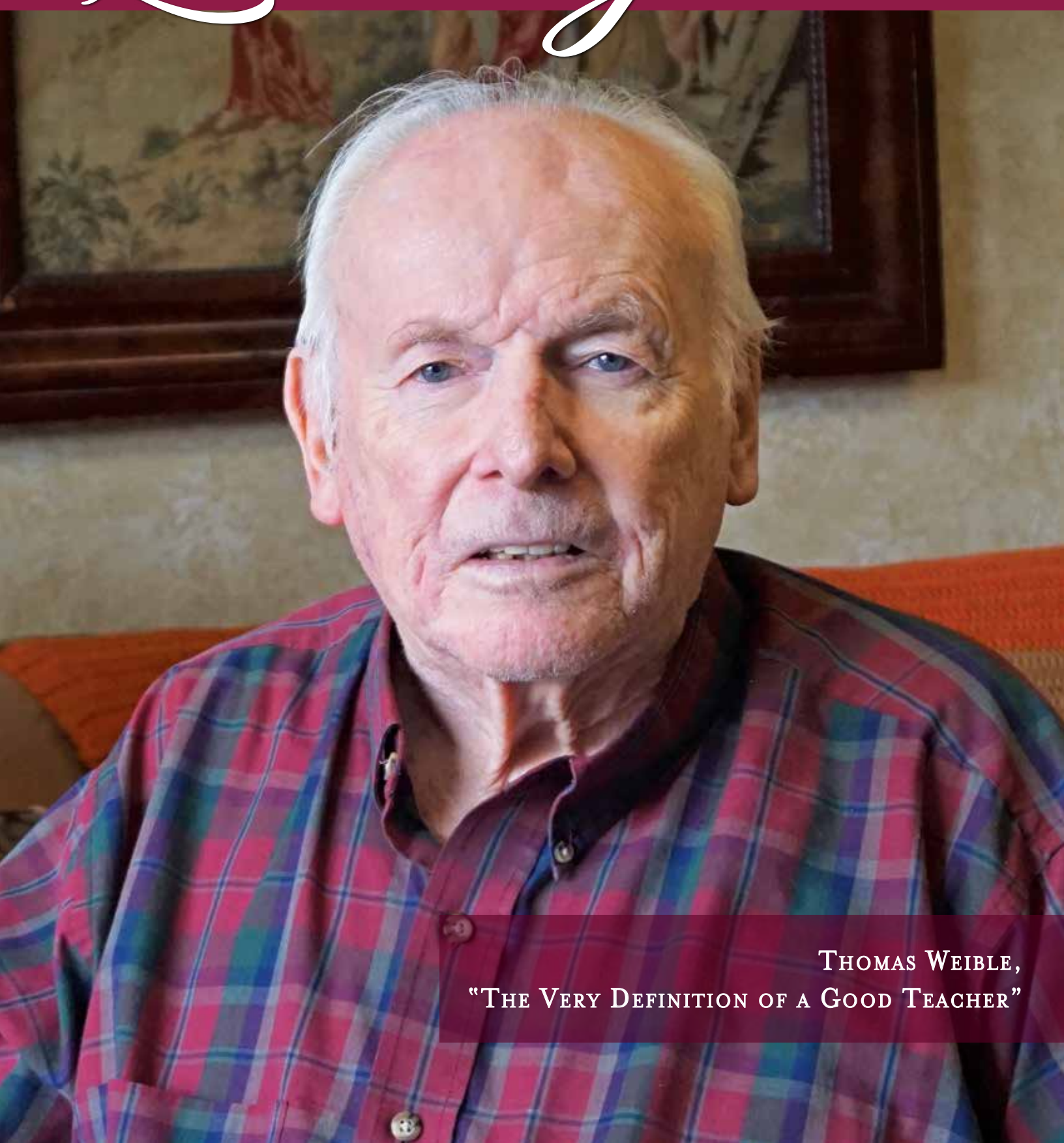


STONERIDGE

EARLY SPRING 2018

Living

A STONERIDGE RETIREMENT LIVING PUBLICATION



THOMAS WEIBLE,
"THE VERY DEFINITION OF A GOOD TEACHER"



Who Rescued Whom?

