Terri (at right in the photo) is shown with Jan Thrope, the speaker at the Nov. 1 Kendal *Racial Equity Forum: Walking to Heal Racial and Economic Division – Healing the Space Between Us*. Terri is already familiar to some in the Kendal community. She joined us for Jan's presentation and led our Continue the Conversation lunch the next day. That lunch sparked the interest in starting this monthly conversation. **All are welcome!**



Nature Sightings

12/16/23

On Sat., Dec. 16, ten Kendal at Oberlin residents participated in the 124th annual Audubon National Christmas Bird Count. Some walked and some stayed in one spot, carefully observing back yards, woods, and ponds all around our campus and writing down every bird they saw (or heard) with the time and place they saw it.

In total, well over 300 birds were counted, identified as being of some 25 to 30 different species. Data like this is tallied from all over the country and, when analyzed and compared to previous years, gives an accurate picture of what is happening to bird populations. A full summary of what we saw at Kendal will be published next month.

~Mary Joy Leaper

Where to Find Contact Info

- **Kendal at Oberlin Directory**, printed and distributed in February.
- **KaO PDF Directory**, distributed via email to all residents.
- **Bulletin Board**, near photos of new residents. Make these corrections and additions to your printed directory.
- **Online Resident Directory**, in the KORA website (www.kaores.org). Click "Directory" under the "People" tab. You must be logged in for access.

Cognitive Issues/Memory Support Group

Are you experiencing changes in your cognition or memory and wish there was a place to talk to other residents about them? Five residents are meeting twice a month to share their concerns related to memory loss and how to remain engaged and promote their highest quality of life. If you feel you would benefit by attending this group, contact Carol Bojanowski.

From the John Bartram Arboretum
AMERICAN BEECH
(Fagus grandiflora)

The American beech has smooth, steel-grey colored bark and grows slowly if in the shade of a forest. At the John Bartram Arboretum two small ones can be seen this time of year at the Woods at 4 near our much-adored huge swamp white oak. Beech trees are in the same family (*Fagaceae*) as oaks, and the beech nuts look much like acorns, but three-sided. Our resident retired botanist, David Benzing, surmises that it was a squirrel that buried the nuts in this Woods and then didn't come back to eat them. Rachel Duncan, our horticulturist and ISA-certified arborist, says these trees are not easily transplanted.

The American Beech tree most often grows 50 to 80 feet high, but has been known to reach 120 feet. Its leaves have a pointed tip with serrated



In the Woods at 4.

edges, and they are about 3 to 5 inches long. Dark green in spring and summer, the leaves turn a beautiful golden bronze in the fall and stay on the branches throughout the winter. The buds for next year's leaves are slender, pointed, and reddish-brown, hiding just above where last year's leaf is holding on to the branch. Sometimes small black spots caused by fungi occur on leaves; this might result in some defoliation.

The male and female flowers look different. The male flower has clusters

that dangle and the female has small terminal spikes. They are not particularly showy and appear as the leaves begin to emerge. The female flowers are most often cross-pollinated by the wind.

The American Beech is a valuable tree for wildlife, from animals to butterflies to insects. Its wood is used indoors and for tool handles and wooden toys.

There now is an increasing concern about a disease attacking beech trees likely caused by a microscopic nematode. First detected in 2012, it causes striping between the lateral veins in the spring. The trees often die within five years of infection. The Holden Arboretum and the Cleveland Metroparks, among many other agencies and organizations, are working on this issue. We certainly hope a solution is found soon.

~Anne Helm for the Arboretum Committee

References:

<https://ohiodnr.gov/>

<https://www.wildflower.org/>

It's Time To Report Your Volunteer Hours for 2023!

In the first week of January, you will receive a form in your open mailbox asking you to report the number of hours you volunteered in 2023.

Every year our residents and staff record and submit the number of volunteer hours they have served both within and outside of Kendal.

Please fill it out, guesstimating if necessary. And don't forget your volunteer activities in the larger community! All volunteer hours and activities are important and can be counted.

Return the completed form to Box 121 by Wed., Jan 31.

The Volunteer Clearinghouse Committee will collate all the forms and total the number of hours.

Questions? Contact Anne Elder or Ann Findlan.

~Volunteer Clearinghouse Committee



Volunteers Needed

Kendal at Oberlin residents will be volunteering at Second Harvest on the last Thursday of each month in 2024, beginning January 25. A nonprofit committed to fighting hunger in our area, Second Harvest Food Bank of North Central Ohio provides a Senior Box Program for low-income, elderly individuals, supplementing their diets with nutritious USDA foods.

Our volunteers will pack boxes that include protein, cereal, rice, fruits, and vegetables.

If you are interested in joining this long-time KaO volunteer effort at Second Harvest, whether for one month or 12 or something in between, please contact Dave Coffin.

