



•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 60 - February 2022

## Village Plans Mid-February Transition to New System

Beginning in mid-February, the Village will transition to a new website and application system to support Village operations. According to Len Bechtel, executive director, the switch will simplify user transactions on the system while helping to improve recordkeeping and reporting.



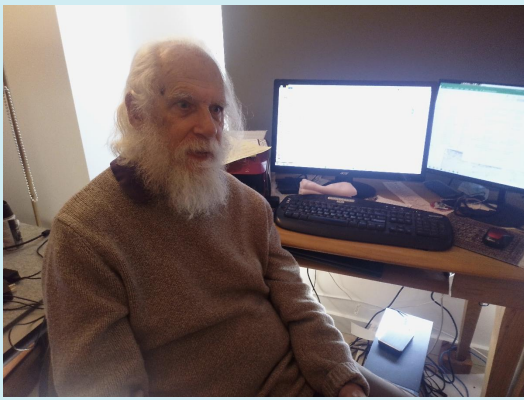
"Our current system is just a bit too clunky, and we want to enhance the user experience," Bechtel said.

The new system, operated by a company called Helpful Village, was developed by Manuel Acevedo, who became aware of Villages operating in California when he was reaching options for keeping his mother active after retirement. He noticed that the software options used to manage those villages used outdated technology and were clumsy and inefficient.

Since 2015, Acevedo, who has a Master's Degree in communications systems from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, has been developing his Helpful Village software focusing solely on the information needs of Villages and how they support the aging community.

"Unlike our current system, which is intended to support any member-based organization, Helpful Village designed its software to support our neighbor helping neighbor business model," Bechtel stated. All but a few of the 13 DC Villages are either already using Helpful Village or in a similar transition phase.

"By having most of the DC Villages on a common platform, we are greatly enhancing our ability to report our metrics to the DC government and other grantors," Bechtel said. "More importantly, we are putting ourselves in a position to benchmark against other Villages and gain opportunities for working together maximize the impact of Villages across the city."



Bechtel also expressed his appreciation for the work done by Village Member Jim Harle, who prepared the Village's data files for transfer.

"Without Jim's herculean efforts, we would still be weeks away from the transition. He's done a wonderful job," Bechtel said.

Members will receive an email with a link to their profiles in the new system, and they can update their passwords. Members can use the same password as they did in the old system; however, in this new system, the user name will be the member's email addresses. This makes it a little easier to remember the user name.

"We know there will be bumps in the road in this transition. Members should never hesitate to just pick up the phone and call us," Bechtel said. "We recommend that users take the training we are offering as soon as they can to give them a chance to see the system and ask any questions they may have."



## Membership Directory is Here

Waterfront Village is pleased to announce that the long-awaited Waterfront Village Directory feature will be a part of the new website.

Member information will NOT be included in the directory unless explicitly requested by members.

To have your information included in the directory, please send an email to Pam Troutman at ([ptroutman@dewaterfrontvillage.org](mailto:ptroutman@dewaterfrontvillage.org)).

What information is included in the directory? If you chose to be included, your name and phone number will automatically be listed. In addition, you can chose to include your email as well. When you email Pam, please indicate if you would like your email included. The directory can be accessed on the new website by clicking the top tab called **Members** and then selecting the dropdown tab called **Member Directory**.



## Stay Tuned!

*The Village's lunch and movie event at Ambar restaurant and Miracle Theatre last summer was a filling and fulfilling event. We are planning a repeat performance later this year. Stay tuned.*

# DC Villages Release City Impact Report

Every day, across the District, volunteers and staff from the 13 DC Villages help make life better for our neighbors. Although each Village is as unique as the neighborhood it serves, each one is building a stronger community through direct services, events and activities, referrals, and advocacy.

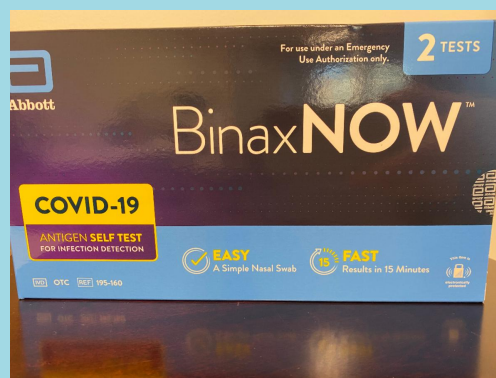


It is easy to see the impact a Village can have on a neighborhood, but last year the DC Villages as a group began an effort to track their impact across the city. The findings are now available, and they are impressive.

City-wide, 517 volunteers performed 17,512 hours of service through DC Villages. That time has a value of more than \$852,000. These volunteers were responsible for providing rides to medical appointments; delivering groceries, medicines, and other basic needs; and helping with technology and in-house issues. In addition, DC Villages organized more than 3,300 events, attracting some 20,290 attendees. These range from gentle yoga classes to local history lectures, held both online and in-person with appropriate safety measures.

The Village Movement began 20 years ago in Massachusetts, but today the Greater Washington Area has the highest concentration of Villages in the country. Though they vary in size and scope, all of the Villages — including the 13 DC Villages, our 2,326 members, and our volunteers — are a critical part of ensuring the region remains accessible to our aging neighbors.

To review a copy of the report, click [DC Villages Report](#).



## Rapid At-Home Covid Tests Still Available from the Village

As we continue to move forward through the pandemic and the omicron variant, rapid testing is an important tool to limiting the spread of covid. If you are in need of a rapid at-home covid test, please call the office at 202-656-1834 or send an email to [info@dcwaterfrontvillage.org](mailto:info@dcwaterfrontvillage.org) and we will deliver a test to your home.



