



September/October 2020 VIA Newsletter

## From The VIA President

*Barbara Ann Price*

Hello VIA Members and Welcome to the 126th year of the VIA,

The past year was a harbinger of numerous trying times, I will only mention a few of them here: dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic, a tornado that caused damage to Doylestown Hospital and the Children's Village, learning and using Free Conference Call, learning Google Meet and all while wearing a mask when you go outside of your home, social distancing from our friends and constantly washing your hands with hand sanitizer.

There were numerous cancelled meetings and events; the end of year Installation of Officers in June, the Conservation Card & Game Party in October and, the big one that we all look forward to, the Designer House and Preview Gala.

We can be very proud that all of our work did not stop. We continued to hold committee meetings via conference call, and many thanks to our very active IT Committee and their numerous training sessions. Jan Cope and the IT Committee were most helpful. We are now moving on to use Google Meet for our monthly General Membership Meetings. Please join us for our November meeting on Tuesday, November 3 starting at 1 pm. This will be a very helpful meeting entitled "How You Can Help or Support a Family Member During These Challenging Times" (more details on page 7). I think we all could use a little help with this right now.

There is good news, the James-Lorah Memorial Home hosted children from the hospital's Children's Village over most of the summer and, many thanks to George Sigety who renovated the garden at the back of the house. George really did an incredible job. If you have not already done so, please stop by and view the outcome of George's hard work. It looks fantastic!

I am very pleased to announce that Nancy Gimbol has been confirmed as the VIA Corresponding Secretary for the years 2020-2022. We look forward to working with Nancy over the next two years. Please welcome Nancy to the 2020-2022 VIA Board of Directors.

We still have many interesting days ahead and we will need to think of creative ways for virtual and in-person fundraising (annual cookie sale, poinsettia sale). Exploring the viability of a 2021 Bucks County Designer House & Gardens is also in progress. We have a great history and we are women who get things done; we will persist. So, I ask you to think of creative ways to manage all of our important projects and I am counting on each and every member to help us this year.

**VIA Vision: A Healthy and Vibrant Community**

## VIA Officers

<b>President</b>	Barbara Ann Price
<b>First Vice President</b>	Helen Hammes
<b>Vice President Finance</b>	Kathleen Krick
<b>Assistant VP Finance</b>	Beverly Collier Campbell
<b>Recording Secretary</b>	Janice Cope
<b>Corresponding Secretary</b>	Nancy Gimbol

### VIA of Doylestown

595 West State Street, Doylestown, PA 18901  
215.345.2347 | VIA-Doylestown.org



*Joan Parlee*  
*Vice President Health Services*

## Doylestown Health System Report – October 2020

Here we are in the fall season of the very tumultuous year, 2020. We are still in the grip, throughout the world, of the Coronavirus, COVID-19. The Hospital, Foundation and Doylestown Physicians Board met together this month to hear the proposed budgets of the various components and the total health system. These presentations are based on the factors known at this time, but may change as new information becomes available.

The 2021 Doylestown Health System's budget, presented by Dan Upton and Jim Brexler, shows a loss of \$6.17M from Operations. The budget does not include the \$10.3M received in stimulus dollars in July and August, nor any future stimulus dollars we may yet receive from FEMA, Insurance or Federal or State actions.

There are many factors and wild card challenges affecting this budget. These include the opening of the Clark Center for Critical Care in January of 2021 in the Cardiovascular and Critical Care Pavilion and, in the Ambulatory Center, the opening of the Clark Outpatient Rehabilitation Center (November 2020), the Doylestown Surgery Center Joint Venture (January 2021), the MUVE Stay Suites Joint Venture (January 2021) and the Rothman and Bucks County Orthopedics new offices (January 2021). Successful contracts with IBC and Aetna reflecting repriced outpatient services to meet consumer-based trends and actual cost to deliver have been completed.

The ongoing effects and challenges of COVID-19 are now being addressed with new surveillance (testing) expense, an offsite testing center and new staffing. The Pine Run Community has increased occupancy targets for the second half of the fiscal year. The Foundation will initiate the second phase of the One Vision Campaign, strengthen relationships with new donors and focus on planned giving and tax-advantaged giving. Doylestown Health Physicians will initiate new clinical programs, expand Primary Care and expand vascular services.

The Hospital key drivers relate to volumes. Inpatient cases are budgeted to increase 4.5% from the pre-COVID forecast. Outpatient activity should increase with the opening of the Doylestown Surgery Center in the Ambulatory Center. COVID testing is budgeted at 40,000 tests.

