



by Gil Hoffman

LIBRETTO 🎵

February 2018

Symphony Village's Newsletter

Vol. XIII No 2

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.

Welcome to the Neighborhood!



Arthur & Jeannette Painter
165 Symphony Way

Joe & Pat Sharpe
134 Harmony

HOA

January HOA Board Meeting Action Items – Pat Fox, Vice President

After-Hours Emergency Call Service: Approve the expenditure of \$31/month for an answering service that will receive after -hours emergency calls and notify staff and resident first responders.

Water/Sewer EDU Letter: Approve a letter to the town of Centreville requesting a meeting to review the town assumption that water and sewer usage will increase with completion of the expansion project.

Expansion Project Use of Reserve Funds: Approve a motion to use reserve funds to replace (1) the existing Concert Hall HVAC system at a cost of \$16,510; (2) the six existing Concert Hall chandeliers with units matching those of the expanded Concert Hall at a total cost of \$3,127; (3) replace the existing Audio/Visual Projector with an identical unit to that selected for the expanded Concert Hall at a cost not to exceed \$2,700 plus tax (\$2,862); (4) replace the existing Audio/Video Receiver with a unit compatible with that selected for the expanded Concert Hall at a cost not to exceed \$2,000 plus tax (\$2,120).

Audit and Tax Preparation Contract: Approve the contract with Goldklang Group CPAs to perform the 2017 audit and prepare the 2017 tax return at a cost of \$4,750.

Caruso Transition Letter: Approve a motion to send a letter to Caruso requesting action on the two final transition items -- complete work on swales in phase four and provide \$2,500 for landscape work as promised.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COVENANTS – *Kathy Mizer, Chair; Scott Page, Vice-Chair*

The Covenants Committee is off to another busy year. Officers elected for 2018 include - Kathy Mizer, Chair; Scott Page, Vice-Chair; and Joyce Brown, Secretary. We welcome three new members to the committee: Carol Donnelly, Lillian Sheehan, and Scott Page.

As a reminder to *all* residents living in Symphony Village: If you are considering altering the exterior of your property (this includes adding a fireplace, replacing a window, landscaping, installing a patio, or extending one), you *must* submit an Application for Exterior Modification form to the Covenants Committee and receive approval prior to beginning your project. All submissions are due by the close of business on the last Tuesday of each month.

To retain the beauty and architectural integrity of our community, the Covenants Committee will evaluate applications for additions for both subjective and objective criteria. Each application will be evaluated individually, and many factors will be considered including visual impact, neighbor privacy, lot size, and configurations. The architectural review process has been established to maintain the integrity of the architectural design character of Symphony Village.

The Covenants Committee meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m.

LANDSCAPE AND IRRIGATION COMMITTEE – *by Tom McManus, Chair, and Michael Norris, Vice-Chair*

Plans for 2018. Approximately 40 to 50 dead or dying trees have been removed over the last few months. Another dozen or so have recently died and will be cut down in April. In 2018 we intend to focus more on the planting of new trees, which will be more fitting for our environment. We will also pursue a more aggressive approach to preventative treatments and insect control. Our trees are valuable to us and we all want to protect and preserve what we have. In addition to the attention to our trees, we are also working with our contractor on a new source of garden and tree mulch, which will be an upgrade to what we have used in the past. This upgraded mulch will be made available to all SV residents.



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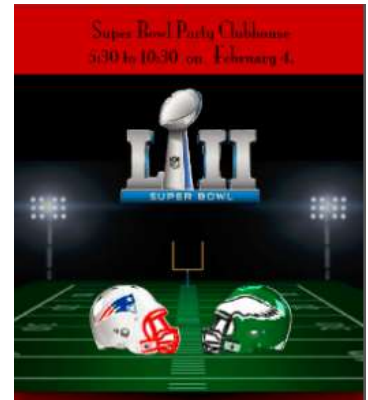
Our Landscape Committee is also looking at a number of changes to the irrigation system--starting with improved surveillance and monitoring. We will deploy three new sensors purchased at the end of 2017, enabling SV management to gain new insights and control over the entire irrigation network. We are studying our watering routines and scheduling, while looking to further improve that service. We and the contractor will also work harder to drill down on the excessively wet areas in the community and search for better solutions to those difficult-to-resolve issues. 2018 is promising to be a very busy year for all of us. We thank you for your support.



