

## DUPONT CIRCLE VILLAGE

## SHATTERING THE STEREOTYPE

ADAMS MORGAN · DUPONT CIRCLE · KALORAMA

66 Spring always seeming to one as if the flowers had been hiding, and only came out into the sun because they were afraid that grown-up people would grow tired of looking for them and give up the search...

#### What's Inside

- 1 An Evening to Remember
- 2 President's Notes
- 3 May Calendar
- 5 Volunteer of the Month Barbara Sloan
- 5 15-Minute Meal
- Dupont Circle Village Jigsaw Puzzle Share and Swap May Birthdays
- 7 Chronology of a Scam
- 9 DCV and Qualified Charitable Contributions
- 10 Out and About

#### Welcome New Members!

Victoria J. Boehm Stephan J. Dix Nancy Rocha

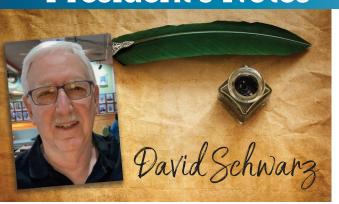


## An Evening to Remember!

New member **Laurie Thomas** captured the spirit of the DCV Sweet 16 Gala in a message to our gala chair **Lois Berlin**. "I wanted to congratulate you on last night's Gala, Lois. What a great turnout! What great food! What great music! Eva, you have a wonderful (and large) group of people who truly care for one another and last night was evidence of that. I was so proud for you both and what you've accomplished as a DCV group." What an evening to remember! Thank you all for being a part of the Village and to those who joined in the celebration.

Congratulations once again to the Linda Harsh Awardees, **Beth Merricks**, **Carol Galaty**, **Sandra Yarrington** and **Abigail Wiebenson**. Big shout out to **Lois Berlin**, departing Gala chair, who went out with a bang! And a heartfelt thanks to all the individual and corporate sponsors and numerous local businesses that made our Gala and online auction the most successful yet. I expect 17 will be pretty sweet too!

## President's Notes



his month, I thought I'd share a story about the perils of home care and the value of social worker case management. My mom, who died in 2021, and dad, who died in 2018, never considered moving out of their house in Chicago's "Bungalow Historic District". But around the time Mom turned 95, she decided they needed home care and was able to find caregivers herself. Mainly two women, Niki, who made dinner and then slept over, and Didi, who was there during the day provided almost 24/7 coverage for a year or two. Initially Mom and Dad's long-term care policies and savings covered the cost, but when those ran out and I made up the difference. Mom supervised Niki and Didi and wrote their checks, managing the household finances as she always had — for which I was grateful, since she was in Chicago, and I was in DC. My role was simply to make sure she had sufficient funds, and we set up a joint checking account for that purpose.

Things ran pretty smoothly until around the time Mom turned 100, in 2019. The first sign of trouble — although I didn't appreciate it at the time — was a call from Didi asking for a loan. I told her I couldn't do that — paying her and Niki's salaries (more than \$10K/month) already had me scrambling for cash. She seemed to accept that, but asked me not to tell Mom about her request, and I agreed. She and Mom seemed to have a really nice relationship, and I certainly didn't want to disrupt that.

So, everything continued as it was for several months, until I suddenly got a notice from the bank that our joint checking was overdrawn. I didn't see how that was possible: I knew what Mom's expenses were and I always put in the money to cover. But looking at

the check register online, there was an extra \$3K check written to Didi. When I asked Mom about it, she told me that Didi had asked for the loan — that she was a "good girl" but in some sort of financial trouble, and that we could take repayment out of her salary going forward.

Of course, that wasn't how things played out. We did set up a repayment plan, but after a month, I found Mom giving Didi more "loans". I confronted Didi and told her to stop asking Mom for money; she said she would, but she didn't. The next time I went to Chicago, I wrote Didi's salary checks for the next three months and asked Mom not to write any others. But she did. When I asked her again not to, she said that she simply couldn't say "no" to Didi. By that time, we were about \$13K in the hole...with no end in sight.