The Capital Budget items are extensive but will depend on available funds. The budget will be continuously refined because of the variables and unknowns. It reflects Operations financial impact without stimulus dollars. A summary of the status of our stimulus funds will be forthcoming. Management believes the Health System is better prepared should a second surge of COVID develop. There is improved knowledge of the disease, all clinical staff have been maintained, and we have improved in-house testing capabilities.

Mae O'Brien is our new VIA Chair of the Pastoral Care Committee. At that committee meeting, we were both very impressed with the reports of the pastors' efforts during the COVID crisis. Mae shared the support they provided to patients, families and staff.

Beverly Harvey, Chair of the Hospital Finance Committee, reported on the non-budget items. Grant Thornton presented the Fiscal Year 2020 Audit. This year there will also be an audit related to the HHS stimulus dollars. New reporting requirements were issued by HHS after our meeting. Now Doylestown Health will have to show consistency with these new rules prior to issuing the FY2020 Audited Financial Statements. There were no audit differences or material weaknesses discovered. The Board unanimously approved the proposed budgets.

The Doylestown Health System reports for July and August show an Operating Loss of \$5.5M. This does not include the \$10.1M of HHS stimulus dollars received in those months. All Bond Covenants for the Obligated Group were met and the Health System overall will meet all targets once the \$10.1M is booked.

The Clinical Quality Report featured Doylestown Health's preparations for rapid in-house testing. Rapid tests are available within fifteen minutes. Two critical factors for COVID testing are accuracy and turnaround time. Also featured were national recognition awards for quality and patient safety in stroke and cardiovascular care from the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association and the American College of Cardiology.

Patient Safety reports were given by Joyce Hanson and Lillian O'Connor for the August and September meetings. A report on infections was presented as well as the preparatory efforts for possible COVID increases in the fall. Also, efforts are underway to prepare for our next Joint Commission Survey. The Department of Health completed their survey for the Ambulatory Surgery Center. Pine Run has new initiatives for medication safety including barcoding of all medications, the employment of a full-time pharmacist and the institution of wound rounds. Grievances were related to changes in visitation policy because of COVID and scheduling of outpatient procedures. There were slight delays in nurse response time because of donning of required PPE.

Laura Wortman reminded the Board of the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) grant of \$1M awarded to Doylestown Health to help with construction of the Center for Heart and Vascular Care. Now that the project is almost completed, the Board passed an additional resolution detailing the final amounts and sources of funding used to pay construction expenses.

The Medical Executive Committee brought forth candidates for membership/privileges. In August, there were seven new physicians and two Advanced Practice Professionals. There were also nine physicians moving from provisional to active status. In September, there were eight new physicians, two Advanced Practice Professionals and four changes in status. All motions passed unanimously. The Medical Executive Committee has endorsed a change to their bylaws in order to define Medical Staff categories, enable recruitment of highly specialized clinicians and assure appropriate responsiveness for those on call. The motion to approve the revised bylaws was approved.

A motion was made to approve a resolution amending the Hospital Bylaws. The amendment provides a method of identifying potential nominees to be appointed trustees through the creation of a Nominating Committee. The motion was approved.

As you all know, we are in a period of great flux with many unknowns. All associated with Doylestown Health are working tirelessly to plan the best course. We thank them sincerely for their efforts.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION – PLEASE READ!****New Guidelines Concerning Your Next Visit to Doylestown Hospital**

Below are the current rules concerning visitation and movement throughout the Doylestown Hospital Campus that are in place at this time.

**Important Information for ALL Visitors**

Even though Pennsylvania has entered the **green** phase, this is not the time to let our guard down. We know that everyone has been cooped up and is anxious to get out and socialize but we, at Doylestown Hospital, have to hold ourselves to a higher standard so that the community can continue to put their trust in us and we can stop the spread of COVID-19. In order to provide the safest environment for our patients, their families and our heroic Doylestown Health Associates, all visitors who are permitted entry to a specific room or department in the hospital must go directly to that area and remain there for the duration. We can no longer allow visitors to move freely throughout the hospital. For example, if you have been cleared to go to Women's Diagnostic for a mammogram, please do not deviate by entering any other areas of the hospital just to say hello to someone. We must limit all non-essential face-to-face contact for the foreseeable future.

**Doylestown Hospital Visiting Hours**

Doylestown Hospital has implemented a RESTRICTED visitor policy in light of COVID-19.

Access to the hospital will be limited to three locations: the **Emergency Department, Main Lobby** and **Gorsky Atrium** (Center for Cardiovascular and Critical Care). All visitors (ages 16 and older) will be screened and must wear a mask.

**All Visitors:** Please perform hand hygiene using the hand sanitizer dispensers located throughout the hospital. We ask that anyone with runny nose, sore throat, fever, cough or any other cold or flu symptoms please postpone the visit until they have recovered.

