

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jane Eleey



The annual Garden Party is one of my favorite Penn's Village traditions, and this year it brought a unique sense of excitement with the raffle drawing for the two tickets to Hamilton! Congratulations to our winner, Penny Klingler.

Speaking of congratulations, I especially want to honor everyone who was involved in the development of our new Penn's Village logo and slogan! I love the three interconnected circles that symbolize the dynamic movement and interdependence of each segment of our membership—Villagers, Neighbors, and Volunteers. And the slogan, Neighbors together – connecting, engaging, thriving, reflects our shared passion, supportive services, and commitment to enjoying life in the city together.

The idea of interconnection among the three categories of membership is not a new one. We are all Village Members in one way or another. Yes, our Volunteer Members provide services—but wait! They also may attend any

program that interests them, request information from our provider list, or even access some services. And, of course, Villagers and Neighbors benefit from the services provided by Volunteers, but they also often help or share their own interests, expertise, and time in Penn's Village programs and committees.

Ideas for services and programs are more often than not generated by Members or prospective Members. The result has been an amazing breadth of activities. Several affinity groups are meeting thanks to folks who stepped up to volunteer to facilitate a men's group, a knitting group, and a French conversation group. Services were requested and fulfilled for an exercise buddy and respite for caregivers. One Volunteer helped a Villager locate a burial plot. Another Volunteer Companion partnered in solving crossword puzzles. Just recently, another Villager has requested help navigating stairs to the swimming pool for the summer, while another Villager fulfilled a let's-play-Scrabble-in-French request. And, as so many of us know from experience, computer help has become a service mainstay.

Penn's Village is only as vibrant and dynamic as our membership. So—I have a summer challenge for Villagers, Neighbors, and Volunteers alike. Let us know of any new service or learning/information/fun experience that you either would like to offer or would be interested in receiving and we will do our best to make it happen as we gear up for the fall. Look for the results

in the September issue of THE VILLAGE VIEW!

Have a lovely summer,

Jane C. Eleey

Garden Party celebration on May 29



Members and Volunteers mingle over dinner



Board Member Dave Lewis presents Jane Eleey with flowers, in appreciation of her leadership

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JUNE 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
GREEN = Penn's Village Event BLACK = Non-PV Event BLUE = Co-hosted Event PURPLE = PV Member Only Event						1 PAFA Student Art Show Broad & Cherry Streets (ends June 2)
2 Last Day of the Philadelphia Latino Film Festival ~ 12:00PM -7:00PM Philadelphia Irish Festival Great Plaza at Penn's Landing 101 S Columbus Blvd	3 8:00PM <i>La Noche</i> Free at the Kimmel Kimmel Center	4 11:00AM-12:30PM <i>Exercise to Thrive as You Age</i> Ralston Center 3615 Chestnut St ~ 7:30PM <i>The Book of Mormon</i> opens Academy of Music	5 2:00PM <i>End of Life Decisions</i> The MacColl Room	6 8:00PM Dan Blacksberg Rabbi Yosef Goldman World Premiere Kimmel Center	7 Rittenhouse Square Fine Arts Show through June 9	8 2PM and 8PM 11th Hour Theater Company <i>City of Angels</i> Suzanne Roberts Theatre
9 Odunde Festival 23rd & South St ~ 3:00PM Patti LuPone Kimmel Center	10	11 <i>Legally Blonde</i> at the Walnut Street Theatre through July 14	12	13 11:00AM <i>A Master Marriage Counselor Looks at Love</i> Parkway Central Library 1901 Vine Street	14 Flag Day Various Locations Around Philadelphia, including 525 Arch St	15 11:00AM <i>Organ Day</i> Free at the Kimmel Center
16 Father's Day	17 Community Night The Franklin Institute	18 7:30PM <i>Cats</i> Opening Night Forrest Theater 1114 Walnut St	19 2:00PM <i>Cell Phone & Personal Computer Security</i> The MacColl Room	20 5:00PM-9:00PM Old City Eats Block Party 2nd St from Market St to Chestnut St	21 7:30PM Bernstein's <i>Candide</i> Philadelphia Orchestra Kimmel Center	22
23	24 6:30PM <i>Spinning Yarns</i> Fumo Family Library 2437 S Broad St	25 <i>Science After Hours</i> The Franklin Institute	26 11:00AM <i>Love Letters: A Map of the Heart</i> Parkway Central Library 1901 Vine Street	27 11:00AM <i>Chair Yoga</i> Torresdale Library 3079 Holme Ave	28	29
30 Last Day of Philadelphia Chinese Lantern Festival Franklin Square 200 N 6th St						

FROM THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Under the leadership of Molly Lenowitz and Mario Oropeza, the program committee continues to connect with locals who have expertise on a variety of interesting topics.

