



# *LIBRETTO*

June 2018

Symphony Village's Newsletter

Vol. XIII No 6

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

## Welcome to the Neighborhood!



Cathy & Byron Toney  
109 Concerto

### SV Board of Directors Action Items – May, 2018

Pat Fox, SV Board of Directors' Vice-President

- **Putting Green:** Approved the inclusion of the putting green on the maintenance schedule. The General Manager is seeking maintenance proposals.
- **Recommendation for the purchase of CDs:** Approved the purchase of a 6-month CD for \$120,000 at 1.87% and a one-year CD for \$230,000 at 2.27%.
- **The Reserve Policy:** Approved the Replacement Reserve which will be an additional appendix in the Terms of Reference.
- **Security Surveillance Policy:** Approved Security Surveillance Policy once reviewed and signed off by our attorney. This policy will be included as an additional appendix in the Terms of Reference.
- **Install ADA Toilets:** Four (4) additional toilets are to be installed in the Clubhouse.



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## DO YOU HAVE “FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS” ABOUT SYMPHONY VILLAGE?

Pat Fox, SV Board of Directors’ Vice President

I asked our indefatigable researcher Jim Arnts to work with me to put together a list of Symphony Village “[Frequently Asked Questions](#)” for our Website. With his usual gusto he has run with the project and developed information about a large variety of topics. There are many, many questions and many, many answers. Jim worked with our committees and staff to develop the material. One of the best features is that there is an option for you to ask a question that may not be covered. This will be investigated and the answer posted on the site. You will find this feature extremely helpful with links in place to important documents or forms relevant to the question. Thanks, Jim!



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## COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

With the arrival of spring, our Landscaping activities are well under way. We have begun to see the arrival of our first batch of newly planted trees, with more to follow soon. We are also planning an even greater purchase and planting of replacement trees for the fall. Summer is not a good time for planting a lot of new trees. As you can see, the entrance wing beds have been refurbished and spring flowers are planted. We have a number of bids out for proposals for some minor “cleanup” efforts. We are awaiting the arrival of the contractor to remove our initial set of dead trees. Unfortunately, we still have many more dying or dead that will need to be removed. As you know this is primarily due to poor soil and poor planting, along with a poor selection in the first place. This is all being addressed with our replacement strategy, and we are looking for much better results. We still have an arborist on call with whom we will continue to work.

Our contractor has successfully completed the Irrigation Audit. They have noted defects to be addressed and corrections to be made. Management will determine when to activate the system for the season. As you know, we irrigate during the night because we cannot do it effectively during the day. It takes over nine hours to water

our grass, using all five pumping stations. We need the grass to be generally dry during each day due to the many activities we normally have going on. This remains a topic of ongoing review. We are now also actively involved in hiring an outside irrigation company to complete an assessment of our current system configuration and operation, and to recommend a path forward for any upgrades or improvements that we should begin to plan for, in both the near and long term.

We thank you for your continued support.



Anita Gruss  
Manager



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Happy St. Patrick's Day

CINCO DE MAYO

Lifestyle Committee  
Symphony Village

Happy Hour  
EVENTS  
2018

COMMUNITY  
YARD  
SALE

COMMUNITY  
YARD  
SALE

Preakness 143  
PINALCO, MAY 18, 2018

Collage by Debi Wells



**LIFESTYLE COMMITTEE** – *Mary Jo Volpicelli, Chair*

Welcome summer -- what happened to spring? The bad storms and foul weather didn't stop the Lifestyle Committee from planning fun events during May. Our Preakness Party was a great success. Many of the ladies made their own hats, some bought fascinators, and the guys really got into the swing of things as well. Vernon Plack handled our "Way Off Track Betting" and there were several winners. The prize for Best Hat went to Peggy Decker and the prize for Best Fascinator went to Harriet Goodmuth.

The event was so much fun that we plan to build on it for next year.

We were sorry that Memorial Day didn't work out for this year, but instead we are planning a bash for the **4<sup>th</sup> of July**. This Fourth we are holding an **Old-Fashioned Picnic, including a Community Parade** hosted by Donna Donaldson. The Parade will be open to anyone wanting to walk, ride, create a float, or wheel around the perimeter of the community. Look for notices on Nextdoor and eBlast, coming soon.



