



# The Village In Howard Newsletter

June 2019

## TVIH Summer Move-Out Day

A reminder that on June 14, we will be moving out of our current location for the summer to honor a long-standing contract that the Village of Oakland Mills has with a children's summer camp.

### Summer Communication

Please remember that while the office is closed this summer, volunteers and staff are busily working from home. This means that if you call the office, you need to leave a message. Volunteers will be covering the phones and responding to emails during our usual hours of operation (10AM -2PM, Monday through Friday) and someone should call you back within the hour. If you use caller ID, you will not see TVIH Village on your call screen since we are all calling from our own phones, so unfamiliar numbers will show up. If you need to speak with Cheryl, our TVIH manager, she will also be working her regular hours, and will email or call you back from her home phone as well. She will be at the 6061 Stevens Forest Road location on Wednesdays.

Please respect staff and volunteer contributions by NOT calling them directly on their home and cell phones when they are not working. Call the office number 443-367-9043 or email [services@thevillagein-howard.org](mailto:services@thevillagein-howard.org). You can leave a message at any time and it will be picked up during the next shift. Thanks!

**Meetings and Programs** will move to the Thunder Hill Neighborhood Center located at 5134 Thunder Hill Road. Please read the TVIH website, newsletters and emails carefully when you plan to attend or register for meetings, programs and events. You can call us at 443-367-9043 for information and clarification.

We will be returning to the 6061 Stevens Forest Road location on Monday, August 28.

## Thanks a Bundle!!

Thank you to all the members and volunteers who helped with our clothing drive for Success in Style! Because of your generosity, we were able to donate 30 bags of clothing, shoes and accessories to this worthwhile program. Thank you too to Kathy and Mike

O'Rourke and Sandra Farragut who lugged all those bags to the delivery point at Savage Mill! If you are interested in this project, we will be sending a team of six volunteers to Success in Style on July 11 from 2PM-4PM to sort, hang, size and help in other ways in their shop. You can register on the events calendar on the TVIH website.

## Presentations R You?

If you love the Village, can you help the Communications and Outreach Team recruit new members by becoming part of our presentations team? We need folks to set-up and clean up, folks to manage refreshments, nametags, greeting folks, setting up the computer and projector, etc.

We could use an admin person to make calls, set up presentations and coordinate with the team. And, of course, we need folks who enjoy public speaking to help make the presentations. We have a terrific new powerpoint to serve as your script, but it's your personal experience and enthusiasm that motivates folks to become members.

Our next presentation opportunity – Friday, June 14 from 10:30AM – 12 noon in the Patapsco Room at the Miller Library, Whether you're up-front or quietly serving from the back of the room, you can help us grow! For more info, contact Susan @[shailman@comcast.net](mailto:shailman@comcast.net) or call the office 443-367-9043.

## Help Is on the Way!

If you are a full member and are planning surgery or are recovering from an accident or illness, remember that you can set up a team of volunteers to help you while you recover through TVIH's Circle of Care. We'll come and assess with you what is needed and set up a schedule to provide assistance while you recuperate. Whether it's transportation, help with household tasks, managing mail, trash, recycling, doing a load of laundry or just keeping you company while you're home-bound, we're here to help. Associate members can also upgrade their membership to become eligible for these services if the need arises. For more information about using the

Circle or volunteering to help, contact Susan shailman@comcast.net or Michele millicanm3@gmail.com or call the office: 443-367-9043.



Four turf bocce courts under construction at Cedar Lane Park West.

## Bocce Ball is Coming to The Village In Howard

Are you interested in learning how to play Bocce Ball? Or, do you already know how to play and would be interested in joining a league made up of TVIH Village members?



We are holding an informal organizational meeting to see how much interest we have in getting a Bocce Ball League established for the fall. Howard County Recreation and Parks has built beautiful regulation turf courts at Cedar Lane Park West.

Our organizational meeting will be held on Monday, June 17th at the TVIH Summer Location -- The Thunder Hill Neighborhood Center, adjacent to the Thunder Hill Swimming Pool. The address is 5134 Thunder Hill Road, Columbia, MD 21045. You must register so we have an idea how many will be attending. If you are interested in playing, but unable to attend the meeting, please contact Sarah Leigh Spence, tslspence@aol.com or call Sarah Spence at 410-730-9269.

This should be great fun! We have tons of support from our TVIH Village Manager, Cheryl Neely, who coordinates a Bocce Ball League and is willing to give us advice as we get established.