**Inpatient Visitors**

Inpatient Visiting Hours:

- **General Inpatients:** Noon to 8 pm
- **2 South (ICU/IMU):** 10 am to 10 pm
- **CVICU and IVU:** 10 am to 10 pm

Visitors must enter through the Main Lobby or the Gorsky Atrium to sign in and collect a visitor badge to wear. All visitors must wear a mask.

- **Adult Inpatients:** 1 support person per patient
- **Emergency Department:** 1 support person per patient\*
- **Maternity Department:** 1 support person per patient
- **Pediatric Department:** 2 support persons per patient
- **End-of-Life Care:** Maximum 4 visitors at a time. Visitors must remain in the patient room until leaving the hospital.
- **Urgent Procedures:** 1 support person per patient
- **Patients with Disabilities or Cognitive Impairments:** 1 support person per patient

Visitors must remain in the patient room. Waiting rooms are not an option for a patient visit.

When exiting the hospital, the visitor must return to the point of entry, sign out and return the badge. Any other member of the inpatient's family or friends may sign in and use the badge; however, only one visitor at a time.

Visitors are not permitted in the COVID unit.

\*ED will ask support person to wait in a vehicle while the patient is triaged. One support person may stay with the patient while in an ED room after called, screened and cleared to enter.

**Outpatient Visitors**

Visitors are not permitted to accompany most outpatients; however, one support person is permitted for the following:

- Patients with intellectual or physical disability
- Pediatric patients
- Pre-natal outpatients

# MISCELLANEOUS

## GROW WITH THE VIA



Would you like to become more involved in the Village Improvement Association? We are still seeking one more woman who is interested in participating in a pilot program as an Assistant Vice President of the VIA. She would be assigned to one of three roles supporting the VIA, serve as a member at large on the VIA board, and be committed to serving for two years with the option to move on to the position of First Vice President of the VIA.

If you are interested in additional information regarding this position, please contact:

Barbara Ann Price at:  
[bprice@via-doylestown.org](mailto:bprice@via-doylestown.org)

or

Helen Hammes at:  
[hhammes@via-doylestown.org](mailto:hhammes@via-doylestown.org)

## THE BRIGHT SIDE

The pandemic has touched all of our lives and dramatically changed the way that we socialize. Now that the VIA has transitioned to conducting our Monthly Membership Meetings using Google Meet or conference call, we realized that this has resulted in a number of positive outcomes.



Besides being able to join us in your jammies, without having done your hair or makeup, you can also invite your friends, family, children and grandchildren to “attend” our meetings with you. Who knows, you may pique someone’s interest or inspire the next generation of VIA members to take the torch and carry on our rich legacy.

Welcome, everyone!

## *Calligrapher Needed*

The Membership Committee needs a calligrapher to update the Remembrance Book, a lovely bound volume listing those VIA members who have passed. The first entry, for Mrs. Henry A. James, is dated December 11, 1926. She was the VIA's first secretary. The most recent entry is dated July 14, 2016. This is one of the organization’s many treasures. If you would be interested in putting pen to paper, please contact:

Polly O'Brien at [pobrien@via-doylestown.org](mailto:pobrien@via-doylestown.org) or 267.347.0737

## VIA Events and Activities

### General Membership Meetings



Tuesday, October 6, 2020

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Virtual Meeting

There are several ways that you can join us for this meeting (see below)\*

**WE HOPE YOU FOUND THIS MEETING INFORMATIVE**

**“Finale for the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the VIA”**  
including the drawing for the winner of the *Four Seasons of Fun* Raffle

Please plan to join your fellow VIA members and presenters Jim Brexler, CEO Doylestown Health, Marianne Chabot, Joyce A. Hanson, Kathryn McKenna and Joan Parlee for a look at the VIA past, present and future.

This is our kick-off meeting for the 2020-2021 VIA year.  
We hope to “see” you there.

#### **\*Join Us From Your Computer**

You **DO NOT** need to have a Google/G Suite account for this, just a computer and current Internet browser.

Click this link and follow the instructions on the screen: [meet.google.com/tjz-wfqv-fwj](https://meet.google.com/tjz-wfqv-fwj)  
(a *Google Meet* 1-2-3 Newsletter was sent with your 2020-2021 Membership Directory for reference)

**If you don't have a computer or just don't feel comfortable using one, you can listen in as follows:**

#### **\*Join Us Using Your Telephone**

Dial in using the phone number – **1.617.675.4444**

When prompted, enter PIN – **536 599 603 1266#** (don't forget the hashtag at the end of the PIN)

**Note:** If your computer/tablet doesn't have a good speaker, you can use a combination of both methods above; click on the link and get the video up and running on your computer screen, then dial in using the telephone number and PIN provided and you will be able to watch from your computer and listen through your phone. It's super simple.

