



Photos by George Drake

LIBRETTO

SYMPHONY VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

APRIL, 2019

VOL. XIV 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.

Welcome to the Neighborhood!



Terri Kline, 247 Opera Court

Faith & Walt Stevinson, 106 Harmony Way

Pat and Lynn Murray, 207 Encore Court

MEET NICK OLIVER

Let's welcome Nick Oliver, our new Maintenance Technician, to Symphony Village. Nick recently took over the maintenance of the Clubhouse and, in just a few weeks, has begun to feel at home. Although Nick has lived all his life in Maryland, his family started on the Western Shore. When he was 16, the family moved to the Eastern Shore. Nick graduated from Queen Anne's County High School. He loves music and in his spare time enjoys playing the piano, his ukulele, and his guitar. Nick and his wife, Faith, have a two-year-old son, Liam, and live in Church Hill.

BRENDA KELLY



HOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT

SV BOARD OF DIRECTORS ACTIONS – MARCH 29, 2019 HOA MEETING

PAT FOX, VICE PRESIDENT

- **Architectural Requirements:**
Approved an email motion to make minor changes/corrections to the Architectural Requirements based upon community review input in order to have a complete document for residents to use for their 2019 exterior plans.
- **Spring Inspection:** Based upon the January 25, 2019, Board meeting discussion, approved an email motion to hire Community Inspection Services for \$6,875 to evaluate residences on maintenance and structural issues so project preparation can begin for spring inspections.
- **Landscape and Irrigation RFP:**
Approved an email motion to authorize a Request for Proposal (RFP) for 2020 Landscape and Irrigation Services so bid solicitation can begin.
- **Irrigation:** Approved a motion to spend up to \$20,000 to move the VFD pump from #4 pump to #5 and upgrade pump assemblies and change PVC pipes to galvanized steel.
- **Bar Policy:** Approved a motion to amend existing SV bar policy; however, policy may need further revisions to meet requirements set by Queen Anne's County Liquor Control Board.
- **Reserve Study:** Approved a motion to hire Miller Dodson to complete the update of the SV Reserve Study at a cost of \$3,981.
- **Emerald Ash Borer Treatment:**
Approved a motion to hire Davey Tree

for \$4,850 to treat 72 ash trees in the community.

- **Spring Tree Planting:** Approved a motion to hire Unity Landscape to plant nine street trees at a cost not to exceed \$7,085.
- **Removal of Six White Pines:**
Approved a motion to spend \$3,300 to remove six white pine trees in the main **Clubhouse** parking lot.
- **Terms of Reference:** Approved a motion to include an Inactive Status category to committee membership and allow a quorum adjustment during a member's temporary absence.
- **HVAC Preventive Maintenance:**
Approved a motion to award the HVAC preventive maintenance contract to Northern Bay for \$4,535 annually for all areas of the except the expansion.
- **Pickle Ball:** Approved a motion to add professionally painted pickle ball lines on one tennis court and to purchase pickle ball equipment at a cost not to exceed \$1,500.
- **CD Rollovers/Purchase:** Approved a motion to replace a \$245,000 CD maturing on April 1 and a \$75,000 CD maturing on April 21 with:
 - Rollover \$45,000 at FVC Bank at 2.45% for twelve months.
 - Rollover \$75,000 at Congressional Bank at 2.55% for twelve months.
 - Purchase new CD for \$200,000 at CFG Community Bank at 3.10% for eighteen months with the possibility of one increase.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

LANDSCAPE AND IRRIGATION

TOM McMANUS

STATUS UPDATE ON OUR IRRIGATION SYSTEM.

The system we have has never been very reliable and, as it ages, it becomes even less reliable. As you know, we lost one of our five pumps last year and that eliminates any surplus capacity that we may have had. The system is badly in need of an overhaul and that's what we are all about. The plan is to reconstruct the pump assemblies along with the pump controls, increasing system sensors and grounding points, and again trying to establish automated monitoring.

Eventually, we will move away from the pumping stations concerns and migrate into the community adding even more sensors, improving water pressure, modifying spray heads, and improving our watering distribution. If we can migrate from the long-running turf irrigation cycles to shorter run times, we may be able to move from the nightly watering to early morning cycles. We may also isolate common area watering from resident home watering.

We anticipate being able to turn on our system and begin watering as soon as the basic pump station work is completed and then continue our efforts throughout the season. We will keep everyone updated throughout the process.

The end result will be a robust and yet reliable irrigation system that we can depend upon to deliver the service we all expect for years to come.

Thank you for your patience and your support.

THE STICKY GROUNDSEL

BILL WELLS

Many of you may be taking note of weeds coming up throughout the community. In last month's *Libretto*, I described the hairy bittercress. This was one of the first weeds to show up this spring. Now, as the weather turns warmer, several of you have noticed another that looks like a dandelion; the name, sticky groundsel. The sticky groundsel is a weed belonging to the Asteraceae family that includes sunflower, dandelion, and common yarrow. It is a winter or summer annual making it particularly difficult to control.

