



Photo by George Drake

LIBRETTO

SYMPHONY VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2020

VOL. XV No. 2

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

Welcome to the Neighborhood!



Brenda Barnes
133 Concerto Avenue
Len Saltiel and Carol Saltiel
822 Harmony Way

Welcome Night for New Residents

(And for those of you who may have missed us in the past!)

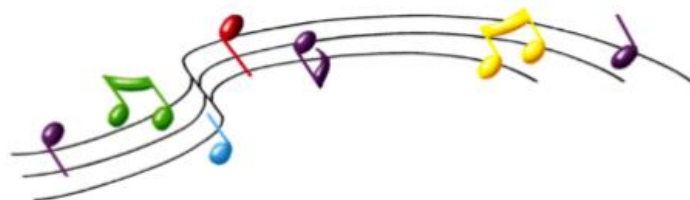
Join us to meet with your neighbors and learn more about your new community.

Enjoy light refreshments!

Monday, March 30, at 7p.m. SV Clubhouse, Concert Hall

Please sign up in the Activities Book at the Clubhouse
or RSVP to eileen@rowley.org or call 703-946-1075

Optional: Have your photo taken for the SV Directory! (starting at 6:30 in the Craft Room)



2019–2020 HOA BOD

SV BOARD OF DIRECTORS JANUARY 31, 2020 MEETING ACTION ITEMS

PAT FOX, VICE PRESIDENT

- Office Copy Machine Contract:** An electronic motion was unanimously approved on January 15, 2020, and unanimously ratified at the January 31, 2020, meeting to enter into a 60-month lease with Delmarva Documents Solutions for the office copier. The monthly payment will be \$449.69 plus taxes and is fixed for the 60-month term. The lease includes service and all supplies other than paper.
- Fitness Equipment Preventative Maintenance Contract:** A unanimously approved motion was made to award a 2-year contract with RMS Fitness to provide maintenance for the fitness equipment at a cost of \$1400/year.
- Mulch:** A unanimously approved motion was made, based on the Landscape Committee recommendation, that environmentally and pet-safe dyed brown mulch be used in 2020.
- Glass Doors Around Indoor Pool:** A unanimously approved motion was made upon the recommendation of the Operations Committee to have the seals on all the indoor pool sliding glass doors inspected to be able to provide recommendations and costs on replacement and/or repairs.
- Indoor Pool Hours for Children:** Two motions were made regarding extending the daily indoor pool hours for children from 11 a.m.–4:30 p.m. to 11 a.m.–6:00 p.m.
 - Motion 1 to extend the hours failed by a vote of 3 to 1.
 - Motion 2 was made assigning the Operations Committee the task of reviewing the previous 2015 pool rules survey, make any adjustments, and resend to the community. This motion passed 3 yes and 1 no.
- Terms of Reference Appendix C Revision:** A unanimously approved motion was made to adopt a more understandable, procurement procedure flow chart replacing the previous [Appendix C](#) (scroll to page 14) contained in the Terms of Reference.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ARTISANS GUILD NEWS

January was a busy month. Our new show, *Artist's Choice*, is on display in the Concert Hall. We have a few new artists who have joined us with beautiful pieces and some old faithful! Please stop by and enjoy the pieces.

We also had two Featured Artists at our Reception. Several people, who display their crafts only on the day of the Reception, are referred to as our Featured Artists. They really should not be missed!

Amy Marotta, featured as “Puppet Maker and Puppeteer,” displayed many of her beautiful creations. Who knew she had this side career during her teaching days?

Andrea Parham was also featured. She displayed many of her purses, totes, book covers, wallets, etc. It was a small part of her sewing and designing hobby. She gives most of these items as gifts. But wait for it...Andrea does not only sew! In the future she will be featured again with more surprises and creations.

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The theme of our next show will be *Pets and Wildlife*. We will collect and return Art on March 28. Our Reception will be on March 29.

