



Photos by Gil Hoffman

# *LIBRETTO*

February, 2017

## Symphony Village's Newsletter

Vol. XII No 2

**MISSION STATEMENT:** 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.



*Johnathan & Nanette Mabe, 350 Overture Way*

## **BOARD REPORT**—*Pat Fox, Secretary*

### Dangerous Actions

PLEASE! PLEASE! PLEASE! Symphony Villagers—Do not drive your car down the asphalt path and over the bridge to get to Walgreens. This practice is a dangerous and illegal. The path is for pedestrians and bicycles only, and the bridge may not be built to support the weight of your vehicle. Several residents have been observed using this path as a roadway. Even as this article is being written, yet another resident has been seen driving on the path. PLEASE STOP! Take your time and drive out onto Taylor Mill and Route 213 to get to your destination. SVHOA is liable for this path!

### Structure and Process for Dealing with Local Government

Please talk to the General Manager, Board member, or Committee Chair first when situations arise in Symphony Village that may need input or information from our local government. There is a good chance the HOA Board is already working on it. We try not to bombard the town or county with multiple or repetitive questions from the SV Community. SV has management and our specific committee structures to address issues with local government.

The names of Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Committee Members of SV Committees are listed on the Governance page of the [SV Website](#).

## Clubhouse Hours

Just a reminder that the Clubhouse is open from 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. and that residents are not to be in the Clubhouse after hours or the security alarm will go off.

## Board Vote

The following electronic votes were taken by the SV Board of Directors between December 7, 2016 – January 27, 2017, and reported at the January 27 regular Board Meeting:

- Approval to purchase a new refrigerator for the Clubhouse kitchen at a cost of \$1,334.54. Item delivered on January 13.
- Approval for the removal of two white pine trees from the common area located at 403 Opera Court at a cost of \$1,500. (The trees were planted too close to the concrete storm drainage infrastructure based upon County regulations). The trees were removed on January 13.
- Approval of the formal addition of Martin Luther King Day as a paid holiday for SV employees.

At the meeting on January 27, the following additional matters were approved by the Board as reflected in the draft minutes:

1. **Clubhouse Decor:** The Operations Clubhouse Interior Subcommittee will develop a list (with photos) of obsolete items that they think should be removed from the Clubhouse that either were brought in by owners or other items they deem inappropriate to the décor of the Clubhouse. Camilla Gaines, General Manager, has asked owners not to leave items in the Clubhouse that they don't want or need. If a resident has something they want to donate, please advise Ms. Gaines; and a decision can be made whether to accept it or not.
2. **Employee Handbook:** The current staff members are now Symphony Village employees. The Board hired a consultant with Human Resources, Inc. (HRI) to assist in this transition and developed an employee handbook that the Board approved.
3. **401K Plan for Employees:** Symphony Village employees will now be able to participate in a 401K plan administered by HRI. SVHOA will pay a total fee of \$200 per year to enable this, but will not match the employee's contribution.
4. **Lifestyle Budget:** The Board approved a budget of \$530 for the Lifestyle Committee for the purchase of paper goods, new decorations, and refresh old decoration. The Board also approved \$300 for the soup night, which would not be part of the Lifestyle budget.
5. **Lockers for Rent:** The Board discussed requests from several owners who asked that they be able to rent a locker; however, the Board did not approve this action.
6. **Terms of Reference:** Civility and Decorum: The Board approved a motion so that the following be added to page one of the Terms of Reference: "Any resident whose behavior the Board determines to be

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Cindy Clough, Assistant General Manager  
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Board of Directors Group Email  
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Clubhouse phone for Camilla or Cindy: 410-758-8500  
Bulk Pickup and Yard Waste: 410-758-1180  
Trash Removal & Recycling: 410-742-0099  
([chesapeakewaste@verizon.net](mailto:chesapeakewaste@verizon.net))

detrimental to the well-being and smooth operations of the community will not be allowed to serve on any Community Committee covered in this document.”

## Special Board Meeting—by Sue Canfield

There was a Special Board Meeting on Friday, February 10, at 10 a.m. at the Clubhouse. The meeting’s focus was to present the findings of the Storage Committee. The Storage Committee was formed to find additional storage for management files, committee files, and decorations for all holidays, as well as tables, and chairs, etc. (Many residents store HOA items in their homes.) At this point there are only three coat closets and a closet at the end of the Concert Hall for storage.

The meeting kicked off with Dave Peterson, Board President, reading correspondence from our HOA attorney stating that we cannot make a “Special Assessment” to fund a capital construction project. Should the project be approved by a majority of SV households, the cost could be covered by use of some existing SV unobligated cash and through a bank loan.

The meeting was very well attended with 120 people seated and still others in the Card Room. Joe Brown, Chair of the Storage Committee, presented the findings of over a year of meetings with the current group. The architect, Jo Anne Baker-Gebelein from Torchio Architects, Inc., of Centreville, presented the drawings of the proposed addition and gave an excellent presentation. Many questions were addressed.

The Committee came to the conclusion, after canvassing committee chairs and people who use the Clubhouse often, that an addition to the current space was needed for both a new storage area, including a maintenance workshop, and an addition to the Concert Hall for events sponsored by Outreach, Sneakers, and the Lifestyle Committee. As it is now, many events are overcrowded or will need to be held offsite due our limited capacity. The Storage Committee unanimously recommended to the Board and Community that they proceed with a storage addition and Concert Hall addition to be done at the same time to save approximately \$65,000 from the cost of doing the additions separately. A majority vote from the community is needed for this project to go forward. **There will not be a special assessment** to fund this project if it is approved. The project would be financed through a combination of unobligated SV cash and a bank loan. Debt service on a loan would be a small portion of your monthly HOA fees.

The actual construction of the new areas will take approximately six months after ground has been broken. We will still have use of the Concert Hall during the construction with the exception of three to four weeks when the new space will be connected with the old space.

