



June, 2010

# LIBRETTO

## Symphony Village's Newsletter

Vol. V, No.6

*MISSION STATEMENT: To enhance the quality of life and promote a harmonious community through the timely publication of accurate information about residents, events, and activities in and around Symphony Village.*

### New Homeowners:

Joseph and Loretta Shanahan  
114 Concerto Avenue

Randol and Missie Carroll  
302 Opera Court



Paul and Bea Trotta  
131 Opera Court

Richard and Donna Sheridan  
406 Harmony Way

### Welcome Night for New Residents

All new residents are invited to a "Welcome Evening" on Wednesday, July 14, at 7 p.m. in the Clubhouse Grand Concert Room. This is an informal get-together to meet other new neighbors, have dessert, and learn more about your community. Please sign up in the Activities Book in the Clubhouse or call Carol Hodges at 410-758-0591 so we can plan appropriately. If you have been previously invited and were not able to come, please feel free to attend. Again, just call Carol or sign up.

### CARUSO EVENT

#### Pre-Preakness Horse Race

On Saturday, May 15, Caruso sponsored a Pre-Preakness Horse Race at the Clubhouse. A large crowd gathered. Many ladies dressed to the nines in their lovely hats adorned with Black-eyed Susans, daisies, horses, flowers, and ribbons. Light refreshments were provided and a special Black-eyed Susan drink was served along with the usual wine, beer, and sodas.

Six jockeys (**Brenda Stoltz # 1, Mary Drake #2, Karin Larsen #3, Carole Walsh #4, Diane Briggs #5, and Bill Rowley #6**) were decked out in their splashy jockey outfits and silk colors.

The horses (*Blazing Fire #1, Gators N Bears #2, Beetle Bomb #3, Tipperary # 4, Pumpkin #5, and Seasick #6*) were all shapes and sizes—two even talked. When the race began with Betsy Ewing rolling the die, *Gators N Bears* took off running; and Mary's horse stayed in the lead right up to



the finish line. Bill's horse must have really been "*seasick*" because the jockey had trouble getting *Seasick* out of the starting gate, and at one point they were both seen "lying down on the job."

Following this exciting race, the ladies modeled their fancy, Preakness bonnets around the Clubhouse. Although they were all lovely, Carol Powell's hat won the prize. Compliments of Caruso, all contest winners and participating jockeys received gift cards to Doc's or Starbucks. Many "Thanks" to Caruso and his staff for another fun event.



**Betsy Ewing and Mary Drake**



**Carol Powell and Betsy**

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **LIFESTYLE UPDATE**

#### **Past Events—*Memorial Day Picnic***

Our neighbors on Encore and Opera Courts, the 800 and 900 blocks of Harmony Way, and several houses on Symphony Way worked very hard to prepare a wonderful picnic for SV residents. The food was delicious, and Allen Beck's idea of serving the food inside and from both sides of the table was a real crowd pleaser—it was cool and fast. Ron Dillon was busy outside grilling in the hot sun while Dottie was hustling back and forth with trays of burgers n' dogs like a car hop waitress. Whether they were in the pool, visiting with friends and family, playing cards and tennis, or competing in the Annual Bocci Ball tournament, everyone seemed to be having a good time. By the way, our new Bocci Ball Champions this year are Frank Patti and Emerson Schultz. Look closely at the picture—no, Emerson is not a 55-year-old midget—he is the 10-year old grandson of Helen and John Schultz; and Frank (a first-time player) was delighted to have Emerson as a partner.





*BJ McClaeb, Doris Pullman, Allen Beck, Marilyn Beachley*

*Emerson Schultz and Frank Patti*



*Ellen Miller, Jo Kirchner, Sue Peterson, Anita Morris*



*Larry Hodges, Linda Gardner, Joe Schultz, Kathy Waddell*



*Chris Collins, Linda and Jim Pullen*

## Upcoming Events

- Saturday, June 19, **Happy Hour**, 6 p.m. Centreville Sauté will prepare the delicious menu that evening. There is a cost per person of \$8. Sign up with payment no later than Thursday, June 17. A minimum attendance of 50 people is needed by that date.
- Thursday, June 24, **Ladies' Happy Hour** at 5:30 p.m. Bring \$5, which provides you with dinner and a beverage.
- Monday, July 5, **Fourth of July Picnic**—Noon to 4 p.m. Cost is \$7. Menu to be announced. Sign up in the Activities Book and leave check in the black box on the counter.
- Friday, July 2, **Happy Hour**, 6 p.m. Bring your favorite appetizer or dessert. Sign up in the Activities Book if you can host.
- Tuesday, July 6, **Lifestyles Meeting**, 7:15 p.m. Your input is welcome.
- Saturday, July 17, **Happy Hour**, 6 p.m. Bring your favorite appetizer or dessert.
- Thursday, July 22, **Ladies' Happy Hour** at 5:30 p.m. Bring \$5, which provides you with dinner and a beverage.



