

• WATERFRONT •
VILLAGE



The Navigator

A neighborhood-based membership organization
of paid staff, volunteers, and vendors
supporting Southwest Waterfront and Navy Yard residents
who wish to age in place.

Issue 59 - January 2022

Note from the Executive Director

A Year of Hope: Welcome 2022!

Happy New Year! As we begin the new year, we look forward to the many opportunities and blessings the next 12 months will bring us. I can almost hear you and other readers collectively sighing, “Are you kidding me? What about the pandemic?”



Sure, I get it. We ended 2021 just like we started it – worried about leaving our homes because of COVID-19. But I think if we just look at the risk, we might be missing the broader picture of what we learned from 2021.

The year started with a lesson in supply and demand. There were too few vaccine shots available for all the people who needed them. Together, we worked the system and secured vaccine appointments for all of our Village members who wanted one and many other at-risk individuals in the community. The shots protected us from the worst-case impacts of the pandemic – as they still are doing – and gave us hope that we would someday return to our normal routines.

Our community has taken the pandemic seriously since its outset and DC's infection rates mostly hovered among the nation's best. This allowed us to begin outdoor, in-person meetings in May, including our walking club and the Arts Club luncheon, and indoor events beginning with the movie outing on 8th Street SE in June. We continued to hold in-person events throughout the summer and early fall.

By the end of September, we were dealing with the Delta variant, but we adapted and continued to move on. We had 75 members participate in the 5th Anniversary celebration and registered more than 400 people for our two-part home tour in November. These were our two most popular events of the year, and both were conducted on Zoom.

With a lull in Delta infections, we ended the year by squeezing in one last in-person event for our holiday celebration at St. Matthew's Church. Shortly after the event, the Omnicron variant raised DC's infection rate to nearly 20 times the number the city recorded on the day of our holiday celebration. The upswing changed many of our holiday plans.

So what did we learn? First, we learned that COVID is going to be unpredictable. More importantly, we too are evolving with the pandemic. We learned we are resilient, flexible, cooperative and tough. We are getting through this pandemic and taking advantage of every opportunity we get when infection rates are low. Throughout it all, we have carried forth hope. Hope generated by our concern for one another and our community and our will to enjoy life on our terms.

This is why I am looking forward to this year with excitement and joy. COVID may throw some obstacles our way, but we will win beat it. Waterfront Village is on your side and will continue to monitor the pandemic. We will bring you a full slate of activities and events that are reflective of the situation. Some will be virtual; some will be in-person. All of them will be conducted with your health, safety, satisfaction and happiness among our goals. This issue of the *Navigator* previews some of the things we can look forward to seeing in 2022.



Best Year Yet?

From seminars and clubs to excursions and parties, this year's Waterfront Village schedule will have a little something for everyone.

Below is a sample of what to expect in 2022.

January

- Tour of Kadampa Meditation Center
- Technology Seminar: Password Management

February

- Chocolate & Valentines Event
- African-American Civil War Museum Trip
- Legacy Giving Workshop

March

- *Catch Me if You Can* at Arena Stage
- Cherry Blossom Festival Opening Ceremony

April

- Southwest Chamber Players Silver Anniversary Concert
- Baltimore Aquarium and lunch in Little Italy
- Historic tour of Southwest DC

May

- Brookside Gardens Day Trip
- Picnic in the Park
- Age at Place Home Expos

June

- Summer Barbecue
- Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens

July

- Meet the Author Book Discussion Event
- Capital Fringe Festival Village Meet-ups

August

- Unleashing Your Creativity Workshop
- Sunset tour with friends on the Potomac

September

- Village anniversary and awards event
- Intergenerational Back-to-School Event

October

- Homes of the DC Waterfront home tour
- Day excursion to Richmond, VA
- Fall Festival Lunch

November

- Seminar on Government Services for Older Adults
- Thanksgiving Meet-up

December

- Members Holiday Party
- Traditions Arts and Crafts Workshop



Village Transitioning to New System in January

In the next few weeks, members will see significant changes to the Village website as Waterfront Village changes its website services provider.

"For many years, we have received member feedback that the system was confusing and had to navigate, so we're trying to make things a bit easier," said Len Bechtel, the Village's executive director.

He added that the entire look and feel of the website will be neater and follow a more logical flow. There will not be as many buttons to press, and things

should be easier for members to find the pages they want.