I really did not know what to do. I wanted to fire Didi, but I didn't know how to replace her, and I couldn't leave Mom on her own in the house during the day. Finally, I decided to look for help, I googled Jewish social service agencies in Chicago and found one that answered their phones. They connected me to a social worker, Jill, who heard my story and told me this was a clear case of elder abuse. She offered to work with me to fire Didi and find a replacement. She connected me with a senior care agency, and we also started planning how we would orchestrate the firing. As a part of that, she initiated an investigation

into Didi's financial activities, we discovered that Didi had opened a credit card account tied to Mom's and my joint checking. This card was already charged up to \$20K. I guess I had assumed that the credit card was Mom's when I saw the payments from the checking account.

A few weeks later I came to Chicago, and Jill (with one of her colleagues) met me at the house, together with a locksmith to change the locks. We relieved Didi of her fraudulent credit card and handed her a letter of termination which Jill had helped me draft. We also reported Didi to the Chicago police. At the same time, a caregiver from the recommended agency arrived to replace Didi. Unfortunately, Mom did not like the new caregiver, and — much to my consternation — fired her at the end of the first day (with the parting words, "Let me know how much I owe you, dear, because you won't be coming back"). However, our nextdoor neighbor, Noemi, was also a qualified caregiver. Very fortunately, Mom did like Noemi, and she was available to step in and take over.

## **Epilogue:**

Niki and Noemi took care of my mom until she died, two years later. I've kept in touch with both of them and see them whenever I'm in Chicago. The police did nothing about Didi. However, having reported the fraud, the credit card company took the \$20K as a loss. Mom's "loans" to Didi were never repaid. I received several texts from Didi over the following year, begging me to take her back. I did not respond. I did hear that she eventually found another caregiving job - I was not asked to provide a reference.

## May Calendar

Visit the DCV website calendar to find further information for each event listed below.

REGISTER online, or at admin@dupontcirclevillage.net, or contact DCV Office at (202) 436-5252

#### **Supreme Court Tour**

Monday, May 6, 2024, 9:30 am-10:30 am Location: Supreme Court Building

1 First Street, NE Limit: 8 guests

Register by May 3 online or

Contact DCV Office at (202) 436-5252.

#### **Spring Picnic**

Thursday, May 9, 2024, 11:30 am-2:00 pm

Location: Heurich House 1307 New Hampshire Ave NW Register by May 6 online or

Contact DCV Office at (202) 436-5252.

#### Home Social Hour—Rosenberg

Thursday, May 9, 2024, 5:00 pm-6:30 pm Location: Bella Rosenberg's Home

Limit: 10 quests

Register by May 6 online or

Contact DCV Office at (202) 436-5252.

#### DCV Happy Hour

Wednesday May 15, 2024 4:00-6:00 pm and beyond...

Location: The Darcy Hotel Bar 1515 Rhode Island Ave., NW Register by May 12 online or

Contact DCV Office at (202) 436-5252.

#### SAAM Tour: Alma Thomas Exhibit

Thursday, May 16, 2024, 1:30 pm—3:00 pm Location: Smithsonian American Art Museum

750 9th Street, NW, Suite 3100

Limit: 8 quests

Register by May 13 online or

Contact DCV Office at (202) 436-5252.

#### LGBTQ Friends Group Luncheon

Thursday, May 16, 11:30 am-1 pm

Annie's Paramount Steak House, 1609 17th St.

Register or for more info text Frank Walter 202.957.1859

or fwalterdc@gmail.com

Celebrating LGBT Elder's Day, which recognizes community members who have paved the way for access and social acceptance of LGBT people, their rights, and livelihoods.

#### Tech with Teens (Students from WIS)

Saturday, May 18, 2024 10 am-12 pm

Location: DCV office

Register via Calendly when sent out to members.