KENDAL RESALE SHOP

Benefiting Kendal Residents Assistance Fund (RAF) and Community Charities

SHOP!

Wednesday–Saturday
 11:00am–5:00pm
 (closed Sunday–Tuesday)

DONATE!

Bring your donations of clean, gently used, ready-to-wear clothing and usable household items to the box outside the shop, 24/7.

Given to RAF, year to date:

Total contribution: \$41,086.

Need to Change a Date for a Scheduled Event?

Notify *The Kendalight* and WKAO to update your event on our various sites!



2023 Year-End Tax-Wise Planning Smart Giving! Available Online through March 2024

The 2023 Year End Tax Planning Webinar given by CPA Vance DeBouter in November was recorded and is available to stream on the KORA website until the end of March 2024. The printed text of Vance's talk is available upon request. Questions? Ask Tom Konkoly by phone or email. ~Kendal Philanthropy Committee

Mindful Mondays Lunch with Kim and Cyndi Mon., Jan. 8 - 12:00pm - Fox and Fell Den

Join Kendal Social Services Associates Kim Peters (440-776-5016) and Cyndi Moran (440-775-9813) for an hour of conversation and discussion while enjoying lunch. No sign-up required. **All are welcome.**

Love to Dance!?

When Kendal opened 30 years ago, residents enjoyed ballroom dancing in the auditorium to live music. We could restore that enthusiasm if enough residents like you were willing to help start a ballroom and/or social dance group. Members could offer their favorite dance music so that we would have a variety of dances from which to choose.

There may be enough singles so that partners would not be required. There are ample dance-tutorial videos available from YouTube so that you could learn and practice, with or without a partner, prior to the next scheduled dance. We could use the auditorium A/V projection equipment to play CDs, DVDs, or YouTube videos on the large screen.

If interested or just curious, please contact Sandi McClennen or Dan Reiber.

Table Tennis Hours

Come and play on Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday, 10:00am to 12:00pm in Heiser Auditorium. **All are welcome!**

~Phil Pritchett

Suggestions and Concerns Mon., Jan. 8 - 2:00-3:00pm - Crossroads Room

We will listen to your suggestion or concern in confidence (privately, if you wish), discuss it with you, and refer the matter to a pertinent department head or committee chair. ~Rich Hall, chair

IN MEMORIAM

ROBERT "BOB" HEFNER
DECEMBER 1, 2023

JANET FERGUSON
DECEMBER 16, 2023

Off-Season Saturday Walks

Those desiring to walk off the Kendal campus should meet at the Heiser Reception Desk at 9:00am every Saturday. We will decide whether to walk that day (weather permitting) and carpool to the destination. The walks are leisurely, 1-3 miles, and generally scenic.

~Phil Pritchett

Let's Dance!

English Country Dancing

Sundays - 7:15pm
Heiser Auditorium
Contact: Judy Cook

Line Dancing

Mondays - 4:15pm
Heiser Auditorium
Contact: Dan Reiber

Square Dancing

Tuesdays - 4:00pm
Heiser Auditorium
Contact: Donna and Larry Steele



Church Services

First Church in Oberlin, UCC
Sun., 10:00am, WSCC

Oberlin Friends Meeting
Sun., 10:30am, Ed Center and Zoom

Oberlin Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Sun., 11:00am, Zoom

Roman Catholic Mass
St. Patrick's Cathedral, NYC
Sun., 11:15am, WSCC

Christ Episcopal Church
Sun., 12:30pm, WSCC, YouTube

Catholic Communion Service
Sat., 3:30pm, Green Room



Event Links

- For "inside Kendal" program links, **contact Carol Harvey.**
- For "outside Kendal" community cultural and educational ad hoc events, **contact Barbara Gordon-Lickey.**

The Kendalight

Monthly newsletter of the Kendal at Oberlin Residents Assn.
600 Kendal Dr., Oberlin, OH 44074

Managing Editor: Elizabeth Aldrich
Associate Editor: Suzanne McDougal
Proofreaders: Barb Benjamin, Anne Martin, Polly McIlrath, Mary Simons
Profile Photos: Sally Nelson-Olin

- Deadline for the February 2024 issue of *The Kendalight* is January 15.
- The editors regret that they cannot assume responsibility for errors in content in material submitted for publication.
- Note: Please submit articles by email to our address: kite600@yahoo.com
- If no email access, please type article on separate sheet, sign, and place in *The Kendalight* open mailbox.
- All articles must carry a signature and telephone number.



Happy New Year to all! Dining services is full of new beginnings.

Small Portions. Some of you may have already discovered that our servers now have a small-portion button on their tablets. This means that residents can stipulate that they wish about a half-size serving of any of their menu choices. This innovation is a direct response to resident requests. It does not mean a reduced cost for that item, but it will result in less food waste. People have assured us that they hate to throw away unneeded food or, just as bad, eat more than they need or want.