The drawing of the addition is on display in the Wall Street Room. You will also find a box for questions/comments. Please include your name and email so we can answer you.

The slides and information shared at the meeting are on the SV [SV Website](#) where you can also submit questions.

The committee plans to have additional community meetings in the near future, in order to answer your questions and address your concerns.

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## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### **Covenants Committee** — *Chris Pariseau, Chair; Kathy Mizer, Vice Chair; Eileen Hoffman, Secretary*

The Covenants Committee had its first meeting on January 10 this year. The committee welcomed two new members – Sandee Love and Tom Burton. Newly elected officers for the year will be Chris Pariseau, Chair; Kathy Mizer, Vice Chair; Eileen Hoffman, Secretary. Other members of the committee include: Joyce Brown, David Gallop, Dan and Vicki Kober, Gerald Walls, and Robert Hardy. Scott Page will be the HOA Board liaison for 2017. We would also want to thank Howard Fox for his service on the committee for the past two years.

Two exterior modifications were approved in January: 114 Harmony Way—Patio

169 Orchestra Place—Patio Modifications

The committee has a lot of work on its agenda for the upcoming year. Some of the tasks we hope to accomplish in 2017 include updating the architectural guidelines, establishing an appeal process, and updating the paint colors and the awning selections for the community. In addition, the committee will be exploring the possibility of allowing Hot Tubs in the community.

#### **Reminders for the Community**

Please ensure that your trash cans have lids on them when you place them along the curbs for collection. The winds in this area can carry debris for a long way.

If you have any Christmas decorations still on display, you should take them down at this time. Christmas decorations are to be taken down ten days following the holiday season. Additionally, all outdoor fires must be fueled by natural gas, propane, or charcoal. Outdoor wood burning is prohibited

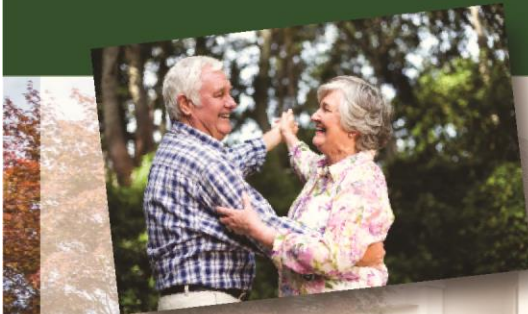
### **Lifestyle Committee** — *Randy Officer, Chair; Susan Rayner, Vice Chair; Secretary, Mary Colling-Officer; Treasurer; Laura Bittinger, Correspondent*

January was a busy month! Many of you enjoyed a variety of events, including happy hours, the new movie night, theater in Church Hill, music, and armchair travel to southern Africa. Your Lifestyle Committee plans to keep the momentum going throughout the year. Please continue to give us feedback about events and feel free to make suggestions to Committee members.

- Happy Hour - **Saturday February 18 - 6 p.m.** Clubhouse, Romantic Valentine Night
  - A special *Romantic Valentine Happy Hour* celebrating Valentine's Day! We will feature special lighting and romantic music for dancing. Please attend all you young lovers!
- Movie Night - **Saturday, February 25 - 7 p.m.** Clubhouse, "Alone in Berlin"
  - This movie is a 2016 drama starring Emma Thompson and Brendan Gleeson. Based on a true story about a German couple who lose their son in WWII, prompting them to secretly become anti-Nazi.
  - Enjoy a movie with friends, your favorite beverage, and fresh popcorn for sale at \$2 a bag!
- Happy Hour - **Friday March 3, 6 p.m.** Clubhouse, 60's Themed Happy Hour, Donna Donaldson (host)
  - Enjoy music and food with friends as we celebrate the decade that brought us Woodstock, the British invasion, Motown, hippies...and so much more!

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- Lifestyle Committee meeting - **Monday, March 6 - 7 p.m.** Clubhouse
- Happy Hour - **Saturday, March 18 – 6 p.m.** St. Patrick's and Birthday Celebration, Zina and the "Team"
- Movie Night - **Saturday, March 25 – 7 p.m.** Clubhouse. Movie to be announced in March.

#### Philadelphia Flower Show, Friday, March 17

Travel with Shore United Bank to the Philadelphia Flower Show. The trip includes bus travel from Easton, afternoon tea, and wine and cheese for the ride home. Registration forms are available in the Activities Book at the Clubhouse.

#### 2017 New York City & Other Trips

**Waitress**, New York, **Wednesday, April 19 - 6:45 a.m.** departure from SV, \$205 per person. Includes orchestra seating, bagel breakfast, catered deli dinner, bus transportation, and all taxes and tips. See Activity Book at Clubhouse, **payment in advance by March 1.**

**Ragtime**, Ford's Theatre, Washington, D.C., **Wednesday, May 17 - 12:30 p.m.** departure from *Park & Ride* off Routes 50 and 424 in Davidsonville, \$140 per person. Includes orchestra seating, dinner at Carmines, bus transportation, and all taxes and tips. See Activity Book at Clubhouse, **payment in advance by April 1.**

**Miss Saigon**, New York, **Wednesday, June 21 - 6:45 a.m.** departure from SV, \$199 per person. Includes orchestra seating, bagel breakfast, catered deli dinner, bus transportation, and all taxes and tips. See Activity Book at Clubhouse, **payment in advance by April 21.**

**Bronx Tale**, New York, **Wednesday, August 9 - 6:45 a.m.** departure from SV, \$200 per person. Includes orchestra seating, bagel breakfast, catered deli dinner, bus transportation, and all taxes and tips. See Activities Book at the Clubhouse, **payment in advance by May 1.** Please note—this venue has stairs to navigate.

