

# LIBRETTO I

April 2018 Symphony Village's Newsletter

Vol. XIII No 4

**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.



Joe & Gerri Colabella 216 Overture Way Chris Colabella 216 Overture Way

## March HOA Board of Directors Report -- Pat Fox, Vice President

- Specialty Answering Service Contract: Approved the Economy Plan with Specialty Answering Service to handle the after-hour emergency calls at a cost of \$31 per month plus \$1.19 per minute. Also approved Answering Service Policy.
- Employee Inclement Weather Policy: Approved the proposed Employee Inclement Weather Policy and that it be included in the Employee Handbook.
- Reserve Funding Policy: Approved the Reserve Funding Policy, which provides guidance on the use of reserve funds.



- SV Legal Documents: Approved \$2,750 to direct the Association's attorney to review the SV
  Declaration to remove references to the developer and any other recommended changes to bring it up-to-date.
- Indoor/Outdoor Pool and Spa Approved the following expenditures through Anchor Aquatics for the pools and spa with the costs for the cartridges to come from the reserve fund and the balance from the operating budget:

- Pool cartridge and filters replacement for the spa - \$2,296.92.
- o Pool cartridge and filter replacement for the indoor pool - \$2,296.92
- o Pool cartridge and filter replacement for the outdoor pool - \$4,593.34
- o Ladder replacement \$391.91
- Committee Members: Approved the list of chairs, vice-chairs, and members of all the committees as presented.
- SV Income Tax Extension: Approved extension on filing the Association's income tax return and approved the payment of the estimates of \$1,300 for the federal return and \$500 for the state return.
- Clubhouse HVAC Inspections: Approved the contract for quarterly inspections of the Clubhouse HVAC system at a cost of \$4,535.
- Tree Work: Authorized the Landscape Committee to
  - o Approve \$3,500 to treat 25 pine trees and 67 ash trees.
  - Develop an RFP and get bids to remove 11 trees, replant 16 trees, and remove 10 or 12 stumps.
- KENT NARROWS Indoor - Heated High & Dry Marina 410-643-9966
- KentNarrowsBoatel.com
- o Develop an RFP and get bids for pruning and girdling root removal.
- Putting Green Approved the Operations Committee and the Landscape Committee's recommendation to replace the putting green with sod at an estimate by Complete Landscaping of \$2718.
- Certificates of Deposit: Approved purchase of a one-year \$200,000 CD from Live Oak Bank of Wilmington with an interest rate of at least 2%. Money to be used to purchase this CD will come from the following sources:
  - o \$100,000 from Congressional Bank Money Market Fund(s)
  - o \$49,648 from operating funds
  - o \$50,352 Access Bank CD
- Developer Transition Status/Update: \$2,500 received from Caruso for landscaping on Bravo.
- Extra Water Usage/Impact Fee Charge Based upon Expansion: Approve the payment of one EDU (approximately \$13,000) to the Town of Centreville under the agreement that the certificate of occupancy will not be held up and the town will review usage after one year and refund money to the Association if usage is not as high as they anticipated.
- Flow Meter Installation: Flow meters were purchased last year for the irrigation system, and they will be installed this spring.
- Sign-In Required by Residents without a Key Card: Approved policy that any resident who comes to the Clubhouse without a key card must sign in at the front desk for security reasons.

# Clubhouse Security -- Camilla Gaines, CMCA, AMS; General Manager

In accordance to the Rules and Regulations under General Policies, Residents must accompany their guests at all times while using the facilities. The use of electronic keys by anyone other than the Age Qualified and/or Age Permitted Residents to whom the key is assigned is strictly prohibited.

The Board of Directors voted at the March 23 Board meeting to implement a new sign in policy that requires residents who do not use their key card to access the Clubhouse to sign in. Each resident is required to use their key access card for security purposes. No resident should provide access to other residents or guests. The privileges of a fellow resident may temporarily be suspended for reasons that are confidential in nature. In the event of an incident, Management can determine who accessed the Clubhouse and their time of entry. If a resident holds the door open for 20 residents to enter, this action would compromise the Clubhouse security. An example of a security breach would be if a resident props the -entrance door open to allow residents to enter instead of using the front entrance and swiping their key access cards.

In the event that you have lost your card, please contact Management immediately so that the card can be deactivated. You are responsible if someone finds your card and accesses the Clubhouse. You may purchase a replacement card at the cost of \$25 during office hours Monday – Friday (8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.).

# **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

## **COVENANTS** – Irene Hoffman, Chair; Scott Page, Vice-Chair

Spring is here! At least it is this morning. Although the temperature is in the thirties, the sun is out and I've

finished an especially good cinnamon raisin English muffin. It's a good day to take a look around the house and see what needs to be done—power wash the outside, wash windows inside and out, spray for ants, clean off the rust stains on the siding, and plant the dying Easter bulbs we were gifted. We had our ridge vents fixed and the leaks inside the house have dried up. You probably have your own list. If you are doing something new or not sure if it needs approval, please turn in an Exterior Modification Request to the Management office for consideration by the Covenants

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Mark Sharp – Master Electrician Centreville, MD 2167

Committee. Read the <u>Architectural Guidelines</u>. The Committee meets again on May 8, so turn the form in to the Management Office by the end of April. Happy Spring!