Randy Officer, Chair; Mary Jo Keefe, Vice-Chair and Secretary; Mary Colling-Officer, Treasurer; Laura Bittenger, Correspondent

January was a good month to stay home and work on those resolutions. The wind howled, the snow and sleet fell, and the Lifestyle Committee had to cancel events, but February is looking strong.

First and foremost, a huge “Thank You” to Sonny Sollars for our first, in many a year, **Super Bowl Party on February 4**. All those who came had a chance to see one of the best matchups in a long time. Sonny treated us to New England clam chowder, Philadelphia cheesesteaks, hoagies, and much, much more. Skip and Donna let the fans holler and cry in their beer at what turned out to be a high scoring, exciting game. Thank you, Sonny and all those who turned out to help set up and tear down, job well done!



Next Meeting: If you missed our meeting on February 5, don't forget that we meet the first Monday of each month in the Card Room, 7 p.m. sharp. We look forward to residents joining the Committee or coming to present an idea for the future.





We hope everyone enjoyed Game Day #1 for **Name That Tune**. With a smaller venue for our events, we will be presenting more Game Days this winter and spring. Look forward to **Saturday, March 10**, for the dice game: Left, Right, Center where six tables will vie for dollars; details and sign-up sheets will be out shortly. In April we'd like to Host Game Day #3 featuring the Newlywed Game. If you are a couple that would like to put your marriage info to the test, please let someone on the Committee know. There will be a sign-up sheet. This should be lots of fun; just because you have been married for 50 years doesn't mean you know all their answers and all of their secrets.

We have a lot of creative Happy Hours coming up. We don't need a theme, but some of our Hosts like to get creative. This February we are celebrating the Chinese New Year on **Saturday, February 17**. Confucius say, "Come to Clubhouse or end up in Dog House."



Two more fun Happy Hours are coming in March. We will have a Scavenger Hunt throughout the Clubhouse on **Friday, March 2**, and on **St. Patrick's Day, March 17**, we will celebrate another Birthday Happy Hour, so please sign up with your birthday (day and month only) to receive a gift from St.

Patty. All of our community Lifestyle Events can be found on the [SV Website](#).



We are looking for residents to join in the Billiards Tournament on **Saturday, February 24**, see [SV Website](#) for complete details. You don't have to be Minnesota Fats to play - just willing to pick up a cue stick and try to hit that tiny white ball into another ball....you get the picture. So far we only have the 4 gentlemen that play daily, but don't let them intimidate you, this could be the start of something new to enjoy. If we don't get at least 12 players by Wednesday, February 14, we will have to cancel. How about a group of ladies to take on these pros. If nothing



else, you could provide comic relief.

Save the date: **Saturday, March 24**, **BB & T** will be at the Clubhouse for a Luncheon and Informational Lecture on such topics as maximizing Social Security, investing during retirement, and many more topics. Watch the [SV Website](#) for full details, a sign-up is a must.



This Flu Season let's all be conscious of germs we may spread unintentionally. **Double Dipping** (remember the Seinfeld episode) may be fine for extra retirement income, but not at the food tables; we are asking everyone to "guard their own sneezes" over the food. **Also, this is new:** We have so many great cooks in the community who bring scrumptious dishes



to Happy Hour. We would like to put your name on your dish; you deserve the credit. You can call the Happy Hour Managers, Zina Lichaa and Carolyn Harty, to tell them what you are bringing; or the Host will have name tags for you to fill out that night. This way anyone looking for the recipe will know who to seek out. We'd like to know the cook's name, the dish's name, and any items residents might be allergic to such as nuts, cheese, or eggs.

Stay warm, walk, and drive safely, and enjoy the winter with a cup of hot soup or warm cocoa. See you at the Clubhouse.

OUTREACH – Bea Trotta, President; Sue Canfield, Vice-President

9th Annual Card and Game Party

With the Clubhouse renovation going on, we had a few adjustments to make this year in order to hold the 9th Annual Card and Game Party, but everything worked out and it was a wonderful day where everyone had a fun time playing games and cards and seeing friends! The Goodwill Volunteer Fire Company in Centreville was a good alternate site for us.

Janet O'Connor was in charge of the food this year, and she and her team did an outstanding job. We have received many compliments on the lunch and all the goodies. Many thanks to Janet and her team, Margo Wagner, Bea Trotta, Sue Canfield, Celia Love, Candi Nilsson, Pat Toole, Pat Loiacono, Anita Morris, Sue Peterson, and Terri O'Connell. Willie DiLaura made her "card suit" cookies, which are always a big hit. Pat Scheirer was in the bar helping DeAnn Cheyne. Thank you to these ladies also.

