



Village Improvement Association of Doylestown

October 2018 VIA Newsletter

In this Issue

From The VIA President	1
VIA Officers	2
VIA Treasurer's Report	2
Letters to the VIA	2
Of Special Note	3
Doylestown Health System Report	4
Events and Activities	5
Committee Updates	7
125th Anniversary	7
Designer House	7
Fundraising	8
Home Life	9
Information and Technology	10
James-Lorah Memorial Home	10
Marketing	11
Membership	12
Welcome New Members	12
Program Committee	12
Strategic Planning	12
Veterans	13
Welfare	13
VIA Event Calendar	15

From The VIA President

Joyce A. Hanson

September brought a myriad of events and meetings. The VIA was scheduled to have a presence at the Annual Doylestown Arts Festival on Sunday, September 9, however, Mother Nature had a different idea. In spite of the weather, which resulted in the Doylestown Arts Festival being canceled, the bike races went on as scheduled. I was honored to kick-off the Doylestown Health Pro-Women's Bike Race on behalf of the VIA and the hospital. This provided me the opportunity to speak about the VIA and our relationship with the hospital to about a thousand spectators.

Early in September, the Strategic Planning Committee had the privilege of being the first group to meet in the private dining room in the new Hub at Pine Run Retirement Community. After the VIA Board meeting on September 25, the Board and the Membership Committee hosted a New Members Welcome at 11 am in the James-Lorah Auditorium.

On Thursday, September 20, I was proud to participate in the "topping off" ceremony at Doylestown Hospital. This event celebrated a milestone in the construction of the new Center for Heart and Vascular Care as the final beam was put into place. Beforehand, there was an opportunity to sign the beam. Joan Parlee, Chairman of the Boards of Doylestown Hospital and Doylestown Health Foundation, signed the beam with the names of the VIA's founding officers.



October will be equally as busy. Our program for the Oct. 2 Member Meeting was scheduled to be *Martha Dana Mercer: In Her Own Words*. Unfortunately, the presenter was unable

to attend and, instead, we heard an interesting and informative presentation about George Washington. At this meeting, Kathy Krick presented checks from the proceeds of the 2018 Designer House to Doylestown Hospital and various VIA committees.

Continued on page 3.

VIA Officers		VIA Treasurer's Report		
		<i>Ruth Carlson</i>		
		For month ending	Jul 31, '18	Jun 30, '18
VIA President	Joyce A. Hanson	Current Assets	\$101,023	\$104,823
1 st Vice President	Barbara Ann Price	Long Term Assets	\$338,191	\$338,191
2 nd Vice President	Helen Hammes	Total Assets	\$439,214	\$443,014
Recording Secretary	Connie Ocelus			
Corresponding Secretary	Joy Levy			
Treasurer	Ruth Carlson	Income YTD	\$13,088	\$80,651
Assistant Treasurer	Beverly Harvey	Expenses YTD	\$6,465	\$43,234
VIA of Doylestown		Change In Net Assets	\$6,623	\$37,416
595 West State Street, Doylestown, PA 18901				
215-345-2347 VIA-Doylestown.org				

Letters to the VIA

James-Lorah Memorial Home
<p>My name is Drew Cox and I am a senior at CB West High School. Last week I was awarded the George Lorah English Award at my school's "Award Night". I would like to thank you for awarding me this prestigious recognition and incredibly generous donation. The money you awarded me with will go towards my pursuit of a higher education at the University of Michigan. English writing has always been a passion of mine, so thank you once again for this recognition.</p> <p>Drew Cox</p> 
VIA Veteran Support
<p>On behalf of Jim Brexler, President and CEO of Doylestown Health and the Doylestown Health Foundation Board of Directors, thank you for the VIA contribution of \$100 in memory and in honor of all veterans living at Pine Run Community and in support of the Second Century Fund. Your gift is an investment in our community and will make a meaningful difference in the lives of countless patients and families for generations to come.</p> <p>Doylestown Health is set to begin a bold new chapter as we approach our centennial anniversary in 2023. ONE VISION: the campaign for</p>

Doylestown Health will support our ambitious plans as we imagine our future and prepare for our second century. Your support will elevate our patient experience to new heights and unlock our full potential to deliver exceptional care. Thank you for your generosity!

To learn more about One Vision and the plans transforming Doylestown Hospital and Pine Run Community campuses, please visit DoylestownHealthFoundation.org.

Once again, thank you for your commitment to Doylestown Health, our patients and our future.

Laura K. Wortman
Vice-President and Chief Development Officer
Doylestown Health



Welfare Committee

Bucks County Housing Group Board of Directors, staff and client families thank you for your generous donation of \$600 in Target Gift Cards donated for the Bucks County Housing Group's Community Food Pantry at Doylestown. We appreciate your support. Bucks County Housing Group (BCHG) operates three community food pantries. Those who patronize the Doylestown Pantry are typically low-income working people who simply cannot make ends meet. Many are underemployed or, as in the case of our local seniors, are on a fixed income. 38% of our clients are children; 15% are senior citizens. Currently we are serving in excess of 120 families

every week. At this time of year, at the end of summer, community donations tend to drop off and we have already been able to purchase an abundance of healthy food to supplement our stocks with your donation. This donation has helped many families and will let them know that others care about their struggles.