While my two-year-old granddaughter thinks this is a pretty yellow flower because of the stems' purplish hue and three to six whirling yellow disk flowers on long deeply lobed irregularly toothed leaves, it's another darn weed! This plant grows 6 to 18 inches tall, so it's hard to miss. Each disk flower develops into a single seed covered by a cotton-like pappus, similar to a dandelion's soft white head. This pappus aids in dispersing the seeds into the wind. The sticky groundsel produces three to four generations in one season. This weed thrives during cool, moist periods,



Sticky Groundsel



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The Cotton-like Pappus



*Sticky Groundsel with
Flowers & Pappus*

but will die out during extended hot and dry periods. However, their dispersed seeds will germinate as soon as the cooler temperatures return. So, how is this weed controlled? Well, in most situations, common groundsel is easily controlled by hand picking close to the soil or cutting the plant off at its taproot by hoeing. Now, many of us will probably not spend time picking these plants, but that's why grandchildren are so important! Let them pick a bouquet! Just show them how -- pick as close to the ground as possible! Mowing can be effective, too, if the blade is set close to the earth. If you've no grandchildren or neighbors who think it fun to pick these pretty little yellow flowers for you, herbicides containing diquat or glyphosate will control growing plants. But, please be careful, and follow all the directions. Or better yet just let the darn things grow.



**MARY JO VOLPICELLI, CHAIR;
SUSAN RAYNER, COMMUNICATIONS**

With spring has come a multitude of SV events Many Village residents have enjoyed those that have already taken place, but there are many more scheduled for the remainder of the season. The Lifestyle Committee hopes there is something to appeal to everyone.

The Birthday Party during the Social Hour on March 16 was a tremendous success. From



the Shamrock Cake made with luck by Zina Lichaa to the guests celebrating their



birthdays and Mary Ciesielski's fabulous Irish Coffees, everything was perfect.

Our Walking into Spring Teams have taken off, one step at a time. We have six teams: *Village Girls & Dave; Sole Mates; Harty; Lloyd Happy Feet; Te Olson;* and *Larry Balducci*. So far, our teams have taken 1,039,082 steps! Good Job Teams!

The Dress Barn Fashion Show went off very well with more than 40 residents attending. The show, produced by Mary Officer and Kerri Giuriceo, featured seven Symphony Village ladies modeling a variety of outfits for spring. Everyone seemed to have enjoyed the sales prices after the show!

Attendance at the March 30 Movie Night was a little low. Did the name *Hunter Killer* scare everyone away? That's a shame because it was a really good movie. We apologize for the sound interruptions, but hope that by the next movie night, **Friday, April 26** at 7 p.m., all will be well. Join us for *Instant Family*, a comedy with great reviews.

Randy Officer hosted *Name That Tune* on March 24, with the aid of scorekeeper Kathryn Buckheit. Over 30 residents joined in, and the scores were through the roof! Randy handed out prizes to all members of the winning team, Jack and the Jills.



*Randy Officer & Kathryn
Buckheit*

MARY CIESIELSKI
Graduate, REALTOR Institute
Seniors Real Estate Specialist

Works with buyers and sellers
east and west of the Bay Bridge

SV Resident and Neighborhood Specialist

Has participated in the sale of 30+ SV homes

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email: maryski@inf.com
website: maryciesielski.inf.com

The Shore Health Event on **Wednesday, April 3**, was a huge success. Over 40 residents came to hear Ken Kozol, CEO of UM Shore Regional Health, discuss challenges and plans for maintaining high-quality, cost-effective healthcare on the Eastern Shore. If you would like more events of this type, please let us know what topics would interest you. We have already scheduled a speaker on Alzheimer's Disease for September.

Coming to the Village this April and May are many more events we hope you will enjoy. As mentioned previously, we are moving Movie Night to **Friday, April 26** at 7 p.m., so we all can go to see our neighbors perform in the Queen Anne's Chorale Concert at Chesapeake College on April 27. We have, unfortunately, had to cancel the Spring Brunch, but we will try again near the Holiday Season.

We are trying to get a Weight Watchers Program started at



our Clubhouse this May. The cost would be \$199 for a 17-week session. Meetings have been found to be the motivator needed to stay on track and lose those unwanted and unhealthy pounds. If you are interested, please contact Carolyn Harty at 703-203-6696.

April showers bring May flowers, so why not plant a basket at your lamppost for everyone to enjoy?



We are having a **May Day (Wednesday, May 1) Basket Contest**. Everything needs to be real, from the greenery to the flowers. Your basket should be out by 9 a.m. on Wednesday morning for judging. Only baskets on or near the lamppost will be judged. Awards will be announced by SV eBlast at 3 p.m., Wednesday. Let's get our Green Thumbs limbered up and beautify the Village.

Save the date **Friday, May 3**, for **Salsa Hour**. Christa and Gary Fookes are treating us to professional Salsa Lessons and Demonstrations in the



Bernstein Room for the first May Social Hour. We'll have everything set up: tables, food, and libations, in the Bernstein Room, with dance demos in the Copland Room. Dig out your South of the Border recipes for this great Social Hour. Don't let this themed Social Hour intimidate you! We need hosts for April 20, and throughout the year. Not every Social Hour needs to have a theme; as a matter of fact, we prefer that some be more relaxed, just—well—social. Please sign up to host in the **Activities Book** in the Wall Street Room.

Wednesday, May 8, Queen Anne's At Home will be here to discuss their program of Seniors Helping Seniors. They have a Senior Navigation



Plan which offers monthly lectures on such topics as Home Safety, Decluttering your Home, and Getting Ready for the next **Phase of your Life**, presented by experts in the field. It's important at this time in our lives, that we do all we can to keep each other going strong. This group is trying to recruit enough volunteers to be able to provide Skill Swapping, a program that we practice here in the Village. Join us at 4 p.m. in the to learn more about them.