Wednesday, June 5, 2:00PM. We will meet a hospice care liaison for *End of Life Decisions: What Matters and What You Need to Know*. Learn about home health care, palliative and hospice care and how best to stay in your home and make your wishes known. MacColl Room, 1st Presbyterian Church.

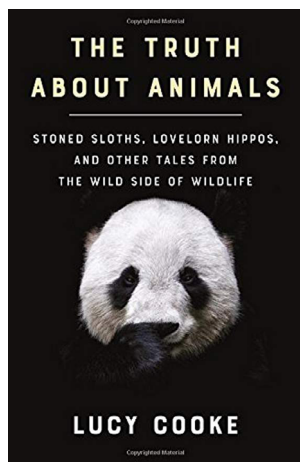
Wednesday, June 19, 2:00PM. *Cell Phone and Personal Computer Security*. At a recent Tea, Scones, and Phones program, the presenters discovered that not all members' phones were password-protected. There is always more to learn about on-line safety! MacColl Room, 1st Presbyterian Church.

Tuesday, July 9, 2:00PM. Dr. Balu Athreya, a retired Professor of Pediatrics, will offer strategies to combat negative effects of information technology on thinking, based on his research on *How the Mind Thinks* and how information technology impacts the brain, our thinking and our daily lives. MacColl Room, 1st Presbyterian Church.

Wednesday, July 17, 5:00PM. Pop-up Happy Hour at the Kimmel Center Balcony Bar.

We are finalizing dates for fall programs which will include, by popular demand, a panel of experts on decluttering, the Silver Binder workshop, and a wine and cheese tasting.

**HOLD THE DATE:
LUNCH AND BOOKS
WEDNESDAY, JULY 10**



The summer-time Lunch and Books program will be on Wednesday, July 10, from 12:00PM to 2:00PM at Positano Coast. The light-hearted summer read is ***The Truth About Animals*** by Lucy Cooke. According to a review by Janet Maslin of the ***New York Times***, this book is “an uproarious tour of the basest instincts and biggest mysteries of the animal world.”

Send your book suggestions for the Fall Lunch and Books to Mark Raymond: mwrayment@comcast.net.

Islamic State Lecture stimulates lively Q and A session



More than 100 Penn's Village members, volunteers, and friends attended a May 22 lecture on the Islamic State presented by Dr. Roger Allen, retired Professor Emeritus of Arabic & Comparative Literature at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Allen treated his audience to an information-packed overview of Islamic beliefs that included the implications of the religion's history for today's political situation in the West Asian region and throughout the world, the heritage of the relationship between the world of Islam and Western civilization (especially in Europe), and the political and cultural ramifications of scriptural interpretation/misinterpretation in today's world.

POP-UP TALKS AT THE BARNES

Daily, 2:30 – 4:30PM

Free with admission.

Don't miss the Barnes Art Team, a group of art historians and educators, sharing exciting discoveries from their new research on the collection.

ACTIVE AGING

Staying Busy in Retirement

by Jesse Garner

I knew at least two years in advance when I was going to retire, and took advantage of that lead time to think through what I wanted to do when the time to retire actually came. Through my work as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, I had learned of several organizations doing some very good work in our community, and I knew I wanted to be involved in those organizations when I did retire. I'd already been asked to chair the board of one of them, Interfaith Philadelphia, and was able to time that coincident with my retirement. I've been very busy with IP's work this past year, so much so that at times I really haven't felt very "retired."

I've also been interested, for a number of years, in campus ministry and volunteered to join the board of the Christian Association at the University of Pennsylvania, one of the oldest campus ministry organizations in the country. In that capacity, I've gotten to know a number of Penn students and cooked several meals for their regular Wednesday suppers and Friday lunches. That's been a lot of fun and helped to keep me in touch with young people today.