In addition, Waterfront Village will join 9 of the other 12 DC-based villages using the software managed by the Helpful Village company. Glover Park Village is also considering a transition to the software in 2022. This will make reporting to the District and other common grant makers more streamlined and accurate. The transition will also allow the Village to update information it has on file for our members.

"This will be a good opportunity to make sure that we have critical information on our members, which will help us serve them more effectively and efficiently," Bechtel said. "We will need everyone's attention to this to make sure the transition goes well."

To help members get better acquainted with the new system, the Village will conduct four training sessions on-line this month and will work individually with members who need assistance.

Waterfront Village At-Work Virtual Meet-up Monday, January 10, 7:30 p.m. Via Zoom



Are you one of the Village members that is still in the workforce? We would like to invite all the Village members who are still working to join us for a Virtual Meet-up on Monday, January 10th. While many Village programs are offered during the day, we want to be sure to provide a "place" for the working members of the Village to get to know one another and build community!



Kadampa Meditation Center Tour 1200 Canal Street, SW

Thursday, January 13, 2:00 p.m.

The new year is a great time to incorporate new wellness practices into your life. Join us to learn about this meditation center and the different programs that they offer. There will be a forty-five minute tour and there will be a brief lesson on meditation. We are excited to visit this local resource for wellness!

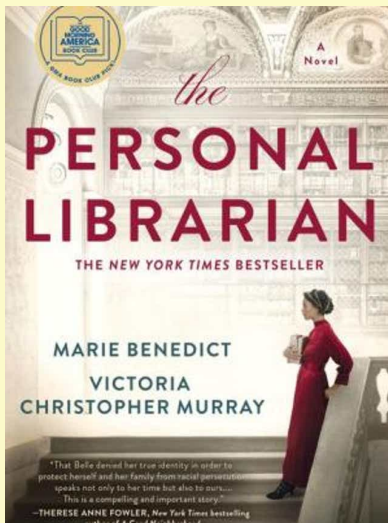
Technology Seminar: Password Management

**Wednesday January 19 at 3:00 p.m.
Via Zoom**



Join us for a topic that is relevant to all of us: how

to keep those pesky passwords organized. While a notebook or paper tracking system is always an option, there are several other ways to simplify password management. Dick Lang, one of the Village's tech volunteers, will present a few alternative ways to organize passwords and share tips on how to transition from a paper management system to a digital system.



Village Book Club ***The Personal Librarian***

The Personal Librarian," co-written by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray, is a fictionalized account of the life of Belle da Costa Greene, who helped J. P. Morgan amass a unique collection of rare manuscripts, paintings, and other works of artistic and historical significance.

Thursday, January 20, 2:00 p.m.
Meet at the SW Library

Hot Soup and Chili Social

Wednesday, January 26. 4:00 p.m.

We had a great turn-out for our summer soup social and lots of delicious soups! Six months later, it's time for the hot soup social, which will feature a variety of winter soups for you to taste!



Do you have a soup you can share with the Village? We are looking for cooks who would like to bring their soup to share! We'd love to include you in this event. Please reach out to Len or Pam at info@dcwaterfrontvillage.org

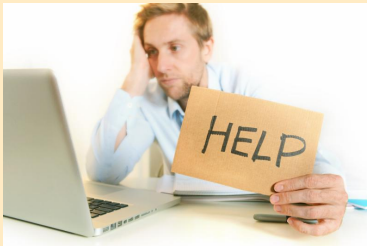
RECURRING EVENTS

Village Walking Club **Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m.** **Location: Meet at 4th and M Street**

These walks will remain local walks; there is always the opportunity to do a shorter walk!

Check your email or call the office at

202-656-1834 on Tuesday mornings if the weather is questionable.



Technology Boot Camp

Wednesdays, January 5 and 19 at 3:00 p.m.

Location: Zoom Session

Lacking confidence in your ability to use videoconferencing platforms, or hoping to use your smart phone for more things? Attend these

meetings with our technology team for conversation and get helpful hints on how to use computers, smart phones, televisions, and tablets.

Grocery Shopping Shuttle

Thursdays at 1:00 p.m.

