



Friendship Heights

VILLAGE NEWS



Czech Puppeteers come to the Center, see page 4.

FEBRUARY 2026 VOLUME 43, NO. 2 www.friendshipheightsmd.gov 301-656-2797

Simon and Garfunkel musical comes to The National Theatre

Travel with us to the National Theatre for "The Simon and Garfunkel Story" on **Sunday, March 15.**

This immersive concert-style theater show chronicles the amazing journey shared by the folk-rock duo Paul Simon and Art Garfunkel, from their humble beginnings to their incredible success, as one of the top-selling groups of the '60s and their dramatic split in 1970, culminating in their famous "The Concert in Central Park" reunion. The show uses huge projection photos and original film footage, with a live band performing all the hits including "Mrs.

Robinson," "Bridge Over Troubled Water," "Homeward Bound" and many more.

We'll depart from the Village Center at 5:15 p.m. and should return by 9:30 p.m.

The cost of the trip, including transportation and orchestra seat, is \$145. Residents who sign up by Feb. 20 pay \$125. Residents and a resident guest may sign up at the Village Center immediately. Nonresidents may sign up beginning Feb. 21.

A portion of this trip was made possible by a generous donation from the estate of Ana Gardano.

A look at African-American history in the Village with special guest Ike Leggett

Join us on **Thursday, Feb. 26, at 6:30 p.m.,** at the Village Center as we learn more about Black history in Friendship Heights and Montgomery County with Council Historian Dr. Alfred Muller and former Montgomery County Executive Isaiah "Ike" Leggett. Muller will give an overview of some of the long forgotten events: plantation life on River Road, a lynching on Willard Avenue, and the failed attempt to build a Black middle class community where Tiffany & Co. and Saks Fifth Avenue now stand. These introductory remarks will be followed by our special honored guest, former three-term County Executive Leggett, who oversaw the building of present-day, multiracial Montgomery County,

its achievements and remaining challenges.

Leggett was chair of the Montgomery County Human Relations Committee, on which he served from 1979 to 1986.

In 1986, he was elected the first African American to the County Council and served three terms, also serving three terms as Council President. During his time on the Council, Leggett chaired the Council's Transportation and Environment Committee and played a role in the passage of a County living-wage law and public smoking ban.



Book talk recounts life on plantation 100 after slavery

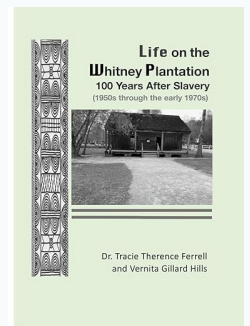
Dr. Tracie Therence Ferrell and her mother Vernita Gillard Hills will discuss their autobiography, "Life on Whitney Plantation :100 Years after

Slavery" during a book talk and signing at the Village Center on **Monday, Feb. 23, at 7 p.m.** They will be joined by artist Lionel Lloyd, who has extensively photographed sites pertaining to African American history on and around the plantation. The autobiography is based on the lived experience of their family, including Hills, as the last family of enslaved descendants on the famous Whitney Plantation in Louisiana. The discussion will aim to raise awareness of the disparities among those marginalized and those that marginalize.

Lloyd's work is on exhibit in Friendship Gallery as part of our recognition of Black History Month.

Copies of "Life on Whitney Plantation: 100 Years after Slavery" will be available for free to the first 30 people to register and attend.

Registration is required. See page 2 for details.



Continued on page 9, see Leggett

Join Cupid for a cup of tea, see page 5.



Make time for child’s play

Village Playtime, a chance for Village toddlers and pre-schoolers in the Village to gather just to play returns to the Village Center this month and it’s better than ever, with new toys and play items designed to engage and entertain children in a variety of ways.

Toys ranging from tunnels to tents to play mats and sensory items to costumes will be set out for children on **Tuesdays from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.**, in the auditorium of the Village Center, **beginning Tuesday, Feb. 17. Beginning March 7, look for Village Playtime every Saturday morning from 9 to 10.**

Children must be accompanied by a parent, caregiver or adult. This is a drop-in activity.

Sing from the heart during this month’s senior sing-along

Pianist Deborah Brouse leads a sing-along on **Tuesday, Feb. 17, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.**, at the Village Center.

