



The Village In Howard Newsletter

May 2021

Why Buy a TVIH Raffle Ticket

Due to a renewed zeal for myth-busting in recent months, below are several regularly voiced myths about our current 50-50 raffle and “the facts-just the facts.”

Myth: I pay my membership fees and that’s enough.

Membership fees make up about 40% of the revenue needed to run the Village.

Myth: Since the Village office has been closed, expenses have been lower during the past year and therefore we must have saved money.

Actually, while rent was less last year, computer and other administrative costs were higher due to Zoom contracts and the need to supplement staff time to help with increased virtual programming. Additionally, CA has ended the rent moratorium and we are again paying rent!

Myth: The fundraising committee got lots of grant money during the past year, so certainly we don’t need to fundraise now.

The money we received prevented us from using up our reserves during the past year, but if we want the Village to be sustainable for coming years, we need to fund for next year, not drain our accounts!

Myth: It’s someone else’s turn to give money to the Village.

That’s why we’re asking you to sell a ticket and publicize the raffle — so friends and neighbors share the cost of the Village!

Myth: A big foundation is waiting in the wings to fund the Village.

Guess again. Please ask yourself who benefits from the Village? If you’re a member, do you enjoy the programs? Do you benefit from the information and outreach TVIH offers? If you’re a full member, do you appreciate the services you receive? If you’re not a member, but “tune in” to our public events and agree that the Village concept is important in helping our elders age in community, shouldn’t you be pitching in to keep the Village thriving in case you need it?

Myth: I won’t win the raffle.

Now that’s absolutely true...you won’t have a chance to win the raffle if you don’t buy a ticket — but someone will!



Volunteer Recognition

TVIH volunteers rock, so Susan, Marie and Barbara Floyd decorated a rock for each them. On the back of each rock they wrote one word they felt is an apt description of each volunteer. The volunteers were presented their personalized rock and asked that they hold on to it until the office reopens when perhaps we can use them to decorate the grounds.

We sure are fortunate to have Marie and Susan as coordinators!

— Submitted by Fran Lorenzi, TVIH Volunteer

Teach and Taste

Cheers to Kathy and Terry Sullivan for another great Teach and Taste experience.

It didn’t matter that the sun was in our eyes, we enjoyed being in their lovely backyard while Terry introduced us to many styles of different blends of Cabernet Sauvignon.

In June, it’s all about Rosé! [Register for the June Teach and Taste](#)



A Circle of Care Appreciation

I have been the recipient of the most fabulous service the Village has to offer. I had a bevy of Village volunteers who went to the grocery store for me, did my laundry, took out the trash, drove me to get my Covid vaccination and contacted me frequently to see how I was doing.

The “Circle of Care” of the Village delivered all these wonderful services. I had back surgery, also known as a laminectomy and spinal fusion at the end of January. Recovering after only 2 days in the hospital was difficult. My three grown children came for a week and then “the Circle” took over for the next ten weeks. Bless every last one of them. These soldiers who worked when I couldn’t need to be named. They are Fran Lorenzi, Sally Parker, Michelle Laudadio, Dee Sullivan, Bill Kerins, Kathy O’Rourke, Jane and Kim Sherman and Dorothy Hutchins.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

— Mary McGraw

Gastro Adventures – A Review

Are you a gastro-adventurer in search of your next memorable meal at one of the Columbia areas many local restaurants? Then this new column is for you! Read of places your next gastro-adventure may take you or write a review of your latest foodie lunch or dinner experience and email it to manager@thevillageinhoward.org.

Clove & Cardamom

A New Restaurant in the Developing Area of the Merriweather District

The Clove & Cardamom features a globally inspired Indian menu for enjoyment in a new modern décor. The menu offers a wide variety of choices including tandoori grill, flatbread pizzas, street tacos, salads, soups, entrees and, of course, desserts. Descriptions of each food choice is included. If you were interested in the Masala Alfredo Pasta, you could have a choice of protein with penne pasta simmered in tempered cumin, veggies and blended spices. We had the Tandoori Wings (good), Khew Suey Noodle Soup (tasty and filling), and Garlic-Chili shrimp (very spicy and tasty). The Masala tea was a nice addition. The Clove apple cake with Cardamom ice cream was shared along with comments of “yummy and delicious” and “can I lick my plate!”