For information contact suecanfield20@gmail.com



Amy Marotta and Andrea Parham



Art Reception January 2020

COVENANTS UPDATE

DEBI WELLS, COVENANTS CHAIR



Committees can only be effective if they have a clear purpose, good organization, and the right people. The Symphony Village Covenants Committee is fortunate to have all three—in particular, the right members, with a wide array of talents. Like all Committees, each member has a different level of energy and skill. What we all have in common is motivation. *Got motivation? Then, please volunteer!* We could use your help!! There are many reasons to join the Covenants Committee: protecting your property values; addressing and helping with issues in the community; meeting your neighbors; and most importantly, establishing pride in our community. We are seeking volunteers (like you!), motivated to work on diverse tasks and responsibilities. We hope you will join us! The Covenants Committee's next meeting will be on **Thursday, March 12, at 10 a.m. in the Concert Hall.**

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well-being.

Sincerely,
Michele Wade,
LMT



Photo Courtesy of ABMP

In addition to regulating architectural design improvements to the exterior of residents' private property and a myriad of other objectives, the Covenants Committee is working on a very important topic: training its members. While the community's "Terms of Reference" outlines responsibilities, the Committee is developing documentation to help member volunteers know how to complete an on-site inspection. From knowing to take a measuring tape, to helping them understand how to read a property plat, to completion of an on-site review, the Committee wants to fully support new members' understanding of all exterior modification aspects (whether it's landscaping, a new addition, a new deck, etc.). The goal is to know all answers before the monthly Covenants Committee review of an Exterior Modification Form. The better a member is trained, the more successful and quickly the vote and decision at the Covenants Committee monthly meeting(s).

Exterior Modification Forms to be reviewed at the March 12 Covenants Committee meeting are due to HOA Management by March 6. The earlier the submittal, the more time a Covenants member will have to get all questions answered to effectively represent another resident's exterior modification. End result? A positive vote at the monthly Covenants Committee meeting!

LIFESTYLE COMMITTEE

MARY COLLING-OFFICER, CHAIR; JOE SIKES, CORRESPONDENT

On January 20, **Brandt Moran** traveled from Maine to kick off our 2020 Speaker Series with an illuminating and well-received presentation on orchids. Thanks to Courtney Pilgrim for telling us about his extensive experience with these beautiful flowers. One Villager described Mr. Moran as "a fantastic and knowledgeable orchid expert, a national and international award winner, who gave an animated and informative talk." Attendees also praised the delicious soup prepared by Susan Rayner to accompany the experience. This was an auspicious start to our Speaker Series!



Super Bowl Sunday drew a small but enthusiastic crowd on February 2 to watch that long-suffering team from Kansas win its second Super Bowl—after a fifty-year wait. The bar was open with two TVs, as well as the Wall Street Room, the Card Room, and the big screens in the Concert Hall. Attendees brought delicious appetizers that definitely increased everyone's enjoyment of the game.

COMING SOON TO THE VILLAGE

The **Speaker Series** continues with two more topics:

On March 25, we plan to bring an experienced **Genealogy** Researcher to enlighten us about building our family trees. Set aside the date and look for more information via eBlast in the near future.

Also, in the works is a **Wine Tasting** and Educational Seminar with a spotlight on Spanish wines. The date remains to be determined, but details will be communicated by eBlast as soon as available.



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Picnics: The Lifestyle Committee plans to host two community picnics this year: Memorial Day and Labor Day. The Memorial Day picnic will be held Sunday, May 24, and will feature a bar-b-que vendor. More details will be forthcoming as planning continues.

Yard Sales: As we have done in past years, the Lifestyle Committee is planning two Community Yard Sale events. The dates have been tentatively set for May 2 and October 10. Look for more information to follow.

Additional Planning: We are negotiating with a Canadian folk group, Gathering Sparks, to present a concert in early June. Committee members were impressed after hearing them perform in Lewes last year and asked if they would consider SV as a stop on this year's tour. Led by the stepdaughter of resident Susan Goldberg, they have recently released a new CD, and are looking forward to appearing in Centreville.

The Committee is also in discussion with Antiques Appraiser Todd Peenstra to return after a couple of years absence. We are considering dates this summer. Other activities we are investigating include Tai Chi, jewelry-making with paper beads, and an acupuncture technique called Seva Stress Release.

The Lifestyle Committee is committed to seeking out exciting and interesting activities for all of our Villagers and welcomes ideas from everyone. We would also love to encourage new volunteers to join the Committee that meets the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Clubhouse. More volunteers translate to more activities!

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A new event may be coming to SV! On five summer Saturdays, the Clubhouse parking lot may host the SV Craft and Flea Market with Bake Sale (CFMBS).