[The shopping outings have been temporarily suspended due to the Omnicron variant. We hope to restore the service by the end of January conditions permitting,]



Join us on Thursdays for a trip to Harris Teeter! We are happy to provide a grocery shuttle to Harris Teeter and back. Register for this service on the Village website or email Pam at ptroutman@dcwaterfrontvillage.org

This program is currently available for full members; we will keep you posted if we can offer it for all members in the future! Harris Teeter offers a 5 percent discount on all purchases made on Thursdays.

Chair Yoga with CHV

Thursdays at 4:00 p.m.

Location: Zoom Session

Chair Yoga is a version of Yoga that does not depend as much on balance and strength but still provides



movement and flexibility exercises.
Led by Capitol Hill Village.



Alzheimer's Support Group

Location: Zoom Session

January 27 at 11:00 a.m.

If you or someone you know is caring for a relative with Alzheimer's Disease, please know we are here for you! Taking care of yourself is critical; connecting with others who are going through this journey is one of the best ways to get needed assurance and support. This monthly group currently meets via zoom. For information on the meeting, please email Carroll Quinn at: sequin643@gmail.com.

Waterfront Village Committees

As we approach the end of the year, we want to extend a huge thanks to all those Waterfront Village members who have participated on various committees.

We will be updating our Committee memberships as we enter the new year. Committees include membership, program, and volunteer and member services.

If you are planning to continue on any committees that you currently participate in please email Pam at ptroutman@dcwaterfrontvillage.org



Help Wanted!

Waterfront Village is looking for a variety of volunteers to support the Village.

If you are experienced with grant-writing and development, we'd love to hear from you.

We are also looking for a few additional volunteer drivers who are available during the week to take members to medical appointments. Consider being on the list; even if you are available to do a few rides a year it would help!

Finally, we are looking to expand our technology team; if you have experience with email and password management and if you know how to zoom, we'd love to hear from you.

All volunteer opportunities are flexible and we will work around your schedule! Contact Pam at ptroutman@dcwaterfrontvillage.org if you'd like to help!

Three easy ways to register for and attend Village events:

1. Log into our website and hit the Events tab to learn more, and then RSVP online*
2. Email your request to: ptroutman@dcwaterfrontvillage.org
3. Call the Village at 202-656-1834

Check the Village's daily email for Zoom meeting links.

***Call 866-457-2582 weekdays 8:30 am - 7 pm for help with your online registrations**



Thank you to our members renewing during the month of December:

Ruth Anderson
Hara Ann Bouganim
Shirley Buzzard
Mary Caufield
Elaine Graves
Beverly Gray
Deborah Greenstein
Edie Harriet
John Hoag
Norma Joiner
Steve Livengood
Noreen Lyne
Helen Mulkeen
Barbara Pierce
Dolores Pruden
Carroll Quinn
Peter Szekely
Barbara Thompson

Special Welcome to New Members Joining Us in November:

Jay Castano

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

Calling All Amazon Shoppers!

Amazon offers an identical yet parallel website called Amazon Smile. Each time you shop and order on this website instead of the regular Amazon website, Amazon will donate a small portion of the order amount to a charity of your choosing.

Please consider shopping on Amazon Smile and designating the Waterfront Village as your charity!

Click below to learn more.

Amazon Smile for
Waterfront Village

Elaine Graves Dies at Home

Village Member Elaine Graves passed away at her home on December 25, 2022. She was an early and very active member of

Waterfront Village and served the organization in several official capacities, including a paid position as Registrar, prior to the pandemic closing of the office. In addition to the Village, Elaine was an active member of St. Augustine's Episcopal Church and with her River Park homeowners association. She will be missed by all who experienced her excitement, kindness and family pride. You can see her memorial page by clicking the button to the right.



Elaine Graves pictured above center with Sheila Wood and Dick Lang at the Village's 2020 Valentine's Day event.

[Elaine Graves' Memorial Page](#)

For Causes You Cherish

While it's understandable to not want to talk about legacy plans, getting your inheritance wishes in order is one of the greatest gifts you can bestow upon your loved ones. If Waterfront Village is a cause you cherish, please use the link below to access information about the Village Legacy Society and planned giving opportunities. Call the Village on 202-656-1834 for more information.



Waterfront Village is a member of the DC Villages collaborative and the Village to Village Network, operating under the guidance of the District of Columbia Department of Aging and Community Living.

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