Dori's Story

Eight years ago, Stephanie Smaltz received a telephone call concerning a rescue mission. She occasionally received calls like this as she was in the rescue business. While her rescues do not involve hazardous situations or require emergency vehicles or special equipment, there is a definite sense of urgency, and her desire to help and a heart of compassion is fundamental to success. Stephanie rescues dogs, specifically Maltese, and is a member of the American Maltese Association Rescue, which is dedicated to rescuing neglected, abused or abandoned Maltese. Soon after receiving the call, she was off to the rescue - all the way to South Carolina where Dori, a female Maltese, was currently living.

Dori was nine months old and, in many respects, was a miracle dog. It is not exactly clear what happened at her birth or if her mother instinctively knew that Dori had medical problems and would have difficulty surviving. She was a breach birth and, in an attempt to help the little pup in the birthing process, the mother pulled on her leg to assist in the delivery. As a result, the pup's leg was severely damaged and had to be surgically removed after birth. As it happens, Dori was also

born deaf, and, because her kidneys never fully developed, she had renal dysplasia, a condition with which she continues to suffer. She is quite small, even for a Maltese, and, one will quickly notice, Dori has what seems to be an incredibly long tongue. Stephanie laughs as we conclude that her tongue was undoubtedly intended for a typical-sized Maltese, not a petite little girl like Dori. Stephanie shared that a typical adult Maltese weighs between four and seven pounds. At present, Dori is nine years of age and weighs about three pounds. Besides Dori, Stephanie also has three other Maltese, a Yorkshire Terrier and a Yorkie mix. In addition, she frequently has a foster dog or two under her care.



Dori's adopted grandmother, Mariana Navesky, Dori and Stephanie Smaltz, animal rescuer and Dori's owner

Stephanie serves as a receptionist at StoneRidge Towne Centre in Myerstown. She generally works on Sundays, and Dori comes to work with her. Dori is a certified therapy dog, and the effect she has on residents and anyone with whom she comes in contact is apparent. She often rides the newspaper delivery cart and dispenses the newspapers to residents along with a lick and a smile. Dori also has an adopted grandmother in resident Mariana Navesky. Mariana's residence is located near the reception area, and when Dori needs to take a break after hours of meeting with her fans, Mariana comes and brings her back to her room for much-needed rest.

How Do You Know When You Are Ready for Retirement Living?

Stacia Dial, director of sales

"I'm just not ready yet." This is probably the most frequently heard remark in the senior living industry. It begs the question, what does it mean to be ready? Being ready, I have found, can mean a variety of different things to different people. Some look at readiness as the inability to do certain things around their homes, such as yard work or housekeeping. Others would say they are "ready" when they have a health scare. Still, others are in great shape and capable of doing all of the work associated with maintaining a home but simply do not want to think about any of that anymore.

If any of the following describes you or a loved one, then it's likely time to make a move, ready or not.



Stacia Dial, director of sales (r), her mom, Lois Dial, a StoneRidge Poplar Run resident, and her daughter, Alex (l)

Home maintenance is wearing you or your family down.

This is often one of the first signs that someone should look into an alternate living arrangement. Managing water heater repairs, clogged toilets and similar household chores can leave you feeling vulnerable and overwhelmed. In situations like these, a person typically becomes more reliant on paid help or family volunteers, who are willing to help but have their own homes to maintain.

Nutrition begins to suffer.

Most people don't like to prepare food for one or two people, and they tend to snack rather than eating full meals. I knew it was time for my grandmother to make a change when her diet consisted largely of coconut cookies and Lebanon bologna - not exactly healthy. During her first week in residence at her community, she remarked how nice it was to have meals again and to eat with others.

Life becomes limited.

Difficulty driving, diminished vision or hearing and health issues don't have to impact your social life. Having a full social routine can keep someone healthier and more engaged. A vibrant community can offer activities, entertainment and the freedom to live life again. Being isolated at home cannot.

Don't let living in your house limit your life. Get ready today for a future of freedom and fun you never imagined! If you would like to discuss whether you or a loved one is ready for a move to a retirement community, please feel free to call me at 717.866.3553 or email me at Stacia.Dial@StoneRidgeRetirement.com.



