



**TRANSITIONING FALL INTO WINTER**

***LIBRETTO*** 🎵

**SYMPHONY VILLAGE NEWSLETTER**

**NOVEMBER 2022**

**VOL. XVIII No. 11**

**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!**



Laird Wendt & Meg Greely  
218 Orchestra Place

Florence M. Morton  
219 Orchestra Place

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**2022 SV HOA BOD**

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**PRESIDENT’S REPORT—NOVEMBER 2022—MARIJUANA GROW FACILITY     PAT FOX, PRESIDENT**

Has anyone noticed what appears to be a plethora of skunks around the community, over at the Food Lion shopping center, or even downtown? It turns out the musky odor is not from a skunk or a fox but from the marijuana growing facility constructed some months ago in the Centreville Business Park off the end of Coursevall Drive. It is a fenced-off area behind the Green Thumb Industries medical marijuana packaging and distribution plant on Comet Drive across from the Hospice Center.

GTI came to the Town Planning Commission—of which I am a member—for permission to build several barns and greenhouses for their operation that included growing the marijuana outdoors. While reviewing the project, there was no mention to the town or the Commission that these plants buds exude a very strong, skunk-like odor that can spread throughout the community for a significant distance. We smell it here, staff smells it in the Clubhouse, adjacent businesses are overwhelmed with the odors. Even the Centreville staff smells it in the downtown Town Hall.

I have complained to the Town staff and Town Council Members as well as alerted the Planning Commission on Wednesday night about this problem and the resulting impacts to our overall community. There is also

discussion on area social media sites among town residents upset about this issue. There is language within the zoning ordinance for the Business Park about excessive odors being prohibited although it may not address agricultural uses. The town attorney did say that the ordinance could be amended to insert that sort of controlling language but there is a confusing QAC regulation about *the right to farm* that would need a legal opinion to determine if *the right to farm* regulation overrides any attempt to control this negative impact.

Two council members are concerned about this issue because the industry may have the need to expand operations in the future. Eric Johnson and Dan Worth are going to champion this cause with the Town Council. While the outdoor plants apparently bud in September and October if they are growing continuously in the greenhouses could indoor plants bud all year? Add to that—what happens when the leaves are dried and processed? Are there more issues with odor at that time? All these questions create a new legal question; we do not know how these issues will evolve, but Eric and Dan intend to get to the bottom of these issues and get the answers. I will keep you updated.

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## HOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS HIGHLIGHTS – NOVEMBER 2022

DEBI WELLS  
HOA BoD SECRETARY

If you were among the residents who attended the October 21 HOA meeting, thank you! If you were not available to attend, these are the highlights from that meeting. Please note, this article updates residents on HOA Board decisions; it does not replace the higher level of detail (contract specifics, etc.) found in HOA meeting minutes and other documents on the [SV Website](#).

**Email Board Approvals:** There were three urgent email votes by the Board since the September HOA meeting that were ratified at the October 21 HOA meeting. All were unanimously approved.

1. For sod installation in four common areas where large areas of turf were disturbed due to recent irrigation repairs: The Board approved a proposal from Level Green Landscaping for \$2.2K to install ~1,350 square feet of compost and sod. This work was recommended by the Landscape & Irrigation Committee and was time sensitive due to the season. The electronic motion was made on September 21 and passed unanimously on September 22.
2. For the replacement of the Clubhouse fire alarm panel after it was discovered to have damaged horn/strobe outputs: The panel was functioning overall but could continue to deteriorate warranting immediate replacement. The electronic motion authorizing Atlantic Security to replace the alarm panel for \$2.2K was made on September 16 and passed unanimously on the same date.
3. For a hot tub replacement pump, as it had stopped functioning: The pump reached its end of life on October 12 and **Anchor Aquatics** was called that day for a replacement quote. The Board approved the **Anchor Aquatics** proposal for \$3.4K from reserve funds on the same date.

