

March 2016 Newsletter

How wonderful that March came in like a lamb this year. With the arrival of bright sunshine and warmer temperatures we are again reminded that spring is almost here.

On Sunday, February 28 the Designer House Committee's Empty House Party experienced their first ever sold out event. Hundreds of visitors enthusiastically descended upon this year's show house, Foxwood Manor, to explore her many rooms, nooks, crannies and garden areas. Thank you to everyone on the Committee and special thanks to Debbie Thorne and her hard working committee for pulling together such a memorable affair.

Our March 1 Membership meeting featured a repeat performance by Gerry Timlin and his "Irish Songs and Stories" performance. Special thanks to Mary Bachman for coordinating the program. We always find our spirits lifted after our time with Gerry.

Women's History Month will again be celebrated at our own James-Lorah Auditorium on March 10th. This is the 35th year that this award will be given to a local woman who has had a positive impact in our community. This year's recipient is the Honorable Cynthia M. Rufe. The VIA is also especially pleased that the committee will honor our own Miss Sarah James with a special commemorative certificate and plaque along with a book on the history of women in Bucks County for our JLMH library. I am looking forward to seeing many of you there, all are invited.

Keep your eyes on the Designer House calendar. Chairman Joy Levy's enclosed article will update you on the latest details and needs for this year's 41st Designer House. We appreciate your help with our largest fund raiser of the year.

Look for your Preview Gala invitation in the mail and invite family, friends and guests to this spectacular evening. Thousands of Designer House brochures have also been sent out announcing all the viewing days for this year's show house.

Save the Date! On June 1' 2016 at Delaware Valley University the much anticipated unveiling of the documentary "Then, Now and Forever", the story of the Village Improvement Association of Doylestown is scheduled to debut. Don't miss this very special evening. Details to follow.

Lastly, has everyone noticed the new signage at the base of the Doylestown Hospital sign at the Rt. 202 entrance? Thanks to a very persuasive Cory Schroeder the hospital agreed to our request to add language to the base of the sign crediting the founding of the hospital to the VIA. A few weeks ago we were very pleased to see, "founded 1923 by the Village Improvement Association" had been newly added to the space just underneath the Doylestown Hospital sign. I smile each time I drive past.

I look forward to seeing everyone at one of our many spring events.

Linda McShinney
President

**April 5, 2016
12 noon**

**James-Lorah Memorial Home Auditorium
United Way**

Presenter: Tim Philpot, MS, Impact Director Health
Program Coordinator: Cory Schroeder

Program Preview

Cory H. Schroeder

Tim will update us on changes within the UW as they update their funding process. These changes are in response to the evolving community trends in both need and giving, certainly something our VIA Strategic Planning Task Group is reviewing.

United Way of Bucks County is examining the best way(s) to:

Bring more resources to bear on homelessness and housing.

Develop greater systems coordination and infrastructure to address hunger and food insecurity.

Strengthen and standardize information and referral county-wide.

Deepen and consolidate our commitment to early care and education.

Explore and creation of an emergency assistance fund for basic unmet needs.

Reduce barriers and increase access to public benefits for older residents.

Strategic Planning Task Group Update

Cory H. Schroeder

Many Thanks to those who listened and questioned the SPTG's presentation of the idea to adopt a Governance Committee, one of typical Best Practices in non-profits today. A Governance Committee combines the talents and duties of the Nominating and Bylaws Committees, working year-round to do a variety of things besides what their original names imply. Our Board-approved "interim" Governance Committee members will begin to investigate their jobs, which will also include establishing a strategic effort to identify, cultivate and fill positions within the VIA structure. Further details as to the responsibilities of the Governance Committee

will be forth coming, as the interim group determines. Please watch for them.

HANDBOOK UPDATES/CORRECTIONS

If you find missing or incorrect information, please call Admin. Asst. Denise Sanders at 215-345-2347 or email dsanders@dh.org. Thank you.