Lyrics will be provided, and no talent or musical experience is required—only a desire to sing.

MAYOR’S CORNER

Community Day 2026

The Friendship Heights Village Center was dedicated on April 13, 1986. We mark this event annually during Community Day.

Our Community Day, to be celebrated this year on Saturday, April 11, recognizes the Center’s 40th anniversary. During the year, we invite Village residents to share their favorite memories of the Village Center, something they saw or took part in.

My fondest memories include participating in candidate forums while running for Village Council in 2023 and 2025, and performing twice as the opening act for comedy shows.

Please email your memories to info@friendshipheightsmd.gov or stop by the Village Center and put them in a specially marked box at the front desk. Please limit submissions to 50 words. Select submissions will be featured on our website.

Roy Schaeffer, Mayor

How to sign up for activities at the Village Center

- 1) Go to our website at www.friendshipheightsmd.gov.
- 2) Click Sign Up for Programs.
- 3) Click Sign In/Up.

*New users must follow instructions for creating a new account. Go to top right-hand section that reads “To create an account.” Once account is created, do the following:

- 4) Scroll down to desired activity and click Enroll.
- 5) For activities with a fee, click view fee details. Choose payment option and pay.

*Having trouble signing up online? Please call the Village Center at 301-656-2797, and the front desk staff will be happy to assist you.

*In some cases, such as trips, in-person registration is required. If so, it will be noted in the newsletter story.



Friendship Heights VILLAGE NEWS

www.friendshipheightsmd.gov

Email: info@friendshipheightsmd.gov

The Village News is a publication of the Village Council, the elected governing body of the Special Tax District of the Village of Friendship Heights, 4433 South Park Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD 20815, 301-656-2797. The newsletter is produced through the cooperative efforts of volunteers, Council members, and Village staff.

ADVERTISING

The deadline for reserving space in the March issue is Feb. 3. For suggestions about news items or information on advertising rates, call 301-656-2797. Acceptance of advertising does not represent endorsement by the Village of Friendship Heights for any product or service, nor is the Village of Friendship Heights responsible for representations made by advertisers.

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Village Council Update

Update on Page Park

Following the Village Council's decision at its December meeting to remove the pergola in Page Park, the Village learned that a demolition permit was required by Montgomery County DPS. The Village's contractor, Managed Homes, applied for the permit and received approval from the County. The Village Manager approved the proposal from Managed Homes for the pergola removal at a cost of \$7,547. The Village will notify the buildings and community through its communications channels in advance of the pergola removal once it is scheduled.

The Stormwater Management concept plan (#300715) was approved by DPS's Water Resources Section, Division of Land Development Services, on January 20. It concluded that the concept meets required stormwater management goals via Environmental Site Design to the maximum extent practicable using one landscape infiltration facility and three rain gardens to mitigate stormwater runoff. Clark Azar, the civil engineering firm, informed the Village that it will submit its Erosion and Sediment Control package to the County when it has been completed. For additional information regarding Page Park, please visit the Village website's Page Park Project page at <https://bit.ly/4b9k7XU>.

Update on the Red House

Following the County's approval of the commercial building permit application, the Village's general contractor, Managed Homes, began the renovation work at the Red House that is required for ADA compliance. Jim Wilson, project manager, and the Village Manager are holding bi-weekly meetings with the contractor to review the progress of the work. The work is proceeding on schedule thus far.

As this issue goes to press, Managed Homes has done the rough-in for the new ADA bathroom on the main level and has removed the exterior rear wall along the stairway leading down to the kitchen and poured a new concrete wall to accommodate the wider entrance to the kitchen. The lower half of the existing exterior staircase that leads to the second floor has been removed and will be reconfigured at the bottom. Managed Homes has coordinated the required third-party inspection for the concrete work and will submit this to DPS for its required inspection.

Managed Homes expects to complete its work by early April. To view the project work schedule, visit <https://bit.ly/4pS6U9j>. The tenant will then need to renovate the kitchen in the basement of the house. This portion of the work will begin once the Village's renovations are completed.

