## **A Neighborly Visit**

When I sit in my den and read the morning newspaper, a neighborhood cat will occasionally stroll by outside the sliding glass doors, leading to the patio and garden. One day I thought it was a cat until I looked again. An opossum lumbered by the window, on its way to... somewhere. I grabbed my camera and followed it. In pursuit, I saw it shimmy up a bush and position itself on the top of the fence. And then it froze—the perfect subject for a photo op. Thank you, Pogo. I took my time and snapped several pictures of this now-immovable object. No muscle twitched. Once I turned my back, the opossum scurried away. It was no doubt thinking, "I thought she'd never leave!"

This issue of **THEMA** offers some of the most intriguing characters you will ever meet, from a ghost, to a fanciful sea creature, to a disruptive street person in Belgium. Don't leave! Keep reading.

- VHoward