Your recognition of the problem of food-insecurity and choosing BCHG for your donation is greatly appreciated. BCHG has been serving homeless and impoverished residents since 1979. Our Doylestown patrons will benefit from your generosity. Thank you for your support in helping us to accomplish our work with our less fortunate neighbors.

Madelaine Burgess
Food Pantry Coordinator
Bucks County Housing Group

Of Special Note

VIA Member Directory

The directory was mailed in early September to all current VIA members. Inadvertently, several member names were omitted from the Bylaws Subcommittee. The full committee list follows.

Bylaws Subcommittee

Chair – Beverly M. Harvey
Secretary – Carolyn Kozakowski
 Marianne Chabot
 Georgia Ford
 Helen Hammes
 Joyce A. Hanson
 Linda McIlhinney
 Lillian O'Connor
 Joan Parlee
 Barbara Ann Price
 Jeanne Sandusky
 Pat Yaroschuk

SEPTA Key and FREE Rail Fares

Per State Representative Marguerite Quinn, SEPTA has phased out the PA Senior Citizen Transit ID Card as of Friday, Aug. 31.

Seniors 65+ are encouraged to sign up for the new SEPTA Key Senior Photo ID Card that will allow free rides on transit and discounted Regional Rail fares (\$1 for travel in Pennsylvania).

For more information about obtaining and using the card please read the article on her website: www.repquinn.net/NewsItem.aspx?NewsID=271369.

From the VIA President – Continued from Pg.1.

On Tuesday, October 16, we will once again host *An Evening with the VIA* at the James-Lorah Auditorium from 6 to 8 pm. Please join us to hear a recap of the VIA's accomplishments from the past year and learn about our future plans. I encourage VIA members who cannot join our mid-day meetings to attend and for all members to invite your friends and colleagues, especially those who are interested in learning more about the VIA but are unable to attend our afternoon meetings.

On Thursday, October 18, we have an all-day fundraiser at Uno Pizzeria & Grill. Then on Friday, October 19, the Conservation Committee is hosting the annual VIA Card and Game Party. Doylestown Health's Cardiac Cook-Off will be held on Thursday, October 25 at the Event Center by Cornerstone in New Hope. Be sure to check the VIA calendar on the Members section of the website for the time and location of our many activities.

The Home Life Committee is holding their annual Bake Sale on Nov. 15 at the Pine Run Health Center. Please be generous as this is their only fundraiser to enable them to purchase Christmas gifts for all of the residents of the Pine Run Health Center. Baked goods or monetary gifts would be so appreciated. Drop off is at 8 am in the VIA Office on the day of the sale, November 15, or after 9 am at the Pine Run Health Center.



Doylestown Health System Report

Joan Parlee, Vice President Health Services

Welcome to fall and, hopefully, a less damp and beautiful array of days!

The September 20, 2018, Hospital Board meeting began with a complete report of the various components of the Doylestown Health Physicians business division by Dr. Scott Levy and Mr. Adam Edelson. The changing dynamics of switching from volume to value have resulted in paying physicians in traditional and contracted services. There are many components that contribute to the bottom line. Also, there are two main goals to improve the financial performance of the DH Physicians business line. First is to grow the service line and market share; the second is to find efficiencies and economies because infrastructure expenses are large.

Patient Safety reported on their August 1st meeting which examined three laboratory improvement initiatives. Decreases in the blood culture contamination rates were significant as were decreases in false positive blood culture rates. The sub-optimal volume rates remained the same. Infection prevention remains a priority. The CAUTI Task Force (urinary tract infections associated with catheter use) is looking at each urinary catheter case and discontinuing the catheter use whenever possible. The Operating Room is checking compliance with the Colon Surgery Infection Prevention Bundle. Also, there have been changes in the OR procedures implemented for total joint patients. The Joint Commission Survey indicated that policies and procedures need to be standardized across DH.

At the Patient Safety Committee meeting on September 3rd, the quarterly report of the Doylestown Hospital Surgery Center was given. No outliers occurred and improvement activity

has been initiated to monitor the transport of soiled instruments. In quarter 3, four patients received expired doses of ketamine, an anesthesia used primarily to induce sleep before and during surgery. This did not result in patient harm.

The Finance Committee report included the results of the Fiscal Year 2018 Audit Report by Grant Thornton. There were no audit adjustments and no control deficiencies. The auditors were very complimentary of the Doylestown Hospital Finance team. The Hospital's Financial and Statistical results for the first two months of this fiscal year (July and August) show an improvement over last year in Operating Gains and Operating Losses. Net patient revenue shows an increase of 1% over prior year. Surgical volume is up 11%. Inpatient discharges are 3.1% below last year and Observation cases are 8% above the prior year. Even though observation cases receive the same level of care as admitted cases, the reimbursement is considerably less. Doylestown Health Physicians have an operating loss but are 2.3% better than budget. Their Revenue is 57% higher than last year and Expenses are 35% higher. Funded Depreciation and Foundation investments total \$100.6M in market value, an increase of \$2M since 6/30/18. The market value of pension fund assets increases \$1M since 6/30/18. A \$6M withdrawal from investments was made in August 2018 to meet cash requirements. All Bond covenants were met. The Action Plan and Opportunity Register Plan B have the intent to present a plan that is actionable and realistic.

The Work Groups continue to work toward their goals.

