



Needed Housing Changes for the Aging Aren't Always Major

By Pat Brockett

Changing your home to increase its livability as one ages and/or suffers more handicaps does not always require major renovation.

The Charles Rubio home on the recent CHV Accessible House Tour is a great example. Rubio has made the three-story home of he and his partner (who has suffered a stroke) livable in creative ways.

Beginning with the front door, the home has an intercom system throughout the house that has elimi-



nated the need to maneuver the stairs to answer the door. And the electric garage door opener has a remote control to open and admit known visitors, even when the residents are on the third floor.

There is a step down between the garage and the house where grab bars have been installed to prevent a fall.

They have three different style wheel chairs for different needs: one electric scooter suitable for the street/sidewalk; one electric that is foldable and can be transported for use at places like a shopping mall or the Kennedy Center; and a manual one in case the others are not functioning.

Rubio uses an auger on an electric drill to create the holes for plants when gardening. He also uses a sturdy moveable bench on which he can kneel or sit to tend his flowers and weed.

Stair chairs have been installed between the 1st and 2nd floors and the 2nd and 3rd. Electric bidets have been installed on all toilets and per-



form wash and dry functions and heat the water. There is a lift chair (with electric-seat rise and lower function) and a massage chair for watching TV, and electric powered drapes throughout the house. The shower has a seat and the water controls are on the hand-held showerhead, rather than the wall, for easier reach. They also have installed a walk-in bathtub.

► continued on page 6

IN THIS ISSUE:

- 3 Message from the Director
- 4 From the Advisor to the Board
- 5 Planning Underway, Mary Ellen Abrecht
- 6 Random Musings
- 7 Star For Dinner
- 8 Literary Bookfest, College Class Again?
- 9-11 In Memoriam
- 11-13 May Calendar

The Honorable Eleanor Holmes Norton has accepted the role of honorary chair of the Stephen C. Rogers Birthday Celebration. She will be with us at the home of the Honorable Tom and Heather Foley on Saturday, April 28, from 2-4 p.m.

"Capitol Hill Village's inclusiveness of all who want to be members is much admired," Rep. Norton said. "I hope you will join me and Capitol Hill Village's many volunteers at the annual fundraiser being held on April 28".



May 2012 Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30 Petanque, 4pm, see p. 13	1 Qigong, 10am, see p. 13	2	3 Qigong, 10am, see p. 13	4	5
A P R	I L					
6	7 Petanque, 4pm, see p. 13 Call office by 3 pm to RSVP May 8 Town Hall (p12)	8 Qigong, 10am, see p. 13 CHV Town Hall, 6 pm (p12)	9 AARP: Earned a Salary, 3-5 pm, (p12) Call office by noon for May 10 Cinephiles Club (p12) and for May 11 book pickup, (p12)	10 Cinephiles Club, 6-7 pm	11 Used Book pickup from your home, 9 am	12
13	14 Petanque, 4pm, see p. 13	15 Qigong, 10am, see p. 13 Literary Club, 6-7:30pm, see p. 11	16	17 Call Office by 3 pm for Classic Video Club (p13) and for May 29 clutter collection pickup (p13)	18 Classic Video Club, 2 pm, (p13)	19 Clutter Collection from your home, 10 am, (p13) March on Washington Planning, 10 am – noon (p13)
20	21 Petanque, 4pm, see p. 13 Call Office by 3 pm for May 23 Café Berlin (p13)	22 Qigong, 10am, see p. 13	23 Café Berlin dinner, 6:30 pm (p.13); Call office to RSVP for May 24 Village Opera Society (p13) and for May 25 Balance Class (p13)	24 Qigong, 10am, see p. 13 Village Opera Society, 5-6:30 pm	25 Balance Class 12:30-1:30 pm (p13)	26
27	28 Petanque, 4pm, see p. 13	29 Qigong, 10am, see p. 13	30	31 Qigong, 10am, see p. 13	1	2
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From the Executive Director...

Capitol Hill Village is proudly a "volunteer first" organization. What does that mean, you ask? In the past year, "volunteer first" has meant that we fulfilled nearly 90 percent of our service requests through the hard work and skill of our team of over 260 volunteers.

Capitol Hill Village was the first "village model" in the United States to make use of volunteers in such a way, and the hundreds of Villages forming across the nation are following in our footsteps. They have seen how valuable volunteers can be, and are forming their own teams to answer the calls of their members.

Most folks are mesmerized by the use of volunteers and see it as a great community strength of Capitol Hill. This is true! The Capitol Hill community has a tradition of responding to social challenges by rolling up its sleeves and working together to help one another. I often have the opportunity to tell the story of Capitol Hill Village's beginning and always share that, when our founders asked the community what type of services the Village could offer, an overwhelming majority responded that they wanted a place to volunteer! This, once again, proves how amazing this community is!

There are moments when I have to defend our model. On occasion, some people feel that our use of volunteers is limiting. They think volunteers limit our ability to get the job done. There is a misconception that quality, reliable services only come through vendors or paid staff. This is far from the reality at Capitol Hill Village.