#### Sunday Soup Salon—Mindel and Lewis

Speaker will be showcasing the Gilded Age Mansions of

**Dupont Circle** 

Sunday, May 19, 2024, 5:30 pm-7:00 pm

Location: Carolyn Mindel and Lynne Lewis' Home

Register by May 16 online or

Contact DCV Office at (202) 436-5252.

## TED Talks Curated for Villagers—Mindel & Lewis (Zoom only)

Tuesday, May 21, 2024, 6:00 pm-7:00 pm

Location: Virtual Limit: 30 guests

Register by May 16 online or

Contact DCV Office at (202) 436-5252.

#### Home Social Hour-Sawin

Wednesday, May 22, 2024, 6:00 pm-7:30 pm

Location: Leslie Sawin's Home Register by May 19 online or

Contact DCV Office at (202) 436-5252.

#### Home Social Hour-Wiebenson

Thursday, May 30, 2024, 5:30 pm-7:00 pm

Location: Abigal Wiebenson's Home

Limit: 10 guests

Register by May 27 online or

Contact DCV Office at (202) 436-5252.

#### **MONTHLY EVENTS**

#### Navigating the Path Ahead

Tuesday, May 14, 2024, 3:30 pm-4:30 pm Register by May 14 online or

Contact DCV Office at (202) 436-5252.

#### Men's Book Group

Monday, May 20

Location: DCV Office-2111 Decatur Pl NW

Limit: 12 guests

RSVP: Robert M. Hirsch

Continued on page 4

## May Calendar

#### Continued from page 3

Live and Learn: Goodwin Living at Home

May 20, 2024 Location: Hybrid

DCV Office-2111 Decatur Pl NW

Limit: 12 guests in person Register by May 17th

Contact DCV Office at (202) 436-5252.

#### Mystery Book Group

Friday, May 31 Location: Virtual

No Limit

Register online or contact DCV Office at (202) 436-5252.

#### RECURRING EVENTS

#### Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention

Tuesdays, 2:00 pm and 3:30 pm

Location: DCV Office

Limit: 6

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

#### Online Meditation

Mondays and Thursdays, 9:00-9:30 am

Location: Virtual

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

#### Chair Yoga

Tuesdays, 10:30–12:30 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

#### Coffee and Conversation

Thursdays, 10:00–11:00 am Location: Kramerbooks 1517 Connecticut Ave NW

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

#### Bridge Group

Thursdays, 1:30-3:30 pm

Location: DCV Office—2111 Decatur Pl NW RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office Join other Villagers who like to play bridge.

#### Mahjongg

Thursdays, 2:00-4:00 pm

Location: hosted live by Bobbi Milman RSVP: Bobbi Milman, rmilman@comcast.net

or 202.667.0245



#### **Knitting Group**

Every Thursday, 4:00 pm

Location: Virtual until further notice

RSVP: Sheila Lopez at sheilablopez@gmail.com

#### **Dupont Circle Walking Group**

Every Monday, Wednesday, Friday at 8:00 am Location: meet at the fountain in Dupont Circle

#### Adams Morgan Walking Group

Every Tuesday, Thursday at 8:00 am Meet at northwest corner of Kalorama and Columbia that borders Kalorama Park



April birthday celebrants include Suzanne Charlick, Roy Wyscarver, Anita Gottlieb, Mike Silverstein and David Schwarz. Leslie Sawin hosted and Monica Heppel and Barbara Sloan did the baking.

## Volunteer of the Month: Barbara Sloan



Volunteer of the Month Barbara was born in Pittsburg, PA and lived there through high school. She is the second born of three siblings, has an older sister, and a younger brother and sister. She attended college at Duke University in North Carolina.

She majored in History and Spanish and took advantage of a semester abroad program in Madrid. Following her college graduation, she went back to Madrid, where she spent

three years teaching English for Berlitz. She stayed in touch with the family she lived with in college and was invited to attend a family wedding while she was there after her college graduation.