Why, you ask? Outreach will not be hosting another Artisans' Fair. Lifestyle's SV Yard Sale only happens twice a year. Ever wonder if all the baked goods you love to make might make you a few pennies? Consider participating in the CFMBS!



If residents show an interest, Lifestyle will proceed with plans for the Market on one Saturday a month May through September, 9 a.m. – noon. Residents can register to set up their display table(s) on any or all the Market dates. Plans change? No problem – just let me know. Best of all, participation is FREE!

In order for plans to proceed, Lifestyle needs to know if you are 1) definitely interested in participating, or 2) possibly interested. Remember, it's FREE. Please let me know (linda7925y@yahoo.com, 410-758-3194) your thoughts. Also ask me any questions that you have.

Publicity would go into the *Record Observer*, *The Update*, and nearby communities in Nextdoor and Facebook. There would also be a sign at Taylor Mill Road and Route 213 each Market day.

OUTREACH

SUE CANFIELD, PRESIDENT

11TH ANNUAL CARD AND GAME PARTY

Outreach would like to thank everyone who participated in the 11th Annual Outreach Card and Game Party. Once again, it was a truly fun day and a great success! We will be able to give our beneficiary, The QA County Food Bank, a very nice donation. This was possible because of the great teamwork from the Outreach Committee and the support of the Symphony Village community.

There are so many people to thank: Lauren Rose and Carlene Cooke for heading up the Card Party part of the event; Lee Ettman and Candi Nilsson for running registration; Maggie Kovack and her daughter for providing the table prizes; DeAnn Cheyne, Mary Drake, and Mary Ciesielski for selling raffle tickets; Linda Blume for making her popular cross-stitch bookmarks and magnets for favors; Pat Scheirer for being our bartender; and Sue Canfield who did a wonderful job creating the signage for the party.

TraVin Catering on Kent Island provided a delicious lunch of minestrone soup, assorted wraps, and salad plus delicious brownies and cookies. Many thanks to Sue Canfield and Pat Toole for helping them with the serving.

Thank you, Sue Canfield, Margo Wagner, Carol Porosoff, CC Terry, Terri O'Connell, Sue Peterson, JoAnn Walker, Judy Ehrenfeld, Betty McCutchen, Peggy Decker, Maggie Kovack, DeAnn Cheyne, Lidija Kampa, Sylvia Petrosillo, Barbara Ways, and Jim Cooke for helping Lauren and Carlene set up the rooms. We appreciate those who lent us card tables for the event.

Thank you to those who made mini muffins for our morning snacks: CC Terry, Betty McCutchen, JoAnn Walker, Carol Porosoff, Lauren Rose, Terri O'Connell, Peggy Decker, Maggie Kovack, Lidija Kampa, Barbara Ways, Sue Canfield, and Joan Butler. A big thank you to Joann Walker for making the coffee!

A big thank you also goes to those who contributed raffle items: Spa Basket donated by Maggie Kovack and won by resident Niki Offerman; Lenox vase donated by Jane Romany and won by resident Pat Kindle; and a Wine Basket donated by Bea Trotta and Marge Strano and won by resident Terri O'Connell.

The 50/50 raffle winner was guest Mariellen Otterbacher; and the door prize, a Master Card gift card, was won by resident Charlotte McClatchy.

As you can see from the names listed, it cannot be said enough that the Outreach Committee is extremely fortunate and grateful to have so many people willing to always help out with our events. If we inadvertently omitted a name, please know that your efforts were appreciated, and you helped to make the day the success it was!

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

Thank you!



Participants enjoying the 11th Annual Card and Game Party

PUBLICATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

LINDA BLUME

The P&C Committee sells advertising space in the *Libretto*. These funds are deposited directly into the SV General Fund. In 2019, **\$6,933** in ad revenue was generated. So, if you have great service from a company, please let them know about the advertising opportunity in the *Libretto* that will get their name out into the community. Ad rates are online at [Libretto Ad Rates](#). Please patronize our advertisers.

Want to attend an SV Committee meeting? The meetings are all open to SV residents. The master Committee schedule (e.g., P&C meets the first Tuesday of the month at 3 p.m.) is located online on the [Governance](#) web page. Before you attend, check the [SV Master Calendar](#) to make sure there has been no rescheduling for a particular meeting.

