



VIA Newsletter

A member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs

VIA NEWSLETTER ISSUE 2019.4

APRIL 2019

FROM THE DESK OF CAROLE . . .



***THERE ARE TWO WAYS OF SPREADING LIGHT:
to be the candle, or the "MERR" that reflects it!***

It's Spring! It's Spring! And what is the first sign that we will be having an early warm Spring? The Osprey!! The Osprey are back; they have been spotted in Cape Henlopen State Park and along the Rehoboth/Lewes Canal. This is an old fisherman's tale, and who doesn't believe an ol' eastern Sussex County fisherman?!?

I myself believe a little more in my daffodils popping up in my yard. This year the bunches of daffodils are fuller, taller, and just plain more beautiful. Bringing them into my home just brightens up any Spring day. What else brightens up these Spring days: While Looking in the "MERR," See What You Can Sea--our 2019 Spring Fashion Show, on April 6 at the Atlantic Sands. Make sure you don't miss this fun filled fundraiser that the Fashion Show committee is presenting to all with lots of surprises for a delightful Spring afternoon!

You all must know by now the Fashion Show committee with this year's theme is honoring my Special Community Improvement Project ~~ MERR~~ which makes April 6 a very Special Spring Day for me and all of our wonderful VIA ladies and their guests!

Thank you, Fashion Show Committee!!

Just love Spring Time!

Carole Suchanek President

Did You Know?

- 1. The VIA has a member that has been in the VIA for 44 years!*
- 2. The VIA has a member that was a Washington Redskins cheerleader!*

2019: VIA Celebrates 110 Years!



From its founding days the members of the Village Improvement Association have been involved in projects that improved their community including its beauty and environment. In 1913, VIA members worked to preserve trees in The Pines. They have planted trees and roses by Lake Gerar and flower beds on Rehoboth Avenue. They convinced the City to set aside a triangular plot of land for the refurbished Old Cape Henlopen Lighthouse which they had purchased for \$30, and surrounded it with 100 pine trees, forsythias, tulips, phlox, and crysanthemum.

Since beautification had always been a goal of the VIA, the 30s and 40s were golden years for VIA gardeners. Louise Chambers Corkran served as chairwoman of the flower shows held at the clubhouse. From Mrs. Corkran's gardening efforts, the Sussex Gardeners were formed and continue to this day.

Carolyn Billingsley and Rose Marie Patin. 110th Anniversary Committee

PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL PROJECT

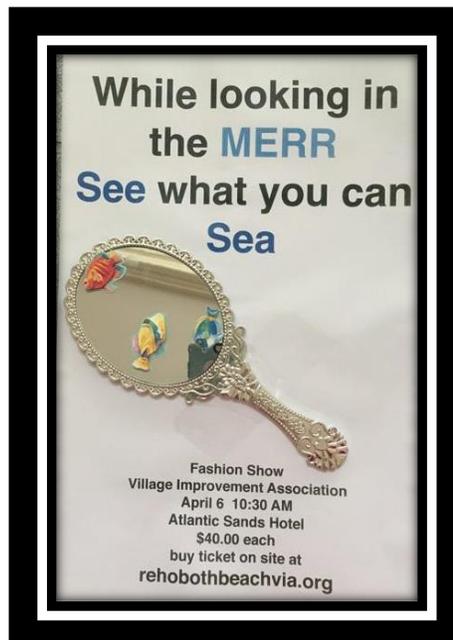


MERR is hosting another fundraiser on APRIL 3 from 3pm-9pm in cooperation with Grandpa Mac, 18756 Coastal Highway. Dine in and donate 15 percent to MERR ...just ask at the counter when you pay for your meal.

(Remember "No straw, please")

Jean Broland

UPCOMING EVENTS . . .



COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS

Arts



- Upcoming – May 1 – “Costuming the Crown” – We have a few seats left. Cost is \$38. Admission includes not only the exhibit, but a tour of the mansion, and a ride through the Gardens. Contact Edith Caputo or Cathy Cofrancesco.
- Next Arts meeting will be April 12 at the Clubhouse at 10:00 am.
- New fundraising idea – rather than our “Tubs of Art,” we are proposing “Pots of Whales.” Join us to find out more about this project.
- Calling our VIA artisans! Come share your special talent with us.

There is an interest in learning flower arranging.