Our reality is that volunteers are providing services that no one else can. As state and local budgets become smaller and smaller, many residential services are becoming harder to access. These services, whether public or private, increasingly are becoming stretched to and beyond their capacity and often become bureaucratic



and difficult to navigate. Our volunteers answer the call and are providing services that are not available through other means. Our volunteers are gifted, intelligent, hold all kinds of skills and interests and want to use them to help their neighbors.

By maintaining a policy of "just say no," Capitol Hill Village empowers its volunteers only to respond to service requests that they really want to do. We do not twist arms or beg, but simply move on to another volunteer.

This means that our members can rest assured that the volunteer who arrives at their door to help wants to be there. We know that they are doing a wonderful job because we follow up on each and every service the Village provides, and I can't remember that last time negative feedback was brought to my attention regarding volunteer services. They're that good!

Furthermore, they absolutely love what they do. For many of our recently retired volunteers, Capitol Hill Village offers them opportunities to serve the community in ways they didn't have time for when they were working. For our 20 and 30-something volunteers, they like the flexibility of serving at times that fit their

► continued on page 5

From the Advisor to the Board

As regular readers, you deserve some SNEAK PEEKS!

Don't miss the opportunity to see the Foley home on Saturday, April 28, 2-4 p.m. Join the celebration there and help us raise funds for our low-income members, while enjoying the tranquility, wonderful angles, art and color that will surround you at the Foley home.

Take a look.



View of The Honorable Tom and Heather Foley living room, beyond which you can see a wall of windows.



The above photo below features the interior courtyard, which can be viewed inside the house from many directions.

Join us in the effort to reach the Capitol Hill Village vision...

Progress toward inclusiveness among Capitol Hill Village members depends on all of us. If you want all of your neighbors to be able to join regardless of income, you'll want to write a check or give your donation electronically to the Stephen C. Rogers Memorial Fund on or before our April 28th gathering.

That is the day we will celebrate with pride one of the best attributes of Capitol Hill Village.

Special Sneak Peek

Capitol Hill Village launched in October 2007—five years ago later this year. There is a birthday present you can give Capitol Hill Village! By October 1, complete the documentation for your durable power of attorney for health care and another for financial matters, get your last will and testament finished, and let us know you have your preparations for the future completed. You can obtain the necessary DC-approved documents from Capitol Hill Village by emailing julle.mag-gioncalda@capitolhillvillage.org or calling 202.543.1778. Our vision is that every member will give this gift to CHV... and to their family and, of course to themselves.

Another Sneak Peek

Thank you to the many members who participated in the housing survey. A report will be available soon. In the meantime, it is clear from



an early review of returns that those who have already chosen to relocate to apartments from town homes are onto something. Moving elsewhere in the neighborhood is on the minds of other members. Most who are thinking about changing residences want two bedrooms and space to surround themselves with the best of their accumulated furnishings. Our members want to stay on Capitol Hill, but not necessarily where they have lived a large chunk of their lives.

Looking Ahead

Make sure you read Jim Hardin's article in the April *Hill Rag*, page 45. There you will learn why Capitol Hill Village is focused on bringing long-term care for very frail individuals and those in rehabilitation to Capitol Hill.

While most Capitol Hill Village members are working, volunteering and traveling, some have had health problems, injuries or illnesses requiring hospitalizations, followed by extended stays in nursing homes. Losing members to skilled care facilities in other parts of DC creates a daily ordeal for family members. Friends and neighbors often give up seeing longtime pals when paying a visit requires a bus ride or car trip. Let's change that by switching to neighborhood long-term care. Watch for a community meeting in June with Capitol Hill Village supporters of this initiative, including our own DC Councilman Tommy Wells.

—Gail Kohn

Planning Underway for Commemorating 50th Anniversary of “I Have a Dream”

By Bernadette McMahon

If you attended the February 11 CHV session on the 1963 March on Washington*, or if you wish you had, you'll be glad to know that a committee has been formed to sponsor a similar event in 2013.

Capitol Hill Village and the Ruth Ann Overbeck Capitol Hill History Project will cosponsor a program in February 2013 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the march and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s “I Have a Dream” speech. We hope to involve people who were eyewitnesses in 1963, as well as young people from the Capitol Hill neighborhood, to ensure that the stories are passed down to new generations.

At this stage, plans are deliberately vague; we hope that those who want to participate have an opportunity to



help shape the event's format. To help define a suitable role for students, we are particularly interested in engaging teachers, scout leaders, and others who work with young people.

A planning session is scheduled for May 19 at the Hill Center in the 3rd floor Frager's Conference Room. All are welcome. Please contact Margaret Missiaen at Missiaen@verizon.net or Pat Driscoll at 202.543.5409 to indicate your interest or suggest people who should be contacted.

*See page 5 of the CHV April newsletter for a report on that event; a full transcript is available on the Overbeck Project website, CapitolHillHistory.org.