## **OPERATIONS UPDATE**

### Perennial Plants Installed at Entrance to Symphony Village

New plants have been installed at the entrance to Symphony Village and in front of the Clubhouse. Instead of the usual annual plantings, which have to be replaced every year, half of the plantings now are perennials. This means they will return each year



and flower during the summer months. For those residents who are gardeners, here is a list of those plants: **Agastache, Blue Fortune** (tall with a blue flower); **Coreopsis verticillata, Zagreb** (small yellow flower); **Geranium Cranesbill, Rozanne** (blue flower); **Nandina, Harbor dwarf** (small shrub); **Plumbago** (blue flowering groundcover). – *Cass Smith*

### Pond Retrofit Update

For interested residents, a copy of the Pond Retrofit Design Plan is now in the Craft Room at the Clubhouse. Also, there is a printout of some of the many flowering plants that are included in the planting plan. According to Eva Kerchner, Town Watershed Manager, the lily pads will stay in the forebay (the smaller body of water). Many of the fish in Pond 2 were saved and transferred to Pond 1. Installation of over 35,000 plants has begun. These plants were specifically chosen for their suitability to the site. Residents are asked to refrain from adding any plant material or fish to the pond. The wrong species can create an imbalance in the ecosystem the retrofit is designed to establish. Certain plant species can clog up the outtake pipe, and some fish will quickly overpopulate the pond. Residents may be called upon to assist in watering during the summer months. No official request has been made, as yet. The grant for the retrofit does not include funds for a fountain. Your patience during the installation process is greatly appreciated.—*Cass Smith*

*Need an electrician? See [Motorhead Electric ad.](#)*

## OUTREACH UPDATE

### Save the Date for Outreach

Please mark your calendars and save Saturday morning, October 23 (from 8:30 a.m. until noon), for our first *Village Artisans Expo and Sale*. Many of your talented neighbors will be displaying their wares, and there will be wonderful items to stow away for holiday gift giving. Come and enjoy our coffee bar and bake sale, too. In case of rain, we will be in the Clubhouse! **There is still room for more participants so email your interest to [lorettaquigley@yahoo.com](mailto:lorettaquigley@yahoo.com).** More details next month!—  
*Loretta Quigley*

### Name Tags

Sales for name tags are going well. **DON'T MISS OUT** on this opportunity to order yours. **The sales period will end June 27. Get your information and check up to the Clubhouse NOW!** (Names wanted, pin or magnet back, and check for \$10 for each one to SVOPI) **Do it today!!!!**



### Neighbor to Neighbor

Please join with Neighbor to Neighbor in welcoming Lynn Lewis as our newest Street Captain for Sonata Way. Folks on Sonata Way are encouraged to call either Lynn or Bev Linkins if they (or a neighbor) need assistance.

At our last meeting, we agreed that Street Captains will now have the option of contacting people on their street via email when a neighbor has a need for meals or services. This will speed up the notification process and will save the Captain from making numerous phone calls while attempting to coordinate services. Use of this method is at the discretion of the Street Captains; they may email or call you to ask for help. So...check your email...and answer your phone! ☺ *Thanks, Eleanor Strietman.*

## PUBLICATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

### Internet or Website Help

If you would like to have help with your email, accessing the website, downloading photos, etc., Bob Rose (443-262-8238) has offered to help.

### All Are Welcome

Everyone is welcome to attend our next Publications and Communications meeting on Wednesday, July 7, at 7 p.m. in the Clubhouse Conference Room.

**Looking for Someone to Chair Publications and Communications** - If anyone is interested in taking over the Chairmanship of P & C Committee, please call Carol Hodges at 410-758-0591.

### Advertisers

**Please support our advertisers. At the end of the newsletter you will find their ads.**

**Supporting our advertisers helps keep our HOA dues from increasing.**

*Who can do my landscaping?  
See [Solidago Landscapes](#) and [MVP Irrigation](#) ads.*

## MEET THE SV MANAGEMENT TEAM

### Meet LAURA

*By Karin Larsen*

**Professional Info:** Prior to working at SV, Laura Wright has worn many different “hats.” Over the years she has run a daycare and managed a karate school, a real estate school, an orthodontic practice, and an office for a custom home builder. She has been a legal secretary, bookkeeper, and executive assistant for the CEO of a national company. However, Laura says that she really enjoys property/community management the best. She considers a big perk to the job is all of the co-workers and residents she has gotten to know. Laura took classes last year that qualified her to sit for a national exam earning her a “CMCA” designation (Certified Manager of Community Associations). In January 2010, Laura was promoted to Assistant General Manager of SV and currently is preparing to begin taking 16 more credits for the second level (out of three levels) of certification as an “AMS” (Association Management Specialist).

**Personal Info:** Laura was born and raised in Oakton, Virginia. Both of her parents worked for the Federal Government—her father for the Department of Defense and her mother at the Geological Survey for Department of Interior. Laura attended college at James Madison University, married young, and had two sons: Patrick (age 22), who is graduating Salisbury University this month and going on to get his graduate degree there, and Brian (age 19), who is transferring from Chesapeake College to Salisbury to finish his bachelor’s degree and room with his brother. Laura’s parents, who are celebrating their 45<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary, live in Homosassa, Florida, after moving north from Venice. Her brother, John, his wife, and two nieces live in Virginia. Most recently, Laura sold her home in Church Hill. She states she lucked out on a great deal in the purchase of a home in historic Easton. Laura is very excited about living in Easton—especially since it brings her that much closer to her sons in Salisbury. Laura’s roommate and “other child” is her beloved, gorgeous, 12-year old Siberian husky “Ranger” (named after the Lone Ranger because of the “mask” he had when he was born which has since faded away) who keeps her very good company, indeed. Laura’s favorite hobby is photography (of nature and birds mostly) and she dearly loves animals, the beach, books, movies, music, yoga, travel, wine tasting, golf, and her iPod.

*Did you learn anything new? I really wish we could do this with all of our residents because we can always gain some insight about people and what makes them tick!*

*(This writer acknowledges the information for Dennis and Laura was provided by and written by Laura Wright.)*

## SNEAKERS UPDATE

### Scholarships

In the past month, Sneakers awarded \$500 scholarships to four deserving Queen Anne’s County High School graduating seniors who will be attending Chesapeake College.