It's that time of year again! **Saturday, May 11**, is the date for our Spring

Yard Sale. The sale will run from 8 to 11:30 a.m. Sign up to participate and receive a balloon to show off your location. Extensive advertising will be done, maps will be provided, directional signs placed around the neighborhood. No one will be left out. If you take a picture of what you have for sale, we will post as many photos as we can get into the ads. Pictures of the variety of items for sale have been proven to drive more customers to our Village. The cost is \$5 per house and the sign-up deadline is Thursday, May 9.

Also in May: Saturday, May 18, Preakness Day, get out your bonnets and hats!

- **Sunday, May 19**, the Rat Pack playing at Chesapeake College, Social Hour for attendees to follow at the .
- **Thursday, May 23**, Village Garden Tour, pick up your ribbons!



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- **Saturday, May 25**, Rain Date for Yard Sale.
- **Saturday, May 25**, Last Movie Night.
- **Sunday, May 26**, Memorial Day Picnic!

Watch SV eBlast, Website, ECHOES, and Wall Street Postings for details of all our events.

The Lifestyle Committee meets the first Monday of each month, and welcomes new members all year long.

OPERATIONS

CHARLES LEVAY, CHAIR;
MIKE NORRIS, VICE CHAIR;
ROBERT NILSSON, BOARD LIAISON

The Operations Committee is made up of 14 volunteers who meet every third Thursday of the month at 9:30 a.m. in the Bernstein Room. The Operations Committee is

BINGO

WILLIE DiLAURA



Hopes dashed! Young and old alike came to Bingo on April 12 in the hopes of winning \$300, but, alas, there was no winner.

There is good news, the jackpot will be \$325 on May 10 with 61 numbers being called. Come join in the fun!



AN OPPORTUNITY FOR SV RESIDENTS TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

JOANN WALKER

It's that time of year when many of us do a more thorough cleaning of our homes, and it feels good to get windows washed, closets cleaned, and everything shiny for the summer. Did you know that our less fortunate neighbors who depend on Food Stamps (SNAP or EBT) cannot buy any personal care or home care products with these cards? They can buy soda or candy, but no soap, toothpaste, toilet paper, cleanser, etc.

The Symphony Village Outreach Committee has decided to help our neighbors. We will

sponsor a quarterly collection of personal care and/or home care products. These will be given to **Shelves of Plenty** at Safe Harbor Church and to the Food Pantry at Our Mother of Sorrows Church. Both pantries are open to any Queen Anne's County resident in need, regardless of religious affiliation.

Outreach will collect these items at Ladies Social Hour with the first collection on April 25. If you would like to help, please bring a personal care or home care item to Ladies Social Hour along with your regular \$5 admission. Suggested items include bar soap, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, toilet paper, paper towels, dish soap, cleanser, cleaning products, etc. Additional collections will be held in July, October, and January.

Thank you in advance for your generosity!

SAVE THE DATE!

**AUTUMN TEA AND FASHION SHOW,
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2019**

Mark your calendar for another fun-filled Outreach sponsored event! The Autumn Tea and Fashion Show will be held on Sunday, September 22, at The Milestone in Easton.

Details to follow in next month's *Libretto*.

Ticket sales will commence in July.



Anita Gruss
Manager



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PUBLICATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

**CAROL HODGES, CHAIR
LINDA BLUME, VICE-CHAIR**

The Concert Hall Has Two New Names

The new names for the Concert Hall are the Bernstein Room for the old section of the room and the Copland Room for the new section.

SNEAKERS

LINDA FARRAR

2020 HOA Dues Raffle

How nice would it be not to have to pay your HOA dues for the entire 2020 year? This could come true for you if you win the Sneakers 2020 HOA Dues Raffle. We will begin selling the tickets during the Social Hour on May 3.

The tickets will be \$25 per chance, and there will only be 300 total sold. So don't miss out; get your tickets early.

We will sponsor a Sneakers Social Hour when we draw the winning ticket on September 21. You will not have to be present to win. Remember that all the profit made from the Raffle will go to sponsor various projects in the local public schools, including our *Readers Are Leaders* program.

2019 Sneakers Gala

Save the date of **November 2** for our annual Sneakers Gala, which will be our traditional Silent Auction. We are already gathering Gift Certificates, services, and one of a kind items and baskets.

Next Meeting

The next Sneakers meeting will be **Wednesday, May 1 at 3 p.m.**, in the Clubhouse. It will be an important meeting as we will be passing out merchant letters and will have all the end of the year **Book Giveaway** dates by then. Remember, all Symphony Village residents are encouraged and invited to join us.

COMMITTEE SUMMARIES

ARTISANS GUILD

SUE CANFIELD

The Artisans Guild was formed to help bring art to the community and inspire artists

to create and make our Clubhouse beautiful with original works of Art. When the new addition was being constructed, a few of us looked at the art that had been hanging in the Clubhouse and thought that we needed to bring new art to our Clubhouse. We worked together and were able to get a quality hanging system for the room. We knew that there was hidden talent in our community but we were amazed to see how much talent we do have!