From the Executive Director *continued from page 3*

schedules; and, often being far from their families, they enjoy the opportunity to connect with a “family-like” community that volunteering for the Village provides.

We even have stay-at-home parents who volunteer their time as a way to get out of the house and serve, with their young children in tow.

I say all this not to overlook the hard work of our staff and vendors, but to help us all realize that we are not an organization that “just” uses volunteers. We are an organization that successfully and proficiently taps into our community capacity and provides our volunteers with purpose and our members with services that make their membership dues that much more valuable.

So if you are a member, no more guilt about using volunteers! They will get the job done, do it willingly, and in many cases will do it better than anyone you could pay. To our volunteers, thank you, and I know each and every one of you get as much out

of your experiences as you put into them.

Finally, if you want to volunteer, we always are looking for additional folks to join our team. We look for volunteers of all kinds and interests. If you are interested in finding out

more about volunteering, please contact our Director of Volunteer & Social Services, Julie Maggioncalda at jmaggioncalda@capitolhillvillage.org or 202.543.1778.

— Katie McDonough

Mary Ellen Abrecht

Mary Ellen Abrecht's first brush with painting was as a 10-year-old. Then, in 2004, she started classes at the Capitol Hill Arts Workshop, and now the spotlight is on her works at a new Hill Center art show.

Abrecht is the second Capitol Hill Village member to be featured at the Hill Center's rotating art show at the Old Naval Hospital, 921 Pennsylvania Avenue SE. (Works by Claire Kincannon were included in the initial show).

This show, which also includes many bird houses created with an artist's hand, runs through May 20.



Mary Ellen is explaining her painting of a Colorado mountain range, a work she initiated last year while staying at vacation home she had acquired in a bid at the 2011 Capitol Hill Village Gala.

Empty Musings



By Leo Orleans

I don't quite remember how or why it happened—it's been over two years, after all—but I assume that I was asked to contribute something for the new Capitol Hill Village monthly, cleverly titled the Capitol Hill Village News. I must have been flattered, agreed to do it, and since our leadership has not yet said "enough already," I kept contributing an assortment of mostly tongue-in-cheek pieces for our newsy publication.

It therefore was no surprise when I received my monthly e-mail from Diane, our eminent editor, asking what I have in mind for the next issue of our Newsletter. Well, I really don't have anything in mind and since a hoped for idea never popped up, I decided to emulate Congress, kick the can down the road, and wait for something good to happen.

By way of background, I should tell you that about half of my contributions have been written specifically for the Newsletter. The rest were written in the course of several decades and were pulled out of my "Random Musings of a Curmudgeony Retiree," which now exceeds 250 pages, still growing, and covers a great variety of both serious and piddling topics. Lately, and I hope temporarily, I have had trouble finding topics that would be both appealing and appropriate for our audience.

And so, I figure that if the can keeps rolling down the road for a while, I will find a worthy topic or, with luck, get an interesting or just silly suggestion from one of our members. While

we're waiting, however, here is a poetic filler from a non-poet.

A REVELATION

For decades intrigued by poetry published in the *New Yorker* I unsuccessfully searched for comprehension finally convinced that my density denied me the wisdom so artfully communicated by poets. And finally EURIKA. As I twisted in pre-dawn insomnia public radio restored my confidence by airing a revealing discussion between host and poets at this carefully selected hour. "Poetic nonsense" they chuckled is no fluke as it is surreptitiously pursued by scores of rhymesters for their personal amusement. Wow! I think I actually made a poetry.

Housing Changes for the Aging *continued from page 1*

The extent to which a home must have major reconstruction or remodeling will, of course, depend on the needs of the owner and the conditions in the house — as illustrated by the other homes on the Village tour. Joni Bell, who has multiple sclerosis, chose renovation of her two-story home to allow her to live on the lower level. Changes included the addition of a bedroom, reducing the size of the dining room to accommodate a large bathroom with shower, a wider kitchen, and hardwood floors.

Janice Hedges added a platform lift from outside her kitchen to her ground-level gardens, and an elevator to the second floor whose tracks run up the wall. This type of installation required different remodeling of

the house than the elevator installed in the home of Patrick Durnan. His is wall-enclosed, taking up space of an old basement closet plus wall space on the other floors. Janet's elevator assists her with mobility problems re-



sulting from neuropathy, while Patrick's result from hip and back surgery.

Other changes or additions to the houses on tour this year include additional railings within the house; 2nd railing on the stairs; a home gym; grab bars in bathroom, kitchens, and entryway; heightened toilet seats, and replacing the outdoor stairs with a ramp.

This year's CHV Accessible House Tour illustrated that there may not be a cookie cutter solution to the issues a person faces to stay in his or her home. But there are many options available to solve many problems that become greater issues as we grow older.

A Star For Dinner

By Mary Procter

Cascades of wisteria greeted Guest of Honor Nancy Robinette in the sunken garden at the home of Mary Procter and Bill Matuszeski, where two-dozen guests enjoyed wine and cheese on April 9. Dinner was served in the living room, transformed into a sit-down restaurant for 24.

