



Fourth of July

Photo by Charlene McGrade

LIBRETTO 🎵

SYMPHONY VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

JULY 2022

VOL. XVII No. 7

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.

BREAKING NEWS

**All governing document proposed changes were approved!
318 ballots submitted — a record voting in Symphony Village**

Welcome to the Neighborhood!



Gene & Ann Blair
115 Concerto Avenue

William Jesse & Vicky L. Dixon
206 Opera Court

Robert (Bob) W. & Donna G. Harkins
301 Overture Way

Ray & Candy McConchie
312 Orchestra Place

Robert Smith & Gail I. Hoover-Smith
409 Symphony Way

Frank Mugavero & Marla Spring
207 Overture Drive

George A. & Kitty M. Wilson
153 Symphony Way

2021 SV HOA BOD

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – JULY 2022

PAT FOX, PRESIDENT

COVID Precautions – Unfortunately we are hearing about COVID numbers on the rise again. Please remember, if you are positive, especially with symptoms, stay home and get better! If you have recently come out of or are finishing any illness, please wear a mask both indoors and outdoors if there is a crowd making social distancing difficult.

SV Emergency Phone and Village Magnets – ProCom is now managing our community as of July 1, 2022. Our joint decision was to keep any off-hours emergency notifications with on-site staff versus rotating it among other ProCom managers. This number is printed on the SV magnets issued several years ago and provided to new residents. If you need a magnet, please pick one up in the Wall Street Room. They were designed by SV residents and contain our Clubhouse phone, emergency phone, and Website address.

Remember off-hours emergencies cover limited but serious topics such as water line breaks or fire (call 911 first) in the Clubhouse or other SV facilities such as the guard house; alarms going off; major irrigation leaks, and more. Please call the after-hours emergency number at 410-670-4466 and leave a message with the live 24-hour answering service. Please continue to hold if your call is not connected immediately, and a staff member will contact you shortly. Also, call 911 first for any situation where personal or property devastation could occur. You can contact a Board member or one of our resident First Responders too, if needed

Pool Safety – Please refresh your memory about our Pool Safety rules. They are on-line as well as on several signs at the pool itself. They are there to protect you, your family, and the overall community. Our pool is not deep (only a narrow five-foot band at best, located mid-pool). Serious injuries could occur from jumping, cannonballing, landing on your neighbor, etc.

Town of Centreville Water Meter Reader – Representatives from the Town's Public Works Department recently addressed residents about the water meter program upgrade. They explained the goal of the upgrade is to electronically collect usage data (only) by household to accommodate monthly billing requested by many town residents, to check for "anomalies" that could indicate costly water leaks or breaks as well as providing a portal into each account where the owner can check their individual usage and pay their invoices.

They also covered the two sites in SV proper owned by the town where they would put up either a tower by pump station at edge of Pond 1 or a flagpole in the Symphony Way traffic circle. Both would be 80' tall. They provided a Google map aerial view of the circumference of the circle area showing the limits of how far an 80' pole would fall; it would not hit any adjacent house. They also developed a rendering of a flagpole at the traffic circle with a view east on Symphony Way. Per the technical analysis reported by the Town, ONLY the traffic circle location would cover all our homes. Symphony Village is the last piece of the new system to be completed; all other parts of Centreville are covered by antennas mounted on the three large water towers.

While neither location was popular among the attendees, a suggestion from the audience is whether repeaters could be used from a tower at the pump station. The Public Works Director stated he would check this idea out and get back to us.

SV NOMINATING COMMITTEE SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

RICH RYAN, CHAIR

There will be two (2) vacant positions for the Symphony Village HOA Board of Directors effective December 2022. The terms for Pat Fox and Patrick Ways are expiring, and the positions will be filled by an election at the

December 2022 Board of Directors Meeting. Please give consideration to nominating yourself or another Symphony Village homeowner to fill these important roles.

The election process continues throughout the next several months. The Nominating Committee will announce additional details of the election process to include how to submit a nomination in the August issue of the *Libretto*. Please watch for these important announcements.

If you have any questions, please contact one of the following Nominating Committee members: Rich Ryan (Chair), Tom Meringolo, Randy Officer, Joe Sikes, Carol Peed, or Patrick Ways (Board Liaison).

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ARTISANS GUILD

KATHY McMANUS, CO-CHAIR & CATHY OLSON, CO-CHAIR

Wild & Friendly

Our newest show “Wild & Friendly” is on display in the Concert Hall. If you haven’t had an opportunity to view it, please put it on your “to do” list. There are many beautiful examples of artwork by talented residents. This show opened on June 26 with a spectacular reception and will run through October. There is plenty of time to catch a peek and enjoy!

The Artisans Guild would like to thank our featured artist Nancy O’Brien for her awesome artwork exhibit. We much appreciated John Olson for the demonstration of his 3D printer, Sue Peterson and the quilting group ladies for their display of beautiful quilt items, and Susan Rayner for her unique table display of our wild and friendly theme. A big thank you to Randy Officer for providing our ambient music, and we always appreciate Donna and Skip for tending bar to lift our spirits! Also a special thank you to the many volunteers who participated in helping with this show and providing everything from our delicious food to the setup/cleanup crew. We could not put on SV art receptions without every one of you.

The show was successful in selling several lovely artwork pieces. There is a catalog on display in the Concert Hall for anyone looking to purchase an item to support our SV artists.

Guild Member Highlight

The following paragraph was written by Joseph Lichaa, one of our Artisan Guild committee members, explaining how he became interested in becoming an artist:

Ever since Zina and I started traveling, art exhibits have been an integral part of our journeys. My career consisted of home renovation in many forms, from tearing down walls to adding bathrooms to faux finishing. One day I came home after a day of adding faux to a client’s dining room. I had extra plaster. I added pigment to it then used the various colors to create a painting of a fisherman fishing, one of my favorite pastimes. When I completed it, I showed it to Zina. Very quietly, a rare event, she told me that I was no longer going to work.



She told me she would have Nancy Tankersley teach me and then ordered a \$400 easel; just to be sure I would take my painting seriously. To this day we both are shocked that I acquiesced. That was in 2013.

Thank you, Joseph, for sharing your story. Maybe there are others in our SV community who would like to share their story and join our committee. We would love to have you join us.

Upcoming Events

The next Artisans Guild meeting is on September 8 at 3:30 p.m. in the Concert Hall. You can find us on the calendar or in the *Libretto* or just contact one of us below.

We also meet most Thursday mornings at 10 a.m. to draw, paint, do needlepoint or related arts with an opportunity to socialize as well. If you would like more information about Thursdays, please contact us so we can put you on our email list to get weekly updates. All are welcome.

