
VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION OF DOYLESTOWN



NOVEMBER 2014

With the calendar telling us it's November we are keenly reminded that the holiday season is just around the corner. Beautiful decorations, delicious delicacies and family traditions re-emerge and brighten our spirits as we prepare for this special time of year.

Our November 4th Petite Luncheon's patriotic theme was one that honored our country's veterans. We welcomed Dan Frayley, Director of Veterans Affairs for Bucks County, who spoke to us about the Bucks County Veterans Van & Veterans Services program. Thank you to Jan Cope for coordinating this program, to luncheon Co-Chairs Mary Bachman and Sue Whitlock for overseeing the details of the day and to the Veteran's Committee members for providing the patriotic ambiance of the day.

There were rave reports of a wonderful time had by all at the Conservation Game & Card Party held on October 17th. Thank you to Ann Rainey, Pamela Good, and Louise Woodruff for all their work that made this a fun and successful day. Proceeds from the day go toward maintenance of the President's Garden at the hospital as well as cover the cost of plantings for the James-Lorah Memorial Home's urns and flower beds.

Miss Sarah James, would have enjoyed all the festivities planned for her 150th birthday celebration at the James-Lorah Memorial Home's Open House on October 25th. Many interested visitors took advantage of docent led tours.

Please remember the "Circle of Life" event on Friday, November 14th at the Doylestown Country Club. Proceeds from this event benefit the Doylestown Hospital Hospice program. Excitement is building as the Designer House Committee had two "walk-through" days at our 2015 Designer House property. Designers and landscapers looked over the house and property to determine which areas they would like to transform.

On November 6th we were pleased to host the Central Bucks Chamber of Commerce's Women in Business monthly meeting here at the JLMH. Eighty plus women as well as one gentlemen attended this lively and informative meeting. Thank you to Jeanne Sandusky and Helen Hammes for offering docent led tours to the group after the meeting.

In the spirit of the holidays, please remember our two upcoming bake sales. The Home Life Committee's bake sale is November 21st. Drop off starts at 8:30AM at the Pine Run Health Center. Proceeds from this sale go toward the purchase of gifts for the residents who might not otherwise receive one. The second bake sale is on December 2nd. Drop your home baked items off at the curbside of the JLMH on December 1st from 9:00AM to 11:00AM. These proceeds help cover the many miscellaneous VIA operating expenses. Thank you in advance for your generous participation.

Linda McShinney
President

**December 2, 2014 - 12:00PM
James Lorah Memorial Auditorium**

"Holidays on Broadway"

Presenter Freyda Thomas
Program Coordinator Jean Leister
Meditation Debbie Kniese
Hospitality Captains Shirl McGonigle/Olga Wolf

Program Preview

Cory H. Schroeder

December is always one of our favorite meetings. Everyone is getting into the holiday spirit, and our program will start the festivities off right!

Stage and screen star Freyda Thomas will engage us with a sampling of Broadway melodies and holiday tunes. Starting as a concert pianist, Freyda began her singing career at the age of 12 with her father Eddie Shaw, a popular bandleader from the 1950s to the '80's. Since then, she has appeared on Broadway in musicals such as Oklahoma, My Fair Lady, Shenandoah, The Sound of Music and more, and in television shows such as Murphy Brown, Murder She Wrote, and Newhart.

She continues to perform, as well as adapt classical plays for the modern stage and write original scripts. More information is available about Freyda at www.frydathomas.com.

SHUTTLE

Shuttle service from the parking garage, Broad Street entrance, Level 2 to the JLMA will be available from 11:30 to 12:00 on December 2nd. After the membership meeting, the driver will make **ONE** trip from the JLMA to the parking garage.



Veterans Committee

Jan Cope

Ladies, we're ready to accept your paperback book donations for service members and veterans! Look for the black collection bin in the JLMH coat room. Please drop off **standard** paperback sizes (no hardbacks and no odd size books), and choose standard subjects (mystery, action, classics, science fiction, etc.). Our committee will periodically collect and sort the donations, make up boxes of 18-22 books, and choose an appropriate military addressee from one of our address listing sites. Thank you to those who have already donated. Please let us know if you have questions or would like information so that you may send books directly.

Reminder: The Committee is open to new members. Our next meeting is Dec. 4th, at 1:00 PM, in the Hospital's Conference Room G. Thank you for your support.