Many thanks to the following: Lauren Rose and Carlene Cooke for heading up the Card Party part of the event; Linda Blume and Mary Officer for running registration; Terri O'Connell for chairing the door and table prizes; Loretta Quigley, Cindy Bogner, Sue Peterson, Linda Blume, Pat Scheirer, and Jim Cooke for selling raffle

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tickets; Linda Blume for making her popular cross stitch bookmarks and magnets for favors; and Marge Strano, who once again did a wonderful job creating the very professional signage for the party.

Because we held the party off-site this year, our set-up help was more important than ever. Thank you so much, Barbara Rosdail, CC Terry, Terri O'Connell, Sue Peterson, JoAnn Walker, Kathy McManus, Bea Trotta, Willie and John DiLaura, and Jim Cooke for helping Lauren and Carlene set up the rooms. It went so smoothly! We do appreciate those who lent us their card tables for the event.

A big "thank you" also goes to those who contributed raffle items: Bea Trotta for donating the lovely starfish platter won by Villager, Juana Ridgway; the Wine Country Basket and accessories donated by Loretta Quigley and won by Villager Joanna Nies; and the hand-painted Picnic Basket and accessories, donated by Marge Strano and won by visitor Joanne Goodman.

The 50/50 raffle winner was Symphony Village resident, Carol Porosoff, who very graciously donated back her winnings. Outreach is extremely grateful for your generosity, Carol.

The Door Prize, an assortment of wine, was donated by Outreach members and won by Villager Betty Hernan.

Janet O'Connor, our caterer this year, also had a game for us called Card Matching and Pat Kindle won the prize, a bag of Ghirardelli chocolates.

The Outreach Committee is extremely fortunate and grateful to have so many people willing to always help out with our events. The list 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 and you helped to make the day the success it was!!

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 this event without you!



Loretta Quigley, Carlene Cooke, Gail Brown, Eleanor Strietman, Kathy McManus, Bea Trotta, Linda Blume, Jenifer Dubosq

Through your support, we were able to give a very nice donation to our beneficiary this year, **The Queen Anne's County Food Bank**, a very deserving organization!

Last, but certainly not least, we want to give Sean Brinkley and Nathan Powell of the Goodwill Volunteer Fire Company a very special "Thank You" for all their help both before and the morning of the event.

Thank you.



Want to know more about Outreach and what this SV non-profit organization does? Check out the new Outreach web page at [Outreach](#) on the SV Website.

Within SV, Outreach has two programs that support residents--Neighbor-to-Neighbor and the Caregivers Support Group. Within Queen Anne's County, Outreach contributes to a number of non-profit organizations – go to the Website to see a list of some of these organizations as well as to look at the 2018 Outreach Budget. All profits from Outreach's various projects support the charities with whom we partner.

Do you know of a non-profit organization within the county that might be a worthy beneficiary for Outreach to consider? Please contact Bea Trotta (president) or Sue Canfield (vice-president).

Outreach meets once a month at the Clubhouse, all residents are cordially invited to attend a meeting, and if you like what you see and hear, to join the committee.

Outreach sincerely thanks all the residents who come out and support its fundraisers. We couldn't do all the good work we do without YOUR support!

PUBLICATIONS & COMMUNICATIONS – Carol Hodges, Chair; Linda Blume, Vice-Chair

Secretaries

Debi Wells and Sue Canfield will be performing the secretarial duties for 2018. Thanks ladies.

Index

The *Libretto* has been published since 2006. There is an Archive on the *Libretto* page of the SV Website. But going through each one takes a while. Therefore, David Gallop has created a *Libretto* Index (also located on the *Libretto* page). This Index lists all of the articles that have been published that might be of interest such as Restaurant Reviews, Day Trips, and Maintenance issues. Check it out.

CLUBS AND CLASSES

Bird Club – Linda Blume

The [Great Backyard Bird Count](#) will take place **February 16 – 19**. This is a fun event, especially if you have bird feeders out for the winter. Check out the website! Observations are easy to enter online.