We all were charmed by the endearing modesty of this actor, who can be most intimidating as a fierce (often hilariously so) dowager or embittered spinster. After three decades, she told us, her role this month as Essie in Arena Stage's production of Eugene O'Neill's *Ah, Wilderness!* is the first one where she plays a wholesome mother.

In the lovely, final scene when she and her stage "husband" of 25 years reflect on their own young love, she said, "Husband" Rick Foucheux helped her relax and just go with the playwright's words. Their stage marriage has some staying power: She also played his wife in *Death of a Salesman* and will play his wife again this fall in Gogol's *The Inspector General*.

Robinette got her start in her family's backyard, putting on performances of *Hansel and Gretel* and the like directed by her older sister, to the point that she quit — saying she was being "worked too hard". When her sister dropped her from the cast, she was heart-broken. She has been in theater ever since.

Her first stable home base was the Woolly Mammoth Theater, initially presenting plays in a church basement off 14th Street Northwest. Robinette and fellow actor (and Capitol Hill Village member) Bryan Cassidy reminisced about having to strike the set and fold up the audience's chairs every night after a performance. Her first nomination for a Helen Hayes award reassured her parents that she



Nancy Robinette chats with dinner guests. Nancy Robinette (center) with Andrea and Joe Kerr

had picked a viable career. For many years, she held a day job as a secretary in a law firm, while rehearsing on weekends and increasingly during the week as her roles became more prominent. She still uses temp jobs to bridge between engagements.

Plays work best, she says, when built

by a community of actors and designers who know each other. For example, in her early years in DC theater, Studio Theater committed to using local actors, who formed a community. These days, actors are itinerant. She has dear friends all over the country. She is struck by the differences between New York and DC actors. Washington actors love to ask questions and engage in discussion with the director. New York actors have a depth and precision in developing a character that she admires. She continues to grow as an actor, learning from each play what the playwright was trying to achieve. This focus on the meaning of the play is a change from early in her career, when her main interest was in trying to make her mark as an actor.

Jacob Robinette, her son who accompanied her to the dinner, continues the family arts tradition in New York City, where he manages trans-media projects, such as a current theater piece that he is morphing into a video game.



Literary Hill Bookfest

Three Capitol Hill Village members and a major Village supporter are among the book authors being featured at the second annual Literary Hill Bookfest. The book festival will be held 11 am to 3 pm on Sunday, May 6, in the Northeast Hall of Eastern Market.

CHV members/authors who will be participating in the event, and their new publications, are:

- Claire Kincannon, *Rockin' with Porch Memories*, a compendium of stories, photos, poetry, and vignettes, she helped Loudoun Valley High School students (Purcellville, VA) put together.
- Jean Nordhaus, *Innocence*, deemed by one reviewer "a superb book of poetic art." She also will have several other poem volumes available.
- Louise Smith, *One Hundred Years of Marriage*, a novel in stories about a three-generation family.

Stephanie Deutsch, author of *Booker T. Washington*, *Julius Rosenwald and the Building of Schools for the Segregated South*, will be speaking from 2-2:30 pm. She is a major supporter of CHV.

Other authors will be giving talks beginning at 11:30 am, and the last following Deutsch at 2:30 pm.

This year's Bookfest features 17 writers who live on Capitol Hill and have published recently. Most of the authors will be on hand to talk with visitors about their newest published work. New books and some of their previous ones will be available for purchase.

There also will be a children's section, including Capitol Hill native Katy Kelly. The author of six books for young people, she has a new volume of "Melonhead" appearing in September.

Among the Capitol Hill authors who will be present, and their new books, are:

- Louis Bayard (*The School of Night – a 16th Century cabal*),
- Mary Z. Gray, raised above the family funeral parlor at 301 East Capitol (*301 East Capitol Street: Tales from the Heart of the City.*),
- Robert Pohl (*Wicked Capitol Hill: An Unruly History of Behaving Badly*),

- Chuck McCutcheon (*What are Global Warming and Climate Change: Answers for Young Readers*), and
- John R. Wennersten (*Global Thirst: Water and Society in the 21st Century.*) He will be speaking in the final, 2:30-2:50 slot.

Authors are to receive 75 percent of the sales price of their books sold at the event, while the remaining 25 percent goes to Bookfest for future programming.

College Class Time Again?

Do you remember the December *CHV Newsletter* story advising you that the University of DC and its related junior college offer free auditing of all classes to DC residents 65 years or older? And any class is half price if you want a course for credit? I thought not.

Capitol Hill Village member Sandra Bruce, who has taken a website design junior college class, thinks this is a "GREAT program," and encourages other CHV members to take advantage.

Now would be the time to sign up for summer classes and look through their class list for coming fall classes. Here are program particulars.

Classes are held at any UDC campus, and especially at its convenient junior college campus near Union Station – corner of North Capitol and H Streets. The Circulator Bus goes by Union Station, there is Metro, or a cab costs about \$7, according to Sandra.

