



# The Village In Howard Newsletter

July 2022

## EDITOR'S NOTE

The office will be closed on July 4th in observance of the Independence Holiday and reopen on the 5th.



## A Wonderful Summer Evening

Those who could attend the Village in Howard's Annual Picnic on Tuesday, June 14th, were not disappointed.



Everyone was treated to a gorgeous evening filled with laughter, comradery, and an abundance of Mission BBQ, salads of all kinds, drink, and desserts too numerous and scrumptious to describe. A unique trivia competition was held. Duane St. Clair outdid himself with such challenging, state-related questions. For example: What state has a two-sided flag?

(Answer at the bottom of the article). One group was able to answer 15 questions out of 20. Congratulations to each group member on winning a \$25 Whole Foods Gift Card.

With Jim Bouscaren emceeding, committee chairs provided updates on our Finances, Fundraising, Membership, Programs, Communication and Outreach, Website, Strategic Planning, and Village PODS. Plugs were made for Good Morning Howard and the



upcoming Bingo fundraiser to be held on October 29th at the FOP Lodge, 2832 Nine Mile Circle, Catonsville, MD.

Additionally, members were informed that another membership survey would be distributed in October, which correlates with TVIH's 3-year strategic plan. Members were reminded that their survey participation is essential to moving the Village forward.



A huge thank you is owed to the committee of



volunteers who made it possible for those in attendance to enjoy such an enjoyable gathering. Those volunteer members

included Sarah Spence, Marie Grunwell, Jim Bouscaren, Kim and Jane Sherman, Mike and Kathy O'Rourke, and our office manager, Yaa Ampofo. A special thank you to Louise McLaughlin for being the photographer extraordinaire in Joy's absence.

**Answer:** Oregon

## IN MEMORIAM

### Janet Randle

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Janet Randle who passed away on June 10, 2022. Janet joined TVIH in 2019 and was very appreciative of the services she received from the Village Volunteers and the many friends she made. Janet was highlighted in a previous TVIH newsletter. She was very proud of her contribution to WWII as one of the "Rosie the Riveter" women.



Condolences can be mailed to her sons, Richard and Robert Long, 292 Reunion Corner Road, Gerrardtown, WV 25420.

## Communication and Outreach News



Public Meeting at East Columbia Library 06/22

We want to thank Meridy McCague and her East Columbia 50+ Senior Center staff for their hospitality on June 16 when they hosted another "The Village In Howard" presentation. Thanks also to all of the villagers who stepped up and helped out

before and during this event. There was a group of four people in attendance who asked some great questions.

### Please answer the following questions.

- Have you retired recently and are wondering "what I am going to do?"
- Or are you thinking about retirement and wondering "what I will do?"
- Do you live in a 55-plus community and want to do more?
- Or are you a member of another senior organization?
- Or are you a member of a church, mosque, temple, synagogue, or any other religious institution?

If your answer to any of the above questions is YES, and you would like to learn more about The Village In Howard, please contact us. We can do a presentation either in person or virtually. Just give us a call at 443-367-9043 or email us at [4info@thevillageinhoward.org](mailto:4info@thevillageinhoward.org).

Try out The Village In Howard by attending our events. You can participate before you join and find out why we are "Aging Better Together". Visit our website at [www.thevillageinhoward.org](http://www.thevillageinhoward.org), select the Calendar tab,

and see what is happening!

We look forward to hearing from you.

## On Boarding

### Board of Directors Meeting

June 22, 2022

Peter Brunner, presiding

### Finances

The Board of Directors will be sending out the annual donation letters to the membership soon after Labor Day. Consider Kathy Rose the kickoff to our fundraising efforts. A winner of the 2022 50/50 raffle, Kathy generously donated \$1,000 of her winnings to TVIH. The Board of Directors expressed their gratitude to her and wished future winners success in our upcoming BINGO event in late October.

### Nominations

TVIH is seeking replacements for four positions: a Tri-Director, 2 Board members, and the Communications/Outreach Committee Chair. Please contact Sarah Spence ([tslspence@aol.com](mailto:tslspence@aol.com)) if you are interested. These roles are central to the existence and functioning of the Village. Many members joined the Village to help make the aging process richer and smoother. Volunteering for a leadership position helps fulfill that goal. It also enables the volunteer to contribute to shaping the future of TVIH.