Kathy McManus, kpmcmanus317@yahoo.com

Cathy Olson, shop.5678@icloud.com

COVENANTS COMMITTEE

VICKI KOBER, CHAIR

Bird Houses and Bird Feeders

Bird houses and bird feeders are permitted only in the private area in the rear of the homeowner's lot. Bird houses and/or bird feeders must be located in garden beds only. No bird houses or bird feeders are permitted in the front of the house or on common area trees.



LANDSCAPE AND IRRIGATION

TOM MCMANUS, CHAIR

Spotted Lanternfly

As these critters are all over the news these days, you may have heard about the **Spotted Lanternfly** now coming into Maryland. Here's an [article from a study by Penn State University](#), to show that all is not lost.

For several years, the invasive Spotted Lanternfly had no known natural predators, which greatly helped its rapid invasion of Pennsylvania and elsewhere.



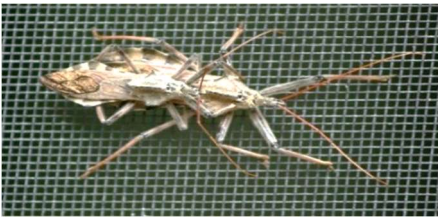
However, as more research has come to light surrounding the bugs, there are actually several animals who like making a meal of the pest.

According to a study from Penn State University, the public has aided them in finding several predators for the bug. Chickens, cardinals, praying mantises, ants, wasps, and spiders have all been shown to eat the invasive species.

The bugs aren't the main diet of these predators, but they're generalists that are making use of a rapidly increasing and abundant food source, according to experts.

One known predator that has been spotted increasingly snacking on the lanternflies is the Wheel Bug. **Wheel bugs**, *Arilus cristatus L.*, may appear frightening to some individuals. However, these are beneficial insects that prey on other arthropods such as caterpillars, moths, and other soft-bodied insects.

Wheel Bug



If you've never heard of these predators, they're typically found in Southwest Pennsylvania, but they've become more common throughout the state within the past decade. They are in Maryland as well.

This bug has a piercing beak-type mouth. They will lay eggs right next to spotted lanternfly egg masses. Since the wheel bug hatches first, they will sit and wait for the spotted lanternfly eggs to hatch. A quick and free meal!

Assassin Bug

Researchers are interested in finding and encouraging the growth of natural enemies to the lanternfly. Like planting pollinator gardens, which are gardens designed to attract pollinators like bees. Several wildflowers will attract **Assassin Bugs** that will then, hopefully, prey on lanternflies.

If you spot a bird or bug eating a **Spotted Lanternfly**, you're encouraged to report it. You may email DontBug.MD@maryland.gov and/or call 410-841-5920.



LIFESTYLE COMMITTEE



Symphony Villagers eagerly anticipated this summer season and are taking part in social activities again! Please come out and enjoy the fun atmosphere that makes Symphony Village a special place to live!

July started with the 2nd Annual Outdoor Community Social Hour celebrating new residents! The July 1 Social Hour was particularly fun due to all the activities that took place: Neighbors

socialized and greeted new neighbors, participated in games of Corn Hole, Kan Jam, and Water Volleyball while enjoying great music! In addition, Danielle's Pit Stop, a local food truck owned by Mr. Charles Emory, provided delicious cuisine to add to the festivities! We thank him for his time and talent! Kudos to Mr. John Olson for developing the nametags and invitations for new residents! We thank EVERYONE who volunteered to set up, clean up, and keep the fun going!



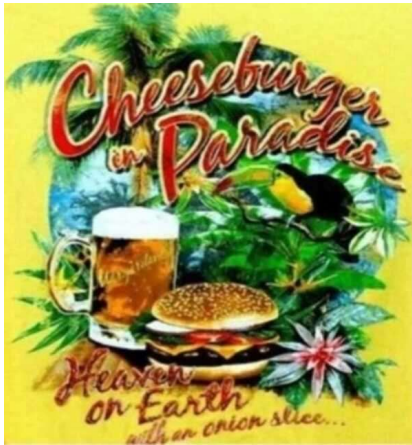
Neighbors enjoyed perfect weather and a fun-filled parade celebrating the Fourth of July! Many sat on lawn chairs outside their homes to cheer the procession of bikes, trucks, cars, and motorcycles! Thank you, Jack Cohen, for coordinating another fabulous Symphony Village Fourth of July Parade!



DEBORAH JONES-MILLER



CHEESEBURGER IN PARADISE!



MARK your calendar for another fabulous Cheeseburger in Paradise! Enjoy tunes with The Chris Sacks Duo on **Wednesday, August 3, from 6 to 9 p.m.**

REMINDER: Members from Symphony Village Sneakers will be selling HOA Dues raffle tickets at the **July 16 and August 5 Social Hours between 5:30 and 6:15 p.m.** Make your check payable to “Symphony Sneakers” and place “HOA Raffle” in the memo section.

CALLING ALL CHILI CONNOISSEURS!

Think your chili could win a prize? Get out that secret chili recipe and vie for gold at the Gala Chili Cook-Off and Square Dance on **Friday, September 23, from 6 to 9 p.m.** Chili cook-off starts at **6 p.m.** and the square dance follows at **7:30 p.m.**

Afraid your chili can't win because it's too mild or perhaps too hot or spicy? Fear not! There will be winners for “Milder,” “Hotter /Spicier,” and “Best Overall” chili. Trophies and prizes abound! There will be three independent judges for the cook-off.

Sign-up sheets will be available August 8 in the Lifestyle Book in the Wall Street Room for those entering chili and those attending the event.

The cost is \$8 per person for everyone attending and/or entering chili.

All attendees not entering chili are asked to bring either corn bread or a dessert. Make out your check for \$8 (per person) payable to SVHOA (place chili cook-off on the memo line) and put in the box provided. **Walk-ins the night of September 23 will be charged \$10.**

Beverages are NOT included with the price of admission, but available through the Social Club.

Have square dance experience? I would love to hear from you at 443-262-8216 or HRSWDCNLB@aol.com.

Norm Bossie, Chairman of Gala Chili Cook Off and Square Dance

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR UPCOMING EVENTS:

Wednesday, July 20	4 – 7 p.m.	Ice Cream Social	Join us near the outdoor pool to enjoy ice cream treats sponsored by Ed Beres, REMAX Executive
Wednesday, August 3	6 –9 p.m.	Cheeseburger in Paradise	Cost is \$10 per person. Menu will include burgers, condiments, chips, and desserts. Come enjoy the Margarita Station! The Chris Sacks Duo will perform from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. In case of inclement weather, event will be held indoors.
Friday, September 23	6 – 9 p.m.	Chili Cookoff and Square Dance	Cost is \$8 per person. Come out and sample delicious chili made by SV neighbors. Then enjoy an evening of fun square dancing to work it off!



OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

JOE SIKES, CHAIR; FRED KURST, VICE CHAIR

The Operations Committee is responsible for aiding the HOA Board of Directors (BOD) and the General Manager (GM) regarding management and operation of community common property. We share this responsibility with the Landscape and Irrigation Committee and focus on such things as the Clubhouse, swimming pools, and sidewalks.

The resurfacing of the tennis/pickleball courts has residents enjoying our shiny renovated courts. Be sure to use proper shoes so we keep them looking great.

Our next meeting is scheduled for **10 a.m.** in the Clubhouse on **Thursday, July 21**. It will be a hybrid meeting so residents can also attend virtually. I highlight three topics that will be discussed:

- First, we have tentatively identified some specific sidewalk areas for replacement and will review options during the meeting. Since some sections are impacted by trees, this will be done in coordination with the Landscape and Irrigation Committee.
- Second, the Committee will compile FY 2023 budget submissions to the BOD for consideration as part of the annual SV budget review.
- Third, in response to recent inquiries concerning purchase of neighborhood benches, the committee will consider funding as part of the budget submission. These benches are not replacements and must be purchased using the annual SV budget. For background, such benches were considered in 2019 by the committee and were not recommended. A motion to identify acceptable locations became controversial and was overwhelmingly voted down. It was not a cost issue although that will have to be weighed as well. We will take another look at the question.

The committee will also review other ongoing issues, such as identification of a new beaver dam noted in the latest report by Solitude, our stormwater pond contractor.

We welcome resident participation to help us keep our community great.

PUBLICATIONS & COMMUNICATIONS

MARYKAY KERR

Symphony Village Name Tags

We've received comments about the finish on the name tags wearing off or fading. A call was placed to the supplier who felt the fault was not in the production, but in the care and storage of the tag.

The name tag should be kept in its plastic sleeve, free from being rubbed or scratched by other items it might come in contact with when just tossed in a drawer. If you don't have the original sleeve, a small plastic baggie would work to protect the name tag. Also it was recommended that the tags not be washed.

SYMPHONY SNEAKERS

LINDA FARRAR

Sneakers HOA Raffle

This year, once again, Sneakers is holding a raffle with the prize being your Symphony Village HOA dues for 2023 being paid in full.

The tickets are \$30 per ticket or two tickets for \$50. There are two ways to get your tickets. You can make a check payable to Symphony Sneakers and deposit it in the box in the Wall Street Room, and we will deliver

your tickets to your house, or you can come to the Clubhouse on the following dates, and we will be selling tickets in person:

July 16	Social Hour – 5:30 to 6:15 p.m.
July 21	12:30 to 1:30 p.m.
July 28	Ladies Social Hour – 5 to 6 p.m.
August 5	Social Hour – 5:30 to 6:15 p.m.
August 9	12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

Drawing of the winning ticket will be during the Symphony Village Labor Day festivities. By the way, you do not have to be present to win.

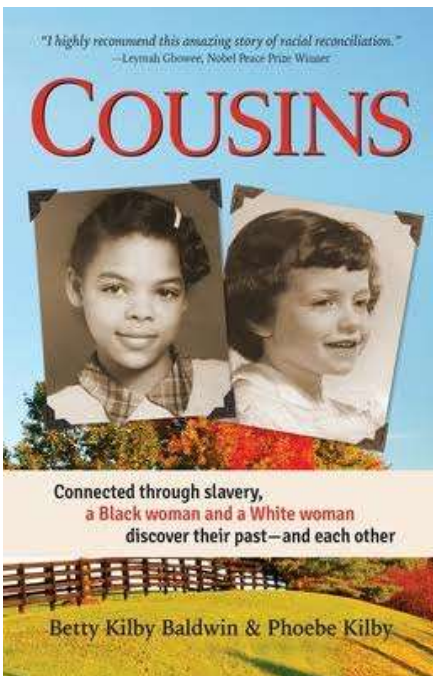
All profits from the raffle will go to support our programs in the public schools.

Thanking you in advance for your support.

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

READING FOR FUN – JUNE 2022 REVIEW

JOE SIKES



The SV Book Club held a hybrid meeting on June 21 and discussed *Cousins* by Phoebe Kilby and Betty Kilby Baldwin. Attendees included: Joe Sikes, Jan Withers, Kathryn & Jim Buckheit, Mary Jo Volpicelli, Sue Goldberg, Carol Saltiel, and Bob Nilsson.

Mary Jo Volpicelli and Jan Withers attended a joint discussion by the book's authors earlier this year and were so impressed that they recommended including the book on our reading list. Betty Kilby Baldwin was one of twenty-two children who integrated Warren County High School (Virginia) in 1958. Phoebe Kilby grew up in a middle class family in Baltimore during the Civil Rights era and started to wonder if her ancestors were enslavers. Researching historical records, Phoebe discovered that her family owned enslaved people before the Civil War in Rappahannock County, Virginia.

When Phoebe read Betty's autobiography describing her experiences during school integration, Phoebe began to wonder whether Betty was related to the families enslaved by her ancestors. Betty's book contained many clues that dovetailed with Phoebe's genealogical research and heightened her suspicion that their families were connected through slavery. She concluded the only way to be sure was to contact Betty.

Being unsure how Betty would react to being contacted by a member of her family's enslavers, Phoebe got her courage up and sent a long email. She was more than pleasantly surprised when Betty's email response came back with a subject line of "Hello Cousin,"—hence the title of the book. The book goes on to describe the deepening relationship between the two women, as well as the continuing investigation into their joint family history.

Betty and Phoebe started to tour together, giving presentations at various occasions related to the country's struggle with the enduring effects of slavery and racism. Betty's autobiography, *Wit, Will & Walls*, is replete with the details of her father's determination to provide her an education and the struggles she faced during integration in Warren County. As with most southern states, Virginia closed its public schools rather than submit to the mandates of the Supreme Court decision in *Brown vs. The Board of Education*. A number of the

Club members read Betty's autobiography, as well, to deepen their understanding of the relationship between the two women.

The Book Club had one of its most rewarding meetings on June 21 and enjoyed learning Betty' and Phoebe's story immensely. The subject matter led to spirited discussion about several topics related to the issue of civil rights. For example, we shared differing opinions on the topic of reparations, but found wisdom in the words of Phoebe Kilby. She described reparations as the taking of steps to address historic injustice, and not just monetary compensation. What Betty and Phoebe do together is an excellent example of what reparations should be.