There are two summer sessions, May 16 – June 27 and July 2 to August 10. Registration begins May 7 and ends May 15 for both.

A sample of courses is Golf, Literature and Advanced Writing, Spanish I and II, Music Appreciation, Intro to Theatre Arts, World Cult History, and History of DC. The complete listing is viewable at http://www.udc.edu/course_listings/summer2012udc.php.

Fall registration is now through August 22. Fall classes begin August 28. A listing of fall classes can be found at http://www.udc.edu/course_listings/fall2012cc.php. And, of course, Sandra reminds that there are many more courses offered by the 4-year UDC program: <http://www.udc.edu/registrar/schedules.htm>.

If you are registering for the first time, contact Pat Brittingham (202) 276.6593 or e-mail at pbrittingham@udc.edu for an appointment to complete the registration forms. For subsequent classes, you may register on line.

IN MEMORIAM

Paul Luckern, Member & Volunteer of Capitol Hill Village

International Trade Commission Judge Paul Luckern died in January. Luckern was 81 when he retired in August after 27 years of presiding over high-stakes intellectual property trials. He was the longest-serving administrative law judge in ITC history. Luckern also was a Capitol Hill Village member and active volunteer, although many of his Hill friends were unaware of his prestigious work history.

As a Capitol Hill Village volunteer, Paul was a driver. He liked the intimate nature of taking other members where they wanted to go. "...An opportunity for conversations with interesting people," Paul would say.

Fellow members of the Village also knew Paul as a fun-loving guy. He missed the potluck in February. Too bad. Had he been there and had there been a piano, he would have had the assembled group singing with his great renditions of whatever tune was requested.

With his preppy clothes and spontaneous smile, he easily made friends at Capitol Hill Village gatherings. No one knew he was an attorney and a judge unless the conversation turned to work. Work was Paul's passion.

When he began work at the ITC in 1984, the agency was an obscure backwater — a forum for fights over counterfeit toys, as one lawyer described it. But in recent years, the ITC has become the go-to spot for high-tech companies such as Apple to wage patent battles with millions of dollars on the line.

ITC commissioners and staff, in a statement released after his death said, "We consider it an honor and privilege to have worked with Judge Luckern, who was one of the nation's

preeminent intellectual property jurists. ... Judge Luckern was well respected within the intellectual property legal community and widely regarded as a knowledgeable, hard working, and fair judge. For us, he was also a warm friend and colleague. He will be greatly missed." Fish & Richardson partner Ruffin Cordell remembered Luckern as "a giant in the law, a giant in intellectual property practice, and a giant as a judge."

I am glad I knew Paul. He will remain in my memory as a man I liked and enjoyed.

—Gail Kohn

Reuben McCornack, 1942-2012: CHV Member with a Meaningful DC Life



Longtime Capitol Hill resident Reuben McCornack died January 6 from Progressive Supranuclear Palsy (PSP), a rare neurological disorder that also took the lives of Superior Court Judge Pratt, father of former D.C. mayor Sharon Pratt, and British actor and composer Dudley Moore. Capitol Hill Village played a practical and compassionate role in the past few years when Reuben was homebound, with vision, balance and motor skills limitations.

On the Hill

CHV volunteers Dawn Nelson and Karen Kunze came weekly to read to Reuben. As his ability to interact verbally declined, they still communicated their shared insights and opinions. CHV social worker Ariana Kay secured the assistance of Tommy Wells' staff to repair the root-raised sidewalks on our block that contributed to several of Reuben's more than 1,000 falls. The sidewalks were a challenge in navigating his walker and wheelchair over that terrain. Ari-

ana also arranged Boy Scout Troop 380's visit with Reuben, who was an Eagle Scout at the age of 14. He loved hearing their stories and seeing their reaction to his own scouting adventures and mementos.

Reuben and his weekday care provider, Teddy Gonzales, were a familiar sight on their treks to Lincoln Park; to Eastern Market for crab cakes; and up and down East Capitol Street and Pennsylvania Avenue to Frager's, Aatish, and other neighborhood favorites.

Reuben supported neighbor Bernie Prince's leadership in establishing farmers' markets, especially on H Street NE. Reuben hung thousands of door hangers on H Street, encouraging families to take advantage of locally grown products—reminders of his native Kansas.

Work in D.C.

After graduation in 1964, Reuben came to DC, worked for the Republican National Committee, then switched political parties and joined the staff of the Vietnam Moratorium Committee. He helped organize the October 1969 moratorium event in Washington, which had an estimated two million participants. Reuben's antiwar involvement placed him on Nixon's Enemies List. As FBI files and a Republican U.S. Senator later confirmed, when Reuben was on George McGovern's Presidential campaign staff, his files were stolen by the Watergate burglars before their notorious, less successful effort.

In the mid-1970s, he served as Executive Director of the Council on National Priorities—advocating dramatic appropriations priority changes and the transfer of significant funds from defense to social and human needs programs. As part of advance work for trips to Cuba and Palestine by the Conference of Mayors, Reuben met with Fidel Castro

and Yasser Arafat. He also was chief lobbyist for the SANE/Nuclear Freeze Campaign.

