

DUPONT CIRCLE VILLAGE

SHATTERING THE STEREOTYPE

ADAMS MORGAN • DUPONT CIRCLE • KALORAMA

“October: This is one of the peculiarly dangerous months to speculate in stocks. The others are July, January, September, April, November, May, March, June, December, August and February.”

~ Mark Twain

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Welcome New Members!

David Levin
Barbara Marsh

Real Estate Oddities with Charm and Lore, Including One Near the DCV Office

The “Skinny House” in Greenwich Village, reputed to be the narrowest home in New York City at just 9-feet-6-inches wide, sold in August for \$4,990,000. It was once the home of a number of well-known creatives including Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Edna St. Vincent Millay, anthropologist Margaret Mead, and actors Cary Grant and John Barrymore. Additionally, the children’s book author, Ann McGovern, not only lived in the house, she also wrote a picture book inspired by it, “Mr. Skinner’s Skinny House,” in which the titular character, along with his long dog and thin snake, search for a suitable roommate.

Every city boasts unique, real estate oddities that carry a certain lore. In the District of Columbia metropolitan area you can find an exact replica of the “White House” in McLean, VA. In College Park, MD, someone converted a PEPCO substation into a home that includes a secret bomb shelter, there is a “50’s Diner” house in Falls Church, VA, and a fun Hobbit-like-abode in Bethesda, MD dubbed the “Mushroom House”.

Closer to home and the DCV office, one can find the famous “Mouse House.” This tiny home sits behind the Massachusetts Avenue



Argyle House, a beaux arts mansion designed by the associate architect of the Library of Congress and once the residence of retired Navy Commander Fredrich Augustus Abercrombie-Miller. The “Mouse House”, a semi-detached garage behind the mansion on 22nd Street, was designed as an integral part of the original house and was

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President's Notes



It's fall—how can that be? Didn't summer just start? But now it's time to watch the leaves turn to beautiful colors, hear the rustle of leaves under our feet, and enjoy the cool evening breezes. I used to love the smell of burning leaves—remember that? No more burning for many good reasons, alas, I still miss the smell although I don't miss raking the leaves!

My sense is that people have weathered the summer, although we weren't as carefree as we hoped, the opportunity to be outdoors and to

interact with vaccinated friends brought us some semblance of normalcy. This was due to the COVID-19 management of District government.

We also did our part, 99% of our Villagers chose to be vaccinated for COVID-19, and our volunteers helped members get their COVID-19 vaccinations earlier than most people. That effort was a challenge, we found appointments all over the city so logistics and timing was a real hassle.

Now the trick is to build on DCV's collective success last winter. If so, we hope to offer many more opportunities to join together for in person activities this coming fall and winter.

This fall, Flu shots and COVID-19 Booster shots will take "center stage" when DCV will offer Immunization

Clinics to all eligible members. I am thrilled that the Member Services Committee was able to make arrangements to provide vaccinations for COVID-19, the Flu and other immunizations at our own DCV Immunization Clinics at our office. Members can register for the clinics by calling the office on Monday October 4 or Wednesday October 6.

Four clinics are planned this fall, two in October and two in November. We will be following CDC guidance, which is explained in the recent announcement about these clinics. Getting Flu shots and COVID-19 Boosters (if you are eligible) will help keep everyone healthy this winter. Thank you to **Kathy Price** and **Sarah Burger** for leading in this effort. I'll see you at the clinic!

Real Estate Oddities

Continued from page 1

purportedly the first automobile garage in the city.

In 1986, art collector Olga Hirshhorn, widow of Joseph Hirshhorn, benefactor of the Smithsonian's Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, converted the mansion's garage into a 500-square-foot pied-à-terre on three levels with winding stairs leading to a tiny bedroom in a turret. The bedroom has a trompe l'oeil ceiling created by Dana Westring, a Washington artist, which depicts a deep blue sky studded with gold-leaf stars. Hirshhorn filled her small house with 197 small works of art by artists who are well known today.

The "Mouse House" art collection includes six works by Pablo Picasso,

six William de Koonings, five pieces by Alexander Calder, four by Man Ray and individual paintings by Georgia O'Keefe and Salvador Dali. Hirshhorn made use of every available space for art placing small pre-Columbian and Greek statues in her medicine cabinet and stored flat works in the (unused) oven and dishwasher. Many of the pieces are personally inscribed by the artists such as a 1963 de Kooning that is signed, "To Olga, Love Bill," and a 1968 Picasso work that says "Pour Olga, son ami Picasso."

In 2013, Hirshhorn donated her "Mouse House" collection to The Baker Museum in Naples, Florida. Today the "Mouse House" is a rental property with a price tag of \$2,300 per month (sans art).



