



## DCA Plant Sale & Tea!



The Darien  
Community  
Association

*The Darien Community Association provides a unique community home in a welcoming setting, with stimulating learning and outreach experiences for the enrichment of the community.*

### Beautiful Plants at Good Prices and a Delightful Afternoon Tea, All For a Good Cause

Shop from over 2,000 naturally-grown hardy perennials from our greenhouse: sun-loving, shade-loving, native, deer-resistant, and highly-prized new plants are available. We are also offering a few colorful annuals and some newly-introduced succulents. Tomatoes and other favorites we just can't live without will also be for sale. Lots of DCA Greenhouse Group members will be available to help you find the perfect plants for your garden or containers.

Proceeds from the sale help support the DCA's non-profit mission, including college scholarships for Darien High School graduates.

Friday, May 12th  
8:30am - 12:30pm

No charge for entry. While you're here, why not stay for tea?  
11:30am - 3:00pm; reservations are required (details on page 3).

# Message to members

## From the president

As part of our strategic plan work, and with legal counsel provided through the Pro Bono Partnership, the DCA has drafted amended bylaws, for your consideration.

The bylaws have been updated to reflect current state statutes governing non-profits, and will provide needed flexibility for minor changes in our operations - such as the structure of our various board committees.

The amended bylaws retain the requirement that the DCA membership approve the proposed board of directors slate at each year's annual meeting, as well as vote on fundamental changes to the organization.

The bylaws and proposed DCA board of directors slate for 2017-2018 will be posted on our website homepage for your review beginning April 21st (copies will be available in the DCA office as well). A vote on the bylaws and board slate will occur at the DCA annual meeting on Thursday, May 25th, 9:30 am, and will precede the presentation from our guest speakers: David Genovese and Penny Glassmeyer (see below).

See you at the DCA!

Ulla Kremer

*As part of our strategic plan work, the DCA has drafted amended bylaws, for your consideration.*

## DCA Annual Meeting



### Revitalizing Downtown Darien: A Progress Report

At this year's DCA Annual Meeting, join us to hear two of our best-known Darien developers as they share their plans for our town.

R. David Genovese founded Baywater Properties, a full-service commercial real estate company, in 2001. His group currently owns 12 properties in Darien, including 1020 Post, as well as others in Norwalk, Stamford, Wilton, and Rye, New York. Penny Glassmeyer, a long-time Darien resident, has been renovating and building properties since 1979. In 1987 she formed PG Properties, through which she built higher-end homes, and developed the pedestrian-friendly Grove Street Plaza.

The presentation will be preceded by several minutes of DCA business (see above), but is open to the public.

**Thursday, May 25th  
9:30am**

Free to DCA members, \$10 public

Reservations are requested for this General Programs event.

# Calendar of Events



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>1</b> 12:30 Duplicate Bridge	<b>2</b> 9:30 Bridge 7 9:30 Beginner Mah Jongg class 12:15 Women's Luncheons: Shakespeare on the Sound brings <i>Macbeth</i> to Fairfield County	<b>3</b> 9:30 Guided Mah Jongg Play (Session 5) 10:00 Darien Men's Association meeting 1:00 Flower Arranging: Flowering Branches	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>8</b> 12:30 Duplicate Bridge 12:30 Page Turners: <i>The Little Red Chairs</i> by Edna O'Brien	<b>9</b> 9:15 Greenhouse Group meeting 9:30 Bridge 7 9:30 Beginner Mah Jongg class	<b>10</b> 9:30 Guided Mah Jongg Play (Session 5) 10:00 Darien Men's Association meeting	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 8:30 Annual Plant Sale (open to 12:30pm) 11:30 Plant Sale Tea (Two seatings, 11:30am and 1:30pm)
<b>15</b> 12:30 Duplicate Bridge	<b>16</b> 8:30 DCA Board meeting 9:30 Beginner Mah Jongg class	<b>17</b> 9:30 Guided Mah Jongg Play (Session 5) 10:00 Darien Men's Association meeting	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 9:30 Volunteer Recognition Breakfast 10:00 Mom's Morning In: Field Trip to Noroton Fire Station
<b>22</b> 12:30 Duplicate Bridge	<b>23</b> 9:15 Greenhouse Group clean up 9:30 Beginner Mah Jongg class	<b>24</b> 9:30 Guided Mah Jongg Play (Session 5) 10:00 Darien Men's Association meeting 7:00 Sparkling Wine class	<b>25</b> 9:30 DCA Annual Meeting and Revitalizing Downtown Darien: A Progress Report	<b>26</b>
<b>29</b> Memorial Day The DCA is closed	<b>30</b> 12:15 Women's Luncheons: "Summer Styles" with Susan Singer of Closet Curator and Special Guests	<b>31</b> 10:00 Darien Men's Association meeting		