He took a few years off to travel to Australia, New Zealand, and other Asian countries, living and working with indigenous peoples and acquiring a lifelong love of their cultures, philosophy, traditions, and food. Adventures included wrestling an orangutan, climbing across a dormant volcano, and challenging the Indian Army to a game of volleyball during its occupation of Leh Ladakh.

In the National Guard during the 1968 riots, Reuben refused to give bullets to the soldiers under his command. Instead, he trained them in nonviolent measures for protecting the citizens under their guard. He later testified to secure the acquittal of several local citizens mistakenly identified and charged with theft. That National Guard experience led him to work in the 14th Street corridor to help those most harmed by the riots.

Reuben founded the nonprofit Hope Housing and then served as a consultant. He spent the last decades of his career raising funds and developing projects on affordable housing for those with special needs. These included people with medical or emotional challenges; victims of domestic violence; senior citizens with low incomes; a hospice for women dying of HIV/AIDS; emergency shelters; and those who at age 18 no longer were eligible for foster care. He worked to provide remodeled apartments that could be owned by individuals, including transgendered persons, who maintained post-treatment drug- and alcohol-free lifestyles, and transitional housing for ex-offenders.

Until his death, and despite PSP limitations, Reuben continued to learn and thrive on his life and neighborhood. His son Andrew joins me in thanking our neighbors and the CHV community for their endless caring.

—Kathleen O'Reilly
(Mrs. Reuben McCornack)

Marguerite Parker Was a Neighborhood Caretaker in SE



Capitol Hill Village member Marguerite S. Parker passed away on July 29, 2011, just 6 months after her husband, George W. Parker passed (see *CHV News* July 2011). The couple had lived at 1534 D Street SE.

Born in Seat Pleasant, Maryland, Marguerite was educated in the District of Columbia Schools and a member of Holy Comforter-Saint Cyprian Catholic Church. A service was held for her at the Holy Comforter Church in August.

Marguerite was a very involved person with her church, family and neighborhood. She loved children and was the unofficial "caretaker" of children in the community as well as her own. According to her obituary, she was a classroom parent, a founder of the Mothers' Club of the Boys' Cub of America and a Neighborhood Block Captain. And she always had time for Sunday morning breakfast with her children and grandchildren at what the family called "the Coffee Shop."

But Marguerite was not stodgy. She enjoyed gambling at the casinos and playing the "numbers." And she loved to listen to rhythm and blues like James Brown, Bobbie Blue Band, B.B. King, Dinah Washington and Billie Holiday.

As Marguerite indicated when interviewed after her husband's death, CHV helped she and George obtain assistance with fixing and painting their dining room and that Katie McDonough continued to keep in touch with her.

She was well known in her neighborhood as someone to go to for advice and comfort. She gave to everyone who called.

If you want to get a hold of her, ac-

ording to the funeral service brochure, her new address is Marguerite S. Parker, 23 Jesus Way, Heaven 72911.

Village Charter Member Ann Schmidt Dies

"It defanged the children," Ann Schmidt joked to the *Washington Post* in 2007 when asked about joining Capitol Hill Village. Ann died February 10, 2012, in her home on Capitol Hill.



Ann was a Charter Member of CHV, recognizing even before it opened its doors the potential help the Village could be to her as a widow who was aging and being encouraged to move and live with her children, a thing that she did not want to do. The services that CHV were able to provide helped to make her children feel more secure with her staying on the Hill, thus the "defanged" comment.

Ann was always happy with her relationship with the Village. She freely hosted CHV events in her home and even taught a young CHV volunteer to knit. Help was provided to her in services like early morning rides to the airport and help with her yard.

She and her husband moved to Washington in 1966. He was a First Amendment lawyer who worked for the U.S. Information Agency under Johnson. He passed on in 2004.

She was a Washington correspondent and columnist for the *Denver Post* and other Colorado based newspapers for nearly 30 years. Her columns often centered on family life and the human condition.

Pat Schroeder, a former Colorado congresswoman and presidential candidate, is quoted as saying "She would collect folks for Thanksgiving that weren't able to get home. Her home was like a Colorado oasis, almost like an embassy, for all of us

swimming in those political waters. A total giver and a wonderful soul..."

Ann's son, Gregory Schmidt, said of his mother and father, that, although staunch Democrats, their house "... was a place where Democrats and Republicans could sit together, talk together and just be together."

—Pat Brockett

Dr. Harold G. Wylie Jr. Passes



Patients of Dr. Harold G. Wylie Jr. viewed "Hal" primarily as an easy-to-talk-to friend, even though he was their psychiatrist.

Yet, Dr. Wylie's medical colleagues speak of him as "brilliant," "trained classically but always pushing boundaries," "a leader," and "a real visionary" whose efforts led to changes and growth in the psychiatric/psychological professions in the Washington-Baltimore area.