She returned from Spain to Pittsburg to earn money to fund her next overseas adventure, this time in Tokyo, Japan. She worked there and again taught English for Berlitz for four years. She took classes and learned how to speak Japanese, but she was unable to read it. She took her LSATs in Japan and was accepted at a private Catholic college, located in San Diego. She was able to obtain California state residency after her

first year of college and then finished her law education at Berkley.

Barbara's first position out of law school was working for a judge in Austin, TX for a year. She then moved to DC, where her brother and his new family had settled. In 1986, she moved into the Westpark, because it offered month to month rent, was walking distance from the law firm where she worked and was close to the Metro. She was not aware that it was rent controlled when she moved in and has lived there ever since. She was at the law firm for three years, which enabled her to repay her college loans. She then took a position in the federal government

Continued on page 6

#### 15-Minute Meal

#### **BLACK BEAN AND AVOCADO BURRITO**

#### **Ingredients**

3 cups spinach

1/2 avocado

2 small tortilla (wheat or GF)

1/2 lime

1 1/2 cups no-salt canned black beans

2 tsps salt-free chili powder

1/2 cup low-sodium salsa

## Directions (10 min • Super easy)

- 1. Produce Prep: Rinse and drain the spinach. Remove the skin and pit of the avocado, and dice into small pieces. Cut the lime in half.
- 2. Rinse and drain the canned black beans. In a microwave safe bowl, combine the beans, chili powder and salt and pepper to taste. Stir together and then microwave until warm. If you don't have a microwave, warm the beans up in a non-stick pan over medium heat on the stove.



3. Place the warm bean mixture in a line down the center of the whole grain tortilla. Squeeze some lime juice over the beans, then top with spinach, salsa, avocado and hot sauce. Roll it all up and enjoy!

## Volunteer of the Month: Barbara Sloan

Continued from page 5

at the U.S. Equal Employment
Opportunity Commission (EEOC)
and worked there until she retired.
Her next-door neighbor, **Agate Tilmanis** was a village member and
Barbara was quite impressed by
how well DCV cared for her when
she was ill. It was then that Barbara
decided to become a DCV volunteer
when she retired.

As a DCV member she was invited to attend the monthly birthday celebration, where she enjoyed Monica's excellent baking. This motivated her to volunteer to assist in birthday party planning, as she too loved to bake!

Another of her volunteer activities was providing respite to the partner of an Alzheimer's patient. Her mom had Alzheimer's, so she knows what it is like to care for someone who is touched by cognitive memory loss. Do not be surprised when you see her request on the List Serve for a DCV team to participate in this year's two-mile Alzheimer's walk on the mall.

Barbara participates in Tai Chi and one of her favorite things to do is to bake. She has already prepared chocolate chip cookies (they freeze well) and is thinking about adding lemon bars for the April birthday celebration. She does not feel like it is a volunteer activity, as it is an opportunity for her to bake! Another of her hobbies is singing for a few different choirs, including the one in which Abigail is a participant. In addition to her volunteer "work" at DCV. she volunteers for the Red Cross and Traveler's Aid at the airport.

## Dupont Circle Village Jigsaw Puzzle Share and Swap

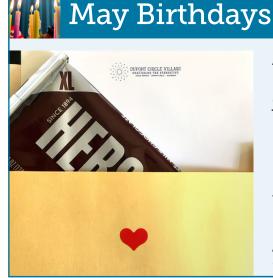


o you like jigsaw puzzles? Would you have some that you've done and would like to donate or exchange for a new puzzle to do? Or, if you don't have one to donate or exchange, just borrow a jigsaw puzzle?

We've started a DCV jigsaw puzzle exchange. If you have some puzzles, you've finished and would like to recycle (hopefully they have all the pieces), bring them to the DCV office. You can exchange your puzzle for another, or just donate it. For other members, you're free to come by and borrow!

#### NYU — Benefits of doing jigsaw puzzles

"There are countless benefits to challenging your brain, and one of the most important is that it can help keep you mentally sharp as you age. When you challenge your brain, you're essentially creating new neural pathways and connections, which helps keep your mind active and functioning at its best, and puzzles can do just that."