Despite enjoying their fascinating story, the Club found the actual book lagged behind the story it told, mostly because neither woman had an extensive writing background. In order to resolve the dichotomy between enjoyment of the story and quality of the writing, we awarded two scores for this book. The mesmerizing story was graded at 9.5, which is the highest grade we have given. The book itself was graded at a more pedestrian 7.0.

We hold our meetings on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Clubhouse. We have started to hold hybrid meetings, so contact me if you would like to attend virtually. My email is sikes.withers@yahoo.com

Our current list of books and associated review dates are:

July 19	<i>On Traigh Lar Beach</i> by Dianne Ebertt Beeaff
August 16	<i>The Code Breaker</i> by Walter Isaacson
September 20	<i>Nine Lives</i> by Peter Swanson
October 18	<i>Prisoners of Geography</i> by Tim Marshall
November 15	<i>Something Unbelievable</i> by Maria Kuznetsova
December 20	<i>Old Woman with the Knife</i> by Gu Byeong Mo

NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR NEWS AND INSIGHTS

MARGE STRANO, CHAIR

Neighbor to Neighbor was created in the very early stages of the development of the Symphony Village Community. The simple and straightforward mission statement is very clear: *Neighbor to Neighbor provides short-term volunteer support to our neighbors.*

Are you looking for a way to connect with the SV Community and meet new people? Well, Neighbor to Neighbor is looking for a way to connect with you—we need additional volunteers to help us in our mission. We plan to reach out to you at the July Ladies Social and the August 20 Social Hour. Representatives from the Neighbor to Neighbor Committee will be there to answer your questions and ask for your help.

Volunteers may be asked to do something as simple as sending a greeting card, making a telephone call, sending an email, or sending a text message. Sometimes the help is in the form of a smile or a quick hello from across the street. Occasionally, a neighbor needs a meal or, in an emergency, a trip to the market or pharmacy to pick up a prescription. Volunteers occasionally prepare a meal or coordinate two or three meals for someone in need.

We currently have a list of residents who will prepare a meal when the need arises. If you cannot volunteer on a regular basis but would like to help with a meal, you can add your name to our list by calling your street captain or contacting Marge Strano by phone at 609-221-6378 or by email at mbestrano@gmail.com. Once you have added your name to the meal volunteer list, you may be called upon by the captain on your street to prepare a meal for one of your neighbors on a date that works for you.

We welcome new volunteers and input from the SV Community. If you have an interest in helping your neighbors in a time of need and have some fresh ideas or thoughts, please let us know. Perhaps you have a special ability that would make the Neighbor to Neighbor program work more efficiently. We look forward to incorporating new ideas from the SV Community into the Neighbor to Neighbor mission. Hopefully, we can increase our volunteer pool and provide help for the streets that currently do not have a street captain. Recently several street captains moved away or decided to step down after 10 to 12 years of volunteering. Volunteering is not limited to acting as a street captain, we can always use help with organizational tasks that help us accomplish our goals. Contact us by calling Marge Strano at 609-221-6378 or by sending an email to mbestrano@gmail.com. You don't need to wait until you see us at one of these events, please contact us today for additional information or to volunteer.

Hopefully, we can inspire enough people from the community to fill our vacancies and move forward with our mission. We also need people to work in leadership positions. Working with Neighbor to Neighbor provides a rewarding and enriching experience and a wonderful opportunity to meet many of the kind, caring, and talented residents of the SV community. We look forward to meeting our new residents and reconnecting with our current residents.

BOCCE

PATTI CIPRIANO



Come play Bocce
Wednesdays
5 p.m. at the Bocce Court

PICKLEBALL IS ROCKIN' IN SYMPHONY VILLAGE

ROSEMARY ROSENBERGER

Don't know what to do early on a Tuesday, Thursday, or Saturday morning? Anyone interested in learning how to play pickleball is welcome to visit, see what it's all about, and join in the fun we have on the following scheduled play times:

Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at 8:30 a.m.

We now have four beautiful courts that are, for the most part, fully occupied each day with folks rotating in after each game. Many of us have been playing for a few years now. If you are a beginner and are interested in learning how to play, a few of us "veterans" are more than happy to provide "free lessons" in the evening around 6 p.m. If you are interested, please visit us at the courts on a scheduled playday or send me an email at rosenbergers@mail.com. I'd be happy to arrange dates for evening lessons.



Whatever it is that you choose to do, stay safe and enjoy our beautiful Symphony Village! As always, please feel free to reach out to me should you have any questions or concerns!

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

JOHN OLSON – CERT COORDINATOR



CERT Support to Queen Anne's County

On June 14, several volunteers from the Symphony Village CERT team assisted the Queen Anne's County Department of Emergency Services in assembling several hundred STOP THE BLEED® kits (pictured at right). These kits will be placed in every county vehicle and contain essential tools and materials to help treat life-threatening injuries.



Thanks to the STOP THE BLEED volunteers

Standing left to right: John Olson, Carol Peed, Joe Sikes, Steve Nelson, Debra Hopkins (QAC), Kevin Brenner (QAC), Amy Landen, Carol Saltiel, and Jan Withers

Seated left to right: Steve Quigley, Eileen Rowley, Dale Butler, Linda Butler

Upcoming CERT Activities

July CERT meeting – **July 19 at 4 p.m.** in the Concert Hall

CERT-sponsored Social Hour – **August 5**

Symphony Village Safety Day – **September 14 from 3 to 6 p.m.**



A gushing plumbing leak can dump several gallons per minute into your home. You must act fast to stop the stream. Do you know how to shut off the water to avoid flooding? Find out where your 1) city water meter and shutoff valve and 2) internal home shutoff valve is located before there is an emergency.

1. City Water Shutoff

You should shut off the city water for either of these reasons:

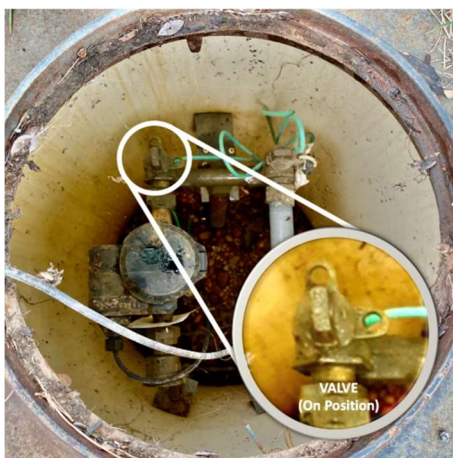
- Your inside water main valve fails, and you have a water emergency (burst pipe)
- You have a leak or burst pipe before the main inside valve (between the street and the inside valve)

Water Meter Access

Generally, there is a water shutoff access between each two homes; look for it between the curb and the sidewalk. If it is overgrown with grass (left photo), you should trim around the access (right photo) so that the water supply could be located and shut off if there is a water leak between the town water supply and your house.



