

The Village View



March 2019

KMV's Community Book Swap . . . a Success!

On Sunday, January 6, Kemp Mill Village debuted its first community event. Held at the Kemp Mill Elementary School, by all accounts the KMV Book Swap was a hit with more than 100 people in attendance including seniors, young families with children, couples and singles. Hundreds of books were on display, and boxes of books were dropped off and taken away.

Our goals for the book swap were to provide our community with a chance to meet new neighbors, drop off and pick up some great reading material, have fun in a social setting, introduce people to the Village and its services, and grow our list of Village members, contacts, volunteers, founders, and interest-group participants. We are pleased to say that we met our goals with flying colors!

During the swap, attendees played an interactive "Meet a Neighbor Bingo" game and were eligible for one of four Amazon gift cards. Specially



created bookmarks, designed by Julie Miller, were given as door prizes. Attendees strolled through books laid out in categories such as fiction, non-fiction, mysteries, sci-fi, hobbies and cooking, children's literature, among other topics, and shared good conversations over light refreshments. As an added surprise, our U. S. Representative, Congressman

Jamie Raskin, stopped by, browsed the stacks, and left with a box of children's books to entertain constituents'



sons and daughters while he meets with their parents in his office on Capitol Hill.

At the end the book swap, the remaining 200+ books were boxed up and donated to the following organizations:

- "Friends of the Library" in Silver Spring,
- Books Thorough Bars, based in Philadelphia
- The Holy Cross Hospital Book Cart
- Greenhill School Library, Chehalis, WA
- Books for International Good Will, in Annapolis
- Long Island's Book Fairies, in Freeport, Long Island

We also distributed the gift cards to the "Bingo Game" winners: Fred Stollnitz, Amanda Vierling, Hadas Kozlowski, and Serena Mayer. Congratulations!

The Kemp Mill Village wishes to thank the following people who helped make the book swap such a success:

INSIDE	
FROM THE PRESIDENT	page 2
OUR FOUNDERS	page 3
INTEREST GROUPS	page 3

continued on page 3

Our Mission

The Kemp Mill Village works to sustain and enrich the lives of residents of Kemp Mill with special attention to people aging in place and those with disabilities, through a network of neighbors providing supportive services and programs designed to improve the quality of life for individuals, families and the community at large.

Our Vision

We envision a neighborhood in which all people are safe, socially engaged, and able to thrive in their own homes, confident that they are valued members of their community.

Our Values

- **Community:** We foster a neighborhood that brings people together.
- **Dignity:** Our members are worthy of honor and esteem.
- **Independence:** Our members are in charge of their own lives.
- **Privacy:** Personal matters should be kept personal.
- **Inclusion:** We welcome everyone regardless of age, gender, race, religion, national origin, citizenship status, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or disability.
- **Reliability:** Our members can count on us.
- **Expertise:** We have the knowledge and skills to provide the assistance our members need and request.
- **Accountability:** We are responsible to our members, volunteers, donors and the community at large.
- **Transparency:** Our business is the community's business.
- **Generosity:** Our volunteers and donors gladly share their time and resources with others.



From the President

by Alan L. Breitler

The idea for Kemp Mill Village (KMV) originated more than a year ago when five community members met to discuss establishing a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping senior and disabled residents of Kemp Mill age in place instead of moving to assisted living or similar facilities. Today, more than 100 residents have donated to the Village and volunteered to offer services to KMV members such as rides to appointments, shopping, friendly visits, prescription delivery, and help with household tasks. We are adding volunteers and full and associate members almost on a daily basis, and the KMV phone (toll-free 1-833-KMV-20902) is ringing more frequently every day, as our momentum increases.

In January, we offered our first rides with the help of the VillageRides scheduling software, and we are beginning to seek member discounts from local businesses. Our kick-off meeting in June 2018 and our book swap in January 2019 were great successes, each with an estimated 100+ participants. More important, I (and others I have spoken with) met neighbors at the book swap they had never before encountered, learned about the diversity and depth of experiences in our great neighborhood, and began to build bonds with other Kemp Mill residents that will strengthen the community.