New Menus. You will also discover on January 1 that the long-awaited new

menus are being rolled out. This will be a four-week cycle of meals, with what we hope will be more interesting vegetarian and vegan options every day.

You will find full nutritional information for every listing on the menu. Candidly, we hope that people will find these new meal choices interesting enough to encourage them to choose higher meal tiers, giving the staff additional elbow room for offering additional food options.

Other dining changes are on the horizon in the coming months. We certainly wish the dining staff and Kendal residents a more flexible and interesting dining year ahead.

~Barbara Pierce, Chair, Dining Matters



Solo Diners: Come fill our table!

Solo Diners Tues., Jan. 23 - 5:30pm - Den

Join solo Kendal residents monthly for dinner and conversation in the Den. There is no planned agenda – just informal sharing. Sign-up sheet will be posted by the open mailboxes.

Threads: Drop Off or In Person in the Craft Room Thursdays - 11:00am–12:00pm



We do simple sewing jobs for residents only. We shorten pants, sew on buttons, patch holes, sew up seams, and mend toes of socks. Bring your clean, bagged items to the Craft Room anytime, place them on the table, and fill out the required work order form located on the clipboard.

Cognitive Issues Discussion Group Fri., Jan. 26 - 10:30am Ed Center Training Room

All are welcome. ~Jesse Carlock

UU Kendal Gathering Liberating Love

🕊️ **Lift Your Spirit: Poems, Songs, Stories**
Tues., Jan. 9 - 2:00–3:00pm - Crossroads Room

🕊️ **A Community Conversation**
Tues., Jan. 23 - 2:00–3:00pm
Crossroads Room

We will approach Resilience in two different though complementary ways: neurologically fortifying positive memories and practices, evolving who we are becoming. One, through the arts; the other, through conversation on a theme.

Facilitated by Rev. Mary Grigolia.
All are welcome.

Solution to Kendal Acrostic #6

Mary Oliver, *Song of the Builders*: “On a summer morning I sat on a hillside to think about God, a worthy pastime. A single cricket was moving the grains this way and that. How great was its energy how humble its effort. Let us hope each of us will always be going our inexplicable ways building the universe.”

Look for the New Acrostics in the Library – Copies of the *Kendal Acrostic for Puzzle Aficionados* created by Nina Love and Polly McIlrath are available in the Kendal library on a stand in front of the desk. Help yourself and enjoy!

Grief Support Group Tues., Jan. 23 - 10:00am Green Room

We meet together in the Green Room on the fourth Tuesday of the month, facilitated by licensed social worker Melissa Thompson. Our group is inclusive to anyone who has experienced a significant loss. Contact Melissa (mkthompson@kao.kendal.org).

Centering Time With Indira Palekar Mondays - 11:00–11:30am Zoom and WSCC

Psychologist Indira Palekar offers the Kendal community a time to reflect on topics that are suggested by the current participants. For Zoom link, contact Kim Peters (kpeters@kao.kendal.org).



Visiting residents in the Care Center sometimes can bring a degree of hesitation when you don't know how to begin. What if the door is closed? How do you visit a Stephens Resident you don't know? Do they want to be visited? If so, how do you begin the conversation? If you would like an introduction to visiting in the Care Center, just contact a member of Supporting Friends or Elizabeth Hole, who will help arrange this.
STAY CONNECTED

