



Why We Can't Understand Greek Drama Professor Mary Lefkowitz Wednesday, August 31, 7:00 pm – Wellesley College Club

Professor Lefkowitz will talk about the problems modern readers face when trying to comprehend the behavior of the ancient gods and their indifference to human suffering. She discusses these problems in her new book, *Euripides and the Gods*, and in the introduction to *The Greek Plays*, a collection of new translations of Greek drama that will be published by Penguin Random House in late August.



She earned a B.A. from Wellesley College, and an A.M. and a Ph.D. from Radcliffe College. She began teaching at Wellesley in 1959, and in 1979 was named the Andrew W. Mellon Professor of the Humanities, a position she held until her retirement in 2005. In 2004 she received a Radcliffe Graduate Society Medal, in 2006 a National Humanities Medal “for outstanding excellence in scholarship and teaching,” and in 2008 a Wellesley College Alumnae Achievement Award. Mary has authored many articles and books including *Women in Greek Myth*, *The Lives of the Greek Poets*, and *Heroines and Hysterics*. She is Professor Emerita of Classical Studies at Wellesley College, a Wellesley Neighbors Board member, and Health Support Committee Chair.

From the President: We're Here for Each Other

The room was spinning as I was lying in bed early in the morning. My husband had already left to drive an hour away to give a talk. I called my doctor who said I needed to go to the Emergency Room. There was no way I could drive myself. I tried calling my local daughter and an old friend in town and couldn't reach either of them.



Just then my daughter and old friend returned my calls, they both came, and my daughter followed the ambulance. I was lucky because I was only dehydrated and came home later that afternoon, tired but fine.

Then I realized that, although Wellesley Neighbors had been only open less than a year, I had made many new friends through the walking group, lunches and lectures. I thought of four people who lived close by that I could call and who would come with me to the ER. I was immensely relieved.

The lesson for all of us is that while we never know when we will need help, we can know that, through the community we are forming, we are making friends we will be able to rely on. Our members are joining to form a group that will not only enrich our lives through our social, intellectual, and physical activities, but also a group filled with people who have agreed to be available to help each other when the need arises.

Nancy

From the Executive Director : Confidence in Retirement Security Growing

The Retirement Confidence Survey (RCS), the longest-running survey of its kind in the US, reported that retiree confidence in their ability to afford a comfortable retirement has continued to increase after the record lows experienced between 2009 and 2013.



This year's RCS findings include:

- Almost all retirees (91 percent) report that Social Security provides either a major or minor source of income (62 percent say it is a major source).
- The percentage of retirees who are very confident in having enough money to pay for basic expenses has increased to 49 percent, from 28 percent in 2013.
- The percentage of retirees who are very confident about having enough money to cover medical expenses increased to 42 percent, up from 24 percent in 2013. The percentage very confident about paying for long-term care expenses increased from 16 percent in 2013 to 26 percent in 2016.
- Two-thirds (67 percent) of retirees report they do not have a problem with debt, up from the 55 percent who said the same in 2014, but still below the 69 percent in 2005.
- Most retirees expect to live at least until age 85, but only a minority thinks they are at least somewhat likely to reach age 95. Similarly, 38 percent of retirees under the age of 85 expect to live until that age, and another 33 percent think it somewhat likely they will do so.
- A majority of retirees say they try to maintain or increase their level of assets.
- When retirees were asked if they withdrew any money beyond what they normally would have withdrawn from their saving and investments in the past year, 23 percent say they did so for major expenses (e.g., the purchase of a car, etc.), 15 percent said health expenses, 13 percent day-to-day expenses, 9 percent travel, and 7 percent for care or support for a relative.

Joyce

Short Takes

BECAUSE MANY OF YOU PARTICIPATED in “Globe Readers and Non-Profits Together,” also known as GRANT, Wellesley Neighbors, again this year, has earned a two-column by three-inch ad to be published in the *Boston Globe*. Thank you for choosing WN as the non-profit to be featured, and look for our ad in an upcoming “Globe West” section of a Sunday edition.

HAVE YOU WONDERED WHO RESPONDS TO YOUR EVENT REGISTRATIONS that you make by phone or email? Peter Offenhartz monitors your requests and processes the information in our website database. Your email confirmation is an automatic response that is triggered by the posting. (By the way, the voice you hear when you press 2 for your phone reservation is that of Judy Frommer, co-chair of the Activities Committee.)

NOW IS THE TIME TO CIRCLE TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, on your calendar. WN's Fifth Annual Meeting will be held at that time at the Wellesley College Club. We'll be voting for officers for 2017, as well as for members of the Board. The September *WN Newsletter* will include the full slate. We shall gather at 12 noon until 2 pm, and lunch will be provided at no charge. Full details will be available in the September *Newsletter*.

GROUND WAS BROKEN ON JUNE 20, MORE THAN 10 YEARS AFTER the late Billie Tolles bequeathed almost \$1,000,000 toward the building of a senior center in Wellesley. The Tolles-Parsons Center will be on Washington Street, across from the Wellesley Police Station, and is slated to be open in the fall of 2017. Housing the Council on Aging, it will offer courses, exercise classes and other resources that will complement our very special organization.

