

HomeHaven News

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OCTOBER 2021

Message from the Executive Director

Photo by Maxene Kohler



October begins the new fiscal year at HomeHaven and marks the anniversary of when I came to work here, four years ago. It's tempting to look back at the past year, and we will do plenty of that at the Annual Membership Meeting on Sunday, October

24 at 3pm (*please put it in your calendar now – thanks!*). I had hoped it would be an in-person event, like the wonderful picnic we had outdoors in June. But our Health & Wellness committee advises there's still too much risk getting a large group together indoors, even a fully vaccinated group, because we are seniors, and because the illnesses and infirmities of older age bring additional immune vulnerability. *It's just not worth it.*

So we will continue to invite fully vaccinated members to small in-person gatherings of various sorts. And we'll schedule outdoor activities as long as the weather permits (thank you Peggy Atherton and Francie Irvine for planning "Walk & Talks" and hikes around town.) And we will, of course, continue to inform and entertain you with a variety of presentations on Zoom.

I want to thank Fred O'Brien for his generous and exceptional service as HomeHaven's president for

the past three years. We worked closely together, making plans and solving problems. I relied heavily on Fred's steady approach to even the thorniest of issues. His intelligence and sense of humor got me through tough times and countless meetings as we responded to the constraints of COVID these last 18 months. Fortunately he will continue on the Board for a second term. Thanks also to Patty Langdon, who served as vice-president for the past two years, and as secretary for three years prior to that, while being a Leader of the Hamden Village. She has been a consistent and reliable voice of reason, keeping us focused and on track for her six years on the Board. Patty will continue as a Leader of the Hamden Village, where she is a warm and welcoming presence.

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ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Sunday, October 24,
3-5 pm Via Zoom

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Generous support for HomeHaven provided by:



Message from the Executive Director *continued from page 1*

Volunteer services are up and running, and I invite you to take advantage of the opportunity to help out in some way. Can you drive someone just once a month? Can you offer IT help or do an odd job or household task for someone in your Village? Can you make a few calls or an occasional visit to a homebound member? The Office and our committees coordinate all of this; you just need to let us know what you can do.

HomeHaven's functioning as a volunteer-based organization depends on everyone doing *some small thing*. If volunteering to drive or visit isn't your thing, how about this: Would you share your avocation or expertise with us at a *Lunch & Learn*? Would you read your poetry or prose? Do you have knowledge in some area that would benefit our community? You could give a presentation or volunteer on one of the many committees that ensure the smooth operation of our overall program. *Call or email me, please.*

As you volunteer, you may gain a greater feeling of connection to other members of HomeHaven. You might also feel more dedicated to our mission, which is "to help our members be active, independent, and productive as they grow older in the comfort of their homes and communities." Makes sense, doesn't it?

Did you know that many HomeHaven members live independently well into their 90s and credit their local Village with their ability to do so? Successful independent living depends upon strong connections and helpful friends and neighbors, i.e., your Villagers, who lend a hand or an ear when needed.

We need your involvement and participation for HomeHaven to succeed. We are part of a national model – there are hundreds of villages throughout the U.S. – based on the idea that life after retirement can be happy, active, and productive. But this doesn't

happen automatically. Like so many things in life, it only works if you work for it. So, I invite you to do just that: work it and it'll work for you!

Coming up this fall:

We are re-launching our important PPP program: *Putting a Plan in Place*. Dr. Leo Cooney got us started with his excellent presentation on Advance Directives last month. We will also soon hear an attorney's perspective on PPP, and we will follow that with workshops in your Villages to help you identify obstacles you may be facing and take the next steps.

A postscript about our new logo:

You've probably noticed that the HomeHaven logo at the top of this newsletter is a little different from what you are used to seeing. We took our sturdy little red house and *enhanced it* with a modest tree, a universal symbol of life and growth, because we can all continue to grow and thrive, whatever our age. But we can't really do it alone. So, we cradled the house in a helping hand, because we all need some help sometimes. Finally, we tweaked the colors a bit, from the elegant and sophisticated grey and red to the warmer tones you see here. It is my hope and intention that this new version of our much-loved "house with an H" conveys the warmth and vitality of our HomeHaven community!



Lauri J. Lowell

HomeHaven News

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Layout and design by PIROET

Thanks to Ellen Ryerson for her help in editing and proofreading this edition.

