



## Across the Fence *Special Edition* June 14, 2020

### Upcoming Events:

Our annual **Spring Fling** at the Halal home is on -- albeit virtually! Put on your garden party chapeau and join us on Zoom this Friday, June 19 at 5:30 p.m. Bill and Carol Lynn will take us on a tour of the amazing lush garden. Many consider this to be the best Palisades Village party of the year when we say goodbye to spring and usher in summer. We will miss the Palisades Pan Handlers catering the event but Bob Bourdaud'hui has provided some wine suggestions and a recipe for his French 75 cocktail. Click [here](#) to register and get details. We don't have to worry about a rain date this year.

Last week we started a conversation about race and racism. People came out and spoke openly about their feelings about bias. On Monday, June 22 at 3 p.m. we are going to continue the conversation using the *New York Times* bestseller ***White Fragility-Why It is So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism*** as the basis. For details and to register, please click [here](#).

We had very positive feedback on our first gathering. Ellen Myerberg made sure that everyone felt safe, comfortable, and heard. Would you do that for this talk or one following? We need facilitators for our upcoming talks. If you would be interested in moderating, please contact the office at **202-244-3310** or email [asaccoccia@palisadesvillage.org](mailto:asaccoccia@palisadesvillage.org).

If you get your books electronically from DC Libraries, they have an unlimited number of copies of *White Fragility* (as well as others on race and

racism) available right now so you can read it right away with no wait. If you use a Kindle or tablet and don't know about the app Libby, please contact the office and someone can show you how to easily check out ebooks from the Library.

Our Palisades neighbor, Ambassador Rick Barton will be joining us on Wednesday, June 24 at 3 p.m. to discuss his book ***Peace Works: America's Unifying Role in a Turbulent World***. "Part memoir and part scholarly study, this book provides one of the most thoughtful reflections yet on U.S. interventionism and peacemaking since the end of the Cold War." according to Foreign Affairs magazine. For more details and to register, click [here](#).

### **And a very special upcoming event:**

Ruth Koczela will turn 99 on June 25th. Yes, that lovely woman who was next to you in fitness class was 98. PV Volunteer John Giacomini wrote a [piece in the Kent Connection](#) (August 2018) about her fascinating life and her time in the Navy WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service) during WWII working with the code crackers.

Her family is trying to get her 99 cards, so if anyone from the Village wants to mail her one, or stick one in her mailbox on the front of the house any time prior to the 25<sup>th</sup>, it would be lovely. Please note in the card that you are a friend of hers from Palisades Village or it will be a challenge for her and her family to put all the people in context.

They are also arranging a "drive-by" between 5 and 5:30 p.m. on June 25. Cars are asked to enter Hawthorne from Klinge. Folks can drive by, offer a greeting out the window, and honk their horn, hold up a Happy Birthday sign, etc.. Ruth will be there at the foot of the driveway to wave at folks.

Ruth's address is 5525 Hawthorne PI NW, Washington, DC 20016.

*This is how she celebrated her 88th birthday.*



## **Member Survey:**

Could you please take a couple of minutes to fill out a short survey of your challenges during this time of COVID-19? Palisades Village wants to know how you are doing as we adjust to the current situation of staying safe during the pandemic. We want your input for better ways to meet your needs as we look towards the future and how COVID -19 will continue to alter the way we live. While we may not be able to meet all of your needs, being aware of them makes us more responsive and stronger as a Village.

You can find the survey [here](#). If you would prefer a hard copy, we would be glad to mail you one. We would like to get responses by June 24.

## **Melting down and need someone to talk with at 2 a.m.?**

There is a DC Mental Health Hotline at **(888) 793-4357** if you want to talk about stress or anxiety. People are available 24 hours/day, 7 days/week. Our case manager is also available during the day. Please contact the office and we will put you in touch.

## **Worth a Visit: the Mummers' Museum, Philadelphia PA**

Returning to Washington after visiting the 2020 Philadelphia Flower Show (ref: previous article), we stopped in at the Mummers' Museum to see what that was all about. I had some vague notion that the Mummers were some sort of social/philanthropic organization akin to the Shriners or Rotary Club, but that turned out to be pretty far off the mark. In fact, the Mummers evolved from early European and especially Swedish settlers who brought a number of local traditions with them, including a raucous celebration on New Years' Eve, characterized by shooting off guns into the air at midnight. And of course, alcohol was involved – what could possibly go wrong?

