

•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 70- December 2022

## From the Executive Director's Desk...



On behalf of the Waterfront Village management team, I want to extend our wishes to you for a happy and fulfilling holiday season. I hope that you have time to reconnect with family and friends and experience the spirit of joy that comes with this time of year.

Please enjoy this issue of the Navigator. It may be our most information-filled issue ever. If your sitting span is as short as mine, it might even require a second seating just to finish reading it.

For those of you who may not have family or friends nearby, please feel free to reach out to the Village for a friendly voice or a helping hand. Pam or I will be in every day except for two during the month of December. We would love to hear from you.

Looking ahead, we have a very busy schedule planned again next year and look forward to seeing you at our many events. Our goal is to put the glee into 2023.

With that horrible rhyme, I want to thank all of you for your support during the past year. Our events would have been terribly boring without you, and we owe a great deal of gratitude to the volunteers who made our services possible.

Wishing you a holiday season full of tradition and friendship and a new year of health and happiness.



## Village's *Thanks for Giving* Awards Dinner Thrills Crowd

Waterfront Village welcomed approximately 50 members and friends to its Thanks for Giving Anniversary and Awards Dinner on November 12, 2022, at Saint Matthew Lutheran Church. Participants were treated to a delicious dinner and a fun night with friends, both new and old. It was a look ahead to Thanksgiving, with a turkey and stuffing meal, and a look back to say "thank you" to some of the wonderful people and organizations that have supported the Village.

Most importantly, it was a time to be together. Staying connected to others in your community is a key part of wellness at any age. If you are a member who would like to get more involved, would like to build friendships, or would like to be more active, consider setting up an appointment with Village staff to create an engagement plan.

If you have been enjoying the Navigator newsletters for some time but have not yet joined, now is the time. Your membership in the Village is a great resource for you, but also a wonderful way to support your SW and Navy Yard communities.



## CFC Lists Waterfront Village in 2022

The Federal Office of Personnel Management has listed Waterfront Village in the Combined Federal Campaigns catalog of eligible non-profit agencies in 2022/23. This means that Federal employees, DoD personnel and retirees are allowed to make donations to the Village as direct allotments from their employee or retiree payments.

Please share this information with your friends and neighbors. If only a few people make a small biweekly or monthly pledge through the campaign, it can add up to a tremendous boost for a small non-profit organization like Waterfront Village.



## Federal Employees and Retirees Who Live or Work in Southwest DC and the Navy Yard

Waterfront Village provides critical services and social opportunities to older adults in the local neighborhood.



**CFC Charity  
# 34491**



Please consider making a pledge or a volunteer commitment through this year's Combined Federal Campaign.



Phone:  
202-656-1834

### Survey Says: Village Meets Member Expectations

Results of the Village's annual members and volunteer satisfaction survey, which was conducted last summer, indicates a high level of satisfaction with Village programs, services and communications, according to the survey data reported by the independent management consultant who administered the survey.



"The Village appreciates the efforts taken by a large number of members who completed the survey, and we could not be more grateful for the positive feedback we've received," said Board President Carroll Quinn.

The overall feedback from members was very positive; 94% of respondents agree or strongly agree that the Village is a caring community; 87% agree or strongly agree that being a member of the Village improves their quality of life. Members expressed high levels of satisfaction with regard to communication and programming that comes from the Village office. Members who are receiving volunteer services also expressed satisfaction with those services.

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**"We will always make time for our members and want to hear their suggestions."**

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For this reason, a Waterfront Village Survey committee was established composed of members, volunteers, Board members, and staff to review the data and make recommendations for follow-up actions. The committee noted

that the survey was extensive, covering many topics, including membership demographics, member experience and satisfaction with the Village, transportation accessibility, and long-term housing plans.

The goal of the survey committee was to identify action items that would lead to an even better member experience. Items to look for in the future include: conducting regular outreach to potentially lonely members; providing more programming for members who are less mobile; holding regular website orientation and refresher classes; developing programs and outreach to increase member diversity; and adding features to the website including a membership directory and visible program registration lists.

"We also hope that members don't wait until next year's survey to share ideas with us," Quinn said. "We will always make time for our members and want to hear their suggestions."

## EVENTS THIS MONTH

### **Mayor's 24th Annual Senior Holiday Party** **Tuesday, December 6** **10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

Check out the city-wide event to celebrate the holidays with other older adults from across the city.