How to Shut Off the Water



In an emergency to completely shut off water coming from the city into your house, open the circular cover out by the curb. There is a 5-sided nut that needs to be turned. Assuming you do not have a 5-sided socket, a pair of pliers or vise-grips will do the job. When the lid is off (picture at left), look inside for a one-quarter turn valve (circled) and use your pliers or a wrench to turn the valve one-quarter turn to the right (clockwise). Note: when there are two valves, turn the one closest to your property.

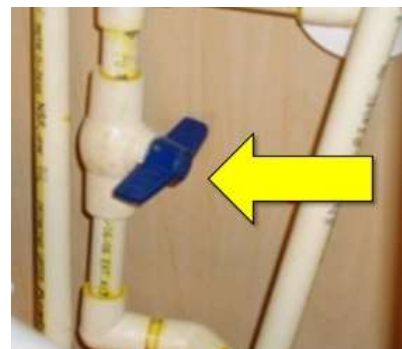
2. Internal Home Water Shutoff

If you have a water leak within the house, you can turn off water to the entire house. Locate the shutoff, probably in the laundry area near the hot water heater. There are two types of shutoffs used:

- **PVC valve.** Turn the handle one-quarter turn so the handle is across the pipe instead of aligned with the pipe (shown in the off position in the photo)
- **Gate valve.** Turn the handle clockwise until tight. Don't force it!

Be careful not to twist or pull on the shutoff or pipe.

Unfortunately, there are several locations for the home water shutoff valve depending on the home model and even within the same model. This is another reason to take the time now to locate the valve before there is a leak.



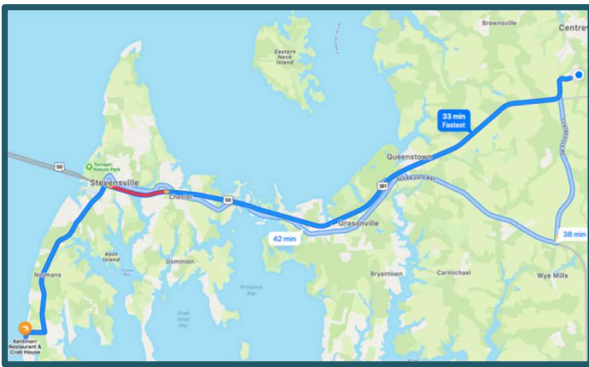
LUNCH BUNCH

BEA TROTTA & MARGE STRANO

The August Lunch Bunch is scheduled for [The Kentmorr Restaurant and Crab House](#) at 910 Kentmorr Road, Stevensville, on **Thursday, August 4, at 12:30 p.m.** We can enjoy a wonderful lunch and an outstanding water and harbor view. Kentmorr offers great food, in a relaxing atmosphere. Click on the photo to the right to go to the Kentmorr Website for additional information.



Sign up online by using the [Lunch Bunch Sign-up](#). You can go to the Symphony Village [Website](#) directly and scroll down to *Current and Upcoming SV Events* and click on the *Lunch Bunch*. As usual, you can sign up in the Club Activities Book at the Clubhouse. If you sign up online, please do not add your name in the Activities Book. Only sign up in one place. Please call Bea Trotta at 610-217-4754 or Marge Strano at 609-221-6378 if you have a question or need a ride. The map photo shows the route from the Clubhouse to the restaurant.



Take the last exit before the Bay Bridge and make a left onto Romancoke Road; travel about five miles and make a right onto Kentmorr Road. The very end of Kentmorr Road bends to the left. If you need more detailed driving directions, call us—we can send driving directions to your mobile phone.

Looking ahead, we may try to look for a restaurant in Annapolis for the September or October outings. If you have any suggestions, please let us know; we are always looking for new places to dine.

OUTREACH

SUE CANFIELD, PRESIDENT

Thank You for Collecting Pull Tabs

LORETTA QUIGLEY

Your Outreach team wants to thank our neighbors and friends who continue to collect pull tabs from cans. We partner with our local Shriners organization in Chester for recycling these pull tabs for monies used to transport local children for hospital care at no charge to their families. To date, over a half million pounds of aluminum have been recycled nationwide in this program!



If you are a new resident, please join us—it is so easy. Save aluminum pull tabs from soda, other beverages, fruits, vegetables, pet foods, and so many other canned items. Place the tabs in a zip-lock bag and bring it to the Clubhouse. Place the bag in the container in the Craft Room. This has been an ongoing effort for several years now that really does add up and means so much to those seeking help.

Dinner at Doc's

SUE CANFIELD

A Big “Thank You” to all who went to the “Dinner at Doc’s” on June 21. We made \$405 for the Goodwill Fire Company. We will be so happy to present the Fire Company with a check this week. Thank you for helping us raise this money for such a good cause.

Save the Date

Wednesday, October 19

Outreach Annual Card and Game Party!

More information to come in August.



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

SAVE THE DATE

CINDY BOGNER

IAL Showcase of Fall 2022 Semester Classes on Wednesday, August 10, 2 to 4 p.m., Centreville, Maryland

The Institute for Adult Learning (IAL) is a non-profit organization whose mission is to provide learning experiences and social events that enrich the lives of the age 50+ community in the Mid-Shore area.

The IAL will host a Showcase of Classes for the Fall 2022 Semester on **Wednesday, August 10, from 2 to 4 p.m.** at the Kennard African American Cultural Heritage Center. The location is 410 Little Kidwell Avenue, Centreville, Maryland.

The event provides an overview of more than 30 courses to be offered in the Fall 2022 semester, which runs from early September through mid-December, including history and current events, brain and body health, local environment and science, and art and culinary classes. All classes are held during the day, Monday through Friday, and range from a single session to eight sessions.

At the Showcase of Classes, you will be able to meet instructors, hear brief overviews of upcoming classes, catch up with old friends and meet new people, enjoy your favorite beverages and hors d'oeuvres, and register for classes.



The membership fee of \$90 per person per semester entitles participants to sign up for an unlimited number of courses. Members are also invited to participate in monthly happy hours and various field trips throughout the semester.

The Fall 2022 Trips are as follows:

Thursday, August 18: A Day in Cambridge to include the Spocott Windmill and Village, Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge, and the Choptank River Lighthouse.

Thursday, September 15: Patriot Cruise on the Miles River from the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum in St. Michaels.

Friday, October 21: Air Mobility Command Museum, Dover, Delaware.

Attendees may join the IAL and enroll in classes either at the August 10 Showcase or on the organization’s website AFTER the August 10 event. Registration to attend the Showcase is not required but is recommended by sending an email to the new IAL email address: info@instituteforadultlearning.org.