If you have any questions or apprehension about these instructions, please contact Jan Cope for assistance at 215.348.5423. We don't want you to miss this meeting because you are unsure as to how to join.

**General Membership Meetings (cont.)**

**Tuesday, November 3, 2020**

**1:00 PM – 3:00 PM**

**Virtual Meeting**

**“How You Can Support a Friend or Family Member  
During These Challenging Times”**

**Speaker:** Dr. Leah Blain, PhD



*Clinical Director*

*The Steven A. Cohen Military Family Clinic at the University of Pennsylvania*

In honor of Veterans Day, the November VIA presentation will, once again, be sponsored by the Veterans Committee. Since 9/11, our military has been very busy. Although only less than 1% of our citizens are currently serving in the Armed Forces, the ripple effects of their individual sacrifices are felt within military families. These impacts are experienced by spouses, children, parents, siblings, grandparents, and other loved ones.

Like military personnel and veterans, civilians and their loved ones can often experience mental health challenges such as depression, anxiety, and loss, especially during these challenging times.

The Steven A. Cohen Military Family Clinic at the University of Pennsylvania, which opened in the fall of 2016, has seen thousands of clients struggling with these issues. Its primary goal is to assist them with addressing the concerns they have and the challenges they (and their families) are facing. The Clinic was utilizing the Zoom platform long before the pandemic to ensure seamless access to care for these families. Thanks in part to the VIA's investments in the Clinic, the transition to taking ALL of the Clinic's services online overnight was a smashing success. The Clinic continues to serve this population and looks forward to what the future holds for telehealth.

The November VIA presentation will discuss the occurrence of these challenges in both military and civilian populations, the visible symptoms/behaviors to watch for, treatment options available, and ways that you can continue to help!



## Committee Updates

PLEASE REMEMBER TO WEAR YOUR MASK



MY MASK PROTECTS YOU AND  
YOUR MASK PROTECTS ME

### Wearing Masks at VIA In-Person Meetings

As many of you are aware, during the COVID-19 pandemic it was determined that wearing a mask is necessary when you are out in public or at a meeting with others in attendance. This is also mandated by the state of Pennsylvania. You wear a mask to protect yourself as well as others that are near you. Our VIA mission is “To Enhance the Health and Welfare of Central Bucks County and Surrounding Communities”. Therefore, should any VIA meetings take place in person, please adhere to social distancing, washing hands and wearing of masks. When an “in-person” meeting takes place, please offer a conference call number if a member should feel that she does not wish to wear a mask but would like to participate in the meeting without being present.

The health and welfare of our community is important to us, therefore, we ask our members attending any “in-person” meetings to wear a mask for their own health as well as for the health of others.

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### **46<sup>th</sup> Bucks County Designer House & Gardens**

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*Joyce A. Hanson*



The 2021 Designer House Committee held their first meeting on Wednesday, September 9, with over 50 members participating by teleconferencing. We had a robust, positive discussion on how we can make this event happen in 2021. There were many “out-of-the box” ideas, which we will be considering, and much enthusiasm.

Our meetings are scheduled for the second Tuesday of each month beginning with our next meeting on October 13 at 10 am. These meetings will be held by teleconference for the near

future. If you are interested in joining this committee, be sure to contact Joyce A. Hanson at [jhanson@via-doylestown.org](mailto:jhanson@via-doylestown.org) or 215.262.2094.

We continue to search for a couple of special leaders to Chair and Vice Chair the committee. Do not be concerned if you are interested, but feel you do not have enough experience on the committee. There is a group of past chairs who are more than willing to help mentor these positions.

Most importantly, we cannot have a successful Bucks County Designer House without a HOUSE! So, if you know of a house that might be a possible consideration, please contact Joyce soon!

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### **Finance Committee**

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*Kathleen Krick*

We have completed two months of using QuickBooks Online for all VIA Treasurers and have been pleased with the transition. It is important to note that some the reports for this

fiscal year will not be able to provide all the comparisons with the previous fiscal year. There are many changes in the structure of the accounts that will more appropriately record our expenses and will allow us to review how our funds are spent across all committees. After our first year on this system we will be able to more completely compare year to year again. We are also in the process of restating the Consolidated Budget for this year using the new account layout.