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The **Acme Market** once again supported our community Happy Hour which was a huge success. Over 300 residents came to the Clubhouse to enjoy pulled chicken, salads, cold cuts, and shrimp. Don't forget to say thank you if you are shopping at Acme.

Zina Lichaa is hosting a **Birthday Happy Hour on the Saturday, June 16**, celebrating all of those residents born in April, May, and June. Please let her know if you want to come to the Clubhouse to share your birthday festivities.

The Opus Café is opening **Thursday, June 21**. We hold the Café on the Terrace from **9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.** each Thursday. This is a “do stop by” event for a cup of coffee, perhaps a breakfast item, or a cold smoothie. Donations are expected. Carol Hodges and Susan Rayner are looking for hosts for the summer months. We have a list of duties, nothing too complicated, and they are willing to work with the hosts the first time around. Please sign up in the Activities Book in the Wall Street Room.

Join Bill and Debi Wells, Ed and Kathleen Sullivan, Jan Withers and Joe Sikes, for the Motown Happy Hour coming on **Friday, July 6**. Get out your best 60s outfits and join in the fun. We are still looking for a host for the July 21 Happy Hour. Please sign up in the Activities Book if you can host. Zina and Carolyn Harty can tell you what needs to be done, no theme is truly needed.

## **OUTREACH** – *Bea Trotta, President*

### **7<sup>th</sup> Artisans' Fair**

SV Outreach has registered 25 artisans for the September 22 Artisans' Fair to be held in the Clubhouse – and 12 are SV residents! Wouldn't you like to join them? Our goal is 45 artisans in our expanded Clubhouse space!

- Not sure if your artistic creations would sell? Why not try? A card table size space is only \$30 (a 6' table is \$40 and an 8' table is \$50);
- Not sure if you have “enough” to put on display? Share a table with another resident! Contact Linda Blume to help you find a partner; and
- Wonder what your competition would be? Registered so far: crochet items of many kinds; acrylic painting on a variety of mediums; handmade soaps; fused glass items; crocheted baby afghans; an illustrated children's book; a non-fiction book written by a SV resident; counted cross stitch holiday bookmarks; plastic canvas creations; scroll saw woodworking, cutting boards, etc.; paintings; wood turnings; knitted items of many kinds; fiction novels written by a local author; fascinators; jewelry and home décor items made from recycled goods; hand-cut stone jewelry; and sea glass jewelry and crafts.

Pick up a Registration Form from the Activities Book at the Clubhouse (behind the Outreach tab) or contact Linda Blume and she will email the form to you.

Any questions? Contact Linda Blume or Loretta Quigley, event Chairperson.



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**SAVE THE DATE: Welcome Night—August 27**



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

### **Navigating Our Web Site** – by Jim Arnts

Having trouble finding things on the Symphony Village Website? **There is no right or wrong way to navigate this site.** Many residents just start at the [Home Page](#) (<https://symphonyvillage.net/>) to see what is happening in and around the Village. You can:

- Use the menu on the left of any page
- Use the icons on the [Dashboard](#) for popular places
- Use the [Index](#)
- Bookmark your favorite pages
- Click on links ([blue text](#))
- Explore. You will be amazed at what you find on our continually growing site.

If you have any suggestions for making our Website a better experience, you can [make online comments](#).

## **SYMPHONY SNEAKERS** – Linda Farrar, President

### **Save the Date**

Sneakers reminds everyone to save the date, **Saturday, November 3**, for our annual Fundraiser. Watch for the details in the next *Libretto*. Remember that the money raised through the generous support of our community enables us to support Centreville area public schools.

### **Readers Are Leaders**

We have now given a name to our book giveaway program for the elementary schools - “Readers are Leaders.” This year we have had two giveaways at each of the area elementary schools (Centreville Elementary, Kennard, Church Hill, and Sudlersville). This amounts to 3,500 free books.