## Aging in Place Property Tax Credit

On April 30, 2019, Governor Hogan signed SB654/HB1339, Property Tax Credit – Elderly Individuals

– Eligibility. Introduced by Senator Katie Fry Hester (D – Howard), the bill is enabling legislation authorizing counties to expand eligibility for the Aging-In-Place Tax Credit. It passed both houses of the legislature unanimously establishing a clear legislative intent to expand current eligibility criteria for property tax relief to seniors.

Under current law, property taxpayers over 65 are eligible for a 20 percent tax credit on up to \$500,000 of assessed value for a period of five years. Taxpayers must have lived in the same home for 40 years unless they are retired military or surviving spouses of same. Relatively few county taxpayers ever qualify for the benefit.

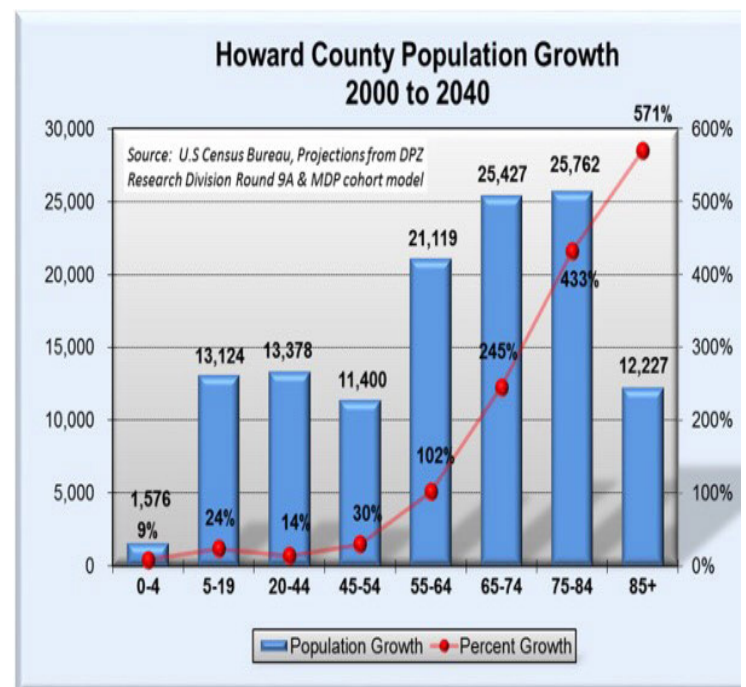
The new law eliminates the restriction on same home living and eliminates the 40 - year restriction in its entirety. Counties have discretion to set years of residence to any amount for taxpayers over 65 provided that residence was within the same county.

The law now authorizes Howard County to expand such relief. It is now up to the county to establish criteria for relief balancing fairness with affordability. For example, the county could establish eligibility at 30 years.

## What is a Geriatric Emergency Department?\* PART II

What approach to the emergency geriatric patients is in place at HCGH? We know the demand for such age-specific care, based on population totals, exists:

Howard County Population Growth in the over 55 age brackets is projected to grow significantly by 2040:



Please see Geriatric, page 4



# Portrait of a Villager Couple: Bob and Mary Ann Buchmeier

It has been said in many ways — you make a living by what you get, you make a life by what you give. Our “Portrait of a Villager” this month features Bob and Mary Ann Buchmeier whose lives exemplify this saying. In his recent book, “The Ego, the Id, and the Forest Monster,” Bob Buchmeier urges the readers to discover, tell, and embody authentic life stories that can help them navigate through the complexities of modern life and find meaning in it. The meaning Bob and Mary Ann, his wife, have sought derives from their efforts to understand and foster the connections that make up the structure of caring communities such as The Village in Howard. The narrative thread running through their adult life is “community connection and service.” It motivates their active leadership in their church community and neighborhood organizations in programs aimed at community betterment.

Bob and Mary Ann met in Minnesota while she was working as a high school biology teacher and he, a mechanical engineer, was teaching high school biology, physics and religion. It was the 1960s, an era of sweeping political activism. Both Mary Ann and Bob were drawn to



Bob and Mary Ann Buchmeier

workshops offered by the Ecumenical Institute which focused on understanding how contemporary protests arose out of the quest for equal justice for all embodied in the U.S. Declaration of Independence. This experience led Bob to study for a masters in physics, mathematics and education at the University of Minnesota. On the day he earned his Masters he married Mary Ann. They then moved to Chicago in order to deepen their participation in the Ecumenical Institute.