The artwork must be wired to hang on the



hanging system. The Guild members collect the artwork every three months, hang it, catalogue it, and have a reception for each new show. We also try to bring in local artists to give us lessons. We meet on the second Thursday of each month at 1 p.m. Below are photos of some of the artwork in the Spring Show:



BUDGET AND FINANCE

JIM COOKE

The responsibilities of the Budget and Finance Committee are as follows:

- Review monthly Financial Reports prepared by our management company. Notify Board if there is a problem.
- Recommend to the Board where to invest surplus in money markets and CDs for best rates and terms.
- Recommend to the Board if expansion loan may be reduced.
- Chair of the Committee assists community General Manager in preparation of the annual budget.

COVENANTS

DEBI WELLS, CHAIR



[MAKING A CHANGE TO YOUR EXTERIOR?](#)

New landscaping? New tree or removal? New paint color? A full list of covenants changes requiring an Exterior Modification Form is on our website in the Architectural Requirements document! Please be a good neighbor, comply! Thank you, Covenants

The Covenants Committee strives to ensure compliance with aesthetic standards established in our community, called the [Architectural Requirements](#). The standards establish a process and guides the review and decision for each [Exterior Modification Form](#). Each Modification Form submitted by a resident is individually considered, as is its impact on surrounding homes and the community. For a complete list of all exterior changes requiring submittal of an Exterior Modification Form and approval, please read the Architectural Requirements.

Also contained in the Architectural Requirements are prohibited plantings, trees, ornamentals, shrubs, and structures. For any Covenants Committee decision that a resident feels is unreasonable, inequitable, or wrong for whatever reason, there is an appeal process. That appeal process is also detailed in the Architectural Requirements. Questions? You can email me (debwells2011@gmail.com) or our Vice Chair, Lillian Sheehan (lilliansheehan@live.com).

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

BIRD CLUB

LINDA BLUME

The Northern Mockingbird is a familiar sight here in SV all year round. It is easy to spot with gray to brown upper feathers and a paler gray belly. Its tail and wings have white patches that are visible in flight. It is known for its song with varied repetitions and artful imitations. When running on open grass, it may stop every few feet and partly spread its wings, flashing the white wing patches. Mockingbirds are bold in defense of their nests, attacking cats and even humans that venture too close. (Several years ago, I had a mockingbird nest in a tree just off my patio. I had to open an umbrella to venture outside for several weeks so that the umbrella would get the pecks instead of my head!)



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have landed in Florida; and their descendants would be living in beachfront condos now. Bocce didn't know that!

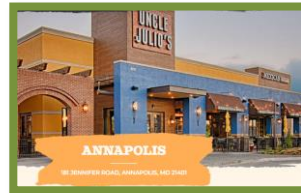
Spring Into Bocce

Writing from Florida I cannot be sure, but it seems as though the weather should be improving now. It's a great time to wander up to the Symphony Village Bocce Courts on Wednesday evenings and join some of the bocce buddies for a friendly game of bocce. The equipment you will need should be in the plastic containers by the courts. Folks usually start arriving about 6 p.m. Bring wine and snacks if you want to welcome spring in fine fashion! And ...

Let the Good Times Roll!!

LUNCH BUNCH

BEA TROTTA & MARGE STRANO



The Lunch Bunch will meet on **Thursday, May 2** at 12:30 p.m. at Uncle Julio's located at 181 Jennifer Road in Annapolis near the Annapolis (Westfield) Mall. Let's celebrate **El Cinco de Mayo** with a wonderful lunch. You can see the [Menu](#) to choose from the wide variety of lunch items available.

Sign up on the [Symphony Village Website](#) or you can sign up at the Clubhouse in the Club Activities Book.

The Lunch Bunch offers a casual and comfortable way to introduce new SV residents to the SV Community. If you recently moved to Symphony Village, join us for a Lunch Bunch outing. If you have any questions or need additional information, please call Bea Trotta at 610-217-4754 or Marge Strano at 609-221-6378.

BOCCE BANTER

DON RIZZO

Bocce Didn't Know That!

Columbus left Spain in August of 1492 looking for a direct route to China. During the long voyage, he kept his men's spirits lifted by organizing bocce matches between teams from each of his ships – the Nina, Pinta, and Santa Maria. The matches became so popular that many times the sailors ignored their assigned duties to watch the very competitive matches. Such was the case when the Navigator, Paolo Quintiliano, neglected to see that they were sailing four degrees off course during the time it took to complete three bocce matches on deck. Had it not been for that error, instead of landing in Cuba on October 12, 1492, which good ole Chris thought was China, they would

READING FOR FUN

JOE SIKES

March 2019 Review

The SV Book Club met on March 19 to review *Behold the Dreamers* by Imbolo Mbue. Attendees were Joe Sikes, Jan Withers, Bob Nilsson, Kathryn & Jim Buckheit, Lee Ettman, Cathy Olson, and Susan Goldberg. The story is set in the fall of 2007 and follows an immigrant from Cameroon, Jende Jonga, who has come to seek a better life for himself and his family. His fortune takes a turn for the better when he lands a job as a chauffeur for Clark Edwards, a senior executive for Lehman Brothers. The plot thickens amid the impending collapse of Lehman Brothers and the global economy in general.

The author, in her debut novel, weaves a number of intersecting story lines together and provides insight into contrasting lifestyles. We see the difference between the lives of the Jonga family in urban New York compared to life in Limbe, Cameroon. The Jongas have a front row seat to the life of high society New York while living as immigrants in Harlem. Both the Edwards and Jonga marriages are strained in different ways and wealth does not ensure happiness. Jende struggles with getting permanent immigrant status while his wife has a more forgiving student visa. The birth of a second child in New York gives them a family member who is an American citizen by birthright.