## **LANDSCAPING & IRRIGATION** – Tom McManus, Chair; Michael Norris, Vice-Chair

In March we received approval from the Board to embark on a series of plans for a number of landscaping initiatives. We have begun to receive a number of bids from some local nurseries for the types of trees which

we would like to bring in to replace those which we have lost. In some cases we may also plant a variety of shrubs in place of the trees which were removed. Please keep in mind that we require you to complete a Work Order and submit it to Management if you have any Landscaping and/or Irrigation issues which you want to be resolved.

Also, the Landscape Committee fully supports Management's implementation of our new Opt-out Process for Landscape services. This is the best of both worlds in that it gives the resident complete control over the services which they no longer wish to receive. We cannot rely on maintaining a variety of lists, along with the contractor, which tend to change quickly over time. The two principal aspects of this new policy, in order to make it work best, are Management letting you know just which services are to be provided and when, and your placing the 'do not want service' flag next to your lamp post in the front of the house. The exact location of the flag is very important to the success of this plan. We will do our best to assist in this process.



.Finally, the Landscape Committee is working closely with the Covenants Committee on significantly upgrading the Approved and the Prohibited Lists of Plantings (trees and shrubs) for Symphony Village. We expect to have all this available to all residents in the next month.

Complete Landscape Services has begun the de-winterization of our irrigation system along with the connection and start-up of our five well pumps. Included in this process is the introduction of brand new flowmeters for continuous surveillance of our irrigation cycles. Irregularities will be automatically transmitted to Management, committee members, and the service contractor, for immediate action. These sensors will also automate the data collection process that we are required to do for the Maryland Department of the Environment. We thank you for your support.

## **LIFESTYLE COMMITTEE** – Mary Jo Keefe, Chair; Tony Loiacono, Correspondent

"In the spring, I have counted 136 different kinds of weather inside of 24 hours." Mark Twain

The question remains, "Where is the spring, or are we going straight into summer?" Regardless of the recent doldrums of our weather, the Lifestyle Committee continues to move ahead to bring Symphony Village outstanding activities and social events. Speaking of outstanding events, we need look no further than the Birthday/St. Patrick's Day Celebration on March 17. Approximately 200 Villagers were in attendance to enjoy wonderful food and companionship. Prizes for the most creative food were awarded as follows:

First Place: Bill Wells, for Irish Egg Rolls; Second Place: Donna Cullen, for Drunken Meatballs in Bourbon Sauce: Third Place: Barbara Locke, for Irish Potato Bites with Corned Beef and Cheddar Cheese. Honorable mentions were garnered by Sandee & Tom Love, for Guinness Irish Stuffed Nachos; Mary Officer, for Colcannon; Kathy & Tom McManus, for Hot Irish Reuben Dip; Candi Nilsson, for Corned Beef Roll-ups; and Susan Rayner, for Irish Beef and Guinness Stew. Our thanks to everyone for the other wonderful appetizers and desserts, and a very special thanks to Zina and her crew for another amazing evening. See you all at the next quarterly Birthday Celebration!



## **Coming Attractions**

- Saturday, April 28, 8 a.m. noon—Spring Yard Sale—Cost: \$5/Household. Sign up in the Activities Book and make all checks payable to SVHOA. Mark the memo section of your check with Yard Sale.
- Friday, May 4, 6 p.m.—Happy Hour, Cinco de Mayo. Bring your best Latin moves and usual Happy Hour fare.
- Saturday, May 19, 6 p.m.—Happy Hour, Preakness Party—You are encouraged to wear an appropriate race day hat. Awards will be presented. Bring your best Happy Hour fare and no mudders will be allowed.
- Sunday, May 27, Memorial Day Picnic, 1 3
   p.m.—Always a great event. Paul Gunther
   Catering of Centreville will cater this affair. Cost will be \$20 per adult and \$10 for children 10 and under. More on this later.

## **Special Word Of Thanks And Parting Salute**

Randy Officer has chosen to step down as Chair of Lifestyle in order to pursue other interests, so as he departs, we thank him for all his diligent work and effort, and for making Lifestyle what it is today. Take a bow, Randy, front and center. We are, however, most fortunate





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in that our new Chair, Mary Jo Keefe, is most capable and stands at the ready to lead us to continued excellent events and activities. Please join me in welcoming Mary Jo and helping to support her efforts.

## A Parting Thought Until Next Time - Tony Loiacono

Many years ago I had the honor of starting a pharmacy in partnership with the Dakota Sioux at Standing Rock, North Dakota, for my company. I also had the good fortune to tour the Sitting Bull Museum and read many of his now famous quotes, so now I leave you with one of them, precipitated by our recent weather.....

Behold, my friends, the spring is come; the earth has gladly received the embraces

of the sun, and we shall soon see the results of their love!

Unfortunately Sitting Bull could not foresee 2018, but keep smilin', my friends and neighbors....