HomeHaven's Mission Statement

We help our members remain active, independent, and productive as they grow older in the comfort of their homes and communities. We provide social and educational activities, companionship, volunteer opportunities and services, and referrals to qualified professionals.

JOIN US!

For information, call the
HomeHaven office at 203.776.7378
or email us at
info@homehavenvillages.org

Remembrances of Peter Wells

(February 1941 - September 2021)

Photo by Rick Allen



“Peter was a past Co-Leader of Amity Village and helped to create and write the PPP – Putting a Plan in Place – to help HomeHaven members plan and prepare for the end of our lives. I considered him a friend and mentor. I will miss his friendship and wisdom.” — Rick Allen

“Peter was the first HomeHaven person (except Bitsie, of course) who spoke to me. He came up to me at my first annual meeting, seeing that I didn’t know anyone, and introduced himself. A typical move – he noticed and he welcomed. That was the beginning of a beautiful friendship. We shared many dinners in different languages, occasional drinks or a lunch at each other’s houses, and many good conversations. I miss him.” — Patty Langdon

“When Peter and Wendy joined HomeHaven, they became active immediately. They signed up to drive people and could be counted on to take even the most difficult people food shopping. They were a real mainstay for the Amity Village, as well as serving on HomeHaven committees. I was thrilled when they moved into Whitney Center about a year ago; Peter was so kind and loving with Wendy.” — Bitsie Clark

“Peter and I were classmates at Yale, and he and Wendy were supportive, if not directly engaged, with my daughters at Hopkins. The Wellses were fun to have at dinners and parties. Peter and I shared several committee duties. We cooked in different languages together, and Peter and I produced a number of very basic videos for HH projects. The Wellses own several of my former wife, Anna Held Audette’s works, including a knockout large lithograph of an Egyptian temple which held pride of place in their home in Woodbridge. Peter and I often talked at length about our careers and our post-career prospects and plans. His splendid picture sums him up and makes me sad.” — Louis Audette

“I am so sorry. It was a loss to Amity Village when he moved to Whitney Center and even more now that he’s died. It’s a wonderful picture of him, and catches his personality as well as his face. How very, very sad.” — Libby Meyer

“Peter was a scholar and gentleman, a delight to know and a major contributor to HH and Amity Village. An exemplary HH fellow.” — Fred O’Brien

“Peter was not only a good colleague but also a friend during my thirty years at Hopkins. He filled a wide variety of positions in his long tenure there. Regardless of his official duties, he always showed remarkable insight and compassion for students who struggled either academically, psychologically, or socially. I became a better teacher because of Peter Wells.” — Susan Feinberg

“I have wonderful memories of fun at Peter and Wendy’s for Soup Sundays. Both Peter and Wendy were so helpful as we got Amity Village off the ground; they were believers in the Village to Village movement and supportive in all ways. I am saddened to hear of his death.” — Kate O’Brien

“Peter and Wendy’s Soup Sundays were our first introduction to the camaraderie of Amity Village and HomeHaven; they could not have been better. They entertained with ease and created an environment where all shared. We also saw them at Sprague Hall frequently. Peter’s personality is perfectly captured in the lovely photo of him. He will be missed.” — Diane and Walter Ariker

“Peter came to help me plant a Spring garden while I was in the middle of cancer treatment. Some of those plants are still there. What a treasure he was.” — Jeannie Drury

“I have such happy memories of him from meetings of Cooking in Different Languages.” — Kerry Snyder

“What I most remember about Peter was his wonderful twinkly smile, something of a mischievous little boy. The first time we hosted Amity Village, I scarcely knew who he was. He appeared early, helped to set up the tables, and within minutes, I felt I had known him for ages. He was a truly generous man who had the gift of turning strangers into friends. It was a privilege to know him.” — Helen Cooper

“I asked Peter if he would work with me to help members with end-of-life planning. It was an important and sensitive subject that needed Peter’s wisdom and heart. Working with Lynda West, we launched ‘Putting a Plan in Place.’ That was Peter’s last project for HomeHaven. He was a natural teacher and a kind and generous friend. I will miss him.” — Lauri Lowell

HEALTH MATTERS: Screening for Diabetes Mellitus

by Phil Pierce, MD, and Pat Jackson Allen, APRN

Diabetes is a common chronic condition. It becomes even more common in older individuals, occurring in a quarter of the population over age 65. While occasional elevated blood glucose levels commonly appear in our 50s, they are not harmful. But prolonged elevations (hyperglycemia) should be avoided. If annual screening indicates changes in your body's ability to regulate and utilize glucose, work with your health care provider to monitor and control your blood glucose levels.