### **October HOA Meeting—Board Votes:**

The following projects and/or activities for the community were voted on at the October 21 HOA meeting:

1. **Vegetative Buffer Garden:** This Landscape & Irrigation (L&I) Committee recommended project would cost ~\$1K or less annually for not more than three years to establish a vegetative buffer to help mitigate rainfall runoff on the common area turf slope next to the walking path at Pond 1, L&I completed the preparation of the Chesapeake Bay Trust mini-grant application to help support this project. This motion was passed.
2. **Sidewalk Replacement:** The Operations Committee recommended the Board approve authorization by the General Manager to approve a proposal from Second Wind Contracting to replace 1,016 sq. ft. of HOA-owned sidewalks. Total cost is not to exceed \$25K (from the Reserve Fund) and will include root cutting by Bartlett Tree Services when recommended by their arborist. Motion was passed unanimously.

3. Billiard Table Refurbishment: The Operations Committee recommended the Board accept a proposal from *Cue Dudes Pool Table Services* to replace felt and bumpers on two pool tables and to re-level both tables. Total cost is not to exceed \$3.5K from the Reserve Fund. This motion passed unanimously.
4. Purple Martin House Replacement: Representing a group of residents, resident Laura Bittinger requested approval to replace the abandoned Purple Martin house near the bike path on Pond 1. This will require no HOA funding nor maintenance. Instead, this project will be supported by resident donations and upkeep. Motion was approved unanimously.
5. 2022–2023 Tree Pruning: Routine tree pruning, per the 2017 inventory work developed by Wetland, Inc., continues. L&I recommended the next 265 trees be trimmed for a total not to exceed ~\$14.2K within the (L&I) budget. Work will begin when the trees are dormant, this month through December. This motion was passed unanimously.
6. 2023 ProCom Property Management Contract: Contract renewal for a one-year term, effective **January 1, 2023**, was unanimously approved for at a cost of ~3% more than 2022, not to exceed ~\$260.6K, that includes staff salaries, financial support, and responsibilities as outlined in the Management Agent Agreement on SV Website.
7. 2023 Bartlett Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Program Renewal: L&I recommended this proactive approach to promote tree health throughout the community. The approach is composed of two Bartlett visits monthly at a rate not to exceed ~\$24.2K annually. This motion also included application of rust and Emerald Ash Borer treatments to 56 Ash trees on Overture Way and next to Pond 2 (~\$9.5K). These costs will be included in the proposed 2023 L&I Committee budget. This motion was approved unanimously.
8. 2023 Pools Contract: The Board unanimously approved the Anchor Aquatics swimming pool service (indoor and outdoor) for 2023 maintenance and other responsibilities as outlined in the [Pool Maintenance Contract](#).
9. 2023 Fitness Equipment Maintenance Contract: To help extend equipment life span, the maintenance/service agreement with RMS Fitness Equipment Services was unanimously approved and renewed. Cost to the HOA is for one visit every three months at a rate of \$350 per visit—\$1,400 annually.
10. 2023 Landscape Contract: The Board unanimously tabled renewal of the Level Green Landscaping (LGL) maintenance contract. The contract will be voted on at the December HOA meeting.
11. 2023 Irrigation Contract: The Board unanimously approved renewal of the LGL subcontractor, Montgomery Irrigation, for a technically sound program to meet the needs of an aging irrigation infrastructure. Cost is 10% over last year’s contract for a total of \$34,375 for 2023.
12. 2023 Draft Budget: The Budget & Finance Committee’s recommendation was to increase the HOA dues to \$253/month. The Board did not approve that motion; however, instead, made a motion that passed unanimously (based on information from the October 14 Town Hall) for a \$30/month increase (resulting in \$260/month) starting in **January 2023**.
13. Town Water Meter & Antenna Installation in SV: As discussed at the September 8 HOA meeting, the Town plan is to install a 5'x3' water meter with a 75' antenna in the round-about on Symphony Way (a public right-of-way, not SV property). At an October Town Council meeting, some SV residents voiced concern and the two new Council members proposed tabling this project until further research could occur on a less obvious alternative. Knowing this prior to the October Town Council meeting, the Board drafted a letter to the Town supporting the new Council members’ proposal. However, the motion did not pass at the Town Council meeting; consequently, the Board voted to not send the letter. It was noted that the community’s lawyer stated it would be an expensive endeavor to oppose the Town on this project.

For more detailed information on any of the Board contracts and/or specifics voted upon, please review the HOA October 21 [Board meeting Reference Materials](#) on the SV Website.

