

# The Village In Howard Newsletter

September 2021

### 90 Rotations Around the Sun

Fred Butts recently turned 90. For his 90th birthday he wanted to see a belly dancer. His son took him to a Turkish restaurant to fulfill that birthday wish. Here is a photo of Fred and the love of his life Janet Randle.

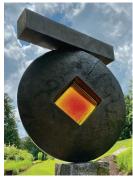


# **Hidden Sculptures In Plain Sight**





TVIH has initiated an exciting new program to visit hidden sculptures within a few mile radius of downtown Columbia. In many cases, the sculptures were probably



designed for a natural setting or garden, but are now tucked next to a building. The net effect is they are not very visible and get passed right by without visual contact. Indeed, they are in plain sight ..... but basically hidden.

To investigate several of these hidden sites,

Michele Millican and Ken Lobo led a motor caravan on July 11 for a two hour tour after starting with a light lunch at the Corner Bakery. Four cars, each with four passengers, allowed an easy and well orchestrated transport to each of the sites. Shown below are



several of the eight sculptures from sites ranging from the Howard Community College, HC Central Library, Wilde Lake Village Center, HC General Hospital and the Robinson Nature Center. Further good news occurred at the last stop of the tour as we visited the ice cream parlor, Charmery.

Additional tours are being planned and will be announced in the TVIH Newsletter and calendar. Please be advised that tours will be limited to 16 participants to assure quality time.

The question can be asked, "How many of these sculptures have you seen?"

— photos and article by Dick Voelker

## **Connections Committee**

Throughout the past year the Board of Directors or members from the Connections/Membership Committee have been calling and emailing Associate Members and volunteers for check-ins during the pandemic. Hopefully if you desired a contact, you received one and received information about upcoming events or activities. The Connections Pilot will be ending in September with the opening up of in-person activities.

So, we urge you to stay active and find something to join OR create a niche of your own.

Try joining a Neighborhood POD, tune into Good Morning Howard on Wednesdays or join the myriad of activities. " Make connections with others a daily priority. It makes us feel as though we're not alone in the world."

— Fran Dummett/Cathy Latham (Committee Heads)

# Welcome to New Members Let's Get Acquainted



We extend a warm welcome to new members **Sidney Henkin** of Columbia, **Francis and Ann Herron** of Columbia and **Marilyn Mattes** of Ellicott City. We look forward to meeting you.

Welcome to our New Volunteers Barbara Marley, Lynn Foehrkolb and Susan Salvucci

# **Zoom Fall Meditation Series** "Synthesis"

Join Fran Dummett for meditation with weekly themes starting in October on Tuesdays, AM, and Thursdays, PM. The series will go on for 8 weeks. New and experienced meditators are invited for this interactive experience. Topics are:



- 1. Meditation Mystique- Introduction
- 2. Mindfulness 2.0 Thich Nhat Hahn
- 3. Acceptance- Tara Brach
- 4. Songs of the Soul- Rumi/Bryan Rowe
- 5. Blessings-John O'Donohue
- 6. Loving Kindness- Sharon Salzberg
- 7. EFT Tapping Meditation Nick Ortner
- 8. Autumn Renewal- Rumi/Hafiz

"Almost everything will work again if you unplug it for a few minutes, including you." — Anne Lamot

### Website Committee

Fran Dummett, Pete Brunner, Yaa Ampofo, Michele Millican and Michelle Blumhagen will join with Diane Minor to help revise the TVIH website. During the summer we have evaluated different platforms and outlined our needs. If you would like to help us clean up the website,etc., contact Fran Dummett at <a href="mailto:frandum-mett@gmail.com">frandum-mett@gmail.com</a> or 410-707-9697. We can use your expertise and help.

# **GMH September 2021**

This program takes place on Wednesdays at 9:00 AM and is open to the public. Registration on our website is required to receive the zoom meeting link.