A Happy Birthday to members born in May! Pete Klempay, Laurie Coburn, Gail P. Snider, Charles Timbrell, Kenlee Ray, Beth Merricks, Leslie Sawin, Louise Krumm, Rafel Rieves, Margaret Long, Ken Shuck. Holly Van Fleet, Barbara Meeker. Yvonne Mishler, Joan A. Treichel, Joy Rodman, Nancy Gamber, Mike Higgins, Peggy Siegel, Pat Scobie, Jean Mudrick, Anna Greenberg Ellen Brody and Don Krumm

## Chronology of a Scam

By Peg Simpson

t was early morning Thursday, March 21 when I was awakened by a loud, alarming voice coming from my new MAC desktop: Your computer has been hacked, your computer has been hacked. Do not turn it off or you'll lose all your data. Call APPLE, call Apple, call Apple — here's the number (1-844-540-897). And so I did.

**QUESTION:** WHY did I call the number they gave me for Apple vs looking up an Apple help line? Why did I believe they wanted to help me? Yes, this was Apple....but why did I believe it really WAS Apple?

I never saw a popup message on the computer; I never would have opened it. But a loud urgent voice message on my new desktop? I'd never heard of that. It didn't occur to me it could be a fraud.

It was.

It was downhill from there, but there were many places where I could have stopped it.

The first person I talked to was a Christopher Tyler; he said he was with Apple Help and gave me, what he said, was his badge number. We talked for more than an hour. He told me these were hackers from China, linked to child pornography. He put a device on my computer that enabled him to accesss my iMac screen. He put up a spread sheet with my name and address, showing dozens of computer "conversations" from foreign-based outfits that he said were scammers.

He said they had taken control of my desktop, as well as my cell and home phones. At some point, he asked what credit cards I used and I told him Amex, Chase and Citi plus a PNC debit card. He didn't ask for numbers.

He said it was urgent that I not talk about this while Apple investigated and tried to get my money back. He said he would report the scammers to the Federal Trade Commission which investigates this kind of fraud. He said he'd call me the next morning with more information. He didn't.

The next morning, I called the (fake) apple number, again, and started anew, this time with a Nancy Smith, who also gave me her ID number.

**QUESTION:** Why did I call back the same number? Why didn't I call Apple Help line separately? WHY did I believe that these folks were trying to help me? What happened to my skepticism?



The second woman said the problem was with my network, not just my computer. It had been compromised in the last 48 hours and the hackers were trying to attack me through my IP address. She said she was running a scan of my computer.

The scan showed that the network had been compromised, everything had been hacked and they were listening to me through my phone lines. She said she would call me back on a secure Apple line. On my phone the number read "1111111" — who knows what that was. She said my IP address was now showing up on the ChildPorn site and that there were more hackers from other countries, not just from China. She said they would be putting child porn videos on my computer — porn videos that are illegal, which is why it was urgent to get on top of this.

She warned me against using my phone because the scammers were monitoring me. She said again not to talk about this to anyone, especially not to talk on my phones about this.

**QUESTION:** This was an effective tactic to isolate me. WHY did I not recognize that — and talk to folks in person if I didn't want to use my phone? For a professional communicator, that's damn distressing.

She also warned me not to put any financial information on line or through the phones. She said, again, that my

Continued on page 8

#### Chronology of a Scam

Continued from page 7

calls were being detected on child porn channels.

She said there had been "activity" on my credit cards and that at 4:45 a.m. that day, \$15,000 had been charged on my Amex card for the child porn site. She said whoever did this had my password and could answer key ID questions about me so that the charge was approved by Amex.

