

Monday Morning Memo – 01.04.2021

Dear *Wider Horizons* Members and Friends,

### **Wider Horizons Events this Week and Upcoming**

1. It recently came to my attention that I had failed previously to tell you about the outcome of the Board election in December and want you to know that the 3-person member slate of **Bob Anderson, Nancy Hooyman, and Jeanne Marie Thomas**, for which nearly 50 of you voted, was confirmed by the Board. They also elected non-member **John Rochford**, a professional in the field of aging transportation who has worked in the community for many years. I'll be sending out his bio soon. And in the election of officers, the Board re-elected **Ann Lawrence** for another one-year term as President; re-elected **Charles Heaney** for another one-year term as Vice President; and elected **Liz Ohlson** as Secretary to replace Michael Kischner, who is leaving the Board. Congratulations to all!
2. This week's *Thursday morning Zoom* with **Sue Lerner** and **Debbie Ward** will happen, as always, at 9:30 am. Sue will send out the questions and the link on Wednesday. Please join us!
3. Our *Wider Horizons* Book Group, under the leadership of **Nancy Robb**, meets next Tuesday at 10:30 am to discuss the book *Did You Ever Have a Family?* by Bill Clegg. I've attached the list of books for all of 2021 in case you want to read along with us or join the discussion. All are welcome. The Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89308352670?pwd=RUJnUWY2QjAyNDJENndsOERhYXFwQT09> and I'll send it out again next Tuesday morning.
4. Ann Lawrence wants to know if you have an interest in getting together on Zoom to discuss *End-of-Life Planning*. Ann and I are developing a list of reading/discussion resources. While you are thinking about this, let me know which topics within this broad one are of greatest interest.

The tone of the “Sharings” below is pretty serious, but then it has been a time for sober reflection and hope as we look forward.

## Members and Friends Share Recommendations

1. From **Chris Morris**, a beautiful and moving New Year's video – in Scottish dialect – celebrating Hogmanay (the Scots word for the last day of the year). Chris says, “Beautiful poetry...with such a lovely light show instead of fireworks.” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?fbclid=IwAR1D9joyM2dPNzAO3lMzKJ5xKoaUYwvQfACoVkfChGrdCb8NqNDvTc9F8S4&v=Xx3Zmkg2no&feature=youtu.be>
2. A New Year's Blessing/Poem from **Janet Tufts** is attached – one of my favorite poems and poets!
3. And a New Year's greeting from **Julie Anderson**, also very lovely: <https://biggeekdad.com/2011/01/happy-new-year/>
4. **Nora Langan** has shared a treasure trove of information about indigenous peoples. See the two attachments. They include information about films and other events but also give a philosophical perspective that I found very enlightening.
5. Lest we be tempted to forget the lessons of 2020, watch this video from my friend Robyn Golden: <https://www.npr.org/sections/pictureshow/2020/12/30/950636647/you-might-be-ready-to-forget-2020-this-film-reminds-you-why-you-shouldnt>
6. From **Ann Lawrence** on a similar theme (what we need to remember) – a video with music: [https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/2020/lifestyle/magazine/the-endless-call-for-racial-equity-and-justice-in-photos-and-quotes/?utm\\_medium=ret-eng-email&utm\\_source=marketing&utm\\_campaign=us-202012-bestof2020](https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/2020/lifestyle/magazine/the-endless-call-for-racial-equity-and-justice-in-photos-and-quotes/?utm_medium=ret-eng-email&utm_source=marketing&utm_campaign=us-202012-bestof2020)

I read a piece in the *New York Times* this morning by Toby Levy, a New Jersey resident now in her late 80's who survived the Holocaust with her family of nine people. They were hidden in a barn in Chodorow (then Poland, now Ukraine) from 1942 until the end of the war. Much of that time, they were in a space 4 feet by 5 feet and “slept like herrings.” The 16-year-old son of the friend who hid them increased the space at some point and the children could then see outside. He also insisted his mother keep hiding them when she became very scared about being detected.

Now, reflecting on how the virus has stolen a year of her life, Toby says, still, *there is no comparison to the anxiety and terror I felt when I was a child. That was a fear with no*

*boundary. This is going to end, and I am already thinking, planning where I am going first, what I will do first, when this ends.*

Yours,

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[www.widerhorizonsvillage.org](http://www.widerhorizonsvillage.org)