#### September 1

Topic: How Sweden Balances Risks and Rewards
During the Covid Pandemic

**Host: Mary Greene** 



When Sweden's borders opened to U.S. travelers July 1, 2021, I traveled overseas to beautiful Varmland County by plane, train, and car. I was celebrating a long overdue family reunion, which included meeting my first grand-

child. Sweden does not mandate face masks in most environments. Of course, I was initially concerned about mutual health risks. I'll share surprising ways Sweden balances health risks and rewards, using community ties, strict Covid border and travel requirements, Covid vaccination, and programs to lower DWI and reckless driving deaths the U.S. should consider.

#### September 8

Topic: How did the Village in Howard get started? Hosts: Mary McGraw, Judy Pittman, Michele Millican, Pamela Johnson, George Maestri, Joy Cheung

Come to hear about it "straight from the horse's

mouth" Members of the first steering committee want to tell you how we did it in 2012-2014. Please join us.

It took 2 years for a dedicated Steering Committee to establish a non-profit entity that would offer Howard County seniors opportunities to connect with new people, receive support services as they aged in place, and enjoy



Mary McGraw

a wide range of educational, cultural, and recreational programs. Learn about the dreams, challenges and hard work that shaped TVIH by hearing directly from original Steering Committee members.

#### September 15

Topic: Where the Village is Going

Hosts: The TVIH Tri-Directors – Peter Brunner, Director of Finance; Mary Pat Donelan, Director of Operations; and Sarah Spence, Director of Public Affairs







Peter

Mary Pat

Sarah

Peter, Mary Pat and Sarah will summarize the Strategic Plan for the future that our Board has worked diligently on. This will include the goals for each of the Village Committees. The Tri-Directors are excited about the future of the Village as we move forward. We know you will be too!

#### September 15

Topic: World Languages Class, Spanish by Judy

Canahuati

Host: Judy Canahuati



Judy Canahuati

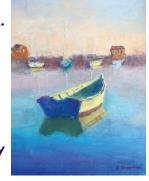
For the September language class, Judy Canahuati will provide the basics of speaking Spanish in a fun-filled program, first words and numbers. There are 21 Spanish speaking countries in the world and nearly 1/2 billion speakers world-wide and over 41,000,000 speakers in the US. Each of these countries has differences in words

and meaning, but all the variations in the Americas came from Castilian Spanish which became the dominant dialect with the consolidation of Spain as a country in 1492. Did you know that the Spanish alphabet has 27 letters and that Spanish has fewer words than English? Wikipedia says that in dictionaries, English has an estimated 171,000 words and Spanish has 93,000. Thus it takes longer to say something in Spanish and most translations of English are usually 1/3 longer than the English originals. Come to learn these and other fun facts about Spanish, Spanish pronunciation (yes "Il" is a letter in Spanish) and funny stories about Judy's adventures in Spanish during her 30 years of living in Honduras.

#### September 22

#### **Topics covered:**

Brief history of Provincetown, MA.
Ptown as major US art center
Scott's experience with Cape
School of Art
Selected artwork of Scott's
Questions and Answers
Hosts: Scott Chapman and Cathy
Latham



Interview With An Impressionist Artist: Scott Chapman by Cathy Latham



Paul Verchinski

September 29
Topic: HoCobyDesign, Future
Land Use Map,
Next 20 years
Host: Paul Verchinski

As a member appointed to the HoCobyDesign Public Advisory Committee (PAC), Paul has been involved with the Dept of Planning

and Zoning and the consultant hired to develop the Future

Land Use Map (FLUM) for the past year. The FLUM will determine land uses thru 2040 in HoCo. The FLUM will be presented for HoCo Council approval in Jan 2022.

Paul will provide an overview of draft decisions made to date on the FLUM and how you may provide input regarding the FLUM.



Miles Davis

October 24
Topic: "The Music of Silence:
The uses of silence in music
(and in our lives)."
Host: Music lecture by Tom

Host: Music lecture by Tom Benjamin

We think of music as existing only when something audible is going on: not so! We'll explore the many uses of silence in music

from Miles Davis to Beethoven, Cage, Bix, David Bowie, George Michael, Basie, and other music from many cultures.

