

## Silver Spring Village



# Village Vibe

May/June 2017  
Volume 4, No. 3

## As We See It: Growing Tall and Wide!

Have you taken a look at our numbers lately? We currently have 167 members and 110 trained volunteers. We want to thank Anne McHenry, who continues to provide her warm and welcoming touch to prospective members, and Cynna Janus, who has planned successful outreach coffees. We are happy to be serving so many seniors in 20910, but we're not slowing down. We want to involve more of the roughly 3,800 seniors living in our service area.

Marcy Frosh continues to build new relationships and programs in Silver Spring's diverse neighborhoods. Just this past month, Village member Charlotte Coffield spoke on the history of Lyttonsville and and volunteer Sofia Bushen (whose mother, Tsehay Serda, is a Village member), led a traditional Ethiopian coffee ceremony. Leslie Hansley arranged for NBC 4's Shomari Stone to speak on covering news in Silver Spring and beyond.



Shomari Stone on how the news is gathered—photo by Claire Maklan

We would like our members and other neighbors to know that we offer a reduced membership fee for those who qualify. Our funders have made this possible! Do you know a neighbor or a friend who could really use the help of the Village but whose financial situation poses a barrier? Please refer them to us for a conversation.

In addition, right now we have a pilot program with Habitat for Humanity. Habitat will provide a homeowning senior, living in 20910, with income less than \$52,550 (\$60,050 for a couple), up to \$15,000 worth of accessibility and safety-related home improvements. The recipient would pay only 5% of the total project cost and receive free membership in our Village.

Please help us grow tall and wide—let's make Silver Spring Village better reflect the breadth and diversity of seniors in Silver Spring.

—Peggy Gervasi, President, and  
Debbie Billet-Roumell, Executive Director

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### Mission of the Village

To build and sustain a supportive network of neighbors helping neighbors remain in their own homes and be engaged in the community as they age.

Using a combination of volunteer and professional services and referrals, the Village provides a variety of services, as well as opportunities for social engagement. Participation by a diverse mix of residents within the Village's defined geographic area enhances the quality of life for the entire community.

Like other Villages in the U.S. and abroad, our network aims to support individuals and to strengthen the community in which they live.

Gift idea for Mother's or Father's Day: [Village membership!](#) Contact us.

## Progress Report

### Totals as of the end of April

- Members: 167 (80 full, 87 associate)
- Volunteers: 110

### Volunteer hours

- February: 750
- March: 824

### Volunteer help in Feb./Mar..

- 82 rides
- 78 friendly calls and visits
- 25 home assistance requests filled, including providing electrical help, unclogging a drain, assisting with paperwork, organizing, decluttering, recycling
- Telephone crew hours: 252

## Silver Spring Village, Inc.

### Board of Directors

Peggy Gervasi, *President*  
 Claire Maklan, *Vice President*  
 Tony Sarmiento, *Secretary*  
 Darren Vieira, *Treasurer*  
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 Sue Decker  
 Leslie Hansley  
 Gary Klauber  
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 Vern McLendon  
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### Executive Director

Debbie Billet-Roumell

### Director of Volunteer Services

Vanessa Ripps

### Committee Chairs

Board Development—Tony Sarmiento  
 Communications—Claire Maklan, Bruce Rosenthal  
 Development—Mary Ann Zimmerman  
 Finance—Darren Vieira  
 Membership—Anne McHenry  
 Programs—Gary Klauber

### Vibe Editors

Connie Raab, Erica Summers

Visit us at [www.facebook.com/silverspringvillage](http://www.facebook.com/silverspringvillage)

## Events Sampler



Photo by Laurie Ekstrand

Members enjoyed dozens of events and activities this past couple of months. At left, one raked in her chips with the Poker Dawgs while others (at right) enjoyed a fine high tea at a member's home. We toured another member's no grass lawn (lower left) and heard a talk (lower right) about historically African-American Lyttonsville. More fun is to be had in the months to come; see pages 3-4.



Photo by Shan Evans



Photo by Katherine Anderson



Photo by Claire Maklan

## Members in the News

Kudos to two Village members who were recently recognized for significant contributions to the community.

Pat Tyson is a co-founder and performer in a local group called Female Re-Enactors of Distinction (FREED). This group was featured in a story in the Washington Post on April 14. FREED, which began in 2005, focuses on portraying ladies who contributed to our nation's history during the Civil War period. Members of the group, in period dress, bring to life true stories of these women, through re-enactments, dramatic readings, and other educational programs. Pat portrays educator, speaker and activist Hallie Quinn Brown.

