



***Building a caring community for residents who want to remain in their homes safely and affordably while maintaining a meaningful lifestyle.***

## **NEWSLETTER**

**JANUARY 2022**

### **PRESIDENT'S POST**



Happy New Year to all my fellow members of Aging in Place – The Woodlands. Hope you had a great Christmas and New Year. Some of my friends received ‘presents’ they hadn’t put on their wish list, and despite being triple vaccinated, won a date with Omicron! Most seem to have caught it from family or friends visiting for Christmas, or an evening at a restaurant. Thankfully, they have all recovered but it taught us that being extra careful right now is a very good thing.

On a positive note, it got me thinking about how we, as members and volunteers, can help one another during these times.

Neighbors sure can help neighbors even if it is just a phone call to find out how they are doing and if there is anything you can do to help. What happens if you live alone and get sick? Or you have a spouse who is sick and no one around to help? You may not be sick enough to call an ambulance, but you need assistance.

These are the kinds of questions we will include in the survey that board member **Bruce Cunningham** is currently preparing. As a volunteer-driven membership organization we have some wonderful opportunities to evolve in ways that benefit all of us in today’s rather challenging world. Our mission, ***Building a caring community for residents of The Woodlands who want to remain in their homes safely and affordably while maintaining a meaningful lifestyle***, needs to be reexamined and clarified.

One interesting facet of belong to a close-knit group with varied life experiences is the opportunity to get to know one another. From time to time we have profiled members and volunteers in our monthly newsletter, a feature we will restart in upcoming issues. I have asked board members to lead the way and provide you with a little background on who they are, their interests, and their role in furthering the AIP-TW mission, peppered with a few fun facts and anecdotes thrown in.

This year our board will meet every other month rather than quarterly. We all feel there is work to be done and nothing like deadlines to drive things along. We are fortunate to have members

who are determined, skilled and generous enough to give their time to help us build connections to relevant support services that we all benefit from. A big thank you to all of them.

As is often the case in grassroots, all-volunteer organizations, there is more work to be done than people to help. If you would like to get more involved, please reach out to any one of our board members and discuss how you would like to help. Just call our virtual office at 281-845-4441 or email [www.aiptwtx.org](http://www.aiptwtx.org) and someone will get back to you.

Over the next four weeks I will be working with the committees to reexamine and refine some of the basics like what makes up The Woodlands when it comes to membership eligibility based on where they live. Another area is gathering our facts: What are the current trends and needs of our members? What do we need during each phase of the aging process? What kind of support is it practical to provide? How available is support in the community or from our members?

On a related topic, I have been paying more attention to the emails that come from my membership in AARP. They have a wealth of information and I have even participated in their Zoom Tai Chi classes by a grandmaster in China. They provide a lot of useful information and tools for our age group. If you are not already a member, check them out at <https://www.aarp.org>.

Enjoy this amazing winter weather. My garden is somewhat confused but I am loving the opportunity to be outside and to chat to my neighbors, even if just from a distance.

Until next month,  
Best wishes

Robyn



### **SOCIAL TEAM IS RAMPING UP AND LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS**

The Social Team headed by AIP-TW founder and current board member Bruce Cunningham is in the process of reorganizing. We are looking for volunteers to arrange meals at restaurants (when Covid is not rampaging), be willing to have small gatherings in their homes, contact individuals and organizations to schedule presentations in person or online, or simply come up with ideas of things we

might do, see, visit or eat. If you would like to participate in any way, or have any ideas please give Bruce a call at 281-686-7979 or email him at [bruce@gmva.org](mailto:bruce@gmva.org).



### **NEXT BOARD MEETING IS THURSDAY, FEB. 17 AT 3 P.M.**

Board meetings are open to all members and volunteers. They will be held online on the third Thursday of every other month at 3 p.m. via Zoom

**Dates for board meetings in 2022 are Feb. 17, April 21, June 16, Aug. 18, Oct. 20 and Dec. 15.**

To join the Zoom meetings click on the following link or enter the meeting

ID and passcode:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89604541956?pwd=Q2xSNmF4Zm53V29FSGhEd044WWYvZz09>

**Meeting ID: 896 0454 1956 Passcode: 774449**

### **VILLAGE MOVEMENT CELEBRATES 20<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY**



To celebrate the 20-year anniversary of the Village Movement and the positive impact Villages like Aging in Place – The Woodlands are having on the experience of aging, **Tuesday, February 15 will be recognized as National Village Day.** From its beginnings when a small group of Beacon Hill neighbors established the first Village in Boston in 2002 to a thriving network today of more than 300 nonprofit, community-based Villages across the country, the Village model is now established as a cost-effective, sustainable solution for healthy, vibrant aging – a milestone worthy of celebration!

The celebration will include a Zoom webinar, organized by the national Village to Village Network, that will feature the Beacon Hill story of how it all began, trace key developments in the Village Movement, highlight stories from several Villages representing different models, and celebrate the role of Villages in communities across the country and internationally.

The celebration also will reach the halls of the U.S. Congress with a proclamation in the House of Representatives designating February 15 as National Village Day, sponsored by Congressman Stephen Lynch (MA), and recognizing Beacon Hill Village and the Village Movement.

“Village to Village Network is delighted to celebrate this 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Beacon Hill Village and the Village Movement,” said Kim Grier, president of Village to Village Network, the national association that champions Villages and serves as a Village commons with resources and guidance. “Villages are a cost-effective care model for our rapidly aging society that increasingly recognizes the benefits of home and community-based care for older adults.



Essential to building and sustaining thriving Villages

**Our Village is a  
Proud Member of  
the Village to Village  
Network**

*"Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand and for a talk beside the fire: it is the time for home." –Edith Sitwell*

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<https://aipwtx.clubexpress.com>.