### New Resources

Pete Brunner has developed a document that lists government information on financial resources, such as seniors' reductions in real estate assessments. The Board plans to combine this information with other modules on healthy aging and housing for use by members of the Village. The resulting document would be a useful recruitment tool.

Fred Shaw and Peter Brunner have been working with the Village to Village movement to identify common activities and metrics. Completing this more extensive database of services, activities, and outcomes will enable villages to profit from the experience of other villages and provide data useful in seeking outside funding.

What happens if a Villager moves outside of Howard County but wishes to stay a member? The Board of Directors voted to enable associate members on a case-by-case basis to stay connected.

## Outdoor Happy Hour @ Tino's Italian Bistro

Tuesday, July 12, 2022, at 4:00 PM

We are returning to Tino's, one of your favorite happy



hour locations. There is ample outdoor seating for us to enjoy one another's company. Choose from happy hour specials or an early meal from the dinner menu. Guests are always welcome. The host will be Dorothy Hutchins.

Contact Cheryl Neeley; 8775 Centre Park Drive, Columbia, MD 21045 (410) 730-8466, [tinositalianbistro.com](mailto:tinositalianbistro.com)

## Calling All Creative Villagers!

### DO YOU ENJOY...

Painting, Drawing, Sculpting? Writing Poetry, Short Stories, Novels? Designing/Making Jewelry or Clothing? Photography? Wood Working? Making Music? Playing an Instrument? Singing? Composing? Cooking? Baking? Crafting? Quilting? Crocheting? Knitting? Embroidery? Scrapbooking?

Or is there something else not already mentioned that kicks your creativity into gear? If you answered YES to any of the above, we want to hear from you!

You can do this by writing your own article and submitting it to the Newsletter staff by the 19th of any month or contacting us about writing the article on your behalf.

For further information, please send an email to: Yaa Ampofo at [manager@thevillageinhoward.org](mailto:manager@thevillageinhoward.org); Ellin Scholnick at [escholni@umd.edu](mailto:escholni@umd.edu); or Sheryl Amster at [samster60@icloud.com](mailto:samster60@icloud.com)

## TVIH Survey

Periodically, TVIH sends out surveys to gauge members' evaluations of the organization and its activities. This data helps in making changes and planning for the future. The latest survey, skillfully constructed and analyzed by Fran Dummett and Marie Grunwell, was conducted in September 2021 when we were operating under COVID restrictions. At that time, there were 166 TVIH members, and 95 (57%) responded to the survey. The survey was designed to obtain input describing who we are, why we joined TVIH, whether the organization has fulfilled expectations, and what improvements TVIH might make. These are the answers provided by the 95 respondents.

### Who are the Villagers?

Of the respondents, 88% are 71 years or older. The median age category was 76-80. Only 3% were younger than 65. The survey data came overwhelmingly from associate members (82%). Members who are couples account for 30% of the sample.

### How and why do people join the Village?

Our best recruitment tool is through social connections. Half the members (51%) heard about TVIH through friends, and they were attracted to the Village

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT ON

### Fran Lorenzi

Fran became a TVIH non-member office and Circle of Care volunteer in 2016 and a member in 2018. Fran has been a TVIH whirlwind. She has taken on numerous village tasks – behind the scenes – helping to develop Good Morning Howard. Fran is a member of the Board of Directors. Her passions are her family and giving parties, but most of all, she is a friend to be counted on. An adjective to describe Fran: Passionate. Thank you, Fran for being so engaged and coming up with ideas to move the Village forward.

### New Volunteer:

Ed Warner – Columbia, MD

because of the opportunity to make new friends (64%) and avoid social isolation (24%). They were also interested in the activities (63%) that TVIH offered. Many write-in comments on the survey mentioned a desire to render service to the TVIH community and beyond.