**9/11 Memorial and Museum**, New York, **Saturday, October 14, 6:45 a.m.** departure from SV. Children 2-17 \$120 per person - Adults \$130 per person - Seniors (65) \$125 per person - Maximum capacity 48 The trip includes Museum entrance, private guided tour, bagel breakfast, bus transportation, and all taxes and tips. You will also have time to explore the museum on your own before departure. There is a dinner stop on your own as we travel home. See Activities Book at the Clubhouse, **payment in advance by August 1.**

**Events in the Planning Stage – Spring Yard Sale, Annapolis Historic Tour, Sunday Brunch in April**

### **Barbershop Quartet Performs at SV Clubhouse!**

The Bay Bridge Connection performed in the SV Concert Hall on February 3. About 40 people enjoyed the wonderful music of the barbershop quartet. The performance was made possible by our very own Symphony Village connection, Steve Guy, a member of the quartet.



## **Outreach**

– *Bea Trotta, President*

### **Eighth Annual Card and Game Party**

The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Card and Game Party was held on January 19, a beautiful winter day. It was a wonderful day; one of our largest crowds yet having fun playing cards and games, visiting with friends, and meeting new friends. Someone said to me during the morning that she was hearing so many happy sounds around her. How terrific is that!

The food and service was outstanding, and that couldn't have happened without Nancie Cameron and her fantastic team, Bea Trotta, Margo Wagner, Courtney Pilgrim, Sue Canfield, Eileen Rowley, Jane Romany, Zina Lichaa, Carol Porosoff, Maggie Novak, Celia Love, Kathy McManus, and Tom Burton. Everyone enjoyed the lunch and all the goodies. Once again Willie DiLaura made her "card suit" cookies that were a big hit. Helping DeAnn Cheyne in the bar area were Patty Parks, Jessie Gibson, Anne Sewell, and Pat Scheirer.

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And many thanks to the following: Lauren Rose and Carlene Cooke for heading up the Card Party part of the event; Linda Blume and Loretta Quigley for running registration; Terri O'Connell for chairing the door and table prizes; Celia Love, Amy Marotta, Sue Peterson, and Judy Brown for helping with the 50/50 and table raffles, and Linda Blume for making cross stitch bookmarks and magnets for favors. Once again Marge Strano did a wonderful job with the signage for the party in addition to keeping track of registration for the event. Thanks to Bob Rose for helping with the table organization.



And on Wednesday afternoon, Lauren, Jim, and Carlene had two impromptu helpers, Larry Strittmatter and Dick Atamian who helped with set up. We did appreciate their efforts. A big *thank you* also goes to those who contributed raffle items: the Symphony Village Quilting Group for the lovely quilt, especially Cindy Backer, Amy Marotta and Peggy Dedrick, won by Helen Brannon, a Kent Island resident who supports the Card Party each year; Teri Nudo for the lovely hand painted ceramic bowl, won by Symphony Village resident Sue Peterson; a lovely knit shawl donated by Cathy Olson and won by Symphony Village resident Lenore Swink; a Queenstown Harbor Golf Course Gift Certificate won by Symphony Village resident Rosie Lewis and a Blue Heron Golf Course Gift Certificate, won by Symphony Village resident Sue Canfield. Both Golf Course Certificates were donated by Kathy McManus

The 50/50 Raffle winner was Symphony Village resident, Anita Morris, who graciously donated back a portion of her winnings. The Door Prize was a purse donated by Country Petaller along with a \$25 Gift Certificate to Trader Joe's donated by Pat Toole. Kathryn Marchi, an SV resident, was the lucky winner of the Door Prize.

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As you can see by the length of this article, the Outreach Committee is extremely fortunate to have so many people willing to help out. The list of volunteers is really endless when you consider those who baked and donated table prizes, etc. If we have inadvertently omitted a name, please know that your efforts were appreciated; you helped to make the day the success it was!!

And most importantly, Outreach would like to thank the residents of Symphony Village and their friends for supporting this event!! Also, thanks to our friends from Kent Island, Prospect Bay, Easton, and the Western Shore for joining us. We could not have had this event without you!



All of this support makes it possible for us to give a very nice donation to our beneficiary this year, Friends of the Queen Anne’s Library. The Centreville Library is currently going through renovations and the Kent Island Library is going to expand in the near future. Our generosity will be put to good use in both of these endeavors and in programming that directly affects the QAC community. The Outreach Committee is very grateful to be able to help.

**Save the Date: Outreach’s Fall Tea and Fashion Show**



Outreach will sponsor an exciting Fall Tea and Fashion Show on **Sunday, September 24, 2 – 5 p.m.** It will take place at the beautiful Milestone in Easton, an easy 15-minute ride on Route 50 (the venue is near the airport). Please consider inviting “young ladies” from the age of 8 upward – friends and relatives, too! The Milestone can accommodate over 200 attendees; so, there will be plenty of room for all. Tickets will become available for sale this summer. For now, please save the date on your calendar. You don’t want to miss this one! For additional information, contact Bea

Trotta, Loretta Quigley, Marge Strano, or Linda Blume.

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**Next Bingo Night scheduled for March 10 at 7 p.m.**



# Publications & Communications - Carol Hodges, Chair; & Linda Blume, Vice Chair

## FAQ

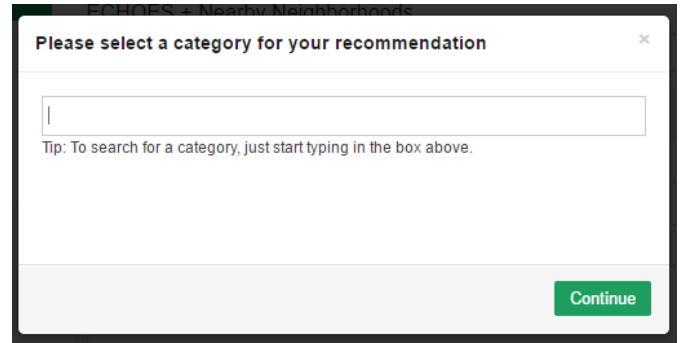
Many of you have questions about how to access the various methods of communications here in SV, i.e. SV Website, ECHOES, eBlasts, personal email, etc. Jim Arnts has created a document entitled *Frequently Asked Questions*. The answers are very thorough and often include pictures and diagrams. To challenge yourself, go to FAQ and see how to post an event on ECHOES.