Monthly Calendar

Currently, most activities are being offered online, by way of Zoom, although some are now being held face-to-face. Anyone attending an indoor event must be masked, whether or not they are fully vaccinated.

We do ask you to register online at www.dupontcirclevillage.net and select "Calendar," find the event, and register. If you can't join an online event or figure out how to register, please email or call Ann Talty at admin@dupontcirclevillage.net or (202) 436-5252.

October Social Hour

Thursday, October 7, 5:00–6:30 pm

Live—Hosted by David Schwarz, 1732 Willard St NW

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

DCV Vaccination Clinics

Tuesday, October 12, 1:00–4:30 pm

Friday, October 15, 1:00–4:30 pm

Wednesday, November 3, 1:00–4:30 pm

Monday, November 8, 1:00–4:30 pm

Register by calling the office (202) 436-5252

on Monday October 4, 12–3 or

Wednesday October 6, 10–1

Over 80 Group

Tuesday, October 12, 2:30–3:30 pm

Location: Virtual

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

This monthly program addresses various topics identified by the members. It is moderated by Phyllis Kramer, MSW. Phyllis has over 30 years in private practice, and has counseled scores of clients working through isolation and illness and depression and dysfunction.

October Social Hour

Thursday, October 14, 5:00–6:30 pm

Live—Hosted by Nancy Turnbull & Judith Neibrief, 1738 Seaton St NW

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

Sunday Soup Salon: t/b/a

Location: Virtual

This program meets monthly. Details will be announced in upcoming Friday e-blasts

Men's Book Group: t/b/a

This group meets monthly. Details will be announced in upcoming Friday e-blasts.

October Social Hour

Thursday, October 21, 5:00–6:30 pm

Live—Hosted by Joyce and Bill O'Brien, 2120 S St NW

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office



Mystery Book Group

Friday, October 24, 3:00–4:00 pm

Location: Virtual

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

The book for the September discussion is **Only to Sleep: A Philip Marlowe Novel** by Lawrence Osborne.

LIVE & LEARN:

All About Medicare & Medicaid 2022

Monday, October 25, 3:30–5:00 pm

Location: Virtual

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

What is covered by Medicare? What is Medicaid and how do you qualify for it? What is the difference between a Medicare Advantage Plan and a Supplemental Plan? What is Part D? What changes are there to Medicare and Medicaid for 2022? What changes can you make during Medicare Open Enrollment from October 15 to December 7? At Dupont Circle Village's October Live & Learn Program, Chris DeYoung, from the D.C. Department of Aging and Community Living, will answer your Medicare and Medicaid questions.

DCV Movie Group

Wednesday, October 27, 3:55–5:15 pm

RSVP: Register Online or contact the DCV office at (202) 436-5252 or admin@dupontcirclevillage.net

Please join the DCV Movie Group to discuss **Woodstock: Three Days of Peace and Music**, documenting the August 1969 watershed counterculture Woodstock Festival, and **Summer of Soul (...Or, When the Revolution Could Not be Televised)**, documenting the June–August 1969 Harlem Cultural Festival, which celebrated African American music and culture, and promoted Black pride and unity. This film was overlooked by the extensive coverage of Woodstock, and after five decades, the footage of **Summer of Soul** was finally resurrected and premiered to acclaim the 2021 Sundance Film Festival.

October Social Hour

Thursday, October 28, 4:00–5:30 pm

Live—Hosted by Matt Abrams, 2555 Pennsylvania Ave #209

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

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Monthly Calendar

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French Challenge: t/b/a

This group meets monthly, usually on the 4th Tuesday. Details will be announced in upcoming Friday e-blasts.

Online Meditation with Christina

Mondays & Thursdays, 9:00–9:30 am

Location: Virtual

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

Accessible Mat Yoga

Mondays, 3:30–4:30 pm

Location: Virtual

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

Chair Yoga

Tuesdays, 10:30–11:30 am

Location: Virtual

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

Online Feldenkrais Method Awareness Through Movement

Wednesdays, 10:00–11:00 am

Location: Virtual

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

In the October classes we will focus on the mobility and comfort of the low back and hips for easier standing,



sitting and walking. The lessons will be done partially sitting on a chair, standing and lying down (which can be lying on a bed or the floor). Getting our backs back!

Coffee and Conversation

Thursdays, 10:00–11:00

Location: LIVE—upper terrace at Friends Meeting, entrance on Decatur a few doors up from Florida Ave.

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

Mahjongg

Thursdays, 2:00–4:00 pm

Location: hosted live by Margot Polivy

RSVP: Bobbi Milman, rmilman@comcast.net or (202) 667-0245

Knitting Group

Thursdays, 4:00 pm

RSVP: Sheila Lopez at sheilablopez@gmail.com

IN MEMORY

Gone and well remembered for their kindness, caring and service to our Village over many years.