The entire Finance Committee would like to thank our retired VIA Treasurer, Ruth Carlson, for her six years of service and for her patience in assisting in the transition to QuickBooks Online. Also, please note that the committees whose finances Ruth previously managed are now being handled by Beverly Collier Campbell as Assistant Vice President of Finance. The position is now titled "VIA Operating Treasurer" to distinguish it from the full VIA.

Snapshot of our finances as of August 31, 2020:

**Current Assets = \$802,309**

**Long Term Assets = \$724,966**

**Liabilities = \$8,705**

**Net Assets = \$1,518,571**

**Total Revenue Year-to-Date = \$8,133**

**Fiscal Year Total Expenses = \$10,798**

**Total Designer House Distributions: \$54,000**

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## Fundraising Committee

*Sandy Homel*

The pandemic has imposed many restrictions on our daily lives including how we go about the business of raising funds. Plans are in place for the following activities:

- Holiday cookie sale (thank you Cory Schroeder, Chair);
- December Poinsettia sale (thank you Georgia Ford, Chair);
- 50-50 raffle at "live" meetings

COVID-19 interrupted our anticipated April shopping spree at Fox and Holly and it will not be rescheduled. Fox & Holly in Doylestown has closed.

The fundraising committee will meet in late September to assess the restrictions in place at that time and develop a fundraising strategy for the 2020-2021 year.

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## IT Committee

*Jan Cope*

### **Lots going on in Information Technology!**

**Websites:** The Bucks County Designer House & Gardens' website revision is in the works. We are developing content now and expect to have our new, improved, and streamlined site released in November. We are also reviewing the VIA website to identify updates and ways to align the VIA and BCDH sites. Both will also begin to rely on our G Suite intranet for linked files rather than a website media library, which is sometimes difficult to update.

**Google Meet:** Most of our upcoming membership meetings will be on Google Meet. Never used it? Scared you might break something? Annoyed at the thought of having to learn another computer thingee? Relax. Google Meet is super simple to use (3 steps!), secure, and very, very useful. If you have an active G Suite account, it's incredibly helpful for committee meetings. You can present exactly what you want people to see and even group-revise a document in real time. It's also useful for quick chats with other members or outside contacts (grandchildren or VIA partners are all fine), and is integrated with all the other G Suite programs.

### **G Suite Training Schedule**

In order to work in G Suite, you will need a bit of training! Below is the fall schedule. *Dates and times as shown. All classes use Google Meet.*

#### **G Suite Basics (required to activate your account)**

Oct. 14, 2020 – 10am – Noon

## Mini-Lessons

(30-45 minutes each)

You may attend all classes if you choose.

**(You do not need to be active in G Suite to attend these mini-classes.)**

### **Make Your Text Behave in Google DOCS:**

Oct. 13 at 1pm

### **Gmail – Just the Facts, Ma’am:**

Oct. 20 at 10am

### **Play the Dating Game with Google CALENDAR:**

Oct. 28 at 10am

### **Google MEET Training**

Thursday, Oct. 29 at 7pm\*

**\*THIS IS A DATE CHANGE FROM 10/28 TO  
ALLOW EVERYONE TO ENJOY THE  
GENEVIEVE’S FUNDRAISER ON 10/28**

Contact [jcope@via-doylestown.org](mailto:jcope@via-doylestown.org) to sign up. We also have mentors available to work with you before and after training.

**Join the IT Committee!** Interested in all this fun new stuff? We’re always looking for enthusiastic and active new members and you can impress your family with your new techie knowledge. Contact [jcope@via-doylestown.org](mailto:jcope@via-doylestown.org) to join.

## James-Lorah Memorial Home

Jeanne Sandusky

### EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT COMPLETED



George Sigety, who is a member of Boy Scout Troop 169, completed work for his Eagle Badge by transforming our backyard into a beautiful and tranquil garden. He started on July 25 and

finished on August 14 with the help of his Boy Scout Troop and his family.

With construction equipment, they removed the top layer of soil from the upper back yard to prepare it for the laying of sod, planting perennials and laying a brick pathway and patio. Then George moved onto the lower garden where he installed a new brick walkway leading from the kitchen door of the auditorium to the garden. Along this walkway, he planted more perennials on both sides.

We have had a great deal of flooding in this rear yard because when it rains all the water drains from the house to the lower yard which is along the stage wall of the auditorium. To help alleviate this situation he laid more sod and two types of grass seed. He covered the grass seed with hay. On August 18, I noticed the new grass peeking through the hay. Success!

George and his family donated a patio table, chairs and an umbrella which makes this an ideal place to have a meeting – weather permitting. Everyone needs to see our new garden in person to realize how beautiful this space is now. We thank George for selecting the JLMH for his project. It is a job well done.