Membership Committee

Lee Scheeler

The membership Committee would like to welcome Mary Andress to the VIA. Also, we want all members to be aware that the Marketing and Membership Committees have created a folder for potential new members. If you know of anyone who may be interested in joining the VIA, they may access this material on our website or you may contact Denise Sanders for a copy. It is all our responsibility to increase the membership of the VIA.

Social Committee News

MaryBachman


PRESENTING... ROMEO & JULIET! It's true! The Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival is presenting it for us on Wednesday, June 22, 2016. However, we know it as the musical, **West Side Story!** Seats are available for this classic love story. Orchestra seating is available @ \$41.00. **Contact Dianna Hazzard to join the group: 215-348-2547**

MANGA! MANGA! On Tuesday, March 27, 2016, we'll "Manga Manga" at Carlow Cookery! Become a true Italian food expert! **Contact Marilyn Jones: 215-822-1109**

DOYLESTOWN APPRECIATION 101: April 20, 2016: Explore and Enjoy the **Michener Art Museum** then: Enjoy **lunch at Slate Bleu**. All costs: "on your own." Sign up with **Mary Bachman: 215-343-0547**

CB Cares

Kimberly Cambra

	<p>Lights, Cameras, Action! Wednesday, June 1st Delaware Valley University's Life Sciences Building Auditorium 7pm Movie Screening followed by Dessert Reception</p> <p>Tickets: \$18.95</p>
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James - Lorah Memorial Home

Phyllis Morris

April brings showers, spring flowers and the JLMH **Evening at the Theatre** fundraising event at the Town and Country Players theatre. Have you have saved the date, April 6th and sent in your reservation? Your reservation secures a seat for the delightful musical "**Company.**" Plan to attend with family and friends and enjoy tasty refreshments, wine, 50-50 raffle and gift basket raffles. We are planning on a full house and there is limited seating. Find details in our flyer included in this newsletter.

The Women's History Month Award event will take place in the JLMH Auditorium on March 10th at 6pm. Sarah James will be honored with a certificate and plaque presented to our own Jean Rutherford. This year's honoree is Judge Cynthia Rufe. Invitations have been sent and we are looking forward to having VIA members represented at this event.

A beautiful bench created from beams rescued from the restoration of the back porch will be placed outside our auditorium. Thank you Conservation Committee for funding this project.

Think Spring! See you at the theatre in April!

Fundraising

Sharon Orr

Be one of the first to buy a ticket for the 2016 VIA 50/50 drawing. Proceeds from this drawing will support the VIA and its missions. You will have a chance to win as much as \$2,000 and only 400 tickets will be sold. Fill out the enclosed form and send it along with your check to: Village Improvement Association, 595 W. State St., Doylestown, PA 18901. All requests must be postmarked by April 28, 2016.

Treasure's Report

Ruth Carlson

Month ending January 31, 2016

Current assets: \$111,456.

Long term assets: \$259,804.

Total assets: \$371,261.

Total income for the year: \$57,647.

Total expenses year to date: \$30,883.

Total change in assets: \$26,764.

BUCKS COUNTY
**Designer House
& Gardens**



This is the VIA's **largest** fundraiser and proceeds from this single event fuel the work the VIA accomplishes each year. Your support is **essential** to the **VIA's success** and each VIA member is responsible to fulfill two shifts at the Designer House. Positions are available as captains, guides, ticket desk sales, café, designer sales, 50/50 raffle sales and waterers. Here's **our task** - the bottom line numbers:

- 11 – Job types to be filled
- 29 – Days the house is open for tours
- 653 – Shifts throughout the month
- 1,511 – Spots to fill
- 495 – Spots already filled
- 224 – Volunteers already registered

100% Positive ...

That we will fill the remaining 1,019 shifts with your help and our community volunteers!

**To sign up please visit:
BucksCountyDesignerHouse.org/viashifts**

Designer Treasures

This year Designer Sales will feature an attractive selection of clear and etched glassware. Please contact Mary Lou Gehring about bowls, candlesticks, decanters, cake plates, beverage glasses, vases, etc. that you, your relatives, or your neighbors would be interested in donating.