## Slate for the 2017-2018 DCA Board of Directors; Amended Bylaws

Please look for the slate on our website homepage beginning April 21st. Our proposed amended bylaws will be posted on the website as well (see president's message on page 2).

# Activities & Programs



## Mother's Day Plant Sale Tea

Shop at the DCA Plant Sale in the morning, and enjoy afternoon tea in our beautiful historic home and garden. What could be better?

Let the DCA's knowledgeable Greenhouse Group volunteers help you find the right plants for your garden and containers from 8:30am - 12:30pm. Then we'll hold your plants purchases while you savor creations from chef/caterer Victoria Truchan of Country House Cuisine. What a perfect way to relax with friends, other mothers, or even your own mom! Our traditional menu will include a variety of classic tea sandwiches, scones with clotted cream and strawberry jam, English and French petit fours and cookies, and a selection of Harney & Sons teas.

Victoria Truchan is a graduate of the prestigious Culinary Institute of America, with degrees in both culinary and baking and pastry arts. She has trained under some of the best French pastry chefs, both here and in London, and went on to work as head pastry chef for Christian Bertrand (Lutece, NYC) and Jacques Thiebault (Homestead Inn, Greenwich) as well as at the Stonehenge Inn (Ridgefield) - before starting her own successful catering company, Country House Cuisine.

**Friday, May 12th**  
**11:30am - 3:00pm (Two seatings, 11:30am and 1:30pm)**

DCA members \$40 / public \$45  
Prepayment is required by Wednesday, May 10th



## Sparkling Wine Class with Nicholas Roberts

Join us to experience champagne alternatives that will tickle your nose, sparkle your palate and satisfy your budget. We'll explore and taste a Prosecco, a Cava, a domestic sparkling wine, and a Crémant. And we'll throw in the real thing, too, to completely satisfy your taste buds!

**Wednesday, May 24th**  
**7:00pm - 8:30pm**

DCA members \$55 / public \$60  
Prepayment is required by Monday, May 22nd.



## Two Options for Mah Jongg in May and June

### Mah Jongg for Beginners

Longtime Darien resident Donna Holt will teach players the basics of American Mah Jongg, from understanding the tiles and card, to selecting and strengthening a winning hand. Rules and strategies of play and game etiquette will be covered. Please bring the 2017 NMJL card to class. To order: [nationalmahjonggleague.org](http://nationalmahjonggleague.org)

**Tuesdays: May 2, 9, 16 & 23**  
**9:30am - 12:00pm**

DCA members \$75 / public \$85  
Prepayment required by noon on Friday, April 28th.

### Guided Play - 2 sessions: sign up for one or both

This four week session will offer the chance to sharpen your game with instructor Donna Holt on hand to oversee play. She will be available to help with all aspects of the game, from choosing your hand, to guiding the group through any rules or etiquette questions that arise. Please bring the 2017 card to each class. PLEASE NOTE: Players should already be familiar with both rules of play and the NMJL card.

**Session 5: Wednesdays, May 3, 10, 17 & 24 at 9:30am - 12:00pm**  
**Session 6: Wednesdays, June 7, 14, 21 & 28 at 9:30am - 12:00pm**

DCA members \$65 / public \$75  
Prepayment required by noon on Monday, May 1st for Session 5 and Monday, June 5th for Session 6. Minimum and maximum enrollment apply to all classes.