Montgomery Planning to present preliminary Sector Plan recommendations

Montgomery Planning will share its preliminary recommendations for the Friendship Heights Sector Plan. The first presentation will be held in person on **Tuesday, February 3, at 7 p.m.**, at the Wisconsin Place Community Recreation Center (5311 Friendship Boulevard, Chevy Chase, MD 20815). Visit <https://bit.ly/4jEm7cN> to register. The second presentation will be held virtually on **Thursday, February 5, at 7 p.m.** The virtual presentation will be recorded and posted on the plan website at <https://bit.ly/4jEYJb>. Registration is required to receive the Zoom link. The Planning staff will present the recommendations to the Planning Board on February 12. Since this is an update briefing, the Planning Board will not take any action but will provide feedback to staff. Residents can watch the public meeting live or on-demand at <https://bit.ly/4b3v0KJ>. Montgomery Planning staff will continue developing the draft plan based on community and Planning Board feedback and anticipates sharing the plan's Working Draft, or the full draft of the sector plan, this summer.

New shuttle bus put into service

We are happy to announce that the new Village shuttle has been put into service. The new low-floor bus has an automatic ramp and 12 fixed seats, with two additional



fold-down seats to be added near the front. It is smaller than the previous bus and can maneuver more easily through the circular drive-ways at various locations. The

bus operator, RMA, is using an app called Ride Pingo for residents to locate bus stops, track the location and status of the bus, and receive notifications of any delays in service. To download the Ride Pingo app on your phone, visit <https://ridepingo.com>.

Actions taken at the January 12 meeting:

- Adopted social media policy, ethics policy, travel policy, and Village Center rental policy.
- Approved Mayor Schaeffer's appointment of John Hisle to serve on the Climate Change and Environment Committee.

The next scheduled Village Council meeting will be held on Monday, February 9, 2026, at 6:30 p.m., and will be open to the public at the Village Center and livestreamed. Please visit our website at www.friendshipheightsmd.gov for additional details.

Checking in on Czech puppets

Village Center welcomes puppeteers from historic theater

Puppetry holds a special place in Czechoslovakian history. The art form began in folk traditions in the 16th century, but enthusiasm for puppetry exploded in the early 20th century. Puppets were seen as a cultural force that helped to keep the Czech language alive.

Puppet theater was accessible to middle-class families, and shows were marketed to families. The Friendship Heights Village Center has the rare opportunity to host puppeteers from the Czech Puppet Theatre during their American performances at venues in New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Washington, D.C.

Join us on **Thursday, Feb. 5, at 7 p.m.**, at the Village Center for a unique and entertaining evening with two of the most famous Czech characters—the father-and-son team of Spejbl and Hurvinek.

The performance will be in English and is expected to last about 45 minutes. It promises to be fun for the entire family!

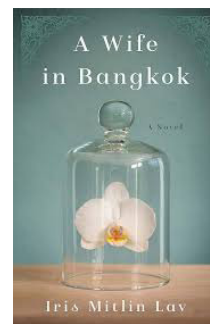


Telling the stories of feminine strength amid adversity

In honor of International Women's Month in March, the Friendship Heights Village Center will celebrate female strength and resilience as told in the works of authors Laura Knoy and Iris Mitlin Lav during book talks and signings on **Thursday, March 5, from 7 to 8:30 p.m.**

"The Shopkeeper of Alsace," by New Hampshire Public Radio journalist Knoy is an "uplifting tale of family, love, resilience and one unstoppable woman" amidst two World Wars.

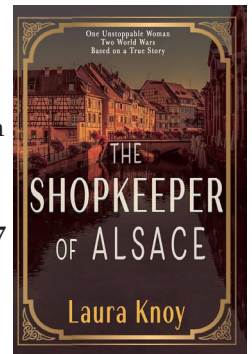
In "A Wife in Bangkok," Lav tells the story of Crystal, who reluctantly follows her husband from a small town in Oklahoma to Thailand in the aftermath of the Vietnam War. Hers is a story of sacrifice, self-discovery and struggles battling depression, while adapting to a very different culture.



Join us for a captivating evening as both authors discuss and sign their respective books.

Copies of "The Shopkeeper of Alsace" and "A Wife in Bangkok" will be available for purchase.

Registration is required. See page 2 for details.