House Tours

May 1 – May 29

View the transformation by 30 professional designers and landscapers. Tour the house, shop the boutiques & designer décor, and indulge at the café. Tickets \$25 Advance and Seniors (62+); Volunteer Tickets \$15, Committee members - Complimentary. Groups Rate - \$20 for groups of 15 or more; Reduced Rate \$25 for pre-approved companies or organizations IDs will be required. Contact Mary Bachman about groups who may be interested.



April 29 | VIP 6-7 pm and Main Event 7-10 pm

Tickets now available!

Once again, catered by Jamie Hollander Gourmet Foods: Begin your evening enjoying an abundant raw bar, charcuterie and cheese table and sumptuous passed hors d'oeuvres. Main course selections include a delectable chef-assisted sauté station featuring creamy risotto with short ribs and polenta with mushroom cacciatore. And you won't want to miss a delicious spicy shredded chicken or pork served over grit cakes finished with rhubarb cucumber salsa. Save room for delightful butlered desserts such as blueberry shortcake shooters, raspberry white chocolate mousse mini martinis, toasted almond bites in chocolate ups and so much more. Music provided by D'Amico Entertainment.

Boutiques

We are pleased to add to our Peace Valley Lavender to our five other boutiques.

Empty House Party

The Empty House Party set some new records in 2016: 356 tickets were sold for the event including 150 Before&After Tickets offered for the first time. In total about 500 people were present when designers, landscapers, sponsors, honorary chair, homeowners and other volunteers were added. Ticket sales for the event were closed two weeks in advance to keep the event safe and enjoyable.

Food was provided by nine vendors including Bar Louie, Carmel Kitchen, Empanada Mama, Mission Foods, Oh! Sweet Caroline's, Philly Pretzel Factory, Plumsteadville Inn, Sodexo Culinary and The Lucky Cupcake Company. Peace Valley Winery and Hewn Spirits provided alcoholic beverages. Guests enjoyed the beautiful weather and listened to the jazz trio from CB West High School on the pool house porch. More than 75 baskets were available in the silent auction. Guests also took a chance on the Mystery Wine Cork raffle and Basket of Cheer.

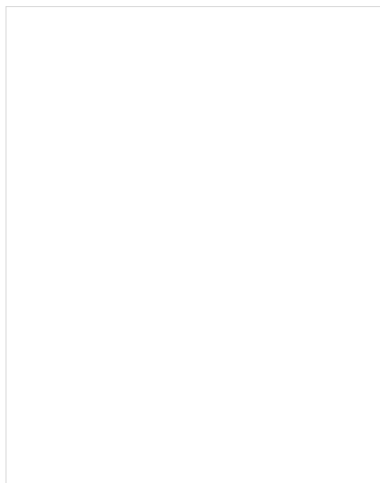
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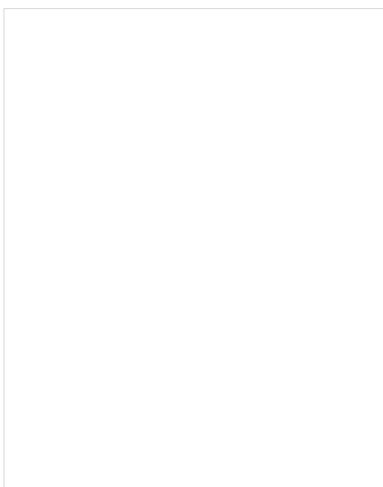
Joyce Hanson & Jan Cope

Ladies, start saving your committee pictures and stories. Our opening program for October 2016 is going to be a VIA Expo! This is our chance to show our members (and possibly others) what our committees are and what they do. We'll have easels and some tables up for you to use, so start thinking of a display board or other presentation that your committee can create to **SHOW** us the committee's mission, structure, and achievements. Starting idea: the Dollar Stores have trifold display boards and poster boards. Be inventive, have fun, take pictures, and help us understand your committee.

Shuttle Bus

Shuttle service from the parking garage to the JLMH will be available from 11:30 – 12 noon. **Meet at the Broad Street Level 2.** The driver will make ONE trip from the JLMH to the garage after the meeting.