Of course, I've also joined the board of Penn's Village whose office is located in the church where I worked for 17 years. In fact, Penn's Village moved into the church while I was there, so I saw Jane Eleey almost every day and met many of the PV volunteers when they came to the church for meetings or workshops. I thought so highly of the mission of Penn's Village that I knew early on that when I retired, I wanted to get more involved.

When people asked me what I was going to do when I retired, I always responded, "You mean other than fishing?" I certainly had every intention of spending a good deal of time

doing that, but as it's turned out, I've been so busy with all my volunteer work that I haven't been fishing a single time since retiring six months ago! Active aging indeed!

INTRODUCING

Mark Raymond and Brian Wengenroth: Making it Work

by Sherrill Cresdee



Partners in life for 41 years with a strong shared interest in community, well-being and service, long time Philadelphians Mark Raymond and Brian Wengenroth have resided nearby or in the Society Hill area for twenty years.

Brian, a retired IT business systems specialist, and Mark, a retired physical therapist, arrived at Penn's Village after looking around at what was on offer vis a vis where and what they wanted to do in life after retirement. It boiled down to living independently in an urban environment with the least amount of physical or economic burden while aging in place.

Through the Society Hill Civic Association, not unlike the "Mother Village" of Beacon Hill, they became aware of Friends in the City (FitC) and then Penn's Village. FitC seemed a little more casual than Penn's Village and each offered different involvement.

Since volunteering first as visiting companions, Mark and Brian have become very active volunteer Penn's Village Members themselves, with Mark becoming a board member this past March and Brian becoming a welcome addition to the Fundraising Committee. Noting that FitC was slightly more

program driven than PV, Mark became involved with the Program Committee helping to establish the Men's Group, "...an every-other-week, no agenda, tensionless group of men discussing like-minded things." In addition to the Fundraising Committee, Brian is, not unnaturally, a behind-the-scenes technology guru for Penn's Village. They are also co-producers of Lunch and Books and the monthly Pop-up events.

Wengenroth and Raymond both believe that a, "...Penn's Village with good structural support, programming, useful services and wide-ranging interests mirroring the demography it serves, leads to better/longer aging in place..." because, "...the socialization, physical and mental exercise needed are reasons to get up, get dressed and get going" - just like they do.

Our Summer Intern: Victoria Dailey

by Harriette Mishkin



Victoria joins us through August as a Marketing and Communications Intern. A rising junior and Mayor's Scholar at the University of Pennsylvania, she also holds a work-study position in the Office of Undergraduate Admissions and is co-captain of Client Care. She is also treasurer for Penn's Mayor's Scholars Program where she monitors program budgets, mentors incoming scholars, and co-organizes the Mentor/Mentee program. Among the many tasks she will assume for the Marketing and Communications Committee, Tori will assist in the development and implementation of the Newsletter survey.

Look for Tori at the Garden Party and welcome her to the Penn's Village family.

Second Blood Drive A Success!



Thanks to Carol Moore, Mark Raymond, Brian Wengenroth, and Harriette Mishkin who provided information about Penn's Village programs and services to blood drive donors interested in learning how to join or volunteer with us. The event took place at Society Hill Towers.



Carol Moore, Penn's Village Volunteer with Mary O'Neil, Blood Drive Coordinator



FOCUS ON FILM

by Dick Levinson

"Meeting Gorbachev"

Directed by Werner Herzog



Mikhail Gorbachev is a lonely man. The last leader of the Soviet Union is 88 years old. He now has a kind of cherubic look that the man who squared off against both President Reagan and Prime Minister Thatcher never possessed. His eyes sparkle and when documentarian and interviewer Werner Herzog makes a mistake, the person who caused the Soviet Empire to implode is quick to correct him. As this compelling new film makes clear, if Gorbachev is a hero to many abroad, to those at home, he is simply a traitor. The absence of his soulmate and confidant, Raisa Gorbachev, has made everything much harder. She died of cancer 20 years ago.

Viewers hoping that important secrets will be exposed or new historical ground broken will be disappointed. However, what this film does do is to help us understand both who this man is - and how a provincial politician with a gift for solving practical problems was able to reach the top of the "greasy pole," as Disraeli once put it. In every human system, Communist or capitalist alike, personal connections are incredibly important. Gorbachev was the son of a war hero who proved to have a knack for turning failing state enterprises into success stories. What the key figures in Moscow regarded as magic actually had more to do with the willingness of the senior Gorbachev to drive himself like a dog - and for days at a time, if necessary. Young Mikhail was on the scene and helped his father to deliver the goods.

