



•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 74- April 2023

## Letter from the Executive Director

### You gotta play to win



Perhaps it is not in any of Waterfront Village's brochures, but a Village is a little bit like a lottery. There can be a huge, life-changing payoff if you decide to participate.

When you join a Village, you can make new friends, experience new adventures, get assistance from friendly neighbors, and enhance many facets of your everyday life. Many members have mentioned to me how important their Village affiliation is to them.

But like a lottery, you have to play to win. You'll enjoy few of the Village's many great benefits if you never participate in events or request assistance. When we sign up new members, we always tell them that we hope to see them soon, and we mean it.

Our motto may be Neighbors Helping Neighbors, but our expectations for our members go way beyond that. We don't just want you to volunteer or make a contribution or take a role in supporting one of our activities. We want you to share your stories, engage with other members, have fun, and become part of our community.

If you have been shy about getting started or perhaps were cautious to step out after the pandemic, now would be a great time to hit the jackpot with the Village. Start with a Shakespeare Theatre Company production, a meal out or one of our wellness programs. Another event I want you to consider is the 7th Annual Anniversary and Awards Brunch on Saturday, May 6, 2023.

The event is a celebration about the Village -- our members, our volunteers, and all the people who make it possible. I promise that you will find the event fun, humorous and uplifting (and delicious). The event takes place at Masala Art restaurant at a very reasonable cost; not \$175 or \$125 as some non-profits charge for their gala events but just \$30. We made it affordable to get as many

members there as possible, because we genuinely care that you and other members have a chance to participate. Please consider reserving a spot at the brunch today.

And if that's not enough, we will have a special raffle, too. Will this be your gamble that hits two jackpots with one stone? Only one way to find out.

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### **Waterfront Village Annual Anniversary and Award Celebration Saturday, May 6 at 11:00 a.m. at Masala Art**

Have you sent your RSVP for the Village Anniversary Celebration? We are excited to do celebrate in a new way by heading to Masala Arts for a delicious American or Indian style brunch. Please call the Village on 202-656-1834 to reserve your ticket.

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### **Recognize Your Waterfront Village Heroes!**

We are seeking nominations for our annual awards. Please think about those in the Village who have positively impacted the life of the Village and its members. Please call the Village on 202-656-1834 for assistance in making a nomination.

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### **Village Seeks Artists for Special June Art Exhibit**

Waterfront Village is pleased to offer older artists in Southwest DC an exciting opportunity to share their work in our upcoming Art Exhibit, featuring the work of artists aged 60 or better. If you or someone you know is an artist or crafter, we welcome you to reach out to us to begin the conversation about exhibiting the work.



If you or someone you know may be interested in participating in this event as an artist, please call the office on 202-656-1834.

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### **Village Art Exhibition Task Force Seeks Volunteers**

Several folks have stepped forward to assist with the many tasks that must be accomplished before and during our upcoming Art Exhibition. Please take a



moment to consider how you might help.

The next Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 5 at 2:00 p.m. You may arrange to participate over the phone by calling the Office at 202-656-1834.



## **Village Art Class -- Register Now**

The Waterfront Village is pleased to offer an eight-week painting class open to all Southwest DC and Navy Yard residents aged 60 and better. The class will be offered over an six-week period and conduct from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. at the Village office, beginning on Wednesday

April 13. In addition to the six two-hour classes, the class will include two local field trips.

Participants will be charged no fee for the class, which is part of the "year in the arts" programming sponsored by the Village in 2023.

If you have any interest in participating in this class, please click the link below. Your "registration" is not a commitment but will give us an idea of demand and will assist us with planning. Please call the Village on 202-656-1834 if you would like to take this class.

## **DC Villages Testify at Oversight Hearings**

Waterfront Village's Executive Director Len Bechtel was among the DC Villages' Executive Directors and Board Members to participate in the DC Council's departmental oversight hearings.

At the hearing for the Department of Aging and Community Living, Bechtel thanked the Council for past support and indicated that sustaining or increasing Village funding would help advance the plans of the DC Villages to serve more DC residents and improve the delivery of current services.

Bechtel also represented all the DC Villages at the oversight hearing for the Department of Parks and Recreation. He urged the Council to support efforts by the Department to serve older adults, such as ongoing aquatics, pickleball and fitness classes. He also noted that daytime activities could be conducted at neighborhood recreation centers specifically for older adults. Call the Village office at 202-656-1834 if you would like a copy of Bechtel's testimony.



**Waterfront Village welcomed Councilmember Charles Allen, Captain Kevin Harding from the Metropolitan Police Department, Tori Goldhammer from DC's Safe at Home Program, and Idriys Abdullah from the Department of Insurance, Securities, and Banking.**

## **Save the Date -- Upcoming Events**

### **APRIL**

**April 3 Breakfast at Silver Diner**

**April 6 Folger Shakespeare Library comes to the SW Library**

**April 13 King Lear at the Klein Theater**

**April 17 Village Day Trip to Richmond**

### **MAY**

**May 4-6 Smithsonian Craft Show**

**May 6 Village Anniversary Celebration**

### **JUNE**

**June 9 & 10 Inaugural Village Art Exhibition and Reception**

**June 13- Trip to Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary**

## **Remembering the Pearl: Local Story of Quest for Freedom**



The Pearl Initiative will present a commemorative program, 'Remember the Pearl,' on Saturday, April 15, at 2:00 PM at Westminster Church, located at 400 I Street SW. This event series commemorates the historic escape for freedom by enslaved persons in 1848 from the Southwest waterfront.