### **Middle School Outdoor Education**

This past year Sneakers helped students in Centreville Middle and Sudlersville Middle schools attend outdoor education camp at North Bay Camp. We just received a plaque from Sudlersville in appreciation for our support. It will be on display in the Clubhouse and has a picture of the sixth grade on the beach at North Bay.

### **High School Scholarships**

On May 23, Sneakers awarded two \$1,000 scholarships to deserving graduating seniors from Queen Anne’s County High School.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, June 20, at 3 p.m. in the Clubhouse. New members are always welcome.



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# CLUBS AND CLASSES

## **Bocce Banter - by Don Rizzo**

### **Memorial Day Picnic Bocce Tournament A Success**

As has been our custom, we held a bocce tournament during the Memorial Day picnic celebration and welcomed the overflowing crowd to cheer on our enthusiastic participants. In a number of nail-biter matches, the team claiming the championship consisted of Amy and Jay Landen and Joe Sikes. Bocce sportsmanship being as it is, all agreed it was playing the game that was important and not the winning or losing. However, the winners felt it was even more fun to play and win as well. Now watch for the July 4<sup>th</sup> and Labor Day Bocce Tournaments later this summer!



### **Symphony Village Travel Team in the Chestertown League**

The team representing our community in the very competitive Chestertown Bocce League pulled out an exciting win last week which you should know about. In these matches, whichever team reaches 17 points first wins the match. We were tied at 5, at 8, and then at 10 points - that is how close this was. Then the rains came and we waited out a 20-minute delay during which two of our team members, thinking we would not continue, left to make another appointment. This left us with only three players but we continued on anyway. Tied at 12 and also at 15 neither team would give up. Then, our newest player, facing two points for the opposition already on the court, managed a masterful toss with our last ball, not only knocking away the other team's two points, but also leaving us with two points and the 17 points necessary to win the match. Even casual bystanders stood in awe. By the way, our three stalwarts were Don Rizzo, Jack Walsh, and Carole Walsh with Carole tossing the winning shot heard round the world! And it's not easy throwing a bocce ball with your new husband holding your hand!

### **Come Join Us on Wednesdays and/or Saturdays**

Wednesdays we have Open Bocce starting at 6:15 p.m., and Saturdays we have a friendly Spring League starting at 9 a.m. All are welcome to come and join in the fun. There are no fees, no age or weight restrictions, no elections, no officers, and if you choose not to use your real name, we will understand, for we think we already have some folks under Witness Protection Programs. At this point in your life you're supposed to be enjoying yourself, so chill out; smile at one another; discover the fun in rooting for the other guy; and most of all ....

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## CERT News - John Olson, CERT Coordinator

### Ambulance Demonstration & Tour

Chief Scott Wheatley of the Queen Anne's County Emergency Medical Services has agreed to bring one of their ambulances to the Symphony Village Clubhouse on June 22 at 1:30 p.m. for residents to inspect. Briefings and demonstrations will be presented for any Symphony Village resident who is interested. If you are interested in the services they provide and would like to know more, join us and bring your questions!



### CERT Pot Luck Picnic

CERT members and several people interested in joining CERT enjoyed a pot luck picnic on June 6 at the Clubhouse pavilion. A special thanks goes out to Mary Colling-Officer for organizing the event.



## Fire Up the Grill Safely This Summer

If you plan to barbecue this summer, keep yourself, children, pets, and property safe. The U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) recommends the following tips for preventing burns and controlling the flames while you grill outside:

- Only use your grill outside. Keep it away from siding and deck rails.
- Wear short sleeves or roll them up when cooking on the grill.
- Open your gas grill before lighting.





- Use long-handled barbecue tools.
- Keep a three-foot safe zone around grills. This will help keep kids and pets safe.
- Never leave your grill unattended.
- Clean your grill after each use. This will remove grease that can start a fire.
- Place the coals on your grill in a metal can with a lid once they have cooled.



For more information on first aid for burns or fire prevention during the summer months, visit the [USFA Summer Fire Safety page](#).