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p><u>First Church Service</u> 10:00am WSCC</p> <p><u>Quaker Worship</u> 10:30am Ed Ctr, Zoom</p> <p><u>RC Mass</u> 11:15am WSCC</p> <p><u>Christ Episcopal Service</u> 12:30pm WSCC</p> <p>Film (see p. 4) 7:00pm WSCC</p> <p><u>English Country Dancing</u> 7:15pm AUD</p>	<p><u>Chronicle News</u> 10:00am WSCC</p> <p><u>Centering Time</u> 11:00am Zoom, WSCC</p> <p><u>Documentary (see p. 4)</u> 1:00pm WSCC</p> <p><u>Line Dancing</u> 4:15pm AUD</p> <p><u>The Crown</u> 7:00pm WSCC</p>	<p><u>Chronicle News</u> 10:00am WSCC</p> <p><u>Themed Film (see p. 4)</u> 1:00pm WSCC</p> <p><u>Square Dancing</u> 4:00pm AUD</p> <p><u>Somebody Feed Phil</u> 7:00pm WSCC</p>	<p><u>Chronicle News</u> 10:00am WSCC</p> <p><u>News Currents</u> 1:00pm WSCC</p> <p><u>SCC Council</u> 1/10 4:00pm</p> <p><u>Song Swap</u> 1/10, 1/24</p>	<p><u>Chronicle News</u> 10:00am WSCC</p> <p><u>Musical Film (see p. 4)</u> 1:00pm WSCC</p> <p><u>Jazz Listening</u> 2:00pm AUD 1/11, 1/25</p>	<p><u>Chronicle News</u> 10:00am WSCC</p> <p><u>Art History</u> 1:00pm WSCC</p>	<p><u>Saturday Walk</u> 9:00am Heiser</p> <p><u>Ken Burns: Baseball</u> 1:00pm WSCC</p> <p><u>Catholic Communion Service</u> 3:30pm Green Rm</p> <p><u>Film (see p. 4)</u> 7:15pm</p>
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>Note:</p> <p>“Home” events (at Kendal) are in Bold.</p> <p>“Away” events are not.</p> </div>	<p>1 Happy New Year!</p> 	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Salem Witch Trials of 1692 7:15pm AUD, KOTV</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Art in Our Lives 1:00pm Art Studio</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Trip to Cleveland Museum of Art  Bus leaves Heiser at 9:30am. Must have reserved seat.</p>	<p>6 Twelfth Night</p> <p>Met Opera Verdi, <i>Nabucco</i> 12:55pm Apollo </p>
	<p>7 Orthodox Christmas</p> <p>Live Music Kendal Presents: Kendal resident musicians 4:00pm AUD</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Lunch with Kim & Cyndi 12:00pm Den</p> <p>Suggestions and Concerns 2:00pm Crossroads</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Lift Your Spirit with Song, Poems, Stories 2:00pm Crossroads</p> <p>Film: <i>Orfeu Negro</i> (Black Orpheus) 7:15pm AUD, KOTV</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Coffee Hour with BT 9:30am Langston, Zoom, KOTV</p> <p>Lunch Bunch Mercy Allen Hospital Cafeteria 11:45am–1:30pm </p>	<p>11</p> <p>Len's Trolley 4:30–5:45pm HL</p> <p>Substance Abuse and Addiction 7:15pm AUD, KOTV</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Artist's Talk Mindy Tousley and Mona Kolesar 4:00pm AUD, KOTV</p>
<p>14</p> <p>Live Music Maya Ridenour, cello 4:00pm AUD</p>	<p>15 MLK Birthday</p> <p>Verona String Quartet 7:15pm AUD</p>	<p>16</p> <p>LLL Class: Genetic Eng., Yolanda Cruz 10:30am AUD</p> <p>Rural Response Network 7:15pm AUD, KOTV</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Newcomer Intros 4:00pm KOTV</p> <p>NT Live, <i>The Crucible</i> 7:00pm Apollo </p> <p>Admissions at Oberlin College Today 7:15pm AUD, KOTV</p>	<p>18</p> <p>No KORA Council meeting in January</p> <p>Hearing Issues Support Group 3:00pm Ed Center</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Barbara Thomas' Farewell Reception 2:00pm -4:00pm AUD, HL</p>	<p>20</p>
<p>21</p> <p>Live Music <i>The Sax Machine</i> 4:00pm AUD</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Crossing the Bering Land Bridge 7:15pm AUD, KOTV</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Grief Support Group 10:00am Green Rm</p> <p>LLL: Genetic Engineering 10:30am AUD</p> <p>UU Gathering 2:00pm Crossroads</p> <p>Solo Diners 5:30pm Den</p> <p>Previewing <i>Ancestra</i> 7:15pm AUD, KOTV</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Kendal Bus Trip: FAA Cleveland Air Route Traffic Control Center Tour 10:00am-12:00pm </p>	<p>25</p> <p>Oberlin Equity Conversation 1:00–2:00pm Green</p> <p>ASL Class 1:40pm Ed Ctr</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Cognitive Issues Discussion Group 10:30am Ed Center</p> <p>Readers Theater: <i>Unsolicited Advice</i> 1:30pm AUD, KOTV</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Met Opera Bizet, <i>Carmen</i> 12:55pm Apollo </p> <p>Readers Theater: <i>Unsolicited Advice</i> 7:15pm AUD, KOTV</p>
<p>28</p> <p>Live Music Woodwind Chamber Music 4:00pm AUD</p>	<p>29</p> <p>A New Citizenship: Reparations for the Eras of Slavery, Lynchings, and Jim Crow 7:15pm AUD, KOTV</p>	<p>30</p> <p>LLL: Genetic Engineering 10:30am AUD</p> <p>Continue the Conversation Lunch 12:00pm Den (see p. 3)</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Exchange with BT 4:00pm AUD, KOTV</p>	<h1 style="color: red;">January 2024</h1> <p>Zoom: See kaores.org Calendar for link.</p> <p>KOTV: Cable 920, 19-2, or 95-101</p> <p>WSCC: Cable 921, 20-1, or 96-100</p>		