## ARTISANS GUILD

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

### Current and Upcoming Events

Our *Winter Wonders* theme art show reception was a fabulous event. The Artisans Guild would like to thank everyone who participated by submitting their beautiful artwork. The reception featured great conversations, fantastic artwork of every kind, and great food. Please visit the Clubhouse to see the artwork if you did not make it to the October reception. You will be amazed at the talent here at SV. Rumor has it that several pieces were already purchased. Take a tour of the Winter Wonders Art Show at the Clubhouse: others work of art are still available—they make great Christmas gifts!

Our next theme will be *Dance* with a date early next year. Just a heads up to start working on your upcoming submission.



A special thank you to Joseph Lichaa for his enlightening cold wax demonstration on November 3. It was interesting and captivating to all who attended.

Thank you to Dave Peterson who scheduled a glassblowing trip to Baltimore in October. Many wonderful glass pieces were produced by our talented artisans in SV.

Lots of interesting classes are planned to include watercolor, jewelry making and Zentangles.

Stay tuned for some fun upcoming classes.



### Guild Member Highlight

The following paragraphs were written by Ann Sharp, one of our committee members about how she became interested in her artwork:

I am an artist transplanted from Shepherdstown, West Virginia, via Santa Fe, New Mexico. My background includes an art degree from the University of Maryland, Founding President of the Talbot County Visual Art Center, and former owner of the Studio Gallery in Easton, Maryland. I have been painting professionally for 20 years. I studied with acclaimed portrait artist, Tony Ryder, attending his nine-month Atelier to better my skills as a portrait painter. I am the West Virginia Ambassador and now, also Maryland Ambassador to the Portrait Society of America.

I paint to learn, making each painting I do a challenge. Whether I am creating a landscape, portrait, or still life, the confrontation is never easy but always exciting. As the endless number of two-dimensional images on our computers, printed media, televisions, and cell phones simply report the visual facts, I find that isn't enough for me. Instead, I focus on composition, expressiveness, translation, and metaphor. Less is more so every stroke becomes important.

Thank you, Ann Sharp, for sharing your story.

## Ongoing Events

Our next AG committee meeting will be on **December 8 at 3:30 p.m.** in the Concert Hall. You can find our meeting times and dates on the calendar, in the *Libretto*, or by contacting one of us at our email addresses listed at the end of this article.

We also meet most **Thursday mornings at 10 a.m.** to draw, paint, do needlepoint, or pursue 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](mailto:kpmcmanus317@yahoo.com)

Cathy Olson, [shop.5678@icloud.com](mailto:shop.5678@icloud.com)

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## LANDSCAPE & IRRIGATION—TREE PRUNING

**TOM MCMANUS**

In another month or so Bartlett Tree Services will begin another round of tree pruning throughout Symphony Village. A total of 265 trees will be getting a well-needed limbing up of their lower branches, along with other spot pruning.

The thing about trees is that they keep growing—in every direction, including up, down, sideways, and even underground. Back in 2017 Chris Cowles, a knowledgeable arborist with Wetland tree service, did our first tree inventory and tagged all our trees. At that time, he told us that many of our streets will someday be fully canopied; that is, they will be lined with large trees reaching across the streets and connecting with each other. That type of growth will be fine for our community.

Other types of growth are not so desirable: long branches hanging lower and lower interfere with traffic, especially large delivery trucks, pedestrians walking beneath them, and often the mowers obstructing their ability to work around the tree and the tree beds. There are many cases where the upper branches at the top or the side of trees begin to contact houses and create problems for the homeowners. Under the ground, we know the tree roots will continue to grow, both longer and wider. If the tree is alive, the roots will grow. The Operations Committee has dealt with and continues to deal with issues of sidewalks and tripping hazards—those specific concerns will not go away anytime soon.

We love our trees and appreciate the many benefits we get from having them as part of our community living and daily life. We are all aware that Caruso might have made a better selection of the types of trees that were planted. If more thought had been given to the types of trees planted, we would not have to deal with gumballs raining down, tiny helicopter leaves with other debris dropping all over, and roots that would grow sideways rather than downward. Dealing with these offenders is not an easy task and can become quite expensive. We continue to deal with the trees as they are and even replace them when we can, little by little.