The IAL was established in 2001 and was previously housed at Chesapeake College. Following the pandemic, it was reestablished in 2021 as a component fund within the Mid-Shore Community Foundation and relocated to the Kennard Center.

For more information about the IAL or for a complete listing of Fall 2022 semester courses, visit the new IAL website at www.instituteforadultlearning.org. Also, if you have additional questions, please feel free to contact Cindy Bogner (703-655-6505) or Steve Quigley (410-758-6775) who are on the IAL Council and also Symphony Village residents.

RESTAURANT REVIEW

PAT FOX

Bonheur Ice Cream and Pie Shop

We discovered a wonderful dessert place in downtown Easton at 5 Goldsborough Street – **Bonheur Ice Cream and Pie Shop** – a family-owned business that makes the most delicious and creamy ice cream I have ever eaten. They also make beautiful homemade pies—you can always tell by the crust!

Not only can you have the sweets, but you can enjoy wine or champagne. They also do a High Tea on Fridays with seatings at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. with various menu offerings. Call 419-464-7879 to make a reservation.

I was also blown away at how pretty the décor was! Amazing mural wallpaper that makes you feel like you are in a European mansion or a forest—even in the restrooms!

It is open seven days a week—mostly 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. Cute little shops and other restaurants are on the block. Check [their website](#) for more details.



SEARCHING FOR LOCAL VENDORS

MARGE STRANO

Where can I find local vendors and business outlets to paint my house, remodel my house, put in a new light fixture, repair plumbing, check the heating system, etc.? Knowing where to find names of vendors is the first step in the decision-making process of hiring someone to work on your home.

Think about the process you used to choose your local supermarket. You probably did a quick drive-around the area or went to the *Yellow Pages* to check out the local markets. You may have asked one of your neighbors to make a recommendation. On your first market visit, you looked for signs of cleanliness, distance from your home, brand names of products that the market carries, the friendliness and willingness of employees to help you as you moved your cart through the store, and finally, you carefully checked and compared prices to determine if the market provided the best match for you. Although choosing a painter, electrician, or service repair business is not as easy a task, you can use some of the same thought processes in making your decision. You may, however, need to extend your search parameters and do additional research to find the vendor that will satisfy your needs best.

There are some local resources that can provide a level of comfort in making your decision:

- Check for local vendors in the *Centreville Circular* prepared by Centreville Main Street. This publication includes local repair services, restaurants, and comes out four times a year; the circular is delivered by the USPS directly to your mailbox. You can hold onto it for reference purposes until the next issue arrives.
- Ask your neighbors for ideas. If you currently use the Nextdoor online site, you can ask for suggestions from your Symphony Village neighbors to check out the reputation of the business. To join Nextdoor ECHOES, contact Carol Hodges at lhodges@atlanticbb.net or a neighbor to receive an invitation.
- Take a walk to the Clubhouse and go to the Wall Street Room. Look through the *Tidewater Times* and *Attractions—The Good News Magazine*, both published in print and online regularly nearly every month of the year. Both magazines carry ads from local vendors and business services. You can also look at the bulletin boards in the Craft Room (to the left of the Card Room) for business cards and flyers. Three separate bulletin boards offer information on house cleaning services, caregiver services, and local businesses.
- Look through the *Yellow Pages* and *White Pages* online for names of local businesses.
- Check other online resources.
- Check with your local [Better Business Bureau](#).
- Call or visit the [Queen Anne's County Chamber of Commerce](#).
- Read local advertising circulars that come in the mail.
- Get two or more estimates of the cost and the timeline for completion of the project in advance to decrease the chances of being disappointed at the end of the project.
- Finally, keep in mind that an advertising ad is just that—advertising to increase business activity.

Your home is a very personal space; you want to keep it safe. You also want the work done to your satisfaction. Some local business enterprises are reaching out to their customers by providing photographs of their employees online. Some business representatives identify themselves with a company name tag including a photo when they arrive at your home to do the work. Take this information into consideration when making your choice.

We all have different expectations as to the quality of the work, the level of expense involved, and the safety of our home. No one can guarantee that a business is legitimate or that it will perform the service in a proper and professional manner. Look through the information you gather with a critical eye and make an informed decision, don't just rely on your *Good Luck*.

COMBINING PASSIONS

My passion for the stars began as a child; my passion for inspiring quotations began after my stroke. I hope you all find these quotations as inspiring as I do.

“The wisdom of the wise and the experience of the ages are perpetuated by quotations.” *Benjamin Disraeli*

“If you could see the earth illuminated when you were in a place as dark as night, it would look to you more splendid than the moon.” *Galileo Galilei*

“The Moon was a sobering sight, but it didn’t have the impact on me, at least, as the view of the Earth did.”
Frank Borman

“We choose to go to the Moon in this decade and do the other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard...because that challenge is one that we are willing to accept.” *John F. Kennedy*

“Oddly enough the overriding sensation I got looking at the earth was, my god, that little thing is so fragile out there.” *Mike Collins*

“As we got further and further away, the Earth diminished in size. Finally it shrank to the size of a marble, the most beautiful you can imagine.” *James B. Irwin*

“Preserve and cherish the pale blue dot, the only home we’ve ever known.” *Carl Sagan*

“Those who contemplate the beauty of the Earth find reserves of strength that will endure as long as life lasts.”
Rachel Carson

“Astronomy compels the soul to look upwards and leads us from this world to another.” *Plato*

“We are part of this Universe, we are in this Universe, but perhaps more important than both of those facts is that the Universe is in us.” *Neil DeGrasse Tyson*

“We are made of star stuff. We are a way for the cosmos to know itself.” *Carl Sagan*

“The good thing about science is that it’s true whether or not you believe in it.” *Neil DeGrasse Tyson*

“If I have seen further than others, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants.” *Isaac Newton*

“Though my soul may set in darkness, it will rise in perfect light; I have loved the stars too fondly to be fearful of the night.” *Sarah Williams*

“Astronomy, as nothing else can do, teaches men humility.” *Arthur C. Clarke*

“Only two things are infinite, the universe and human stupidity, and I’m not sure about the former.”
Albert Einstein

“We live in a society exquisitely dependent on science and technology, in which hardly anyone knows anything about science and technology.” *Carl Sagan*

“Science is not only a disciple of reason, but also one of romance and passion.” *Stephen Hawking*

I have found my strength to go on, my passion sustains me. My curiosity moves me from one day to the next with the joy of discovery just around the corner. *Larry Rayner*

LAURA ROCCO



What do we really know about our Symphony Village neighbors? Most of us are retirees and now enjoy a life outside of career and work. As I interview and write these articles for the *Libretto*, I am absolutely astounded by the accomplishments and talents of folks here in our Village.