HOA and GOVERNANCE, and LOCAL CONTACTS

Camilla Gaines, General Manager: gm@symphonyvillagehoa.com

Rebecca Cook, Assistant General Manager: agm@symphonyvillage.com

Board of Directors' Group Email: board@symphonyvillagehoa.com

Clubhouse Telephone: 410-758-8500

Bulk Pickup and Yard Waste: 410-758-1180

Trash Removal & Recycling 410-742-0099

Disclaimer: The Symphony Village HOA and its constituents do not validate, endorse, or support any of the vendors or products presented in all ads and, as such, assume no liabilities.

# **OUTREACH** – Bea Trotta, President

Outreach is selling tickets to the Queen Anne's County Centre for the Arts upcoming Storytelling performance on **Friday, May 11 from 7 – 9** p.m. at the Todd Performing Arts Centre, Chesapeake College.

Minton Sparks will be presenting her remarkable storytelling talent that paints a vivid picture of the rural South. Her words, along with music, tell a sultry, evocative, and humorous story.

Outreach's 7<sup>th</sup> ARTISANS' FAIR Saturday, September 22, 2018 Now Registering SV Residents and Past-Participants

Contact Loretta Quigley (410-758-6755) or Linda Blume (410-758-3194) for details!

If you, your friends, or family is interested in supporting Outreach, you can buy a ticket for \$15. This cost is the QAC Centre for the Arts membership level instead of the non-member cost of \$20. All proceeds from the sale of tickets go to Outreach.

Please contact Bea Trotta at 410-758-0332 or email bptrotta@gmail.com.

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

## **New Residents**



Now that all home sales are resales, it is difficult to keep track of new residents. If you know a new resident has moved in, please notify the Welcoming Committee with a name and address.

We have asked that realtors encourage the buyers to check in at the Clubhouse, but that is not always possible. Contact Eileen Rowley, Sue Canfield, or Julia Detch when you are aware of someone new to SV.

#### **Volunteer in Action Articles**

We hope that you have enjoyed the articles that our

volunteers have submitted. We would like to encourage more SV volunteers to submit articles about their volunteer experiences. This would help residents who are interested in volunteering have a better idea of what volunteer activities are available.

# SNEAKERS - Linda Farrar, President; Bea Trotta, Correspondent

## **Meeting Date Change**

**Sneakers' next scheduled meeting date has changed.** Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 24, at 3 p.m. at the Clubhouse.

This is an important meeting and we have many issues to discuss, including our upcoming November event. Please try to arrange your schedule so that you can attend. We always welcome new members.



# **CLUBS AND CLASSES**

#### Bird Club - Linda Blume



It's time to hang your hummingbird feeders. The Ruby-Throated Hummingbirds typically arrive in our area April 15-30. The timing seems to depend on what kind of winter we've had (they were "late" in 2017, and I expect the same this year). I make my own nectar by combining one-part white granulated sugar to four-parts water (e.g.,  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup sugar & 1 cup water) and bring it to a boil to completely dissolve the sugar. Let it cool, and it's good to go. My feeder is red, so hummers are already attracted to it, but if your feeder is clear, add some

red food coloring to attract their attention. I clean the feeder and add new nectar once a week. If you have never watched their antics while chasing other hummers away from "their" food source, it's fun to see.

The schedule for the <u>Spring Delmarva Birding Weekend</u>, **April 26 - 29**, is online. There are trips and activities scheduled throughout Delmarva. Read all the details, and reserve your spot, by looking on the website. I don't see anything in Queen Anne's County this year, but many activities aren't that far away.

## **CERT**

## <u>It's Vital To Know How To Shut-Off Your Utilities!</u> – *Tegan Baumann* on behalf of SV CERT

Identifying the location of utility shut-offs and learning how to operate them is *key to household safety!* Once you locate your water, electric, and propane shut-offs ... **tag them!** Finding them in an emergency can significantly decrease property damage during and after an emergency.

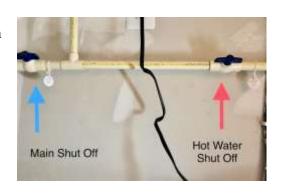
## **Water Shut-Off:**

Water pipes can burst due to a number of disasters: earthquakes, tornados, hurricanes, and fires. They also routinely break from freezing and other accidents.

To shut-off water to the entire house, locate the valve in the laundry area, likely near the hot water heater. Houses with basements may have the water shut-off in the basement.

There are two types of shut-offs used:

• ¼ turn shut-off. Turn the handle one-quarter turn so the handle is across (perpendicular to) the pipe instead of aligned with the pipe.



OR

• For the circular knob, turn the handle clockwise until fairly tight. Don't force it! Be careful not to twist or pull on the shut-off or pipe.



In late fall shut off water to your outside faucets from the inside to keep the water lines and faucets from freezing.

There are two shut-off valves for the outside spigots on the sides of the house. There is one in the kitchen under the sink and one underneath the bathroom vanities.

The valves look like those in the pictures or they may be the circular type.

When turning off the water for the season, be sure to open the outside spigots.



If your shut-off valves are not marked ... tag them!

NOTE: Since there are various house styles your water shut-off may be different. If you need help locating your shut-off, contact SV CERT for assistance.

For more information: refer to the SV CERT Plan.

