



CANOPY OF NEIGHBORS



NAN CLARKSON

Pennsylvania's Wilson College, one of our oldest women's colleges (1867), has been known for preparing women for fulfilling and useful living. We have been fortunate to have one of its graduates contributing her talents to our community for over 60 years.

Elizabeth Hudnut Clarkson, known as Nan, an enthusiastic member of Canopy since its beginning, has just celebrated her 90th birthday, and, much to her surprise, Mayor Byron Brown appeared at her birthday dinner with a proclamation declaring a day in her honor.

She had an early success when her first book was published in 1949, two years after her graduation from Wilson. "*You Can Always Tell a Freshman*", a book full of stories and advice for college women, illustrated with wonderful cartoons by a classmate and published by E.P. Dutton in New York. It was in print for 18 years and was a classic of its kind. Her last book, "*An Adirondack Archive: The Trail to Windover*" was published in 1993 and is still in print and selling today. Windover is the name of Nan's family camp in the Adirondacks where their family of three children and six grandchildren gather.

Nan married William M.E. Clarkson (Will) in 1950 and settled in Buffalo. Will worked at Graphic Controls and Nan, while raising their family, took part in serving in the leadership of the International Institute, the Albright (where she was a member of the first Junior Group) and later on the Members Advisory Council of the Albright-Knox, and for 17 years on the Board of the Museum of Science.

In 1990, Mayor Griffin appointed Nan to the Buffalo Arts Commission and soon after she became its chairman.

Trinity Episcopal Church has been Nan's constant and faithful center, where she has served on the vestry. The focus of much of her work and interest in the 60's and 70's was the Civil Rights movement, with some of her writing and much of her work connected with Dr. Lydia C. Wright, who become one of her dearest friends...and for whom Nan worked to have a school named before her death.

So it is understandable that the Urban League's honoring Nan and Will with their Family Life Award in 2007, has special significance for her. She also has an honorary doctorate from her beloved Wilson College and treasures the Arts Award from the National Conference in 1998.

Although she resigned from the Canopy board some time ago after



JUNE 2015

Newsletter of Buffalo's Canopy of Neighbors



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FROM YOUR PRESIDENT:

In April, we bade a grateful farewell to Philip Siddons who stepped in to serve as Canopy's Interim Executive Director in October, 2013, and gave a warm welcome to our new Executive Director, SASHA YERKOVICH. Sasha comes to us with a background in sales, marketing, communications and non-profit work. Her enthusiasm for the job and her compassion for others make her a perfect choice to carry Canopy into the future. She is looking forward to forging relationships among all of you and in the wider community to empower each of us to live life to the fullest. You can contact Sasha at 235-8133. She would love to hear from you and welcomes new members, volunteers and, of course, donors!



Sasha Yerkovich

Speaking of donors, we were recently awarded \$3,000 from the Evans-Devreux Memorial Fund and were invited by New York State Assemblyman Sean Ryan to submit a request for a \$10,000 grant from the State of New York. Keep your fingers and toes crossed on that one. On another fundraising front, our Board Member, Joyce Markiewicz, is leading the campaign for Corporate Sponsors for Canopy. So, call Sasha at 235-8133 if you have any business contacts or if you would like to assist Joyce. All of our fundraising efforts work to keep our membership fees among the lowest of villages like ours across the country.

Last, but not least, Board Members, Liz Schreier and Shirley Watts, have re-invigorated our Membership Committee. Call Sasha at 235-8133 if you would like to serve on the Committee or if you would like to host a gathering in your home or if you have any ideas or if you know of someone to bring into our Canopy fold.

Come enjoy the summer under the Canopy!

Gayle L. Eagan, Esq.

Out & About With Canopy

It's spring with summer on the way, join the fun with friends, fellow members and volunteers in the coming months. Please call 235-8133 for reservations and/or rides for these events.

CANOPY COFFEE CLUB meets these Thursday mornings at 9:00 a.m. at the Canopy offices:

JUNE 4: William Donohue, south Buffalo native, discusses his recently published book, *Himself: A Civil War Veteran's Struggles with Rebels, Brits and Devils*, the life of his great-grandfather, Patrick Donohue, a resident of the Old First Ward in the mid-1800's.

