



MARCH 2023

# The Village In Howard

Aging Better Together

## Special Announcements!

A warm welcome to our new Executive Director, Deborah Burgio. She is no stranger to organizations like TVIH, having founded Winter Grace, a nonprofit organization located in Dayton, MD designed to “empower and enrich the lives of older adults” and those who care for them. She has been president of Winter Grace Senior Ministries since 2017. While managing Winter Grace, she has developed and implemented programs that provide information about resources for seniors, and marketed the programs to the community in order to increase funding and membership. As part of her successful outreach efforts, she serves as a Board Member of COGS (Coalition of Geriatric Services) in Howard County and as a member of the Information and Communication working group of the Howard County Age-Friendly Task Force. In other words, her marketing, fundraising, outreach, and management skills signal that she is the perfect fit to work for TVIH. In addition, she is a certified wellness coach and is described by her references as a caring individual whose organizational skills and caring personality make her a joy to work with.



Debbie will join the Village on March 13 but will be meeting with our Executive Committee on March 6 and the Board on March 8. Stay tuned for opportunities to meet with our new Executive Director.

## Searching for Individual CA Village Grants

The Fund-raising committee would like to contact all CA villages to see if they have grants or donations available for local non-profits that serve residents of their village. We have already contacted Oakland Mills, Long Reach and Wilde Lake. We are asking Village members that may live in other CA villages to contact their village association and ask if they have a grant or donation program. If they do, please request a copy of the application and send it to Pete Brunner @ [grants@thevillageinhoward.gov](mailto:grants@thevillageinhoward.gov).

Your village association may want to know how many TVIH members live within their village (e.g., Hickory Ridge). You can get the answer by logging into the website and checking the membership directory under the Resources tab. This will bring up a window that allows you to click on “Metro Area” and select your neighborhood. The system will then bring up all TVIH members living in your village.

Oakland Mills has generously donated \$500 per year for the past several years and we are hopeful other villages may also provide us with some resources.

## Moving Together Strengthens Bonds

by Susan Kim

When they walk past, you notice their smiles. Two dozen people, ages 55 and older, are strolling through The Mall in Columbia together, some deep in conversation, others peacefully taking in the scenery at 9 in the morning.



Sometimes drawing more than 50 people, mall walks are one of many activities organized by the volunteers of the Villages of Howard. (TBM / Susan Kim)

They're all members of The Village in Howard, a movement of seniors who aim to age in place in their own homes. Their sense of connection is deep: walking together, they are friends, caregivers, and care receivers for each other and for the wider community.

"I think of this as the therapy of walking and talking," said John Salkeld, who convenes the weekly walks in the mall and around Lake Kittamaquundi. "We walk for 30 minutes in the mall, and we always do both floors."

Sometimes drawing more than 50 people, the mall walks are one of many activities organized by the volunteers of the Villages of Howard. They also organize and attend presentations, most recently on electric cars and housing for seniors.

Exercise is a big part of their lives. Larry Fenton, who lives in the Residences at Vantage Point, said he comes because he loves both the people and the physical movement. "It adds to the wealth of my health," he said.

Joy Cheung, one of the 12 founders who helped start The Village in Howard in 2015 by modeling it after other "Age In Place" Villages across the nation, said she wants the local organization to

keep growing. The Village in Howard is in the process of hiring an executive director.

"There are 50,000 65+ seniors in Howard County and we only have 178 members," she said.

At the mall, the conversations are often full of spark, intellect, and humor. From a retired cardiologist, to someone who worked for Bethlehem Steel for more than 30 years, to a retired nurse who is still deeply involved in promoting wellness in Howard County, they talk about issues that challenge the world.

"And we talk about books," added Cheung, "We have four retired librarians!"

*Reprinted with permission. The Business Monthly February 2023*

## **On Boarding** **Board of Directors Meeting** *February 8, 2023*

### **Financial Report: Peter Brunner**

The Board is being asked to consider how to advocate for expanded State support for the Village. We would like to include the Executive Director in these decisions. The first step could be composing a template letter to distribute to the Board and TVIH members requesting their help in promoting support from the Secretary of the Department of Aging, as well as the Howard County Representative on the State Subcommittee for Local Finances.