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Warm your heart with a cup of tea and classical music



Celebrate Valentine's Day with old friends and new acquaintances during a special tea featuring music and seasonal treats at the Village Center on **Tuesday, Feb. 10, at 2 p.m.**

Enjoy soothing classical music by Susan Jones and String of Pearls. Tea will follow the performance. Space is limited, and registration is required. We cannot accommodate walk-ins. See page 2 for details. For more information, call the Village Center at 301-656-2797.

BUYING

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Join our winning Senior Cardboard Boat Regatta team

Construction has begun on the Friendship Heights Village Center / Wisconsin Place entry in Montgomery County's Senior Cardboard Boat



Regatta. The regatta gives local seniors a chance to tap into their construction skills in a way that is creative and fun that encourages teambuilding.

Made exclusively of cardboard, duct tape and trash bags, last year's team entry took home the trophy for the most creative entry. While our boat stayed afloat, we fell short and came in fifth. This year, we're determined to win it all!

We're looking for team members who are 55 or older, to meet every Tuesday for about 90 minutes at Wisconsin Place Recreation Center to construct and decorate the boat. We're also looking for cheerleaders to join us on **Wednesday, March 11**, for the regatta.

For more information or to sign up to attend the meeting, call the Village Center at 301-656-2797.



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CLASSES AND CLUBS

To register, please go to our website www.friendshipheightsmd.gov and sign up through ActiveNet. Class registration will close 48 hours before the start of the session. Late registration will be permitted at the discretion of the Village Center, must be done in person and is subject to a late fee of 15 percent. A class may be canceled if the minimum number of students is not met. Participants must pay for the full series. No refunds after the class begins. All participants in fitness classes, as well as Drop-in Tai Chi and sample classes, are required to sign a liability waiver. In the event a class is canceled, a make-up class will be held following the last class of the session.

EXERCISE

BALANCE BASICS

A 6-week class, Wednesdays, 11 to 11:45 a.m., taught by Cheryl Clark, Feb. 25 to April 1. This class teaches strategies for basic balance and aid in developing fall prevention techniques and improving your ability to perform daily activities safely. The class will help to build confidence while maintaining balance and strengthening key muscle groups. \$81 for residents; \$99 for nonresidents.

BEGINNER PILATES (FRIDAYS)

A 6-week class, Fridays, 12 to 1 p.m., Feb. 27 to April 3, taught by Dawn Maynard. Beginner Pilates is for anyone who needs strength and flexibility in the spine and joints, especially shoulders, hips, knees and ankles. Movement modifications will be provided for those who cannot put weight on knees or hands. Learn how posture affects the way we sit, stand and walk. No equipment needed except a towel and water. \$150 for residents; \$160 for nonresidents. Students may bring a mat and Pilates props.

CHAIR YOGA FOR HEALTHY AGING

Louisa Klein teaches a 4-week session, Thursdays, Feb. 26 to March 19, 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Students are seated in chairs or use chairs for support. Learn how to incorporate chair yoga practices into your life for enhanced mind/body awareness. This class teaches techniques to safely stretch, strengthen and balance your body and mind. Klein, a member of the International Yoga Teachers Association, has taught for more than 40 years. \$55 for residents; \$65 for nonresidents.

GENTLE YOGA WITH ROBIN (SUNDAYS)

A 6-week Hatha Yoga class for beginning and continuing students, taught by Robin Dinerman, host of TV's "Cherryblossom Yoga." Sundays, March 1 to April 12, 9:10 to 10:30 a.m. This class is especially good for seniors, with particular attention to countering the effects of aging. \$99 for residents; \$109 for nonresidents. Class will not meet April 5.

PILATES FOR EVERYONE (TUESDAYS)

A 6-week class, Tuesdays, 6 to 7 p.m., Feb. 24 to March 31, taught by Dawn Maynard. \$150 for residents; \$160 for nonresidents. Students may bring a towel, mat and Pilates props.

PILATES FOR EVERYONE (SATURDAYS)

A 6-week class, Saturdays, 9 to 10 a.m., Feb. 28 to April 4, taught by Dawn Maynard. The cost is \$150 for residents; \$160 for nonresidents. Students may bring a towel, mat and Pilates props. A minimum of four students required.