## **CLUBHOUSE COFFEE BAR - Pat Fox, Coffee Bar Committee**

- Folks, PLEASE REFILL the Brita water pitcher from the coffee bar when you use it. If the water goes below the filter line, it dries out and we have to replace it more frequently. The Coffee Committee maintains the bar (not staff) so time can go by between monitoring.
- Using proceeds from the coffee bar, the Committee agreed to buy cold water cups for people who want filtered water so the hot cups will be available for the hot drinks. Maybe you can occasionally throw in a dollar to cover the cost of these items we buy for your convenience.
- Finally -- with EACH K-cup you make, we ask you to PLEASE put \$1 in the glass jar. If folks don't pay, we cannot sustain the coffee, tea, hot apple cider, hot chocolate, and filtered water bar.



The Coffee Bar Committee thanks you for your support and understanding.

## **Dining In**

Nancie Cameron has asked that residents be reminded to sign up for Dining In, which will be held **Sunday, June 24, 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 June 20.

## **The Parade Is Coming! The Parade Is Coming! – Donna Donaldson**

Get ready! Call your friends, family, and neighbors! Get everyone together to participate! Decorate a bike or your car ('Vettes, convertibles, antiques, whatever)! Costume your pets and grandchildren. A group of dressed-up clowns would be fun too!! Grab a wagon and let's call it a float! Walk for a block or the entire community with us.

We will gather on Taylor Mill Road on Wednesday, July 4<sup>th</sup>, at 10:30 a.m. to line up, for an 11 a.m. start. No signup is necessary, just show up. The parade will end at the Clubhouse just in time for our July 4th pool party and picnic!! Motorcycles will ride the parade route to **announce the start**.

### **PARADE ROUTE ([see map on the Website](#))**

- Left on **Symphony Way** in front of Clubhouse
- Right on **Sonata**
- Left on little old **Harmony**
- Right on **Overture**
- Right on **Encore**
- Left on **Opera**
- Left on **Harmony**
- Right on **Symphony Way**.....And back to Clubhouse



If you chose not to participate, then bring your coffee and a chair to wave and cheer us on.

The parade route has been determined to begin at the Clubhouse. Participants will march around the perimeter of the community. Over the past three years, we have marched on every street and many people have said it's too long and tiring (especially last year) if we have hot July weather.

I am looking for musicians (The first year we had kazoos!) How about a band with kitchen tools, pots, and pans! I want to have another fire truck to add interest and am also soliciting businesses for additional floats.



Historically, July 4<sup>th</sup> is a non-catered pool party, however it has been decided to make it a catered event this year with inside and outside bar open, sno-cones (machine rental donated by me), or bring your own food and drink or buy sodas. Different residents (including a few from Lifestyle) have taken on bocce ball, water volleyball, and croquet. The party usually starts right around noon, with food service from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., and continues throughout the day. People come and go as it fits their schedule.

If you have any questions, comments, or need any further information, contact Donna Donaldson.

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

The July Lunch Bunch is scheduled for the **Brio Tuscan Grill on Thursday, July 12**, at 12:30 p.m. *Note that the Lunch Bunch will meet on the second Thursday in July.* The Brio Grill is located in Annapolis in the Annapolis Towne Center, at 305 Sail Place. We look forward to a wonderful lunch and a beautiful July day. The Annapolis Towne Center provides the opportunity to shop at many of your favorite retail stores.

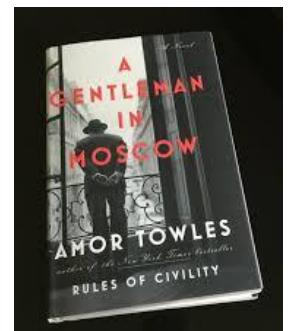


Sign up online by using the [Lunch Bunch Sign-up Link](#). You can also go to the Symphony Village [Website](#), and click on [Dashboard](#). Scroll down to the Lunch Bunch Icon near the bottom of the page. As usual, you can also sign up in the **Club Activities Book** at the **Clubhouse**. Please call Bea Trotta at 410-758-0332 (Cell 610-217-4754) or Marge Strano at 410-758-2511 (Cell 609-221-6378) if you have a question or need a ride.