Parking for the restaurant was plentiful in the lot across the street. We found the service to be excellent and the prices reasonable. The music was loud when we entered but immediately lowered when requested. The restaurant became noisy as the number of customers increased. We enjoyed both the food and the restaurant

and would return. For more information, check their website: [Clove n Cardamom | Restaurant | Columbia, MD | Order Online](#)

— By Barb, Mary and Sarah

Howard County General Hospital will hold Free Drive-through Health Screenings

Howard County General Hospital will hold free drive-through health screenings and risk assessments for body mass index, stroke, blood pressure, prediabetes, blood glucose and HDL cholesterol. The drive-through screenings will take place Saturday, May 15, from noon to 4 p.m. at St John Baptist Church at 9055 Tamar Drive in Columbia. Participants can also receive healthy lifestyle education and information on classes offered to address health risks.

Participants must be 18 years or older. To learn more or register, visit bit.ly/HCGH-drivethru-healthscreening.

Village to Village – Jim Sanders

The Biden Administration is reviewing Village programs to determine whether the Villages might potentially partner with 50+ or other aging agencies to better serve those in isolation and aging in place. The federal government’s review of 350 Village organizations noted already that many villages are extensions of local government and community aging services. Montgomery County has eight villages coordinated by the County Government. Since close-by Montgomery County benefits from strong support of its local government, it may be in our interest to seek information that would be useful in helping TVIH discover how we could work more effectively with our county.

The review also noted differences in Village size. Many are very small neighborhood or home owners associations while other villages are very large. The Capital Hill DC Village has 400 members and 150 non-member volunteers. The village in Denver has 1800 members.

Villages typically provide support services including transportation, home maintenance, and neighborhood assistance. Most Villages also provide social services in the form of care coordination and they help members navigate health care, insurance, social service and housing. Most Villages are engaged in health assistance to their members. In contrast, TVIH provides more engagement in social activities and less in direct health access. Most Villages offer much more direct health activity to their members than we do.

Good Morning Howard

This program takes place on Wednesdays at 9:00 AM and is open to the public. Registration on our website is required to receive the zoom meeting link.

May 5

Topic: Positive Thinking

Host: Mary pat Donelan

You are what you think. Positive thinking is significantly correlated with a happy life. Mary Pat will discuss eight positivity skills and lead a discussion about the skills you are already proficient in and those you'd like to develop.



May 12

Topic: Growing Up in Oregon!

Host: Sarah Spence

Growing up in Milton-Freewater, Oregon with a population of 4,300 was a totally different experience than what my children had growing up in Columbia, MD. My parents owned two drugstores in this small town and were very active in the community, so my sister and I had full and active childhoods. Milton-Freewater is located in the northeast corner of Oregon and today the home of many fine wineries. As a child we owned two horses so did a lot of horsebackriding and had a cabin in the mountains with access to a good ski resort. The out-of-doors was always a big part of my life.



May 19

Topic: Meditation Mystique

Host: Fran Dummett

Join Fran Dummett in Meditation Mystique in a sneak preview of the Autumn Meditation Series-A Synthesis 2021.

Explore meditation and the benefits. Then experience it for yourself and... breathe.

May 26

Topic: Creating Photo Books

Host: Katheleen Marianelli

Do you have tons of photo prints sitting in boxes? Or do you have so many digital photos saved on your phone or in the cloud and find it hard to really share your photos with friends or family?



Creating photo books might help you solve your problem and create a photo history for you, your family and your friends. Initially, I used the photo books to build a way of remembering special trips; Paris, London, Spain, etc. But now I have added a category for the events that happened in a specific year. I will walk you through the program (photobookamerica.com) that I am using to help you get started.