The one thing we can and must do is continuous on-going pruning. We will spend approximately \$14,000 this year on the trees that have been selected. It will take a while to get to all 1,650 trees; pruning will be an annual activity. This year we are focusing mostly on our swales, where the trees have never been pruned. And we have also included several street trees as well. As usual the tree selection priority is based on several factors: interference with walkers and service vehicles such as trucks, mowers, etc.; locations of streetlights, mailboxes, and stop signs; and the health, age, and condition of the tree itself. Most of this activity will take place when the trees are dormant in December and may spill over into January.

Finally, a big thank you to all the residents who have been faithfully watering the new trees planted by their homes. Trees require frequent watering when they are first planted. Nick puts out tree bags as necessary and residents add the water. The committee is appreciative of all your efforts, and the trees are especially thankful.

Please consider joining the Landscape, Irrigation, and Trees Committee; we are always open to new membership. We need your experience, knowledge, and passion for keeping our community beautiful.

## LIFESTYLE COMMITTEE—NOVEMBER 2022

DEBORAH JONES-MILLER

This November has certainly been one for the books! In this season of daylight savings, the weather has been picture-perfect, and Villagers are experiencing the beauty of fall leaves and full moonlit nights. Take this month to enjoy life and be thankful.

Last month was filled with fun activities and opportunities to gain valuable information. The YMCA-sponsored Social Hour was a big success and many Villagers turned out to enjoy the delicious pasta meal prepared from Mama Mia's. Many thanks to our community volunteers and to Tony Sigmon, YMCA Vice-President of Development, for hosting this event.



As expected, the Frank Sinatra Night of Songs & Dancing scored a home run with Villagers. A special thanks goes to Bud Falls for doing such a great job in bringing the sounds of "Old Blue Eyes" and other performers to life. Our special surprise guest, Alan Ettman, joined us for a few dances and a nostalgic look down memory lane. What a great night this turned out to be!

The Queen Anne's County Commission on Aging conducted an extremely informative meeting to review services Queen Anne's County offers its Seniors. We would like to thank them for sharing their knowledge and expertise.

Movie Night at Symphony Village, featuring *The Greatest Beer Run Ever*, drew a large crowd with lots of food and fun. We are thankful for Randy Officer, who always shows the best movie previews and feature films! Be sure to stay tuned for next month's movie announcement.

Save the date, November 29, for our kickoff holiday event, The Night of Lights/Soup Night! This is our biggest event of the year. Come enjoy the new Clubhouse holiday decorations, a wide selection of soups made by our neighbors, and this year's holiday twist of events that include outdoor caroling and warm adult beverages. You don't want to miss this!

It's time to look at your holiday lights and decorations for the Home Holiday Decorating Contest in Symphony Village. To be included in the judging, decorations should be up and running with lights turned on by **December 8**. Judging will take place between **December 8–16**. The first-place winner will receive a \$75 gift card, second place \$50, and third place \$25.



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

<b>Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, November 15, 16, 18</b>	<b>10 a.m. – 2 p.m.</b>	Holiday Clubhouse Decorating	We need volunteers to help decorate for the holidays. We need men to step up to do some of the heavy lifting. Please bring your glue guns, scissors, and wire cutters, too.
<b>Tuesday, November 29</b>	<b>5 p.m. – 8 p.m.</b>	Night of Lights/Soup Night	Come out to bring in the holiday spirit at the Symphony Village Clubhouse. Experience this kick-off celebration of the holidays with festive decorations and lights along with an assortment of delicious homemade soups made by our neighbors. This is the highlight of the season. You don't want to miss this event.
<b>Thursday, December 8 - Friday, 16</b>		Holiday House Decorating Contest	Bring that special sparkle and shine to your house this holiday season. Be certain to have your house decorated and holiday lights turned on by December 8. Judging will take place between December 8–16. Winners will be announced at the December 17 Social Hour.
<b>Saturday, December 17</b>	<b>6 p.m. – 8 p.m.</b>	Holiday Attire Social Hour	This Social Hour will be special because we are asking everyone to spruce up for the occasion. Bring your holiday appetizers and desserts to share.
<b>Saturday, December 31</b>	<b>9:30 p.m. – 12:30 a.m.</b>	SV New Year's Eve Party	Come join us as <i>Eddie the Hitman</i> spins the tunes that will bring us into the New Year. Revelers are encouraged to bring snacks for their tables. We look forward to seeing you there.