- The Homestead (RAL) is looking for volunteers. Contact Dolores Bottinelli if you are interested.
- Continue to check websites for RAL, and Milton Arts Guild for current and future exhibits and classes.
- “In order to lead a fascinating life; one brimming with art, music, intrigue and romance, you must surround yourself with precisely those things.”

Edith Caputo and Cathy Cofrancesco, Co-chairs

CONSERVATION



The VIA ladies strike again!!!! Thank you so much for your generous donations for our 4-legged friends at the SPCA and for the supplies for MERR! It took two cars to transport the donations! I estimate that around \$600 worth of supplies were donated by our members. Please remember to record your GIK purchases, as well as, your shopping time in Track It Forward.

On Saturday, March 16, 20 of our members helped plant dune grass at Tower Road in the Delaware Seashore State Park. Members worked in pairs to dig holes and plant rows of beach grass. The beach grass will help protect our dunes.

The DCADV website, dcadv.org, contains their archived webinars with topics covering a wide variety of subjects for advocates and the general public, too.

And please note, if you or anyone you know is a victim of Domestic Violence, here are key telephone numbers in Sussex County for help—if in immediate danger: dial 911.

=> Delaware Victim Center 1-800-842-8461 (1-800-VICTIM-1)

=> Rape and Suicide Crisis 1-800-262-9800

=> Si Habla Español 1-302-745-9874

Catherine Perge, Chair

HOME LIFE



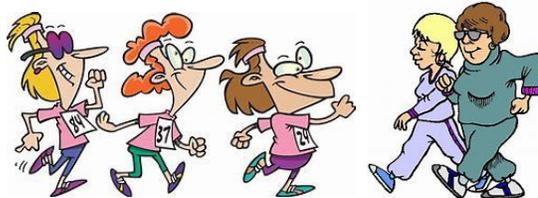
When: April 10 General meeting

Needed: new or gently used spring/summer clothing in all sizes up to 2T. We especially need Boy/Girl sizes 18 months, 24 months and 2T.

- Do not bag your donations. We will be collecting and sorting them in the foyer of the clubhouse.
- List your “gift in kind” on Track It Forward.

Thank you, Mary Ellen Kenney, Mary Jane Deets and Pattie Buchanan

NEW ACTIVITIES



“Oh! The places You’ll Go:” New Walking (or running) Initiative from VIA to get you out-of-doors, get you healthy, and get ready for summer!

- Meet every Thursday at 10:00, April 1-Oct 31 at the clubhouse to walk. Occasionally there will be other locations.
- There are three segments for collecting times walked/run and distances.
 - At the end of the segments there will be a winner for each category. Segments are: April 1-May 31, June 1-Aug 31, Sept 1- Oct 31. Happy Hour and prizes after the end of the segment. You’ll be asked to send in your numbers to Sharon Ferrara at the end of the segment.

- Walk whenever and wherever you want, but please keep a personal record and submit it at the end of the segment. A computer form is available on Track it Forward along with ideas on getting started. Copy the form and put on your computer. As you include your miles and times you've walked each month the form should automatically calculate your entries.
- A happy hour will be planned at the conclusion of each segment by Eileen Nixon.
- Friends are allowed to walk too, but they can't win a prize. Only VIA.
- The dates will be listed on Track it Forward, but you cannot sign up or claim any priority hours for walking. This exercise is just for you!
- If you do not have your 60 preferred hours, you cannot park in the VIA parking lot during the summer for the Thursday walk. Maybe catch a ride or pay to park.

MOMENT FOR HEALTH APRIL 2019 **PRODUCE AND PESTICIDES**



According to USDA tests, almost 70 percent of conventional (non-organic) produce showed pesticide residues with 230 different pesticides and pesticide breakdown products. They analyzed 38,000 samples and gave the list of HIGHEST pesticide residues, in DESCENDING order:

Strawberries, Spinach, Nectarines, Apples, Grapes, Peaches, Cherries, Pears, Tomatoes, Celery, Potatoes, and Sweet Bell Peppers.

Please note that 99 percent of produce pesticide levels **are below** the EPA's safety tolerance. The list only serves as a guide for which produce should be prioritized as ORGANIC in your daily diet. Remember to wash all produce just before eating.

Source: Sharon Palmer, RDN, Environmental Nutrition August 2018 Newsletter

Susie Dominguez and Stephanie Hobbs

Kate McKenzie, Chair

INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH



Individual bags of assorted chips and bottled water are needed to fill the Grab and Go bags June 14 and July 19. If you can help, leave your name at the International Outreach table for drop off arrangements.