The Bird Club will take a field trip to the Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center (CBEC) on **Saturday, February 24**, to attend one of its guided hikes [Winter Birds](#)

[of CBEC](#). The hike is 1 – 3 p.m., and we will carpool from the Clubhouse promptly at 12:30 p.m. (or you can drive on your own). The cost is free to CBEC members and \$5 for non-members. Please pre-register on the website or call 410-827-6694. If you want to carpool, please let me know. The trip is “weather permitting.”

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Lunch Bunch – Bea Trotta & Marge Strano

March Lunch Bunch Change Of Date And Venue



The **March Lunch Bunch** has been rescheduled for Luisa's Cucina Italiana in Chestertown on Thursday, March 8, at 12:30 p.m. We received a call on Thursday, February 15, that the Lemon Leaf in Chestertown

closed. We are happy to announce that Luisa's will host the March 8 Lunch Bunch. Luisa's is located in Chestertown at 849 Washington Avenue. Unfortunately, you will need to sign up once again if you already did sign up to avoid any calendar conflicts. Luisa's menu reflects the best of Italian cooking along with a wide variety of menu items. The restaurant is a five-minute ride from downtown Chestertown.

Sign up online by using the [Lunch Bunch Sign-up Link](#). You can also go to the Symphony Village [Website](#), and click on ***DashBoard***. Scroll down to the Lunch Bunch icon near the bottom of the page. As usual, you can sign up in the Activities Book at the Clubhouse. Please call Bea Trotta at 410-758-0332 or Marge Strano at 410-758-2511 if you have a question, need clarification on the change of venue, need directions, or need a ride.

CERT – by Debi Wells

Don't Choke!

While choking is the fourth leading cause of accidental death in seniors, there are other reasons you may want to sign up for the Symphony Village Community Emergency Response Team (SV CERT) sponsored Heimlich Maneuver Clinic on February 27.

We are all susceptible to injuries, illnesses, and trauma. We never know when any of these may happen (a good thing)! But, when they do happen, it's always beneficial to have some basic knowledge to help ourselves, someone we care about, and even a stranger. Don't freeze in an emergency; instead, take advantage of learning sessions organized by the SV CERT. A sign-up sheet for the Heimlich Maneuver Clinic is in the Wall Street Room.

Mark Your Calendars!

Event: Heimlich Maneuver Clinic

Date: Tuesday, February 27

Time: 1 p.m.

Location: Symphony Village Clubhouse

Sign-up: Required! Please sign up in the Activities Book located in the Wall Street Room.

In addition to periodic learning sessions, during 2018 SV CERT will again be having a speaker series and teaming exercises. One teaming exercise will be to clean around our community ponds!

On **Friday, April 6**, SV CERT will host a community happy hour with helpful safety tips and a demonstration of the equipment we carry. Appetizers from the community welcomed!

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Mark Your Calendars!

Event: SV-CERT-Sponsored Happy Hour

Date: Friday, April 6

Time: 6 p.m.

Location: Symphony Village Clubhouse

The next CERT training classes through Talbot County Emergency Services will start on March 19. It's just two hours each evening, starting at 6:30 p.m.; the session ends on April 30. If you are interested in becoming a member or would like more information, please contact John Olson shop.1234@icloud.com or Debi Wells debwells2011@gmail.com. The next SV CERT meeting for members will be held on **February 26 at 1 p.m.** in the Symphony Village Clubhouse.

Dining In

Sign up for the next Dining In, February 25, at 6 p.m. The host will call you with suggestions of what to bring. Sign up in the Activities Book.

Singles – by Carol Donnelly

Social Singles will have our first meeting for 2018 on the second **Wednesday, March 14, at 10:30 a.m.** in the Clubhouse. New members are always welcome! Plan on lunch after the meeting at Mamma Mia's. Happy New Year!!



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

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 16	Valentine's Day Dinner
Friday, February 23	Fried Oyster Dinner
Friday, March 2	Steamed Shrimp Dinner
Friday, March 9	American Legion Riders host a Spaghetti and Meatballs Dinner
Friday, March 16	St. Patrick's Day Dinner

Chili Cook-Off!



American Legion Jeff Davis Post #18 in Centreville will host a Chili Cook-Off on **Sunday, February 25**, at the Legion Hall. Everyone is invited to participate! A minimum of 15 entries is required for the event to proceed – **the registration deadline is Sunday, February 18**. To enter, call the post at 410-758-3584 and have ready the cook's name, address, and phone number. The entry fee is \$10. Anyone who registers will be notified if the Chili Cook-Off is canceled due to lack of entries. On February 25, bring your (already heated) chili in a pot and bring an empty slow cooker – your slow

cooker will hold someone else's chili for judging. The Legion will provide slow cooker liners. Judging begins at 2:30 p.m.