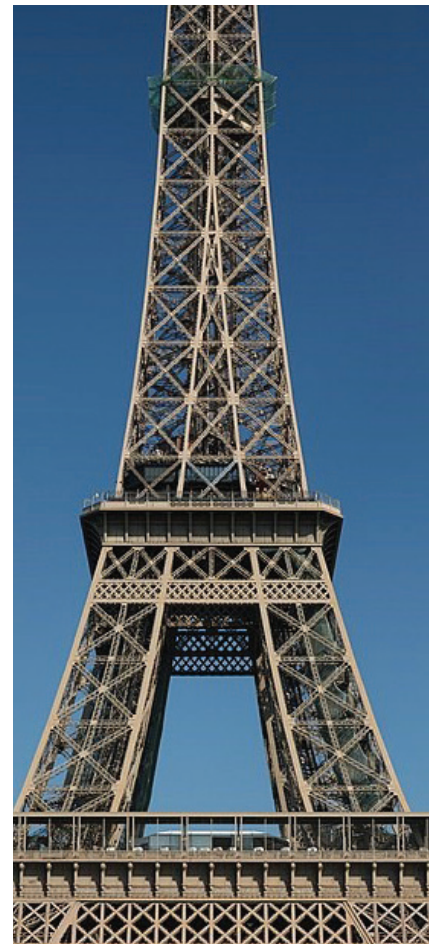
More Upcoming Programs

World Languages: French 101

Sheryl Amster and Jean Salkeld will present French 101 on May 19, at 1:00 pm. Be sure to register for this exciting presentation.

Sheryl majored in French in college. These language skills served her well in her career as a software developer as language syntax and logic are very important skills to possess. Her knowledge of French, it's history and culture has helped her during her three trips to France.

Jean Salkeld majored in French and studied for three months in Dijon, France.



After receiving a Master of Arts in Teaching degree at Pitt, she taught and tutored French. Jean visited Cergy-Pontoise, near Paris, one of Columbia's Sister Cities and has stayed with families there as well as hosted them here. Jean will provide other travel anecdotes during the program.

Sheryl and Jean will share with us countries where French is spoken, the alphabet, counting to ten, common phrases and words, examples of simple sentence structure and gender of nouns, pictures and information about their trips to France, a French poem, a French song, the French National Anthem, a popular French magazine, and the top five popular newspapers.

Au revoir for now!

— Submitted by Sheryl Amster and Jean Salkeld



Ma Rainey and her band (1923)

Listen! My Favorite Performers and Music

Presenter: Tom Benjamin, composer, music theorist, conductor and performer

May 21 at 10:00AM

Departing a bit from the usual format, Tom will select some of his very favorite music and performers in a musical grab-bag, including flash mobs, African village music, Purcell, the Silk Road Ensemble, Schubert, Broadway, pop and jazz of various eras; something for everyone!

Experience Springtime in France

Virtual Travel Talks

May 20 at 7:00PM

Come travel to France on a River Cruise from Paris to Normandy and back to Paris. In between we will visit

the Museum D'Orsey, Rouen (Joan of Arc), walk along Omaha Beach in Normandy, Le Havre, Monet's home and the Gardens at Giverny, meet a wonderful Captain of our ship and the fantastic tour guide who was with us from landing to take off.

Karol Hess traveled with a Howard County Group led by Debbie Richmond and accompanied by her travel partner Susan Smyth Schekner. All three will be sharing a couple of special stops during this 2019 cruise.



Welcome to New Members



We extend a warm welcome to new member **Debbie Taylor of Fulton**. We look forward to meeting you.

On Board -

**Updates on Discussions
by the TVIH Board
March 24, 2021 Meeting**

Finances:

TVIH has received funding from the Paycheck Protection Program which will be used for rent and utilities and the manager's salary. Despite this increase in funding our budget goal is to maintain a comfortable bank balance in spite of anticipated decreases in grant money. This can be achieved through work by the Communications group searching for sponsors, efforts by the Finance group researching grants and efforts by the Fund raising group on the 50-50 raffle and other fund raisers.

Summer Camp at Stevens Forest Neighborhood Center

The Adventures in Summer camp will resume its program at the Oakland Mills Neighborhood Center this summer. Oakland Mills manager, Sandy Cederbaum, has offered the use of the Thunder Hill Neighborhood Center for temporary storage of our furniture and supplies to make room for the camp. Move out date to be determined.

Updating the Website

Cheryl Neely reports this is a work in progress. The present focus is on a few simple updates in the About Us tab. Our landing page could also use updating to eliminate duplication of links and include a more dynamic introduction to the Village.

Strategic planning

The theme that runs through many of the Board discussions is the future of the Village. What do we need to survive? What should our functions be? This is apparent from the discussion on finances and the reports below. We're trying to determine what our niche is. Is it to address community, social and health needs; do we want to engage our membership to do more by helping our community to feed the hungry, mentor our children, and learn more about housing and education. Would broader community involvement provide the Village with greater recognition or allow the Village to become popular with a diverse community and increase membership? We have a good thing going at the Village and there is no reason we cannot be much better.