Literati

Who Knows Where the Time Goes

Across the evening sky, all the birds are leaving
But how can they know it's time for them to go?
Before the winter fire, I will still be dreaming
I have no thought of time
For who knows where the time goes?
Who knows where the time goes?
Sad, deserted shore, your fickle friends are leaving
Ah, but then you know it's time for them to go
But I will still be here, I have no thought of leaving
I do not count the time
For knows where the time goes?
Who knows where the time goes?
And I am not alone while my love is near me
And I know it will be so until it's time to go
So come the storms of winter and then
The birds in spring again
I do not fear the time
Who knows how my love grows?
Who knows where the time goes?



Unearthing Gems from Ancient Manuscripts



Alma Stewart's welcoming smile, sweet spirit and genuine caring immediately attract all who meet her, but these traits and her unassuming manner give little indication of the dimension of her many accomplishments. Yet, interaction with this demure woman, who had traveled the world and visited nearly every continent by the age of 37, reveals a depth of thought and ability clearly grounded in a great love for God and His people.

Stewart was born at home in Altoona, PA on October 6, 1926, to Mary and Melvin Shoemaker. It was the time of Greta Garbo, Rudolph Valentino and Bonnie and Clyde. Calvin Coolidge was in the White House, Joseph Stalin was dictator of the newly formed Soviet Union and Paul von Hindenburg was president of the German Reich. The Great Depression was three years away, and the prelude to The Good War, as historian Louis "Studs" Terkel called it, was brewing in Europe. Alma's family included a brother



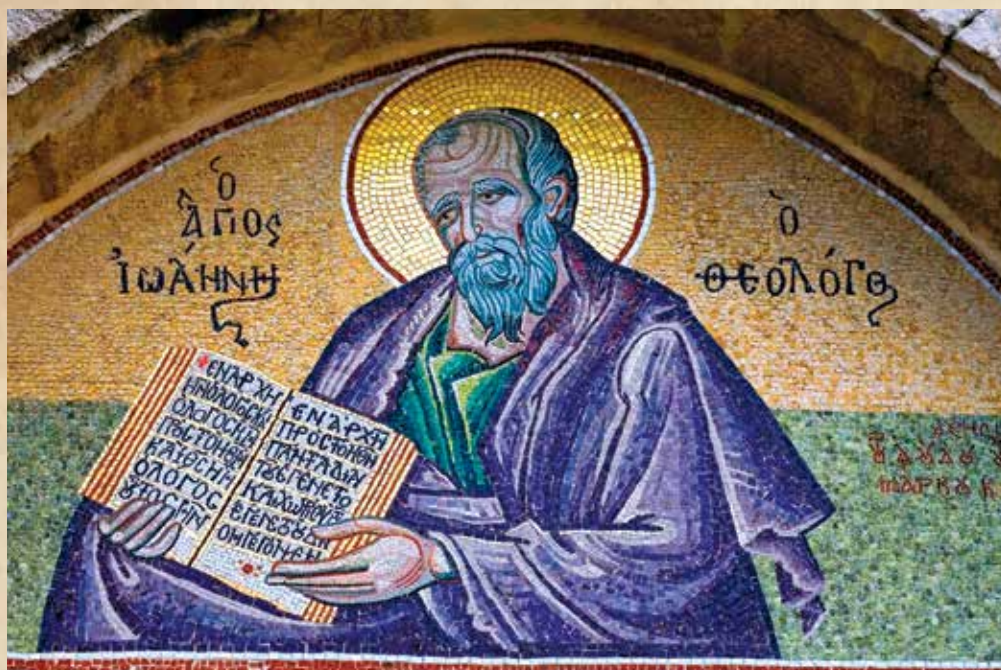


John writing on the Isle of Patmos, Book of Hours, 15th c. France, Gluck Manuscript Collection, Buffalo and Erie County Public Library

and two sisters. Her mother, whom Alma describes as a “gentle lady,” was a schoolteacher for all eight grades; her father had served in the Great War and worked for the Pennsylvania Railroad. As the depression hit, there was a strike on the railroad, so Melvin found a position managing a local grocery store. After the war, he worked as a mail carrier for the U.S. Postal Service until retirement.