### **Personnel Issues**

Peter Brunner has agreed to stay on as Treasurer until the end of March and is flexible if more time is needed. Jim Sanders resigned from the Board of Directors and TVIH committees, but will continue his Village membership and help Judy Goldfarb with THWAG. Jim Bouscaren updated the Board on the work of the Hiring Committee for an Executive Director. On

January 25, the committee sent out 4 rejection letters and 7 acceptance letters requesting 3 reference letters . Five candidates sent in letters of reference and interviews will be on Monday, Feb. 13 and Wed., Feb.15.

The Board is considering adding outside directors who could offer a broader external perspective and broaden our connections to the County. The Board will consult with the new Executive Director before a decision is made.

The following Village positions are open: Director of Public Affairs, Trainee for Director of Finance, Communication Committee Chair, Outreach Committee Chair, Newsletter Editor, and Chair and members of a newly established Succession Planning Committee. Once chosen, the Executive Director should have input on these personnel decisions. The Board is working on revising the Village Organizational Chart and By-laws to incorporate the Executive Director and revisions to committee structures and functions.

### Hearing Impaired Equipment – John Marsch

The Board discussed acquiring and installing hearing aids in our Steven's Forest Office. More information is needed to determine installation requirements and costs. The Board will research these issues and discuss them at the next meeting.

*A detailed copy of the minutes can be found in the TVIH Document Library under Committees [https://www.thevillageinhoward.org/content.aspx?page\\_id=86&club\\_id=855297](https://www.thevillageinhoward.org/content.aspx?page_id=86&club_id=855297)*

## Welcome New Member



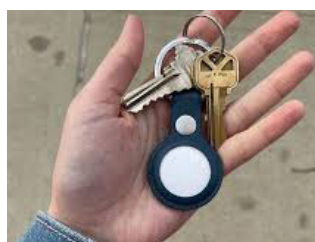
**Berylee Turban**  
of Columbia



## Spring Bocce Begins in April

For the past several years, TVIH has collaborated with Howard County Recreation and Parks and put together TVIH Bocce Teams. This season, TVIH teams will play on Mondays at 1:00 PM at Cedar Lane Park West beginning April 10. Join the fun ... no experience needed! **Registration opens March 1<sup>st</sup>** through Recreation and Parks. The cost remains \$19 for an 8-week season in this 55+ League. Register at [www.HowardCountyMD.gov/rap](http://www.HowardCountyMD.gov/rap). Once you have registered, notify our coordinator, Mary Pat Donelan, and she will arrange our teams with Recreation and Parks.

## Technology for Everyone, Cool Gadgets



This month, we will discuss the new computer/technology gadgets (AirPods, AirTag, digital photo frame, photo scanner, etc.) that we bought. Tell us if you are satisfied with your purchase? Does it help you in your daily lives? What was the price? Was it easy to set up before use?





## Asian Potluck Lunch and Presentation on Asian Vegetables

I had the opportunity to attend the Asian potluck lunch and presentation on Asian Vegetables on Feb 15 at the River Hill Community Center. I previously attended the Asian Vegetable shopping trip with Joy last month and was anxious to sample the vegetable dishes she spoke about during our trip.

I brought the only Asian meal I know how to cook.... beef with peppers. Others prepared Asian salads, sushi's, assorted wonderful vegetable dishes, a platter of bird nests made with shoestring sweet potato fries topped with shrimp, and of course the very Asian brownies for dessert....Yum. It was lovely to enjoy lunch and the interesting lecture with members of the River Hill Community, such a nice group of people! The highlight of the afternoon was watching Joy prepare Chinese Dumplings in person. We all had fun helping her mix the filling with chopsticks and asking lots of questions. I was inspired to try making dumplings myself for dinner tonight. They turned out well ...but I really do need more practice.