The terms of the Tri-Directors are coming to their end and members are invited to nominate their replacements and are encouraged to volunteer and take on leadership positions.

Membership

Member engagement remains a high priority for TVIH. Fran Dummett together with Cathy Latham and Stefanie Feldman, have established a Connections group whose goal is to reach out to associate members once or twice a month with a friendly check-in call. In addition, the new Connections Team has started to reach out to members to learn about their background, encourage interest in attending events, participate on TVIH Committees and become a volunteer for our Full Members. TVIH tries to leverage the skills of our members by inviting them to share their skills with the Village, – a former social worker could be invited to be an occasional Circle of Care Coordinator, a former IT worker could be invited to be on the IT Committee, etc.

Volunteer Committee

Marie Grunwell who co-chairs the Volunteer Committee, presented an assessment of what they need to be fully prepared to meet the needs of what is expected to be a growing and aging membership. She would like the Board to consider hiring a Volunteer Coordinator to coordinate volunteer services and training. This person will also act as a Circle of Care Coordinator on an as needed basis to assess a member's needs for "Circle" assistance and assemble a team of volunteers to service those needs. At present Marie does both jobs on a volunteer basis. She is concerned because a majority of volunteers from 2020 to the present have not been available due to COVID. There is no guarantee that they will come back if or when things return to normal.

Village Pod Pilot Program Update

The Village Pod pilot study was completed at the end of April. Weekly pod reports from the conveners showed many positive feelings (e.g., interested in each other's stories) and some concerns (e.g., some pods took longer to gel than others). None of the reports showed any major issues that might need immediate attention. There was a general sense that small groups seem to have enhanced the ability of participants to communicate more comfortably and personally.

At the end of the pilot, each pod participant was asked to complete a short survey. Based on the feedback, the Village Pod Planning Committee will report on lessons learned and recommend whether a rollout of Village Pods to all TVIH members should be undertaken.

Connection Committee Contacts

Volunteers from the Membership Committee will be contacting you periodically by email and/or phone to touch base on how you are doing. TVIH Cares. "People who care about each other enjoy doing things for one another." (Ann Landers)

— Fran Dummett & Cathy Latham (Connections Committee)



Photo by Alice Wu on Unsplash

PLEASE NOTE: All Events Now Require Registration!

Register for an event on the online calendar. On the day of the event, return to the event on the calendar about 15 minutes before the time of the event, click the zoom meeting room link and you're in! If using your phone, follow instructions given.

Reminder: Please remember to use the 'Cancel' button or phone the office, if you are unable to attend an event for which you've registered. This courtesy not only helps the event coordinator, but opens a space for others who may wish to attend.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sharon Neville, Program Chair

Monthly Events

- **Outdoor Happy Hour (A, B, C & D)** – Tuesday, May 4th at 4:00 PM. PLEASE NOTE: there are FOUR happy hour sessions this month. Please see the calendar event for specific in-person requirements. Always the 1st Tuesday of the month! Covid restrictions are being monitored with the hopes that Happy Hours can return to restaurants in the near future. We're looking at outdoor seating in smaller groups at multiple places on the same date at the same time.
Jim & Irene MacDonald, Kathy Marianelli, Sarah Spence and Fred Butt will be May's outdoor hosts.
- **My 3 Cents** – Tuesday, May 18th at 1:00 PM.
Discussion Topic: "How has the pandemic changed institutions like the workplace, shopping malls, symphony orchestras? What impact do these changes have on us?"
- **World Languages 10** – Wednesday, May 19th at 1:00 PM. This month we will be learning French with Jean Salkeld & Sheryl Amster.
- **The Village Readers Book Group** – Thursday, May 20th at 10:00 AM. Discussing the book *The Warmth of Other Suns* by Isabel Wickerson.
- **Travel Talks: River Cruise from Paris To Normandy** – Thursday, May 20th at 7:00 PM. Karol Hess traveled to Paris two years ago and hopped on a wonderful river cruise ship. Ride with her and fellow cruiser Debbie Richmond, from Paris to Normandy to Paris. Along the way you will stop at Rouen (Joan of Arc memorial and town), Le Havre at the Seine and English Channel, Omaha Beach at Normandy, Monet's home and gardens in Giverny and back to Paris.