According to *Atlas Obscura* the Mummers in Philadelphia, officially known as “ the New Year's Shooter and Mummers Association,” formed groups that would travel around the city during Christmas time, sing, and be rewarded with food and drink. Mummery was essentially the drunker, rowdier, firearm carrying, masked and pagan ritual-infused precursor to Christmas carolers... A common Philadelphia mummer chant went:

*Here we stand before your door,*

*As we stood the year before;  
Give us whiskey; Give us gin,  
Open the door and let us in.  
Or give us something nice and hot,  
Like a steaming hot bowl of pepper pot.”*

By the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the celebrations had become so rowdy, drunken, violent and dangerous that the city of Philadelphia decided to turn the whole thing around: firearms were banned, but beginning in 1901, the city itself would sponsor an annual New Year's Day parade featuring the Mummers. Today 5 divisions, each composed of several brigades, and representing many neighborhoods in Philadelphia (especially in "South Philly") dress up in outlandish costumes, play music, sing and dance their way through the main streets of the city for hours and hours on New Year's Day. Each brigade has its own theme and spends all year making costumes, floats, and snappy slogans to entertain the thousands of spectators that throng their route. In that respect, it is somewhat similar to Mardi Gras in New Orleans, which has entirely different roots.

Of course, a parade is best appreciated when viewed as a whole, and the Mummers' Museum is quite small. Still, a representative sample of the costumes on display gives a good idea of the fun that Mummers (and spectators) have been enjoying in Philadelphia for 120 years now.



--Arne Paulson

**Armchair Traveler:**

Actual train rides may not be as appealing these days but you can take a virtual trip on one. This article from Travel and Leisure has trips in the United States, Europe, Japan, and Peru.

[https://www.travelandleisure.com/trip-ideas/bus-train/virtual-train-rides?utm\\_source=wordfly&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=JUN20eADigitalDigest6.10.20&utm\\_content=version\\_A&promo=251282](https://www.travelandleisure.com/trip-ideas/bus-train/virtual-train-rides?utm_source=wordfly&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=JUN20eADigitalDigest6.10.20&utm_content=version_A&promo=251282)

### **Palisades Village Connect & Learn:**

"[Marriage Equality and the Supreme Court: Five Years Later](#)" is a discussion of the U.S. Supreme Court's 2015 marriage equality decision in Obergefell v. Hodges by lead attorney Douglas Hallward-Driemeier and named plaintiff Jim Obergefell, moderated by Montgomery County Councilmember Evan Glass. This was filmed at the June 10 SPARKLE Zoom program on marriage equality.

Our case manager, Barbara Scott has compiled a list of local walks to get us out and enjoying this beautiful weather.

These and many more can be found on our [Connect & Learn](#) page on the Palisades Village website.

The latest on [Transportation Options](#) during Phase I can also be found on the website.

### **DC Village Collaboration**



**The DC Area Villages work closely together to share resources and access to some events.**

**Tuesday, June 16, 2 - 3:15 p.m.**

**American Stories – A Tour of the American Collection at the National Gallery of Art (Zoom)**-- American art is closely tied to this country's development as a nation. From early beginnings in portraiture to emerging themes of landscape and genre painting, American art reveals the stories that both reflected and shaped an evolving national identity. This tour

traces the changes in American art from colonial days to the early twentieth century and shows how artists responded to critical events in American history. The speaker, Estelle Quain, has lived in Friendship Heights for the last eight years and is a member of Friendship Heights Neighbor Network. Since retiring from her career in global health at the U.S. Agency for International Development, she is pursuing her life-long love of art as a candidate in the Docent Program at the National Gallery of Art. Candidates give public tours as they master the various areas of the Gallery's permanent collection. Estelle has been giving tours since March 2019 and especially loves the American collection. RSVP to [information.fhnn@gmail.com](mailto:information.fhnn@gmail.com).