Upcoming Events at the Centreville Branch of the OAC Library

- **Saturday, February 17**, 2 – 4 p.m.: [Saturday Movie](#) “Wonder” (Free)
- **Friday, February 23**, 2 – 4 p.m.: [Matinee Movie](#) “Only the Brave” (Free)
- **Saturday, February 24**, 3 – 4 p.m.: [Crime and a Cuppa](#) (Free) (Pre-register on the website) (Free)
- **Tuesday, February 27**, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.: [Game Night](#) (Free)

- **Thursday, March 1, 7 – 9 p.m.:** [Trivia Night](#) (Free) (Pre-register on the website)
- **Friday, March 9, 11 a.m. – noon:** Library Talks - [David P. Hunt, Former CIA Member](#) (Free) (Pre-register on the website)
- **Friday, March 9, 2 – 4 p.m.:** [Matinee Movie](#) “The Man Who Invented Christmas” (Free)

National Electronics Museum: A Day Trip For All Ages! – by Debi Wells

Located in Linthicum, Maryland, next to the BWI Airport, is the area’s premier repository of defense products in our area: the National Electronics Museum (NEM)! Not just the dream of tech nerds, these defense products are thought-provoking. The exhibits give a lay person a basic understanding of how electricity and electromagnetism work, some with hands-on demos. If you think you’re not interested in that science, let’s consider the importance of those products on society and what they might be: from telegraph to early radio transmissions, the Enigma machine, to modern computers; countermeasure breakthroughs (jammers, receivers, transmitters) that have affected the outcome of wars; advances in technology (impacting us daily); underwater electronics; and infrared technology ... just to name a few.

I’ve been associated with NEM since 1980, when it was supported solely by Westinghouse Electric Corporation (WEC), my employer. At that time, it was a fledgling collection of our defense products. It interested visiting customers and housed a small conference room that I often reserved for meetings. In 1996, when WEC was purchased by the Northrop Grumman Corporation (NGC), NEM stayed afloat, supported by volunteers. In 1999 it closed temporarily, underwent construction, and reopened with 22,000 square feet of space which was great for larger, more fascinating permanent and temporary exhibits! It has been amassing significant developments in technology ever since.

When I retired in 2011, NEM was a magnet for my volunteer activities because of my 40 years of dedication to WEC/NGC (even though visiting it makes me feel old to see defense products I worked on in a *museum*). Originally, my time at NEM was used to show young people the power of magnets; simultaneously, I was the public relations person for NEM activities such as Robot Fest, an annual event for anyone interested in the creative use of technology; Techno-Swap-Fest, a myriad of sellers, buyers, and gawkers at the precious junk hobbyists collect, and crave; Electronica Music Festival, a sound-shaping, pitch-bending, and wiring maze musical extravaganza; STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics) (formerly STEM) events and workshops for kids; and more! For the past four years I have contributed articles and published the NEM newsletter.

Today, financial contributions to NEM come from NGC as well as from their competitors, Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab, Allied Signal, American Alliance of Museums, and the University of Maryland (Baltimore County), to name a few. We have over 30 volunteers who donate over 5,000 hours of their time annually at NEM. And, NEM has two paid employees who go the extra (thousand) miles to ensure NEM has the best exhibits.

If you are not yet convinced of the importance (and entertainment value) of defense products and that technology, think about this: during the Cold War, the U.S. government Defense Advanced Research Project

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Agency (DARPA) built a network of computers to keep defense leaders connected in case the Soviets tried to destroy our communications infrastructure. Soon, universities and research centers joined the looped network. The eventual discovery? The Internet! We can thank defense research for our GPS, as well. Microwave ovens are another adaptation of defense research; it evolved from magnetrons developed for the SCR-584 radar.