"Hal Wylie was a deep renaissance man, but his patients never knew that," commented one psychiatrist and friend. Patients found Hal "down home," observed a Capitol Hill neighbor and friend. "He was totally able to listen and get the other person to talk, totally nonjudgmental."

Dr. Wylie, who with his wife Mavis, was an early member of Capitol Hill Village, passed away in December. His memorial service was held April 21 at the Christ Church Episcopal within the Congressional Cemetery.

While the Wylies have not been CHV activists, Hal did attend some Wednesday afternoon coffee & chat sessions.

Hal Wylie graduated from the Harvard School of Medicine in 1957; he served in the Korean War for the Public Health Service, centering on epidemic intelligence work. Later, Wylie debated whether to follow psychiatry or become an epidemiologist, but chose psychiatry.

He was one of the leaders of the Baltimore-Washington Institute of Psychoanalysis, created by psychiatric professionals for their own continuing development, as well as training medical school graduates as analysts. An active institute teacher who became a training supervising analyst emeritus and served as its director in the mid 90's, Wylie also was a key generator of funds for training as well as psychoanalytic research.

Among professional cohorts, Wylie was known for combining the use of medications with psychoanalysis for his patients long before this became an accepted practice. He continued seeing patients until near his death.

Hal Wylie wrote professional papers for medical journals, many of them co-authored with Mavis (who is a psychologist), touching on adolescence problems, narcissistic disor-

ders, and using physical exams as part of intake practices for a psychiatric clinic. The most mentioned paper was one they published in 1981 on Edward Munch, the Norwegian painter whose ever-remembered painting was "The Scream" in 1893.

Wylie played piano — and took lessons — much of his life, most recently working with a monthly Capitol Hill piano group who analyzed the performance of each session. Hal, says wife Mavis, "felt music spoke better than words did."

One of the Wylie daughters started as a concert pianist, but then became a medical doctor. Her older sister is a psychiatrist, and their brother works in Philadelphia, supporting needy homeless.

—Diane Brockett

Ongoing Events

Please RSVP to all events, and let the CHV office know if you need a ride, by calling 202.543.1778 during regular office hours or by e-mailing info@capitolhillvillage.org

Every Monday 4:00 pm (note new time)

Garfield Park, South Carolina Ave. at 2nd St. SE

Petanque

Open to all

Petanque is the French game of boules, similar to the Italian game of bocce. Beginners can request instruction by calling Paul at 543-7530.

Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:00 am

Capitol Hill Presbyterian Church, 4th Street and Independence Avenue SE

Qigong

for Members only

This gentle, but powerful, Chinese movement exercise is offered by CHV member Joni Bell.

Upcoming Events and Programs

Saturday, May 5 • 9:00 am
Your home

DC Hazardous Waste Pickup

This is the periodic pickup day for hazardous materials and personal papers at CHV members' homes that will be delivered to the District's safe disposal site. Personal papers (medical records or financial files) will be shredded at the drop-off site, viewed by the CHV delivery team to ensure they are destroyed.

Hazardous wastes for pickup include paint, house cleaners, batteries, television, video equipment, and others not accepted in weekly home trash pickup. "Click here to be taken to the website:

Capitol Hill Village recommends that you remove your hard drive from computers you are disposing in the pickup. If you need assistance doing so, call the Village office and we can send a volunteer. **Call 202.543.1778 or e-mail info@capitolhillvillage.org by noon, Thursday, May 3, to request a pickup or volunteer to assist with the drive.**

Members only

Tuesday, May 8 • 6:00 pm

Hill Center, 921 Pennsylvania Avenue SE. Entrance on 9th Street. Fully accessible.

Capitol Hill Village Town Hall Meeting

Capitol Hill Village has grown into an active and vibrant organization that provides valuable community-building activities and services to Hill residents. As we approach our 5th anniversary, we have come a long way from the Village's early days. We invite you to attend our spring town hall meeting on Tuesday, May 8, at the Hill Center. Staff and board leadership will be present to share with you where we have been and where we are going in the future. Please feel free to invite friends and neighbors who may want to learn more about the Village. **RSVP by 3:00 pm Monday, May 7.**

Open to all

Wednesday, May 9 • 3:00-5:00 pm

Hill Center, Sousa Room, 921 Pennsylvania Avenue SE. Entrance on 9th Street. Fully accessible.

AARP: You've Earned a Say

AARP has launched You've Earned a Say to help Americans make their voices heard about the future of Medicare and Social Security—taking the debate out from behind closed doors in Washington and providing people with reliable information about the long-term financial challenges

facing these programs. You've Earned a Say also will give people straightforward information about the proposals that are being debated in Washington – the pros and the cons – without the political jargon and spin. AARP staff and volunteers will conduct a listening session at the Hill Center on May 9 from 3-5 pm. Join and have your voice heard. **Please call the office if you plan to attend no later than 3:00 pm Tuesday, May 8.**

Open to all

Thursday, May 10 • 6:00-7:30 pm

Private home. Call office for address.

