



DUPONT CIRCLE VILLAGE SHATTERING THE STEREOTYPE

ADAMS MORGAN • DUPONT CIRCLE • KALORAMA

“Better a witty fool than a foolish wit.”

— William Shakespeare

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Welcome New Members!

Rose Darby
Leslie Sawin

And just like that, our members were runway models!

(Highlights from the DCV Function and Fashion Showcase)

On Saturday, March 9, Dupont Circle Village hosted a vendor showcase and fashion show at All Souls Episcopal Church annex.

By Lisa Helene Bacalski

Funded by the DC Department on Aging and Community

Living (DACL), the event linked village members with local providers of a variety of products and services that help older adults thrive as they age in place.

The highlight of the afternoon was the beautiful Authored line of adap-



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President's Notes



The Newest DCV Committee: Member Services

This month, I want to highlight the newest of the DCV Committees, the Member Services Committee. While everything that

DCV does is to serve members, the Member Services Committee has a special focus: the health of our members.

The Member Services Committee has been responsible for some of our most important recent activities. The committee organized the two very successful vaccination clinics sponsored by DCV. Both clinics were sold out. The recent Fashion and Function Showcase, covered in this newsletter, was the brain child of the Member Services Committee. The committee also provided the impetus for DCV to engage our new Health Care Navigator.

Ann McFarren is the current chair of this committee. All committee

members have backgrounds in health care. The committee members bring their years of experience in different aspects of the health care system to the benefit of DCV. For example, Ann and **Sarah Burger** participated in our care groups to confirm that the services of a Health Care Navigator would benefit our members.

The Member Services Committee is looking for Villagers with health care experience, including the policy side of the world, to join or assist the committee on special projects. If you have a background in the health care arena and would like to learn more about the Member Services Committee, please contact **Eva M. Lucero** or Ann McFarren.

DCV Function and Fashion Showcase

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tive clothing that village members modeled. Company founder Brenda Wilton commissioned these clothes to provide a stylish yet easy clothing option for people with physical challenges and their caregivers. In addition to the established line of "undercover classic" pants, men's polo shirts and women's dresses, Brenda gave attendees a sneak preview of the upcoming jeans and button down shirts for men and demonstrated how camouflaged zippers, adapted buttons and custom fabric make it easy to change clothes with or without caregiver assistance. Among the models were (**Mike Gould, Carol Galaty, Kathy Jennison, Nick Ludlow, Joy Rodman, Peg Simpson, Charlotte Holloman, Sarah Burger, Andres Doernberg, Pender McCarter, Ruth McInnery, Ann McFarren, Ed Burger, and Ann Von der Lippe**). They raved about the clothing as they showed off how they personalized it. It was an interactive fashion show

- as models walked down the aisle, audience members called out to ask questions and touch the clothing. Carol Galaty shared her experience of adapting jeans to accommodate an orthopedic boot only to have the velcro she used ruin other clothing. The Authored clothing line refuses to use velcro.

Travel and independence were other themes of the afternoon. Guest emcee, Toni Alusi, introduced each vendor, giving them a chance to share how they can help village members achieve their goal of aging in place with dignity. **Lucia Edmonds** shared the fruits of her research about products like Knox Box, which allows emergency medical teams access to your home in the event of a medical emergency, and Alert 1, which can monitor people for falls and summon help. Her personal experiences and those of others in the audience were helpful testimonies for people planning ahead.

Other vendors included Kalorama Pharmacy, which educated the audience about benefiting from CBD oils without the high from THC. Flightline

Travel displayed their seat pocket totes, Right at Home caregiving services highlighted their in-home services, and Marielle Zuniga of Adaptive Home Living described how she can help older adults with their home modification needs. Corewood Care described their innovative 24/7 hospital advocacy service, and George Washington University physical therapy services held a raffle of adaptive devices. Comfort One Shoes displayed both bags and shoes from their two local stores.

Ann McFarren closed the show by demonstrating how easy it can be to change into one of the dresses and showing off her favorite multi-colored compression socks as well as a unique clasp that makes it easy to attach a jacket to a piece of luggage or purse.

Throughout the day, guest pianist, Cindy Adkins, played classic songs to add to the atmosphere. Overall, the beautiful setting, wonderful hors d'oeuvres, entertaining fashion show and lively displays combined to create a fun and informative afternoon.

***Photos by Nancy Shia**