### Book Giveaway – June 8

In the past week, the last book distribution of the school year took place at Kennard Elementary. Every child in the school received a book for their summer reading.



### **Sneakers Auction**

We are now gearing up for our Annual Silent Auction to be held Saturday, November 13. This will enable us to continue to give back to our neighborhood schools. Please consider donating items for the auction such as tickets for events, vacation properties, items for gala baskets, one of a kind art items, handmade crafts, and/or services such as baking items (dessert a month, etc.). We also need empty baskets to be filled. Please contact Helena Joy or Linda Farrar with ideas, suggestions, or questions.

### **Next Meeting**

All Symphony Village residents are invited to our next meeting, which will be at the Clubhouse on Wednesday afternoon at **3 p.m.** on **June 15**.

## **CLUBS AND CLASSES**

### **Dining Inn is Back!**

After a significant absence, Dining Inn, the neighborhood dining experience, is back on the social scene. You may remember that Dining Inn was a group dinner, usually including three to four couples and held in a resident's home. The "host" resident selected and prepared an entrée for the expected guests, then coordinated appetizers, vegetables, and desserts with the guests. Most guests brought a favorite wine. After a couple of successful years, its popularity waned, and Dining Inn disappeared from the Lifestyle calendar.



Eighteen residents, who missed this social opportunity, met for dinner in late May and have agreed to champion the reintroduction of the program here at Symphony Village. In addition to the historical features mentioned above, the new Dining Inn has the following twists:

- 1) We intend to meet on the second weekend of each month, but not necessarily on Saturday evenings, as in the past. Our first open dinner was for Sunday, June 13. We anticipate adding Sunday afternoon meals to the Friday/Saturday/Sunday evening schedule.
- 2) Dining Inn welcomes all residents, singles, and couples.
- 3) From time to time we will schedule a large group dinner, such as a cookout at the pavilion.

Our next dinner is Saturday, July 10. Please use the registration form in the Activity Book in the Clubhouse lobby. For additional information, call interim coordinators Willie DiLaura, 443-262-8062, or Sandee Love, 410-758-3224.

*Need prescription sunglasses? See ad for [Optical Galleria](#)*

### **The Gazebo Garden Club**

May was a particularly busy month for the Gazebo Garden Club. A special thanks to all of the members who turned out to get the flowerbeds in great shape for the Memorial Day Celebration. The gravel paths were weed free, and one ton of bluestone gravel was added to the paths. Jim Roe hauled the gravel in his pickup; and he, Don Downey, and Jack Hennessey spread the gravel. We still need two more gardeners,

since two of the original members have resigned. Contact Joan or Jack if you would like to take over responsibility for a bed.

Once again, a predator ravaged the killdeer nest in the garden. It may have been the red fox that was seen passing through the garden. The first brood of martins has been flying around, and a new brood will soon be hatched. Unfortunately, a starling has decided to nest above the fan in the gazebo. It has been necessary to clean the bird poop from the table at least twice a week.

An application to install a martin house behind the Novak and Barbalace houses has been submitted for approval. They will share the costs, and the garden club will install the new house in time for occupancy next spring. All residents are invited to sit in the gazebo and watch the show put on by the purple martins every evening around 7:30 p.m.

The veggie garden is off to a flying start! The first tomatoes, zucchini, and squash have been harvested, along with lettuce and Swiss chard. A watering system has been installed to supplement the much-needed rain. Ten residents are participating in the veggie garden, and several others have expressed an interest in joining the group. We will look into the possibility of expanding the garden next year.

Incidentally, a beautiful Baltimore Oriole can be seen almost every day flying near the veggie garden.

*Want some Garden Fresh Tomatoes? See ad for [Perkins Produce and Flowers](#).*

### **The Reading For Fun Book Club**

The Reading for Fun Book Club met on May 18 to discuss the book *The Art of Racing in the Rain*, by Garth Stein. Betty Moulis, who also provided a delicious coffee cake for dessert, selected this book. The story is told from the perspective of Enzo, a multi-breed dog, who believes he will be reincarnated as a human. It is a heart-wrenching but funny and uplifting story. On a scale of 1 to 10, the book received a rating of 7.1. The selection for our June 15 meeting is *A Reliable Wife*, by Robert Goolrick. Lee Ettman recommended this book. The plot revolves around a rich widower who advertises for a reliable wife during a cold Wisconsin winter in 1907. The *Washington Post* describes it as “a gothic tale of smoldering desire.” The club welcomed Sandra Allegra as a new member at the May meeting. All residents are invited to join the book club, which meets on the third Tuesday of every month in the Clubhouse.



**Need shelves, chair rail, or any custom carpentry?**

*See the ads for [Rob's Custom Carpentry](#).*

### **Symphony Village Bird Club**

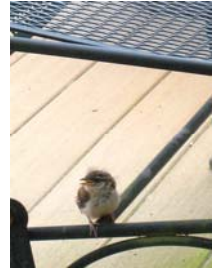
There seemed to be a lot more pesky birds nesting in unpopular places (to humans) this spring. Many people had starlings and robins move into their dryer vents; and many people whose houses have a stone facade have sparrow and starling families galore nesting behind the shutters. Sometimes the left shutter has a sparrow and the right a starling. But along with all these not-so-fun nesting sites, there are also some positive stories:

- Brenda and John Stoltz are the proud grandparents of four Carolina wrens. The babies hatched in their grill, so Brenda and John couldn't cook out for a while. Brenda actually watched three of the babies leave the nest and





successfully fly to the edge of the woods. When the last of the hatchling finally emerged from the grill, it hopped around close to the doorway where Brenda was sitting taking pictures. It cocked its head and looked at her as if to say, “Are you my mother?” At this point, Brenda realized it was time to disappear and let the baby bird “*imprint* on its real mother.” After all the babies left their grill home, John headed to the freezer to take out some steaks;



