

The Village View



Spring 2020

People in Our Neighborhood

by Karen Fierst



Oh, ... WHO ARE THE PEO-PLE IN YOUR NEIGH-BOR-HOOD,

Could you ever have imagined a situation where the vast majority of the country would be in quarantine? But here we are. So, for this column we posed a question to three KMV founding member couples: "How are you spending your time and coping during this quarantine?"

Each couple expressed sincere gratitude for their own and their family's health and economic stability and the support they receive from friends and family. Each mentioned the myriad challenges and tragedies so many others in our country are facing. Additionally, each is strongly connected to its religious community. These connections in particular have played an important role in the emotional wellbeing of each couple.

Richard and Barbara Marcus, in Kemp Mill since 1987, are both retired, though until recently Barbara continued to work a few days a month from home. Before the quarantine they had begun to establish their retirement lifestyle. Barbara, KMV's Vice President, is among the early pioneers of the organization. Richard also volunteers for KMV.



James and Melanie Kmetz, who both work full time, reside in Kemp Mill with their two children, having moved here in 1998. For the first few weeks of the quarantine James worked from home. Melanie, KMV secretary, works at

a rehabilitation center in Montgomery County proudly serving the most vulnerable during this crisis. With a high school and a college student living at home, Melanie sees the effect of the quarantine on adolescents first-hand.

Marc and Debbie Katz moved to Kemp Mill in 1981. Marc took a leave of absence from his part-time veterinarian job in mid-March because of Covid-19 health concerns.



Since then, he has had to adjust to his new, unexpected situation. Debbie's adjustment is different. She has dedicated her life to volunteer work in the community, which was and is, almost completely conducted online and via telephone. However, Debbie's visits with her 98-year-old father, who lives a few blocks away, have changed dramatically. While she still visits every day, now she stands outside the kitchen window while her father sits inside on a chair. They speak to each other by phone while looking at each other through the window.

Interestingly, these three very different KMV member families, report that they are always busy. They have coped with the quarantine by:

- Adhering to a routine daily schedule.
- Taking full advantage of digital technology.
- Exercising and enjoying the outdoors more frequently.

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What's brewing in the Housing Market? Ask your Realtor, Adam Bashein with RE/MAX Realty Group
Licensed in MD and DC and sponsor of this issue

(C): 301-943-4370, (O): 301-921-4500—ask for Adam or (E): adambashein@gmail.com

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

As you may know, due to the coronavirus pandemic affecting the area, the Board of Kemp Mill Village has found it necessary to temporarily suspend most events and services. We have shifted our emphasis to providing and facilitating services available from other sources (see list below).

At the same time, we are happy to be taking advantage of our new Village Zoom site to set up Virtual Interest Groups and plan virtual events in which we hope you will join. We will be sending out a notice about this shortly.

In the meantime, while our vulnerable senior volunteers are not providing services, our new village administrator, Mayer Resnick, is working to identify younger volunteers who are much less vulnerable and who can provide limited contactless services. If you can help, call him at 1-833-KMV-20902.

The following is a listing of some of the services available to shop, deliver groceries and prescriptions, and provide transportation and free food. We will be expanding this list frequently, and will post it on the Village website (kempmillvillage.org). If you need assistance navigating this list and obtaining services or information, call us at the number above.

TRANSPORTATION

Uber www.uber.com

Senior Connection www.seniorconnectionmc.org

Metro Access (703)721-4478

Cab service Barwood (301)990-9000

SHOPPING AND DELIVERY

Giant and Peapod <https://www.peapod.com/>

Uber Eats <https://www.ubereats.com/>

Safeway <https://www.safeway.com>

Walmart Grocery <https://grocery.walmart.com>

Shalom Kosher <https://shalomkosheronline.com/about/>

Instacart <https://instacart.com> Delivers items from Costco, Aldi, Safeway, and others.

Shipt <https://www.shipt.com/> Delivers items from Target, CVS, Petco, Harris Teeter and Safeway.

Amazon Fresh <https://www.amazon.com> Delivers items from Whole Foods.

FreshDirect <https://www.freshdirect.com>

CVS <https://www.cvs.com/>

FREE FOOD

Christian Reformed Church Food Pantry <https://www.ssrc.org/food-pantry>

Capital Kosher Food Bank <https://www.yadyehuda.org/kosher-pantry.html#/>

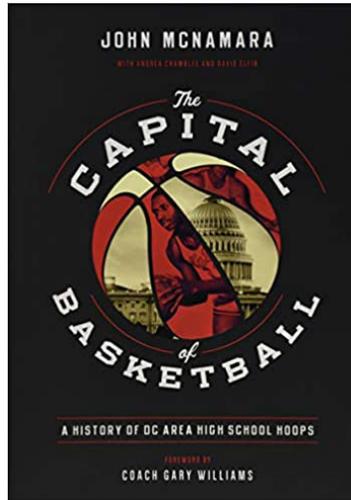
JCA (202)735-3464 Kosher meals and groceries for ages 60+.

Kemp Mill Village and Montgomery County Public Library Team Up for a Book Talk

by Beverly J. Moss

On February 26, the KMV and the Montgomery County Public Library, Wheaton Branch, partnered to host a book event featuring the recently released *The Capital of Basketball: A History of DC High School Hoops*, presented by Kemp Mill resident Andrea Chamblee. Andrea is the wife of the author, John McNamara, a well-known area sportswriter and basketball enthusiast. Andrea shared the background of how the book was conceived, along with her husband's extensive research, including photos, anecdotes and interviews with coaches and players that McNamara conducted before his untimely death. John was one of the five who were killed at the Annapolis *Capital Gazette* newspaper in June 2018. McNamara's nearly completed manuscript was finalized by Andrea and author David Elfin. The published book includes a foreword by Gary Williams, the legendary former University of Maryland basketball coach. It is available in stores, online and through our local libraries.

The evening was a big hit, with the Wheaton Library's media room filled to capacity with community members swapping stories and asking



questions about the rich history of basketball in Metro DC. Andrea told us that many "firsts" in the sport occurred right in our backyards and schools—which, in turn, brought lots of comments, inquiries and acclaims from the audience. To further social interaction, light refreshments were provided and a small basketball-themed door prize, created by local student Julia Miller, was available as a take-away for event attendees. The event wrapped up with book sales and signings by Andrea.

In addition to thanking Andrea Chamblee and her support team for a wonderful session, the KMV Events Committee (Barbara Marcus, Karen Fierst, Robin Meltzer and Beverly Moss) would like to thank Dianne Whitaker, Chris Borowski and the MCPL Wheaton Branch library staff for their help with the venue, setup and promotional support that made this program such a success.

As Alan Breitler indicated, KMV is working on some exciting online programs. Stay tuned and check our website, newsletters and emails for more information as these programs are finalized and announced.

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- Talking on the phone more frequently and longer.
- Eating dinner together more often is a change in the Kmetz household.
- Reading for pleasure more in both the Katz and Marcus households.

The challenges they share:

- Food shopping—whether using a delivery service or donning a mask and gloves to venture into the supermarket.

- Missing face-to-face communal prayers, special occasions and holidays usually shared with friends and family. The inability to see loved ones face-to-face is by far the most difficult aspect of the quarantine. Nothing substitutes for in-person contact with those you love.

In spite of that, all count their blessings and do what they can to improve the lives of those less fortunate, whether by donating time, money and/or food in our community and beyond.



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