QIGONG AND TAI CHI (MONDAYS)

An 8-week session, Mondays, 9:30 to 10:15 a.m., March 2 to April 20. Taught by Master Nick Gracenin. Study the essentials of traditional tai chi and qigong, and improve balance, circulation, strength and relaxation. Beginners welcome. \$114 for residents; \$120 for nonresidents.

STRENGTH AND CORE (EVENINGS)

An 8-week class, taught by Chad Ashley, Tuesdays, 5:30 to 6 p.m., March 10 to April 28, \$60 residents; \$68 for nonresidents.

TAI CHI FORMS AND TRADITIONAL ROUTINES (MONDAYS)

An 8-week session, Mondays, 10:15 to 10:45 a.m., March 2 to April 20. Taught by Master Nick Gracenin, this class presents taolu (formal patterns) of traditional taijiquan. Students can try the more complex combined 42 forms and tai chi fan. \$88 for residents; \$93 for nonresidents.

LANGUAGE

DRAWING 2

A 4-class, Tuesdays, Feb. 3 to Feb. 24, 12:30 to 3 p.m., taught by Holly Buehler. Study the essentials of drawing with shape, form, and shading techniques. Draw from still life set up or bring your own photos. Drawing materials will be available for students use during class. The cost is \$130. Nonresidents pay \$140. A minimum of 6; maximum of 10.

SPANISH CONVERSATION

Elena Marra-Lopez, a Village resident and longtime Spanish teacher, conducts a 4-week Spanish conversation class, Thursdays, through Feb. 5, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. English will NOT be spoken. \$25 for residents; \$30 for nonresidents. Minimum of five; maximum of eight.

ENGLISH CONVERSATION (Free)

Mallory Starr leads a conversational English roundtable for adults on Tuesdays, 5 to 6 p.m. This class is free for



Village residents. Nonresidents pay \$5. A minimum of 2; maximum of 12.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

A 6-week ESOL course for adults, Tuesdays, 7 to 8:30 p.m., Feb. 3 to March 17. Students will strengthen all aspects of their English language skills (listening, speaking, reading, writing, and grammar) and deepen their understanding of U.S. culture. \$40 for residents; \$50 for nonresidents. Minimum of 4; maximum of 10. Class will not meet Feb. 10.

ONGOING GROUPS

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING/ SUBURBAN NURSE

A Suburban Hospital nurse offers free blood pressure screenings, Tuesdays, 12 to 4 p.m. Nurse consultations, Tuesdays, 2 to 4 p.m.

CANASTA

An informal group plays canasta on Wednesdays, 2 to 4 p.m. Call 301-656-2797.

CHESS

An informal group plays chess on Wednesdays, 12:30 to 3 p.m.

COFFEE AND CURRENT EVENTS

This long-running discussion group meets Fridays, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

DROP-IN BUILDING BETTER BONES (MONDAYS)

Taught by Gita Pancholy and Mimi Doane, on Mondays from 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. The cost is free for Village residents; nonresidents pay \$5. Regular

attendees may store small weights at the Village Center. Class will not meet Feb. 2.

DROP-IN BUILDING BETTER

BONES (THURSDAYS) Taught by Gita Pancholy and Mimi Doane, Thursdays, 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. The cost is free for Village residents; nonresidents pay \$5. Regular attendants may store small weights at the Center.

DROP-IN OPEN ART STUDIO

Artists and aspiring artists are invited to bring their art and supplies and join other artists at our open arts studio on Fridays, 1 to 4 p.m. No storage space is available.

DROP-IN TAI CHI

Student-led sessions meet Fridays, 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. Includes stretching, tai chi warm-up exercises, tai chi (24 Yang-style), self-massage, and ends with qigong exercises. Free for Village residents; nonresidents pay \$5.

FRIDAY FIBER FRIENDS

Knitters, crocheters, and other fiber enthusiasts meet Fridays, 1 to 2:30 p.m. Call Joan Lewis at 301-452-4466.

GREAT BOOKS GROUP

Meets Mondays at 10 a.m. Call Judith Abrahams at 301-215-6950 or Jean McNelis at 301-656-6695 for details.

SING-ALONG

Join pianist Deborah Brouse for a sing-along with neighbors and friends every third Tuesday at 1:30 p.m.