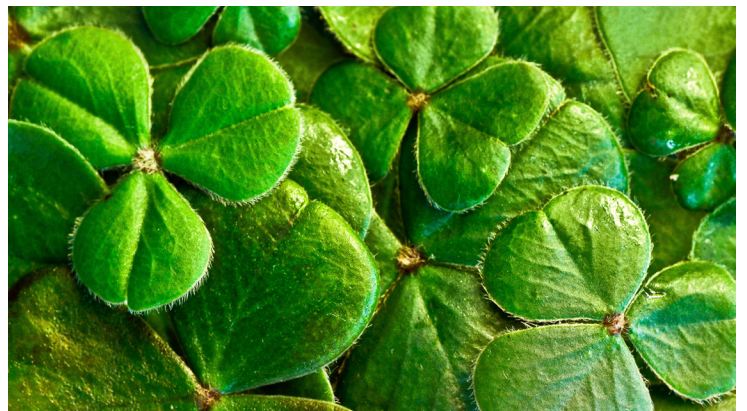
*Thanks Joy!*  
Patty Bascietto

## Volunteer Spotlight

### Cheryl Neely

Some people claim to have enjoyed their job when they retire, but few turn around and quickly become active volunteers for their prior employer. After serving TVIH for nearly 2 years as TVIH's office manager, Cheryl Neely took a quick break and then signed up as a transportation volunteer. Last year, she stepped up once again to serve temporarily as part-time staff in her old role as Office Manager while the Board searches for an Executive Director. She has, in her tenure, taken on tasks as varied as guiding the formation of a very successful Bocce team, shepherding our holiday food and gift drives and co-chairing our 2022 Bingo fundraiser. Her quick wit, effervescent smile and efficiency make visitors and callers feel welcome and cared for. As a TVIH member, Cheryl frequently attends our Teach and Taste events (rumor has it, Cheryl enjoys a good wine) and hosting TVIH's very popular happy hours.

If you have admired her many knitted scarves, please know she actually made them herself. Always busy, Cheryl also enjoys caring one day each week for her newest grandchild, Millie. Filling so many roles capably and with good humor, and giving generously of her time, Cheryl has been a "special angel" filling roles where and when most needed. We can't thank her enough for her leadership in so many TVIH efforts.





## Travel Talk:

*Thursday, March 23, 2023*

*Presenter: John O'Dea*

### Steamboating: A Different Kind of Boating Hobby

We have been taking our boat, S.L. Mary Louise, to various steamboat meets for about 20 years. We've hauled the boat to various meets on the East Coast, from as far north as Ontario to as far south as Tennessee. We usually spent two weeks in Vermont every summer, where we were the first steamboat to operate on Lake Dunmore in the last 100 years. We were front page news in the local newspaper!

This travel talk will be mostly pictures of similar boats at various meets plus a couple of videos.

## Good Morning Howard – March 2023

Good Morning Howard will be presented on a bi-weekly schedule in March. We have an interesting line up and hope you will join us by registering on the TVIH Calendar. The virtual programs are presented via Zoom on Wednesday mornings from 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM. Guests are welcome. Programs will be recorded and available for later viewing by TVIH members.

[www.thevillageinhoward.org](http://www.thevillageinhoward.org) (443) 367-9043 [4info@thevillageinhoward.org](mailto:4info@thevillageinhoward.org)

## March 1, 2023 Vantage Point – Retirement Living Options

*Patti Hutton*

Patti Hutton, Director of Marketing at Residences at Vantage Point will cover topics



related to financial structures, what to consider when researching options, insights on decision making, and other key questions when considering transition to senior living options.

Patti, is a senior living marketing and sales professional with 27 years of experience in educating seniors and professionals about Continuing Care Retirement Communities (CCRCs), also known as Life Plan Communities. She has consulted with more than 50 CCRCs across the country, assisting thousands of seniors and their families in sorting through the many senior living choices to find the right solution for their lives.