## Website Index or Libretto Index

Be aware that there is a Website Index created by George Drake to enable you to find just about anything you need to know about living here. This is not to be confused with the Libretto Index that is an organized list of articles that have been in the *Libretto*, created by Linda Blume and continued by Dave Gallop. Another challenge is to find out what *Computer Stuff* is available (see Index on the menu). Also explore the *Libretto* Index to see if your favorite restaurant has been reviewed and in what issue.

## Posting ECHOES Recommendations

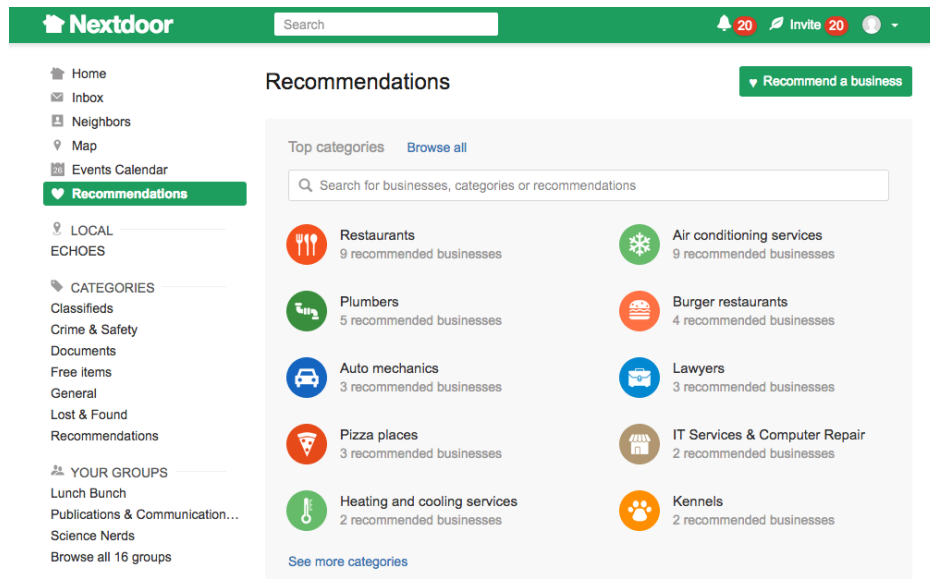
People often re-ask for recommendations, like a good patio builder, on ECHOES. Sometimes it is difficult to locate the earlier posts or they need to be repeated as a reply to the new post. When you want to post a recommendation for a service or place on ECHOES, it is best to post it as a “Recommendations” rather than “General” when it asks you to select a category. After you select the “Recommendations” category, it will bring up a box (below) that will ask you to select a category.



Start typing something like “Pizza” and you will likely find the appropriate category. The advantage of posting this way is that it is easier to find other residents recommendations by selecting the “Recommendations” page of the ECHOES category menu (on the left under “Lost & Found”). Try using *Recommendations* next time instead of just selecting the *General* category. Note: The *Recommendations* category is not intended for recommending a movie, book, or product. It is intended to steer you to a business.

You can also change a previous post to Recommendations by clicking on the upside-down carat to the right of a post and select “Change Category” from the menu.

The recommendations page will look similar to that below. You can easily search for what you are looking for as long as it was posted as a Recommendation.





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## **Sneakers** – *Linda Farrar, President*

### **Silent Auction and Raffle**

Sneakers is planning to hold its 12th Silent Auction and Raffle at the Clubhouse on Saturday, November 4. Save the date and remember to look for more details in the upcoming months. A fun-filled evening with delicious foods, auction baskets, restaurant gift certificates, lovely raffle items, and more is planned.

### **Next Meeting**

The next Sneakers meeting will be held in May at the Clubhouse. Once the date has been finalized, we will let you know. We are always looking for new members. Come see what Sneakers is all about.

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## Why Wait for A Crisis?—Debi Wells

“Why Wait for a Crisis?” was an in-home health seminar held last month at our Symphony Village Clubhouse. Seminar presenters included: At Home With Laura, Comfort Keepers, Compass Regional Hospice, Home Call, Home Medi, Living at Home, Serenity, Shore Regional Palliative Care, The Heartland House, and Queen Anne’s County (QAC) Department of Health (Adult Evaluation and Review Services {AERS} Program).



While each presenter was brief, the two-hour seminar received a favorable response from attendees. If you were not able to attend, some highlights included:

- QAC AERS visits individuals with functional limitations and limited financial resources to provide assistance (via referrals) for clients to obtain services to remain in their community, when possible.
- Some in-home health companies will assist for as little as four hours monthly.
- Not all in-home health companies accept Medicare.
- A bus service known as [Must Bus](#), with an elevator lift for wheelchairs, is available for travel to Anne Arundel Medical Center’s Sajak Pavilion and to the Annapolis Mall for a nominal fee each way from the Kramer Senior Center in Centreville; and, for a small additional cost, door-to-door service (from Symphony Village) to the Kramer Center is available—Call: 410-758-2357 to make arrangements.
- Five Wishes may be a significant benefit for you to complete. It is a document that prompts questions and important family conversations about the kind of medical treatment we want and do not want during serious illness.
- The Five Wishes document *does not replace* a MOLST (Maryland Medical Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment) form. A [MOLST](#) form details cardiopulmonary resuscitation and other life-sustaining treatments.
- A ‘Grandpad’ is available through Comfort Keepers at a cost of \$55/month. It is less complicated than most cell phone technologies and allows access to email/gmail, family photo sharing, video chat, and more. For more information go to the [Comfort Keepers](#) website.
- At Home With Laura is an in-home health service provided by Symphony Village resident, Laura Bittinger. She offers affordable assistance with complimentary in-home consultation to assess your needs.
- The File of Life (FoL) was again mentioned as beneficial to all, especially when every minute counts. The FoL is a medical card that, when completed, quickly provides emergency and first responders vital information. Keep it on your refrigerator door!
- If you live in Symphony Village and need temporary in-home health equipment and/or support, visit the [SV Website](#) to learn about our local programs: Neighbor-to-Neighbor (Lead: Marge Strano) and Caregivers Support Group (Lead: Marilyn Williams).