Coming this March...

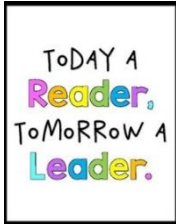
Symphony Village Name Tag Sale...

SV eBlast will be forthcoming with details on how to order and cost!

SNEAKERS

LINDA FARRAR, PRESIDENT

READING ACROSS AMERICA



Kennard Elementary School is participating in the National Read Across America Day celebration on Tuesday, March 3. The school has informed us that they need volunteers to come to Kennard Elementary and read picture books to the students. You will be assigned to a classroom and will read for 15 to 20 minutes. The books will be provided.

There are two time slots available, 9–9:30 a.m. and 9:30–10 a.m., There will be a sign-up sheet in the Wall Street Room. The school needs to know by Monday, February 24, how many volunteers we can send. You may stay for longer and read to more than one class.

Since this goes along with our “Readers Are Leaders” programs, we hope many of you will sign up. Also, volunteers are not limited to Sneakers members so please ask your neighbors to join in.

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CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

BIRD CLUB

LINDA BLUME

TUFTED TITMOUSE



You can see the Tufted Titmouse year-round in Symphony Village, but you are most likely to see one at your feeder in the winter.

This is an active, crested little bird, approximately 6" in length, and its whistled "peter-peter-peter" song can be heard during mid-winter thaws. It readily comes to bird feeders, often carrying away sunflower seeds one at a time. They may form small flocks in winter.

They also have nuts, berries, and small fruits in their winter diets. In the warmer months, insects make up most of their diet.

BERRIES AND BIRDS — FOOD FOR THOUGHT

BETTY MCATEE

Many gardeners, me included, have chosen the Heavenly Bamboo for their yard because of the attractive deep green evergreen foliage and pendant bunches of bright red berries.

Certainly, many birds would flock to such a berry feast! Or would they??

Heavenly Bamboo (*Nandina domestica*) is native to eastern Asia and used often to decorate temples. The plant was introduced to the western world (London) by William Kerr in 1804. It tolerates a wide range of temperature zones (6–10). Unfortunately, this shrub spreads aggressively underground by root-like rhizomes, and as a result, was put on Maryland's Invasive Plant list, Tier 2, in 2017.

An advertisement for Edward Jones. The main image shows an older couple sitting at a table with a laptop, looking at the screen. A white text box is overlaid on the left side of the image.

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The most unfortunate characteristic of Nandina is that all parts—including the berries—are toxic to birds and other animals (pets, grazing animals). The compounds found in the plant breakdown to form poisonous hydrogen cyanide. Some cultivars of Nandina do not produce berries ('Firepower,' 'Gulfstream,' and 'Nana'). They are more compact (dwarf in size).

Cedar waxwings, in particular, are especially vulnerable to Nandina berry toxicity since they tend to forage together in flocks when the berries are ripened and insect (food) populations are unavailable during cold weather dormancy. The berries can become a "fatal attraction" since these birds are known to gorge when feasting. It has been noted that cedar waxwings can gorge on any overripe (fermented) berries, not just Nandina, and can result in erratic ("drunken") flying!

On a positive note, non-toxic edible berries for birds are found on many native plants sold locally. As substitutes for Nandina, these shrubs provide valuable food sources for birds during winter months when insects are unavailable. Fall migrating birds depend on these berry-producing plants as energy-replenishing food sources along their journeys. Also, these native plants show a diverse seasonal fruit availability that matches the seasonal needs of different local birds. IN NATURE, EVERYTHING IS CONNECTED.

Some examples of these natives are:

Common Winterberry, Dwarf Sprite Winterberry, Cranberry Viburnum, Beautyberry, Grape Holly, Black Huckleberry, Red and Black Chokeberry



Heavenly Bamboo
(Nandina domestica)



Dwarf Sprite Winterberry



Beautyberry

BOCCE BALL

PATRICIA CIPRIANO

Hurray...the groundhog did not see his shadow—signaling an early spring! At last, our SV bocce courts will begin to be visited by residents who are in search of a calm and social outdoor activity in which to participate on mild days.

One of the neat things about the game of bocce is that you don't need a whole lot of equipment. Once you stroll over to the courts, you are set to play! Three bocce sets can be found in the storage bin that is located in the picnic pavilion.