The Medical Executive Credentialing Committee asked of the Board to approve candidates from both the August and September meetings. A total of 8 MDs and 2 Advanced Practice Providers were approved unanimously.

Many of us attended the September 20th "Topping Off" ceremony, when the final beam (which I hope you all signed!) was put in place for the Heart and Vascular Center. It was an awe-inspiring, heartwarming event!

Events and Activities

VIA Evening Meeting

October 16 / 6 – 8 pm / JLMH

Join us in the James-Lorah Auditorium for an evening meeting. This meeting is open to all VIA members and prospective members but is especially planned to accommodate the schedules for members who cannot attend our midday meetings. The VIA Executive committee will recap what our organization has accomplished in the past year and talk about initiatives that we are working on in the coming year.

General Membership Meeting and Petite Luncheon

November 6 / 11:30 am / CR J

Sheri Putnam Doylestown Health Vice President, Strategic Initiatives and Integration will present *Patient Advocacy: The New Health Care Consumer*. Today's healthcare consumers are patients, caregivers, and just ordinary people who might be suddenly faced with extraordinary challenges from a healthcare system that is increasingly complex. Healthcare executive Sheri Putnam has been a long-time patient advocate and champion for improving the patient experience. Sheri, former host of the regionally syndicated talk radio program called "To Your Health", will present ways to enhance the patient experience for ourselves and our loved ones. With her signature style of fast-paced and humorous observations, Sheri will help us become engaged and empowered healthcare consumers.

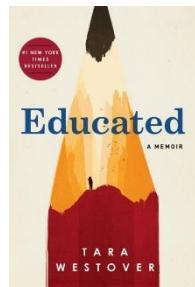
Enjoy the annual Petite Luncheon featuring a hot herb chicken lunch at \$25 per person.

Seating is limited. Register by October 19 either online at VIA-Doylestown.org or complete the registration form at the end of this newsletter.

Please advise Laura Kruger at 215-345-2347 about any dietary restrictions.

The VIA Veterans Committee members will be collecting donations at the November meeting.

Book Club



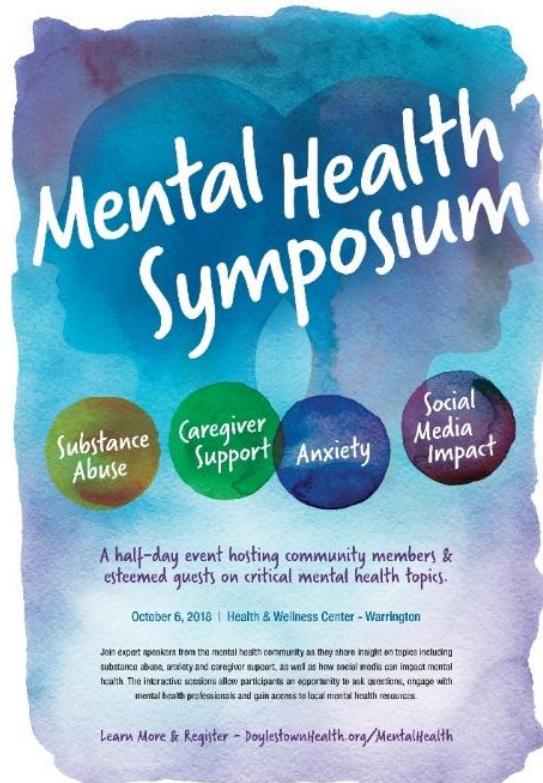
Oct 22 / 10:30 am / Forest Ridge Club House
The VIA book club will meet in the Forest Ridge Club House at 300 Beech Blvd., Warrington, PA 18976.

Educated a Memoir by Tara Westover will be discussed.

Mental Health Symposium

Oct 6 / 8 am – 1 pm / Health & Wellness Center

Join expert speakers from the mental health community as they share insight on topics including substance abuse, anxiety and caregiver support, as well as how social media can impact mental health. The interactive sessions allow participants an opportunity to ask questions, engage with mental health professionals and gain access to local mental health resources. For more information and to register, visit DoylestownHealth.org/MentalHealth.



Sponsored by the VIA

Aida Opera

Sat. Oct 6 / 1:00 pm / Regal Warrington Theater



Composer Giuseppe Verdi sets Aida in Egypt where the Egyptians have captured and enslaved Aida, an Ethiopian princess. Egyptian military commander, Radamès, struggles to choose between love for her and loyalty to the King of Egypt. The King's daughter Amneris is in love with Radamès, who does not return her feelings¹. Performed on the stage of The Metropolitan Opera, experience this from the comfort of the Regal Warrington Crossing Stadium 22 & IMAX, 140 Easton Road, Warrington, PA. Tickets are \$24 per person and may be purchased at the box office. *Thanks to the Social Committee for organizing this event.*

Card and Game Party Luncheon

Oct 19 / Noon / James-Lorah Auditorium,

Tickets are \$10 and a light lunch will be served before card playing begins (tea sandwiches, small cookies, fruit cup, deviled eggs, etc.). Bring your own cards, games, and friends.



Card tables of four will be set up. Come early to buy your raffle tickets and put your tickets into the baskets of your choice. (6 for \$5). Tickets are available through Marilyn Mele (215-534-2253) Please purchase your tickets in advance as seating is limited.