JUNE 18: Linda Drajem, author of *Family Matters*. A blog/dialogue between mother and son on family gender issues.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON EXCURSIONS

JUNE 19 at 1:30 pm: A guided tour of **Trinity Episcopal Church** and its grand stained glass windows, four by John LaFarge and five by the Tiffany Studios. This is the fourth in our series of visits to the area's historic churches. Each church visited shows us something new about Buffalo's history and culture.

JULY 10 at 12:30 to 3:00 pm: Miss Buffalo Landmark Cruise. Two and one half hours of Buffalo sightseeing from the water side. \$16 per person.

TUESDAY LUNCHEONS

By popular demand, **HAMLIN HOUSE** luncheons continue.

JUNE 9 & JULY 14 at 1:00 pm: Join us for lunch and great conversation. \$10 includes meal, beverage, tax and tip.

MORE JUNE & JULY EVENTS

TEA FOR TWO, THREE OR MORE: MONDAY JUNE 1, 15, & 29 from 11:00 am to Noon. Come and learn about the culture of tea, history, etiquette and a taste of tea.

IRISH CLASSICAL – ARTHUR SAVILE'S CRIME by Oscar Wilde... **THURSDAY, JUNE 4 at 7:00 pm.** Adapted for stage by Constance Cox from Wilde's 1890's short story. Lord Arthur, a well-intentioned but slightly dim-witted member of the English peerage, is told by a mysterious palm reader that he is destined to commit murder. "Wilde-ly" entertaining, witty and clever, this is Oscar Wilde at his very best.

PIZZA & BLUES AT BAPTIST MANOR: WEDNESDAY, JULY 8 at 4:00 p.m. Multi-talented Blues musicians, High Pool and John Ragusa, playing as the blues duo, Mulebone, perform at Baptist Manor, followed by a Canopy/Baptist Manor pizza reception. The garden will be at its peak!



THANK YOU DONORS

Our sincere thanks to the individuals, corporations and foundations who have supported Canopy of Neighbors through their financial contributions in 2014.

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*Calling All
Volunteers!*

**Do you remember when
neighbors reached out
to help their older
neighbors?**

We all use the same excuse that we are so busy but would love to help in some way but we only have an hour or so a week. The great news is you can! Volunteering after retirement or when the kids are in school is a great idea. Do you have time for a cup of coffee, a friendly smile, and some simple conversation by doing a friendly visit? Our members have great stories to tell and appreciate every effort you make for them.

We can reach out and help someone by driving to a medical appointment or to the grocery store, participating with a social activity or helping out in the Canopy office. You can volunteer around your schedule. We will be happy to email and/or mail you volunteer opportunities and you can choose what is convenient for you. Please call Kathy at the Canopy of Neighbors office at (716) 235-8133 or e-mail her at Kathy@canopyofneighbors.org.

CORPORATE SPONSORS

Thanks to these corporations who have chosen to support our mission and our community.



NAN CLARKSON...continued from page 1

Will's illness and surgery, he is much better now and she says they have a "full life for two ancient people". Canopy remains a prime interest for Nan, who believes wholeheartedly in its mission: to help its members stay in their own homes using a well-trained army of volunteers.

Canopy's new Executive Director has already asked her to do some brainstorming of new ideas for the organization. There's no question that Wilson College did a good job in preparing this minister's daughter to lead a fulfilling life!

— Marian Deutschman and Nan Clarkson



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This newsletter is a publication of Canopy of Neighbors, Inc. in Buffalo, New York. Canopy gives our members the practical means and confidence to remain in their own homes as they grow older.

Leave a Legacy



DO YOU HAVE OLD U.S. SAVINGS BONDS?

Did you know you can give them to Canopy? Simply make them payable to Canopy of Neighbors, Inc. by signing a simple form.

For further information call Canopy offices at 235-8133.

Reminder...

Thank you to all our generous donors who have given to our Annual Giving campaign. Your generosity is so appreciated. To anyone who has not yet given we will continue to accept donations as the year goes on.
Thank you again from Canopy of Neighbors.

SPECIAL THANKS...

The Evans-Devereux Memorial Trust has awarded Canopy of Neighbors a grant of \$3,000 to further Canopy's mission as a community of individuals empowering each other to live independently and enriching the wider community by sharing our wisdom, experience and energy.

Our Mission

Canopy is a community of individuals empowering each other to live independently and enriching the wider community by sharing our wisdom, experience and energy.