So, feel free to visit the bocce courts, unpack a bocce set, and practice tossing the bocce balls down the courts so that you are warmed up and ready to join in Open Bocce when it resumes next month. Let the good times roll!

DO YOU KNOW HOW TO SHUT OFF YOUR UTILITIES IN AN EMERGENCY?

– JOHN OLSON, CERT COORDINATOR



HOME SAFETY

Each homeowner should review these articles to prevent emergencies and identify actions to take in case of emergencies.



In an [April 2018 Libretto article](#), Tegan Baumann, on behalf of CERT, published an article on how to identify and locate the utility shut offs in your home. These include electrical, propane, and water—both household and town. If you haven't already, you should review that article or check out a more extensive review of safety instructions on the [SV CERT website](#).

GENERAL

- When you find your shut offs, tag them for easy future reference.

ELECTRICAL

- Keep the path to the electrical panel clear and never block it with stored items.

PROPANE

- If you must turn off the outside gas, contact your propane company to have them turn it back on.

WATER

- Water pipes can burst, and water damage can be expensive.
- Provided the home is heated at a normal level, pipes should not freeze. Heat should be set at 65° if you are away during winter months. Garage doors should be kept closed to protect plumbing lines, which may run through this area.
- Turn off water to your outside faucets from the inside in late fall to keep the water lines and faucets from freezing.
- Generally, there is a water shutoff access between each two homes; look for it between the curb and the sidewalk. If there are two valves, be sure to turn **your** valve—the one toward your property.

If you need help in locating or operating your utility shutoffs, CERT volunteers would be happy to help. Please contact Dennis Marchi, 376 Overture Way, 410-365-6127 or John Olson, 105 Symphony Way, 443-262-8458 for assistance.

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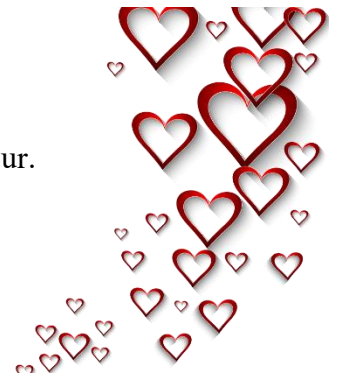
LADIES' SOCIAL HOUR

LADIES' SOCIAL HOUR FEBRUARY 27

The Symphony Village Quilting Group is hosting the February 27 Ladies' Social Hour.

Because February is Heart Month, we thought it would be nice to collect money that evening for a donation to the American Heart Association. If you would like to contribute, there will be a donation box on the table where you first sign in.

We look forward to seeing you there!



PICKLEBALL SPRING SCHEDULE AND CLINICS

GEORGE DRAKE

A steering committee recently met and set the Open Play schedule for the spring sessions. Open play is when all pickleball players are welcome to meet and play. Otherwise, the courts are open to all players at any time if they get their own group together to play.

If mother-nature cooperates, the nets will be put in place on Friday, March 13. Mark your calendars. The Open Play times are scheduled as follows:

- Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturday at 10 a.m.
- Fridays at 11 a.m.



Beginning in mid-April, Symphony Village players will conduct pickleball demonstrations and offer lessons and clinics to anyone in the Village who would like to come out and learn about pickleball and give it a try. Check the March *Libretto* and ECHOES for the April demo, lesson, and clinic days and times (which will be other than Open Play times and will be on a weekday and repeated on a Saturday, so everyone has an opportunity to learn the game). Joyce Linder, Rosemary Rosenberger, and George Drake will conduct these sessions.

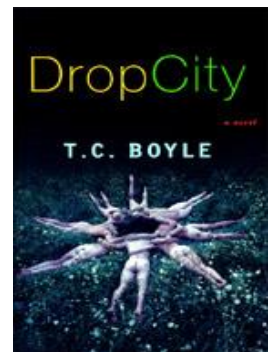
Look for fliers and samples of paddles and pickleballs at upcoming Social Hours. For additional info, you can contact any pickleball player you know in the Village.

READING FOR FUN – JANUARY 2020 REVIEW

JOE SIKES

The SV Book Club met January 21 to review *Drop City* by T.C. Boyle. Attendees included: Joe Sikes, Jan Withers, Kathryn & Jim Buckheit, Lillian Sheehan, Bob Nilsson, DeAnn Cheyne, JoAnn Walker, and Peggy Decker.