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For those who were not able to attend the seminar, the File of Life brochure and the brochures left by the agencies that presented may still be available in the Wall Street Room of the Clubhouse, next to the Activities Book. It's always good to prepare for whatever our future(s) may hold!

## CLUBS AND CLASSES

### **Bird Club** – *Linda Blume*

The 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Eagle Festival will take place on **Saturday, March 11**, at Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge near Cambridge. If you love seeing bald eagles, this is the event for you!

- Several Eagle Prowls take place – join NWR volunteers and staff in a search for bald eagles on the refuge. Seating is limited. Once tickets are gone, seats will be filled on a stand-by basis. Tickets go fast so plan accordingly. (Note – I have gone on a number of these scouting trips, and we always saw a lot of bald eagles!);
- There will be a Wildlife Drive Bus Tour with knowledgeable tour guides – these tickets also go quickly;
- There also are live bird programs during the day, lots of children's activities, and exhibitors.

This is a great day of birding. The Visitor's Center has viewing scopes so you can scan the area. A Boy Scout Troop will offer food for sale. A complete schedule of events will be posted on the website closer to March 11.



### **Book Club** - *Jack Hennessey*

The book we reviewed for our January 17 meeting was *Small Great Things*, by Jodi Picoult. This novel was recommended by Ellen Reid, and received a rating of 8.0 on a scale of 1 to 10. The heroine of the story is Ruth Jefferson, a black labor and delivery nurse with 25 years experience. At the hospital, a white supremacist named Turk insists that no black woman should touch his child. The hospital complies, but the next day, Ruth is the only nurse available to tend the newborn. Ruth hesitates momentarily, and the baby who was named Davis after the president of the Confederacy, dies. Ruth is charged with murder. In court, Ruth is defended by Kennedy McQuarie, a white public defender. The prosecutor in the case Odette Lawson, happens to be black. The story ends with an amazing conclusion. Read it! The novel stimulated more discussion than any other book we read.

The book for the February 21 meeting is *Tiffany Girl*, by Deeanne Gist. Jack and Joan will be in warm and sunny Florida for this meeting. Happy reading.

### **Gazebo Garden** *by Jack Hennessey*

We have been advised that the landscaping contractor will be taking over the 20 plots at the Gazebo that has been referred to as *Jack's Gazebo*. **THANK YOU!** No mention has been made of the huge flowerpot at the pavilion that Jack has tended for ten years. Most of the tools in the gazebo storage boxes belong to Jack, but the hoses and sprinklers belong to SV. Some of the American Flags at the gazebo are getting ragged and will be replaced. We still have four new flags for replacements. Due to the unusually warm weather, a few of the daffodils have started to sprout; but one good cold spell will stop that. We will keep a close eye on the sprouts and mark them for future use. One final item: a gray two-wheel garden cart belonging to Diane Briggs has been missing. Whoever borrowed the cart

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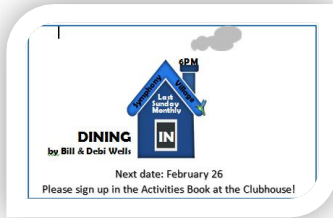
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please, leave it at the gazebo; and it will be returned to Diane. By the time of the March report, we will have info on the migration of the purple martins. Goodbye mosquitoes. Hooray!

## **Dining In** by Debi Wells & Sharon Roe



Hopefully, this is not news to you—muscle is not built in the gym! Muscle is built in the kitchen. And, just like muscles don't function well without good food, your brain doesn't work so well either without good nutrition. As important (and perhaps more important to your spouse, significant other, or neighbors you are with regularly)—regulation of your mood is a direct result of what you eat. Why? Serotonin, the neurotransmitter partially responsible for regulating your disposition, is largely produced in your GI tract (not in your brain)! This means exactly what you think it means—food is directly connected to

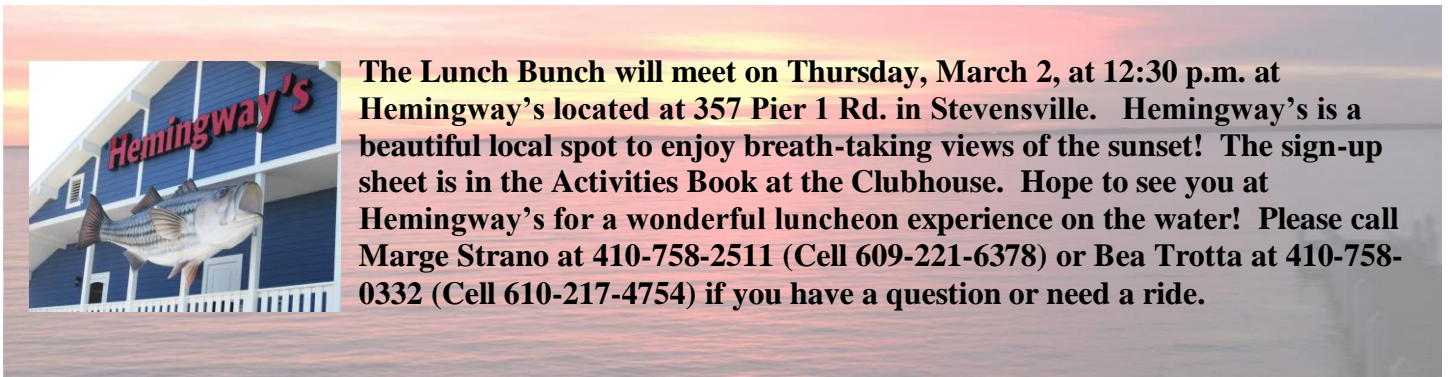
how your body handles emotions. And, Harvard Health has confirmed, “what you eat directly affects the structure and function of your brain and, ultimately, your mood.” Go to [Harvard Health](#) for the complete article.