**QUESTION:** Why would I think that an Apple person could see charges on my Amex card?

On what she said was her secure Apple line, she connected me with a person she said was a troubleshooter from American Express, Michael Hamilton. He gave me his phone: 332-333-1746 and also gave me his password for me to use in future calls: it was God Bless America (Good grief!). He asked me to create my own password, which I did: Mistletoe

**QUESTION:** Why would I think an Apple person could connect me with Amex?

Michael connected me with a Kevin he said was from PNC Bank who told me nothing seemed awry on my account there. Kevin said he would "do me a favor" and alert folks at Citi and Chase whose cards I use, and tell them about the hackers. He then reported back that \$15,000 had been charged on each of those credit cards, making a total of \$45,000 in fraudulent charges.

**QUESTION:** Why would I believe that PNC could talk to Chase and Citi about MY accounts?

I had never given them any info about my debit or credit cards.

But, I had started asking questions: how will I know when these hackers are gone? Should I replace my credit cards? What about my online payments from my credit cards, for varying bills including utilities? Should I go to PNC in person to talk about this? I'm about to make a huge property tax payment on line—should I write a check instead?

As far as I recall, I didn't get answers to these questions. BUT, these questions reflect that I still believed these folks were on my side. It literally never occurred to me that they were the hackers.

I had cautioned my cousin Anna, who lives with me, and my sister Lynn to never talk about this with understatement, in retrospect, but the flip side of what I thought.) I still believed they would be using that insider knowledge to give me good advice.

Inexplicably, I was still gullible.

So when Michael dictated a statement for me to write and sign, I did it. It read: "I have been notified by Apple people that I have been hacked. I bought some gift cards to create a duplicate charge." I took a photo of it and emailed it to him.

Then began the saga of buying gift cards.



She warned me against using my phone because the scammers were monitoring me. She said again not to talk about this to anyone.

anyone, because the hackers would be listening. Anna was skeptical of that, said she'd obey my wishes but clearly disagreed. Overhearing my phone conversation with Michael, she said she definitely did not trust him

At this point on Friday, both Michael and Nancy said there was only one way to get my money back: to create "duplicate charges" which I could then refuse to approve and, with that disapproval, Amex could revoke approval for the earlier charges. I didn't understand that fully — I couldn't even explain it to Lynn when she asked.

**QUESTION:** SO — if I couldn't understand their "solution" to getting my money back, why didn't I ask more questions or just disconnect and call Apple?

Instead, I apparently operated on the assumption that these folks knew the intricacies of the financial fraud system and I didn't. (That was an

Michael said I was to buy gift cards — the amount he said the hackers had taken from my credit cards: \$45,000 worth.

My cousin Anna said she'd like to know how they were going to get my gift-card money back to me. Good question. I ignored it.

At this time, I had no clue that there was something known as the "gift card scam." Now I know It's a favorite way scammers use to get cash out of folks.

If you buy a gift card and give the scammers the number and pin from that card, it is cash for them. Your credit card company is off the hook because YOU bought the gift card.

I was asked multiple times if other people had put me up to buying these gift cards. I said no. It didn't occur to me that OF COURSE I was being told to buy these cards. But,

Continued on page 9

# DCV and Qualified Charitable Contributions

or those looking to help support the Village and minimize taxes, designating the Village as the beneficiary of your IRA may be one strategy to

By Kari Cunningham

consider. Commonly referred to as qualified charitable distributions (QCD,) individuals

at least 70½ years old are allowed to donate annually either a percentage of or a fixed amount of their IRA to one or more charities instead of taking their full Required Minimum Distribution (RMDs.) Any charitable contributions count toward satisfying the Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) for the year and is not

considered taxable income. For Villagers for whom taking the full distribution from their IRA would force them into a higher tax bracket and negatively impact tax credits and deductions such as Medicare and Social Security, a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) to the Village or other charities you care about may make sense. No matter the size of your gift, every dollar we receive helps ensure that the Village is able to help members remain connected and supported for many years to come.