Alma earned an engineering degree from Elizabethtown College and worked as an engineering associate for AT&T in Philadelphia. She also served as a missionary in the Philippines for eight years

and did further ministry in the Panama Canal, Suez Canal and several countries in Europe, Africa and Asia. After retiring from her work in engineering and missions, she returned home to take care of her ailing father. She also went back to the classroom and completed a master's degree in New Testament Greek at Manahath School of Theology (Hollidaysburg, PA), and at 62, her doctorate in religious education at Breckbill Bible College (Max Meadows, VA). During her



Mural of John the Evangelist, Patmos, Dodecanese Islands, Greece.

post-graduate studies, she worked on the editorial staff with her mentor, Bible scholar, prolific author and founder of Advancing the Ministry of the Gospel (AMG) International, Dr. Spiros Zodhiates.

Now a resident at Church of God Home, a StoneRidge Retirement Living Community in Carlisle, PA, Stewart recently completed work on a second dissertation, a project begun 20 years ago. "Words of Strength and Beauty from the Gospel of John," is designed to enhance Bible study by providing resources from John's Gospel from the original Koine Greek. It is intended to be a teaching aid for those desiring to go deeper into the meaning of John's Gospel as well as provide an introduction to New Testament Greek vocabulary. Examining a document's original language enables a reader to get a more precise meaning of what the author intended. The Bible is no different, and as we read it today with 21st-century eyes, we are often unaware of nuances of meaning or interpretation from 2000 years ago.

In her introduction, Stewart likens John's writing of his Gospel to the skilled work of a jeweler. When you visit a jeweler, he puts everything aside, places a dark-colored velvet cloth before you and sets a gem on it for you to examine. There is nothing to distract you from the sharp contrast of the jewel against that dark background. The gemstones John uses as he crafts his work are his words which convey his inspired thoughts to the reader. Stewart explains several of these words, these gemstones, in hopes of deepening the reader's understanding and knowledge of who God is and how great His loving grace is for all of us.

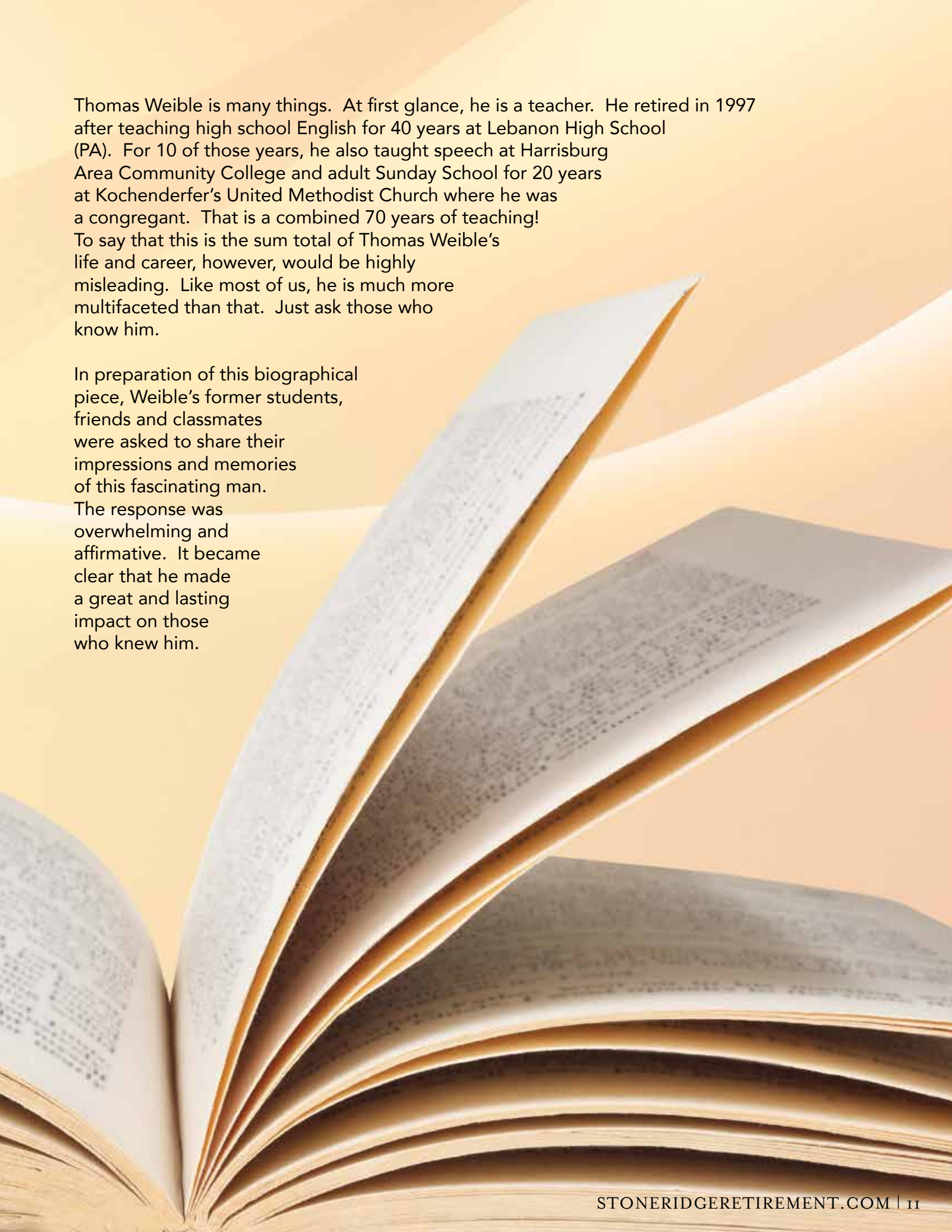
One example from her work focuses on John 14:1 – it states, "And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen His glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth." (NRSV) Stewart notes that the English word "grace," as it appears in the New Testament, is limited to two Greek words. One is used 150 times throughout the New Testament; the other is used only once. "We are surprised to learn that John did not find it necessary to use one of these words at all and the other he used only four times," she says.