The program will begin with a video from Dr. Clarence Lusane, Professor of Political Science at Howard University and academic advisor to



The Pearl Initiative, on the significance of the Pearl. The keynote speaker, Dr. Richard Bell, Professor of History at the University of Maryland, will speak on "The Second Middle Passage," the second forced migration of enslaved people. Descendants of Pearl passengers will also be in attendance.

To memorialize the experience of the escapees, a celebratory procession to the SW waterfront with music, drumming, and dance will follow the program starting at approximately 4:00 PM at the corner of 4th and I Streets, SW.

Photo from website: [allthatsinteresting.com](http://allthatsinteresting.com)

### **Smithsonian Craft Show Discount Tickets Now Available**

The Smithsonian Craft Show will be held May 4-6 at the National Building Museum. We are happy once again to offer discounted tickets to this event. You can use your ticket on whatever day is convenient for you. Please call the Village on 202-656-1834 to secure your ticket.



## **EVENTS THIS MONTH**

This month we hope to gather at the park at the bottom of 6th Street for one of our park picnics. Stay tuned towards the end of the month when we'll check the weather and select the date.



### **Breakfast at Silver Diner Monday April 3, 9:00 a.m.**

We look forward to a delicious breakfast at a new local favorite, Silver Diner. A stack of pancakes? A vegetable omelette with a side of home friends? Come on out and enjoy the expansive menu of breakfast options

and a time to catch up with Village friends. You can take the Circulator to the Ball Park for easy access. Please call the Village on 202-656-1834 if you plan to attend.



## **Spring Cleaning Opportunity Tuesday, April 4 Times by appointment**

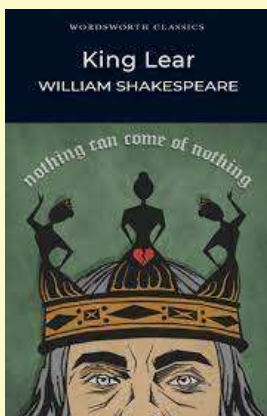
Take advantage of this great opportunity to clear out unnecessary objects and experience the exhilaration of decluttering your home.

You identify the items and put them in a box, and we will haul them away. Waterfront Village can schedule a pick-up time on Tuesday, April 4 between 9:00 and 12:00 noon to pick up your unwanted items and make them available to people in the community who may need them. We can accept clean clothing, shoes, linens and bedding, books and kitchenware in good condition.

Please call 202-656-1834 to arrange a pick-up.

## **Coffee Hour Wed., April 12 at 10:00 a.m. Guests: Goodwin House at Home**

We are glad to gather each month with Village members at our offices to enjoy a cup of coffee and some good company. This is a great place to meet new friends if you are new to the Village, or if you have been a part of the Village for a long time. This month we will have guests from Goodwin House at Home, a program that offers a new model of long term care and planning.



## **Shakespeare Theater Company's *King Lear* Thursday, April 13 at noon Klein Theatre, 450 7th Street NW**

Shakespeare Theatre Company presents one of Shakespeare's most prized works, *King Lear*. The Village is pleased to offer these tickets for no cost, courtesy of

Caught in a carousel of memory, the head of a dysfunctional royal family grapples with power-hungry children and the threat of losing the empire he created. Real and imagined worlds coalesce, creating a political and personal horror that threatens to swallow the mind of the monarch. This event is part of the Village's year of the arts programming. Please call 202-656-1834 to secure your ticket.



## Day Trip to Richmond, Virginia Tuesday, April 18



We are excited to announce our first day trip since before the pandemic, featuring the destination of Richmond, Virginia's Museum of Fine Arts.

Richmond is our neighbor that is not so far away and we are looking forward to a day at their fabulous Museum of Fine Arts.

If you have any interest in going, please call 202-6561834 to register.



### Book Club

#### *Crying in H Mart*

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

*Crying in H Mart* is the quiet, haunting, beautiful story of what and who we take for granted, and the little moments we

never appreciate until they're gone. One reviewer stated: "It left me so hollow in an exquisitely painful way. It made me appreciate my culture and my mother so much more." Please contact the Village on 202-656-1834 if you would like to participate in the discussion by phone.

## Waterfront Village Meditation Group Monday, April 24 2:00 p.m. at the Village Office



Stop by this Village group that is growing and learning together. Village Member Gail Frances will guide the gathering in Mindfulness. Gail is a life long meditator and has studied under Thich Nhat Hanh and two of his disciples from Plum Village. Thich Nhat Hanh was a Vietnamese Buddhist monk. He is known as 'the father of mindfulness.' If you would like to participate by phone, please call 202-656-1834 to register.



## Great Decisions Discussion Friday, April 28 2:00 p.m. Library

This month's Great Discussions group topic is China and the United States. This group is guided by materials prepared by the

Foreign Policy Association and all those who plan to attend the group are expected to have read and reviewed the materials. If you did not attend a previous meeting, please reach out to the Village office at [info@dcwaterfrontvillage.org](mailto:info@dcwaterfrontvillage.org) or by calling 202-656-1834 for additional information.

## RECURRING EVENTS



### **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.

### **Technology Support Sessions**

**Wednesdays, April 5 & 19, 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.





**Thank you to our members  
renewing during the month of  
February:**

Christine Cerna & Stephen Rose  
Wilma Goldstein  
Sara Glendinning

Vickie Peckham  
Ane Powers

**Special Welcome to new  
members joining us in March:**

Linda Dunyan & Michael Carrell  
Vicki Henrikson  
Connie Hercey  
Kitty Johnson  
Sabine Snavelly & Judy Arman  
Mary Shehadi

## **VILLAGE RECRUITMENT**

**Refer a new member, get a set  
of two Waterfront Village wine  
glasses (limit 20 glasses per  
member)**



## **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.



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  
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