In addition to their jobs as teachers in Chicago, both Buchmeiers continued with their education. Bob earned a doctorate from the University of Chicago and Mary Ann pursued

graduate work in biology. Her career blossomed into a role as a dietitian and she eventually joined the staff of the Columbia Medical Plan working to improve the nutritional habits of patients. She also volunteered with a hospice group. Bob, by then an expert in the design of database management tools, worked for Howard Community College, NASA, and as an independent subcontractor.

One day on a walk they encountered the Village Sneakers walking group who invited them to some TVIH events. The Village was in the midst of building its own computer structure and could use more expert help. In turn, the Buchmeiers were searching for a vibrant intellectual

community committed to helping each other through the challenges of aging. TVIH became part of their narrative, the pursuit of service and connection. Bob eventually headed the IT committee and joined the Village Board. The Buchmeiers, Kim and Jane Sherman, and Mary McGraw created the discussion group, My 3 Cents. The topics have ranged from exploring the differences between Sunni and Shiite faiths to assessing the state of medical insurance in America. Often these intellectual discussions led to actions, such as the creation of the Healthy Aging Workgroup that as forged linkages between TVIH and local hospitals.

The thread continues. The Buchmeiers also became active in Bridges to Housing Stability, a nonprofit group seeking affordable housing and prevention of homelessness for residents in Howard County. Bob served as president for two years and was just given its 2019 Bridges of Hope Legacy Award. Congratulations! He and Mary Ann continue to be role models for TVIH members attempting to construct their own paths to a fulfilling aging.

HCGH statistics on wait times are available at <https://suburbanstats.org/population/maryland/how-many-people-live-in-howard-county>. Wait times at HCGH's Emergency Department can range from 34 minutes to be triaged to approximately 4 hours until discharge and average almost 7 hours before being admitted to the hospital with additional hours possible waiting for transfers to a room, tests to be performed etc. Additionally, the average time for attention to a broken bone is more than 30 minutes and 26% of patients with stroke symptoms on entry to the Emergency Department did not receive brain scan results within 45 minutes.

Questions arise: How sensitive is the HCGH Emergency Department's approach to the geriatric population during these stays? What accommodations exist to support the elderly during these experiences and possible prolonged stays? How aware are hospital clinicians of the ACEP accreditation guidelines? What avenues exist in the HCGH for geriatric voices to be heard and how are they best utilized?

Our Geriatric Emergency Department Exploratory

Team will keep TVIH members informed as this pursuit evolves. We will seek to understand what currently exists, what is planned for the future based on demand, and what TVIH members must ask if they enter the HCGH Emergency Department. Meanwhile, practice healthy aging behaviors at home, and, if you must enter the Emergency Department, let your voice be heard! The following are a few articles you may wish to read to prepare yourself:

<https://health.usnews.com/health-care/patient-advice/articles/2018-09-28/what-is-a-geriatric-emergency-department>

<https://www.healthinaging.org/tools-and-tips/ten-things-look-senior-friendly-emergency-room>

<https://geriatric-ed.com/complete-checklist/>

[https://www.nextavenue.org/geriatric-ers/?utm\\_source=sumome&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=sumome\\_share](https://www.nextavenue.org/geriatric-ers/?utm_source=sumome&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=sumome_share)

\*The correct contemporary term is not Emergency Room, but rather Emergency Department

— Judy Goldfarb

*Editor's Note: This is a continuation of Judy's article in the May, 2019 newsletter.*



**SAVE THE DATE!!!**

**Friday, September 20, 2019**

**TVIH Players Songfest and Potluck**

The TVIH Players invite you to enjoy an evening of comradery, fun, singing and delicious home-cooked food.



TVIH visits the Queens of Egypt Exhibit at the National Geographic Museum



**Travel Talk/Potluck Dinner**  
**A Colorado Cross-Country Ski Trip**  
**Tuesday, June 18, 5:30PM**  
**Howard County Central Library**



Karen Ohlrich will share her week of skiing and snowshoeing adventures with five friends in the mountains of Colorado. In February 2019, fresh snow, solitude, open spaces, and rustic accommodations made for a wonderful stay at two Colorado Tent Mountain Huts situated at



11,000+ ft. elevation! Karen's friends Marcie and Doug Schubert will join her for this "show and tell" presentation. And by way of background, Karen lived in the Roaring Fork Valley in Colorado for 12 years. She skied these huts before and was eager to go again.

**Indulge in the Arts with TVIH**

Go to the [TVIH online calendar](#) to register and for information on how to obtain tickets to these events.