We don't know exactly why our ability to metabolize carbohydrates changes with age, but the reasons probably include changes in diet and activity level, weight gain, level of insulin secretion from the pancreas, and insulin resistance, a decreased ability of our cells to use the insulin our pancreas produces to regulate glucose metabolism. These changes lead to elevated levels of sugar in our blood, but symptoms of glucose elevation may go undetected.

An annual physical and laboratory screening will often include testing for diabetes mellitus. In addition, some medical organizations recommend screening for those who are overweight.

More than one test may be ordered. The most common tests are:

1. Fasting blood sugar (FBS) – a blood draw after an overnight fast or eight-hour fast assesses the actual glucose level in the blood. If the pancreas secretes inadequate insulin to control glucose metabolism, or if insulin resistance has developed, the blood sugar level will be elevated. Normal fasting glucose for people without diabetes is 80-90 mg/dL with a range of 70-120 mg/dL.
2. Hemoglobin A1c – this test measures the amount of glucose attached to your red blood cells. It provides an “average” glucose value over the past 3 – 4 months (the life of a red blood cell) so daily changes in diet or activity do not affect the results. An A1c level of 6.5% or below is considered normal.
3. Oral glucose tolerance test – This test is done in the morning in a fasting state; it measures blood glucose concentration 2 hours after ingestion of a 75-g oral glucose load.

Sensitivity: These tests are similar in their ability to identify people who have diabetes or are at risk for it (pre-diabetes). The hemoglobin A1c has the advantage of being an assessment over a long period of time, whereas the FBS can give a spurious result if you change your diet habits prior to the test or have an acute illness.

Specificity: As with all screening tests, it's wise to repeat testing before making a diagnosis or initiating treatment.

Convenience: The FBS and oral glucose tolerance tests require an overnight fast. The glucose tolerance test typically requires 2 blood draws 2 hours apart. Fasting status does not affect the hemoglobin A1c; it can be performed any time of the day.

Phil Pierce is a member of the Health and Wellness Committee and Amity Village. Pat Jackson Allen is chair of the Health and Wellness Committee and a member of Amity Village.




... AT YOUR SERVICE!

In the past three months, HomeHaven provided members with:

- 16 rides by volunteer drivers
- Numerous phone or socially distanced visits by volunteer visitors and Village Leaders
- 11 computer assists and numerous Zoom assists by volunteer computer helpers
- 14 referrals for household maintenance, information, and home health services

Note: Members often call a service provider more than once or share names of providers with other members. You can help us keep accurate records by always letting the office know each time you use a provider originally recommended by HomeHaven. **Thanks so much!!**

Look for monthly reports giving rolling three-month totals.



Kerry Triffin: Incoming HomeHaven President

by Kaye Maggart

Kerry Triffin, a resident of New Haven since 1951 and a former owner of Fairhaven Furniture (once called Fairhaven Woodworks), brings a wealth of community experience and involvement to his new post as HomeHaven President. Although he joined the organization only two years ago, he and his wife, Liz Orsini, have become frequent participants in Amity Village gatherings, and he has worked on the HomeHaven Membership Committee since 2020.

When he was a student, he and his brother Eric were active in the early days of the New Haven Food Co-op when it was just a buying club in the Hill neighborhood. In the late 70's and early 80's, he, Liz, Eric, and others started a collectively-operated vegetarian restaurant on Howe Street called *Down to Earth*, an outgrowth of the NIH-funded program Training for Urban Alternatives – Co-op America.

After finishing both undergraduate and business degrees at Yale, Triffin branched away from the food co-op movement and followed his entrepreneurial instincts, starting Watercomfort Waterbeds with stores in New Haven and Guilford. In both his business and his private life, he still considers personal values and optimism to be at the heart of all he does: "I am towards the far end of the 'can-do' spectrum," he laughs.

Triffin stresses that cooperation with others underlies this personal drive – a lesson he learned early on from his parents. His father, Robert Triffin, a Belgian economist and Yale professor, who helped develop the Euro currency, lived by the motto "L'union fait la paix" (Unity leads to peace.) On the local level, his mother taught him that petition campaigns can influence even Connecticut highway construction plans when her advocacy group forced the relocation of Exit 6 on Interstate 91.