More information on FREED appears here

<http://www.afroamcivilwar.org/programs/39.html?task=view>.

The Montgomery County Civic Federation recognized Charlotte Coffield as a "Montgomery County Community Hero" for the month of April. Charlotte received this recognition because, as the president of the Lyttonsville Community Civic Association, she has been responsible for guiding her neighborhood through lengthy County deliberations on issues of planning and land use concerning the Greater Lyttonsville Sector Plan. More information on the award is on page 4 of the "Civic Fed's" April newsletter at <http://www.montgomerycivic.org/files/>



Pat Tyson as Hallie Quinn Brown—photographer unknown.



Charlotte Coffield—photo by Alan Bowser

## Happy Pi/Pie Day

The Village celebrated Pi/Pie Day again this year, traditionally March 14 (3.14.....), on March 20 due to the weather. Four bakers made 8 pies (apple, pumpkin, chocolate, pecan, and cherry) and 8 volunteers delivered slices to 31 members, 6 family members, and 2 volunteers. Just another sweet Village membership benefit.



Cooling pies—photos by Mae Novak.  
Happy Village members with their slices—photo by Connie Raab



## Thank You

Word of mouth efforts really grow the Village. Thank you to those who have been on the lookout for possible members and those who have hosted informal coffees. If you are interested in attending a coffee (or if you are a member willing to host one—we will provide refreshments), please call the office.

## How to . . .

**...become a member:** Residents of zip code 20910 are eligible for full or associate membership. Persons living close to, but outside 20910, are considered for full membership on a case-by-case basis. Associate membership is open to all applicants regardless of place of residence. All members can attend events, get discounts from local businesses, receive a subscription to *Washington Consumers' Checkbook*, access our information service, and get referrals to professionals. Full members can also receive services from our volunteers such as transportation, indoor and outdoor household help, technology support, friendly visits, and check-ins. Membership dues cover only part of our operating expenses and are: Full: \$350/individual or \$450/couple; Associate: \$150/individual or \$250/couple. Reduced-cost full memberships are also available. For more information, please contact Debbie Billet-Roumell at (240) 200-4290 or [executivedirector@silverspringvillage.org](mailto:executivedirector@silverspringvillage.org).

**...volunteer:** People age 18 or older who support our “age in place” mission are invited to serve as volunteers. Volunteers are not required to be members of the Village (though they are welcome to join, and many do). They need to complete an interest form and application, and have a background check. Training is provided. All applicants must be officially accepted and enrolled by the Volunteer Coordinator before performing tasks for the Village. All sorts of skills and interests are welcome.

**...donate:** To keep our Village strong, we need funding from organizational and individual donors, in-kind contributions, and grants. Contributions in any amount are gratefully accepted. Donations are tax-deductible, as permitted by law. Checks should be made to Silver Spring Village and mailed to Silver Spring Village, PO Box 8217, Silver Spring, MD 20907, or donations by credit card can be made online via the [donations page](#) on our website. Consider the Village in your will, in memorial donations, or in someone's honor. We would love to hear from local businesses that might contribute or provide in-kind contributions or discounts to our members. Contact us!

### A member says

☞ “Grateful for the Village and what so many of you have made possible for us as we age.”

## Events Calendar

Check our website for any changes.  
\*Open to the public.

### ONGOING EVENTS

**Scrabble**, every Monday, **Parkway Deli**, 3-5 pm  
**Poker Dawgs**, May 9, 23 and June 6, 14, members' homes, 5 pm  
**Beginner's Chess**, every Wednesday, **Kefa Café**, 2 pm  
**Bridge**, every Tuesday, members' homes, 2:30 pm  
**Mall Kats Walking**, every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, **Ellsworth Place**, 10:30 am  
**Monthly Reading to Children and Adults**, Easter Seals

### MAY

Tues., May 2 – **Lunch, Parkway Deli**, 11:30 am  
 Sat., May 6 – **Plant and Seed Swap**, 2-4 pm (rain date Sat., May 13)  
 Sun., May 7 – **Classical Piano Recital**, Calgary Lutheran Church, 3-5 pm\*  
 Wed., May 10 – **Origami – The Art of Paper Folding – Learn How to be a Paper-Folding Wiz, SPARKLE Program**, Silver Spring Civic Building, 2 pm, followed by **Happy Hour, Eggspectation**, 3:30-5 pm\*  
 Thurs., May 11 – **Afternoon Book Club**, Silver Spring Library (*Guns, Germs, and Steel* by Jared Diamond), 2-3:30 pm\*  
 Fri., May 12 – **Current Events Discussion, iStar Coffee**, 2 pm  
 Tues., May 16 – **Coffee Social, Kaldi's Social House**, 11 am  
 Fri., May 19 – **Storytelling by Cricket Parmalee**, at storyteller's home, 2-3:30 pm  
 Thurs., May 25 – **Dinner, The Daily Dish**, 6 pm  
 Sat., May 27 – **Tour of Silver Spring Dream House**, 11 am  
 Tues., May 30 – **Ice Cream Social, Tropical Ice Cream**, 2 pm  
 Wed., May 31 – **Happy Hour, Denizen's**, 5 pm