VIA HEALTH SYSTEM REPORT MARCH, 2016

Recently, in the Inquirer newspaper, it was announced that Doylestown Hospital had implanted its first Watchman device into a patient. This device is another addition to our “tool box” for stroke patients. Patients with AFib have poor circulation and are at risk for clots. Usually blood thinners are used to prevent clots but some patients are what are known as bleeders. The Watchman solves that problem by blocking the area where the blood would pool and form a clot. Not all potential stroke patients are candidates for this therapy but this device can be a lifesaver for those that are.

The IT department is currently looking into a new Electronic Medical Record or EMR to replace our current Next Gen which is 15 years old and very inefficient as far as coordinating patient care and communication with other doctors. The EMR is often the reason for a physician retiring or for choosing which organization they will join. Our IT Vice President, Rick Lang, is in the process of choosing the right vendor to take us into the future.

CMS recently reported on timely and effective care in the ED. Doylestown Hospital’s time in the ED was higher than state and national averages. The reason for this is the difference in our model. At our hospital, a doctor (not a Nurse Practitioner) will assess, order radiology testing, diagnose, and write orders before the patient is sent to the proper floor. In our organization, 80% of patients have a full diagnosis and plan within 4 hours of admission as opposed to the national average of 35%. ED patient satisfaction scores are in the 99th percentile and we have won several national awards for patient satisfaction.

As you know, treatment of people with mental health issues has become a real concern nationwide. Behavioral health beds have decreased dramatically throughout the region and patients may spend days in the hospital until they are placed in a facility that can deliver the care they need. These patients are usually seen in the ED but if there are medical problems they will be sent to an inpatient floor. Patients have become aggressive and assaultive, necessitating a call for help to security to protect the patient and staff until they can be transferred to a more therapeutic facility.

Our financials are still showing as unfavorable to budget and significantly less than last year. There has been some improvement over the past few months and Jim spoke to the fact that last year had an unusually good first 6 months. This past August was an unusually difficult month, but we are now starting to see improvement.

Perhaps you have heard that after 16 years at the helm of our Heart Institute, John Mitchell has decided to take a position with Main Line Health. He will be overseeing the Heart Program throughout all of Main Line Health’s hospitals. John played a major part in shaping our program into what it is today. He will be missed by all of us.

This has given us a chance to evaluate our heart program and to decide how to grow this service and position it in the market. Eleanor Wilson proposed some ideas to Jim regarding how to do this. She will consequently step in as the new leader of the Heart Institute. She will continue to be a Senior Executive of Doylestown Health. Of course, that means we will be looking for someone to fill the position of COO. Following in Eleanor’s shoes will not be an easy task.

Some things to look for:

1. We have a new initiative with Babies “R” Us in Montgomeryville, helping new parents with baby care.
2. Doylestown Health Ads for Heart and Orthopedic
3. Information on Pine Run’s 40th anniversary celebration this summer

Carolyn Della-Rodolfa
Vice President, Health Services

VIA OF DOYLESTOWN
595 W. State Street
Doylestown PA 18901

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March 2016

15	JLMH Committee	JLMH	10:00 am
16	Marketing Committee	Conf. Room H	11:30 am
23	Strategic Planning	VIA Office	9:00 am
24	Hospital Board	Conf. Room K	8:00 am
29	VIA Board Meeting	Conf. Room K	8:30 am
29	Bylaw Meeting	Conf. Room K	10:30 am

April 2016

4	VIA Finance Committee	Conf. Rm G	8:30 am
5	Membership Meeting	JLMH	12 noon
6	Strategic Planning	VIA Office	9:00 am
12	Designer House Meeting	JLMH	9:30 am
13	Welfare Committee	Conf. Room A	9:00 am
19	JLMH Committee	JLMH	10:00 am
20	Strategic Planning	VIA Office	9:00 am
21	Hospital Board	Conf. Room K	8:00 am
26	VIA Board Meeting	Conf. Room K	8:30 am
26	Bylaw Meeting	Conf. Room K	10:30 am