Adding to the list of Neighbors of Note for this month is Laura Rocco. Laura is a gal who “can do just about everything, but not all at once!”

Born and raised in Northport, on Long Island, New York, Laura went on to graduate from Adelphi University in 1970 with a BA in nursing. After graduation, Laura was recruited by Johns Hopkins Hospital and planned to stay one year. Forty years later, she would retire from there!

During those forty years, Laura was employed by the School of Medicine in Research for Obstetrics, Infertility, and Clinical Pharmacology. In the early days of the AIDS epidemic, she worked on new drugs to treat HIV, including NIH sponsored projects with Dr. Anthony Fauci. She co-authored research papers, including a seminal obstetrics article, published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*. Because research is funded by grants, most projects lasted for two to three years. Laura would have 27 different offices on the Johns Hopkins campus.

In 1979, Laura received her Master of Science degree in Continuing Adult Education at Hopkins and applied it to her teaching responsibilities. Her last nine years were spent as chair of the Institutional Review Board that approved research on humans.

Retiring from Johns Hopkins in 2010, Laura vowed, “No more meetings!”

One evening in 2001, Laura, a fan of the theater, was a volunteer usher at Center Stage in Baltimore. A fellow usher was a guy named Allan Levin. They had an instant connection and have shared their lives ever since.

For the past 14 years, Laura has enjoyed doting on Allan’s seven grandchildren—in anticipation of having her own someday. That day came in 2021 when her daughter Gwen presented her with a granddaughter, Ava! As an avid reader, Laura is already building a library for her.

There are many facets to Laura and one of them is a love of music. As a nine-year-old child, she began playing the flute. As a member of the Northport High School band, the official New York State band at the 1964 World’s Fair, Laura participated on opening and closing day. However, as we all know, when we join the working force, our beloved hobbies go by the wayside. Laura was no exception; she did not resurrect her flute until she was fifty years old! She now plays with community bands and a flute choir in Florida and Maryland and spent one season in the NFL Ravens band! She also plays at local Senior Centers, and other groups in those areas. Next, she discovered the steel drum, took a beginner’s course, and began playing that happy music. Since then, she has added ukulele, mountain dulcimer, lumberjack, and harmonica.

In 2010, Laura inherited a home in Smyrna Beach, Florida, from her parents. She and Allan became snowbirds, dividing their time between Florida and Maryland. Their first winter there, Laura became interested in the plants that grow in Florida because they all looked like house plants to her. She then studied to become a Master Gardener and Naturalist in both states. In that role, Laura worked in the local elementary school and ran a “school garden,” teaching the children about foods, gardening, and nutrition.

Living in the two states, Laura has the unique opportunity to share her talents and knowledge in both places. No matter where she is, Laura finds a like-minded group and plays her instruments, volunteers in the Master Gardener/Naturalist activities, and enjoys collage and needlework (currently working on a Christmas stocking for Ava). Her quest for knowledge and research took her to Guadalajara, Mexico, for a three-week immersion course in Spanish. She's now learning Yiddish! Another interest is in the multicultural process of dying and the rituals of how we deal with death, before and after. She has participated in the Death Café movement and studied the Jewish rituals of the Chevra Kadisha. Laura has also been a Hospice volunteer.

Laura is also a traveler. After college graduation, she worked one year and then took a year off to hitchhike across Europe. Later she and two friends purchased mopeds and traveled all through Ireland on them! At Johns Hopkins she traveled abroad as well. When assigned to a research project at Guy's Hospital in London, she was able to take her seven-year-old daughter with her. Later, in 1999 when Johns Hopkins partnered with the University of Singapore, Laura traveled there regularly to work. She and her daughter have spent three weeks in Cuba on a music and arts tour. Both Laura and Allan also love to travel. They've enjoyed bus tours and cruises with their Symphony Village friends. Recently they traveled to London where they were on Ava duty while Gwen and husband Jesse went to matches at Wimbledon.

Did I mention that Laura loves cats? And Al, formerly not interested in cats, is now enthralled by the stray, Giti, who adopted them in Florida!

So, what brought Laura and Al to Symphony Village? It was all because of a badly broken ankle after Laura fell on the basement floor at home in Pasadena. Their home had three levels, and it seemed that Laura would not be able to manage all of those stairs. She and Al decided to move to one level living and their realtor suggested Symphony Village. They were able to find a house that suited them and moved in September 2011.

When asked what she enjoys about living in our Village, Laura immediately responded, "the people." She and Allan both like the amenities and social events and participate when they are here. They also like the security of being able to leave their home without worry, while living in Florida for six months each year. As an avid reader, Laura appreciates the Queen Anne's County Free Library and all it has to offer. For the past twelve years, she has volunteered at Adkins Arboretum.

Laura continues to amaze with her keen intellect and thirst for knowledge. To be sure, she is a lifelong learner and curious about all things. Laura is still eager to discover new interests and because she is a snowbird, can participate in any number of activities at either location. It's a win-win for everyone associated with her. What will Laura do next? Be sure and ask her about the two-thousand worms living in her garage.

CENTREVILLE HAPPENINGS

CENTREVILLE AREA HAPPENINGS PLUS

CHARLOTTE GODFREY

Centreville Farmers' Market – Sundays 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., rain or shine, Lawyer's Row, through October 9.

Kent Island Farmer's Market – Thursdays year-round, 3 to 6 p.m., at Cult Classic Brewery, 1169 Shopping Center Rd, Stevensville. (Wonderful freshly baked bread!)

Chestertown Farmers' and Artisans' Market – Saturdays, 8 a.m. to noon, Fountain Park, High Street.

The Baltimore Symphony Orchestra and Wordsmith will be at the market at **11 a.m. on Saturday, August 6.**

Cambridge Farmers Market – Saturdays June 16, 23, and 30 from 3 to 6 p.m. Facebook @CambFarmMarket

St. Michaels Farmers' Market – Saturday mornings 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., 204 South Talbot Street.
stmichaelsfarmersmarket.org

Tilghman Little Big Market – local farmers, bakers, artists and more. Held the **last Sunday of the month from 8:30 a.m. to noon** through **September – (July 31, August 28, and Sept. 25)**. Located at the Tilghman Wharf parking lot, 6129 Tilghman Island Road. TilghmanLBM@gmail.com

Easton's Farmers' Market – Saturdays, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Public Parking Lot, marie@avalonfoundation.com.

First Sunday Arts Festivals in Annapolis – from May to November (August 7, Sept. 4, Oct., 2, Nov. 6) 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., along West Street – over 100 vendors, Live entertainment, Cafe dining.

Sudlersville Peach Festival – Kicks off Friday night, August 5, at 6 p.m. with family fun and fireworks and continues from **10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, August 6** at Godfrey's Farm.