In 1981, Triffin started Fairhaven Woodworks out of the basement of his communal household on Pine St. in Fair Haven, eventually expanding it to a large 1902 factory building, where he designed and built hardwood furniture. His parents' lessons in grassroots power served Triffin well during this period as a local



Kerry Triffin hiking near his home in Bethany with his dog, Isla

businessman in Fair Haven, where his persistent efforts helped finally alter the Grand Avenue Bridge design in 1984 and block further dumping in the Fair Haven marshlands.

When they sold the business in 2016, Kerry and Liz knew they wanted to stay in the area for retirement. Since one of their daughters lives in Stowe, VT and the other in South Beach-Miami, FL, the idea of joining a neighborhood village for both long-term support and social activities was appealing.

His local business experience and long personal commitment to the greater New Haven area help Triffin see potential for HomeHaven to expand its goal of neighbor helping

neighbor: "The greatest value for me has always been interpersonal relationships. Even in business, the bottom line was less important than the people I worked with, the customers we served, and the values we live by."

Photo of Kerry Triffin by Liz Orsini

Kaye Maggart is a member of Hamden Village.

Garden Party for Prospective Members



Photo by Lauri Lowell

HomeHaven members and staff get ready for a party for prospective members under a tent in Helen Robinson's yard on September 14. Left to right: Louis Audette, Kathy Denardo, Peggy Atherton, Helen Robinson, Gretchen Kingsley, Maury Klein, Carolyn Gould, Rick Allen, Kate Hay.

IT: Cooookies!

by John G. Sawyer

As the Cookie Monster will tell you, cookies are (normally) round confections containing sugar, flour, chocolate, more chocolate, and even more chocolate.... Though available from both grocery stores and bakeries, they are best when fresh-baked at home. In fact, our daughter is an acknowledged “master of cookies” in Hopewell, NJ. A hint to his mother from our grandson Hugo that “the boys are hungry” leads to, as if by magic, the appearance of cookies.

However, as tasty as they may be, this is not the kind of cookie we are discussing here. To quote Wikipedia, cookies are “small blocks of data created by a web server while a user is browsing a website which are then placed on the user’s computer or other device by the user’s web browser.” The following is excerpted from PC Magazine’s Encyclopedia:

Cookies Are Beneficial

Cookies are commonly used to “maintain the state” of a browser session. For example, users can place items in a shopping cart, switch to another page or even another site, and when they return, the site recognizes them and the current state of the cart. Cookies contain a range of URLs (addresses) for which they are valid. If the Web browser or other HTTP application sends a request to a Web server with those URLs again, it sends along the related cookies. For example, when your user ID and password are stored in a cookie, it saves you from typing in the same

information all over again when accessing that service the next time. By retaining user history, cookies allow the website to tailor the pages and create a custom experience for each individual user.

Your Cookies Know You

Quite a bit of personal data may reside in the cookie files in your computer. As a result, this storehouse of private information is sometimes the object of attack.

First-Party Personal Cookies

The default settings in your Web browser typically allow “first-party” cookies, but not “third-party” cookies. First-party cookies are created by the website you are visiting and are necessary to keep track of your personal preferences and the current session.

Third-Party Tracking Cookies

Third-party cookies are created by a website other than the one you are currently visiting. A third-party advertiser on that site is an example. The purpose of such cookies is usually to track your surfing habits, which is why third-party cookies are considered an invasion of privacy and riskier than first-party cookies.

Settings in your Web browser (Chrome, Safari, Internet Explorer, Edge, Firefox, etc.) control what cookies can be saved and may offer rules for deleting cookies after some time. In general, although these cookie files are small, they accumulate over time and may slow your browser’s response time. In general, you should clear cookies on your computer every six months at a minimum. If you use the internet a lot, clear more often.

As the instructions for clearing cookies vary from one browser to another, I recommend that you do a search phrased something like “How to clear cookies from Xxxxxx?” (Xxxxxx is the name of your browser as mentioned above.) Some returns from this query may refer to “cache” and “cookies” at the same time. Cache is used to store online page resources to decrease the loading time when you ask for the page again. You should clear cache along with cookies.

By the way, Safari is the default Mac browser; the default Windows browsers are Internet Explorer (prior to Windows 10) or Edge (Windows 10). Chrome is a product of Google, and Firefox comes from Mozilla, a non-profit.

John Sawyer serves on the IT Committee and is a member of the Amity and Westville Villages.