## **Town Water Shut-Off/Meter Access**

Is your water shut-off/meter access overgrown with grass? If so, trim around the access so the water supply can be located and shut off if there is a water leak between the access (town water supply) and your house. Generally, there is a water shut-off/meter access between every two homes; look for it between the curb and the sidewalk.





## **Electric Shut-Off**

Water damage and exposed electrical wires can cause an electrical shock or a fire hazard. Water acts like a huge extension to electric wire to become a shock hazard. Consequently, it is wise to teach all members of your family the location and operation of electric shut-off valves.

Shut-off your electric if you have:

- Structural damage -- there is a possibility electric wires may have been damaged or exposed.
- Fire -- your electric should be shut off until a professional ascertains damage to wiring.
- Blackening around electrical switches or plugs.
- Burning material or insulation is smelled (during a power outage or not).
- Burning occurs in electrical devices or large appliances.

Most residential homes have a single feed from the electric company and the process will be very simple once



you locate the main breaker panel, pictured to the left. First, locate your main electric panel, and then find the switch or circuit breaker that shuts off the main feed. Most electric panels are in the garage (houses with basements may have the panel in the basement).

Note the green arrow in the main breaker panel, it indicates the main switch. The panels usually have the main breaker marked. The inside of the panel door identifies each circuit breaker. Simply move the lever or handle to the off position to shut off the electric.

Note: Shutting off the main breaker only disconnects the electricity to the internal wiring in the house. *The line from the electric company will still be active!* All electric power in SV is underground, but the large electric boxes

outside the house will not be de-energized.

#### **Propane**

Most homes in Symphony Village use propane. Unlike natural gas, propane is heavier than air. Natural gas rises and tends to dissipate into the air. Propane sinks and fills low spaces. A broken propane line in the basement is a danger – it can cause suffocation! It also increases fire risk as the flammable gas pools and creates an explosion hazard. Be sure *not* to actually turn off your propane when practicing proper shut-off procedures.

Familiarize yourself and your family with key information about your home. Each of us should know the location of the reset button on the furnace and the emergency shut-off switch. Know how to shut off the main propane line coming into your house. Should your power go out you can restart your furnace by pressing the reset button, but be sure to only press it once when the power comes back on!

For your safety, propane has a strong, unpleasant smell like rotten eggs so you can detect leaks. Each person in your household should know to do the following if you smell propane:

#### Call 911!

Immediately extinguish flames or sparks -- sparks may ignite the propane. Put out all lighted materials.

Make a quick exit -- get everyone out of the building immediately. Keep a safe distance.

Shut off the gas supply at the tank or cylinder.

Call your Propane Service Provider - use your neighbor's telephone if you smell an odor.

Have your service person locate and repair the leak, air out the area, and check and re-light your gas appliances.

Do not return to the building until you are advised that all leaks have been repaired and it is safe to return.

Questions? Call an **SV CERT** member.

#### **SAVE THE DATE!**

Wednesday, June 6, 4 p.m.: An SV CERT pot luck supper will be held at the Clubhouse Pavilion. Local radio ham operators (who will be called to team with SV CERT members in a disaster or emergency) are being invited, as are all residents interested in joining or getting to know more about their SV CERT! Space will be limited. Sign up in the Activities Book in the Wall Street Room!

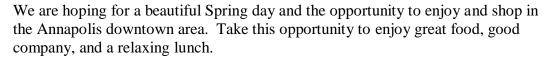


# **Dining In**

Nancie Cameron has asked that residents be reminded of the sign up for Dining In, which will be held Sunday, April 22, at 6 p.m. Sign up in the Activities Book and indicate if you are a guest or if you would be willing to host if needed. If more than one person hosts, more guests can attend. The host picks the menu and lets the guests know what to bring. This is a great way to meet new people. Sign up by April 17.

## **Lunch Bunch** – Bea Trotta & Marge Strano

The April Lunch Bunch is scheduled for the <u>Blackwall Hitch</u>, an American Restaurant, on **Thursday, May 3, at 12:30 p.m.** <u>Blackwall Hitch</u> is located at 400 6<sup>th</sup> Street in Annapolis. You can browse through the menu by clicking on the name of the restaurant in this announcement.





Sign up online by using the <u>Lunch Bunch Sign-up Link</u>. You can also go to the Symphony Village <u>Website</u> and click on *Dashboard*. Scroll down to the Lunch Bunch Icon near the bottom of the page. As usual, you can also sign up in the **Club 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 directions, or need a ride.

## Reading for Fun Book Club - Joe Sikes

An era has come to an end as the Book Club says farewell to Jack and Joan Hennessey who are moving to new digs near Frederick, Maryland. Our meeting on March 20 was bittersweet since Joan baked a pie in expectation that it would be the last Book Club meeting they would attend. My wife, Jan Withers, and I have volunteered to carry on the tradition that they started. Jack gave me lists of more than 100 books sorted alphabetically by author and numerically by the rating assigned by the Club. I am sure no one is surprised that Jack kept such a detailed list! For the record, the highest scoring book over the last nine years was a John Grisham novel titled *Sycamore Row*.