**Thursday, June 18, 10 - 11:30 a.m.**

**Helping Through Talking & Listening with Stephanie Svec** (Zoom)--

This will be a discussion and training event that will help Village Volunteers feel more comfortable talking and listening. It will include a discussion of what to listen for, how to help, active listening skills, boundaries, and self-care. This is especially important as we deal with and respond to the COVID situation. Email [info@littlefallsvillage.org](mailto:info@littlefallsvillage.org), and put "Workshop" in the subject line. Zoom login information will be sent to confirmed RSVP Registrants. Space is limited, so RSVP now for this event.

**Friday, June 19, 2 - 3:30 p.m.**

**Discussion about Local Parks: Part 1 - Overview of Parks in**

**Washington, DC & Surrounding Counties** -- Edd Barrows, Professor of

Biology at Georgetown University will be leading this 2 part series. Edd is currently the Director of the Entomology and Biodiversity Laboratory and

was the Director of the Center for the Environment and Environmental

Education. This presentation has two parts. Part 1 is a presentation

originally created for Kyrgyzstani's at the request of the US Department of

State and also used for classes at Georgetown University. Part 2 will be

held the following week with the topic on Glover Archbold Park - which is

adjacent to the university. Edd is interested in hearing your comments

about the parks to help us all appreciate and understand them better.

RSVP: email [info@littlefallsvillage.org](mailto:info@littlefallsvillage.org) or leave a message at the LFV office

(301) 320-3267 \* When sending an email RSVP, put "PARKS" in the

subject line of the email. When leaving a VM, include your email address in the message.

The following is part of the [Virtual Speaker Series](#) hosted by Northwest Neighbors Village. For more information about the NNV Virtual Speaker Series, click here. To register for this Zoom presentation, please click on the title.

**Thursday, June 18, 1 p.m.**

[The Importance of Grandparents](#)--Speaker: Alison Gopnik - Professor of Psychology, the University of California at Berkley, and recognized expert in children's development and learning. A discussion of the importance of grandparents in children's cognitive development.

### **Community Events:**

Go to [Around Town DC](#) to find classes in Zoom, art, dance, advance planning, fitness, improv, and much more. Here are two examples (register by clicking on the links.):

**Wednesday, June 17, 2-3:30 p.m.**

**Cooking in the Age of Corona** -- Chef and food writer Susan Barocas will share ideas and tips for shopping, food storage and cooking plus demo recipes from "Good and Cheap: Eat Well on \$4/Day" by Leanne Brown. The emphasis will be on easy, healthy and tasty food. This session will focus on — Easy Indian Cooking in Your Kitchen! Liven up your cooking with Indian flavors! Using recipes from Good and Cheap, Susan will talk about easy, healthy, and inexpensive ways to create your own Indian kitchen while demonstrating dishes from the book. Register [here](#).

**Wednesday, June 23, 2-3:00 p.m.**

**Understanding Options to Pay for Long-Term Care** -- Are you worried that you might not be able to pay for long-term care (LTC)? There a variety of ways to afford it. Learn from expert Rick Gow about different options to consider. Rick Gow is a Certified Senior Advisor and Wealth Management Advisor with Life Plan Retirement Partners, LLC. Register [here](#).

**Thursday, June 25, 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.**

**Elder Housing Forum** -- Please join the Department of Insurance, Securities and Banking, Age-Friendly DC and IONA Senior Services for a virtual Elder Housing Forum. Learn about foreclosure mediation, legal resources, and accessory dwelling units from Department of Insurance, Securities and Banking, AARP Legal Counsel for the Elderly, Coalition for Smarter Growth, DC Dept. of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs. EVENT

LINK: <https://bit.ly/2XPHy2I> For More Info: Idriys Abdullah 202-442-7832  
[Idriys.abdullah@dc.gov](mailto:Idriys.abdullah@dc.gov)

### **Other community events:**

### **Upcoming National Book Festival Presents Programs: Celebrating 50 Years of Pride and Connecting the World with Words**

The Library of Congress created its National Book Festival Presents series to bring their annual book festival experience to audiences on a year-round basis. In April, they took the physical events into the virtual realm, offering a series of talks related to the coronavirus pandemic with prominent authors and experts. [You can watch all of these talks and special presentations here.](#)