The Heifer PIG is back at the International Outreach table!! Donations of your pocket change at the April meeting contribute to providing farmers in small scale, struggling communities in Europe, South America, Africa and Asia with livestock and training to become self-sufficient. Every bit helps!

Mary Sparks, Chair

PUBLIC ISSUES

YOUR VOTE COUNTS

VOTE411.org is an information site published by the League of Women Voters. Once the Suffragists secured the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment, these women formed the League of Women Voters whose mission was to provide nonpartisan information about candidates for public office. Today the Sussex County League provides information about candidates on their website: www.votr411.org.

How is the information obtained? The league sends out a survey form to each registered candidate. Each person is asked to provide a background profile of himself. All candidates are asked to provide answers to identical questions of voter concern. The candidate then publishes his profile and answers directly to the VOTE411 website. For those candidates who provide no response, the site indicates “No response received”.

How does this website work? When users go on the site, they provide their zip code, which instructs the program to bring up every candidate they are eligible to vote for, along with their profile and responses to the questions. This provides a simple basis of comparison of candidates’ views and positions.

Who can vote? One does not have to be a registered voter vote in a school board election. All that is required is proof of identity (driver’s license or passport) and proof of local residence (i.e. a utility bill)

Other features. This site contains much additional information as well as voting sites and information on obtaining an absentee ballot.

School Board Elections are Tuesday, May 14, 2019, from 7:00am -8:00pm.

Bonnie Burslem, Chair

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

BRICKS



Remember to order your brick in the new year. The bricks are along the sidewalk coming from the deck. You can remember someone, celebrate a birthday, anniversary, family, and etc. The important thing is that whoever you put on the brick will be in the Rehoboth Beach VIA property forever.

The cost is \$150 and can be paid by check, cash, or credit card. Payments are also accepted: three \$50 payments or two \$75 payments in cash or check only. Go in with a friend or two friends to cover the cost. \$50 or \$75 is a lot better than \$150. The order form is on our website and when ready, please send or give to Carol Hall, 302 226-5476.

ESO

Not all ESO members have logged into the book tracking website yet. Check it out and let me know if you have any difficulties. You can email, call, or talk to me at the April meeting. As always, there will be information and an application form at the Education table. The form is also on the website. *Pat O’Brien, Chair* bgobrien23@verizon.net



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL



It is that time again to renew your 2019-2020 Village Improvement Association dues and parking permit. All submission of volunteer hours received by December 14 deadline have been tallied and checked for VIA approved hours. This was accomplished to comply with the GFWC-DSFWC reporting time frame covering January through December 2018.

In order to receive the reduced parking rate, you must have completed 60 VIA-approved hours. The membership renewal will continue to be \$60; the parking tag cost is \$40 for the qualified reduced rate of 60 volunteer hours. If you have > than 0 hours but < than 60 hour you can qualify for a parking tag for \$200. If you do not have any hours, you will not qualify for a parking pass. This fee allows \$16 to be placed in the Property Maintenance Fund in anticipation of any large unexpected expenditure to occur.

The VIA appreciates all the volunteer hours by each member and hope we will have even more participation next year. Keep a good record of your hours and gifts-in-kind again this year and remember to have your 2019 VIA Volunteer Hours received by the IT Committee no later than **December 11, 2019**, to qualify for your next year's parking tag eligibility.

How to Pay:

- Go on line and pay your dues with a credit card, before **May 23, 2019**, to continue your membership in the VIA. This date is **FIRM, no dues** will be accepted after May 23, 2019!
- You will receive your parking tag at the May luncheon if your dues are received by the Membership Chairperson no later than April 30.
- If you are not attending the luncheon and would like your tag mailed, send a stamped self-addressed envelope to:
Shirley Fleegle,
59 Wanoma Circle
Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971.

Shirley Fleegle, Chair

ELECTION OF VIA DIRECTORS

Elections for three Directors will be held at the VIA General Meeting on April 10, 2019. Members must be present to vote. A paper ballot will be provided at that time and the results will be announced before the end of the meeting. The new Directors will be installed at the May 8 Luncheon Meeting and will begin to serve their term on June 1.

Bios summarizing each candidate's background and involvement in VIA committees are attached to this newsletter. Please read this document and give careful consideration to each candidate as you prepare to choose leaders to serve the interests of the VIA.