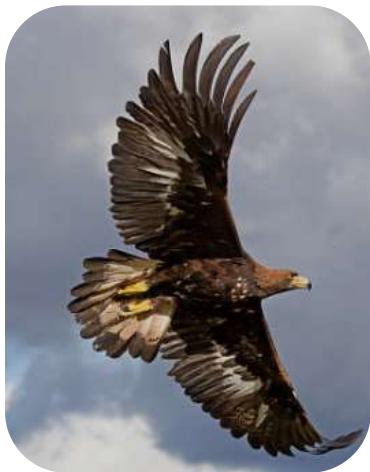
The National Electronics Museum, at 1745 West Nursery Road in Linthicum is only an hour away and makes for a fun day with friends and your grandchildren. It is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays. Admission is \$3 for seniors and students, \$5 for adults, and children five and under are free. Check us out: <http://www.nationalelectronicmuseum.org/>. Hope to see you at the museum!



This microwave oven was one of the first commercial microwave ovens developed for residential use. Made by Westinghouse, it was displayed at World's Fairs to introduce the technology. After it was returned to Westinghouse (Linthicum), the company sold it to an employee, who installed and used it in their Annapolis home for many years. When that house was sold, the new residents recognized its value and offered it to the National Electronics Museum, where it is now displayed.



by Mary Ciesielski and Brenda Stoltz



On a mild, sunny winter morning in January, Mary and Brenda set out for Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge (BNWR) in Cambridge to count eagles. National Wildlife Refuges are devoted to wildlife and their mission is to provide habitats for birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibian species, and thousands of species of fish, as well as threatened or endangered plants. When we arrived at the Visitor Center, we watched an informative video on Eagles lead by Justin Golden. Justin has taken numerous photos of both bald and golden eagles while volunteering at



BNWR, including the photo (on the right) of two bald eagles. We learned that bald eagles are present year round and a small number of golden eagles (left) overwinter at Blackwater.*

After the video, we were assigned a guide to drive us to the place where we would begin our eagle count. Our guide, David, made frequent stops so we could view a variety of other species through his telescope. There was so much to see that we surely would have missed without David's experience and sharp eyes. We arrived at our assigned spot in plenty of time to set up the telescope and begin our 30-minute search for eagles. Most of the eagles were high in the trees and often both male and female were together. You can tell them apart even from a distance because the female is somewhat larger than the male. Our total count was low—only 8 bald eagles. However, the team across the bridge from us counted 26 eagles. The total count from all the groups was 150.

We arrived back at the Visitor Center and, after a brief but interesting tour of the Center, bumped into a few more eagle counters from Symphony Village—DeAnn & Sandy Cheyne and Debi & Bill Wells. We decided to compare notes in a cozy restaurant in Cambridge. . . A delicious way to end a lovely day.

*Justin Golden and Greg Inskip recently published a short recap of their observations of Golden Eagles in the "Delaware Ornithologist" magazine, Volume 46, 2017, titled "Wintering Golden Eagles at Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge and Surrounding Dorchester County, Maryland, 1986-2017".

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Amazing Astronomy News, A New Star is Born— by the Armchair Astronomer, Larry Rayner



We are privileged to live at this time. In the last 50 years we've witnessed the manned landing on the moon, the crashing of a comet into the planet Jupiter, the discovery by the Hubble Space Telescope that the Big Bang began the Universe 13.7 billion years ago, the launch of the Falcon 9 "heavy" rocket to Mars carrying a Tesla sports car with dummy driver to the tune of Davie Bowie's "Major Tom," (who said entrepreneurs didn't have a sense of humor), and more recently, the photographic flyby of the mini-planet Pluto by the New Horizons spacecraft.

Last month, I wrote about predictions of events through 2035 which included a manned landing on the planet Mars. Now astronomers are predicting the birth of a new Star, less than 100 light years away in the constellation Cygnus, the Swan. Every spring and summer you will be able to see Cygnus directly overhead in the form of a cross, the Summer Cross. In five years, 2022, we'll be able to see a new star born in this Constellation. The new star will be bright enough to see with the naked eye, magnitude 2.2, at night. This is the same brightness as the North Star Polaris.

One half of the stars in our galaxy, the Milky Way, are binaries (double stars that orbit each other), sometimes touching, and they likely possess planets. It's amazing that astronomers have been able to predict an event so close to our real time. In a universe where time is measured in billions of years, five years is like a fraction of a second! We are so lucky to be able to see a new star born from two old binary stars that have been orbiting each other. When these two stars collide, the collision will create a red nova explosion and a new star will be born. Get your telescopes ready for 2022! Read more about our expected new star on the internet. Look up Binary star KIC982227 in the constellation Cygnus.

I also recommend on the Science/Discovery/National Geographic channels every Monday or Tuesday night, "How The Universe Works." It is great programming.