September Walk and Talk



Walk and Talkers enjoyed lunch at Sherkaan Indian Street Food restaurant after a tour of Yale gargoyles. Left to right: Jean Spencer, John Sawyer, Pam Stanton, Avril Winks, and Al Atherton, tour leader.

HOUSEHOLD SERVICES COMMITTEE: Volunteers Needed! Lightweight Chores!

by Hal Spitzer

In newsletters over the last few years, we have asked for volunteers to help with minor chores – ones that are relatively easy for some of us to perform, but a hardship for others. Recently I received an email from Patty Langdon, which not only solicited this kind of volunteering but also included a list of potential tasks. Patty sent this to the Hamden and North Haven Village members as well as the other Village Leaders, in case they wanted to forward this message to their members. I corresponded with Patty, and with her permission, the list follows:

- Change a smoke alarm battery
- Help hang a picture or even a few pictures
- Help move a few light cartons or boxes
- Help with weeding or other light garden chores
- Help with snow shoveling
- Help with hanging screens or putting up storm windows
- Bring something up from the basement or down from the attic.

Offering this kind of help is the essence of HomeHaven. We welcome all volunteers, but in this instance, we're asking members directly: "With what chores could you use help? What tasks were easy at one time but are now difficult? What have you had to do that you wished you had assistance for?" Please send your response to me (hsspitzer@gmail.com) or Kate in the Office

(hkateh@gmail.com). Expanding the list of minor chores that don't really need a professional handyman or tradesperson will make it easier to find volunteers.

We once again encourage our members, especially the newer ones, to get our free home safety assessment. It comes with your HH membership. Home safety is crucial: even if you don't move forward with the recommendations, it is important to know how to improve your living situation as you age in place.

Hal Spitzer is chair of the Household Services Committee and is a member of Hamden Village.



Happy Birthday to HomeHaven members with a birthday in October

Jean Adnopoż Mary Barnes
Betsy Barnston Reggie Belmont
Judy Birke Norman Chonacky
Bitsie Clark Helen Cooper
Joseph Dobrowolski Gene Festa
Catherine Forrest Howard Garland
Karlee Gifford Marcelle Guth
Pam Hartigan Hanna Hyland
Maija Jansson Ernest Kohorn
Jack Lawson Kaye Maggart
Celeste Markle Susan Matheson
Patrick McCreless Fred O'Brien
Sara Ohly Phil Pierce
Maggie Powell Rebecca Raffaelli
Morry Sheehan Steve Victor



Welcome, New Members!

Diane Dolan and Allan Smits – *Amity Village*

Priscilla and Bob Dannies – *East Rock Village*

Christine Janis and John Deming
– *Hamden Village*

Margretta Seashore – *Westville Village*



Tenth Anniversary Campaign Committee Report

This report comes in two parts: first, the facts and figures from Andrew McLaren, the Campaign Coordinator, and second, a word from Jane Jervis, our amazing Campaign Chair.

Before I get to the details, let me say that the Campaign Committee's work provided wonderful insight into what HomeHaven means. Fellow workers became friends. Engagement in pursuit of the common good added to personal enjoyment of HomeHaven. I was inspired by enormous generosity and wisdom on all sides and, especially, by Jane's leadership. Thanks to all who asked and all who gave – and some of you who still will!

Why a campaign for sustainability? And how did we do?

HomeHaven has incurred small, intermittent annual deficits since its inception. We wanted to have a sum of money invested that would provide enough annual income to eliminate these. Recognizing that emergencies happen, we also needed to have a greater financial backstop. We wanted to keep increases in dues to a minimum. And finally, we felt it important to have funds available for projects that would enhance what we offer our members and thereby add to our organization's longevity by attracting more members. Our goal was to raise \$500,000 through a combination of planned and cash gifts over a three-year period. One year out, we have documented planned gifts of \$211,000, cash in hand of \$177,343, and pledges of \$84,800, for a grand total of \$473,143. With two years to go, we believe we cannot fail to meet and exceed our target and are happily declaring victory, disbanding our committee, and handing over follow-up management to the Fund Development Committee.

How will the money in the Sustainability Fund be spent?

An Investment Committee has already started a phased program of investment in stocks and bonds, with the intent of generating income for the organization while also growing the fund principal. The Board has adopted a Board Resolution that gives the Board the responsibility for determining how the income generated by the Fund and the principal of the Fund may be used. The Resolution stipulates that the uses of the Fund must contribute to HomeHaven's financial strength for the future. This gives the Board flexibility to make decisions based on current and future needs.