The Conservation Committee, one the VIA's oldest committees, began when they held a card party in the James-Lorah Memorial Home parlor

during the spring. Funds from these events have been used to maintain the Past Presidents' Garden at Doylestown Hospital, a plaque at the hospital containing their names, and to purchase items for the James-Lorah Memorial Home. Most recently, \$5,000 was donated to create a VIA Memorial Garden at the James-Lorah Auditorium entrance to honor deceased members. Funds from the 2018 event will again support the JLMH.

Please attend this enjoyable, fun filled day. If any members are interested in donating tea sandwiches, small cookies, new door prizes (\$10-\$15 value), gift cards etc., we would appreciate it by Thursday, October 18. Please contact Pamela Good at 215-230-8373.



"The Andrews Sisters' Christmas of Swing"

Sun. Nov 18 / 3:00 pm / Montgomery Theater

The Andrews Sisters – Patty, Maxene, and LaVerne – are preparing to lift the spirits of America's soldiers with a show full of Christmas songs, swing tunes, and special appearances by their friends Danny Kaye, Bing Crosby, and Abbott & Costello. Christmas of Swing is a joyful celebration of music, family, and patriotism that mixes great holiday songs and comedy sketches with real letters from real World War II G.I.s. It's an afternoon of wonderful entertainment and a tribute to the men and women of the greatest generation.

Tickets are \$29.75 per person. Contact Kathy Lambert at 215-794-1280 for more information. The Montgomery Theater is located at 124 N. Main Street, Souderton, PA 18964.

If interested, gather after the show and enjoy dinner at the Century House Restaurant, 2790

¹ Wikipedia

Bethlehem Pike, Hatfield, PA 19440. Dinner is not included in the show ticket price.



Longwood Gardens Christmas

Sun, Dec 9/ 12:30 – 8:30 pm/Longwood Gardens

No holiday season is complete without a visit to Longwood Gardens for a day of wonder to celebrate the upcoming Christmas holiday. Thousands of poinsettias, towering Christmas trees, and fragrant flowers transform the Conservatory into a warm holiday wonderland. Outdoors, more than 500,000 decorative lights glitter in the trees. Colorful fountain & fire displays set to music will enchant visitors.

Please meet in the parking lot behind the Montgomeryville Home Depot (751 Horsham Rd, Lansdale 19446) which is part of the Water Tower Square Shopping Center. The meeting area is near the corner of Montgomery Glen Drive and North Wales Road. If you plan to travel from Doylestown on old Route 202, turn left on Montgomery Glen Drive before the Frank Theater sign.

The bus will leave at 12:30 pm and return at about 8:30 pm. It will arrive at Longwood Gardens at approximately 2:00 pm. Plan to dress for the outdoors. They are open rain or shine. Have from 2:00 pm through 7:00 pm to stroll the grounds and have dinner (*at your expense*).

Tickets are \$70 and include bus, driver tip, and Longwood Gardens admission. Make checks payable to Perkiomen Tours. Send reservations and checks to VIA office, 595 W. State St, Doylestown, PA 18901. Reservations and payment are due by October 20.

Committee Updates

125th Anniversary

Joyce A. Hanson

The 125th Anniversary Committee met for the first time since March and is back in full swing. We have great ideas but need all the help we can get in various areas such as sponsorships, kick-off event, marketing, invitations, etc. Please let me know at joyce.hanson@verizon.net or (215) 262-2094 if you are interested and willing to help. **We are only one year away from our first event!**

Designer House

Sandy Homel

The Designer House Committee met on September 11 and approved the disbursement of the 2018 proceeds:

Net Proceeds	\$303,650.39	
2019 BCDH Seed Funds	\$10,000.39	
Net to be distributed:	\$293,650	%
Doylestown Health	\$230,500	78.5%
JLMH	\$25,200*	8.5%
Welfare	\$25,000	8.5%
Teen Scholarships	\$7,450	2.5%
VIA 125 th Anniversary Events	\$2,500	0.85%
Community Response	\$1,000	0.34%
Women's Scholarships	\$1,000	0.34%
Veterans Committee	\$1,000	0.34%

*includes two (2) \$100 awards to CB West students

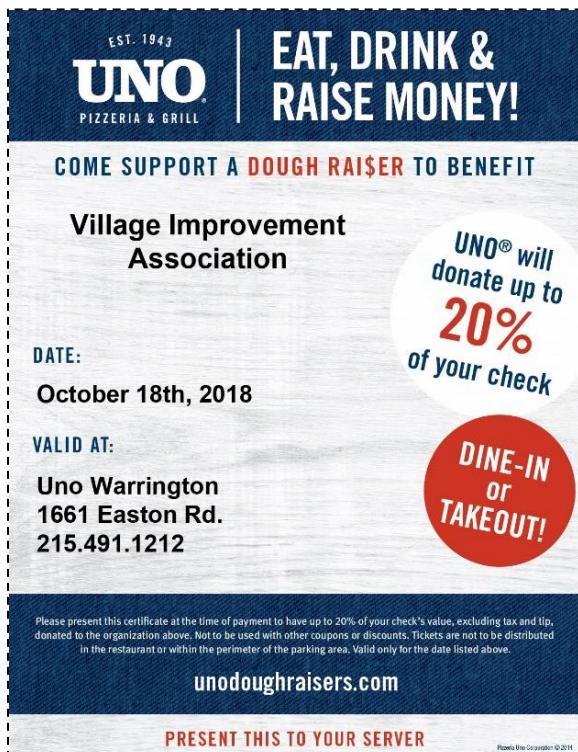
Congratulations to 2018 Chair, Kathy Krick, and her committee for a very successful 43rd Designer House.