### GARDEN GALS

A new group, *Garden Gals*, has been created to help take care of the gardens. Garden Gals will be responsible for turning on the soaker hoses and watering our new sod and newly planted flowers. They will also take care of dead heading perennials, trimming and weeding the beds to keep them looking beautiful. We will be following proper health protocols. We will be on the grounds of the JLMH from spring through fall, or as needed. Please bring your gardening gloves, tools, etc. and share your interest with us, while doing what you enjoy most. This group is open to all VIA gardeners.

To join, please contact Debbie Thorne:

[mombodt@aol.com](mailto:mombodt@aol.com) or call 267.546.8566



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## Membership Committee

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Polly O'Brien

Please join me in welcoming new member, **Christine Robinson**, to the VIA. Christine joined the VIA in 2018, but then had a baby and had to step back for a bit. She rejoined this year and is hoping to get more involved. She works full time at Baker Tilly, an accounting firm, as the Head of Resource Management in the Philadelphia office, but virtually now. She is expecting her second child on October 31. Christine grew up in New York City and moved to Bucks County in 2014. Christine, welcome!

### Members Corner

Long time VIA member, **Clara Smith**, was injured this summer and is spending her time recuperating at home until at least the holidays. If you would like to send Clara a note, her address is:

600 Valley Road, E-57  
Warrington, PA 18976

Clara, we look forward to seeing you in the spring. Wishing you a speedy recovery.



VIA member and Hospital Administrator, **Patti Stover**, recently underwent major surgery and will be going through chemotherapy in the months to come. If you would like to send Patti your well wishes, her address is:

4043 Applebutter Road  
Perkasie, PA 18944

We are all sending healing energy your way, Patti, and wish you a full recovery.

**NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME:** We are always looking for women to join the VIA. If you know someone who is looking for a worthwhile organization for which to volunteer, please introduce her to the VIA. She may find out more about our organization on our website at [www.via-doylestown.org](http://www.via-doylestown.org) or by contacting Membership Chair, Polly O'Brien, at 267.347.0737 or [pobrien@via-doylestown.org](mailto:pobrien@via-doylestown.org).

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## Program Committee

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Helen Hammes

Due to the COVID-19 situation, we continue to be flexible in presenting the monthly Membership Meeting programs. For our October – January meetings, we will be using Google Meet (smile, you are on candid camera!) as well as a telephone number to conference in if you do not have a computer with a camera. A decision will be made later this year to start in-person meetings or continuing Google Meet/teleconference for the February – June meetings. We'll continue to monitor the situation and health guidance in effect at that time.

You will see all meeting information in your 2020-2021 Membership Directory which was mailed in early September. Please contact Laura Kruger ([lkruiger@dh.org](mailto:lkruiger@dh.org)) if you did not receive one.

In October, we will celebrate the finale of our 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We will have a brief presentation on the VIA influence in the community: Joyce Hanson, "*The Value of the VIA Through its Mission and Core Values*"; Kathryn McKenna, "*The Historical Perspective Impact of VIA on the Community*"; Marianne Chabot, "*Other Mission-focused Work - Welfare, Community Response, Education, and Veterans committees*" and Joan Parlee, "*Future Plans of Doylestown Hospital*". We also have proclamations from all of our state and Federal legislators up to the White House congratulating us on this achievement. These will be displayed in the future when we can all be together. We will also be presenting a Bucks County Designer House & Gardens check to Jim Brexler for Doylestown Health as well as checks to the Welfare and Community Response Committees. And, last but not least, the winning ticket for the 125<sup>th</sup> Raffle will be pulled.

In November, in honor of Veterans Day, the Veterans Committee will once again sponsor our November 3, 2020 presentation. The speaker will be Leah Blain, PhD Clinical Director & Licensed Clinical Psychologist from Steven A. Cohen Military Family Clinic at The University of Pennsylvania. She will discuss "How You Can Support a Friend or Family Member During

These Challenging Times.” Thanks to your generous donations over the past two years, the Veterans Committee has been able to donate to the Clinic and support its counseling of military members and their families.

In December, we were looking forward to enjoying a fun holiday program by the Pine Run Village Voices. Vocal groups must comply with health guidelines and will not know until early fall if they can even start rehearsing. We are searching for options so stay tuned!

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### Strategic Planning Committee

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*Helen Hammes*

We continue to explore the viability of a 2021 Bucks County Designer House & Gardens as well as research backup plans for alternatives to it. A date change to the fall of 2021 is also being considered. A majority of designers confirmed they would definitely be interested should we pursue a house. Since it is our largest annual fundraiser, it is of strategic significance since it affects our financial future and funding our mission-focused committees.