SUNDAY PAPERS AND COFFEE

Village residents are welcome to relax over the Sunday newspapers while enjoying a cup of coffee. Newspapers and coffee will be set up in a classroom, Sundays from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

TEA

Village residents and guests are invited to enjoy refreshments and conversation on Tuesdays from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Birthdays are celebrated on the first Tuesday of the month.

VILLAGE BOOK CLUB

The book club meets one Tuesday a month via Zoom. Contact Sheila Manes at manesssheila@gmail.com.

VILLAGE PLAYTIME

Toys and playitems will be set up in the auditorium for pre-school children on Tuesdays, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Children must be accompanied by a parent, guardian or caregiver over the age of 18.

WALKING CLUB

The club takes a two-mile walk in Chevy Chase Village every day at 8:15 a.m. Meets at Village Center entrance. Call Joan Lewis at 301-452-4466. **Walkers may encounter uneven surfaces and participate at their own risk.**

WOMEN'S GROUP

Village of Friendship Heights women, age 50 and older, are invited to share life experiences and transitions as they strive toward happy, productive lives as they age. Meets the second Tuesday of the month, from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Contact Martha Solt at msolt@friendshipheightsmd.gov or Patricia Canessa at pcanessam@yahoo.com.

B-I-N-G-O!

Join us for a fun-filled afternoon of Bingo on **Tuesday, Feb. 24, from 1 to 2 p.m.**, at the Village Center.

Registration is required to ensure a seat. See page 2 to sign up.

Sip and Paint

Relax and create a wintry scene

Escape the winter chill at our Winter Sip and Paint on **Tuesday, Feb. 24, from 7 to 8 p.m.** at the Village Center. Residents 21 and over are invited to enjoy a glass of wine, while creating a winter-themed painting with the help of Village resident Karol Robles. The cost is \$5 and space is limited to 10 participants, 21 years and over. All materials are included. Registration is required. See page 2 for details.



CONCERTS



During the months of January, February and March, concerts are held every second and fourth Wednesday, from 7 to 8 p.m., in Huntley Hall in the Village Center. Those arriving after the start of the performance are asked to please wait for a break to enter and close the door gently. Please turn off phones prior to entering the auditorium. If you must leave early, please wait for a break in the performance.

Wednesday, Feb. 11—Zachary Smith and the Mardi Gras Kings

Award-winning composer, arranger, jazz clinician and songwriter Zachary Smith has been performing on the East Coast for more than 30 years. He is an accomplished trumpeter, who also plays a pretty mean accordion, piano, harmonica and rubboard. Not a bad singer as well. His group, Zachary Smith & the Mardi Gras Kings (formerly known as the "Dixie Power Trio") brings a unique blend of zydeco, Cajun, New Orleans jazz and funk to every show. With a passion for delivering lively and unforgettable performances, the night promises to be truly exceptional!



Wednesday, Feb. 25 —Alison Buchanan and Virginia Lum— British-American Soprano, Alison Buchanan, presents an evening of opera, classical songs, and Broadway tunes. She is an international singer, who sang with Covent Garden Opera in London, San Francisco Opera, etc., and she is also the head of the London-based Pegasus

Opera. Fans of the Netflix's "Bridgerton" sequel, "Queen Charlotte," will recognize her as the wonderful opera singer in the series. She will be accompanied by pianist Virginia Lum. She made her remarkable debut with the Honolulu Symphony Orchestra at age 8, and has been guest soloist with the St. Louis, Baltimore, Honolulu, Westchester, Arlington, and Alexandria Symphonies. Lum made acclaimed debuts at the Phillips Gallery, Merkin Hall, and Carnegie Hall. She received Bachelor and Master degrees from Juilliard, and was awarded its coveted Rosenman Award for "outstanding pianist artistry," and has been an artist-lecturer for the Smithsonian Institute and Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts. She is also co-founder and executive director / artist of the Apollo Orchestra.



Marsha gets kids moving with music and dance

Village toddlers, friends and family are invited to sign, clap and dance along with Marsha Goodman-Wood during a **Saturday, Feb. 7, from 11 a.m. to noon.**

Marsha is an award-winning singer-songwriter, known for her clever original songs mixing science facts with messages about kindness and friendship. Her music has won a Parents' Choice Foundation Gold Award, a National Parenting Products Award, and various songwriting awards. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Registration required, see page 2 for details.