## **Ardith Harle Joins Village Board**

The Waterfront Village Board of Directors welcomed new Board Member Ardith Harle at its January, 2022 meeting. Harle will serve a three-year term and brings a wealth of relevant experience to the table. Prior to her Board appointment, Harle spent 44 years in education as a teacher, principal, instructional supervisor and college professor. She also has served in many volunteer roles including president of a pre-school board, member of a church board of deacons, church council and Smithsonian volunteer.



## **Superbowl Snacks: - Who Doesn't Love Them?**

**Friday, February 11th  
3:00 p.m. via zoom**

Whether or not you love football, we're sure you enjoy the annual food and fun that come with

watching the game or the commercials! This year, tune in on Friday, February 11 for a cooking demonstration featuring a group of guest chefs and their amazing display of culinary skills.

The foods will include local favorites from the towns of both Superbowl opponents. To make the event even more special, anyone who registers and attends the event will be eligible to win prizes from a raffle, including servings of the food prepared during the event! Yes, that's right, you can enjoy the football feast, delivered right to your door, ready to be heated up and enjoyed during the game! Be sure to register online for this event, you won't want to miss it!

## **African-American History Month**

## **Coming Home: African Americans Returning from World War II.**

**Monday, February 14, 1:00 p.m. via zoom**



Join Waterfront Village for this virtual presentation from the Smithsonian Museum of African American History and Culture.

John W. McCaskill is a truly engaging and exciting presenter who has an incredible depth of knowledge of African American History so this presentation is not to be missed. McCaskill will discuss the impact that Black service men and women had on their communities after their service to their country.

After the lecture, Village members are encouraged to log into a separate Village Zoom event using the Village link to discuss the presentation. Click on the link below on the day of the program and you will see the video link!

Coming Home Smithsonian  
Program

## Age of Love Movie Screening

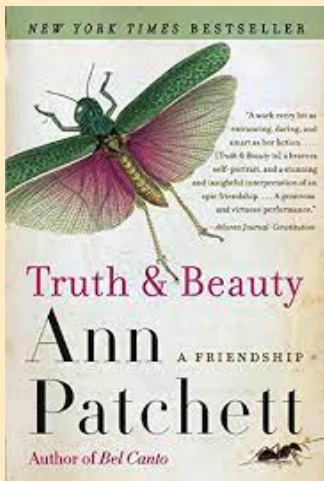
Tuesday, February 15th, 2:00 p.m.

We are excited to present this Zoom movie screening from the Charles E. Smith Life Communities! You are sure to enjoy this story that follows a group of 70-90 year olds who embark on a speed dating journey! You will love getting to know them and following each of their adventures! We'll watch the livestream and meet at the Waterfront Village zoom at the conclusion of the movie to discuss! We look forward to seeing you here.



The first ten people who sign up for this event will get a special Valentine's Day delivery from the Village! Be sure to register online to be included!

The Age of Love Movie  
Registration



**Village Book Club: *Truth and Beauty*,  
Thursday, February 17 at 2:00 p.m.  
location to be announced**

This month's offering, *Truth and Beauty*, is the autobiographical tale of the friendship between author Ann Patchett and fellow writer Lucy Grealy. A friendship that spanned 20 years, this is Patchett's first non-fiction piece and is the story of friendship, lives intertwined, and the connection two people can have over time. The Book Club welcomes new members.

## Planned Giving Seminar

Late February, date to be determined

Join us for this seminar, organized by Board Member Ed Peterman, chair of the Village's Development Committee. Planned giving is a charitable gift made during one's lifetime or at the time of death that is

designed with tax and estate laws in mind, to provide a maximum benefit to a charitable organization.



This presentation will feature several experts, including a financial planner, an attorney, and others who can share insight into topics that include tax advantages of various types of giving, IRA distributions, stock distributions, beneficiary designations, and some general comments about estate planning. Learn how you can help those causes that you care most about.

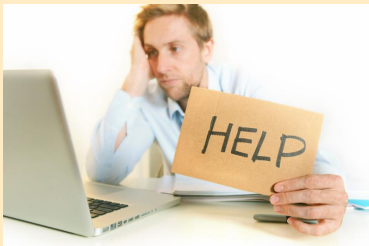
## RECURRING EVENTS

### 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, February 2 and 16 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.

### Music and Movement

**Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. via zoom**

This program is a very special offering that we are happy to include on our calendar. The instructors are highly trained, caring individuals who aim to support you on your journey by providing this class. The class will help you embrace movement of both body and spirit. The first class is free, additional classes are by donation, suggested amount is \$5-10. Please email Pam to be included on the zoom link distribution class.



## **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 February 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](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.

## **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**

**February 24 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](mailto:sequin643@gmail.com).

### 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](mailto: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 January:

Candice Bryant  
Sevana Bunke  
Hans Crump-Wiesner  
Katherine Crump-Wiesner  
Peter Eicher  
Stephanie Eicher  
Dan Felger  
Farley Fisher  
Marie Giovanelli  
Linda Golodner  
Beth Hall  
Loren Hall  
Emily Harwit  
Martin Harwit  
Jean Herz  
Daniel Jones  
Ligia Jones  
Ann Kuzius  
Thorny Staples  
Wayne Terwilliger  
Gloria Zeglen

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

Marjorie Lightman  
Pamela Wilson

**amazon**smile  
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

**Don't forget to sign up for a training session using the new system. Check the website calendar for specific dates and times.**

## 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.



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.

Leonard Bechtel  
Executive Director

Carroll Quinn  
President

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