Two young women in their early twenties, Pamela McCoon and Paulette Starr, pursue personal journeys to free themselves from the strictures of society in America in the 1970s. They choose radically different paths that the author uses to set up an interesting tale of two cultures seeking similar goals. Paulette wants to live off the grid in the last frontier of Alaska and sets out to find a husband skilled in survival in the wild. Paulette, who calls herself Star, chooses the hippie counterculture and travels from the East Coast to California where she joins a commune known as Drop City.



Pamela conducts her own version of the “Dating Game” and selects Sess Harder as a groom and moves to his cabin in the wilderness on the Thirtymile River. Pamela is entranced by the solitude and happy that she has

found a strong provider. Star has settled into the free lifestyle of Drop City, with an abundance of drugs, sex, and rock and roll. Unfortunately, Norm Sender, the fortyish owner of Drop City, has run afoul of many local ordinances and the local authorities move in to shut down the commune.

In a clever plot twist, Norm's uncle has left him a cabin on the aforementioned Thirtymile River, and Norm proposes to move his commune to Alaska and leads his merry band north, settling about 30 minutes upriver from the Harder cabin. A social experiment ensues!

At the new Drop City, the hippies must build cabins in the wilderness and forage for food. The group divides responsibilities to get all necessary tasks done before the Alaska winter sets in. Alas, human nature causes dissension when some residents carry their weight and others do not. As residents of Drop City gradually depart, Star finds herself drawn to Pamela for help in dealing with the difficulties of the long, dark winter. Pamela reciprocates because, while Sess is an excellent provider, he is not a great conversationalist.

The author works in many interesting adventures both on the trip north and while surviving the wilderness. He includes a wide cast of characters, some of whom survive and some who don't. The Book Club had widely varied opinions on the book, much like December's book selection (The Roundhouse). Some members had no patience for the many commune characters and their antics. Personally, I found the book very interesting but had some difficulty until the author introduced the Alaska part of the story. A recommendation from the Club, if you read the book, is to get to that part of the story before forming an opinion.

Much like last month's Book Club, the divergence of opinion facilitated a lively discussion. Since we all lived through the hippie era, many interesting anecdotes were shared. However, we agreed to abide by the Book Club motto, "What happens in the book club, stays in the book club." Drop City achieved a score of 7.2 on a 10-point scale, which is slightly below average but higher than December's selection.

I keep an updated list of our scores and books in the Activity's 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. Meeting dates and associated books we plan to review are:

February 18 *The Rosie Project* by Graeme Simsion

March 16 *A Spool of Blue Thread* by Anne Tyler

April 21 *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah



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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

NEIGHBOR-TO-NOTE: A RAY OF SUNSHINE

DEBI WELLS



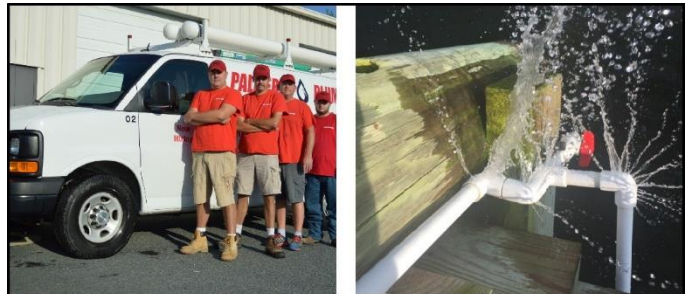
Do you know someone who is a ray of sunshine? The residents on Symphony Way certainly do! Her name is Karen Kram. Born and raised in New Jersey, she found her passion for helping people in the pharmacy profession. As a freshman in high school, she worked for a pharmacist and saw the impact he had on patients' lives. At that time, there was no database to determine negative effects of a new medication prescribed in comparison to current medications the patient was already taking. Instead, it required research—by the pharmacist. Reviewing medication therapy for effectiveness, positive outcome, and a good fit for the patients' wallets was something Karen wanted to do. She had the compassion and sought a profession that allowed her opportunity to be a problem-solver, a confidant, and a friend as a front-line health care specialist. When she moved to Grasonville, about 40 years ago, she continued her career as a pharmacist.