The series leaves talk of the pandemic behind with its upcoming programs, which celebrate the 50th anniversary of LGBTQ Pride and take an international scope with the June series "Connecting the World with Words":

"Erik Larson on Winston Churchill: The Right Words at the Right Time." Erik Larson discusses his latest book, *The Splendid and the Vile*, which tells the story of Winston Churchill during the London Blitz of World War II, with philanthropist and National Book Festival co-chairman David Rubenstein. Premieres **Thursday, June 18, 7:00 p.m.**

"Poetry Ancestors: How Invention Meets Influence." American Book Award winner Kimiko Hahn and fellow award-winning poet Rajiv Mohabir talk about invention and influence across borders, and how poetry serves as a model for our moment, with Washington Post Book World critic Ron Charles. Premieres **Thursday, June 25, 7:00 p.m.**

All talks will be launched on the Library of Congress Facebook and YouTube channels, on the Library's website, then available for viewing afterward. [Click here for more information.](#)

## **COMING UP IN PALISADES VILLAGE**

The following below are details on upcoming events sponsored by Palisades Village. You can now register by clicking on "More Information"

and then "Register." You will be prompted to add your name and email address. Please use the email address that the calendar was sent to; it functions as your user ID. If you need to update your email, just let us know. Or you can register by email at [ebanton@palisadesvillage.org](mailto:ebanton@palisadesvillage.org) or call the office at **202-244-3310**.

[ALL OUR EVENTS ON THE VILLAGE WEBSITE](#)

## This Week at Palisades Village June 14 — 20, 2020

### **Functional Fitness**

Mon 06 / 15 / 2020 at 10:30 AM

Where: No address or address is not accurate

[More Information](#)

### **Full Body Strength Conditioning and Interval Class**

Mon 06 / 15 / 2020 at 12:00 PM

Where: Via Zoom

[More Information](#)

### **Virtual Yoga**

Tue 06 / 16 / 2020 at 2:00 PM

Where: Via Zoom

[More Information](#)

### **Functional Fitness**

Wed 06 / 17 / 2020 at 10:30 AM

Where: Via Zoom

[More Information](#)

### **Full Body Strength Conditioning and Interval Class**

Wed 06 / 17 / 2020 at 12:00 PM

Where: Via Zoom

[More Information](#)

### **Events Committee**

Wed 06 / 17 / 2020 at 1:30 PM

Where: No address or address is not accurate

[More Information](#)

### **Chat with Barbara**

Wed 06 / 17 / 2020 at 3:00 PM

Where: Via Phone

[More Information](#)

### **Virtual Yoga**

Thu 06 / 18 / 2020 at 4:30 PM

Where: Via Zoom

[More Information](#)

### **Spring Fling Virtual Happy Hour**

Fri 06 / 19 / 2020 at 5:30 PM

Where: Via Zoom

[More Information](#)

Next Week at Palisades Village  
June 21 — 27, 2020

### **Discussion of "White Fragility"**

Mon 06 / 22 / 2020 at 3:00 PM

Where: Via Zoom

[More Information](#)

### **Storytelling**

Tue 06 / 23 / 2020 at 3:00 PM

Where: Via Zoom

[More Information](#)

### **Virtual Yoga**

Tue 06 / 23 / 2020 at 4:00 PM

Where: Via Zoom

[More Information](#)

### **Author Talk with Ambassador Rick Barton on Peace Works**

Wed 06 / 24 / 2020 at 3:00 PM

Where: Via Zoom

[More Information](#)

### **Chat with Barbara**

Wed 06 / 24 / 2020 at 3:00 PM

Where: Via Phone

[More Information](#)

**Virtual Yoga**

Thu 06 / 25 / 2020 at 2:00 PM

Where: Via Zoom

[More Information](#)

**Virtual Happy Hour**

Fri 06 / 26 / 2020 at 5:30 PM

Where: Via Zoom

[More Information](#)

[ALL OUR EVENTS ON THE VILLAGE WEBSITE](#)

Thank you!

Palisades Village