1895 Society

Joan Parlee

We are now in the third year of our Then, Now and Forever Campaign. The second year contributors have been added to the plaque in the James Lorah Auditorium. Be sure to look for your name.

May I encourage all donors to pay your third year pledges and others to consider a donation to this essential campaign. The funds go into the Unrestricted Endowment for the support of the VIA into the future. All funds are being invested for that purpose.

Thank you to all who have responded to the TN&F campaign. We look forward to having all members contribute.

Newsletter Staff:

Marie Johnston, Editor	Joy Anderson
Phyllis Morris	Karen Simon
Barb Thompson	Betty Trossett

Membership Committee

Lee Scheeler

The Committee would like to welcome seven new members to our organization:

Nadine Baxter	Margaret Kantes
Stephanie Bosche	Joanne Mac Donald
Arleen Frank	Allison McGarvey
Margo Gall	

Let's Talk!

Cory H. Schroeder

New and newer members! Join me each month at 11:30AM before the monthly membership meeting in the JLMH dining room to chat and get to know the VIA better. All are welcome.

Marketing Committee

Nancy Gimbol

If you or your committee are planning an event, contact me at ngimbol@eastburngray.com. The Marketing Committee can help you to promote the event.

Social Committee

Mary Bachman

Attention all Gourmet People:

There will be a short planning and brain-storming meeting of all who are interested in gourmet events on Tuesday, December 2nd. We will meet in the parlor of the JLMH from 11:00AM until about 11:45AM (before the regular VIA membership meeting). This meeting is open to all VIA members. Contact: Mary Bachman- 215.343.00547 or Cathy Bart -215.646.5176 if you have any ideas, but cannot attend the meeting.



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James-Lorah Memorial Home

Phyllis Morris

The JLMH looks especially beautiful this fall after a coat of fresh paint and the addition of pumpkins and fall flowers. However, work on the house continues and you may see scaffolding again outside our home.

Our fall house tour was wonderful. The house was opened to many guest who enjoyed refreshments of cider and cookies. A highlight to their visit was celebrating Sarah's 150th birthday, with a taste of cake made from Sarah's recipe collection. The dining room was also decorated for her birthday and Jean Rutherford, our own Sarah James, was present. All reviews were very positive and several visitors even went home with a copy of our book "A Treasured Legacy". It was a beautiful autumn day!

A special thank you to those VIA members who volunteered to be docents, decorators and bakers. Several new VIA members volunteered and we thank you for your participation.

The Committee would like to wish you a very Happy Thanksgiving!

Community Recognition

Louise Woodruff

As you go through the holidays be thinking of someone or some organization that exemplifies the VIA's mission and purpose.

Summit your suggestions to me no later than March 30th. The awards are presented at the 2015 June Luncheon. Thank you!

VIA Book Club

Book selection - "THE GOLDFINCH"

by Donna Tartt

When: Monday, November 24th - 11:30AM

Where: Forest Ridge Clubhouse

Bristol Road, Warrington

Questions: Marilyn Mele - 215.343.6063

2015 Bucks County Designer House & Gardens

Jean Upton

The selection of Villa d'Braccia as the 2015 Designer House has been met with great enthusiasm and energy. Our Designer Walk Thru events on October 22nd & October 29th were attended by dozens of former and new designers/landscapers who came to tour the property. Designer boards are due to be returned on November 17th and reviewed on November 20th to select this year's cast of talented designers.

Many thanks to the Designer and Landscaper Committees with their Chairs, Audrey Tucker and Jackie Newman, along with assistance from Barbara Ann Price and her marketing team, Joy Levy and Jan Cope and the many VIA members who volunteered to hostess for making the Walk Thru event a success.

Our Corporate Sponsor Committee, under the leadership of Cory Schroeder and Joan Parlee, has kicked off their 2015 campaign and is already in receipt of \$10K from longtime supporter Johnson & Johnson. In addition, we hope to be announcing our 2015 Honorary Chair shortly.

The Gala will be returning to Friday once again so mark your calendars for Friday, April 24th. The Empty House Party will be held on Sunday, March 1st. In addition, this year's event will include our popular Fashion Show and see the repeat of last year's favorites - the Mother's Day Brunch on May 10th and the Blue Jean Bash on May 30th. Mark your calendars for these fun ways to support the VIA's mission and our pledge to the VIA Maternity Center at Doylestown Hospital.