**Columbia Film Festival**  
**Friday, June 28, 3:15PM**

The Annual Columbia Festival for the Arts is presenting three documentary films two of which the Program Committee selected for TVIH members to view together: *The American South* depicts the racial tensions of the Jim Crow era and *R.A.W. Tuba* the story of a homeless Baltimore teen who through his tuba music rises to a

PhD. and symphony performances. These two films are part of a "three film package" called "Social Justice and Equality." You can also see the first film

in the series for the package price. Optional dinner and discussion at Leelynn's restaurant (9495 Old Annapolis Rd., 21042 in Dorsey Hall) immediately after the films.

**Columbia Orchestra Summer Pops Concert and Potluck Picnic**  
**Sunday, June 30, 4PM**

The concert is FREE, but TICKETS are required and limited. Get tickets



at [www.innerarbortrust.org](http://www.innerarbortrust.org) and click on Events, then scroll to June 30 to reserve tickets; or call Columbia Orchestra at 410-465-8777. Bring a lawn chair or blanket, perhaps bug spray, beverage, plate and utensils, food with serving utensil to share if you wish to picnic. Look for TVIH sign to the left of the stage.

## EXTENDING THE WELCOME MAT

It's often difficult to walk into a new group and determine whether you'd be comfortable in it. TVIH offers opportunities for free trial runs without having to register or make a long-term commitment. These are events that have drawn many of us into the Village.

Walkers might enjoy Saturday Sneakers & Coffee, which meets every Saturday at Lake Kittamaqundi by the People Tree or Monday Morning Meanderings at Lake Elkhorn.

If you're searching for conviviality, join the Lunch Bunch each Wednesday or Happy Hour on the first Tuesday of each month.

Bring your friends and neighbors to any of these events. We'd enjoy your company and love to get to know you.

**Happy Hour:** Tuesday, June 4 from 4PM – 6PM at Ernesto's Mexican Restaurant, Enchanted Forest Shopping Center on 10040 Baltimore National Pike, Ellicott City.

**Sneakers and Coffee:** Every Saturday at Lake Kittamaqundi. Meet at the "People Tree" near the fountain at 9AM for a 30-minute walk followed by a get together for coffee and conversation at Whole Foods Market.

**Lunch Bunch:** Each Wednesday from 11:30AM –

1PM. In June we'll lunch at The Corner Stable, 8530 Guilford Road, King's Contrivance Village Center, Columbia 21046. The Corner Stable is known for babyback ribs and huge crab cakes.

**Monday Morning Meanderings:** Meets every Monday at 9:30AM. Start your week off on the right foot with a group walk around Lake Elkhorn. Meet at the dock of Dockside Road off Cradlerock Lane across from McDonald's.

## MAY AND JUNE ACTIVITIES REQUIRING REGISTRATION

### THERE ARE THREE WAYS TO REGISTER FOR AN EVENT:

- Visit the website at [www.thevillageinhoward.org](http://www.thevillageinhoward.org) and sign in. After you have signed in, click on the "Calendar" tab for the activities for this month or for future months. Click on the activity you want to register for. If you are having difficulty registering on the website, please call the office at 443-367-9043.
- Call the TVIH Office at 443-367-9043 to register. If no one picks up, please leave a message and a volunteer will get back to you.
- Click this link to go directly to the website Calendar:

[http://thevillageinhoward.clubexpress.com/content.aspx?page\\_id=2&club\\_id=855297&sl=504175908](http://thevillageinhoward.clubexpress.com/content.aspx?page_id=2&club_id=855297&sl=504175908)

*Note: All events will take place at TVIH Center unless otherwise specified. Please check our online calendar. Additional events may have been added to our calendar after this newsletter was published.*

### TVIH Annual Picnic

*Sunday, June 2, 4PM (rain or shine)  
East Cedar Lane Park*

This is our annual member picnic. Register today for this fun event.

### Get Acquainted Coffee

*Monday, June 3, 1:30PM*

New members and those who have not participated in recent events are welcome to join us to find out more about Village activities, programs, and services.

### Mah Jongg

*Friday, June 7, 10AM, TVIH Center*

*Friday, June 21 & 28, 10AM, Thunder Hill Neighborhood Center, 5134 Thunder Hill Road.*

### Bridge Group

*Tuesday, June 11, 1PM, TVIH Center  
Tuesday, June 25, 1PM, Summer Location: Thunder Hill Neighborhood Center, 5134 Thunder Hill Road.*

### Understanding How Climate Change is Impacting Our Local Environment

*Wednesday, June 12, 1PM  
Ned Tillman, a Columbia resi-*

dent and a nationally recognized environmentalist, has written three books on how the environment is being impacted by climate change. Ned will come and discuss with us his vision of the future as the climate changes here in Howard County and across the state.