The crash of Lehman Brothers undermines the wealth and social standing of the Edwards family. As a result, Jende's job as chauffeur is terminated and the struggle to survive in New York City becomes increasingly more difficult for the Jonga family. As Jende's hearing for permanent immigration status draws near, the family has to face the possibility of returning to Cameroon.

The ending of the book was somewhat unexpected and generated a great discussion within the book club. Many of the members,

myself included, were not happy with decisions the characters made in the end and found ourselves talking to our books! The story was well told and made for an interesting discussion, which is all a book club can ask for in the end. As an extra bonus, I was able to bring the beautiful globe that was my Christmas present last December, so everyone could locate Cameroon. I love my globe!

The club awarded the book a score of 7.6 out of 10, which is slightly above average. I keep an updated list of our scores and books in the Club Activities Book in the Wall Street Room (under Book Club).

Upcoming book club meetings will be held at 7 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Clubhouse. Everyone is welcome. Meeting dates and associated books we plan to review are listed below.

April 16 -- *Educated* by Tara Westover

May 21 -- *The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell* by Robert Dugoni



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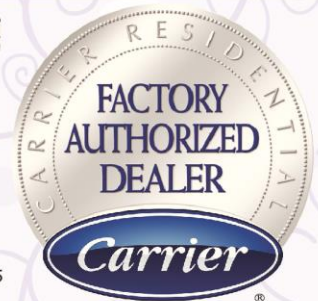
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June 18 -- *The Rent Collector* by Camron Wright

July 16 -- *The Last Palace* by Norman Eisen

PICKLEBALL



GEORGE DRAKE

On Saturday, April 13, fourteen SVers finished three pickleball clinics presented by Susan Claggett, a certified pickleball and tennis instructor. Court lines on our two courts remain taped, but the lines will be painted in May after the entire tennis court area has been pressure washed. Our nets have arrived and we can now play pickleball. The courts are open.

Thanks to Larry Miller and Royce Holm for helping me place the original painters' tape for

the two courts. Thanks to Charles Anderson, Charlotte McClatchy, Bonnie Griffith, and Nick Oliver for helping to put down new fabric tape and assembling the net sets.

Our gratitude to Charlotte McClatchy and Barbara Rosdail for communicating with Larry Miller regarding the tennis players schedule and then setting a schedule when pickleball players can meet and play at a time when tennis is not being played—and vice versa. This is the current schedule for playing pickleball—just show up at any or all of these times to meet other players. As time progresses, the court sessions will be adjusted as necessary. (Of course, you can go at anytime—but, you will hopefully meet others at the scheduled times.)

- **Monday, Wednesday, and Friday: 3 to 5 p.m.**
- **Tuesday and Thursday: 9 to 11 a.m.**
- **Sunday: 3 to 5 p.m.**

See you on the courts!

Tennis

LARRY MILLER

Tennis weather is here and it's time to break out the racket and get onto the courts. Courts are usually available. Please help identify residents interested in tennis and encourage them to play, especially those residents new to Symphony Village. See you on the courts.



CERT NEWS

**JOHN OLSON, CERT
COORDINATOR**



Fire extinguishers are for small fires and have a short “discharge time” (10 seconds is typical). That means you can't learn as you go so take some time now to prepare for a possible emergency situation.

There are three fire extinguishers located in the

Clubhouse:

In the **Gym** next to the door going outside

In the **Card Room** next to door going outside

In the **Kitchen** next to the door going outside

To operate a fire extinguisher:

There's nothing complicated about basic fire extinguisher technique. Stand back from the fire and move toward it once you begin spraying.

Operate the extinguisher using the P.A.S.S. technique:

- **P**ull the pin. This will also break the tamper seal.
- **A**im low, pointing the extinguisher nozzle at the base of the fire not at the flames.
- **S**queeze the handle to release the extinguishing agent.

- Sweep slowly from side to side at the base of the fire until it appears to be out. Watch the area. If the fire reignites, repeat steps 2-4.



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

NEIGHBORS TO NOTE

DEBI WELLS, P&C STAFF

Who we are on the inside has everything to do with how we are on the outside. A perfect example is Eleanor Strietman, who was nominated and chosen as April's Neighbor-To-Note. She's genuinely interested in people. With



an easy laugh, you know she's intent on what you're saying the moment she talks with you ... and finds out all of your passions and secrets! She has a gift. It stems from caring, concern, and a passion for people. That gift— it's “**purpose.**”

With an English degree from the University of Maryland, Eleanor did quite a bit of writing as an elementary school secretary at Rogers Heights Elementary School in Bladensburg, Maryland. She also has fond memories of employment at Howard B. Owens Science Center, a Science-Technology-Engineering-Math (STEM) center that teaches children pre-kindergarten age through high school. With hands-on activities that provide its students (and staff!) with experiences in the sciences, including biology, Eleanor even learned the

correct way to pet tarantulas and scorpions! Of course, as Bob's wife and a parent to Chris, she was also involved in their son's Parent Teacher Association, her community's civic association, and her church. From the time she was singing, at about age four or five, she had purpose in her life.