### **Reading for Fun Book Club – May 2018 Review – Joe Sikes**

The Symphony Village Book Club held a rollicking meeting on May 15 to review *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles. Members present were Joe Sikes, Jan Withers, Bob Nilsson, Lee Ettman, Mary Jo Keefe, Pat Fox, Peggy Decker, and Mary Colling-Officer.

The story's central character is Count Alexander Roskov, a refined gentleman of the Russian aristocracy. One member commented on how much this refined gentleman reminded him of the book club leader. Count Roskov is confined to house arrest at the beginning of the Russian revolution in the 1920s as a member of the aristocracy. While his life is spared, he is confined to a small room in the elegant Metropole Hotel in Moscow. Since he is not allowed outside the hotel, he is forced to reinvent his universe by focusing on the denizens of his hotel. Luckily the Metropole is a gathering place for residents and foreigners alike in the center of Moscow, and the story is filled with a wide range of characters that come in and out of the Count's life for the next 50 years.





Eventually, the Count takes charge of a young girl whose parents were sent to the Gulag and learns to become a parent even though he had never had children of his own. The characters in the book are colorful and historical events become intertwined with the story. One interesting incident shows Nikita Khrushchev's ascendance to power in the 1950s, following the death of Stalin. Ultimately the Count schemes to help his young charge, Sophia, escape the Soviet Union and pursue her dreams as a talented pianist in the West.... despite confinement to his little room on the third floor of the Metropole Hotel. The book earned a rating of 7.5 on our ten point scale, which is above the historic average.

Our meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Board Room of the Clubhouse. Everyone is welcome. Upcoming books we plan to review are listed below:

- June 19      *The Watson Girl* by Leslie Wolfe  
                  *Neverhome* by Laird Hunt (we will review both)
- July 17      *Life and Death in Shanghai* by Nien Cheng
- August 21    *Behind the Beautiful Forevers* by Katherine Boo

### **Tennis – Larry Miller**

The courts are usually available, so there is no excuse for not playing tennis at Symphony Village. If you are interested in playing or know someone who may be interested, please let me know. See you on the courts.

## **NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS**

*Thank  
You*

Pat and Tony Loiacono would like to sincerely thank their friends and neighbors for all the cards, good wishes, prayers, and acts of random kindness at this time. All of this caring support has brought us much comfort and serves to further reassure us as to why we live in this community.

### **Federally Protected Bird Killed - Found On SV Property**

- *George Drake*

A Federally Protected Osprey was found belly-up on the East bank of SV's Pond 3 on April 17. Upon investigation, it appeared to have been shot as there was blood about the size of a quarter on both the chest and back of the bird (see photos). The Maryland Natural Resources Police were contacted and within an hour, Officer Matthew Groleau appeared to investigate. Unsure of the cause of death, Officer Groleau took the bird with him for further investigation.

On May 21, Officer Groleau returned to SV to interview neighbors along Pond 3 to see if anyone had heard or seen any shooting going on because the police had verified that the Osprey was indeed shot and killed by a small caliber bullet.



Officer Groleau asked the residents near the pond and has requested that all SVers keep their ears and eyes open for anyone illegally shooting in the area. Please contact Officer Groleau on his cell phone at 443-990-1983 or at the Hillsboro Office at 410-820-1314 to report suspicious gunfire at wildlife.

## **R U Saving Your Pop-Tops?**



Join with members of SV Outreach to collect aluminum pop-tops from cans (soda, beer, veggies, fruits, soups, meats, fish, pet foods, etc.). These are given to our local Shriner's organization to recycle. The monies received from these recycling efforts are then used to

transport sick children for care to their hospital in Pennsylvania at no cost to the families. (Last year, over \$30,000 was raised in this campaign.)

Won't you join in this easy, ongoing, and worthwhile effort? **Please put your pop-tops in a zip-loc bag and leave them in the basket in the Craft Room at the Clubhouse.** Your help is much appreciated!

## **Home Hospital Teaching Program**

### **Looking for Part-Time Employees**

Student Support Services in the Queen Anne's County Public School System is looking for people with a certified teaching degree or with a 4-year degree who might be interested in earning extra money in the Home Hospital Teaching Program.