Cinephiles Club

We will discuss two movies. See one or both:

- THE KID WITH A BIKE, the latest film from the Belgium brothers Dardenne, featuring a remarkable tale of a boy in search of a father and a young woman who becomes his only adult friend.
- THE DEEP BLUE SEA, a compelling drama of the wife of a British judge who gives up her privileged life style for a troubled relationship with an ex-WWII British pilot.

Call the office to sign up and learn address by noon, Wednesday, May 9.

Members only

Friday, May 11 • Starting at 9:00 am

Your home

Book Donation Monthly Pickup

Friends of the SE Library will be picking up donations of used books, records, music and movie CDs and DVDs from Capitol Hill Village members' front porches. The items will be included in the monthly used-book sale Saturday, May 12 (10 am to 3 pm), in the basement of the library at 7th Street SE, just off Pennsylvania Avenue.

Sign up by noon, Wednesday, May 9.

Members only

Tuesday, May 15 • 6:00-7:30 pm

Private home. Call office for address.

Literary Club

The May selection is *The Hare with Amber Eyes: A Family's Century of Art and Loss* by Edmund De Waal. Described as a "strange and graceful family memoir," the book traces the history of a wealthy and influential European banking family through a collection of elegant Japanese figures

(netsuke) that the author (a well-known British ceramicist) inherited in 1993. Through the figures, De Waal chronicles his family's life in 19th Century Paris and Vienna and the rise of anti-Semitism through which they lose their wealth and homeland. The book has won many awards, received high marks from Club members.

Sign up by 3 pm, Monday, May 14.

Members and volunteers

Friday, May 18 • 2:00 pm

Hill Center, 921 Pennsylvania Avenue SE. Entrance on 9th Street. 3rd floor Frager's Conference Room. Fully accessible.

Classic Video Club

Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb, directed, produced and co-written by Stanley Kubrick. Join fellow Village members to watch Peter Sellers, George C. Scott, and other stellar actors in this great satire of the Cold War. **Sign up by 3:00 pm Thursday, May 17.**

Members only

Saturday, May 19 • 10:00 am

Your home

Clutter Collection: Coins, Medications & Eyeglasses

Are you tired of picking up loose change from the floor or dryer? Do you have enough eye-glasses to open your own optical store? And what about old medications? CHV is hosting its second round of Clutter Collection to collect loose change, eyeglasses and old medications.

Loose change will be counted by volunteers and donated to CHV's general fund. Eyeglasses will go to the Kiwanis Club and old medications will be disposed of safely through a CVS program.

Sign up no later than 3 pm, Thursday, May 17 by calling the CHV office at 202.543.1778.

Members only

Saturday, May 19 • 10:00 am to 12:00 noon

Hill Center, Frager's Conference Room, 3rd floor

Planning Meeting

Please see article on p. ?? about this meeting to plan an event for February 2013 to commemorate the 1963 March on Washington. **If you wish to attend, please call the CHV office (202.543.1778) no later than 3 pm Thursday, May 17.**

Open to all

Wednesday, May 23 • 6:30 pm

322 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Accessibility: a few steps down to entrance.

Dinner at Café Berlin

BY RESERVATION ONLY

Reserve by 3 p.m. on Monday, May 21

Join us for dinner at Cafe Berlin, a popular German restaurant on the Hill. CHV members are being offered a 3-course, \$26 fixed-price meal with a choice between: two appetizers; three entrees (veal, flounder, or chicken); with cherry crumb cake for dessert. The \$26 cost of the meal includes taxes and gratuities. Beverages (including coffee) are additional and charged to the individual consumer. CASH ONLY. We request seating for no more than six at a table, to allow for easy conversation. **Reserve by calling the office (202.543.1778) by 3 pm on Monday, May 21. If you reserve and cannot attend, please call the office to cancel. No-shows are responsible for the cost of the meal.**

Limited to 18 diners.

Members and volunteers

Thursday, May 24 • 5:00-6:30 pm

Private home. Call office for address.

Village Opera Society

"I love opera, but I don't like Wagner." If this describes your feelings, this session is for you. If you already enjoy Wagner's gorgeous music, here's your chance to share your appreciation with others in our group. Sheridan Harvey will give some background on Wagner and play some of her favorite bits of his music and some of yours if you bring the CDs. But the highlight will be listening to Anna Russell's hilarious spoof of the Ring Cycle, where she tells the story and sings all parts. The gathering will be shorter than Wagner's shortest opera. We hope you can join us.

Sign up by 3 pm, Wednesday, May 23.

Members only

Friday, May 25 12:30-1:30 pm

Southeast Neighborhood Library, 7th and D Sts, SE. Accessible from D St.

Balance Class

[Summary for website] Learn to develop strength and agility in order to prevent falls. Join other members in this monthly balance class, which will help you recognize that strength and agility are the best defenses against falls. Practice skills that will keep you on your feet. The class is taught by a physical therapist volunteering from Physiotherapy Associates.

Please RSVP to CHV office by Wednesday, May 23.

Members only