J.B.

It's What I Do: Dick Rosenberg

In the late 80s, Dick Rosenberg retired from his retail grocery store business to live in Florida. Like most other retirees he faced the problem of what to do with all his free time. By chance he attended a sculpture class. As a child, his mother had encouraged him in painting, photography, and other visual arts, but he had never tried sculpturing.

There is an apocryphal story that Michelangelo claimed sculpting was easy: "Get a big block of stone, a hammer and chisel, and chip away every-thing that is not David." Dick found it wasn't quite that easy, but discovered he could visualize the image hidden in the stone. The following year he finished chipping away the excess of his first piece of stone art.

Over the next two decades his output was staggering. His Wellesley home has free-form pieces of art enhancing garden spots and the long, interior hallways display his sculptures in lighted niches. The piece named "Family" is of Pakistani Onyx and must be seen to appreciate the vivid natural colors. While that stone was acquired in Florida, other pieces were found by Dick and his wife Carol on trips to Europe and imported for Dick to turn into stunning pieces of art.

Working with heavy blocks of stone and wet sanding for hundreds of hours to smooth the figures, eventually became tiresome and Dick moved on to other projects. He did brass casting, took up oil painting and modeling with both paper and oil-based clay. He also made each of his nine grandchildren a work of art that incorporates the initial of their first name.

Samples of Dick's art enhance this page. Those who would like to experience his art first-hand are in for a special treat. Dick and Carol have graciously offered to open their home for an art tour especially for Wellesley Neighbors members. The Activities Committee has scheduled this event for Thursday, August 18, from 1:30 to 3 pm. The tour will be led by Dick. Be sure to ask him the secret behind the unusual brick pattern in the driveway.

B.G.



June and July Service and Support

To request service or support, call Joyce at 781 283-0417, ext 1.

11 Service referrals: electrician, tailor, window cleaner, driveway paving contractor, home health care agency, taxi company, home security system, handyman (2), carpenter, install dehumidifier

13 Support requests: computer/printer/DVD/website (7), rides (5), WN email issue

Since January 2012, we have received 726 requests for service referrals and support.

Happenings



New Members Coffee



deCordova Big Black Hearts



deCordova Musical Fence



Norfolk Correctional Center Tour



Mt. Auburn Cemetery Tour



Cluster Gathering



August 2016 Calendar

- Wed. Aug. 3, 5:30 pm** Women’s Night Out at Calif. Pizza Kitchen **RSVP**
- Thur. Aug. 4, 12:30 pm** Men’s Lunch at Wellesley College Club **RSVP**
- Fri. Aug. 5** **Dumpling House Dinner reservation Deadline**
- Tue. Aug. 9, 5:30 pm** Dumpling House, Newton, Family-style Dinner **RSVP**
- Thur. Aug. 11, 2 pm** “Crazy For You” Reagle Theatre, Waltham **RSVP**
- Thur. Aug. 18, 11:30 am** Lunch for All at Wellesley College Club **RSVP**
- Thur. Aug. 18, 1:30 pm** Dick Rosenberg's Sculptures **RSVP**
- Mon. Aug. 22, 12 noon** Lunch at Singh **RSVP**
- Wed. Aug. 24, 2:30 pm** Charles River Boat tour **RSVP**
- Mon. Aug. 29, 12 noon** Lunch at Bertucci’s **RSVP**
- Wed. Aug. 31, 7 pm** Mary Lefkowitz Speaker at WCC **RSVP**

AUGUST 2016						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	Fri	Sa
1	2 ●	3 ●	4 ●	5 ★	6	
7	8	9 ●	10	11 ●	12	13
14	15	16	17	18 ●	19 ●	20
21	22 ●	23	24 ●	25	26	27
28	29 ●	30	31 ●			

Note: Times and dates are subject to change. Email notices will be sent prior to events.

- ◆ Register on the website, call 781 283-0417, ext. 2, or email events@wellesleyneighbors.org
- ◆ Tell us if you need a ride or can offer a ride.
- ◆ **RSVP at least 24 hours before an event to ensure adequate seating and refreshments.**
- ◆ **Please call or email to cancel if you find you cannot attend an event.**
- ◆ Most events are open to non-members who would like to get acquainted with WN.

Early September 2016 Events

- Thurs. Sept. 1, 12:30 pm** Men’s Lunch at Wellesley College Club **RSVP**
- Wed. Sept. 7, 5:30 pm** Women’s Night Out , California Pizza Kitchen **RSVP**
- Fri. Sept. 9, 12 noon** Lunch at The Villa Restaurant, Wayland **RSVP**

How to Contact Wellesley Neighbors

AMAZON.COM Purchasers:
 Support Wellesley Neighbors by starting your shopping at smile.amazon.com.
 Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.

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August Newsletter

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“No one is ever too old to learn, but many people keep putting it off anyway. “

Fortune Cookie