Later as a regional leader, Gorbachev successfully completed a major canal project that had been important to Joseph Stalin himself. He also managed to bring Soviet sheep farming, a non-glamorous but important part of the national economy, into the 20th century. These accomplishments were noted in Moscow and Gorbachev was summoned to fill a series of increasingly important jobs. When three elderly Russian leaders died in rapid succession, the young and healthy Gorbachev was seen as a guarantee that the nation and Party would not be embarrassed again.

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Follow us on social media:



Join Penn's Village:

To become a member, visit www.pennsvillage.org and click on "Join." There you will find our membership levels and application.

To become a volunteer, visit www.pennsvillage.org and click on "Volunteer." We have a variety of volunteer opportunities to suit different interests, skills, talents and schedules.

Do you know that talking about Penn's Village to family, friends and strangers is the best way to grow Penn's Village?

A very sincere thank you to The First Presbyterian Church for generously providing space to Penn's Village and for always being there for us.

A Celebration for Older Americans Month

Penn's Village joined with Northwest Village Network, East Falls Village, and Friends in the City (FitC) in a special free program held at the National Museum of American Jewish History, on May 20. Thanks to the generosity of the Museum and several contributors, more than 150 people viewed the exhibit **Sara Berman's Closet**, screened the documentary film, **Lives Well Lived - Celebrating the Secrets, Wit and Wisdom of Age**, by former Philadelphia Sky Bergman, and welcomed her parents. The capstone of the afternoon was our special guest, author and founder of the Russell Byers Charter School, Laurada Byers, who spoke about how she continues to deal with personal challenges with grit and gratitude. Her key message: **"Our reactions, not our circumstances, create our story."**



Audience Viewing Lives Well Lived



*Laurada Byers, interviewed by
Harriette Mishkin*



*Filmmaker's parents:
Herbert and Laurel Bergman*

MEET YOUR NEWSLETTER'S EDITORIAL BOARD



(l-r: Kristin Davidson, Sherrill Cresdee, Marianne Waller, Rose Fortese, Harriette Mishkin, Dick Levinson. Not present, editor Kapri Koflanovich)

The Editorial Board (pictured above) is taking a summer time-out to sharpen their pencils and hone their Photoshop skills in order to bring you an even better fall edition of the newsletter. We will be asking for your input – which articles do you enjoy reading the most, how valuable is the calendar as a way to check out monthly programs within Penn's Village and throughout central Philadelphia, is the length too long, too short, or just right? Look for a survey in your email's inbox later this summer!

In the meantime, if you crave reading informative articles, check out our Blog on the Penn's Village website. Twice a month, we post travel stories, health tips and more, by guest writers. Look for program announcements sent by email during the summer months.

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Kristin Davidson

Dick Levinson

Harriette Mishkin

Marianne Waller



Cashtration (n.), The act of buying a house, which renders the subject financially impotent for an indefinite period.

Decafalon (n.), The grueling event of getting through the day consuming only things that are good for you.



Thank You and Farewell to our Newsletter Editor...Kapri Koflanovich



Kapri Koflanovich, a senior at Arcadia University majoring in Marketing and Creative Writing, joined Penn's Village last September as an intern, assisting us in launching our new and improved newsletter. Starting with the October 2018 issue, Kapri served for 10 months as editor and a member of the Editorial Board. Between studies, finals, theses and two part-time jobs, Kapri studiously read and edited the articles each month, even during winter and spring breaks in her home town in the Poconos. She graduates in December and we know she will be very successful in her chosen career. Thank you, Kapri. We are thrilled you were part of the Penn's Village family.

Look for Kapri and her mother at our Garden Party, and be sure to say thank you and good luck.

Rose, We Will Miss You!

Rose Fortese has handled so much more than her title of Administrative Coordinator implies during her two years as a pivotal force with Penn's Village. We are happy that she's expecting her third child this summer, but we will hate to be without her many talents.

As well as handling administrative matters, Rose has taken on many new challenges for the organization. These include design and layout for the newsletter, the technical aspects of launching the new logo, planning the annual garden party and other events, graphic design, and much, much more. She does all this with grace and calm competence. Rose, we will miss you a lot.



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