In verse 14, we read that Jesus was "full of grace and truth." Stewart explains that the Greek word for "full of" used here is "pleres." This word "carries the meaning of being filled, not occasionally or secondarily, but constantly and completely filled. John is saying immediately that the Word, the Jesus he is presenting, is full of an attitude of loving kindness (grace) constantly and completely," emphasizes Stewart. The Greek word used for "grace" here, and only three other times in his Gospel, is the word "charis," which stems from the basic Greek word "chario" meaning cheerful. She adds that "it could be joy or pleasure (and) it could bring about other responses such as accepting a kindness, either granted or desired, that could be of benefit or gratitude. It could be a favor done without expecting anything in return. It is also used to mean the absolutely free expression of the loving kindness of God to man with God's only motive being to provide bountifully His favor to man." Dr. Zodhiates explains it this way, "God's grace affects man's sinfulness and not only forgives the repentant sinner but brings joy and thankfulness to him. It changes the individual to a new creature without destroying his individuality." Stewart concludes, "Everything about Jesus is grace and truth. John does not need to use the word charis to identify it and he skillfully omits it throughout the rest of his book as he tells his story "full of" the grace and truth of Jesus, the Son of God."

Congratulations to Alma Stewart on the completion and publishing of this useful work. What an awesome accomplishment! It must also be noted that getting this work published in final form would not have been possible without the help of Alma's friend and neighbor, Helen Milliron. Wherever "Words of Strength and Beauty from the Gospel of John" is used – in schools, by missionaries individual students – Alma's prayer is that it will further the work of the Gospel.

"All That Glitters Is Not Gold" *- Well, Sometimes*

At the end of class one day early in the new school year, Mr. Weible, who taught high school English, took several of his vocational/technical students to the high school gym to create an illustration and to make a point. It seems this group of students were not thrilled to be in English class, and their faces reflected obvious dread. Upon arriving in the gym, Mr. Weible had the students line up. He then proceeded to execute a less than perfect handstand. While briefly suspended with his legs in the air, his pants pockets emptied with the contents rolling everywhere. The students laughed, wondering why their English teacher brought them to the gym so he could perform a handstand – and a not so great one at that. The next day in class, he reached out to these less than enthusiastic students and said, "Alright, so you all believe that you are not very good at English. However, as you could easily see from yesterday, I am not very good at handstands. Not everyone is good at everything, so what do we do now?" The students were intrigued, and he had gotten their attention. Clearly, as Shakespeare penned in Hamlet, Act 4 Scene 5, "We know what we are, but know not what we may be."