Our very own Len Bechtel will be representing the Village here. "I am really happy to be participating in the Mayor's event. This is a great opportunity for her to interact with older adults in a festive setting." We hope that you'll stop by. Click the button below to register.



RSVP  
here!



### **Vaccination Clinic**

**Thursday December 8**  
**10:00 a.m. -2:00 p.m. at Village Offices**

Please help us spread the word about this vaccination opportunity! Post it to your building electronic message boards and

listservs. This clinic will offer the bivalent covid vaccine, the flu vaccine, and the shingles vaccine. Waterfront Village looks forward to partnering with the



community to get as many people vaccinated as possible. Each person who gets vaccinated will receive a gift card! Transportation is also available. Please call the office at 202-656-1834 or email [info@dcwaterfrontvillage.org](mailto:info@dcwaterfrontvillage.org) if you need assistance getting here!

## **Austrian Advent Celebration at the Arts Club**

**Friday, December 9, 4:30 p.m.**

Join us for this special evening of song and performance by the Austrian American Arts Council for a season program that will feature the Alpine Singers and light fare of pastries, desserts, and mulled wine. Tickets for this event are \$25.00 and can be purchased by clicking the link below. Spaces are limited!



[Purchase Tickets Here](#)



## **Transportation Discussion and Information Session**

**Monday, December 12**

**1:00 p.m Via zoom**

Do you have unmet transportation needs? Are you able to get out to

medical appointments, to get out for groceries and prescriptions, or to other enjoyable activities? Waterfront Village would love to hear from you regarding your transportation needs. Our summer survey indicated that some of you would like more information about programs like the Connector Card and other services that might be helpful. Here is a great opportunity for you.

We will be hosting Reginald Ward, of WMATA, at a zoom session. Services and programs have changed; there are many misconceptions about some of the transportation options that are available. Do yourself a favor and come get an update directly from WMATA regarding the services that might be helpful to you now or in the future.

If you have any concerns around transportation, please contact Pam at [ptroutman@dcwaterfrontvillage.org](mailto:ptroutman@dcwaterfrontvillage.org) or call us at 202-656-1834.



**Holiday Reception**  
**Tuesday, December 13**  
**1:00-3:00 p.m.**  
**Waterfront Village Offices**



Stop by this Village holiday reception. This event will take the place of our monthly morning coffee event for this month. Come out to enjoy some refreshments, holiday trivia, and a chance to connect with your neighbors.

We would also encourage you to bring a friend to this event. We look forward to growing the Village in 2023 and this event would be a great place for you to bring a neighbor or friend who might be interested in supporting the Village!

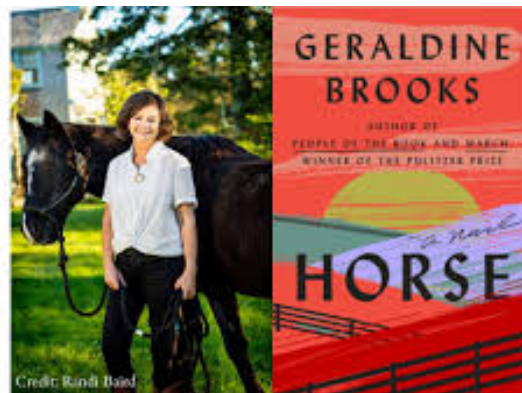


**Botanical Gardens Outing**  
**Wednesday, December 14,**  
**Meet at 1:00 p.m. at the Garden**  
**or at 12:30 p.m. at 4th and M Streets**

Many in our walking club enjoy this local gem during out walks, but we hope even more of you can join us at the Botanical

Gardens for a wonderful afternoon enjoying nature while staying warm. One garden offers a spectacular poinsettia display during the month of December. Please register online and let Pam know if you will meet us there or if you plan to walk with the group.

**Book Club: *Horse***  
**by Geraldine Brooks**  
**Thursday, December 15 at**  
**2:00 p.m. at SW Library**



Kentucky, 1850. An enslaved groom named Jarret and a bay foal forge a bond of understanding that will carry the horse to record-setting victories across the South. When the nation erupts in civil war, an itinerant young artist who has made his name on paintings of the racehorse takes up arms for the Union. On a perilous night, he reunites with the stallion and his groom, very far from the glamor of any racetrack.

New York City, 1954. Martha Jackson, a gallery owner celebrated for taking risks on edgy contemporary painters, becomes obsessed with a nineteenth-century equestrian oil painting of mysterious provenance.