- Pat and Bill Scheirer have a very attentive and patient pair of robins nesting in their crape myrtle. The parents don’t seem to mind all the humans peeking into their nest;
- Carol and Larry Hodges have a bluebird pair in their bluebird nest box. Carol also reports that the purple martin house on pond #2 is now the proud home of purple martins. Carol had to continually “discourage” pesky starlings who wanted to move in before the purple martins found the house;



- Nothing unusual is nesting in Linda Blume’s yard, but she does have one family of house sparrows and one family of house finches in her backyard trees;
- Robins are nesting on more than a few support beams under decks along the ponds and the woods; and
- Tree swallows have moved into a hanging gourd house backing on pond #2.

What a variety of nesting birds we have here in SV. Also nesting are chipping sparrows, mockingbirds, killdeer, and more. And, if anyone wants some chicken wire to wedge behind shutters to discourage nesting, Linda Blume has plenty and you are welcome to some.

## NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

### A Thank You from Marlene Tennier



I want to thank the many friends and neighbors of Symphony Village for the comfort and support given to me with the passing of Keith at our home on April 19. Hospice of Queen Anne’s County assisted me with his care for three weeks prior to his death. I was honored to be his caretaker in the comfort of our home. I will always remember the love and concern extended to me by the neighbors who sent in meals and the numerous cards offering prayers, expressing sorrow for my loss, and extending a willingness to be of help. I experienced all of that love and concern as I greeted you at Our Mother of Sorrows Church to celebrate Keith’s life at the Mass of Christian Burial. What a beautiful tribute you paid to Keith, my daughters, and me. I am aware that much of the delicious food served at the luncheon following the service was prepared by many of you. I am grateful to all. I feel very special to be a part of this community where genuine love and generosity are abundant.

*Need pet care. See the ads for [Dandyland Pet Care Center](#) or [Happy Tails Petsitting](#).*

## Humor in Symphony Village

### Pet Story

First of all....I want to say a BIG "Thank You" to all of the wonderful village people who helped me while I was recovering from my hip surgery. You ALL were wonderful....and Chloe thanks you, too.

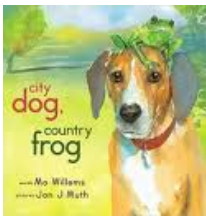
There were so many different people walking Chloe that she just expected to go out with whoever came by. She was just happy to get to go out....EXCEPT for the ones who came to take her out in the mornings. Mornings are NOT Chloe's best times. She prefers to sleep in until at least mid-morning. Even with all of the ear scratching, tummy rubbing, and loving words...she still didn't want to get up...and made her displeasure known...with grunts and growls.



It got so that I would have to attach the leash to her collar; and, after many stretches and yawns, she would reluctantly get off of the bed and go outside. Our little pets are sure funny and have a mind of their own—*BJ McClueb*

### Another Pet Story

My dog Nellie loves to hunt for **frogs** in my front flowerbed. Whenever we're out there gardening (we have an invisible fence), she hunts under the hosta leaves. She carefully sniffs in the ajuga. She looks under all the bushes – sometimes all you can see is her butt sticking out. Usually she hunts without actually spotting her prey. But on one recent afternoon ... Success! *However*, it wasn't quite what she probably envisioned. She found a frog ... but the frog fought back ... and slimed her ... right in the mouth. Nellie shook her head wildly from side to side, back and forth, but the slime just wouldn't shake off. I asked her if she wanted to go inside, and she went right to the front door so I let her into the house. Inside, she sped up and down the hallway, shaking her head all the while. Nothing worked. Finally, she asked to go onto the back patio where, believe it or not, she went on another **frog hunt** – this time, thankfully, with no success. Nellie continues to hunt frogs whenever she is in the front or back yard – this episode was apparently not a learning experience!—



*Joan Rafter*

*(Editor's note: Perhaps Nellie should read this book before her next frog episode.)*

### Another Critter Story

Last fall, Carlene and Jim Cooke had a **rain garden** installed. The rabbits were overjoyed! Only stubs were left in two days. Apparently, they love local plants as they ate none of the other plants. This year they revisited the rain garden buffet once again. Neighbors were asked for assistance in fighting these beasts. A SV friend said **rubber snakes** are the answer, but he had purchased the last one Kmart had in stock. Apparently, there's been a run on these snakes; and Kmart cannot keep up with the demand. However, Walmart came through, and two curvy, rubber snakes about two-feet long were purchased there. One looks like a garter snake, and the other looks like a snake no one has ever seen—it's yellow, orange, and red with no pattern. There was speculation that the "cute little bunnies" might have trouble seeing the garter snake, but they could not miss the multi-colored variety which was placed in the flower bed at the edge of the lawn.



Hallelujah, the rabbits have not returned!



However, there is sadness—tragedy has struck! Jim checked these plants after a two-day absence. The plants were fine, but the multi-colored snake was gone! They are pretty sure it did not crawl away, and the neighbors claim they did not take it. That leaves three possibilities: a very large mean bunny; a hawk; or a very excited grass cutter. If you find all or part of a psychedelic rubber snake, please give Jim a call. There is **NO** reward offered.

*(Editors note: Look in the July Libretto for another “interesting” snake story.)*

### **A Senior Moment**

A resident was expecting a telephone call, so when she had some work to do in the garage, she took the portable house phone with her. The phone soon rang, and she went to pick it up off the trunk of her car (where she always put it when in the garage), but the phone wasn't there. She went to the shelves where she was working – it wasn't there either. She stopped and tried to concentrate on where the sound was coming from, but it wasn't coming from any direction. Only then did she think to feel in the pocket of her jeans and sure enough, there it was.