Mary Braden (1936–2021)



Joan Ludlow (1947–2021) and
Nick Ludlow (1942–2021)

Denial—Something We All Do



Ask Ann

I have been reflecting on some things that have tripped me up recently, and had to face some things and work on dealing with reality. I start with a description that I

found:
By Ann Talty

"Denial is an unconscious psychological defense mechanism in which a person is faced with a fact that is too uncomfortable to accept, and rejects or minimizes it instead. It is often the first stage of coping. It is adequate temporarily, but not always particularly healthy as a way to mitigate emotional pain."

Depression. I'm just a little down; it's not like it's been an extended period of time; if I don't admit it, then I don't have it; I can do this myself. These are just a few of the denials you may have. As I start to finally come out of the depression, the dead giveaway is when I start facing the reality of "how long has it actually been since I..." (paid my bills, read my magazines, done something fun, talked to a friend, cleaned my house, etc.).

Anxiety. Of course I'm upset—someone did this to me; I'm just angry/upset, and anyone would be; I don't have time because I'm so busy; something catastrophic might happen if I don't...; it has to be done to my standards on my timeline; I don't want to go to a strange place (or even a familiar one); what if I do something wrong; what will other people think, etc.

Physical Condition/health. If I ignore it, then it will resolve itself in time; it's just a little heartburn; it's just a little weight and it will even itself out; it isn't interfering with my life; it's only a little food/activity; it's just a minor inconvenience I can live with it; I'm sure it's nothing serious; only old people or needy people have this; I'm in better shape than my spouse, so I can look after him/her, etc.

Physical environment inside. It's not that bad; I need to have all that; I know where everything is, so I won't trip/fall; I'm getting to it soon; it isn't that dusty; I can stay in my place forever, and the stairs aren't too bad;



I can manage; it hasn't been that long, I can do it myself; I don't want or need some stranger in my home; I don't need to move into a nursing home/assisted living—that's for people who are dying, etc.

Physical environment outside.

I can run an errand myself (even though I use a cane/walker); I can walk that far; it's only a few stairs; I can walk across grass or other uneven ground; etc.

Dangerous hiding from reality. If

I don't get a medical opinion, then I don't have anything wrong with me; if I don't acknowledge the diagnosis, then I don't have the disease; if I don't let someone know, then I don't need help; if I don't take my medication, then I don't have the health issue; if I admit it, then it means I'm less of a person/old, etc.

These are just a few common denial scenarios that I deal with myself. Do you recognize yourself in any of these? If so, join me in facing and dealing with reality.



October Birthdays



A very Happy Birthday to members celebrating in October!

Nancy Hartsock, Georgette Sobel, Sondra Cohen, Joyce W. O'Brien, Dianna Eshman, Don Symmes, John Richardson, Lisa Duperier, Julie Kaspar, Dick Arndt, Lex Rieffel, Mimi Higgins, Kat Miller, and Ann von der Lippe

Meet DCV's Art Therapy Intern, Laura Mahon



Hello everyone! I'm Laura, the new art therapy intern at Dupont Circle Village. I'm a 1st year Art Therapy Grad Student at George Washington University. Over the next year, I will be working alongside DCV members to create and run therapeutic art programs. I'm very excited to meet & get to know everyone!

I am originally from Ireland and just moved to the DMV area about a month ago to start grad school. Moving from a small village in rural Ireland to a large metropolitan area like the DMV has been quite the experience, memorable to say the least! I'm grateful for the opportunity that my grad program has given me to intern with DCV and I'm looking forward to getting started soon!

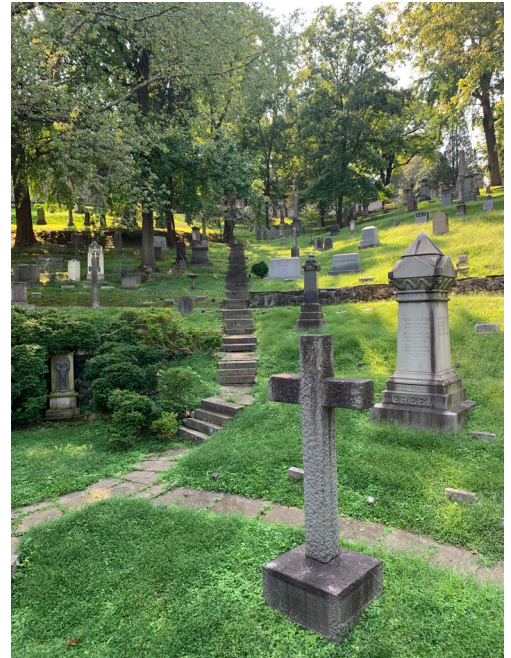
Out and About



◀ **David Insinga** and **Bob McDonald** spent three weeks in Eastern Europe, exploring Transylvania, Bucharest, Bulgaria, Belgrade, and Budapest before spending four days in Vienna. The trip included a riverboat cruise on the Danube from Bucharest to Budapest. One of the highlights was seeing La Traviata at the Vienna State Opera.