The book we reviewed for March has a personal connection since it was written by our daughter-in-law, Elna Baker, titled *The New York Regional Mormon Halloween Dance*. Elna married our son a decade after the timeframe of her book. Here is one reviewer's description:

"When Elna Baker decided to go to NYU rather than Brigham Young, her devout LDS parents might have wondered whether their daughter was taking a giant step toward perdition. They need not have worried. A single Mormon in Manhattan is the loneliest number of all. Baker's hilarious memories of being a stranded single sober virgin in a roomful of single sober virgins at a chaperoned church dance cap a book full of outrageous experiences."

Elna tells her story candidly and with the humor consistent with her standup comedy appearances in New York City. Her description of the New York

FALL DOWN TIMES GET UP 8

singles scene is not limited to her Mormon experience, but is true of many young people, who find living among millions of people in the Big Apple does not provide immunity to loneliness. The Club found the book extremely

entertaining and gave it a score of 8.61, the second highest score in Book Club history (second only to John Grisham, above).



Our meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month at 8 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Clubhouse. Everyone is welcome. Upcoming books we plan to review are listed below:

April 17 Fall Down 7 Times Get Up 8 by Naoki Higashida

May 15 A Gentleman in Moscow by Amor Towles

June 19 **The Watson Girl** by Leslie Wolfe

## **Tennis** – *Larry Miller*

Spring will eventually arrive at Symphony Village, and it will again be time to play tennis regularly. Get yourself and the racquet ready for the courts. Please identify residents interested in tennis, especially those new to Symphony Village. If you are interested in joining the tennis players, give Larry a call at 443-262-8270. See you on the courts soon.

# **NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS**



An evening of fun and music will be hosted by Queen Anne's Chorale (QAC) on Saturday, April 28. The concert, *American Spirit*, features classic patriotic songs, as well as beloved folk and gospel pieces that reflect our unique musical tradition.

"Our nation - and the world - seem to be in constant turmoil," says Chorale Director Bob Huntington; "This concert will take us back to our roots, remind us

of our great heritage, and help celebrate pride in our country." Among the pieces performed will be America

*the Beautiful*, a song whose words and music have changed over time. The performance of this piece will include verses sung in three earlier melodies for the song, ending with the tune that we know and love today.

Audience participation is a regular component of QAC's concerts, and those who attend will have the opportunity to sing along to *When the Saints, Take Me Out to the Ball Game*, and *This Land Is Your Land*.

Other songs the Chorale will perform include *Down to the River to Pray*, which was featured in the hit movie *O Brother Where Art Thou*, and *We're Goin' Round*, a rollicking ragtime song from Scott Joplin's opera *Treemonisha*.

The performance, *American Spirit*, will take place at 7 p.m. on Saturday, April 28. It will be held at Chesapeake College's Todd Performing Arts Center, located in Wye Mills, MD. Tickets can be purchased at the door and are \$20 for adults; children through high school attend for free. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.qachorale.org">www.qachorale.org</a>.





Ed and I would like to thank everyone for all the prayers, hugs, and support and especially the delicious meals we have been lucky recipients of from our SV neighbors. Thank you to all of you from the bottom of our hearts. You are all the best.

Marilyn and Ed Williams



## NATIONAL DRUG TAKE BACK DAY

Please be aware that Saturday, April 28, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. is National Drug Take Back Day. Drop off your unwanted, expired, or unused prescription medications at the Queen Anne's County Sheriff's Office, 505 Railroad Ave, Centreville. Local participation is sponsored by Sheriff Hoffman. Your participation will earn you a surprise gift card.

# **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, April 20: To Be Announced
- Friday, April 27: Fried Oyster Dinner
- Friday, May 4: American Legion Riders host a Spaghetti and Meatballs Dinner
- Friday, May 11: Fried Chicken Dinner, potato, vegetable, and dessert \$12

# The Party's Over!!!



And such a lovely one it was.

The beautiful cards are opened and read with tears shed in private.

The food was SV delicious and yet another gorgeous cake was presented. [HOW DOES she do that?]

It was so special to be able to say a personal "I'll miss you."

You are always welcome to visit us in Adamstown. It's a lovely drive and I suspect we may be a little lonely at first. How could we not miss such kind and warm long-time friends? Our address is 3200 Baker Circle 1213, Adamstown, MD 21710.

God Bless All of You!! Jack and Joan Hennessey



# Upcoming Events at the Centreville Branch of the QAC Library

- **Friday, April 20**, noon 1 p.m.
- **Sunday, April 22**, 1:30 2:30 p.m.
- **Wednesday, April 25**, 5:15 7 p.m.