The school system often has students who must miss school for 10 days or longer for various reasons (e.g., surgery, a chronic condition, etc.), and when that happens, the school system is required to offer instruction at the student's home or if possible, at the local library (preferred location). A student who is out fulltime is offered 6 hours of instruction per week, usually broken into three two-hour sessions. However, the instructor and the parent make the schedule, so instruction might be two three-hour sessions, and the agreed upon time does not need to be during the day – evenings or weekends are fine.

The salary is \$18 per hour for certified teachers and \$15 for non-certified. Mileage is paid to and from the student's home or meeting place and for any trips you make to pickup/drop off schoolwork. One hour of administrative time per week is paid (used to meet with a guidance counselor or teacher, and time used in picking up and dropping off schoolwork). One hour of planning is added per every six hours of instruction.

Jean Cardwell is the Home Hospital Coordinator for QACPS. Please contact her for more information and/or if you are interested ([jean.cardwell@qacps.org](mailto:jean.cardwell@qacps.org) or 410-758-8217 (direct line)).



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### **Centreville Farmer's Market** – *Tim McCluskey*

The Centreville Farmer's Market's history goes back well over 200 years. When the General Assembly decided to move the County Seat from Queenstown to a more central place in Queen Anne's County, they established Centreville and laid out the basic structure of the town, with the Courthouse Green being in the center of town. The General Assembly also mandated that a farmer's market be established on the Green.

Eventually, a brick farmer's market building was built, on the back portion of the property where the Court House is now, what was then considered a back alley (now Liberty Street). Meat was sold there, as well as butter, vegetables, and likely milk.

The market has moved many times since those early days, but it has consistently operated from May to October and has provided fresh fruits, vegetables, meats, dairy, etc., throughout its existence.

Our Main Street Manager, Carol D'Agostino, manages the market as one of her duties. She has volunteers who manage the day-to-day activities of the market, but she is the one who gets it started each spring, recruiting vendors, finding sponsors, and getting the reusable bags created.

### **Motorhead Electrical Services**

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This year, with the downtown road construction, we have moved the farmer's market to Centreville Plaza, also known as the ACME plaza. Carol sought out and received permission from the property manager, as well as ACME headquarters, to hold the market there.

It has been a success so far, and we have a number of new vendors in addition to the usual ones. As spring rolls into summer, and summer rolls into fall, there will be an ever changing lineup of produce, flowers, and other treats. The market is open on **Wednesdays from 2 p.m. - 6 p.m., and on Saturdays from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. through October 29.**

For more information about the Town of Centreville's Farmer's Market click this link: <https://www.townofcentreville.org/farmers-market/>. We hope you will patronize our historic Farmer's Market and enjoy the bounty produced here on Maryland's Eastern Shore.

## Upcoming Events at the Centreville Branch of the QAC Library

- **Saturday, June 23**, 3 – 4 p.m.: [Crime and a Cuppa](#) (Free) (Pre-registration is strongly encouraged)
- **Thursday, July 5**, 7 – 9 p.m.: [Trivia](#) (Free) (Pre-registration is preferred but not required)
- **Wednesday, July 11**, two sessions: 5:15 – 6:15 p.m. and 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.: [Hypertufa Pots 101](#) (Free) (Pre-register on the website)

## Larry Rayner Celebrated His 75<sup>th</sup>

It seemed like an entire month was birthday celebrations, from two grandchildren helping to blow out candles on May 5, to his actual Birthday on the May 7, celebrated at Fisherman's Inn with his sister-in-law, to another party on May 9 with his daughter and granddaughter. The birthday celebration was culminated by a party on the May 11 with SV friends and neighbors. Who would have thought so many people were born in May? We had two of his roommates from VPI come on different weekends and our daughters-in-law took us to lunch at the end of the month. It is wonderful having such great friends, but fattening. Larry wants to remind everyone that Zina Lichaa will be celebrating his birthday (actually everyone born in April, May, and June, but don't tell him) on Saturday, June 16.