Out and About



▲ On Sunday September 12, as the thermometer registered 84 in the shade and 97 in the sun, 25 DCV members and their guests loved and survived walking the steep hills of Oak Hill Cemetery in Georgetown. The hills were dotted with fascinating 17th century mausoleums and gravestones as well as a few new gravestones. The DCV group negotiated a maze of steep roads, stone walkways, crumbling dirt paths, charming stone bridges and numerous uneven stone steps that wove through the gravestones. The group was divided into two groups and the guide of each group regaled the members with stories from the controversy surrounding Ben Bradley's new Mausoleum at the Cemetery entrance on the top of the hill to the Carroll Mausoleum at the bottom where President Lincoln frequently visited the body of his young son "Willie" which was later moved to the family grave. A great way to spend a Sunday afternoon!



▲ **Ted Bracken** with family in Oak Bluffs, Martha's Vineyard and the Illumination Night in the Methodist Campground, Oak Bluffs.

Out and About



◀ **Jim Chamberlin** was recently out and about in DC and came across the huge display of flags on the National Mall commemorating the 678,000 Americans who have died from Covid-19. He also came across this Monument to Civil War Nurses at Rhode Island & M Street, NW,

▶ Neither age nor others' views on aging define multi-talented Vanella Alise Jackson-Crawford (center), named Ms. Senior DC 2021. Celebrating her honor at a September Arboretum gathering are Villagers **Caroline Mindel**, **Lucia Edmonds**, **Lynn Lewis** and **Peg Simpson**. A motivational trainer/facilitator, Ms. Jackson-Crawford also won third place in this year's Ms. Senior America Pageant for women 60 and older.



▶ **Peg Simpson** hosted 8 Villagers on her roof deck as part of our new activities initiative, Social Hours. **Barbara Meeker**, **Ginny Finch**, **Joe Auslander**, and **Lorna Doubet**.



Out and About



▶ **Nancy Turnbull** with her sister Susan at Seneca Lake (NY Finger Lakes) and with her niece, Marissa, at the family farm.



▲ DCV has been thanking members of its various committees with lunches. In August, we thanked the Membership/Activities Committee. **Sandra Yarrington, Abigail Wiebenson, Ann McFarren, Monica Heppell, Carol Galaty and Carmela Vetri.** Members unable to attend **Mary Stevens, Patricia Baranek, Andres Doernberg, Kirk Perrow, Ann Von der Lippe and Harvey Friedman**



▲ **Mike Silverstein,** Tom and Rocket enjoyed the last weekend of summer at Rehoboth Beach. Rocket especially enjoyed the peanut butter ice cream at Salty Paws, a shop on Rehoboth Avenue next to the boardwalk that specializes in ice cream for dogs. He also negotiated pieces of filet mignon while accompanying us to filet night on the front porch of the Pines Restaurant. We all had a wonderful time. Especially Rocket.



▲ **Bill Roberts and Ann McFarren** enjoying an evening walk on the beach during their weekend getaway to Rehoboth Beach, Maryland.



▲ **Judith Neibrief** has been enjoying Italy, including this hike through the vineyards north of Trieste that prompted downward facing dog demonstrations (clearly missing Mayu).



▲ **Abigail Wiebenson** visited a climate research farm in Freeport, Maine. Watching cows is good for the soul



▲ **Karen St. John** was recently visiting her great-niece Rylee and great-nephew Nolan in Houston.



▲ **Kathy Price** and Jock Covey went to the South of France to meet Kathy son's girlfriend's Belgian family at their summer house: hiking, swimming, driving through lavender fields on way to opera in Aix.

Art Archive



Boy and Moon, Edward Hopper (1882–1967, American)

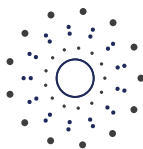
Poetry Corner

Autumn Daybreak

Cold wind of autumn, blowing loud
At dawn, a fortnight overdue,
Jostling the doors, and tearing through
My bedroom to rejoin the cloud,
I know—for I can hear the hiss
And scrape of leaves along the floor—
How many boughs, lashed bare by this,
Will rake the cluttered sky once more.
Tardy, and somewhat south of east,
The sun will rise at length, made known
More by the meagre light increased
Than by a disk in splendour shown;
When, having but to turn my head,
Through the stripped maple I shall see,
Bleak and remembered, patched with red,
The hill all summer hid from me.

by Edna St. Vincent Millay

The Dupont Circle Village is a non-profit volunteer organization that connects neighbors to services and educational, cultural/social and health and wellness activities. Please consider a donation now or remember us in your will.



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