#### ON BOARD

# At TVIH Board of Directors Meeting July 28, 2021

#### **Committee Reports:**

#### Fundraising (Peter Brunner)

The Fundraising committee is working on updates to our PowerPoint presentations and the TVIH brochure, aimed primarily at grantors and businesses. Last year our fundraising appeal had a 40% response rate and brought in \$9500. This winter TVIH will repeat the 50/50 raffle as well as Bingo. The committee is seeking funds for increased hours for our manager, paid hours for a coordinator of volunteer service and possible contract support for our website. Karol Hess, Yaa Ampofo and Diane Minor are seeking sponsorships to support these requests.

Because funds are limited in proceeding with hiring a paid Volunteer Coordinator, one option is the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP). The program is funded by the Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration which is administered by the Maryland state government. Consequently pay is limited to the minimum wage and we would need to supplement it.

# Recruiting for the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee

In December two of the Tri-Director positions (Director of Finance and Director of Operations) will be open and several Board Member positions. We are eager to recruit. Karen Michaelson, Sarah Spence, and Susan

Hailman volunteered to be the search team.

Web site review update (Fran Dummett)

The website committee has surveyed the material from 8 other Villages. Montgomery County is discussing a centralized website for their 7 or 8 villages. Baltimore County also mentioned doing a network model. The committee is exploring the pros and cons of doing the same.

#### Village Picnic on September 25th

The date for the Village Picnic is set for 9/25, 4 PM at the Cedar Lane East Pavilion. TVIH will obtain barbecue and the Board and Village members will provide salads and desserts. The price, \$10 per person, can be paid on the website when registering. The picnic is a time to welcome our new manager, Yaa Ampofo, hopefully gear up for the winter season and thank volunteers who helped us through a challenging year.

# Strategic Plan update (Fran Dummett, Marie Grunwell)

The Board will set up a set of subcommittees for each major issue consisting of board and non-board members to regularly monitor, support, update and assess success and or failure. Non-Board members will be solicited using the Forum to serve on each issue. The recruiting message should include verbiage indicating: that he Village needs your help in determining and evaluating success in attaining our strategic plan. Your involvement is necessary to grow the village. We are all stakeholders in the success of our village. Strategic goals will be put on the website.

Membership: In 2021 we lost 11 members while gaining 7. Our goals are gains of 7 % in 2021, 9% in 2022 and 10 % in 2023. We would like to recruit younger (<70 yrs.) and more diverse members. and members willing to volunteer. Strategies include developing up to date, tech savvy recruitment presentations, encouraging members to invite friends to sample our programs, advertising aggressively (sponsorships) and members going out and doing formal outreach recruiting events at libraries and churches.

**Programs:** Our goal is to increase programs by 8-10 percent over 3 years, including new programs that are more attractive to donors and more programs for members with disabilities (visually, hearing and physically impaired).

**Budget:** In order to maintain a comfortable balance despite decrease in grant money we need to acquire sponsorships; foster relationships with local donors, generate research grants, coordinate 50-50 raffle and other fundraising events and create a "Donate here" button that would facilitate and highlight donations.

Currently we impose a 5% increase in fees annually but our goal, beginning in 2022 is a 5% membership fee increase every two years.

#### **Village Survey (Fran Dummett)**

Fran presented the proposed survey designed to evaluate the Village and feed into strategic planning. We plan to send paper and emailed copies on 9/1 with follow ups on 9/15 and 9/25. There will be prizes to encourage participation – an Echo 8 and four \$25 gift cards to Giant Foods.