Michael Ordun, Stuart McLaughlin, Jan Withers, Laura Rocco, Larry Rayner, Allan Levin, Debi Wells, Diana Gerhardt



## American Legion Jeff Davis Post 18

### Crab Feast



The Auxiliary at American Legion Jeff Davis Post 18 in Centreville will host a Crab Feast on **Saturday, June 23, 1 – 4 p.m.** The menu is steamed crabs, corn on the cob, hamburgers, hot dogs, iced tea, soda, water, and draft beer. The cost is \$45 per person, ages 13 and older. Tickets must be purchased in advance and there are a limited number. Purchase tickets at the bar in the Legion Hall. For more information, call 410-758-3584.

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

#### Where Did That Star Go?

At our age we are constantly saying, “Where did I put that?” Our age and memory has nothing to do with why the stars won’t stay put in the sky. “I knew exactly where Jupiter was last week, now where is it?” The only star you can really count on staying put is Polaris because it is the polar North Star and therefore is not affected by the rotation of the earth. That’s right, while it may seem that the stars are moving it is actually Earth that is rotating. We all knew that. What I’m talking about is “*Apparent Motion* of the Celestial Sphere” or what happens to the location of a star during a day.



Obviously, the Sun, our star, moves across the sky, we watch it daily, we can even tell the time of day by the Sun. Our 24 hours in a day is actually called a *Solar Day* (24 hours is the average number of hours, per day, over a year). You can also do this with the stars—go out and find the brightest star in the sky, mark its location then come back an hour later and you will see it has moved, actually we moved, the Earth has rotated. Just like



the Sun, the stars will move from east to west throughout the day, meaning the Earth has rotated towards the

east under the celestial canopy of stars. Last month we talked about the *Celestial Poles*. The stars like a wheel go around the celestial poles making Polaris appear that it doesn’t move at all while others, farther away from the celestial pole appear to move a great deal more, like the rim of a wheel, the hub is fixed, but the outer rim travels a great distance. Many stars will rise and set, just like the Sun, this is called *Diurnal Motion*. *Cosmic Pursuits* provides a time exposure image to illustrate this motion.

The closer stars to the Pole never rise and set, they seem to always be above the horizon, these stars are called *Circumpolar Stars*, and their circles revolve around the celestial pole, very tightly. A good example is the stars in the Big Dipper, constellation named “Ursa Major.” That is

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why we can always find the Big Dipper in our sky and use it to find Polaris. The two pointer stars in the dipper point to Polaris. Think of it this way, if we were at the North Pole, all stars would be Circumpolar Stars to the observer, if we were at the Equator, no stars would be Circumpolar.

Earlier I said the “average day is 24 hours,” which is a nice round number; but if you measure the location of a star accurately you will find it takes a star 23 hours and 56 minutes to return to the exact location as was observed a previous day. This difference is accounted for by the Earth moving around the Sun, one day’s observation would be 1/365 of Earth’s yearly orbit. This is why a star can rise about 4 minutes earlier each night, about 2 hours earlier in a month, and in 12 months the star has moved all the way around and reaches its position at which you first observed the star a year prior.

Apparent motion is why the stars and constellations of the zodiac you see in the winter are different from the ones you see in the spring or summer. A good example is Gemini, the Twins. In the spring, it appears just west of the zenith around 8 p.m.; but by the end of May, it is setting just after the Sun sets; by July, it will not be visible at all in the evening sky. The lesson to take away from this is: There is always something spectacular to see in the evening sky, they will not appear for long, so take full advantage of every clear night.