<u>Lunch, Listen, and Learn</u> (Free) (Pre-register on the website)

<u>Earth Day - Beekeeping 101</u>(Free) (Pre-register on the website)

<u>Build Your Own Cat Castle</u> (Free) (Pre-register on the website)

(For families and adults)

**Friday, April 27**, 2 – 4 p.m.:

Thursday, May 3, 7-9 p.m.:

**Sunday, May 13**, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Friday Film (Film to be announced) (Free)

Trivia Night (Free) (Pre-register on the website)

Saturday, May 12, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. Skill Share Saturday (Free) (Pre-register on the website)

Royal Wedding Tea (Free – bring your own tea cup)

(Preregister on the website)

## **Boy Scout Troop 464 Annual Service Day** - Linda Blume



Boy Scout Troop 464 will have their Annual Service Day on **Saturday**, **April 21**. The Troop goes out into the community (including Centreville) doing service projects, both for public and private organizations. Assistant Scout Master Kelly Wright has contacted me and asked that I inform SV residents about the Service Day. The scouts can clean yards, help move boxes or furniture, and do many other tasks. The only thing they cannot do is handle power tools, but a supervising adult can help with that if needed. Please call ASM Wright at 410-

490-7713 to request the scouts' help. Plus, the offer is not limited to April 21 – the scouts can assist year-round. (Personal Note: This is the Boy Scout Troop that has helped at Outreach's Artisans' Fairs, and they will do so again this year. They have also, in the past, helped residents with miscellaneous projects. I am told they do a VERY good job.)

## **AAMC Volunteer Program** – Betty Rosensteel

When I retired in 2010, after 32 years of service with BGE, one of the things on my to-do list was to give back to the community. While spending time at AAMC when my husband was going through Cardio rehab, I saw the volunteers in their blue shirts/tunics, known as the Blue Crew, all over the hospital. I started asking questions about what that would involve. I found out there were many job descriptions available in all sorts of capacities. Once a month the hospital has an orientation where you can learn about all the various positions offered. Once you narrow down your interests and capabilities, they look at what days a week have availability in that position. Once assigned, you go through a briefing of what you will need to know about volunteering at AAMC. Once you pass a short test, then you report to the area selected for "on-site training."

At that point, I decided I wanted to work at Edwards PACU (Post Anesthesia Care Unit). It is a fairly physically demanding position where we clean stretchers and Gerry chairs, then make them up for the next patient. We also prepare ice bags, deliver beverages to patients, then wheelchair them out to their car.

After some time, I was asked to be the Service Chairperson for the ED-PACU. My responsibilities include the training and management of the auxiliary

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volunteers on that service. In addition, I attend board meetings and annual service meetings, report vacancies, resolve problems with placement, handle reassignment, prepare monthly and annual reports, and oversee the functions of the volunteers in that area.

As a volunteer, the work here is very rewarding, no matter if your position is in the consignment shop "Out of the Box," administration, information desks, greeters, clinical floors, flower service, concierge, Emergency

Department, patient visitation, gift shops, or "at home" handcrafters. There are even some positions off campus (such as the Kent Island Facility, which **does currently have openings**).

The rewards are many--not only the feeling you get when you volunteer your time to help others, but also several luncheons a year that celebrate the volunteers and bestow awards for amount of service hours. I've met many people whom I can now call "friend." The hospital staff is extremely appreciative of what we do and thank us often. The volunteers also take the proceeds made from "Out of the Box," fundraisers, and the gift shops, and present them to the hospital for predetermined projects.

It's great to be affiliated with one of the top three Maryland hospitals. Currently, I have accrued over 1500 service hours and a pin will be awarded in April at the Spring General membership meeting. A year after I began volunteering, my husband, Jerry, picked up a shift and now has 750 service hours. There are quite a few couples that volunteer at AAMC.

## During The Downtown Construction, Where Can I Park? - Tim McCluskey, Town Council

The infrastructure replacement project on Liberty & Commerce Streets in downtown Centreville has caused some traffic pattern changes, as well as the temporary removal of street parking; so, where can you park if you

are shopping or dining in downtown Centreville? While we have lost some parking on Commerce Street while that street is dualized, the Town has added 30+ spaces to downtown.

Parking has been removed on the entire length of Commerce Street. Once the Liberty Street construction is done, the traffic pattern will flip, and parking will be restored on Commerce Street while the construction is on that side. Parking will be unavailable on the construction side of the street only in the areas where there is active work being done.

Metered parking remains on Broadway, Lawyers Row, Water Street, and along Water Street in the Happy Lady Lot. These are 2-hour limits, with the exception of the four spaces on Water Street which will be 3-hour limits (we are in the process of upgrading the meters for those spaces).

Free parking lots are available at Happy Lady Lane and Water Street, behind the QAC Health Department (access via Banjo Lane), behind the Fire House (access via Powell Street), in the parking structure behind the District Court building, 105 N. Liberty St (enter via the drive aisle opposite Lawyers Row), and the leased lot at Water Street & Liberty Street.

Here is a <u>link to the various parking lots</u> in downtown Centreville:



The Town is in the process of adding parking signs to downtown to better direct drivers to these various lots.

Also important to note: the Town will begin actively enforcing the limits on the parking meters over the next 60 days. We have heard from many businesses that cars are parking all day at the meters, which prevents shoppers from being able to find convenient spots.

The construction is a strain on everyone living, visiting, and passing through Centreville. For the most part, we have seen our community come together to deal with this construction in a positive way. We ask that you

leavefor your destination a few minutes early, be considerate of other drivers and pedestrians, obey police officers' instructions, stop at the stop bars, and remember this is temporary.