## 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 Operations Committee had two proposals approved by the BOD in the October Board meeting. The GM has accepted a proposal for sidewalk replacement from Second Wind Contracting (a woman-owned business). Second Wind will be on-site in November to replace 1,016 sq. ft. of sidewalk.

Additionally, the GM will execute a contract to relevel and replace cushions and felt on our two billiards tables. Our dedicated pool players arguably make the billiards room our most consistently used amenity and were very helpful in identifying deterioration in the condition of the tables.

Committee sign-up sheets are now available in the Clubhouse for those who would like to join us in 2023. Our next meeting is scheduled for 10 a.m. in the Clubhouse on **Thursday, November 17**. It will be a hybrid meeting so residents can also attend virtually.

We are always looking for new members to help ensure our community remains one of the most attractive neighborhoods on the Eastern Shore. Feel free to attend our November meeting to see if you might like to join us next year.

Many times, when we are at a P&C meeting, the question comes up about how many residents have computers and use them. I know there are many of us who can make our way around the computer with ease, but I also know there are many of us who cannot. So, the discussion turns into how we can help our residents with their computers.

To that end, Carol Hodges brought up the Queen Anne’s County Library. Did you know that they have Technology Services that can help you?

**Need Help with Your Computer or Smart Phone**

The Centreville Library offers one-on-one help with your computer or smart phone. All you need to do is set up an appointment. When you call, tell them whether you need help with your computer or smart phone and what it is you are having problems with such as trying to print, setting up your contacts, etc. Simply call the library at 410-758-0980.



The brochure from the library lists that they have public access computers and Wi-Fi, printing, copying, and scanning, One-on-One tech help, computer, and hotspot lending services and more!

The Centreville Library also offers a Digital Library that is always available. Find online materials delivered right to your mobile device, check out databases on genealogy, languages, and much more!

The Centreville Branch is located at 121 S. Commerce Street, Centreville MD 21617 and can be reached at 410-758-0980.

**Check this out.**  
**There is no charge**  
**for the screenings.**



**Community Wellness at  
Symphony Village  
Clubhouse Craft Room**

Second Wednesday of Month  
10 a.m. to 12 p.m.



Screenings provide:  
Blood Pressure, Pulse,  
Glucose, Cholesterol

November 9, 2022  
December 14, 2022  
January 11, 2023  
February 8, 2023  
March 8, 2023  
April 12, 2023

Provided by Queen Anne’s County  
Department of Health



**Symphony Village Outreach’s 13 Annual Card Party was a HUGE Success!**

On **October 19**, SV Outreach had its annual Card Party. We hosted 127 people who played Bridge, Mahjong, Pinochle, Hand and Foot, Scrabble, Mexican Train, Phase 10, and Rummikub. We served coffee and muffins. The beautiful raffle prizes included an original watercolor by SV’s own, Peggy Decker, a lovely necklace and earrings by SV’s Juanda Rogers, and a table runner and candle stick from Sue Peterson and Amy Marotta. Gem Nails from Centreville and Heather’s Salon from Easton also donated gift certificates.

The profits from the Card Party allowed us to donate \$1,000 to IAL, (Institute for Adult Learning), and \$1,000 to the Senior Center at the new YMCA in Centreville.

Symphony Village Outreach Program, Inc., is a non-profit organization of residents living in Symphony Village who volunteer their time and efforts to create projects and activities aimed at providing resources for the Queen Anne’s County nonprofit groups and agencies with whom we partner.

SV Outreach is a “Feel Good” organization! Please come and join our committee and help us help others! We meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month. Email [suecanfield20@gmail.com](mailto:suecanfield20@gmail.com) if you have questions or need other information.

**SYMPHONY SNEAKERS—SNEAKERS’ BUSIEST SEASON****LINDA FARRAR****BOOK GIVEAWAYS**

We have had our first book giveaway of the year. On **November 10**, we gave a book to every child at Centreville Elementary School where the enrollment is over 500 students. Our volunteers were there to help each child choose an appropriate book.

Our next giveaway will be **December 1** at Kennard Elementary.

**THE GIVING TREE**

Now for updates on the Giving Tree. This year the need is greater than ever. The school counselors asked if we could take more families than ever, so we agreed to support 16 families.