Monthly committee meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month in the JLMH auditorium (refreshments @ 9:30 am). All VIA members are welcome. Our subcommittee chairs are in place for the upcoming year. Several subcommittees would welcome more hands to lighten the load. The search for an appropriate property for the 44th Designer House is ongoing. As soon as a contract is signed, the membership will be informed.

Fundraising

Cory H. Schroeder

The Fundraising calendar is filling up with a number of fun things to choose from!



UNO Pizzeria and Grill

Our semi-annual UNO's event will be held at the Warrington restaurant on Oct 18. From opening at 11:30 AM until closing around 11 PM, 20% of the tab including meals, snacks, and beverages (including alcohol) will be eligible for donation to the VIA! Come for lunch, Happy Hour snacks, dinner, or take out! You can even have it delivered to you FREE within a 5-mile radius of UNOs. Don't forget to bring the coupon included in the newsletter (print as many as you like for friends, family and neighbors) or to mention it to the server that you are dining for the VIA.

Two New Fundraisers!

Portraits for the Holidays

When was the last time, *if ever*, that you had a family portrait taken? With family members visiting before the holidays, a special anniversary, or other occasion, you may be looking for a

unique gift for family and friends. We have the perfect solution!

Bill Edwards of Edwards Studios, 104 E. Butler Ave, Doylestown, is offering VIA members and friends a special opportunity—get your family and personal portraits done for the holidays. Make your appointment no later than November 30. The \$50 sitting fee includes a free 8 x 10 portrait (value \$90). Write your \$50 check to VIA and note “sitting fee” on the memo line.

Professional Portraits by EDWARDS STUDIOS

Today is the right time to preserve your Family Heritage. Something formal or casual; Everyone together or just the children. The easy part is choosing the right Portrait Artist.

A Special Offer . . .

Available ONLY through THE VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

In Studio or Garden Family Portrait Session and an	\$ 50
Eight by Ten Professional Family Portrait	Regular Value \$170

Includes a Photo or Seven Composites with Your Multi-Award Winning Photographer, Bill Edwards. Excludes Family, Intermediate Family, Children, etc. Never any extra charge for additional subjects. Other options available.

Entire '\$50 fee is donated to THE VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

MORE INFORMATION ON REVERSE SIDE
SIGN UP BY NOVEMBER 30th
FOR MORE PORTRAIT IDEAS
VISIT: facebook.com/EdwardsStudios

Shop for the Holidays and help Third World Countries!

You may already know the name Ten Thousand Villages. They enable citizens in third world countries to earn a fair wage by selling their crafts. Shoppers can find a wide variety of great handcrafted gifts (jewelry, clothing, rugs, misc) for every occasion at this store located just 11 miles from Doylestown Hospital.

During the week of November 12-16, the VIA will receive 20% of all purchases (10% for rugs) made by shoppers at Ten Thousand Villages store in Souderton (781 Route 113, Souderton). Please designate the VIA as your non-profit of choice. Store hours for this special promotion will be 10 am – 8 pm.

The VIA has a "focus time" Tuesday, November 13 | 3-8 pm, however, we can shop anytime that week for the 20% return. During our focus time, the store will provide free coffee to shoppers and the VIA will staff an information table and provide cookies & pretzels.

Note: The Ten Thousand Villages store in Peddlers' Village does NOT participate in fundraising promotions.

'Tis the Reason

This holiday season
Ten Thousand Villages in SOUDERTON
is hosting holiday shopping that benefits
local nonprofit agencies.

We will donate
20 percent of the value of your purchase and
10 percent of your oriental rug purchase
during the week of NOVEMBER 12-16 to

Village Improvement Association of Doylestown

595 West State Street
Doylestown, PA 18901
VIA-Doylestown.org

Enhancing the health and welfare
of Central Bucks County
and surrounding communities

Please join us and make a difference
in your community and the world.



Ten Thousand Villages
781 Route 113
Souderton, PA 18964

Nov. 12-16
Hours: Mon-Fri, 10-8

Holiday Cookie Sale

Our yummy cookies and other goodies will again be available at the December Member Meeting. We will be asking volunteers to help bake festive treats (no store-bought, please). Drop-off for cookies will be Monday, December 3 | 9-11 am, at the curb of the JLA. Anyone not able to drop-off then may bring items to the VIA office before 9 AM on Dec. 3.



We have many more fun things in the works and will keep you posted on dates.

Home Life

Kathy Lambert



Home Life Bake Sale

The annual Bake Sale will be held on Thursday, November 15 at the Pine Run Health Center located at 777 Ferry Road, Doylestown, PA 18901. Bake Sale proceeds are used to buy holiday gifts for each resident. Drop off locations are: VIA Office, 595 West State Street, Doylestown (8:00 - 8:15 am), or anytime after 9:00 am on Nov. 15 at the Pine Run Health Center. The generosity of the membership is so appreciated and the committee thanks all. Any questions please contact Kathy Lambert (215-794-1280) or Terry Steinberg (215-420-7423).