*Do you have a humorous story involving people or pets? Please share!  
Contact Carol Hodges (758-0591) or Linda Blume (758-3194).*

### **Gardeners**

Many of the gardeners in SV have planted many plants. The plants have been prolific. It is painful to pull them out and discard them. Therefore, if you would like to share your plants with other gardeners, please sign the Activities Book listing plants you would like to share (i.e. coreopsis, rose of Sharon, day lilies, etc.). When your plants are gone, please remove your name from the book.

### **“File of Life” Reminder**

The “File of Life” could save your life! What is it, you ask? The “File of Life” is a thumbnail sketch of your medical history, current medications, and emergency contact information. You fill it out, put it in its red magnetic holder, and attach it to your refrigerator. The Goodwill Fire Department EMT/paramedics have said that the first thing they look for in a house is the refrigerator with the “File of Life” on it. They said the file needs to be updated as necessary; it really helps them when time is so critically important. If you do not yet have a File of Life, you can get one for \$1.50 by calling Kathy Gauthier, 410-758-1743, or from Laura at the Clubhouse. Do it today!

### **Trivia Questions**

1. What new Zenith Radio product is marketed as “Lazy bones” in the 1950s ?
2. Who does Elizabeth Taylor marry in the 1950s time period?
3. What 1950s television show debuts and presents the most popular and bestselling songs of the week?

*(Answers are at the end of the Libretto.)*

*Repainting? See ads for The Painting Specialist or  
Handy Dan Services.*

## VOLUNTEER IN ACTION



### Arlyn Marshall

by Brenda Stoltz

Surely, many of you sports fans already know the Queen Anne's County High School boys' lacrosse team (the Lions) won the 2010 Maryland State Championship (Class 2A-1A). What a fantastic achievement for the boys' lacrosse team and a wonderful opportunity for some of these boys to receive college scholarships. SV residents can also be proud that one of our neighbors, Arlyn Marshall, has been a volunteer coach-consultant for the Lions since he moved to Centreville four years ago. In May 2007, Jon Briggs wrote an article in the *Libretto* about Arlyn and Arlyn's vast experience as a star lacrosse player and coach. As testament to his playing skills, Arlyn was elected to the US Lacrosse National Hall of Fame in 1990; and his career coaching record speaks for itself—291 wins and 53 losses. Surely, this experience made him a valuable asset to the Lions' team. In Jon's *Libretto* article, Arlyn sums up his attitude about volunteering this way, ***"I've always been a big believer in trying to better myself while assisting others to the best of my ability. Volunteering has provided me with the opportunity to give something back to the community."*** Congratulations Arlyn! You must be very proud of the Lions.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### The Queen Anne's County Department of Animal Services

By Karin Larsen

Past *Libretto* articles have featured the Animal Resource Foundation and Chesapeake Cats and Dogs, so why not address an organization close by to us that can always use volunteers and support? This organization works to provide humane care and treatment for all animals county-wide and deserves attention! Kelly Armstrong, Director of the QAC Department of Animal Services, and Cindy Compton, Office Manager, greeted me as I wandered inside to interview. The facility was looking spruced up due to Kelly Armstrong's idea to recruit inmates from the QAC Department of Corrections. Armstrong, heading the department since November, is overseeing this unique collaboration of Animal Services and the QAC Department of Corrections. The inmates are repainting and renovating the office space. They are currently working on the cat room and the outdoor screened porch for cats.



Did you know that hundreds of hours each year are spent by the staff at the center trying to place stray domestic and unwanted animals? "Animal Services provides patrols of the entire county, during which time Animal Control Officers collect stray, unleashed and licensed animals roaming at large." The staff and officers here are highly trained and specialize in the care, treatment, and handling of both wild and domestic animals. They respond to all calls for assistance and need to investigate nuisance complaints, neglect cases, bite cases related to any animal, both wild and domestic. They also respond to calls from QAC communities such as when dogs are attacked by other people's dogs. They reminded me to get the word out that people walking their dogs need to control their pets while walking them so that they don't injure other animals. Animal Services are on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. The Pet Adoption Center Staff is responsible for calling rescue organizations, foster homes for animals placed into the adoption program, and potential adopters. Staff at this department must also work very



closely with state and local law enforcement agencies, local humane societies, local veterinarians, the Environmental Health Department, and the State Animal Health Laboratory.

Another group worth mentioning, that always needs volunteers, is The Adopt-A-Pet, Inc., which was established in 1997. The mission of Adopt-A-Pet is to raise funds for special needed items not covered in the budget of the QAC Department of Animal Services. Adopt-A-Pet also provides newspaper advertising to find homes for adoptable pets that are temporarily housed at the shelter. All monies raised by this organization go directly to Animal Services. Periodically, they have helped several of the other animal rescue groups in the county. This small group is dedicated to helping the animals at QAC Department of Animal Services find homes that are *permanent, as in forever!*

If you'd like to help either of these organizations or see for yourself how these folks work, simply visit or call:

- QAC Dept. of Animal Services - 201 Clay Drive, Queenstown, MD 21658 (410-758-2393)
- Adopt-A-Pet (410-643-1708)

*Air Conditioning need service? See Steele's ad (not affiliated with Red Steel).*

## LOCAL EVENTS

*By Linda Blume*

### 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Delmarva Chicken Festival



This year's festival will take place on **June 17-19** at Delaware State University in Dover. The carnival opens on Thursday, June 17, 6 – 10 p.m. The festival is June 18 and 19, 10 a.m. – 10 p.m. For all the details and for a complete schedule of events, go to [www.dpichicken.org](http://www.dpichicken.org).