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MOVIES

All movies begin at 7 p.m. Movies that run longer than 120 minutes will begin at 6:45 p.m. as indicated, unless otherwise noted. Please note that PG-13 and R-rated movies may contain sexual situations, violence and/or offensive language. Enjoy fresh popcorn during the movies.

Thursday, Feb. 5, 7 p.m.: *Marionette Performance by Czech Puppet Theatre*, see page 4 for details.

Thursday, Feb. 12, 6:30 to 8 p.m.: *Art Reception*

Thursday, Feb. 19, 7 p.m.: *Movie—People We Meet on Vacation*—In this rom-com based on the best-selling Emily Henry nove, Poppy and Alex are two complete opposites that find romance after a decade-long friendship while on a summer trip that changes their lives forever. **Rated PG-13. Running Time: 1 hour, 57 minutes.**

Leggett, continued from page 1

Leggett's honors include the title of distinguished Law Professor at Howard University and being awarded the Bronze Star for his service in Vietnam.

He and his wife Catherine are longtime supporters of Montgomery College, with a math and science building named in their honor.

Currently, Mr. Leggett chairs the Maryland State Board charged with implementing Maryland's landmark 2021 education reform plan.

There will be time for questions and light refreshments following.

This event will be livestreamed, recorded and posted on our website and YouTube channel. To view the livestream, click <https://bit.ly/3YOWjBi>.

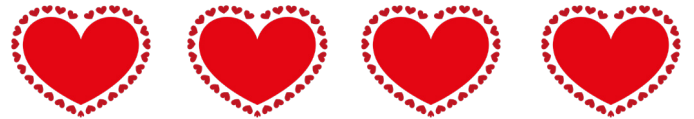
Registration is required to ensure a seat. See page 2 for sign up details.



Thursday, Feb. 26, 6:30 p.m.: *Lecture—Highlighting Black History in Friendship Heights with Ike Leggett*, see page 1 for details.



The Village Book Club will meet on **Tuesday, Feb. 17, at 11:30 a.m., via Zoom**. The book selection is "The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo" by Taylor Jenkins Reid. The March book will be "A Marriage at Sea" by Sophie Elmhirst.



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ART AND CULTURE

Friendship Gallery keeps things neighborly in February

Friendship Gallery hosts hometown artists this month during "Neighbors," an exhibit of work by artists living or working within the Village of Friendship Heights. The show opens Feb. 3 and runs through the end of the month, and features works by Jan Rowland, Carol Porter, Real Cipriano, S.D. George, Shruti George, Federica Giove, Allen Hirsch, and Amy Sabrin.



"Of Halloween and Dress Up" by Jan Rowland

Simultaneous to "Neighbors" in the auditorium, Lionel Lloyd's gripping photographs will grace the walls in the hallways in honor of Black History. Lloyd is based in the Frederick, Md., area, and has created

portrait and landscape work throughout the United States for many years.

Meet the artists during a reception on **Thursday, Feb. 12, from 6:30 to 8 p.m.** at the Village Center.

The Village Center is open Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Saturday and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Art in the auditorium is occasionally not available for viewing because of activities in that room. Please check with the front desk upon arrival. All sales are final.



"Peace and Justice" by Lionel Lloyd

Tap into tranquility during our gelli printing workshop

Discover the art of printmaking during a fun and beginner-friendly gelli print workshop with art instructor Connie Boneo on **Thursday, Feb. 12, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**, at the Village Center. Choose a winter- or Valentine-theme or both for your prints. Gelli printing is a type of mono printing that uses a flexible, gelatin-like plate to create unique, one-of-a-kind prints on paper or fabric. The cost is \$40 for Village residents; \$45 for non-residents, and includes instructions, and all materials to create several 6- by 6-inch prints.

Sign up immediately. Registration is required, see page 2 for details. Space is limited.

Buehler is back with Drawing 2

Holly Buehler, a long-time art instructor in Montgomery County, returns to present Drawing 2 during a four-week class, **Tuesdays, Feb. 3 to Feb. 24, 12:30 to 3 p.m.**

The class expands on her Beginning Drawing class, Draw from still life or bring your own photos. Materials will be available for students to use during the class. Some drawing experience is helpful.