Thank you for your time. Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions. Tim McCluskey, Council President, Town Council of Centreville. tmccluskey@townofcentreville.org; 443-262-5729

## **Astronomy 101** – Armchair Astronomer, Larry Rayner

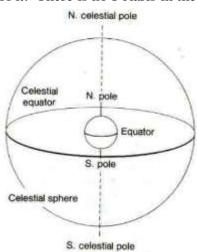
Spring is a great time to start our Astronomy Lessons as the weather is conducive to outdoor stargazing. I am looking for assistance with my telescope, someone to help me stand and align, or align for me so we will be ready to observe Saturn, Mars, Jupiter, in the comfort of the spring to summer skies. Please give me a call, 410-533-1705, if you are interested.



Let us begin our Astronomy 101 lessons by first imagining ourselves in the center of a Celestial Sphere. Looking up at the sky and all around to the horizons is the upper part, picture if you can that sky continuing down, under your feet to create a "dome." This would be the Celestial Sphere and you are at its center.

We all know that where the sky meets the earth is the horizon. The point from the horizon to the center (top) of the Celestial Sphere is 90 degrees, it is called the Zenith. If you look below, beneath your feet to the bottom of the Celestial Sphere, 90 degrees, this point is called the Nadir. The points on the horizon which indicate directions are North, South, East, West, and are called Cardinal Points.

Let's find True North, a celestial pole. In our spring sky you will first look for the Big Dipper—it will be in the northeastern sky. The top stars in the "bowl" of the dipper are known as the Pointers, they point the way to the North Star, Polaris. Polaris will be moderately bright; face Polaris and you are facing True North. A secret here, Polaris is the top star in the handle of the Little Dipper. This is just a very close proximity of True North from our position in SV. We will not get into finding True South, celestial pole, unless you are traveling to South American, this summer (their winter), if so, call me, I'll talk you out of it. There is no Polaris in the Southern Celestial Sphere



and you must use faint points in the Southern Cross and most often not apparent to the naked eye. This is much more complicated as the "Dippers" are not visible in the skies.

If we have Celestial Poles that match our earthly poles then we must have

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Due to the construction in Centreville we will be opening a smaller boutique in Easton. This was not planned. We have absolutely no intentions of closing

our shop in Centreville.

We greatly appreciate all the support Symphony

Village provides to us. You are a really awesome community and we truly love serving everyone.

points in the sky that match our Equator, these are known as Celestial Equator and of course are found along the horizons.

The celestial pole and equator lie above their terrestrial counterparts.

## Copied from *Cosmic Pursuits*

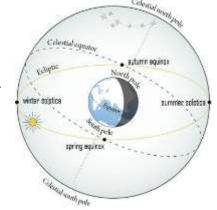
About the Tilt of the Earth: One Theory is, and I defer to the *Universe Today*, on how the planets formed:

"After millions of years passed, enough matter collided to gain mass and its own gravity and become small versions of planets called planetesimals and protoplanets. These pre-planets collided to create even larger planets. This set the stage for how the Earth approached its final form. It looks like it probably collided with another proto-planet and in the process, it was tilted."

Or another theory, as I explain it to my wife: About 4.5 billion years after the big bang (14.8 billion years ago), the Earth was hit with a glancing blow by another planet about the size of Mars, which scientists call Thea. Thea, threw up enough matter of the Earth's crust to create a mouton ring around the Earth. This ring

ultimately coalesced into two Moons, but ultimately down into a single Moon which is our present Lunar Body. It was the collision with Thea that caused the tilt of Earth's axis.

We have just experienced the Spring Equinox, so what is that? If the Equator is a circle around the Celestial Sphere, then the Ecliptic is another. This was the hardest for my wife to understand so let me try again. The Ecliptic is tilted, like the earth is tilted (23.5 degrees, I'm an engineer). This Ecliptic is the path the Sun takes. The Earth is tilted, the Sun therefore hits us on this tilt, and hence there is an Ecliptic. The Summer Solstice arrives on June 21 because this is the time the Sun appears the highest in the sky. In December, when the Sun is at its lowest point to our position it is called the Winter Solstice. When the Sun is at the Celestial



Equator, to the right or left of it, it is the Spring Equinox or Autumn Equinox, March 21 and September 21. One more diagram then I will let you go to more exciting news. *Again, copied from Cosmic Pursuits*.

# Trip to Patagonian Region of South America -- Pat Fox

Howie and I recently took an amazing vacation to the Patagonian Region of Argentina and Chile in southern



South America. The trip started in Buenos Aires— a lovely cosmopolitan city—the capital of Argentina and home of Eva Peron—very European in architecture with broad landscaped boulevards and many mansions of past leaders now converted to embassies. One impressive thing we were exposed to was Latin culture—a combination of influences from Spain and native peoples expressed in Tango music and dance.

After this urban adventure, we flew to El Calafate, Argentina, to begin the journey through Torres Del Paine National Park to view stunning mountain ranges, lakes, and rivers as well as massive bright blue glaciers frequently calving little ice bergs. The Perito Moreno

glacier is 18 miles deep! Stunning views and energetic hiking! It was turning to fall, so we welcomed lower temperatures after the heat of Buenos Aires.