### Has TVIH met expectations?

The survey indicated broad participation in TVIH, perhaps because the people who responded to the survey were also the most active in TVIH. Only 3% said they had not participated in TVIH events. Over half of the respondents participated in various educational programs and social gatherings such as lunch bunch and happy hour. Another 40-49% mentioned attending morning walks, age-related and health-related information talks, and musical programs. 43% of the group had served as volunteers. The satisfaction ratings were very high at 90%.

What suggestions were made for the future?

Responses to the current survey led to some popular recent TVIH programming, including the Speakeasy series and the series on housing. The survey also provided a wish list for future program planning: more health and wellness programs (74%) and weekend programs (58%) were high on the list. These require staffing and volunteers. Where might the staffing come from? 43% of the respondents noted their willingness to find ways to capitalize on their skills and experience by volunteering, and 29% stated the desire to participate in outreach to community organizations. We have yet to learn whether people followed up on their offers. The present survey suggests that we track the extent of volunteering and offer more opportunities for engagement in the organization and community. We need people to engage in volunteering and monitoring as well as coordinating our volunteer efforts.

## PLEASE NOTE: All Events Now Require Registration!

Register for an event on the online calendar.

When you register for a Zoom TVIH event, you receive the Zoom link two times. The first time is right after you register. You receive the second notice on the day before the event. If you cannot find the zoom link in your emails, go to the website and cancel your registration, then register again. The email link will be emailed to you within 2 minutes.

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*

## Weekly Programs

- **Monday Morning Meanderings** – Lake Elkhorn - Monday, July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2022, at 9:00 AM. Contact: Jane Sherman.
- **Monday Morning VIRTUAL Coffee with Friends** - Monday, July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2022, at 10:00 AM. Contact: Jane Sherman.
- **In Person Bridge Group (The Other Barn)** – Tuesday, July 5, 12, 19, 26, 2022, at 1:00 PM Contact: Sarah Spence.
- **Lunch Bunch** – Wednesday, July 6, 13, 20, 27, 2022, at 11:30 AM. Contact: Mary McGraw. At Tino's off Route 108 and Centre Park Drive in Columbia, MD 21045
- **Virtual Mah Jongg** – Friday, July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 2022 at 10:00 AM. Contact: Susan Hailman.
- **Sneakers & Coffee** – Lake Kittamaquandi - Saturday, July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 2022, at 9:00 AM. Contact: John Salkeld.

## Monthly Programs

- **Remarkable Reads** – Thursday, July 7, 2022, at 10:00 AM. Contact: Sharon Neville.
- **TVIH Happy Hour** – Tuesday, July 12, 2022, at 4:00 PM. Tino's off Route 108 and Centre Park Drive, Columbia, MD 21045. Contact: Cheryl Neely.
- **My 3 Cents** – Tuesday, July 19, 2022, at 1:00 PM Topic: Inflation: Causes and consequences. Where does it have an impact? What are the strategies for handling it? Contact: Ellin Scholnick.
- **The Village Readers** – Thursday, July 21, 2022, at 10:00

AM. The book is Personal Librarian by Marie Benedict.

Contact: Mary Pat Donelan

- **TVIH Backyard Social** – Tuesday, July 26, 2022, at 4:00 PM Contact: Fran Lorenzi

*The following programs will not meet in July and August.*

- Good Morning Howard, Listen to Music!
- Travel Talks
- TVIH Table Talks, Dinner/Discussion



Support TVIH  
by using  
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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](http://smile.amazon.com).





**\*Due to COVID and weather event conditions, events are subject to change at the time the newsletter is circulated. PLEASE check the calendar on the website for the most up to date information.**

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#### Newsletter Staff

Editor-in-Chief, Yaa Ampofo

Editors, Sheryl Amster, Ellin Scholnick, Diane Fishman,

Alice Pham, Helena Seidel, Lynn Foehrkolb

Program Editor, Sarah Ziemann

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### 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.

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#### SUPPORTERS:



If you have problems with, or need information on:  
Membership, email [membership@thevillageinhoward.org](mailto:membership@thevillageinhoward.org)  
Volunteering, email [volunteer@thevillageinhoward.org](mailto: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](mailto:4info@thevillageinhoward.org). We will not share your email address or personal information with anyone.