### 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Antique and Classic Boat Festival

The Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum in St. Michaels will host the Boat Festival on **June 18-20**. More than 100 boats are expected to compete in a judged show. There will also be a nautical flea market, arts, craftsmen, vendors, and children's activities. Hours are Friday 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.; and Sunday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. For more information and a complete schedule of events, go to [www.chesapeakebayacbs.org](http://www.chesapeakebayacbs.org).

### “Rose Medallion” and “Blue Canton” China Exhibits



The Queen Anne's County Historical Society will host a special exhibit of Rose Medallion China (in Tucker House) and Blue Canton China (in Wright's Chance) on **June 19**, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., in downtown Centreville. Rose Medallion China, circa 1800, has a center medallion containing a peony or a bird. Radiating out from the medallion are four or six panels with peonies or leaves in the background and birds and people in the foreground. Blue Canton China, also circa 1800, is hand-painted and shows a coastal village scene consisting of tea houses, arched bridges, willow trees, meandering streams, and distant mountains with an absence of figures. The border has blue lattice work and an inner border of wavy lines called “clouds.” Admission to both exhibits is \$3.



### **Art of the Deals**

This town-wide event in Centreville will take place on **June 19**, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., and will feature artists, artisans, community groups, demonstrations, sidewalk sales, and fun for all ages. The event is located on the Courthouse Square and in downtown Centreville. For more information, visit [www.discoverqueenannes.com](http://www.discoverqueenannes.com).

### **Stargazing “Community Observing Night”**



The Anne Arundel Community College Astronomy Club will host a Community Observing Night on **June 19**, 7:30 – 10 p.m., at the Arnold campus. The club meets 7:30 - 8:30 and the public is welcome. Stargazing begins at 8:30, weather permitting. Bring your own telescope and binoculars or use AACC equipment to view stars, planets, and the moon. The event is family friendly and is free. For more information, go to [www.aacc.edu/science/observatory](http://www.aacc.edu/science/observatory).

### **10<sup>th</sup> Annual Art’s Alive**

Ocean City’s fine arts festival on **June 19-20** features more than 100 artists selling their treasures and competing for awards. Visit the artists as they exhibit their work around the lagoon in Northside Park. Discover that art is alive for the entire family in Ocean City. Listen to lively music while you enjoy lunch at the Artists’ Café. Children can enjoy free creative art activities. Hours are Saturday 9 a.m. – 6 p.m., and Sunday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, go to [www.ococean.com](http://www.ococean.com).

### **Kayak Trips**

Caroline County Department of Recreation and Parks will sponsor several kayak trips this summer to explore the Upper Choptank. No experience is needed. All instructions and equipment will be provided, but you may bring your own kayak if you prefer. Discounts are available if you bring your own boat, prefer a tandem kayak (seating two), or have a person under 12 (tandem kayak required) in your party.

Tuesday Treks: 8:30 – 11:00: **June 22, June 29, July 6**

Thursday Treks: 4 – 7 p.m., **July 8, July 15**

Sunday Treks: 2 – 6 p.m.: **July 11**

The cost is \$28 per tour, half price BYO kayak and for youth under 12 with guardian.

Meet at the launch point at Crouse Memorial Park in Denton. For more information, go to [www.carolinerecreation.org](http://www.carolinerecreation.org).

### **Quilting: Historic Perspective and Beginner’s Workshop**

Janet Pfeffer will lead this workshop on **June 25**, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., at Adkins Arboretum. There will be a selective overview of quilting through time followed by a workshop to create your own potholder or placemat. Materials will be provided, but participants are welcome to bring their own. Workshop is limited to 10 participants. The fee is \$40 members, \$45 general public. For additional information, go to [www.adkinsarboretum.org](http://www.adkinsarboretum.org).



### **Tilghman Island Summer Seafood Festival**

This year’s festival will take place on **June 26** at the Tilghman Island Volunteer Fire Company and adjacent Kronsberg Park. Features include local seafood, live music, crab races, crafts, Queen and Little Miss contests, artisans, and a fireman’s parade. Hours are 11 a.m. – 7 p.m. For details, visit [www.tilghmanmd.com](http://www.tilghmanmd.com).

### **Old Fashioned Eastern Shore Fish Fry**

The Rock Hall Volunteer Fire House is the place for this classic all-you-can-eat fish fry on **June 26**, 3 – 7 p.m. There will be live music, fish, chicken, potatoes, baked beans, cole slaw, and that famous shortbread and molasses.

### **22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Cardboard Boat Races**

The cardboard boats (made of corrugated press board) will race on **June 26**, on the shores of the Tred Avon River, Oxford Strand, in Oxford. The races start at 11 a.m. The creative boat construction races will follow the first race featuring gas-powered Smith Island Crab Skiffs. The event is held to have fun and to raise money for **Special Olympics** of Maryland. Admission is free to the public. For more information, visit [www.whatsupmag.com](http://www.whatsupmag.com) or [www.somd.org](http://www.somd.org).



### **Summer Family Canoe Trip**

A naturalist with Pickering Creek Audubon Center will lead a canoe trip on **June 27**, 1 – 3 p.m., along Pickering Creek. After covering the basics of canoeing, you will go for a paddle on the Creek. Look to the skies for osprey and eagles, see diamond-backed terrapin heads pop up and cownose rays glide by. Pickering will provide personal flotation devices, or you may bring your own. The cost is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children. Meet at the main office. For more information, visit [www.pickeringcreek.org](http://www.pickeringcreek.org).