The cost is \$130 for residents; \$140 for nonresidents. A minimum of six students is required. See page 2 for details.

Capture a child's creativity with art and a story

Connie Boneo, a Virginia art instructor with more than 20 years experience, hosts a one-hour workshop for children ages

6 to 8, on **Saturday, Feb. 21, from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Village Center.**

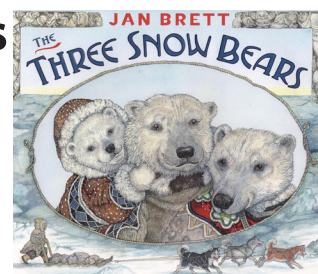
She'll read Jan Brett's *Three Snow Bears* and guide the children in a drawing exercise related to the story.

The story takes place in the Arctic and follows an Inuit girl named Aloo-ki, who searches for her dogs after they drift away on an ice floe. During her journey, she discovers a polar bear family's igloo. While the bears are away, Aloo-ki samples their soup, tries on their boots, and rests in their beds. She eventually falls asleep and later leaves the igloo before the bears return.

After the story, the children will learn how to draw bears using basic shapes and lines. Finally, they will color their drawings using crayons.

The cost is \$15 per child. Children must be accompanied by a parent. A minimum of six students is required.

Registration is required. See page 2 for details.



TO YOUR HEALTH



Learn to recognize the early signs of Alzheimers

Join us on **Friday, Feb. 20, at 2:30 p.m.**, at the Village Center as the Alzheimer's Association presents "The 10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's."

This hour-long lecture, by Dr. William R. Leahy, helps caregivers recognize common signs of the disease in themselves and others and identify next steps to take, including how to talk to their doctor.

Dr. Leahy is a board-certified psychiatrist, neurologist and pediatric neurologist, with more than 30 years experience in the field of neurology. He now works on a part-time basis. He graduated from Princeton University in 1966, Northwestern University School of Medicine in 1970, and completed residencies in Chicago and at John Hopkins Medical Univeristy.

The Alzheimer's Association, a leading voluntary organization in Alzheimer's care and support, promotes awareness in the latest research and news of the disease that affects more than seven million people in the United States alone.

Registration is required. See page 2 to sign up.

Celebrate the Chinese New Year with a Tai Chi demonstration

Join us for a beautiful and healthy concert event in celebration of the Chinese New Year when Tai Chi Master Nick Gracenin and DC Tai Chi mesmerize with the exotic movements of the traditional Chinese Martial Art Taijiquan on **Sunday, Feb. 22, at 12:30 p.m.**, at the Village Center.

Tai chi is familiar as a form of exercise and moving meditation, but Gracenin explores the depth of this tradition, with solo performances and partner routines, sword and spear performances, and a rousing group exhibition of the Taiji Gongfu Fan. To reserve a seat, register in advance. See page 2 for details.

Low Vision Support Group

Thursday, Feb. 19,
from 11 a.m. to noon,
at the Village Center



Get the keys to better ZZZs

Unlock the secrets to better sleep during this month's Suburban Lecture on **Wednesday, Feb. 11, at 1 to 2 p.m. via Zoom.**



Good sleep is essential for overall well-being, yet many of us struggle to get the rest we need. Leni Barry, MA, BSN, RN-BC, CDCES, will dive into the importance of sleep hygiene and explore practical strategies to improve your sleep quality.

This lecture is a partnership between Suburban Hospital and the Friendship Heights Village Center. Registration is required. See page 2 to sign up.

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Next year is all about moodier colors, softer lines, and warmer, more intentional homes.

Dusty Jewel Tones

Smoked emerald, inky teal, plum, and clay will warm up a room instantly (no more flat greige).

Color Drenching 2.0

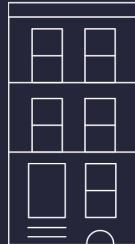
Wrap walls, trim, and ceilings in one saturated hue for a cozy, cocooned look.

Mismatched, On Purpose

Lean into unlikely pattern or fabric pairings for rooms that feel layered and personal.

Tiles & Tactile Walls

Plasterwork, lime wash, and painted tiles add soft texture, giving your home a boutique feel.



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Friendship Heights VILLAGE NEWS

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February 2026 events calendar