- **Listen! My Favorite Music and Performers: Presenter, Tom Benjamin, composer, music theorist, conductor and performer**- Friday, May 21st at 10:00 AM. Some Favorites. Departing a bit from the usual format, Tom will select some of his very favorite music and performers, in a musical grab-bag, including flash mobs, African village music, Purcell, the Silk Road Ensemble, Schubert, Broadway, pop and jazz of various eras; something for everyone!
- **Wednesdays at the Movies: Hamilton (2020)**- May 26th at 7:00 PM. Enjoy a movie via Zoom to watch in the comfort of your own home! Frances Lorenzi will be hosting.

Weekly Activities/Events

- **Good Morning Howard – Virtual**. Every Wednesday at 9:00 AM.
This month's topics include:
5/5- Mary Pat (Positive Thinking)
5/12- Sarah (Growing up in Oregon)
5/19- Fran (Meditation)
5/26- Kathy (Making Photo Books)
- **Monday Morning Virtual Meanderings** – at 10:00 AM. 5/3, 5/10, 5/17, 5/24, 5/31.
- **Virtual Bridge** – Every Tuesday at 1:00 PM. 5/4, 5/11, 5/18, 5/25.
- **Wednesday Lunch Bunch (Virtual)** – at 11:30 AM. 5/5, 5/12, 5/19, 5/26.
- **Mah Jongg** – Every Friday at 10:00 AM. 5/7, 5/14, 5/21, 5/28.
- **Dinner and Discussion with Friends** – Every Friday at 6:30 PM. 5/7, 5/14, 5/21, 5/28.
- **Saturday Morning Virtual Coffee with Friends** – at 9:30 AM. 5/1, 5/8, 5/15, 5/22, 5/29.

Individual Events

- **50/50 Fundraiser Ticket Purchase and Virtual Drawing** – Saturday, May 22nd at 10:00 AM. TVIH's 50/50 Raffle is back and better than ever! Tickets are just \$50. We hope to sell 300 tickets, making the winner's jackpot worth \$7500. The jackpot, of course,



depends on how many tickets are actually sold. If you're the lucky winner, you could have your windfall just in time for summer activities. Tickets will be available for purchase beginning on April 5th. If interested, please call the office at 443-367-9043 and leave your name and number. You will receive a return call with details on getting your tickets. To purchase tickets and watch the

virtual raffle drawing live via Zoom, you must register for this event. A Zoom link will be provided upon registration.



Support TVIH by using AmazonSmile, a giving program offered by Amazon.com for the same products and prices. When you use AmazonSmile for your shopping, 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products will be donated to TVIH.

How does it work? Start each shopping session at the URL <http://smile.amazon.com>. Be sure to designate The Village in Howard to receive your donation by clicking on the link smile.amazon.com.

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Jennifer Perkins-Frantz, Newsletter Design

Member Solicitation Policy

In order to ensure confidence and privacy, and to promote an open exchange of information among our members, The Village in Howard maintains a policy of non-solicitation of fellow members for the purpose of business development or marketing. Our organization provides opportunities to learn from each other, both at TVIH activities and informally. Using the directory to find names and contact information of other members is appropriate for this purpose. It is not appropriate to market or solicit business.

SUPPORTERS:



Aging In Howard just got better....

If you have problems with, or need information on:
Membership, email membership@thevillageinhoward.org
Volunteering, email volunteer@thevillageinhoward.org

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

The Village in Howard 50/50 Raffle

Win up to \$7,500

May 22, 2021

Get your tickets now! Only 300 tickets
will be sold. \$50 per ticket.
You gotta play to win!

VIRTUAL DRAWING May 22, 2021

TIME OF DRAWING: to be determined

Pay by credit card or by check (TVIH).
To purchase your raffle tickets, leave your name
& phone number at The Village in Howard at
443-367-9043 or
services@thevillageinhoward.org

*Winner need not be present to win.

**Winning prize will be 50% of the total collected.



Aging In Howard just got better....

Proceeds support the operations and on-going programs of The Village in Howard, a virtual community that promotes independence and mutual support for Howard County residents ages 55 and over who wish to stay active and involved in the community.