Thomas Weible is many things. At first glance, he is a teacher. He retired in 1997 after teaching high school English for 40 years at Lebanon High School (PA). For 10 of those years, he also taught speech at Harrisburg Area Community College and adult Sunday School for 20 years at Kochenderfer's United Methodist Church where he was a congregant. That is a combined 70 years of teaching! To say that this is the sum total of Thomas Weible's life and career, however, would be highly misleading. Like most of us, he is much more multifaceted than that. Just ask those who know him.

In preparation of this biographical piece, Weible's former students, friends and classmates were asked to share their impressions and memories of this fascinating man. The response was overwhelming and affirmative. It became clear that he made a great and lasting impact on those who knew him.



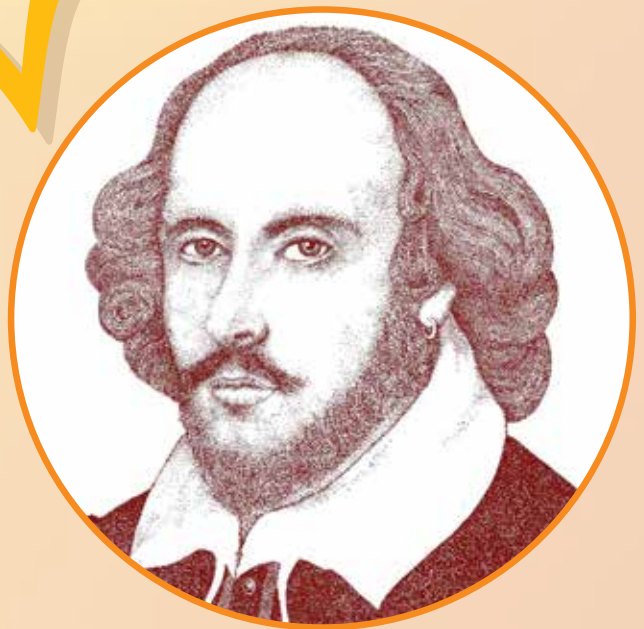
Of his students, everyone responded that he was truly the “best teacher ever” and “the very definition of a great teacher.” One grateful woman shared that “he believed in me and my abilities more than I did.” Several spoke about how he somehow managed to reach them despite their rebellious nature or chronic lack of attention. He was praised for taking the time to listen to their concerns without casting judgments. Another woman stated that now that she has a daughter in high school, she wished that she, too, could have been “blessed to have (Mr. Weible) as her teacher.” Another common thread in the responses from those who knew Thomas is their genuine affection for their beloved teacher and friend. Even after 20 years of retirement, Thomas still receives greeting cards from his former students. He was also described as a “sharp dresser” and “always a perfect gentleman.”

Many paid homage to his great passion for literature, particularly the classics and, of course, Shakespeare. One remarked, “Whenever I hear Shakespeare, I think of Mr. Weible.” He would take his students to the movie theatre whenever a Shakespeare classic was playing. In his untiring efforts to reach students, he would sometimes arrive in class donning a costume from Hamlet to bring his students into the time and style of the famous bard. While studying the grave scene from Hamlet, a conversation arose among his students about death customs

*“The very definition of
a great teacher.”*

and burial rites of the age. This led to a class trip to a local funeral home where students learned first-hand about death and how these customs evolved. An article that appeared in the Lebanon Daily News describing the class trip takes a quote from Hamlet where Gertrude says to Hamlet in Act 1, Scene 2, “Good Hamlet, cast thy knighted colour off, And let thine eye look like a friend on Denmark. Do not for ever with thy vailed lids Seek for thy noble father in the dust. Thou know’st ‘tis common. All that lives must die, Passing through nature to eternity.”

Thomas was born on November 19, 1935, during the Great Depression, in the area of North Lebanon known as Sunset. All told, there were six young Weibles; Thomas, the only male child, was second oldest. His father, Thomas Sr., was a steelworker at the Lehman Street Foundry. Thomas was educated at a one-room schoolhouse located at the bottom of 7th Street in



Lebanon. After graduating from the school where he would later spend 40 years of his professional career, he worked at Food Fair as a cashier, a job he held throughout his college career. He is an alumnus of Lebanon Valley College and Penn State University with degrees in English. He has been married to Sandra for over 42 years

and has two daughters, Kristin Kay who was born on Shakespeare's birthday, and Kendra Kay. Kristin serves as a first-grade ESL teacher at the Northern Lebanon School District, and Kendra serves as a teacher at the Lancaster Intermediate Unit.