So, let's get more of those veggies onto our plates (50% of our plate should be from the field)! And, let's get out and join **Dining In** this month to meet your neighbors. If you haven't hosted **Dining In** in your home, it is easy. First, ask a friend or two to help, decide on an entrée, then let your guests know what to bring. All guests bring their own beverage of choice and part of the meal. And, clean-up is so much easier with helping hands.

This month Dining In will be on Sunday, February 26, at 6 p.m. Sign-up will be February 1 – 20 in the Activities Book at the Clubhouse. Walk on over now to sign-up, it'll do your heart good.

## **Lunch Bunch**—*Bea Trotta, Marge Strano*

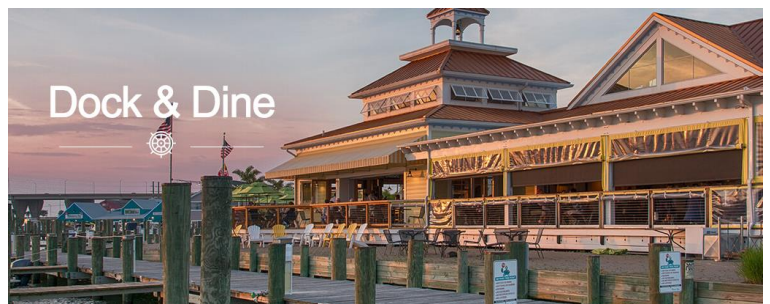
**Our next event is scheduled for March 2, at 12:30 p.m. at Hemingway's**



**The Lunch Bunch will meet on Thursday, March 2, at 12:30 p.m. at Hemingway's located at 357 Pier 1 Rd. in Stevensville. Hemingway's is a beautiful local spot to enjoy breath-taking views of the sunset! The sign-up sheet is in the Activities Book at the Clubhouse. Hope to see you at Hemingway's for a wonderful luncheon experience on the water! Please call Marge Strano at 410-758-2511 (Cell 609-221-6378) or Bea Trotta at 410-758-0332 (Cell 610-217-4754) if you have a question or need a ride.**

## **Lunch Bunch Restaurant Review—Bridges Restaurant**

The Lunch Bunch had a wonderful time at Bridges on Thursday, February 2. The views were beautiful, the service was excellent, and the company was awesome—all remarks made by those attending the lunch. Several other positive remarks were made about the wait staff—they were especially courteous and checked back on several occasions to be sure that we were



satisfied. Although the bar area can get a little noisy at times, lunch attendees especially liked the fact that we had the recently renovated patio with floor to ceiling windows all to ourselves—the room was well heated and comfortable. Apparently, the windows will open out during the summer months allowing for delightful outdoor eating.

Now, what about the food? The Lunch and Dinner menus are slightly different; however, most menu choices are available all day. The Shrimp and Grits were nicely presented and delicious. Others enjoyed a tasty Spinach Salad or a Shrimp Salad. The Crab Cake was full of crabmeat and offered with a side salad or fries. The risotto with scallops was described as a delicious entrée. I enjoyed an outstanding Coconut Shrimp small plate (appetizer) along with a salad. Bridges also has a nice selection of gourmet pizzas with prices ranging from \$11 to \$16.50. The vegetable pizza is a great choice for vegetarians; however, you don't need to be a vegetarian to enjoy the wonderful taste and presentation of this pizza. The special of the day was Pork Shank Osso Buco. Luncheon items range in price from \$11 to \$16. The menu also includes Rock Fish, Lobster with Ravoli, and Sword Fish. Supper choices on the Menu are a little more costly with prices ranging from \$24 to \$33.50.

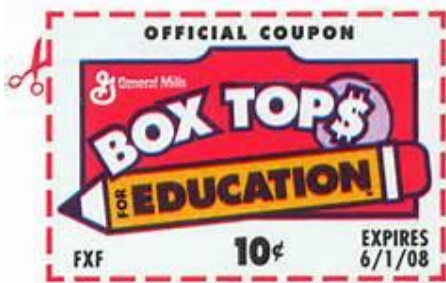


## **SOCIAL SINGLES**

Social singles has taken a break for January and February and will resume with our monthly planning meeting on March 14 at the Clubhouse. Hope to see everyone at the meeting with great ideas for Spring!!

## **NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS**

### **Thank You: Box Tops for Education**



Box Tops for Education is once again alive and well in SV. There were 115 box tops in the collection box in the Craft Room in mid-January, and they were delivered to Centreville Elementary School. Thanks to all residents who are saving the Box Tops and putting them into the collection box! The school sends in the Box Tops and receives 10¢ for each—cash given directly back to the school. That may not sound like a lot, but every little bit helps to get needed supplies and equipment not funded by the School Board.