I am greatly encouraged by the response we are getting. We are filling a community need that complements and goes beyond what other private, public, and religious organizations are doing. *We serve all residents of Kemp Mill regardless of their affiliation with other area resources and groups*, and that can only strengthen our neighborhood and improve the lives of all residents.

I want to invite all Kemp Mill residents to participate in the activities and efforts that support building our Village organization, and make our wonderful neighborhood more welcoming and inclusive. Thanks to all of you who have devoted so much time and effort already. We are well on our way toward achieving our goals.



It All Starts with Our Founders . . .

Thank you to our Kemp Mill Village Founders for their generous start-up support. Our Founders strengthen the community, foster personal connections, help our neighbors stay in their own homes and in the community they love, and generally benefit the entire neighborhood.

The Village looks forward to your ongoing support and participation as we continue to spread the word about KMV and its services in the years to come.

Founders as of February 10, 2019 include:

- Liz and Bill Adams
- Sandy and Hal Axelrod
- Adam and Iris Bashein
- Janet Bolton and Sheldon Lehner
- Alan and Elaine Breitler
- Chichio Hand and Vera Buettner
- Vera and Bernard Ehrlich
- Barry and Karen Fierst
- Pam and Howard Gorin
- Francine Jamin
- Debbie and Marc Katz
- Miriam and Naomi Kawin
- Sterling and Rosalyn King
- Melanie and James Kmetz
- Ellen and Larry Korb
- Richard and Barbara Marcus
- Beverly Moss
- Hedy and Paul Peyser
- Mel and Anita Plotinsky
- Gene Pollock and Kathy Camp
- Carol J. and Lionel Rabin
- Jeanne Reardon
- Vic and Marcia Rosenblum
- Stuart and Judy Rosenthal
- Max and Debi Rudmann
- Ron and Harriet Sheinson
- Lisa and Dave Solomon
- Nancy and Glenn Thompson
- Ira Ungar

Once again...thank you, todah, gracias, obrigado, danke, tatendo, and merci!



Interest Groups Forming Soon!

Would you like to join a book discussion group? How about a knitting circle, bridge club, or walking group? Or maybe you'd like to go to the theater occasionally with some friends and neighbors.

The Village will soon begin forming interest groups, bringing neighbors together to do what they enjoy. Participation will be open to both full and associate members, with people meeting informally in their homes or wherever they choose.

Other Villages around the area offer a variety of groups, including choral singing, yoga, art, Mahjong, poker and others. A member of another Village said, "I didn't know any of my neighbors when I was working long hours downtown. But now I often get together with neighbors, and have probably made eight close friends."

If you'd like to get involved with an interest group, call us at 1-833-KMV-20902 and tell us what you'd like to do. It's a great way to get to know your neighbors! We'll help you get started.

continued from page 1

- KMV Event Committee members: Beverly Moss, Janet Bolton, Karen Fierst, and Barbara Marcus
- Volunteers: Julie and Robin Miller, Kessy and Ya'Rose Sambou, Howard Gorin, and Carolyn Fanaroff
- The KMV Board members, committee chairs and their spouses/partners who dropped off and picked up books, set up the venue, stacked tables, and wrapped up the event
- Pazit Aviv, Village Coordinator from Montgomery County Aging and Disability Services
- Tony Díaz-Cruz, Parent Community Coordinator, Kemp Mill Elementary School
- Photographer: Richard Marcus

And special thanks to all those who attended our event. We could not have done it without you!

Be on the lookout for the KMV's next event and for the 2020 Book Swap!



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Board of Directors

Alan L. Breitler, President
Barbara Marcus, Vice-President/President-Elect
Melanie Kmetz, Secretary
Stuart Rosenthal, Treasurer
Beverly Moss
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Thank you to our supporters:



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