The Nominating Committee extends a sincere thank you to the nominees for their willingness to serve and to the membership for participating in this important decision. *Mary Jane Deets, Chair*

SAVE THE DATE

- April 16 – MERR fundraiser dinner at Big Fish
- April 22 - Earth Day – VIA Dune cleanup - 10 am – noon VIA Clubhouse

Please check TIF calendar for committee meetings and sign ups

2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS CANDIDATES

Carole A. Baker



My parents taught me at a young age the importance of giving back to your community. I was very involved in my community prior to moving to Rehoboth Beach. The Village Improvement Association has provided many ways for me to volunteer. I feel that my previous experiences in volunteering and leadership would be an asset as a member of the VIA Board of Directors.

VIA Committees

- Communications and Public Relations
 - Chocolate Festival 2017
 - Races 2017-2018
 - Kiosk 2016-2018
- Conservation 2016-2019
 - Chair 2018 – present
 - Dune Planting 2017-2019
 - Coastal Clean Up 2016-2018
 - Adopt-A-Highway 2017-2018
- Education
 - Book Club 2016-2019
- Fundraising
 - St. Nicholas Tea 2016-2018
 - Vendor Co-Chair 2017
 - Dinners Decorating Chair 2019
 - Fashion Show 2017-2018
- Home Life 2016-2019
 - School Supply Chair 2017
 - Holiday Gift Giving Co-Chair 2018
- May Luncheon 2019

Josie Cicerale



As a career business professional, my background in community relations, media, event planning, community affairs and marketing communications has been reflective of my strong sense of service to the community and a sincere interest in others. I believe that my skills and experience would be a valuable asset to any of the VIA committees and as a member of the Executive Board.

VIA Committees

- Arts
 - Rehoboth Beach Art League 2016-2018
 - Art Committee Museum Field Trip 2018
- Communications and Public Relations
 - Cottage Tour - 2018
 - Races - 2017
 - Chocolate Festival -2016
 - Kiosk 2016-2018
- Fundraising
 - Designer Show House -2016, 2018
 - Fashion Show - 2018



Sharon Culley

For the past several years, I have served as VIA photographer. I created a consolidated repository in the Cloud that makes VIA's 11,400 digital photographs available to all members for viewing and downloading. I have organizational, technical, writing skills, financial, and information technology expertise that would benefit my serving on the Executive Board.

VIA Committees

- Community and Public Relations
 - Photography Chair 2015 - 2019
 - Event Photographer
 - Google Photos Repository
 - Membership Directory Photos
 - Photography Archives
 - Photography Event Calendar
 - VIA Historical Archive 2018 Collection and Categorization
- GFWC / DSFWC Awards
 - 2016 1st Place: Writing Contest, Members Short Story
 - 2016 2nd Place: Photography Contest, Volunteers in Actio



Kate Lloyd

When I was a new member, my VIA sponsor helped me become very involved in club activities. I continue to contribute and support our VIA and community through volunteer opportunities to insure a positive impact on individuals and organizations. It is a commitment to the VIA mission. I will bring that same commitment to the Executive Board of Directors.

VIA Committees

- Arts 2015-2019
 - Art of Accessorizing
- Communications and Public Relations
 - Races
 - Chocolate Festival
 - Kiosk 2015, 2016
- Fundraising
 - St. Nicholas Tea 2016
 - Designer Show House 2016
 - Fashion Show
- Home Life 2016-2019
 - Baby Shower Co-Chair 2016
 - Community Resource Center 2015-2019
 - St. George Chapel's Thrift Shop 2015-2019
- President's Project 2019
- Public Issues 2017
 - Rehoboth Goes Red White and Blue



Margie Sherwood

Since becoming a member, I have been very involved in VIA activities. I have found that my participation in the various programs to be very fulfilling personally. I believe my experience will serve me well as a member of the VIA Executive Board. I appreciate the opportunity to be considered.

VIA Committees

- Arts
 - Art of Accessorizing
- Communications and Public Relations
 - Photography 2015-2019
- Fundraising
 - St. Nicholas Tea
 - Chair 2018
 - Co-Chair 2016, 2017
 - Fashion Show 2018
 - Designer Show House
 - Ticket Co-Chair 2018
 - Ticket Chair 2016

Articles for the May Newsletter are due by April 27, 2019.
Send to: mommadawgsbovz@yahoo.com and ctsuchanek@comcast.net