Another of Weible's life passions is swimming. After attending the American Red Cross (ARC) Aquatic School at New York University, he served as an ARC water safety instructor. He also holds the distinction of being the first person in Lebanon County to complete the Red Cross 50-mile swim, a "Swim and Stay Fit" program that was part of President Kennedy's physical fitness initiatives.

During our interview, Thomas wondered aloud if he could ever go into the water again. "Would you like to try?" Thomas' eyes opened wide, and he said, "Really?" "Yes, really." After some planning, Thomas was escorted to the pool at the Wellness Center at StoneRidge Poplar Run, which is adjacent to Towne Centre. After getting into the pool, it was not long before Thomas was floating on his back, doing the breaststroke and backstroke as if he had never skipped a beat. He swam for more than an hour and enjoyed it immensely. Soon after returning to his room at Towne Centre, he mentioned to his wife Sandra, "This is the best day I've had since being at Towne Centre." Thomas was blessed, as was each of us who cheered him on. Thomas Weible is truly a good gift to his students, his beloved wife, family and to all who call him friend.



MEMORABILIA

Seventy-five years ago...

In 1943, as the Allied Forces took back North Africa, the courageous acts of Jewish resistance fighters in German-occupied Poland held off for nearly a month Nazi Germany's efforts to transport the remaining ghetto population to Treblinka in The Warsaw Ghetto Uprising (see photo lower right). In popular culture, "Paper Doll" by The Mills Brothers was the number one hit song, remaining on the charts for 12 weeks. The top-grossing film was "For Whom the Bell Tolls," which lost the Best Picture nod to the sixth top-grossing film, "Casablanca." In the field of medicine, Dr. Leo Kanner of the Johns Hopkins Hospital was the first to adopt the term autism, and Dr. Willem Kolff built the first successful dialysis machine in the German-occupied Netherlands. On the other side of the world, in the middle of the night on August 2, 1943, while on patrol in hostile waters in the south Pacific, U.S. Navy ship PT 109 was rammed and cut in two by the Japanese destroyer Amagiri. The heroic actions of future president Lt. John F. Kennedy, who commanded the vessel, saved the life of a badly burned crew member by helping him to shore through over three miles of shark-infested waters while having the strap from the wounded sailor's life vest held tightly in his mouth. Their journey took four hours.





A Tribute to Linda Leffler

Linda Leffler passed away on Monday, October 16, 2017, at the Church of God Home, a StoneRidge Retirement Living Community in Carlisle, after a short battle with lung cancer. She was a dedicated and valued Church of God team member for 13 years. During her tenure, she held several positions from nursing secretary to her most recent, administrative assistant to the executive director and



Schoolyard Square Active in Alzheimer's Awareness

The residents and staff at Schoolyard Square, a StoneRidge Retirement Living Community in Pine Grove, were busy throughout the fall and early winter with on campus events and community activities. Each year, the staff is active in efforts to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer's disease. This year was no different as a team from Schoolyard Square participated in the Schuylkill County Walk to End Alzheimer's at Bubeck Park/Stoyer's Dam. Pictured here (l to r) are staff members Kristina

receptionist. Soon after her diagnosis, she made it clear to everyone that she did not want tears and pity, but she wanted support to help fight the battle that lay ahead. Through her final days, she received many visitors, cards and gifts from family and friends, including former and current staff.

When asked about her impressions of Linda, Mary Shrader, executive director at Church of God Home, shared, "First, she was strong and dedicated. From the moment she was given the diagnosis, her desire to fight and beat the hand she had been dealt was amazing. Throughout the disease process and even up to moments before her final breath, I felt that she was in control. She knew when it was time to relinquish her battle and she did so with grace. Second, she loved the Dallas Cowboys (no matter how they were doing on the field), QVC and her many animals. More importantly, she loved life! She was everyone's "buddy." She laughed, and her laughter was often contagious.

I believe she lived each day of her life to the fullest.

She will be sorely missed, and I feel blessed to have known Linda. Until we meet again, buddy!"