The Committee is glad its work has been a success. So many thanks to all of you for turning our hopes into reality!

– Andrew

When Andrew approached me to chair this campaign, we faced substantial obstacles: first, I had recently promised myself that I would not accept any more chairpersonships for at least a year, and second, I hardly knew Andrew. Could I trust his promise that he would do all the work? I'd been conned before! But by the time I felt myself yielding I thought, if he can persuade me to do this, he'll be able to coax HomeHaveners to give. I was right – witness a three-year campaign almost complete in Year One!

So, my first thanks go to Andrew, fundraiser par excellence and friend. A close second, my thanks go to you, the leaders and members of HomeHaven. Ever since our timid beginning more than ten years ago, you have been there for one another and for HomeHaven. You have laughed together and cried together, helped the organization when asked, and helped one another even before being asked. HomeHaven's success is your success – all of you. I am so proud of every one of you. Thank you!

– Jane

THE COMMITTEE

Jane Jervis, Chair
Peggy Atherton
Louis Audette
Bill Brainard
Bitsie Clarke
Frank Estes
Bill Graustein
Patty Langdon
Lauri Lowell
Andrew McLaren
Fred O'Brien
Sheilah Rostow

Jane Jervis is a member of ERV and a founding member of HomeHaven. Andrew McLaren is a member of ERV and serves on the HH Board.

INTRODUCTIONS

The past year has prevented us from getting to know new members, so the next several issues of this newsletter will include “profiles” of new members of HomeHaven’s villages.

AVRIL WINKS, Peggy Atherton

I was lucky enough to be able to meet with Avril Winks just after her three-week vacation at Leetes Island in Guilford, and just before she left for her two-week trip to Cincinnati, OH, where her son and his family live. You might guess that she loves to travel!

A native of New Zealand, Avril first came to New Haven in 1957. When I asked her why she was here, her reply was “for Yale, of course.” Avril attended Queen Margaret College, a Presbyterian boarding school in Wellington, New Zealand from age six to eighteen. She met her husband, Robin Winks, on a ferry traveling from Wellington to South Island. She said he was behaving like “a rude, loud American.” Somehow, after disembarking from the boat, she convinced him to join her later that evening on a rowboat. While in the rowboat, she jumped overboard for a swim, abandoning him. He apparently did not know how to swim, so she decided to swim back and row him ashore, which led to a successful 51-year marriage.

They were married in New Zealand in 1952, after Robin earned his master’s degree from Victoria University. They then moved to Colorado where Robin earned a second master’s degree from the University of Colorado. Later, he received a Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins in Baltimore. One of Avril’s happiest memories of Baltimore was singing Bach’s *St. Matthew’s Passion* with Robin and the chorus of the Peabody Institute of Music, now part of Johns Hopkins University.

They moved to New Haven in 1957, after a year at Connecticut College. He taught both British and Canadian history. He was Head of Berkeley College from 1977 to 1981, and Avril, who is an excellent cook, did the catering for Berkeley College’s grand events while he was the Head of College. Her portrait hangs in the dining room of Berkeley College.

Not only did Robin teach history, but he wrote about intelligence gathering, was involved with the National Park Service, and reviewed books of mystery fiction. From 1969 to 1971, Robin served as U.S. Cultural Attaché to the American Embassy in London, and was a regular adviser to various governmental agencies. (For more information about Robin W. Winks, check the April 8, 2003 [Yale News](#).)

In addition to Robin’s other activities, he worked for a year as a lecturer for Lindblad, a “small ship” cruising company. Avril and he traveled all over the world, visiting Canada, Great Britain, New Zealand, South Africa, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Samoa and Australia. They also were in Malaysia, where they attended the founding of The National Research University in Kuala Lumpur.

Avril is an excellent gardener and she loves music. She sings with the Vintage Voices at the Neighborhood Music School, attends the opera in New York City, and enjoys musical programs at the School of Sacred Music. Following her husband’s death in 2003, Avril moved to an historic condominium at 311 St. Ronan Street, in East Rock Village. Avril has two children and four grandchildren. Her son, Eliot Myles Winks, lives in Cincinnati and is married with two children. Her daughter, Honor, lives in Atlanta; she is married and also has two children.