Eleanor and Bob thought about retiring in Frederick, Maryland, to be close to the beauty of the mountains and to live in the area where she was born and grew up. Instead, Chris (who lives in Baltimore) suggested they look on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Specifically, he sent Eleanor the Website for Symphony Village! That was pure joy for us, literally. In addition to the "Joy of Music" classes she helped to promote in Symphony Village for a local music teacher, Eleanor became involved in the Town of Centreville. Life in small towns may feel slower, but Eleanor will let you know "you'll miss the bigger picture if you don't get involved!" It's about relationships: being part of the town library's Spelling Bee, singing with the local

Queen Anne's Chorale (since 2007), being part of the planning committee for Centreville Day, serving on the QAC Historical Society's Board, and giving back to the larger community. So, it probably won't surprise you that Eleanor served as the chairperson for Neighbor to Neighbor for five years and is now the Secretary for the Symphony Village Outreach Program, Inc. (SVOPI). As many know, the SVOPI provides volunteer services and financial support to charitable and civic organizations in Queen Anne's County. It's all about knowing your neighbors, caring, getting involved, and having purpose!

Eleanor also loves travel! Having earned a history minor from college, Eleanor truly enjoys delving into the details before any visit. Her favorite destination? The Netherlands (Bob is Dutch). A very close second is England with the complex history of the United Kingdom. She made many friends along the way, including those who communicate using American Sign Language (ASL) - another of Eleanor's fortes! (She and several other Villagers are learning ASL under the teaching of neighbors Phyllis and Dan Krpata.)

Eleanor is a joy to those who know her. For a lifetime she has used her talents for a *purpose* and has made the Village and the Town of Centreville a better place to live. Thank you, Eleanor!



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MARCH'S MYSTERY RESIDENT

The Mystery resident in the March *Libretto* was **Bonnie Griffith!** She was a pleasure to interview and is a wonder of abilities! Need a chair caned? She just might do it for you! When you get your new Symphony Village Magnet with the Office and Emergency Numbers, Bonnie penned the **Clubhouse!**



TRAVEL--FOR THE SAVVY TRAVELER

SUSAN RAYNER

I know we've all heard the "codes" on a cruise ship; but I've never known what they meant. Here is what I have found out:

- Code Adam: means a child is missing
- Code Alpha: means there's a medical emergency
- Code Oscar: means someone fell overboard
- Code Bravo: means there is a fire on the ship

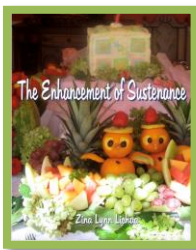
Always nice to be in the know.

COOKBOOK REVIEW-- THE ENHANCEMENT OF SUSTENANCE

A COOKBOOK BY ZINA LICHAA

PRESENTED BY SUSAN RAYNER

I have tried two fish recipes from Zina's book and would like to share them with my SV family. We have so many great cooks in SV; I know they will enjoy these dishes.



Dover Sole A La Meuniere (I used Orange Roughy) *2 servings*

Ingredients:

4 filets, 3 to 4 oz. each, salt & pepper

- ½ cup breadcrumbs
- 1 t thyme
- 1 t lemon or lime zest, grated
- 6 t butter
- 6 t lemon juice
- 1 t parsley, minced

Method:

Sprinkle filets with salt and pepper. Mix breadcrumbs with thyme leaves and lemon/lime zest. Coat filets.



Heat three tablespoons of butter in a large sauté pan over medium heat until butter browns. Add filets, lower heat to medium low and cook for two minutes. Turn carefully with a metal spatula. Cook two to three minutes, adding three tablespoons of lemon juice to pan. Fish should flake when done. Serve remaining melted butter and lemon juice on the side.



Pecan-Crusted Trout Filets with Orange-Rosemary Butter Sauce

4 servings

Ingredients:

Trout

- 2 cups pecans
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 4 large trout filets, with skin
- 1 large egg white, beaten

Sauce

- 1 ½ cups orange juice
- 1 cup dry white wine
- 2/3 cup shallots, chopped
- ¼ cup white wine vinegar
- 8 stems parsley
- 1 sprig thyme
- ½ t lemon juice
- 2 sprigs rosemary
- ¼ cup whipping cream
- ¾ cup butter, cut into 12 pieces
- 1 t oil
- 1 t chives, chopped
- salt and pepper to taste

Method:

Trout: Combine pecans and one tablespoon of flour in processor. Grind pecans finely, transfer to plate. Place remaining flour on another plate. Sprinkle fish with salt and pepper.

Dip filet into flour to coat, shaking off excess. Brush flesh side with egg whites. Place filet, egg white side down onto pecans. Press to coat. Transfer to waxed paper lined baking sheet, pecan side down. Repeat with remaining three filets.

Sauce: Combine first seven ingredients in medium saucepan. Boil 10 minutes. Add rosemary. Boil until liquid is reduced to ½ cup, 10 minutes. Strain sauce into another medium saucepan, pressing on solids in sieve. Add cream and bring to boil. Reduce heat to medium low. Whisk in 11 pieces butter, one piece at a time. Do not oil. Season with salt and pepper. Let stand at room temperature up to two hours.

Assembly: Melt remaining butter with one tablespoon oil in heavy large skillet over medium high heat. Place two filets, pecan side down, in skillet. Cook until crust is golden and crisp, about two minutes. Using spatula, turn filets over. Cook until just opaque in center, about two minutes. Transfer to plate. Do this with remaining two filets.

Whisk sauce over low heat to rewarm (do not boil). Spoon sauce around fish. Sprinkle with chopped chives and serve.

Word to the wise: there are only six books left!