Information and Technology

Joy Levy

You might ask “*What is this Google Drive some of our Committees are using now?*” Read on to learn more and get a little “techy” so you can impress your family and friends...

Google Drive is a cloud-based storage application that enables people to work collaboratively. Simply put, rather than storing VIA documents, spreadsheets, and images on personal computers, Google Drive allows us to store these files in a secure online area, where they can be viewed and edited by one or more people. (The “cloud” simply means that you’re storing the committee data on someone else’s computer so that you can access it from any location. Think bank and credit card data: secure and accessible any time you enter your id and password.

OK – so what’s the big deal about that? With cloud storage, there’s a single version of the document or spreadsheet that everyone on your team can see and edit in real time. (The system maintains each version and shows who suggested what.) That means you don’t have to email copies of items or try to figure out which emailed version is the right one. AND, if you want, you can all view the document and see the changes as they’re made.

So now you may be asking “What software or equipment do I need to use Google Drive?” All you need is a personal computer, laptop, tablet or smartphone and an internet browser such as Chrome, Microsoft Edge or Safari. Google Drive provides word processing software for Google Docs (similar to Word) and spreadsheet software for Google Sheets (similar to Excel).

We’ve been storing our data on the hospital’s system (the “S” Drive). That not only places them at risk, it means that we cannot directly control or access our data at all times. The Google Drive solution will give us control and 24/7 access.

Over time, we will likely be moving all VIA information to a cloud storage solution. Several committees including IT, Finance, Marketing, and the Strategic Planning are already using this

technology. We are learning as we go along and so far we see positive results.

If you want to begin to use Google Drive, please go to the secure Members page on the VIA website – VIA-Doylestown.org, scroll down to #6 under Reference Materials and click on [Click here to use Google Drive](#). That link will bring you to a short video on YouTube – Getting the Most Out of Google Drive.



IT committee meets for the first time. Photo taken by Jan Cope.

James-Lorah Memorial Home

Helen Hammes

Welcome back from the long, hot summer! If you love history, old books, research, stories of “old” Doylestown and old houses, please notify me at hhammes@comcast.net of your interest. We welcome one-and-all to our committee. Enjoy the next installment of *“From the Archives”* in this issue about Dr. Oliver P. James. When purchasing this home in 1869, Dr. James, a kind and civic-minded physician, had no idea how his legacy of caring for the community would be reflected in his daughter Sarah and her generous bequest of the home to the VIA.

Administrative

The JLMH Executive Committee met September 18 to review the status of the capital and operating budgets as well as allocate the 2018 Designer House funds (\$25,200). The major projects funded are Phase 1 landscaping in the front of the house in preparation of the 125th anniversary, the audio/visual system upgrade in the auditorium, purchase of new auditorium chairs and a computer-assisted drawing (CAD) of the house and other important infrastructure systems. The latter will aid contractors and service personnel with accurate bids and the location of critical systems.

Master Landscaping Plan (3-5 years)

Needham Landscaping, the current landscaper, was selected for Phase 1 and work will begin in October. The Eagle Scout and Girl Scout Gold landscaping projects are scheduled for the spring.

Fundraising/Events

October 13 – The Bucks County Bookfest (bucksbookfest.org). House tours are scheduled from 11 am – 2 pm with an entry fee of \$10 per person. Kathryn McKenna's "Treasured Legacy: Stories from the James-Lorah Memorial Home" will be available for sale.

From the Archives....OLIVER P. JAMES, M.D

The VIA headquarters is the former family home of Dr. Oliver P. James. The VIA continues to reflect his concern for the health and welfare of the community.

Oliver P. James was born in New Britain, PA in 1815. He was the youngest son of Benjamin James and Nancy Williams and a descendant of immigrants from Pembrokeshire, Wales, UK and from Roger Williams, the founder of Rhode Island. He was raised on a 2,000-acre farm along the Pine Run Creek and educated at local schools. From the age of 19 to 23 he worked as a carpenter but realized this was not his calling. He began medical training with his cousin, Robert E. James, in Upper Mount Bethel, Northampton County, PA. From 1837 he attended winter sessions at Jefferson Medical College graduating in March 1840.

Dr. James took over Robert's practice when he was elected a state senator. Subsequently, he opened his own practice in New Britain, was recognized as a "rising young doctor" and eventually became one of the most prominent physicians in the county. From 1884 to 1861, he also treated residents at the Almshouse. During the 1849 cholera epidemic, he received praise for being one of the few physicians who continued to care for Almshouse residents. Dr. James was recognized for his high ability, courtly manners and kindness, was very influential in his community and garnered high respect. He was a Democrat and supported the women's right to vote. In 1864 he was elected to the state Senate

and later lost a Congressional election for the 7th District.

In 1859 he married Sarah A. Gordon of Montgomery County and moved to Doylestown where they purchased the Ginsley property on Main Street. Oliver and Sarah had three children: Oliver, Martha, and Sarah. In 1869 they purchased the home of Judge Henry Chapman for \$10,000 (\$185,400 in 2018 dollars). He was a member of Doylestown Lodge No. 245, F. & A.M. and its treasurer for many years, President of the Doylestown borough council for several terms, treasurer of the Doylestown Agricultural and Mechanics Institute from its founding in 1866 to its dissolution in 1892, a director of the Doylestown National Bank and on the Board of Directors and treasurer of the Doylestown and Willow Grove Turnpike Company.