Bitsie Clark was the first person to talk to Avril about HomeHaven. She sowed the seed that led to Avril joining HH in 2020. We are all delighted!

Peggy Atherton is a member of ERV; she organizes “Walk and Talk” events.

ERV August Happy Hour



Photo by Karen Schneider

ERVers gathered for an outdoor Happy Hour at East Rock Brewing Company on August 26.

HH ONGOING EVENTS

Members Only

MEMOIR WRITING GROUPS

The groups meet every second and fourth Monday of the month for an hour and a half. We're Zooming these days, and it's working beautifully. For more information or if you would like to attend a meeting to see how it works, please email Harriet Bergmann at hfb183@gmail.com.

PINS AND NEEDLES

Monday, Oct. 4 3:00pm. In-person!

We will meet outside on Carolyn Gould's porch. RSVP to Carolyn at lcgould@snet.net or 203-288-9155. Bring a project and enjoy good company and lively discussion. New members are always welcome at these monthly gatherings. If you would like to join the group, please call Kathy Denardo at (203) 687-8835. You must be fully vaccinated to attend.

PLAY READING GROUP

Thursdays, Oct. 14 & 28.

Play Reading: *The Comedy of Errors*, by William Shakespeare. Zoom.

Play Reading is back and on Zoom (for now)! There is a limit of 12 players, or you are welcome to listen as the "audience." **Registration is required.** Please register through the HH calendar.

BOOK GROUP

Monday evenings, 7pm, every 5 weeks.

All genres welcome! Please contact Peggy Atherton peggyatherton@yahoo.com or 203-273-6118) for the current title & meeting time.

August Westville & Amity Villages Coffee Hour



On Tuesday, August 24th, 18 people met at Bloom in Westville for the first joint Westville & Amity coffee hour since December 2019! It was a beautiful sunny day with wonderful conversations all around.

Photos by Rick Allen



Events: October

The Office will be closed on Monday Oct. 11 for Indigenous Peoples Day.



Monday, Oct. 4. 8am.

Bird Walk in Edgewood Park.

Led by Bill Batsford.

Join an early morning walk in Edgewood Park to explore & learn about the birds who nest & rest in the park. Meet in the parking lot near the tennis courts. Please register through the HH calendar. (Rain date: W 10/6.) **Members Only.**

Sunday, Oct. 24. 3-5pm. On Zoom.

HH Annual Membership Meeting.

Come for the friends and stay for the Year-in-Review! **Members Only.**

Friday, October 22. 2pm. On Zoom.

HH Poets & Writers presents

Poems by Hank Heifetz, Hamden Village.

Members Only.

Remember to check out the HH Happenings on Fridays for all the latest on HH gatherings, presentations, and general goings on.

HOMEHAVEN OFFICE

☎ 203-776-7378 ☎

info@homehavenvillages.org

Generous support for HomeHaven provided by:

Whitneyville Food Center: 203-248-4471



www.thelandingofnorthhaven.com
203-780-0111

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Village Gatherings

All HHers attending in-person events should be fully vaccinated.

AMITY

Thursday, Oct. 7. 5pm

Virtual Happy Hour!

Join us on the first Thursday of every month! Check your email or the HH calendar for details.

Tuesday, Oct. 26. 3pm

Village Coffee with Westville

We are meeting for coffee again! Westville & Amity villagers are meeting on the 4th Tuesday of every month. Join us in the courtyard at Bloom (794 Edgewood Ave @Central Ave).

DOWNTOWN

Watch your email and HH Happenings for the latest of when and where we are gathering.

EAST ROCK

Saturday, Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30. 5pm

Virtual Happy Hour!

Join us every Saturday!

Wednesday, Oct. 13. 10am.

Coffee @The Neighborhood Café, 947 State St.

Thursday, Oct. 26. 4pm.

Happy Hour @East Rock Brewery, 285 Nicoll St.

HAMDEN/NORTH HAVEN

Tuesday, Oct. 12. 10:30am

In-person Coffee @Best Video, 1842 Whitney Ave.
See you then!

WESTVILLE

Thursday, Oct. 14, 28. 5:00pm

BYOPicnic!

Meeting in-person @Celeste's house. Join us every other Thursday!

Tuesday, Oct. 26. 3pm

Village Coffee with Amity

We are meeting for coffee again! Westville & Amity villagers are meeting on the 4th Tuesday of every month. Join us in the courtyard at Bloom (794 Edgewood Ave @Central Ave).