# **Help Us With Future Planning**

As part of our efforts to continually improve our activities, services, and community involvement, we will be inviting you to complete a brief member survey. This survey will be distributed via email to all members on or about September 8, 2021. Hard copies of the survey will be mailed to non-computing members on August 23rd, and include a stamped, self-addressed return envelope. Your participation is vital to the Village's continued success. The survey will only take several minutes of your time and your responses will remain confidential and only analyzed in aggregate. Return submissions are requested no later than September 15, 2021. The names of all participants will be submitted in a drawing for prizes. There will be 5 prizes: Main Prize – Echo Show 8, including setup; 4-\$25 Giant Gift Cards. Winners will be chosen via a random drawing and names will be published in the October Newsletter. Stay tuned for Survey findings to be published in the November Newsletter.

#### **VILLAGE PODS**

Since the summer weather allowed us to be outside and Covid restrictions lessened, many members took some much-needed time away to rejuvenate themselves. This meant that the pods startup needed to be delayed.

We are now forming pods to start in September or later for TVIH members. We are initially focusing on neighborhood pods. The Village Pods Committee will be reaching out to TVIH members in specific neighborhoods to see who is interested in participating in neighborhood pods.

Some members are interested in forming pods for the following interests:

- Chronic pain for those dealing with this problem
- Elder orphans older people who have no family support
- Zoom only pods for members who are not mobile or live further away

Check out our TVIH home page announcement that has a link to more information about pods. If you are interested in any pods above, have another interest, or have any questions about pods, please email us at pods@thevillageinhoward.org.

#### PLEASE NOTE: All Events Now Require Registration!

Register for an event on the online calendar. On the day of the event, return to the event on the calendar about 15 minutes before the time of the event, click the zoom meeting room link and you're in! If using your phone, follow instructions given.

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.

Sharon Neville, Program Chair

# **Monthly Events**

- World Languages 101-9/15, 1 PM
- TVIH Picnic: \$9/25, 4-7 PM
- Friday Night Virtual Dinner/Discussion- 9/10, 9/25, 6:30 PM
- Virtual Zoom Classes- 9/1,9/7,7 PM. 9/2,9/3, 10 AM
- My 3 cents- 9/28, 1 PM

# Weekly Activities/Events

- Monday Morning Meanderings at 9:00 AM. 9/6, 9/13 9/20 9/27.
- Monday Morning VIRTUAL Coffee with Friends at 10:00 AM. 9/6, 9/13 9/20 9/27.

- **Virtual Bridge** Every Tuesday at 1:00 PM. 9/7, 9/14, 9/21, 9/28
- Wednesday OUTDOOR Lunch Bunch at 11:30 AM. 9/1, 9/8, 9/15, 9/22, 9/29.
- Wednesday Lunch Bunch (Virtual) at 11:30 AM. 9/1, 9/8, 9/15, 9/22, 9/29.
- Mah Jongg Every Friday at 10:00 AM. 9/3, 9/10, 9/17, 9/24.
- **Sneakers & Coffee** Every Saturday at 9:00 AM. 9/4, 9/11, 9/18, 9/25

### **Annual TVIH Picnic**

Saturday September 25, 4pm-7pm EAST Cedar Lane Park Pavilion 10745 Rt. 108 across from Dar Al-Taqwa (rain or shine)

It is a great time to meet new folks, enjoy a "feast" and challenge your mind with "Team Trivia."

The \$10 cost covers the chicken, pork and beef BBQ sandwiches, beverages and paper products. We ask each participant to bring a small salad or side dish that serves six. TVIH Board members will provide desserts.

Registration by September 20 is a must as we order BBQ. Register today on our calendar.

#### **Newsletter Staff**

Yaa Ampofo, Editor in Chief Cheryl Neely, Editor Diane Minor, Editor Sarah Ziemann, Program Editor Ellin Scholnick, Proofreader,

Reporter, Writer Jennifer Perkins-Frantz, Newsletter Design

#### **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:**









If you have problems with, or need information on: Membership, email <u>membership@thevillageinhoward.org</u> Volunteering, email <u>volunteer@thevillageinhoward.org</u>

If you would like to be removed from this email list, please email your name and email address to <a href="mailto:4info@thevillageinhoward.org">4info@thevillageinhoward.org</a>. We will not share your email address or personal information with anyone.