Dr. James died at home on November 19, 1894, of heart disease.

Abstracted by Jeanne Sandusky from "The History of Bucks County" and by Helen Hammes from "Historical Biographies, Pennsylvania State Senate".

Marketing

Allyson Gilmore

In appreciation for your commitment to this vital organization, all members in good standing received a pin with the new VIA logo at the October VIA Membership Meeting. If you did not attend the October meeting and would like one, please contact Laura Kruger. Please wear it proudly to promote our organization and the important work we do throughout the community. We hope this symbol of our efforts will encourage the start of conversations regarding the VIA's mission, our rich history, and membership. Furthermore, wearing these pins will gain us not only name recognition but also connect a friendly face to our cause within the community.

To effectively make sure that all of our members and the community are aware of our events, we need you to keep us aware of all upcoming events. The Marketing Committee has been charged to create **ALL** VIA flyers so we have a consistent look and message (plus it takes the

effort off of your committee). We will also post your event on the VIA website, send out information through social media, and send press releases to the media. Letting us know early in the process will help us create the best materials. After an event occurs, please send us your pictures and stories so we can tell the world about what the VIA is doing to fulfill our mission! Contact Allyson Gilmore at agilmore@dh.org regarding all VIA events.

Membership

LaFaun Reed Kahn

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." Eleanor Roosevelt

Please help me welcome our newest dreamers:

Mary Jane Beck lives in Rushland and is interested in the Home Life, Veterans, Hospitality and Literature Workshop Committees.

Courtney Conti lives in Oreland and works as a same-day surgery nurse at Doylestown Hospital. She is interested in helping at the Designer House and will be joining the 125th Anniversary Committee.

Sharon Curran lives in Chalfont and is rejoining the VIA after a brief hiatus. She has expressed an interest in the Welfare and Designer House Committees.

Darla McPherson lives in Doylestown and is interested in the Teen Educational Scholarships, James-Lorah Memorial Home and Literature Workshop Committees.

Rose Ann Nelson lives in Chalfont. She will be joining us on the Designer House Committee and the new Opioid Crisis Subcommittee.

Linda Wortell lives in Doylestown and is interested in Community Recognition/Response, Teen Educational Scholarships, Floral Arts And Literature Workshops Committees. She is a registered nurse and works part-time at Bucks County Community College and as a hospice nurse at Bayada.

The next Membership Committee meeting will be held on October 8 | 10-11 am in conference room C. The November meeting will be held on

the 8th at the same time and in the same conference room. New members and visitors are always welcome!

Welcome New Members

Mary Jane Beck	215-598-3750
Courtney Conti	215-260-3751
Sharon Curran	267-218-3024
Darla McPherson	215-345-0434
Rose Ann Nelson	570-436-8178
Linda Wortell	215-534-9120

Updated Contact Information

Roylene A. Wahler	215-441-0777
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Program Committee

Barbara Ann Price

The Program Committee will commence meetings in 2019 to develop an interesting and entertaining list of presentations for the following year's membership meetings. We ask that committee members make note of the dates and times of these meetings which are listed below. All meetings will be held at Doylestown Hospital in Conference Room G/H.

- January 9 | 11:30 am - 1:30 pm
- February 6 | 11:30 am - 1:30 pm
- March 6 | 11:30 am - 1:30 pm
- April 3 | 11:30 am - 1:30 pm.

Strategic Planning

Barbara Ann Price

The Strategic Planning Committee has been very busy over the last few years. Below is a list of several of the accomplishments:

- Hired a consultant to guide the next steps
- Proposed the need for a Governance Committee; fully functional effective 7/1/2018
- Updated Articles of Incorporation
- Updated Bylaws to include relevant Articles of Incorporation information and other changes
- Addressed the IRS Form 990 errors and implementing changes
- Updated VIA Mission, Vision and Core Values

- **Vision** – A healthy and vibrant community
- **Mission** – to enhance the health and welfare of Central Bucks County and surrounding communities
- **Core Values** - Community Service, Compassion, and Commitment
- Explored and identified two projects at a low cost to help combat the community Opioid crisis

The September 5 meeting focused on identifying goals and objectives for the next two years. From this exercise, a strategic plan will be created. The committee members volunteered to work in five areas: Overall, Finance, Branding/Communication, Membership, and Opioid Project.

A banner will be created stating the VIA's Mission, Vision, and Values to be placed in James-Lorah Auditorium.

Veterans

Pat Shire

The Veteran's Committee will hold our annual fundraiser before the October and November VIA meetings. These are the only two meetings where we ask for your contributions to the various military organizations within our community.

Please make use of the enclosed Veteran's Committee Donation Form. Your donation can be made "In Honor Of" or "In Memory Of" an individual or group. The intended memorial will be published in the VIA Annual Giving Report. Remember, if a cash donation is made and we are unable to identify the donor, the name of the donor will not be published in the annual report.

On behalf of the Veteran's Committee, I thank you in advance for your generous support.