Karen, and her son Bradley, moved to Symphony Village about four years ago. A team player, Karen became an Operations Committee member, and this year she is Vice-Chair of that Committee. She's also a member of Budget and Finance and is among the stellar volunteers who keep our indoor/outdoor pools working properly. Karen believes in volunteering to boost life satisfaction. She said doing good for others and the community provides anyone a natural sense of accomplishment. So, it's no surprise Bradley also volunteers. He's a weekly dog socializer for the Humane Society, which makes the dogs more adoptable. Go Bradley!

Karen's joys are her three grandchildren (ages 6, 10, and 11) and her family. But she'll never turn down travel, especially to Italy, which is her favorite destination. Karen also enjoys swimming and the daily water aerobics offered at our community's indoor pool. In fact, the indoor pool and all of the social activities were a big factor in her decision to move to Symphony Village.

Like the men in Karen's life (her husband, Mark, who has passed; her brother; father; uncles; grandfathers), who all served their country, she is very patriotic. That same trait of patriotism, devotion, respect, and care are ingrained in Karen in all she does. And, it's ingrained in Karen's son, Andrew, who is currently deployed in Kuwait (prayers for him welcomed)!

What a great neighbor we have in Karen Kram! Her friendly ways and active support for the community has helped to make Symphony Village a great place to live. Thank you, Karen!



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ELEMENTARY AGED CHILDREN – SUMMER WEEKEND FOOD PROGRAM

YOUR HELP APPRECIATED!

DEBI WELLS, P&C STAFF

On the Eastern Shore of Maryland, in Centreville and Grasonville, there are elementary-aged (Title 1) children who will need help to have meals this summer. During the winter, these students rely on their school cafeterias for the majority of their nutrition. But that support does not exist during the summer. Instead, they depend upon volunteers to shop, pack, and deliver bags of food in a well-organized backpack program to provide meals discreetly, so no child is made uncomfortable by their unfortunate situation. Maintaining the anonymity of students and families that participate in a backpack program is extremely important.

Backpack programs are not a new idea. The first backpack program was started in 1995 by a school nurse in Little Rock, Arkansas, who noticed students often came to her office because of stomach aches and headaches, usually on a Monday. She realized many of these students were lacking food over the weekend. She partnered with her local bank and started sending meals home in their backpacks on Friday afternoons. Backpack (food) programs have grown nationally, and have been shown to decrease absenteeism, behavioral trips to the principal's office, and trips the school nurse for hunger-related sicknesses. At Centreville and Grasonville Elementary Schools, the school counselor identifies the children who are the most at risk of hunger on weekends. These are the children who will be served this summer.



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Volunteers are needed to pack and deliver food bags on Thursday mornings this summer for approximately 60 children. These volunteer responsibilities are easy and are for only five weeks. It's envisioned we will shop to obtain the food before Thursday weekly, then on Thursday mornings, pack the food and deliver it before noon to the two elementary schools (Centreville and Grasonville). This program will start on June 22. (The children attend summer school Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.) Volunteers will receive assistance to know what and how to pack. What better way to end a week than to help feed a child! The more volunteers, the better!

The QAC Commissioners will partially fund this summer backpack program through the Community Partnerships for Children and Families, and it will be supported by the Outreach Ministry at Our Mother of Sorrows/St. Peters in Centreville. To receive more information and to be a part of this summer backpack program for elementary aged kids, **please contact Debi Wells (debwells2011@gmail.com; or call 443-262-8248).**



A special thank you to Lois Labs, Sue Canfield, and Terri O'Connell for helping to get this summer backpack program off to a great start! Volunteers will be invited to meet at the Clubhouse in May to learn and share the details of this worthwhile and personally satisfying program.

Hope you'll volunteer and join us!

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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, February 21: American Legion Riders' Spaghetti and Meatballs (\$10)

Friday, February 28: Fried Oyster Dinner (\$20)

Friday, March 6: American Legion Riders' Spaghetti and Meatballs (\$10)

Friday, March 13: Cub Scout Troop #129 (Menu TBA)

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

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT BREAKFAST BUFFET



The Goodwill Fire Company in Centreville will host an All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast Buffet on Sunday, February 16, 7:30 – 11 a.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children ages 6 – 12, and free for ages 5 and under.