# Compass Regional Hospice

## Presentation: "Hope is Not a Plan"

Atul Gawande



Being Mortal

Compass Regional Hospice will host a free community screening and discussion of the PBS Frontline film Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters at the End on **Thursday,**

**February 23,** 6 – 8 p.m., at the Todd Performing Arts Center at Chesapeake College in Wye Mills. Based on the best-selling book by Atul Gawande, MD, this documentary explores the hopes of patients and families facing terminal illness and their relationships with the physicians who treat them. See the film and be part of a national conversation that brings medical professionals and community members together around the shared responsibility of discussing what matters most to patients and families facing difficult treatment decisions and how to have these conversations ahead of a medical crisis. Following the screening, audience members may participate in a guided conversation led by Sharon Loving, Supervisor of Support Services, Compass Regional Hospice, on how to take concrete steps to identify and communicate wishes about end-of-life goals and preferences. Please RSVP to Allison Wood, 443-262-4117.

## **LANDSCAPE DIVERSITY** by Betty McAtee

*"No culture can live if it attempts to be exclusive."*

This quote by Mahatma Gandhi refers to human populations on earth, but can also describe landscapes or gardens. Sustainable diverse landscapes include native plants that survive in their natural habitats adaptable to their surroundings and climate. These plants exhibit natural co-habitation with a variety of plant types and heights, both evergreen and deciduous.

A sustainable landscape supports a diversity of wildlife. Food sources for wildlife include berries, nuts, nectar, and foliage, at different seasons of the year. Garden plots should be connected to other adjacent landscapes forming corridors for wildlife movement, rather than be isolated "islands" surrounded by turf. Food and shelter availability to bird populations are critical requirements for survival. According to current trends, one-third of native birds in this country are endangered; for example, 40% of songbirds have disappeared since the 1960s. Landscape diversity can be important to farmers. Native vegetation surrounding the crop fields can encourage



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populations of beneficial insects which can act as predators to agricultural pests. As biodiversity in our environment declines, our life-supporting ecosystems are endangered. Clean air, water, soil makeup, crop populations, decomposition, and survival during climatic disasters are all affected. One important threat to natural biodiversity is the abundance of “invasive vegetation” that has taken over so many of our landscapes. Non-native English ivy, Japanese honeysuckle, phragmites, multiflora rose, vinca minor, and Bermuda grass are a few of these plants that crowd out native plant species important to biodiversity.

Finally, monocultures of trees planted along urban/suburban streets are subject to the threats common to non-diverse landscapes---illustrated by historical events. Many years ago the very popular Dutch elm trees were planted in rows along city streets. In the late 1920s a fungus attacked the elms (Dutch elm disease), decimating elms east to west in the United States. Many dead elms were replaced by ash trees (popular and fast growing) that are now being attacked by the emerald ash borer. The same scenario was repeated in some areas for sycamores, honey locust, and Bradford pear trees. Non-diverse plantings of these “popular” trees lead to dramatic losses from disease, insect invasion, and climatic threats.

Our world depends on biodiversity in landscapes in order to “stand the tests of time” and we can learn valuable lessons from the past.

To learn more about biodiversity:

<http://www.healthytrees.com/WisconsinArboristsArticles/TreePlantingDiversity>

<http://www.americanforests.org/magazine/article/backyard-biodiversity/>

<http://lter.kbs.msu.edu/who-we-are/research-highlights/landscape-diversity/>

<http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/gardens-gardening/your-garden/help-for-the-home-gardener/advice-tips-resources/visual-guides/adding-biodiversity-to-your-garden.aspx>



## QUEEN ANNE’S CHORALE

The Queen Anne’s Chorale is rehearsing for their Spring Concert, *Juke Box*. This performance will feature great pop standards from the Roaring 20s to the 60s. This concert is scheduled for April 29 at the Todd Performing Arts Center at Chesapeake College. Thank you to the SV Community for their support!

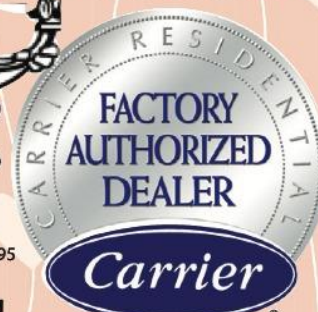
*Eleanor Strietman, Publicity Chair Queen Anne's Chorale (443-262-8162)*





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## FROM THE KITCHEN OF WILLIE DILAURA

### Card Party Sugar Cookie Recipe

#### Ingredients

- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- ¼ tsp. baking powder
- ½ tsp. salt
- 1 cup (2 sticks) butter, softened

- 1 cup sugar
- 1 large egg
- 2 tsp. vanilla extract
- 1 tsp. almond extract



#### Instructions

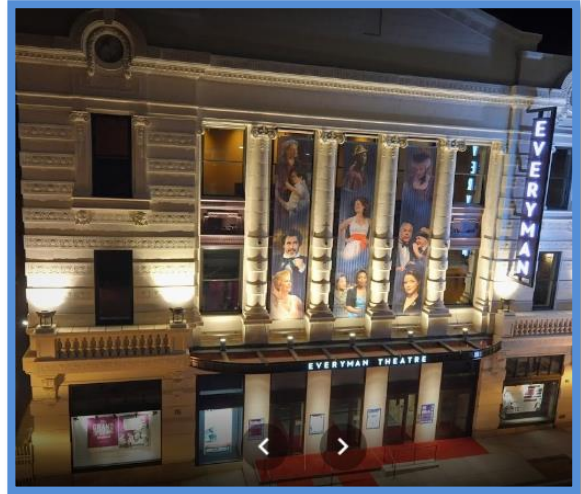
1. Preheat oven to 375°
2. In bowl, whisk flour, baking powder, and salt.
3. In another bowl, with mixer on med-high speed, beat butter and sugar until smooth. Beat in egg, then extracts, scraping down side of bowl occasionally. Beat in flour mixture until just combined.
4. Divide dough into four mounds, shape each into flat disk. Wrap tightly in plastic wrap. Refrigerate until firm but not hard. About 30 minutes.
5. Lightly flour surface and rolling pin for rolling. Roll out until 1/8 inch thick. Cut out with cookie cutters. Shake on sprinkles if desired.
6. Place the cookies on five parchment lined cookie sheets and bake 10-12 minutes, rotating pans and swapping shelves after 5 minutes.
7. Cool completely on rack.