SPRING BREAK

JOE SIKES

During Spring Break from their arduous adult learning classes at Chesapeake College, SV residents Mary Jo Volpicelli and Jan Withers had an itch to go to the beach like the other college kids. Mary Jo had previously lived in Lewes, Delaware, and had learned from Susan Goldberg that Susan's stepdaughter, Eve, was part of a musical duo (*Gathering Sparks*) that was performing in Lewes on March 23. Since Susan promised backstage access, this seemed to be the perfect Spring Break trip. An experienced chauffeur was lined up and the



three women set out for Lewes to join the beach crowd.

The SV ladies first went to the beach upon arrival in Lewes, but quickly determined it was not swimming weather. Apparently, the other students must have gone to beaches further south! Frustrated by their ocean dreams, the ladies decided to nosh at the Irish Eyes Pub prior to proceeding to the Anchor Coffee House for the performance. They even fed their chauffeur.

A little background on *Gathering Sparks*: Eve Goldberg and her musical friend, Jane Lewis, bonded over finely tuned harmonies and a love of song writing. Their duo blends musical styles influenced by folk, pop, blues, and gospel traditions. While the musicians wrote songs individually before joining together, their collaboration is a new experience for both. As they work through their excellent songbook, they describe the

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writing process, which adds immensely to the listening pleasure of the audience. Eve (on the left) and Jane are both based out of Ontario, Canada.



The performance was truly wonderful, and the two women encouraged participation from the audience throughout. They had, in fact, conducted a harmony workshop earlier in the afternoon, which greatly enhanced the atmosphere. In addition to their own compositions, *Gathering Sparks* included a selection by Peter Townshend (*The Who*), which appealed to a generation of baby boomers in the audience. Even the chauffeur was singing along.

Susan Goldberg introduced the ladies to her stepdaughter and the coveted backstage access was achieved.

Gathering Sparks has cut their first demo CD of six songs but are planning to release their first full length CD this fall. They expect to tour in the Delaware area again next year. Maybe we will be able to use our connections and ask them to swing by Centreville. They put on a great show!

WIGGLY LADIES

Interested in making hats for children with cancer? Stop by and see what it is all about.



Bonnie Griffith, Marcella Hilgartner, Amy London, Jeannette Painter, Peggy Anderson, Ada Ruark, Maggie Kovack, Nicole Lembke, Carol Porosoff, Lois Winegardner,

We are meeting on **Wednesdays, June 12, August 14, and October 9.** We meet in the Concert Hall at 10 a.m. No experience necessary!

YARD WASTE – TIPS FOR PICK-UP

DEBI WELLS

Just a reminder, all yard waste within Symphony Village should be placed curbside (not in the road) by 6 a.m. on Mondays. Branches must be bundled and may not be longer than three feet; also, bundles cannot weigh more than 40 pounds. If you have a log it may not exceed four inches in diameter.

Leaves, grass clippings, and all other yard waste should be placed in containers or



leaf bags not to exceed 50 pounds per bag. And, we found out the hard way, the Town of Centreville will only allow ten bags of yard waste to be picked up at one time. (So, thank you to my sister, Kathleen Sullivan, who allowed us to put our other eight bags in front of her house last week!) Last, but not least, according to the community's Architectural Requirements, yard waste is permitted curbside 72 hours in advance of each weekly pick-up—not before!

If you're an avid gardener, as I am, perhaps you gauge your worth by how many bags you have curbside early on Monday mornings.

Annual Easter Egg Hunt

The Centreville Lion's Club will host an Easter Egg Hunt on **Saturday, April 20, 11 a.m.**, at Millstream Park in Centreville. The event is for children up to 12 years of age and is free.



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CENTREVILLE HAPPENINGS

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 19:** Pot Roast Dinner
- **Friday, April 26:** A local Girl Scout Troop will host the dinner as a fundraiser.
- **Friday, May 3:** Salisbury Steak and Mashed Potatoes Dinner

- **Friday, May 10:** Spaghetti and Meatballs

For more information, call the Post at 410-758-3584.

EVENTS AT THE CENTREVILLE LIBRARY Upcoming Events at the Centreville Branch of the OAC Library

- **Tuesday, April 16,** 3 – 5 p.m.: [OtaRenga - Japanese Poetry Workshop](#) (Free; preregister on the website)
- **Wednesday, April 24,** 5:30 – 7 p.m.: [Springtime Egg Carton Flower Wreath](#) (Free; preregister on the website)
- **Thursday, April 25,** 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.: [Container Gardening](#) (Free; preregister on the website)
- **Saturday, April 27,** 3 – 4 p.m.: [Crime and a Cuppa](#) (Free; preregistration is encouraged)
- **Monday, May 6,** 10:30 a.m. – noon: [Crafty Adults](#) (Free; preregistration is encouraged)
- **Wednesday, May 15,** 6 – 7:30 p.m.: [Donuts for Grownups - Toxic Masculinity](#) (Free; preregister on the website)

Queen Anne's Chorale "30 Years and Counting"



The Queen Anne's Chorale will present "[30 Years and Counting](#)" on **Saturday, April 27,** 7 p.m., at the Todd

Performing Arts Center at Chesapeake College in Wye Mills. This concert is celebrating the Chorale's 30th Anniversary with folk tunes, Broadway tunes, spirituals, and much more. The Chorale will be honoring past and current directors. Tickets are \$20, and may be obtained from any of the 16 SV residents who are singing in the Chorale this semester.