## March 15, 2023 Experiencing Tai Chi

*Fran Dummett*

Learn about the benefits of Tai Chi and exercise from “Begin with Breath” videos by Dr. Adam Potts, Physical Therapist. This is an introductory session about a Tai Chi program to be offered later this year as a TVIH weekly activity. You, the members, will have input on how you wish the program to be designed.

## March 29, 2023 HoCo Recreation & Parks: Trips & Tours

*Tracy Adkins*



Howard County Recreation & Parks has announced the schedule for the very popular Trips & Tours planned for April – September 2023.



Tracy Adkins will give us an overview of the scheduled events and share what we need to do to join the fun. You may also check out the links below to the full Activity Guide or go to the Howard County Department of Recreation & Parks Facebook page for a preview of what is coming up.

*Howard County Recreation & Parks 2023 Spring*

*Summer Activity Guide (Trips & Tours pg. 10)*  
[https://www.howardcountymd.gov/sites/default/files/2023-01/Spring%20Summer%20Guide\\_FINAL%20\(2\)\\_LOW%20RES.pdf](https://www.howardcountymd.gov/sites/default/files/2023-01/Spring%20Summer%20Guide_FINAL%20(2)_LOW%20RES.pdf)

*Howard County Department of Recreation & Parks Facebook Page* <https://www.facebook.com/hocorec>

# Aging Better Together





## Members' Corner

### 2023 Lottery Challenge

Every existing member who influences a new member to join TVIH between January 1 and December 15, 2023, will be placed in a lottery to win a \$250 Visa Gift Card.

The drawing will take place on December 18, 2023, and the winner will be announced in the January 2024 Newsletter.

As each new member is added, they will be asked if an existing member influenced their membership. The Membership Committee will keep track of those current 'influencing' member names.

An existing 'influencing' couple will equate to one existing member name (e.g..... Mr. and Mrs. Smith) for lottery purposes.

An existing 'influencing' member's name will be placed in the lottery for each new member added by that current member.

If you have any questions, contact [membership@thevillageinhoward.org](mailto:membership@thevillageinhoward.org).

### Open Invitation to Members to Attend a Board Meeting

TVIH members are invited to attend any monthly board meeting. Proposals for board discussion topics should be presented at least 3 days before any monthly Board meeting by emailing your topic to [4info@thevillageinhoward.org](mailto:4info@thevillageinhoward.org). Board meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 1:30 pm in person at the TVIH Center. Please register on the event calendar if you wish to attend.

Please understand that some Board topics are confidential and will be discussed only among Board members, so you may be asked to leave the meeting when these discussions begin.

### Supported Membership Program

The Village in Howard has established a membership support program (reduced fees) for Associate

and Full Memberships. This support is available, subject to TVIH resources, to applicants meeting specific income requirements. TVIH has a limited number of supported memberships which can be offered. For additional information or to apply, call the TVIH Manager at 443-367-9043.

### Trial Membership

It takes a Village to help older adults stay where they choose, live independently, and remain connected to their community. The Village in Howard offers a free, 3-Month ASSOCIATE Trial Membership for Howard County residents 55 and older. This truly is a no-obligation FREE 3-month trial. Trial ASSOCIATE members will receive a website login and can freely register for events and activities. In addition, a trial ASSOCIATE member will be assigned a "buddy" to aid in becoming familiar with all the Village has to offer. If you do not care to join The Village in Howard by the trial expiration date, the trial membership will automatically cease, and no membership fee will be charged. To become an ASSOCIATE Trial Member, register online or by downloading a paper application at <https://www.thevillageinhoward.org> via the Membership Application. What do you have to lose? Any questions or need assistance? Contact the office at 443-367-9043.

### Loan Closet of Howard County

The Loan Closet of Howard County connects individuals with medical equipment (e.g., walkers, wheelchairs, crutches, bedrails, shower chairs, and much more) on a loan basis, free of charge. To receive equipment, your healthcare professional must complete the Loan Closet Referral Form at <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/disability-services>. Once the referral is received, you will be contacted to schedule an appointment for pick-up.