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CHILI COOK-OFF



American Legion Jeff Davis Post #18 will host a Chili Cook-Off on Sunday, February 16. Registration to participate in the cook-off has closed, but the public is invited on February 16 to taste all the entries for only \$5 per person. Tasting begins at 2 p.m. and judging begins at 2:30 p.m.

8TH ANNUAL HIGH TEA



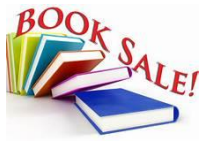
The Queen Anne's County Centre for the Arts (206 S. Commerce Street) in Centreville will host A Jane Austen High Tea on Saturday, February 22, 2 – 4 p.m. The event features cucumber sandwiches, roast beef sandwiches, scones, biscuits, brownies, and much more—plus tea—all served elegantly on fine china and lavishly laid tables. Tickets are \$45 per person for nonmembers and \$40 for members. All proceeds to benefit events, programs, and activities that promote the arts locally. Call 410-758-2520 to purchase tickets.

STORYTIME ON WHEELS TRAINING SESSION




The Storytime on Wheels volunteer program through the Queen Anne's County Library was described in the November 2019 Libretto. In a nutshell, Storytime brings reading into licensed day care homes in QAC. The Library provides volunteers with training and all the materials needed to run a great interactive program focused on developing early literacy skills. There will be a training session for new/prospective volunteers on Monday, February 24, 2:30 p.m. at the Centreville branch. Questions about the training and the program can be sent to Allison Wood (awood@qaclibrary.org) or SV's own Linda Blume (410-758-3194, linda7925y@yahoo.com). Not sure if you'd like to volunteer? Attend on February 24 and decide after you get more in-depth information.

CENTREVILLE BRANCH BOOK SALE



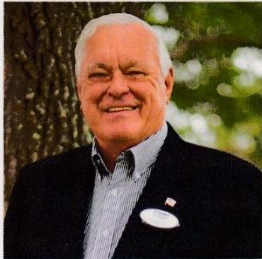
The Friends of the Queen Anne's County Library will host Centreville Branch Book Sale on Friday, March 13 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the branch in Centreville. Thousands of used books will be available including novels, coffee table books, cookbooks, travel books, biographies, histories, and children's books. There will also be DVDs and CDs. Sale prices begin at 25¢ and no title is more than \$1.




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ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT BREAKFAST BUFFET



The Goodwill Fire Company in Centreville will host an All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast Buffet on Sunday, March 15, 7:30 – 11 a.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children ages 6 – 12, and free for ages 5 and under.

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

We Honor Veterans Monthly Café

Wednesdays from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Compass Regional Hospice Hope & Healing Center, 255 Comet Drive, Centreville MD. All Veterans are welcome! Come share a cup of coffee and simply listen or share stories. The remaining 2020 schedule is: February 19, March 18, April 15, May 20, June 17, July 15, August 19, September 16, October 21, November 18, and December 16. For more information contact Robyn Affron raffron@compassregionalhospice.org 443-262-4112



UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE CENTREVILLE BRANCH OF THE QAC LIBRARY

- Friday, February 21, 2 – 4:30 p.m.: [Friday Film](#) “Southside with You”
- Tuesday, February 25, 10 – 10:45 a.m.: [Card Making Class](#) (Preregister on the website)
- Wednesday, February 26, 2 – 3:30 p.m.: [Paint A-Long](#) (Preregister on the website)
- Wednesday, February 26, 6 – 7 p.m.: [African American Genealogy—Telling Your Story](#) (Preregister on the website)
- Monday, March 2, 10:30 – 11:30: [Monday Morning Makers](#) (Preregister on the website)
- Friday, March 6, 2 – 4:30 p.m.: [Friday Film](#) (Movie TBA)
- Thursday, March 12, 5 – 6 p.m.: [3D Design Lab Drop-In](#) (Family event)

CONTACTS AT SYMPHONY VILLAGE

Rebecca Cook, General Manager
gm@symphonyvillagehoa.com

Kimberly Cox,
Executive Assistant General Manager
receptionist@symphonyvillagehoa.com

Nick Oliver, Maintenance
maintenance@symphonyvillagehoa.com

Board of Directors group email: Board@symphonyvillagehoa.com

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