In spite of the rain, Family Day at the Horsham Air Guard at the Willow Grove air base was a fun event for all who attended. Since there is no rain date, the event took place inside the airplane hangars. One hangar contained the food and the bouncy houses and the other hangar contained additional activities for the children as well as other vendors. One of our members who brought her nieces said they were more excited

about being inside an airplane hangar even though there were tons of activities for the children! It was a wonderful experience to see the military families enjoying spending time with their children and spouses.



Welfare

Marianne Chabot

At the September 11 Welfare Committee meeting, members approved twenty-one referrals which had been received since our last meeting on June 5. Referrals totaled \$1,510.74. Most were for rent, temporary housing, car repairs and prescription meds. As one member said "Hardships don't take the summer off". Welfare funds also helped a woman who had recently earned a nursing certificate and obtained employment. She was in need of scrubs to wear at her new job. A phone call to the social service agency verified her financial need and then a few VIA members worked together to purchase the clothing and deliver it to the client advocate. You can be proud of the VIA's oldest committee as we continue to help those in need.



October 25 | 6 – 9 pm

For information and reservations

DoylestownHealthFoundation.org/

FriendsCardiacCookoff/

The Lucky Well

Max Hansen Caterer

Pig and Hen Private Catering

VIA Petite Luncheon

November 6, 2018 | 11:30 am / Doylestown Hospital CR J

Patient Advocacy: The New Health Care Consumer presented by Sheri Putnam
Doylestown Health Vice President, Strategic Initiatives and Integration.

Name(s): _____



____ # Reservations at \$25 per person Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Please mail or drop off this completed form and check payable to VIA – Petite Luncheon to:
VIA Office, 595 West State Street, Doylestown, PA 18901

VIA Veterans Committee Donation Form

Your Name: _____ Amount: \$ _____

Name for Recognition: _____

Please indicate (*optional*) if this donation is:

In honor of: _____

In memory of: _____

Please send recognition for this donation to:

Name: _____

Street, City, Zip: _____



Please make checks payable to the **Village Improvement Association of Doylestown** and note
"Veterans Committee" in the memo line. Hand to a Veteran's Committee member or mail to:

Village Improvement Association of Doylestown

Attn: Veterans Committee

595 W. State Street, Doylestown, PA 18901

Donations of any amount are very welcome. Donor names will be listed in the annual VIA giving report when provided. Those honored will also be separately listed.

VIA Event Calendar

The list of VIA Events is also available on the For Members Only page (via-doylestown.org/membership/for-members). Please be sure to check the website to note any meeting date, time, or location changes.

Event	Date	Day	Time	Location
VIA Membership Meeting	10-02-2018	Tue	1:00 PM	JLA
Mental Health Conference by Doylestown Health	10-06-2018	Sat	8 AM - 1 PM	H&WC
Aida Opera	10-06-2018	Sat	1:00 PM	Regal Theater Warrington
Bucks County Bookfest House Tours	10-13-2018	Sat	11 AM - 2 PM	JLA
VIA Membership Evening Meeting	10-16-2018	Tue	6:00-8:00 PM	JLA
Walk With A Doc	10-17-2018	Wed	Noon	Doylestown Hospital Front Lawn
UNO Pizzeria & Grill Day	10-18-2018	Thu	11 AM - 12 AM	1661 Easton Road, Warrington
Card and Game Party Luncheon	10-19-2018	Fri	Noon	JLA
Cardiac Cook-Off	10-25-2018	Thu	6:00 PM	Event Center by Cornerstone
Halloween Parade/Treat Giving	10-31-2018	Wed	11:00 AM	Pine Run Health Center
VIA Membership Meeting Petite Luncheon	11-06-2018	Tue	11:30 AM	Doylestown Hospital CR J
Circle of Life	11-09-2018	Fri	6:30 PM	Doylestown Country Club
Ten Thousand Villages (Nov 12 – 16)	11-13-2018	Tue	10:00 AM-8:00 pm	781 Rt 113 Souderton PA
Annual Bake Sale	11-15-2018	Thu	8:00-12:00 PM	Pine Run Health Center
Andrews Sisters Christmas of Swing	11-18-2018	Sun	3:00 PM	Montgomery Theater Souderton
Thanksgiving Day	11-22-2018	Thu		
Chanukah	12-02-2018	Sun		
Portraits - Edwards (through November 30)			Personal appt.	Edwards Studios Chalfont PA
VIA Cookie Sale Drop Off	12-03-2018	Mon	10:00-11:00 AM	JLA
VIA Cookie Sale	12-04-2018	Tue	1:00 PM	JLA
VIA Membership Meeting	12-04-2018	Tue	1:00 PM	JLA
Longwood Gardens Visit	12-09-2018	Sun	12:30-8:00 PM	Longwood Gardens Kennett Square
Holiday Program	12-20-2018	Thu	10:00 AM	Pine Run Lakeview

Location Legend: CBR - Chairman's Board Room (formerly Conference Room K), CR - Doylestown Hospital Conference Room, DH - Designer House, HWC=Health & Wellness Center VIA Auditorium, JLMH=James-Lorah Memorial Home Dining Room, JLA-James-Lorah Auditorium, PR- Pine Run, VIA-VIA Office



Village Improvement
Association of Doylestown

595 W. State Street
Doylestown, PA 18901



EVENING MEETING

October 16, 2018 | 6 – 8 pm | James-Lorah Auditorium
Join us for a recap of the VIA's past year and a look at our future plans.