Repeat with remaining dough. Scraps may be combined and rerolled one time.

## PIP, PIP HOORAY - by Jack Walsh

The cheer is for the stage play adaptation of Charles Dickens' coming-of-age story of Pip in *Great Expectations* currently at Everyman Theatre in downtown Baltimore until March 5. It is a remarkable performance, I think, superbly acted combining a love story, mystery, and comedy.

Pip's journey from a small-town child blacksmith apprentice to educated gentleman is told by six actors playing 35 characters! Some role changes take place on stage with only the smallest costume change — a hat off or an apron tied — and no break in the fast-paced, concise telling of the story in front of a single, all-purpose stage setting. Scene changes are made by adding only a table and chairs or drawing a curtain — all done by the actors themselves.



Distracting? Not for me. Here's why: storytelling is primary. During scene changes, a narrator (one of the actors) advances the story; tells, for example, why the family sits now at a meal; or who just came on stage and why. Language rules, it's primacy, and puts everything else in an acceptable place. There is never silence, the story is always moving forward. And, it's the language of Dickens, a recorded book read on stage. The intimacy of the small *Everyman Theatre* helps, too. No seat is too far from the stage and gives a sense that the story is being told just to you.

Dickens' sprawling novel is told in two acts in only a little over two hours with an intermission. The drive to the theatre is a little over an hour from the SV Community. Parking is across the street.

Human Interest Note: The play's Director, orphaned like Pip, was raised by Catholic nuns. At bedtime the nuns read the boys Dickens' novels. Hearing *Great Expectations* moved him and changed his life.

**Everyman Theatre, 315 West Fayette Street, Baltimore, MD, 410-752-2208**

**For photos and more information, check online, "Everyman Theatre."**

## UPCOMING CENTREVILLE EVENTS

### American Legion Jeff Davis Post 18



The public is always welcome to attend Friday Night Dinners at the American Legion, and the Post especially appreciates SV participation! Dinners are 5:30 – 7 p.m., or until sold out. Upcoming dinners:

- **Friday, February 17:** The Ladies Auxiliary will host a Valentine's Day Dinner (entrée to be announced).
- **Friday, February 24:** Fried Oyster Dinner, \$16
- **Friday, March 3:** Crab Cake Dinner, \$18
- **Friday, March 10:** The American Legion Riders will host a Spaghetti and Meatballs dinner, \$10

Call the Post at 410-758-3584 if you have any questions.

### African American Heritage Family Festival



The African American Heritage Family Festival will be held on **Saturday, February 18**, 4 p.m., at the Kennard High School Cultural Heritage Center (410 Little Kidwell Avenue) in Centreville. The event, which will honor local legends, will include exhibits, music, dance, and more. Tickets are \$10

for adults, \$5 for ages 6 – 12, and under 6 admitted free. The event benefits the Kennard Alumni Scholarship Fund.

### **All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast**



The Goodwill Volunteer Fire Company in Centreville will host an all-you-can-eat buffet breakfast, **Sunday, February 19**, 7:30 – 11 a.m., at the fire hall. Cost is \$8. These breakfasts are held the third Sunday of every month except in the summer.

### **Chili Cook-Off**



American Legion Jeff Davis Post 18 in Centreville will host a Chili Cook-Off on **Sunday, February 19**, beginning at 2 p.m. Judging will be at 2:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend with family and friends! The entry deadline has passed, but the tasting is still to come. The tasting-only fee is \$5 per person.

### **Midweek Movie**



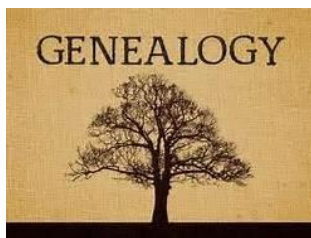
The Centreville branch of the Queen Anne’s County Library will show Guardians of the Galaxy on **Wednesday, February 22**, 5:30 – 8 p.m. A group of interstellar outlaws team up to save the galaxy from a villain who seeks ultimate power in this comic book space adventure from Marvel Studios and director James Gunn. The run time is 121 minutes, and the movie is rated PG-13.

### **“The Hat Trick – A Painting Exhibition”**



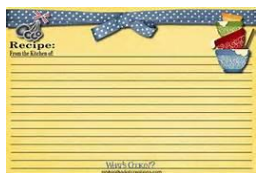
The QAC Arts Council Queen Anne’s County Arts Council (206 S. Commerce Street) in Centreville will host “The Hat Trick – A Painting Exhibition” on **March 4 – 31**. The Hat Trick in sports signifies three successes in a row; in magic, the appearance of improbable things pulled out of a hat. In this exhibition by local artist Fern Loos Beu, she explores how the donning of hats makes possible persona transformation and the conveyance of power. Not all aspects of the self are available at all times; now you see me, now you don’t. Sometimes, a little magic is required.

### **Introduction to Genealogical Research**



The Centreville Branch of the QAC Public Library presents Introduction to Genealogical Research on **Thursday, March 9**, 2 – 3:30 p.m. Learn how you can use databases through the library to begin your research into the past. In this introduction to genealogy, we will explore AncestryPlus, Heritage Quest, and Genealogy Connect as well as other print resources available through the library. Pre-register on the website.

### **Cookbook Club – Recipe Exchange**



The Centreville Branch of the Queen Anne’s County Library will host Cookbook Club - Recipe Exchange on **Wednesday, March 15**, 6 – 7:30 p.m. Participants bring a dish of their choice to share, the recipe and origin of the recipe, and whether it is from a cookbook, family recipe, or online find. Pre-register on the website.

To see a list of tourism and local attraction websites, press “Event Source Links” on the Sources page on the SV Website.

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