### **Annapolis Coin and Currency Show**

The coin show will take place on **June 27** at the Knights of Columbus Hall (2590 Solomons Island Road) in Annapolis, 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Thirty coin and currency dealers are expected, and they will offer free appraisals as well as buying, selling, and trading. Admission and parking are free. For more information, go to [www.coinshows.com](http://www.coinshows.com).

### **Centreville Community Days Carnival**

Come out and join the fun at the Centreville Community Days Carnival being held **June 29 – July 3** at the Centreville Community Church (Route 213 and Spaniard Neck Road). Hours are Tuesday – Friday 6 – 10 p.m., and Saturday 3 – 10 p.m. For more information, call 410-758-3928.

### **First Saturday “Art Stop”**

All the art studios and merchant shops in Stevensville will be open on **July 3**, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Watch the artists work, and enjoy some light refreshments at each studio. This event is sponsored by the Art’s Studios and Merchants of Historic Stevensville and the Kent Island Federation of Art. For more information, visit [www.discoverqueenannes.com](http://www.discoverqueenannes.com).

### **Guided Canoe Trip**

Join Park Staff for an educational and entertaining guided canoe trip up Tuckahoe Creek on **July 3**. The trip will depart from the lakefront boathouse at Tuckahoe State Park in Queen Anne at 6 p.m. Reservations are required. Cost is \$6 adults, \$4 children age 14 and under. To register, call the park at 410-820-1668. For more information, go to [www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/eastern/tuckahoe.html](http://www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/eastern/tuckahoe.html)

### **Annual Independence Day Ceremony**

At this annual patriotic event on **July 4**, a wreath will be laid at the grave site of William Paca, signer of the Declaration of Independence. The keynote speaker will be



Dr. Edward C. Papenfuse, Jr., Maryland State Archivist and Commissioner of Land Patents. Music will be supplied by the Chesapeake Community Band, Fred Hughes, Director. The event and ceremony will be held at the Houghton House Campus of the Aspen Institute in Queenstown, beginning at 11 a.m. Admission is free.

### **Kent County Waterman's Day**

Waterman's Day celebrates the men and women of Rock Hall who have, and still do, make a living fishing in local waters. The event will begin at 1 p.m. on **July 4** at the Rock Hall Bulk Head. There will be the Most Patriotic Work Boat contest, Anchor Toss contest, Work Boat Docking contest, food, music, a dunking booth, and fun for the entire family. Admission is \$1, and proceeds go toward a scholarship fund for a waterman's child or grandchild. For more information, go to [www.kentcounty.com](http://www.kentcounty.com).

### **Talbot County Fair**

The Fair will be held **July 7-10** at the Talbot Agricultural Center (10659 Hiners Lane) in Easton. There will be indoor exhibits, livestock, 4-H Club events, a Market Hog Show, food, amusements rides, outside exhibits, and much more. For all the details and a complete schedule of events, go to [www.talbotcountyfair.org](http://www.talbotcountyfair.org).



### **37<sup>th</sup> Annual Tuckahoe Steam and Gas Show**

The Steam and Gas Show will take place **July 8-11** at the show grounds located 5 miles north of Easton on Route 50. Demonstrations of processes such as wheat threshing and shingle sawing will be paired with displays of such equipment as steam engines and horse drawn equipment. There will be vendors, train rides, and good food. Hours are Thursday noon – 10 p.m.; Friday – Sunday 10 a.m. – 10 p.m. Admission is \$6 for adults, children under 12 are admitted free. For more information, visit [www.tuckahoesteam.org](http://www.tuckahoesteam.org).

### **6<sup>th</sup> Annual Taste of Cambridge Crab Cook-Off**

This event will take place on **July 10** in downtown Cambridge at Race and Poplar Streets, 5 – 10 p.m. Taste and vote for top crab dishes by restaurant chefs during a street festival honoring the Chesapeake's seafood heritage. Entry to the festival is free. Purchase a Crab Cook-Off ticket for \$25 and get to sample authentic crab dishes from some of Dorchester County's top restaurants (from 5 to 7:30 p.m.) and vote for your favorites. For more information, go to [www.cambridgemainstreet.com](http://www.cambridgemainstreet.com).

### **Forest Bird Walk**

A naturalist with Pickering Creek Audubon Center will lead a forest bird walk on **July 11**, 9 - 11 a.m. Families will learn how to use binoculars, then look for birds in the skies, forests, and shores of Pickering Creek, look through viewing scopes to get an even better view, and explore some other creatures living throughout the forest. Binoculars and field guides will be provided, or you may bring your own. Cost is \$5 for adults, and children attend for free. Meet at the main office. For more information, visit [www.pickeringcreek.org](http://www.pickeringcreek.org).

### **Kent County Fair**

This year's fair will be on **July 15-17** at the Kent Agriculture Center in Tolchester. This 4-H fair is a small traditional fair featuring great food, exhibits, and local entertainment. For all the details, visit [www.kentcounty.com](http://www.kentcounty.com).



## **Centreville Alive!**

Centreville will host an evening of family fun and music on **July 16**. The Block Party on Water Street will be held 6 – 9 p.m. and is free of charge. The band Flashback will play, and there will be an historic display of Centreville fire companies. Wright’s Chance and Tucker House will also be open, 5 – 7 p.m. There is no admission charge to the historic homes or to the Block Party.