### JUNE

Sat., June 3 – **Korean Dinner, BiBim**, 6 pm  
 Tues., June 6 – **Estate and Long Term Care Planning**, presentation by elder law specialist, Bernadette Sweeney, Silver Spring Chamber of Commerce, 2-3:30 pm

*Continued next page*

Events, continued from page 3

Thurs., June 8 – **Afternoon Book Club**, Silver Spring Library (*To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee), 2-3:30 pm\*

Fri., June 9 – **Current Events Discussion**, iStar Coffee, 2 pm

Tues., June 13 – **Coffee Social**, Kefa Café, 11 am

Wed., June 14 – **Tour of Urban Farm**, SPARKLE Program, downtown Silver Spring, 2-3 pm\*

Thurs., June 15 – **Lunch**, Kosher Pastry Oven, 11:30

Sat., June 17 – **Art Exhibition and Artist Talk and Demo**, Waverly Street Gallery, 12:30 pm followed by **Lunch**, Boeeymonger

Fri., June 23 – **Birthday Ice Cream Social**, Moorenko's Ice Cream, 2-3 pm

Sun., June 25 – **Summer Picnic for Members**, Meadowbrook Local Park, 11 am - 1 pm

Wed., June 28 – **Happy Hour**, Hen Quarter, 5 pm

## Help Wanted: SPARKLE Coordinator

Every month Silver Spring Village partners with Silver Spring Town Center to offer public programs of interest to seniors. We are so sorry to see our amazing volunteer, Lisa Rosenthal, step down from the role of volunteer coordinator for the Village for the SPARKLE program. If you or someone you know is interested in helping to find speakers and publicize the SPARKLE events for about 10 hours a month, please contact Debbie Billet-Roumell at [executivedirector@silverspringvillage.org](mailto:executivedirector@silverspringvillage.org).

## Save the Date!

Members : There will be a summer picnic on Sunday, June 25, at Meadowbrook Local Park, 11 am - 1 pm. Details to follow.



## Volunteer Corner: Oh, What We Can Do

We have a variety of volunteers with a many different skills and interests, but one thing they have in common is a dedication to helping our members stay healthy and happy in their own homes. Some volunteers work full time, and help when they can. Others work part time or are retired. They may do a little or a lot. The many ways we fulfill the requests of full members include:

- Driving them to appointments, events, etc.
- Going grocery shopping for or with the member
- Running errands
- Helping with light house cleaning
- Making friendly calls and visits
- Taking notes at medical visits
- Helping with paperwork
- Assisting with organizing and decluttering
- Weeding or watering plants
- Making small household repairs
- Moving things
- Decorating for holidays
- Providing short-term pet care
- Helping with technology



If you are interested in doing any of these things, sign up to volunteer and we will provide some basic training. Live in or near 20910 and need help? Become a full member. See “how to” on page 3 or contact us; we’ll talk to you.

## Board Member Reflections



Photo by  
Claire Maklan

*I woke up in the middle of the night and decided to quit my high-pressure job. I wanted to give back to community, especially to make women's lives better. All my life I have loved to make new things happen. I find that talking to the members and volunteers is really rewarding. We're professional and caring, and I'm proud to be part of that. What could be better than to hear how the Village is making a difference in the lives of its members? My vision is that the Village will change and grow over time—that's what successful organizations do. There's no limit to our size if we serve the market.*

—Anne McHenry

**DONATE NOW—Help Silver Spring Village continue to provide programs and services that strengthen our community while helping neighbors age in place.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount: \_\_\_ \$ 500 \_\_\_ \$250 \_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_ \$25 \_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to Silver Spring Village and mail it to Silver Spring Village, P.O. Box 8217, Silver Spring, MD 20907. If you would like to contribute by credit card, please visit the [donations page](#) of the Village website.

Silver Spring Village is a nonprofit, tax-exempt [501(c)(3)] organization. Your contribution is fully tax-deductible.