The spikey mountain range was reminiscent of the Canadian Rockies or the Alps, with serpentine rivers and large lakes fed by glacial waters. We saw a number of condors with their nine-foot wing spans high overhead. We also spent time driving through the "steppes" of Patagonia – rolling yellow plains populated by herds of Guanacos – direct relatives of the camel (no humps) but who look more like llamas and Rheas – a cousin of the ostrich.

From here we made our way through more small towns and the Southern Patagonian Icefield to the community of Punta Arenas, the southernmost town in Chile, to board the *Stella Australis*. This lovely 200-person ship took us through the Beagle and Magellan Channels to Cape Horn at the tip of the continent. This is where the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans meet. We would get to land twice a day via zodiac rafts for energetic hikes. We saw penguins, seals, and a lone whale. The mountains were gorgeous and the glaciers stupendous – bright blue and always rumbling and calving. According to our naturalists, while there is evidence of shrinking glaciers, there are also many whose mass is enlarging. According to these scientists, we are in an "interglacial



period." While global warming is exacerbating melting, this occurrence is also a natural phenomenon that occurs periodically throughout the earth's history.

After four days on board, we landed in the Argentinian town of Ushuaia – the southernmost town in the world and the launch point for ships to Antarctica. From there back to Buenos Aires and the long flight back to Symphony Village!

# **UPCOMING CENTREVILLE EVENTS**

#### **Cash Bash**



The Goodwill Volunteer Fire Company (212 Broadway) in Centreville will host a Cash Bash on **Saturday, April 21**. There will be 145 cash drawings ranging from \$125 to \$3,000 every two-and-a-half minutes from noon to 6 p.m. The final

Grand Prize drawing will be for \$10,000 at 6 p.m. There will be free food and beverages (soft drinks and draft beer) all day. There will be side games, money wheels, prize wheels, pull tabs, and a 50/50 every hour. Food is by Paul Gunther Catering. Tickets are \$100 each and are on sale by fire company members or by calling John Cvach, 443-262-8009.

#### **Queen Anne's County Annual Roadside Cleanup Day**



Roadside Cleanup Day will take place April 21 – 23. Individuals, groups, and business organizations are welcome to participate. Beginning on April 7, free gloves, trash bags, and reflective vests will be available at these locations: OAC Public Works,

QAC Finance Office, Planning and Zoning, the Centreville Library, and the Chesapeake Heritage and Visitors Center. You can sign up at any of the supply At Home with Lawa
Customized, affordable assistance in and around your home.

Laura Bittinger, RN,BS
homewithlaura@gmail.com 401-932-5770

Home management and chores

Organizing and Downsizing

Companion Services

Assistance with healthcare appointments

Medication Reminders

Shopping

Meal planning and preparation

Respite care

We love pets too!

locations, by emailing <u>cleanup@qac.org</u>, or by calling Public Works at 410-758-0920. Bags of trash and recyclables will be picked up by Public Works on Monday, April 23, beginning at noon. For more information, call Public Works (phone number above).

#### **Chicken Barbecue Fundraiser**



The Methodist Men of the Centreville Methodist Church in Centreville will host a Chicken Barbecue Dinner on **Wednesday**, **April 25**, 3-6 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall. The price is \$9, and all dinners are carry-out. Proceeds from the event will help fund scholarships presented to graduating high school seniors who are members of the church.

#### **Arbor Day Celebration**



The Town of Centreville will celebrate  $\underline{\text{Arbor Day}}$  on **Friday, April 27**, 10 a.m. – 11 p.m. Details will be posted on the website as they become known.

## **Centreville Farmer's Market Opens**



The Centreville Farmer's Market will open for the season on **Wednesday, May 2**, at a new location – the Centreville Plaza parking lot near the Queen Anne's County High School. There will be varied produce and value-added products for sale throughout the season. Wednesday hours are 2-6 p.m. and Saturday hours are 9 a.m. -1 p.m. There will be free giveaways on May 2 and May 5.

## **Mother's Day Brunch and Workshop**



Compass Regional Hospice will sponsor a Mother's Day Brunch on Saturday, May 5, 10 a.m. – noon, at the Hope and Healing Center (255 Comet Drive) in Centreville. Mother's Day may be a difficult time for those who have lost their mother, even if they lost their mother many years ago. The workshop is for anyone 18 who has lost their mother; the workshop fee is \$10. Participants will enjoy a light brunch, special activity, and a time of fellowship. For more information and to register, contact Ann O'Connor, 443-262-4124.

## **Project Clean Stream**



The Corsica River Conservancy, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, and the Town of Centreville will host <u>Project Clean Stream</u> on **Sunday, May 6**, noon – 4 p.m. Locations will be Millstream Park, the Centreville Wharf, Northbrook, and Queen Anne's County High School. Gloves and trash bags will be provided.

# 5<sup>th</sup> Annual QAC Master Gardeners Plant Sale



The Master Gardeners Plant Sale will take place on Saturday, May 12, 9 a.m. – noon, at the University of Maryland Extension – Queen Anne's County Extension Office (505 Railroad Avenue) in Centreville. There will be a variety of vegetable plants, herbs, annual flowers, native plants, and more for sale. Master Gardeners will be on hand to answer questions.

To see a list of tourism and local attraction websites, press "Event Source Links" on the <u>Sources</u> page on the SV Website.