*Need a dentist? See ad for [Billings & Murphy](#).*

## **Continuing Activities:**

Creepy Crawlers I and II for children ages 1-5; monthly; [www.bayrestoration.org](http://www.bayrestoration.org);

Guided Nature Walk; Saturdays; [www.adkinsarboretum.org](http://www.adkinsarboretum.org);

Guided Nature Walk; June 26; [www.fws.gov/blackwater](http://www.fws.gov/blackwater);

Soup ‘n Walk; June 19; [www.adkinsarboretum.org](http://www.adkinsarboretum.org);

QAC Historic Sites Open House; July 3; [www.historicqac.org](http://www.historicqac.org);

Thursdays in the Park; June 24; Stevensville; [www.discoverqueenannes.com](http://www.discoverqueenannes.com);

Thursdays in the Park, July 8; Centreville; [www.discoverqueenannes.com](http://www.discoverqueenannes.com);

Museum of Eastern Shore Life; first Saturday of the month; 1 – 4 p.m.; and

First Sunday Arts Festival; first Sunday of the month; [www.goweststreet.com](http://www.goweststreet.com).

*Need help hanging the TV on your wall? See ad for [Chesapeake Home Theater and HiFi](#).*

## **RESTAURANT REVIEW**

### ***MITCHUM’S STEAK HOUSE***

*By Karin Larsen*



Upon leaving this “off the beaten path restaurant,” one can only ask, “Why haven’t I eaten here sooner?” Okay, let’s flash forward. My husband Bruce and I had heard about this restaurant which is only nine miles from Easton. We were in the mood for steaks. The first impression is stepping into a very sophisticated and spacious dining room. The high ceilings, rich brown mahogany and clean white linen tablecloths in a spacious Hollywood styled motif makes you think of whom? You are right! This Steak House is named after Robert Mitchum, the famous movie actor, who raised his three children with his wife, Dorothy, in Trappe from 1958-1969. When you dine there, be sure to focus your eyes above the bar as you can watch Mitchum’s

classic black and white films complete with beautiful starlets and even subtitles. Apparently, Mitchum and his family had an effect on many folks on the Eastern Shore, and stories about him continue.

*Mitchum’s Market and Café*, sharing the same corner as the Steak House, opened in 2005 selling and serving lunch and country fresh food. The Steak House, which serves only dinner, opened two years later and has earned a Zagat review since then. *Mitchum’s Market and Café* has a reputation for serving fresh homemade foods and the Steak House was voted Maryland’s Favorite New Restaurant by the Maryland Restaurant Association a few years ago. Chef Chris De Laurentiis serves seven different cuts of meat, and the sautéed sides are from organic produce from neighboring Davoncrest Farm. We started our dinners with the *Sautéed Shrimp and Grits* which was a yummy blend of cheddar cheese grits and my favorite—andouille sausage. Bruce ordered the *Maryland Crab Soup*. Each was really special. Our

second courses were the *T-bone* and the *New York Strip Steak*. Both tasted rich and flavorful as did the crisp *pommes frites* and *sautéed spinach side dishes*. There are *Sautéed Crab Cakes*, *Roasted Red Snapper*, *Seared Grouper*, and *Poussin* (whole young chicken) on the menu if you prefer something other than meat. Another plus is the extensive wine list which spanned the country and the globe. Honestly, you can easily fall for this great food and service. We were impressed. You will not be disappointed! If you go, try some desserts. We couldn't manage another bite; but we eyed some of the pastry creations of Pastry Chef Jamie Salisbury, and they looked delectable!

## RECIPE OF THE MONTH

### Black Bean Salsa

By Brenda Stoltz

1 can black beans  
1 can white shoepeg corn  
1 can Rotel tomatoes with green chilies  
Drain above three ingredients and place in bowl.  
Add the following ingredients and mix well; refrigerate before serving.  
1/2 small diced onion  
1/2 small diced green pepper  
1/2 small diced red pepper  
1 tablespoon mayonaisse or Miracle Whip. (I used half mayonaisse and half Miracle Whip.)  
For an extra zip, serve with lime taco chips.



## PERSONAL ADS

Do you have something to sell, a condo to rent, or something you need? Email the ad of 20 words or less to [lhodges@atlanticbb.net](mailto:lhodges@atlanticbb.net) or call Carol Hodges, 410-758-0591. Commercial or real estate sales are prohibited.

**OCEAN CITY CONDO FOR RENT:** 2-bedroom, 2-bath, 1st floor, oceanside condo, sleeps 4, 141<sup>st</sup> Street, week of July 17-24, \$995. Call Pat, 410-758-1907.



**SLOT MACHINE FOR SALE:** Japanese casino machine. Uses tokens. \$350. Come try your luck. Call Pat, 410-758-1907.

**OCEAN CITY CONDO FOR RENT:** 2-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath townhouse w/pier, sleeps 6, in North Ocean City, MD. Weekend or week rentals. Call Jim or Carlene Cooke, 443-262-8146.

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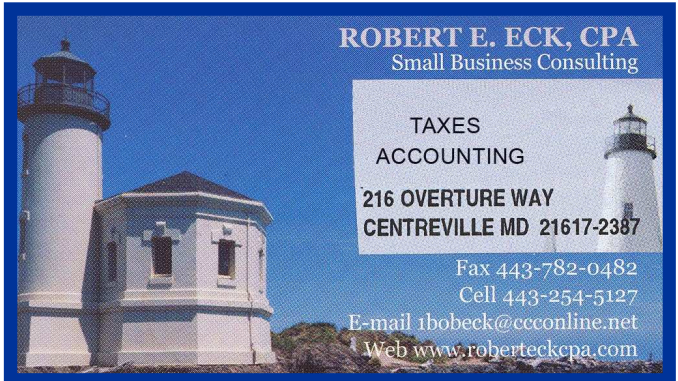
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