We are still in need of a few members to volunteer to coordinate our Café and to help with our hostess committee. If you would like to help, please contact Jean Upton at 610.368.3232. Our next Designer House meeting will be at the JLMA. Tuesday, November 11th with pre-meeting coffee beginning at 9:30AM and a business meeting starting at 10:00AM. All Designer Committee members are encouraged to attend and additional members are always welcome.

Fundraising Committee

Sharon Orr

Thank you for helping our committee. We are working hard to find additional fundraising sources as well as provide easier ways for the organization to raise these funds.

Attached you will find instructions to guide you through your purchases at Amazon Smile. Your purchases will cost you nothing additional and will be shipped directly to your home. The VIA then receives a percentage of your purchases directly. Please ask your family and friends to participate as well. This is a great way for us to make extra money.

We are taking orders for Poinsettias again this year. Place your orders for these truly beautiful plants for the holidays. The poinsettias will be available for pick up at the old Emergency Room door at the hospital on December 4th and 5th from 10:00AM to 3:00PM. Please use the attached form to place your orders no later than November 26th.

Do you have an ugly Christmas sweater or a holiday mug or plate you would like to donate? The Vera Fran consignment shop, just south of Edison Furlong Rd. on 611, is giving us 50% of the sales when we bring in these holiday items. Vera Fran is working hard to help us raise funds for the hospital and VIA projects.

A big thank you goes out to all who volunteered to bake items for this December meeting. You can drop off your baked goods at the curb of the JLMH on December 1st between 9:00AM and 11:00AM. This is a great way to get your holiday baking done and help us achieve our goals.

A golf outing is being planned for September 16, 2015. Start getting your golf groups together. This is going to be a great event and we want you to be there. We are looking for individuals, companies or groups who would be willing to sponsor different aspects of the event. If you have any questions or information, please contact Marie Johnston @ 215.802.8911.

The Pediatric Unit opened as planned on October 20th and we had a patient that very day. This is a secure unit with six private rooms and we can care for children from infant to age 17. Parents are encouraged to stay overnight with the child and if advanced care is needed we are affiliated with near-by children's hospitals. So far it has been reasonably busy and well received. It is a real coup to finally be able to offer this to our community once again and we can keep our children home where they belong. A big thank you to all who clamored for this service, you were heard.

Ebola is in every one's thoughts these days, although it has become obvious that catching the disease is not all that easy unless you have direct contact with an infected person. Doylestown Hospital has been on top of the potential for a pandemic for years and we run drills on that frequently. I am happy to say that we are already prepared to meet any and all emergencies that come to us. Since the Dallas scare our people have been drilling and preparing just in case and following the CDC guidelines.

Mergers continue to be in the news and the rating agencies seem ready to give hospitals that merge an upgrade in their ratings. Most recent is Croser-Keystone Health System which has indicated an interest in merging and Jefferson/Abington which have announced a merger plan. While that agreement has not been finalized, they expect that will happen sometime in 2015.

Medication reconciliation remains a problem for patients coming to the Emergency room. There is a plan to have every patient seen by a Pharmacist before issuing medication orders and to review retrospective charts. I recommend that we all carry a current list of our medications to help the doctors make accurate decisions.

The Finance Committee reported that the first quarter results were 102% above budget and was an improvement over this time last year. However, net patient revenue was 1.3% unfavorable to budget. Pine Run showed operating results of \$196K. The Market down turn is as usual a challenge but it did seesaw back up. No figuring what the Market will do on any given day. All Bond Covenants are meeting goal.

The Foundation and Hospital Boards were then invited to attend a mini retreat given by John R.Combes, MD. Doctor Combes is a Senior Vice President of the American Hospital Association. He talked to us about how Trustees can help to transform Healthcare and about Transformational trends in Healthcare. While we found his lecture informative, we were pleased to see that much of what he presented we are aware of, which is a testament to our Boards keeping up with trends and with our Staff keeping us informed.

Carolyn Della-Rodolfa
Vice President, Health Services

November

18	JLMH Committee	JLMH	10:00 AM
19	Marketing Meeting	Conf Room A	11:30 AM
25	VIA Board Meeting	Conf Room K	8:30 AM

December

2	Membership Meeting	JLMA	12:00 PM
9	Designer House Meeting	JLMA	10:00 AM
10	Welfare Meeting	Conf Room A	9:00 AM
11	Fundraising	Conf Room A	9:30 AM
16	JLMH Committee	JLMH	10:00 AM
17	Marketing Meeting	Conf Room A	11:30 AM

Please refer to our website for additional events!
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