To learn more about how qualified charitable distributions work, please contact Eva M. Lucero, our Executive Director at 2020-436-5252 or <a href="mailto:executive-ex

To include Dupont Circle Village as a beneficiary of your IRA, here is our organizational information: Dupont Circle Village (EIN 26-2702387), Washington, DC.

### Chronology of a Scam

Continued from page 8



I kept thinking this would resolve the fraudulent drawdowns from my credit cards.

When I kept coming home with another \$5,000 of gift cards, Michael had me scratch off the seal on the back of the card and read him the number and PIN. Then, he'd send me out to buy more gift cards.

I encountered some store resistence. An Apple manager at the Carnegie library store said he didn't believe me when I said I was buying gift cards for my grandkids. He refused my attempt to buy \$5,000 in gift cards. I passed that info onto Michael and he said to go next to Home Depot, Loew's, Sephora and then to the Georgetown Apple store. He gave me addresses for all of these.

Citi approved \$5500 in gift card charges and Amex approved \$40,000. Chase approved \$500 but rejected more gift card charges (and later cancelled my card). Needless to say, this is cash once someone has the

number of the card and a PIN. That means the money is gone.

A friend and I had slated a day of work together for Monday, March 25. I had begun to have severe qualms about all of this. My friend was horrified at what I'd done already. I called Amex and realized immediately how wrong I'd been.

My friend and I spent hours on damage control. There wasn't much we could do to get the money back. I'd bought the cards and given the scammers the PIN numbers. Those cards had been emptied by Monday.

We went to the police and reported everything.

I told folks at my two investment accounts to make sure they had walls around my accounts. This week, I hired a techie friend to change my passwords on key accounts and I decided to request new Amex and Citi cards.

The scammers kept calling me, dozens of times, after last weekend. I went by the cop shop a second time to see if they might like to listen to the scammers. They said no - and told me not to answer their calls.

When I consulted an Apple fraud specialist, he looked over my computer and said there was no virus and no sign of other malignant devices planted on my computer. With one exception: an app that the first scammer put on the computer to give him access to my screen. The Apple fraud expert deleted it.

I asked him why and how my new iMac began blaring out a scary "red alert" voice message. He said he had no idea how that got there. That wasn't very reassuring. He said that, increasingly, spammers use "pop up" emails that contain alarm messages. I reiterated that I hadn't seen any such emails and never would have opened them. He repeated that he didn't know any other way those loudvoice alarms could have gotten there.

I asked if it might be possible that my new iMac had come with a malignant "red alert" feature planted there, just waiting to be triggered. He appeared shocked at the very idea and said "of course not."





On Eclipse Day, Monday, April 8th, DCV Villager Pender M. McCarter and longtime friend Robert J. Feiertag were (quoting from The New York Times' global writeup) "among the millions who flocked to a swath of North America that was briefly cast in a shadow of darkness and wonder. They [were among those who] crowded into airplanes, buses and trains; braved traffic jams and slept in overpriced hotels, in tents and in our cars. For a cosmic moment, they were connected across millennia with every other person who has ever experienced an eclipse witnessing the light die and then be reborn as a dazzling ring." Pender and Robert traveled to Oberlin, Ohio, and joined a small group of eclipse watchers in a recreational field near the college town's Tappan Square. One of the adult sons of a family of four from California provided spectacular photos.

Villagers on Karen St John's roof deck include Judith Neibrief, Patti Zweibel, Nancy Turnbull, Karen StJohn, Donna Batcho, Barb Friday, Peggy Long, and Judi Lambart







Villagers Margaret Dunkle, Bella Rosenberg, Lynn Lewis and friends peer at the eclipse through approved glasses that arrived in the nick of time. Another Villager, Sheila Lopez, opted for a homemade pinhole camera repurposed from a matzo box, while unknown neighbors perched on an adjacent rooftop watching in amazement as the sun disappeared.

A group of Villagers were recently in Spain enjoying Barcelona and Madrid. Caroline Mindel, Jeanne Downing, Lucia Edmonds, Kathy Cardille and Monica Heppel









Spring has sprung in the neighborhood! Photos by **Jim Chamberlin**.