**QAC Master Gardener Horticulture
Lecture Series: Ticks in Maryland**



The QAC Master Gardeners are presenting a [Horticulture Lecture Series](#). On **Wednesday, April 17**, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m., the topic is “Ticks in Maryland.” The lecture takes place in the QAC Government Building (110 Vincit Street), meeting room #1. The lecture is free and open to the public.

Blessing of the Easter Baskets



St. Paul’s Episcopal Church (301 S. Liberty Street) in Centreville will host [Blessing of the Easter Baskets](#) on **Saturday, April 20**, noon. Bring your Easter Basket for this very special blessing tradition.

Easter Sunrise Service



The Easter Sunrise Service will be **Sunday, April 21**, 6:30 a.m., at Millstream Park in Centreville. Centreville United Methodist Church, St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, Bethel AME Church, and New Life United Methodist Church are the hosts.

Forest Forever



Queen Anne’s County Department of Recreation and parks will host [Forest Forever](#) for children ages 6-9 on **Monday, April 22**, 1 – 3 p.m., at Conquest Beach (1000 Conquest Beach Road) in Centreville. This is a hands-on and educational Earth Day program where the children will become involved in replenishing the forest in their neighborhoods. See additional details on the website. The cost is \$10, and you must preregister (form is on the website). The program number is 190011.

Arbor Day Celebration



The Town of Centreville and Centreville’s Park Advisory Board will host an Arbor Day Celebration on **Friday, April 26**, 10 a.m., at Millstream Park in Centreville. The event will be on the park trail off Creamery Lane. Come and help Centreville second graders will plant trees and learn about Arbor Day.

Fishing Derby



There will be a [Fishing Derby](#) on **Saturday, April 27**, 8:30 – 11 a.m., at Camp Pecometh (136 Bookers Wharf Road) in Centreville. The entry fee is \$10 for ages 10 and under, \$10 for ages 11 – 17, and \$15 for age 18 and up. The entry fee includes a lunch of hot dog, chips, and soda. Prizes will be handed out for different categories within each age group. Proceeds go into Pecometh’s Campership Fund, which helps as many children come to camp as possible.

Coffee House 206 Concert Series – Dell Foxx Company



The Queen Anne’s County Center for the Arts (206 S. Commerce Street) in Centreville presents [Dell Foxx Company](#) on **Saturday, April 27**, 7 – 9 p.m. Dell Foxx Company is a cover band from the Eastern Shore. Formed in the spring of 2014, Dell Foxx Company has grown to become a local favorite, expanding their set of music with hours of hits including songs from artists like Alabama Shakes, Taylor Swift, John Mayer, Grand Funk Railroad, Florence and the Machine, and many more. There is a \$10 cover charge for the evening. Call 410-758-2520 to reserve a ticket.

Centreville Farmer's Market Opens for the Season



The 2019 Centreville Farmer's Market will be open **Wednesdays and Saturdays, May 1 – October 26**. The Market returns to Centreville Plaza next to Queen Anne's County High School while the Town continues with its infrastructure project. Wednesday hours are 2 – 6 p.m., and Saturday hours are 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Maryland House and Garden Pilgrimage – Queen Anne's County



The [Maryland House and Garden Pilgrimage](#) comes to Queen Anne's County on **Saturday, May 4**, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., rain or shine. Five houses are in Centreville: The Hermitage, The Gunston School, Silk Farm, 406 Chesterfield, and Kennard High School. The remaining three houses are Stoopley-Gibson in Chester, Kirwan House and General Store in Chester, and St. Peter the Apostle Church in Queenstown. Tickets are \$35 in advance and \$40 on the day of the tour. **Villagers may purchase tickets from resident Dot Abbott (410-758-2071, dorotheav@aol.com).**

Lunch will be available for \$10 (chicken salad, roll, pickle, chips, dessert, and a bottle of water) in the Raskob Memorial Room of St. Peter the Apostle Church from 10:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. or until sold out. Advance lunch reservations are encouraged by April 26 by calling 410-979-2673 or email to michele.h.schultz@gmail.com.

Queen Anne's County Master Gardeners Annual Plant Sale



The [Plant Sale](#) will take place on **Saturday, May 11**, 8 – 11 a.m., outside the University of Maryland Extension Office (505 Railroad Avenue) in Centreville. Master Gardeners will be on hand to help with plant questions and needs. Herbs, vegetables, annuals, and perennial plants will be on sale.

QAC Master Gardener Horticulture Lecture Series: Hazardous Household Products



The QAC Master Gardeners are presenting a [Horticulture Lecture Series](#). On **Wednesday, May 15**, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m., the topic is “Hazardous Household Products.” The lecture takes place in the QAC Government Building (110 Vincit Street), meeting room #1. The lecture is free and open to the public.

The Longest Table Dinner



[The Longest Table](#) Dinner will be held on **Saturday, May 18**, 6 p.m., on Lawyers Row in Centreville. Residents are invited to sit down for a catered dinner by the Commerce Street Creamery to meet new friends and exchange stories about Queen Anne's County. Seating is limited and assigned randomly. Tickets are \$15 per person. For information and tickets, call 410-758-0980. In case of bad weather, the event will move inside to the Wye River Upper School. **This event sells out – the earlier you purchase your ticket, the better.**

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

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Bulk Pickup and Yard Waste: 410-758-1180
Trash Removal & Recycling: 410-742-0099

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