Alternate suggestions which include virtual events are also being explored such as a car raffle, silent auction and wine tasting.

A 2021 Gala is still being considered since deposits were carried over from 2020 for the tents, caterer and band. The VIA will continue to monitor the situation for the viability of holding such an event even if less formal.

Please email me ([HHammes@via-doylestown.org](mailto:HHammes@via-doylestown.org)) if you have suggestions!

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### Veterans Committee

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*Pat Shire*



Welcome Back! I hope everyone has stayed safe and healthy.

This year the Veterans Committee faces many challenges to the face-to-face collection of donations for our military charities. Both the October and November VIA membership meetings will be held via Google Meet which limits our ability to collect donations at the door. These donations were very important in increasing the overall amount collected through our mail-in form.

We hope that you will not hold back on your donation due to lack of contact. Whatever amount you wish to give is very much appreciated. **Please use the donation form in this newsletter** to send in whatever amount you choose, large or small. Will you again help us reach our goal of providing generously to our military charities?

Thank you for all of your generous support in the past.

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### Welfare Committee

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*Marianne Chabot*

At the September 9 Welfare Committee meeting, members approved seven referrals which had been received since our last meeting on June 10. Referrals totaled \$700 to cover rent, PECO and temporary housing. FISH volunteers advised that calls for assistance have dropped off because unemployment checks and stimulus money have helped families financially during the COVID-19 crisis.

Welfare Vice-Chair, Terrie Mooradd, reported that she received an email from the school nurse at Barclay Elementary School seeking funding for students without health insurance to cover the

cost of annual flu shots. The Bucks County Department of Health typically provided uninsured students with flu shots in past years but will not be dispensing this year.

Terrie proposed that the VIA Welfare Committee cover the cost for 40 students at \$30 each. Treasurer Cathy Scanlon assured the committee that Welfare has funds on hand to cover \$1,200. The vote to approve was unanimous.

The Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) Project - Rosemary Burrage and Linda Sullivan are co-chairing the project to fill Baby Bags with items to help the health and wellbeing of NAS infants who are born with drug addiction and to improve the bond between babies and their parents. NAS babies are cared for in the 6-bed Pediatric Unit in Doylestown Hospital until they are well enough to go home. Moms stay with their babies during this time of recovery.

Rosemary and Linda went to the storage cage at Doylestown Hospital on August 17 and assembled 7 bags, bringing the total to 11 bags on hand. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, neither Rosemary or Linda are permitted in the Pediatric Unit. VIA Administrative Assistant Laura Kruger delivers bags to the unit whenever needed.

The co-chairs inventoried supplies and noted the need for additional knitted newborn hats as well as knitted, crocheted or fleece baby blankets.

Last year many VIA members and some community members made and donated these items. If you would like to donate, please email Rosemary Burrage at [lekmd@aol.com](mailto:lekmd@aol.com)

Our thanks to all of you who support the Welfare Committee as we continue to serve those in need.

## Women’s Scholarship Committee

*Sandy Homel*

The Women’s Scholarship Committee supports the mission of the VIA by providing modest financial support, based on need, to prepare older eligible women who reside in Bucks County to enter or re-enter the job market by furthering their education.

Prior to the allocation of funds, the WSC carefully reviews the application that must satisfy the parameters as outlined in the VIA policy. The students must be enrolled in an educational institution that grants a 2-year associate degree or a 4-year bachelor’s degree. Enrollment in a vocational facility that grant a certificate or diploma also qualifies.

Two tuition scholarships have been awarded for the current semester, both to women who are attending Bucks County Community College. Our VIA scholars are working toward a brighter tomorrow and the VIA is glad to be part of their success story.

## EXCITING NEW FUNDRAISING EVENT TO BENEFIT THE VIA

Enjoy a four-course gourmet dining experience and a portion of the cost of your meal will benefit the VIA.

Indoor and outdoor seating available as well as curbside take-out. BYOB. Seating is limited.

Please call Genevieve’s directly to make your reservations at 267-614-9635 and mention the “VIA Event.”

All social distancing guidelines will be followed for your safety and comfort.

### Genevieve’s Kitchen VIA Dinner

Wednesday, October 28, 6:00 p.m. - \$50/pp (+ Tax & Gratuity)

#### STARTERS ~ (choose one)

**Lobster & Sweet Potato Chowder** - a rich soup made of sweet potato, roast cauliflower, lobster, heavy cream and sherry.