# Activities & Programs

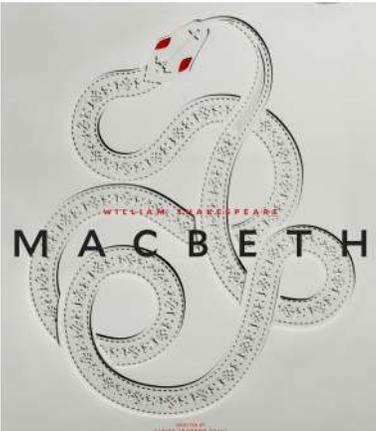


## Flower Arranging Workshop: Flowering Branches

Tall and wispy...fun to work with. Come experience something different. Be creative! The workshop will be led by Diane Schlinkert and Allie Callan, both Darien residents and experienced floral designers from the New York Botanical Garden certificate program. Materials will be provided; please bring your own hand clippers if you have them.

Wednesday, May 3rd  
1:00pm - 2:00pm

DCA members \$40 / public \$45  
Prepayment is required by noon on Monday, May 1st. Maximum enrollment is 20.



## Women's Luncheons: "Something Wicked This Way Comes: Shakespeare on the Sound brings *Macbeth* to Fairfield County"

Join Claire Kelly, Director and Emily Bryan, script advisor, for a discussion of Shakespeare's thrilling tragedy, *Macbeth*. We'll be covering witchcraft, bloody ambition, political homicide, insomnia, and paranoia! Get a sneak peek into the set design (which will capitalize on the natural setting of Pinkney Park), costumes and casting for our summer production.

Tuesday, May 2nd  
12:15pm - 2:00pm

DCA members \$20 / public \$25

Reservations are required by noon on Monday, May 1st. Luncheon will be provided by Michael Joseph's Catering.



## Women's Luncheons: "Summer Styles" with Susan Singer of Closet Curator and Special Guests

Your clothing and accessories are an extension of your personality and help create the image you project to the world. Susan Singer will join us to talk about how to participate in the trends of the day. She will offer tips for how to stock your closet with the pieces that will have you ready for any type of occasion...from casual to festive. And with the help of three volunteer models, she'll demonstrate how you can accessorize your clothing to create and define your own unique style.

Tuesday, May 30th  
12:15pm - 2:00pm

DCA members \$20 / public \$25

Reservations are required by noon on Monday, May 29th. Luncheon will be provided by Michael Joseph's Catering.



## Mom's Morning In Field Trip to Noroton Fire Station

Meet our courageous town firefighters! Kids get to climb on the trucks, watch the ladders go up, ring the bell, and see all of the fire equipment. Fireman Joe will answer questions about the fire trucks and the firehouse, and give junior firemen a fire hat of their very own! Meet at the fire station at 1873 Post Road (across from St. Luke's Church).

Friday, May 19th  
10:00am

\$10 per child  
Reservations are not required.

# Upcoming Events

June 5, 12:30pm Page Turners end-of-year luncheon  
June 20, 8:30am DCA Board meeting

## Page Turners Book Group

This month's selection is *The Little Red Chairs* by Edna O'Brien. It's a fiercely beautiful novel about one woman's struggle to reclaim a life shattered by betrayal, from one of the greatest storytellers of our time. Moving from Ireland to London and then to The Hague, *The Little Red Chairs* is Edna O'Brien's first novel in ten years -- a vivid and unflinching exploration of humanity's capacity for evil and artifice as well as the bravest kind of love.

**Monday, May 8th**  
**12:30pm**

All DCA members are welcome!

## DCA Thrift Shop Volunteer Opportunity!

Volunteering at the Thrift Shop only requires a commitment once a week. Volunteers help tidy clothing, price items, create in-store and window displays, and sell to customers - and help the shop continue to provide a vital community service. If you are interested in joining our team, please contact Carol Smith at 203-655-4552 for an application.

The Darien Community Association • 274 Middlesex Road, Darien, CT 06820 • 203-655-9050 • [info@dariendca.org](mailto:info@dariendca.org) • [dariendca.org](http://dariendca.org)

# Find out more

## DCA Office Hours

9:00am - 3:00pm Monday - Thursday  
9:00am - 12:00pm Fridays

## House Rentals

For information or a tour of the estate, for your catered event, please contact:

Laura Boulton  
Catered Events Coordinator  
[events@dariendca.org](mailto:events@dariendca.org)  
203-655-9050 extension 12

For room rentals only, contact:

Marilyn DeMaio  
Office Manager  
[info@dariendca.org](mailto:info@dariendca.org)  
203-655-9050 extension 10



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