The Loan Closet of Howard County is located at 7125 Riverwood Drive, Suite D1, Columbia, MD 21046. Appointments are required for all services—Call 410-313-0363 to discuss your needs or ask for a referral form.

Please refer to the Events Calendar on the TVIH website for further information.

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.

*Fran Lorenzi, Program Chair*

## Weekly Programs

- **Monday Morning Meanderings** – Monday, March. 6, 13, 20, 27 at 10:00 AM at Lake Elkhorn. Contact: Jane Sherman
- **Monday Morning VIRTUAL Coffee with Friends** – Monday, March. 6, 13, 20, 27 at 10:00 AM. Contact: Jane Sherman
- **In Person Bridge Group** – Monday, March. 6, 13, 20, 27 at 10:00 AM. Contact: Jane Sherman
- **Good Morning Howard** – Wednesday, March. 1, 15, 29 at 9:00 AM. Virtual. Contact: Fran Lorenzi
- **VIRTUAL Lunch Bunch** – Wednesday, March. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 at 11:30 AM. Contact: Mary McGraw

- **In-Person Lunch Bunch** – Wednesday, March. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 at 11:30 AM at The Walrus Oyster and Ale House. Contact: Mary McGraw
- **Virtual Mah Jongg** – Friday, March. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 at 10:00 AM. Contact: Susan Hailman
- **Sneakers & Coffee** – Saturday, March. 4, 11, 18, 25 at 9:00 AM at Columbia Mall. Contact: John Salkeld
- **Sunday Brunch** – Sunday, March. 5, 12, 19, 25 at 1:30 PM at The Nordstrom Cafe in Columbia Mall. Contacts: Karen Michaelson and Ellin Scholnick.

## Monthly Programs

- **Remarkable Reads** – Thursday, March 2 at 10:00 AM. Virtual. Contact: Sharon Neville.
- **Meet Up for Arts, Crafts and Projects** – Friday, March. 3 and 17 at 10:00 AM at the TVIH Center 6061 Stevens Forest Rd, Columbia, MD 21045. Contact: Joy Cheung
- **Technology for Everyone – Cool Gadgets** - Thursday March. 9 at 10:00 AM at the TVIH Center 6061 Stevens Forest Rd, Columbia, MD 21045. Contact: Joy Cheung



- **Happy Hour Joins St. Patrick's Day Celebration Event on March 17 at 5:30** – Happy Hour is joining the St. Patrick's Day Celebration event on Friday, March 17. Please register at the March 17<sup>th</sup> event for an evening of traditional Irish fare, beverages, and all things green! Contact: Cheryl Neely



- **The Village Readers (Book Discussion Group)**  
– Thursday, March. 16 at 10:00 AM. Virtual.  
Reading the book, *“The Color of Law”*, by  
*Richard Rothstein*. Contact: Mary Pat Donelan.
- **St. Patrick’s Day Celebration** – Friday, March  
17 at 5:30 PM at the TVIH Center 6061  
Stevens Forest Rd, Columbia, MD 21045.  
Contact: Joy Cheung
- **My 3 Cents** – Tuesday, March 21 at 1:00 PM.  
Virtual. Topic; “Volunteering - A Discussion of  
Past Experiences and Future Plans”. Contact:  
Ellin Scholnick.

- **Game Night** – Friday,  
March. 24 at 7:00 PM  
at the TVIH Center  
6061 Stevens Forest  
Rd, Columbia, MD  
21045. Contact: Kathy  
O’Rourke.



- **Travel Talks: Steamboating** – Thursday, March  
23 at 7:00 PM. Virtual. Contact: Marsha Birn-  
baum.

**\*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.**

#### Newsletter Staff

Editors: Cheryl Neely, Ellin Scholnick,  
Alice Pham, Lynn Foehrkolb, Kristin Grogan

Program Editor: Sarah Ziemann

Newsletter Design: Jennifer Perkins-Frantz

### 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:



**The Village In Howard**

Aging Better Together

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.