Washington, DC, 2019. Jess, a Smithsonian scientist from Australia, and Theo, a Nigerian-American art historian, find themselves unexpectedly connected through their shared interest in the horse--one studying the stallion's bones for clues to his power and endurance, the other uncovering the lost history of the unsung Black horsemen who were critical to his racing success.

Based on the remarkable true story of the record-breaking thoroughbred Lexington, *Horse* is a novel of art and science, love and obsession, and our unfinished reckoning with racism.



## Technology-Enabled Healthcare

**Thursday, December 15th  
5:30 p.m. via Zoom**

Stop by this VERY interesting zoom session featuring a national leader in the field of telehealth. None of us grew up with health

care portals and virtual health care visits, and some of this can be overwhelming. Come to this zoom session to hear from Dr. Sikka, who will discuss a variety of issues related to technology-enabled healthcare. Learn some tips for how to navigate this new way of doing things; this is a great chance to hear the doctor's perspective on how this all works as well! This program is presented by Georgetown Village. To join this meeting, simply click the button below on the 15th of December at 5:30 p.m. or go to the zoom website using this information:

Meeting ID: 869 6071 4374

Password: 579322.579322579322 869 6071 43869 6071 4374869 6071 4374

[Click here to join the meeting](#)



## Waterfront Village Hanukkah Party

**December 18, 6:30 p.m.**

**Member home location to be  
provided upon registration**

Hanukkah Sameach! We are happy to announce a Village Hanukkah Party. We welcome you to come and enjoy

gathering with others from the Village for this Jewish community. This meeting is open to members of all faith that would like to experience this religious holiday.

## **Southwest Chamber Players Winter Concert**

**Thursday, December 22, 7:30 p.m.  
St. Augustine's Church**

We are lucky to have this amazing musical group here in SW, and we are looking forward to a winter concert. The program will include seasonal favorites. If you have not yet attended one of these concerts, now is the time, you are in for a treat.



This program will feature seasonal pieces and some interesting arrangements of Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker*. Thanks to David Ehrlich, Musical Director, for organizing this event. Donations to this event are welcome and will benefit Waterfront Village.

## **OTHER NEWS**

### **IRA Distributions Given to Charity Can Lower Taxes**

Many older adults who have made tax-deferred investments through Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs) can lower their tax bills and still help others by donating a portion of their required minimum distributions to a charity.

As we come to the end of 2022, many of you are planning out your charitable donations for the year. If you're 72 or over, you may also be thinking about taking required minimum distributions (RMDs) from your individual retirement accounts (IRAs). Given recent tax changes, these decisions should be considered together.

We are hopeful that you will consider donating to the Waterfront Village (WFV) or another non-profit you support. Retirees who are age 72 or older (can avoid paying income tax on IRA withdrawals of up to \$100,000 (\$200,000 for couples) per year that they donate to charity. A qualified charitable distribution must be paid directly from your IRA to a qualifying charity. You don't need to itemize your taxes to make an IRA charitable distribution, and you can donate to multiple charities.

A direct IRA charitable contribution satisfies your minimum distribution



requirement. You can also donate part of your required minimum distribution to charity and withdraw the rest as income. Funds withdrawn as income will be taxed. Provided you are 72 or over, and subject to RMDs, the IRS permits a direct transfer of up to \$100,000 from an IRA to a qualified charity. This transfer is called a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). While IRA distributions are typically included as taxable income, QCDs are excluded from income while still counting towards your required distribution.

For individuals who can use QCDs, they are most likely the most tax advantageous way to give to charity. Note that QCDs can only be made from IRAs and not from employer retirement plans such as the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP). To make a QCD to WFV, contact the broker, financial advisor or custodian for your IRA. They will provide you with the required form and directions. The donation must be made directly by a check from your account custodian to WFV (or other charity) and needs to be deposited by the before year end. If you plan to use this option in 2022, you will need to act quickly to give your account custodian and charity time to process the transactions.

## **Holiday Poinsettia Delivery: Volunteers Needed!**



We are looking for a group of volunteers who could assist in delivery poinsettias to some of our members who are unable to get out to celebrate the holidays. Gingko Gardens, a nursery on Capitol Hill, has generously donated fifteen plants to Waterfront Village.

Delivery date is likely sometime next week, middle-to-end of the week. Please email us at [info@dcwaterfrontvillage.org](mailto:info@dcwaterfrontvillage.org) if you would like to help deliver!