Zimmerman, Kristine Tobias, executive director, and Krista Smith. Alzheimer's is the sixth leading cause of death in the U.S., and over 5 million Americans are presently living with the disease. Held annually in more than 600 communities nationwide, the Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's is the world's largest event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer's care, support and research. This inspiring event calls on participants of all ages and abilities to join the fight against the disease. The two-mile Schuylkill Haven walk raised over \$1100!



Fresh Strawberry Pie

Schoolyard Square Head Cook Cindy Martin offers a perennial favorite that is delicious and easy to make. With the longer days and warmer weather around the corner, soon we will have an abundance of fresh, local strawberries. Nothing says “spring” like a fresh, homemade strawberry pie. Enjoy!



Culinary Landscape

PIE FILLING

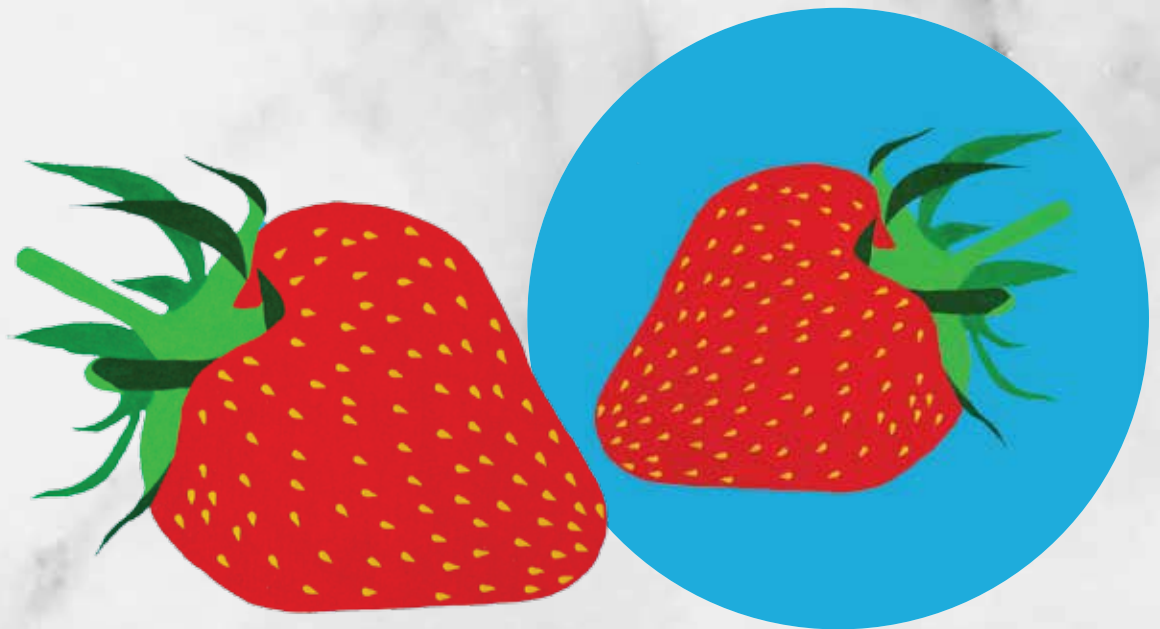
1 ½ cups water
¾ cup sugar
2 tablespoons cornstarch
1 (3 oz.) package of strawberry Jell-O
4 cups strawberries
1 baked pie shell (recipe below)

Cook water, sugar and cornstarch until clear and thick. Add Jell-O to thickened sauce, stirring until the Jell-O is dissolved, then add strawberries. Pour into baked pie shell. Refrigerate for about 4 hours until set. Top with whipped cream.

HOMEMADE PIE CRUST

2/3 cup shortening
1 cup flour
¼ - ½ cup water (use your judgement)

Mix with your hands until moist. Roll out on floured surface the size of your pie pan. Crimp edges. Bake pie shell at 375 degrees for 20 minutes. Cool and fill.



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StoneRidge Retirement Living is the parent company of four retirement communities in South Central Pennsylvania. These communities include StoneRidge Towne Centre (717.866.6541) and StoneRidge Poplar Run (717.866.3200), both in Myerstown, Church of God Home in Carlisle (717.249.5322) and Schoolyard Square in Pine Grove (570.345.4075). Visit us online at www.StoneRidgeRetirement.com.