62nd annual Wheat Threshing Steam and Gas Engine Show – Friday thru Sunday, August 5 – 7 at 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Steam engines, antique tractors, miniature steam train and more.

Baltimore Symphony Performs Dancing Blue Crabs on Music for Maryland Concert – Saturday, August 6, 7 to 8 p.m., Wilmer Park, 413 South Cross Street, Chestertown

Concert on the Hill – Christ Church, Easton, Sunday, July 17, 5:30 to 8 p.m.

Historic Easton Walking Tours – Saturday, July 16, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Talbot Historical Society

Amish County Farmers Market – Friday, July 15, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., 101 Marlboro Ave., Easton

Annapolis:

“Bright Star” – Annapolis Summer Garden Theatre, 143 Compromise Street, thru July 23.

“The Drowsy Chaperone” – **Thursday, August. 4, 7:30 to 11 p.m.,** Annapolis Summer Garden Theatre

“As You Like It” – Classic Theatre of Maryland, 1804 West Street, thru **July 24.**

Annapolis Chamber Music Festival – **Saturday, August 13, 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.,** United Universalist Church, 333 Dubois Road.

Pick up a copy of the July, 2022, *Attraction* in the Clubhouse for wonderful descriptions of numerous activities happening this month and early August:

18th Annual Local Art Show and Sale beginning **Wednesday, July 20.** See page 9.

Plein Air Easton Competition and Festival – artists will spend a week painting out on the streets beginning **Friday, July 15.** See pages 10 – 11.

Allegro Academy Summer Sing Choral Festival - Saturday, July 30. p. 62.

Jazz Alive Concert Series in Easton begins Saturday, July 30. p. 20

Tour the Horn Point Lab and learn about the Chesapeake Bay **every Tuesday at 10 a.m. through Labor Day.** p. 20

Kent County Fair, Thursday – Saturday, July 21 to 23; Cars on High – classic cars, **Thursday, July 21;** Crazy Days – **Thursday – Saturday, July 28 – 30,** participating store sidewalk sales and special deals, p. 25.

St. Michael's Concerts in the Park Series schedule p. 30.

Queen Anne's County Events: Thursdays in the Park Concerts p. 37.

Chesapeake Bay Balloon Festival – Friday to Sunday, August 5, 6, and 7, p. 41.

Dorchester County – Ghost Walks, **Saturdays July 23 and 30**; Skipjack Sail on the Choptank River – **Saturdays July 16, 23, and 30**; **Summer Saturdays** at the Handsell House, **July 16, 23, and 30**; Horn Point Lab Tour, **Tuesdays, July 19 and 26**; Heart of the Chesapeake Bike Tour – **Saturday, July 23**; Thunder on the Choptank Boat Races Saturday – **Sunday, July 23 to 24.** p. 49

Caroline County: Federalsburg Museum open; Preston Historical Society Museum open; Museum of Rural Life open; Market at the Mill **Saturday, July 23**; Ridgely Train Station open the **first Saturday of every month through September.** p. 52–53.

Mid Shore Calendar of Events, pp. 60 to 61.

Talbot County Fair – **Friday – Saturday, July 15 – 16.** p.65.

Queen Anne's County Library: qaclibrary.org – pick up summer event booklet at CEN branch

Summer Reading 2022 Program “Oceans of Possibilities,” all ages. www.qaulibrary.org.

Virtual Reality Art (Family) – Create art virtually using their Oculus VR Headsets. **Mondays, June 11 – August 1** at CEN Branch

Monthly knitting night – **August 10 at 6 p.m.,** KI Branch

Veterans Book Club – veterans discuss their experiences in supportive environment by discussing works of literature. CEN branch, **Wednesday, August 10 at 6:30 p.m.**

Tuesday Night Sewing Circle – **Tuesday, August 2 at 6:30 p.m.,** KI branch

Friday Summer Movies – ADULT – **July 22, August 12 at 12 p.m.,** CEN branch

Crime & a Cuppa – Hour of mystery, Humor and thrills, discussing new and old crime novels, **Saturdays, July 16 and August 20 at 10 a.m.** at CEN branch

Book Club without the book – learn about favorites, **Tuesdays July 19 and August 16 at 6:30 p.m.** KI branch

Outdoor Book Club – three books provided – discover how people have engaged with nature throughout history, registration required. **Wednesdays, July 27 and August 31 at 6 p.m.,** CEN branch

Adult Yoga – registration required – **Thursdays, July 7 through August 25 at 6:30 p.m.,** CEN branch

Technology Help – schedule your 1-on-1 help appointment at either branch.

The Adkins Arboretum: (410-634-2847), adkinsarboretum.org

RE-VISION, site specific sculpture and poetry by Howard and Mary McCoy on view through September 30.

Anna Harding Botanical Drawings of plants, animals, and insects on display through Saturday, Sept. 3.

Wild Food Forest Walk – **Sundays, July 24 and September 19, 1 to 2:30 p.m.** Guided walk to explore historical foodways, learn about cooking to optimize nutrition and reduce toxins.

River-Friendly Yards workshop – learn to make positive changes in your own backyard.

Friday, August 5, 10 to 11 a.m.

First Saturday Walks: Explore the Arboretum's rich and unique native plant habitats **August 6, Sept. 3, Oct. 1, Nov. 5, and Dec. 3 at 10 a.m.**

Cyanotype Workshop – **Saturday, July 16, noon to 3 p.m., (rain date, Sat., July 23).**

Kent Island Federation of Arts (KIFA) Shows and Events: (kifa.us)

26th Annual Photography Show: **June 29 – Sunday, July 31**

60th Anniversary Open Judged Show **Wednesday, Aug. 3 – Tuesday, Oct. 25**

Old Wye Mill – Open to the public **Wednesdays – Saturdays 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Sundays at 1 – 3 p.m.**
Grinding days are the first and third Saturdays of the month.

The Avalon Theatre in Easton – Lena Seikaly “Plays the music of Ella Fitzgerald & Joe Pass” **Friday, July 29 at 7 p.m.**

Crack the Sky, **Friday, August 5 at 8 p.m.**

American Legion Jeff Davis Post 18, Centreville (410-758-3584)

Friday night dinners begin again **Friday, Sept. 9.**

ABATE Pit Beef/Turkey Fundraiser, **Friday, July 29, 11a.m. to 2 p.m.,** Easton VFW

Cruise and Raffle, **Wednesday, July 20**

Bingo Wednesday, **August 10**

Chesapeake Forum – An Academy for Lifelong Learning – Free You Tube links to library courses, www.chesapeakeforum.org/new-courses

If you know of any events you'd like to share, please email them to me at godfreycb@me.com

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