**Crostini** ~ grilled flatbread , lemon goat cheese, shaved brussel sprouts, wild boar cranberry sausage

#### SALAD ~

**Arugula Salad** ~ baby arugula, local apples, pears, shaved fennel, candied pine nuts, EVOO aged balsamic.

#### MAIN ~ (choose one)

**Grilled Sliced Filet Mignon** ~ Grilled herb butter basted filet mignon, served with mashed potatoes and seasonal vegetables

**Jumbo Lump Crab Cakes** ~ jumbo lump crab cakes , roast tomato jam, served with polenta, and seasonal greens.

**Sweet Pea Tortellini** ~ wild mushroom porcini broth, shaved parmesan, chive oil.

#### SWEET ~ ( choose one)

**Flourless Chocolate Cake** ~

**Apple Cobbler** ~ house made apple cobbler , topped with vanilla gelato.

19 E. State Street, Doylestown 267-614-9635



### VIA Veterans Committee Donation Form

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Your Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Your City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Donor Name(s) as it should appear in the Giving Report: \_\_\_\_\_

Optional: Please indicate if this donation is:

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

If you would like a letter to be sent to your *honoree*, please provide their address below:

Honoree's Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Honoree's City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to "VIA" and note "Veterans Committee" in the memo line and mail to:

Village Improvement Association of Doylestown  
ATTN: Veterans Committee  
595 W. State Street  
Doylestown, PA 18901

Donations of any amount are very welcome.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!**

**NOTE:** Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, donations cannot be dropped off to the VIA office. Strict rules are in place regarding visitors to the Hospital. Donations of any amount are very much welcome but must be mailed in. Donors names will be listed in the VIA Annual Giving Report when provided. Those honored/remembered will also be listed separately.

# Event & Meeting Calendar

## OCTOBER 2020

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
October 5, 2020	8:30 – 10:30am	Bylaws Committee	Teleconference
	11am – 12:30pm	October 6 Dress Rehearsal	
October 6, 2020	1 – 3pm	General Membership Meeting	Google Meet
	1 – 2pm	125 <sup>th</sup> Anniv. Raffle Drawing	Google Meet
October 7, 2020	9 – 11am	Strategic Planning Committee	Teleconference
October 12, 2020	1 – 3pm	IT Committee	TBA
October 13, 2020	10am – 12pm	Designer House Committee	Teleconference
	1 – 2pm	G Suite Mini Lesson <b>Make Your Text Behave</b>	Google Meet
October 14, 2020	10am – 12pm	G Suite Basic Training	Google Meet
	10:30am – 12pm	125 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee	Teleconference
October 19, 2020	9 – 11am	Finance Committee	Teleconference
	1 – 2pm	Marketing Committee	Teleconference
October 20, 2020	10 – 11am	G Suite Mini Lesson <b>Just the Facts Ma'am!</b>	Google Meet
	11am – 1pm	JLMH Committee	TBA
October 21, 2020	8:30 – 10:30am	Governance Committee	Teleconference
	11am – 12pm	VIA Executive Committee	Teleconference/Google Meet
October 22, 2020	8 – 10am	Hospital Board Meeting	Teleconference
October 26, 2020	10 – 11:30am	1895 Society Committee	TBA
October 27, 2020	8:30 – 10:30am	VIA Board Meeting	Google Meet
	11am – 1pm	Chairs' Meeting	Google Meet
October 28, 2020	6pm	Fundraising Committee Dinner	Genevieve's Kitchen, Doylestown
October 29, 2020	7pm	Google MEET Training	Google Meet

## NOVEMBER 2020

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
November 2, 2020	8:30 – 10:30am	Bylaws Committee	Teleconference
November 3, 2020	All Day	<b>Election Day</b>	
	1 – 3pm	General Membership Meeting	Google Meet
November 4, 2020	9 – 11am	Strategic Planning Committee	Teleconference
November 10, 2020	10am – 12pm	Designer House Committee	Teleconference
November 11, 2020	All Day	<b>Veterans Day</b>	
	9 – 10:30am	Welfare Committee	TBA
November 16, 2020	9 – 11am	Finance Committee	TBA
	1 – 2pm	Marketing Committee	Teleconference
November 17, 2020	11am – 1pm	JLMH Committee	TBA
November 18, 2020	8:30 – 10:30am	Governance Committee	Teleconference
	11am – 12pm	VIA Executive Committee	Teleconference/Google Meet
November 19, 2020	8 – 10am	Hospital Board Meeting	Teleconference
November 23, 2020	9 – 11am	Hospital Foundation Board	Teleconference
November 24, 2020	8:30 – 10:30am	VIA Board Meeting	Google Meet
November 25, 2020	10 – 11am	Membership Committee	TBA
November 26, 2020	All Day	<b>Thanksgiving</b>	



595 W. State Street  
Doylestown, PA 18901

**Fall is Here!**