Carol Galaty and Ken Shuck spent a week in New York City using a house exchange through Homeexchange. com. They feasted at the "La Grande Boucherie" indoor-outdoor restaurant for Carol's birthday, and enjoyed being spontaneous wandering through unexplored parts of Central Park, sampling food at various hole-in-the-wall restaurants in Chinatown, viewing the Easter parade, climbing the trails on the new Pier 57 island on pillars, once again marveling in the Temple of Dendur at the Metropolitan Museum, loving the animals and beautiful floral landscapes at the renovated Central Park zoom, and braving the rain and 25 mile and hour winds to attend a free concert at the Lincoln center.



The DCV LGBTQ group continues to meet monthly. They enjoyed a sack lunch meeting at St. Thomas Parish in April.



DCV Case Manager, Meaghan McMahon hosted a social hour in April. Enjoying her building's fantastic roof top were Meaghan, Marie Marcoux, Anita Gottlieb, Sandra Desautels, Karen St John, Deidre O'Neil, Jeanne Downing and Nancy Turnbull.



Mary Wheeler organized a fascinating walk in Carderock Park with a guide from he former Audubon Naturalist Society, an independent conservation group, is now Nature Forward. Mary and Rebecca Martin are pictured here. (Mary in blue shirt, Rebecca in wine-colored one) Such a wonderful spring day and experience! Abigail Wiebenson



Villagers were recently treated to a tour of New Deal Murals inside the Wilbur J. Cohen Federal Building, L-R Holly Salamido, Kathy Davin, Beth Merricks, Susan Doolittle, Walter Albano, Judi Lambart, Anita Gottlieb, Mary Wheeler, Jane Hauser and Bob Spiegel.



Carol Galaty and Ken Shuck hosted a lovely participatory Seder on April 22 which included 14 Villagers each bringing a dish or bottles of wine and each in turn reading a paragraph as we circled the table going through the "Haggadah" (meaning the lesson). The food and the Haggadah focused on Freedom from slavery and injustice in past centuries and an awareness of different forms of slavery, with a rededication to the cause of freedom from tyranny, oppression, hatred and fear in the present and future. We celebrated our own Freedom that allowed us to get together in friendship and peace. In the photo: Astrid Klick, Abigail Wiebenson, Carol Galaty (behind), Olga Hudecek, Greg Milman, Gretchen Ellsworth, David Schwarz, Ken Shuck, Caroline Mindel, Peter Bloom, Karen St John, Jim Klick, Roberta Milman, and Bob Hirsch

DCV Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: Dupont Circle Village (DCV) is committed to being a diverse, equitable and inclusive organization. We condemn all forms of discrimination in our society. We aim to make our organization one that is open and welcoming to all. We recognize that the human experience comes in all colors, shapes, abilities, economic circumstances, ages, backgrounds, gender expressions and identities, and sexual orientations. We strive to celebrate these differences and recognize how they benefit our community. To this end, we will do what is necessary for us to grow as a community and as individuals who respect and care for one another.



#### DUPONT CIRCLE VILLAGE

SHATTERING THE STEREOTYPE ADAMS MORGAN · DUPONT CIRCLE · KALORAMA

#### **Dupont Circle Village**

2121 Decatur Place NW Washington, DC 20008

www.dupontcirclevillage.net admin@dupontcirclevillage.net

202-436-5252

#### **Board of Directors**

Michael Speer

David Schwarz, president Jeanne Downing, vice president Steve Kittrell, treasurer Kari Cunningham, secretary Patricia Baranek Sarah Burger Charletta Cowling Gretchen Ellsworth Katharine Gresham James Hambuechen Charlotte Holloman Bob McDonald Meaghan McMahon Bill O'Brien

Eva M. Lucero executive director

#### **Newsletter co-editors**

Eva M. Lucero, editor Sherri Monson, copy editor

#### Design

Kelly Sullivan