Events in the Sky this February – Things start to pick up in February; while there will be no full moon due to the Blue Moon in January, Mercury and Venus will come into view after the sun sets in the later part of the month. It is the early risers who will be treated to Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn as they congregate in the morning sky. Around the 17th, with just binoculars you can capture both Venus and Mercury. Check out your *Astronomy* magazine and online sources for full details. Happy viewing!

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VOLUNTEER ARTICLE



National Alliance on Mental Illness

NAMI Kent and Queen Anne's Affiliate – by Mary Drake

One in five persons will have some form of mental illness in their lifetime. Where do you go for help if you or a family member has been diagnosed with mental illness? The patient may go to a psychiatrist, psychologist, or counselor; but where does a family member or friend go to learn about the resources that are available or to get the support they need?

A good place to start is with the **NAMI Family-to-Family program**. This is a 12-week free course for caregivers of individuals with mental illness that presents the treatment of these illnesses and presents the knowledge and skills that family members need to cope effectively. Family-to-Family offers resources, insights, coping skills, and genuine support for families. A Family-to-Family program will be coming to Queen Anne's and Kent Counties in the fall.

But, do you need support right now and don't want to wait until the fall? A **Family Support Group** meets twice a month at St. Paul's church in Centreville. This support group is a peer-led support group for adult family members, caregivers, and friends. Group members gain insight from the challenges and successes of others facing similar circumstances.

NAMI's support groups are unique because they follow a structured model, ensuring that everyone has an opportunity to be heard and to get what they need.

What is to be gained by participating in a Family Support Group? By sharing your experiences in a safe and confidential setting, you can gain hope and develop supportive relationships. Group members encourage empathy, productive discussion, and a sense of community. You'll benefit from others' experiences, discover your inner strength, and learn how to identify and use local resources.

If you are interested in attending a Family Support Group or being trained to lead a Family-to-Family Program, or Family Support Group, please contact Mary Drake at 410-758-8266 or maryjdrake@yahoo.com.

Volunteer at the Resource Center with Haven Ministries



Peggy Anderson is looking for volunteers to cover the lunch breaks for staff at Havens Ministries Resource Center located in St. Paul's Church in Centreville. A

February 'lunch break' schedule for the Resource Center will be set up for any hour between 11:30 and 1:30 when a volunteer comes to the center to let the staff person go to lunch. We encourage our volunteers to bring a book, knitting, crossword puzzles, or something to do when it's very quiet. No training required; instead, volunteers will answer the phone and take messages. Call Peggy at 410-570-0644 or Karen Bardwell, Volunteer Coordinator, at 410-490-3173

SPECIAL REMINDERS

Camilla Gaines General Manager

gm@symphonyvillagehoa.com

Board of Directors Group Email

Board@symphonyvillagehoa.com

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UPCOMING CENTREVILLE EVENTS

All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast



The Goodwill Fire Company (212 Broadway) in Centreville will host an All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast on Sunday, **February 18**, 7:30 – 11 a.m., at the fire hall. The cost is \$9 per person. Breakfasts will take place the third Sunday of every month through May 2018.

Free Mid-Shore Fishing Seminar



A Mid-Shore Fishing Seminar will take place on **Saturday, March 10**, 8:30 – 3 p.m., at **American Legion Jeff Davis Post #18** in Centreville. It will be a fun day of tactics, tips, and techniques for rockfish and other gamefish from experienced Chesapeake pros Captains Mark Galasso and Jeff Lewatowski, as well as snakehead expert Joe Bruce and DNR's Erik Zlokovitz. The event is hosted by Captain Chris Dollar of CD Outdoors. Admission is free, although space is limited to the first 125 anglers to register. There will be door prizes, tackle and gear, coffee, donuts, and a cash bar. For additional information

and to register, call 410-991-8468 or email cdollar@cdollaroutdoors.com.

Speaker	9 a.m.	Captain Mark Galasso speaking on "Spring and Summer Trolling for Rockfish"
Lineup:	10:30 a.m.	Captain Jeff Lewatowski speaking on "Susky Flats Stripers"
	Noon	Joe Bruce speaking on "Fishing for Snakeheads"
	1:30 p.m.	Eric Zlokovitz, MD DNR, speaking on "E-Tools to Catch More Fish"

To see a list of tourism and local attraction websites, press "Event Source Links" on the [Sources](#) page on the SV Website.