

ARTPEACE AND FRIENDS

IT WAS FORTUITOUS when American tourists David and Arlene Schmidt stopped for a chat outside St Andrew's gate pre Covid, whilst I was working in the garden. They noticed our big Harvest sculpture which invariably led to a viewing of the ArtPeace display and left happily with two elephants, as one does. Over the years, we have kept in touch, and their collection has grown to ten animals and birds, the latest being a superb leopard (left) by Godwin Nasho. The couple are passionate about wildlife and moved home to be nearer. David said 'During this severe cold spell, we have daily visits from some wild turkeys. When the snow melts and grass appears, the deer return and on hot summer days, around six sleep in the shade of oak trees. Possums visit us at night and turtles are quite common. On one occasion a large snapping turtle arrived, so big that I had to remove it by wheelbarrow! Our large garden includes a wood which attracts large piliated woodpeckers, red headed woodpeckers, downy woodpeckers, yellow shafted flickers, not forgetting common blue Jays, Cardinals, and yellow Finches. I also feed bluebirds twice a day trying to increase their numbers in our area. With the recent brutal cold we purchased a heated cat house and heated food bowels for stray cats in our area which we trap, have vaccinated and adopt out'.



8000 MILES AWAY from Leesburg, time stands still in many parts of Zimbabwe. **Left:** Women still do their washing in nearby streams. **Below:** Pushcarts are regularly seen carrying vendors' consignments from sunrise to sunset.



A FEAST FIT FOR A KING: Peter Kananji is very resourceful. Apart from labouring in his field, he supplements the family diet through fishing and foraging for mushrooms and berries. Despite a family of **nine** with little spare time left for him and his wife Priscilla, he still manages to turn out splendid sculptures. They live in 3 small rooms and cook outside – not ideal in rain!



CATCH 'EM YOUNG: Lovemore's photo at an Evangelical church meeting shows two year old Tinashe (we are with God), holding a Good Shepherd crook. He wants to be a priest when older!

ARTPEACE FIELDS look like yielding a bumper harvest. The lads deserve a break! **Johnston Simpson**