## **Village Great Decisions Program in 2023**

We have a nice group of people who are interested in the Great Decisions discussion group that will launch in 2023. We would welcome a few more participants to this group. Please email Pam at [ptroutman@dcwaterfrontvillage.org](mailto:ptroutman@dcwaterfrontvillage.org).

This program offers 8 discussion sessions, each focusing on one issue from the FPA's briefing book, which is read beforehand to ensure informed participation. The discussions are nonpartisan and conducted in a civil manner. Group members take turns leading the discussions. Click the link below to visit this group's website. Our group will meet once a month.

If you are interested or have questions, email Pam Troutman at [ptroutman@dcwaterfrontvillage.org](mailto:ptroutman@dcwaterfrontvillage.org). We hope to collect a list of all interested members by Monday December 12.

Great Decisions  
Website

## Holiday Shopping Opportunity!



Waterfront Village tumblers are now available! Show your Waterfront Village pride and add these water glasses, featuring our gorgeous logo, to your home dining experience!

Glasses can be ordered through the Village office, email Pam at [ptroutman@dcwaterfrontvillage.org](mailto:ptroutman@dcwaterfrontvillage.org) or call 202-656-1834. A set of four glasses is \$25.00; a set of two is \$14.00 and a single glass can be purchased for \$8.00. These are sturdy glasses you can enjoy for years to come!



### Volunteers Sought

The Village is seeking member-volunteers who would be willing to assist with monthly coffee hours at the Village offices and at SW condo and apartment buildings.

We are specifically looking for members who would be willing to shop for refreshments, assist with set-up, and assist with clean up for these events.

## RECURRING EVENTS

### December Pickleball Update



As the weather is getting colder, we will look to relocate our pickleball activity to the indoor Greenleaf Recreation Center Courts. It is taking a little longer than expected to negotiate days and hours, but with the shelter no longer in the picture, we are hoping to get a mid-morning time to play.



In addition, we are working on a pickleball email group. Please email Pam Troutman at [ptroutman@dcwaterfrontvillage.org](mailto:ptroutman@dcwaterfrontvillage.org) to be added to this list. If you ever come out to pickleball and cannot find the group, call the office at 202-656-1834.



## **Village Walking Club**

**Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m.**

**Location: Meet at 4th and M Street**

These walks will remain local walks, and there is always the opportunity to do a shorter walk. We want these walks to be enjoyable for as many members who want to stroll the neighborhood. Check your email or call the office at 202-656-1834 if the weather is questionable.

*Note the Thursday afternoon Walking Club will NOT meet in December.*

## **Technology Support Sessions**

**Wednesdays, December 7 & 21 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.**

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](mailto: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.

## Alzheimer's Support Group

This monthly support group is on a pause for the month of December and will regroup in 2023.

If you or someone you know is caring for or supporting someone with dementia and support is needed, please contact the Waterfront Village office to be connected to support. You are not alone and we do not want anyone to be struggling without support. Call us at 202-656-1834.



**amazon**smile  
You shop. Amazon gives.

### Calling All Amazon Shoppers!

#### Thank you to our members renewing during the month of November:

Carol Cowgill  
David and Barbara Ehrlich  
Philippe Hutinet  
Rod Ross  
Jo Ann Scott  
Kathy Trickey  
Eva Whitaker

#### Special Welcome to New Members Joining Us in November:

Richard Brown  
Martha Jean Millsaps  
Margaret Scott Graves

#### In Memoriam:

Peter Szekely, partner of Hara Bouganim, passed away in early November.

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



## Need help paying for your Waterfront Village membership?

Through a grant provided by Friends of Southwest DC, the Village is able to offer subsidized memberships to older adults with limited incomes.

Please call the Village on 202-656-1834 if you would like to discuss how to qualify for a reduced-rate membership.

## 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. Send an email or call the Village on 202-656-1834 if you have any questions or would like additional information.

## Village Mailing Address

Please send any correspondence or payments to the following address:

Waterfront Village  
P.O. Box 70372  
Washington, DC 20024



Waterfront Village is a 501(c)(3) public charity (EIN 81-1859871) incorporated in the District of Columbia 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.

Leonard Bechtel  
Executive Director

Carroll Quinn  
President

P.O. Box 70372, Washington, DC 20024

202-656-1834 [info@dcwaterfrontvillage.org](mailto:info@dcwaterfrontvillage.org)