### Selecting the Best Telescope

Many neighbors have asked what telescopes I recommend. Mars being its nearest in 15 years makes this the best time to buy a telescope. Another good reason to buy now is a major sale that is going on at Celestron Inc. You can see their ad on the internet under Celestron.com or pick up a copy of *Astronomy Magazine*; they are offering \$100 off their 4”, 5”, and 6” diameter “go-to” computer-driven telescopes. However, the big deal is on their 8” diameter “go-to” telescope, there is \$200 off! This 8” computerized telescope, which finds and tracks stars, planets, and other celestial bodies, has perennially been one of the bestselling telescopes in the world. It is expensive, about \$1,000; however, based on value, it is the best in my opinion. Celestron was founded by amateur astronomers in the 1950s because of their dedication to the hobby, unlike other companies who are in it for profit only. Telescopes are like boats in proving you always want a bigger and more powerful one, you might as well begin with the best. and not invest in smaller scopes. I’ve had 12” and 14” telescopes. Now I have an 11” diameter Celestron scope. The best all-around was the 8”. It’s not too heavy and you can see almost all that you can with the larger scopes, just not as sharp: the craters of the moon; the polar caps of Mars; the gas belts, four Galilean moons, and the great red spot of Jupiter; the beautiful rings of the planet Saturn; also Venus, Uranus, Neptune, and Mercury; and with a filter, sunspots. Did I fail to mention exploded stars and globular star clusters containing a ball of 200,000 stars!

I recommend you Google “Best Telescope.” There are good deals because: 1. Father’s Day, and 2. Mars is at its closest to Earth. You can order online or purchase from Company Seven in Laurel; they have an excellent display of scopes and are very knowledgeable.

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## When to View the Planets

In the Evening: Mercury (west), Venus (west), Mars (southeast), Jupiter (south), Saturn (southeast). Midnight: add Neptune (east). Morning: add Uranus (southeast).

If you Google “Best Star Location Applications,” you can download software to your device that will provide a virtual display of the heavens that will allow you to locate the planets, stars, and man-made satellites, etc. Sky Guide is available for \$2.99 and it is excellent.

# UPCOMING CENTREVILLE EVENTS

## Drink Maryland – A Maryland Makers Festival



[Drink Maryland Centreville](#) will take place on **Saturday, June 16**, noon – 5 p.m., on Lawyer’s Row in Centreville. This event, presented by the Maryland Wineries Association

and the Town of Centreville, welcomes people of all ages to celebrate Maryland makers and products. The festival will feature artisan crafts, a restaurant Best Crab Appetizer contest, live music, craft beverages, and food vendors. The stage will be emceed by Paul Cullen, personal chef, sommelier, and bassist for the rock band Bad Company in the early '90s. Entrance to the event is free and open to the public, and guests 21+ with a valid ID can purchase a tasting pass to taste wine, beer, and spirits from various craft beverage makers from across the state. Tasting passes are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Go to the website for all additional information.

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## Garden Tea



The Queen Anne’s County Arts Council will host a [Garden Tea](#) on **Saturday, June 16**, 3 – 5 p.m., at Windward Manor (301 Blue Bay Road) on the Chesapeake Bay in Stevensville. The menu will include savory sandwiches, delicious desserts, and exotic teas. There will also be live jazz and a cash bar. Tickets are \$60 per person, and all proceeds go to benefit programs and activities that promote the arts locally. Purchase tickets at [Tickets](#) or call 410-758-2520.

## **Family Drive-In Movie Nights**



Centreville United Methodist Church (608 Church Hill Road) in Centreville is hosting a summer drive-in movie series on **June 22, July 27, and August 24**. Sit in your car or bring your lawn chairs. Movies will begin at 8:30 p.m.

## **The Longest Table**



The Queen Anne's County Library will host [The Longest Table](#) on **Wednesday, June 27**, 6 – 9:30 p.m. The Longest Table invites residents (age 14 and up) to sit down for a catered dinner by the Commerce Street Creamery to exchange stories and ideas about Queen Anne's County. Seating will be random, so you will meet others from the community to build relationships and share conversation. Dinner will be followed by an Ice Cream Social. Tickets for adults are \$15 with college and high school students at \$10. Seating is limited to 100 on the "longest table" which will run down the center of Lawyers Row in Centreville. For more information and to pre-register, go to [Choose Civility](#).

## **Centreville Family Fun Day and Fireworks**



The Town of Centreville will host [Family Fun Day and Fireworks](#) on **Sunday, July 1**, 6 – 10 p.m. Details will be posted on the website as they become available.

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

### HOA and GOVERNANCE, and LOCAL CONTACTS

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Rebecca Cook, Assistant General Manager: [agm@symphonyvillage.com](mailto:agm@symphonyvillage.com)

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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.