### My 3 Cents

*Wednesday, June 12, 2:30PM  
Karen Pitsley, a certified Aging-In-Place Specialist will present Aging Successfully in the Community providing financial information on home modification.*



## William Paca House & Garden Tour, Annapolis

*Thursday, June 13, 9AM*

William Paca who was one of Maryland's four signers of the Declaration of Independence and Maryland's third governor built this Georgian mansion in the 1760's.

## Bocce Ball Organizational Meeting

*Monday, June 17, 10AM*

*Summer Location: Thunder Hill Neighborhood Center, 5134 Thunder Hill Road.*

Interested in learning about bocce? Come to this meeting to discuss the possibility of a TVIH league.

## Travel Talk/Potluck Dinner

*Tuesday, June 18, 5:30PM*

Karen Ohlrich will share her week of skiing and snowshoeing adventures with five friends in the mountains of Colorado.

## Alzheimer's Disease & Dementia

*Wednesday, June 19, 10AM*

*Location: Thunder Hill Neighborhood Center, 5134 Thunder Hill Road.*

Program Topic: "Healthy Living." This program is for healthy individuals who are looking for ways to age well.

## Columbia Film Festival

*Friday, June 28, 3:15PM*

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## TVIH ROMEOs (Retired Old Men Eating Out)

*Sunday, June 30, 5:30PM*

Leelynn's Dining Room and Lounge, [9495 Old Annapolis Rd. Ellicott City, MD 21042](http://9495 Old Annapolis Rd. Ellicott City, MD 21042)

## EVENTS IN JULY

### Bridge Group

*Tuesday, July 9 and 23, 1PM*

*Summer Location: Thunder Hill Neighborhood Center, 5134 Thunder Hill Road.*

## Village Pay It Forward Team Goes to Success in Style

*Thursday, July 11, 2PM*

*Savage Mill, 8600 Foundry St., Savage, Maryland*

A Village Team will be going to Success in Style to sort clothes, size them, hang them and whatever other tasks need to be done that day.

## Making Waves: How Water Shaped Our History

*July 12, 13, and 14, 7PM*

*Centre for the Arts, Campus of the Community College of Baltimore, 800 S. Rolling Road*

*Catonsville, MD 21228*

This year the theme is "How Water Shaped Our History" and features three consecutive evenings where professional actors will portray Matthew Henson, early North Pole explorer; Jacques Cousteau oceanographer and filmmaker; and Grace O'Malley 16<sup>th</sup> century pirate queen who commanded men and had the respect of Queen Elizabeth as she challenged the seas. Each program presents a historical interpretation of the character by a professional actor and is followed by an interactive Q&A with the audience. ***You may attend 1, 2, or 3 evenings, but please register separately.***

*Friday, July 12, 7PM*

**Program #1: Matthew Henson: early explorer of the North Pole.**

*Saturday, July 13 7PM*

**Program #2: Jacques Cousteau: oceanographer, filmmaker**

*Sunday, July 14 7PM*

**Program #3: Grace O'Malley, 16th century pirate**

## The Village Readers

*Thursday, July 18, 10PM*

*Summer Location: Thunder Hill Neighborhood Center, 5134 Thunder Hill Road.*

"White Rage" by Carol Anderson



**~ FUNDRAISING EVENT ~**  
**TO BENEFIT The Village In Howard**

**Tino's Italian Bistro is generously donating 10% to TVIH**  
**from ALL sales that day on:**

**Lunch \* Dinner \* Carry-Out \* Delivery**

*Note: Catering orders placed by our members that day will also be included in the total sales figures*

**Tuesday, July 9th 11 AM – 10 PM**

**Tino's Italian Bistro**

**8775 Centre Park Drive, Columbia 21045**

**410-730-8466 – For reservations or take-out**

**Tinositalianbistro.com**

The Village In Howard is a nonprofit organization that offers services and activities to support Howard County's older adults who wish to remain active and continue to reside in their own homes.

For more information visit our website: [www.thevillageinhoward.org](http://www.thevillageinhoward.org)

Or call our office at: 443-367-9043

**~ THE VILLAGE IN HOWARD ~**  
**BUILDING COMMUNITY, ONE RELATIONSHIP at a TIME!**

**SUPPORTERS:**



If you would like to be removed from this email list, please email your name and email address to [4info@thevillageinhoward.org](mailto:4info@thevillageinhoward.org). We will not share your email address or personal information with anyone.