If you took a coat tag, please return the coat to the Clubhouse by **November 29** so that they can be given to the children before the cold weather arrives. Also, please attach the orange tag.

There are still plenty of tags on the Giving Tree. Please, if you are able, consider helping a needy child have new clothes or a wish list item to celebrate over the winter break. There are detailed instructions on the green papers on the table by the tree.

Please attach the ornament to the wrapped package along with a blank gift tag so the family can fill it out. Also, if possible, enclose an age-appropriate book. **All these gifts need to be returned to the Clubhouse by December 11.**

If you are not a shopper, please feel free to make a monetary contribution. Checks should be made payable to Symphony Sneakers. Funds will be used to purchase any gifts not taken and gift cards for food for these families. Over the long winter break, no free meals that the schools usually provide will be available. We will also be providing a food basket for each of the 16 families that is being donated by Rose Clark's anonymous donor. Thanking you in advance for your generosity.

Our next meeting will be **Wednesday, November 16, at 3 p.m.** in the Clubhouse. All are welcome and encouraged to join us.

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## NEIGHBOR OF NOTE

**KATHRYN MARCHI**

America values its veterans and designated **November 11** as Veteran's Day. These men and women served their country, and many sacrificed their lives for the cause of freedom. Those who survived are honored during November for their service. So, it is fitting that our Neighbor of Note for November is Peter Abbott who was recently interred at Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors.

Pete was born and raised in Los Angeles, California. His father, Bill, worked for Twentieth Century Fox as the Director of Special Effects. As a result, Pete's life centered around people in the movie industry. For the first 18 years of his life, he and his family spent summers on Catalina Island and sailed with the likes of Humphrey Bogart, Lauren Bacall, John Ford, and John Wayne.

Even though he loved being on the water, Pete spent his high school years and graduated from the New Mexico Military Institute, an Army focused institution.

Pete graduated from UCLA in 1959 with a BS degree in Production Management. While there, he was Captain of the Sailing Team and was invited to try out for the 1960 Olympic Sailing Team. At this point he became a member of the Naval ROTC program that required him to enter the United States Navy upon graduation. This was a perfect fit for a man who had already enjoyed many hours on the water.

For the next twenty years, Pete would command a minesweeper, a destroyer, and serve tours in and around Viet Nam. He was an exchange officer to the British Royal Navy at HMS Dryad for two years, teaching Fleet Operations and Tactics. During his career Pete was also a mentor to many young Naval Officers, one of whom would become Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in Washington, D.C. While serving in England, Pete met Dorothea, a British Navy Wren, and they married in 1971. In 1973 Pete earned his MBA degree at Harvard. His next duty station in 1975 was the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, where he was First Battalion Officer. He was Head of the Seamanship and Navigation Department and then Head of Leadership. It was there that Pete became involved with the Academy Sailing team and subsequently purchased his own sailboat. He was president of the Bristol Sailing Club and went on to sail and compete on the Chesapeake Bay. During this time, Pete also enjoyed fishing, but sailing was his focus.



After retirement from the United States Navy in 1979, Pete and Dot settled permanently in Annapolis to raise their daughter, Sarah. His new community on the waterfront allowed him to moor his boat at its marina and continue sailboat racing, sometimes as far as Bermuda. Also at that time, Pete entered the business world. He began working for Booze Allen and Hamilton on the “Saudi Arabia Naval Expansion Project” but then decided to go out on his own, founding two successful companies: The Abbott Group for executive searching and later, Clean Fuels for cleaning fuel tanks.

In 1991, Pete broke his shoulder in a freak accident, sadly ending his competitive sailing. It was then that Pete turned to fishing. Changing from “sail” to “power,” he later purchased a Tiara 31 fishing boat, and the “reel” fun began!

Pete began outfitting his boat, *Tom Ca*, with every conceivable fishing apparatus both for ocean and bay fishing. He joined the Maryland Saltwater Sportfishermen’s Association (MSSA) and began fishing on the Chesapeake Bay in earnest.

Always a competitor, Pete entered as many fishing tournaments as possible, taking groups of friends out to seek the elusive prize. He fished on the Chesapeake Bay and even sixty miles off the Atlantic Coast. Thus, many home freezers were stocked with Blue Fin, Yellow Fin, Rockfish, and Flounder. No matter the outcome of the day, Pete was one happy captain when behind the wheel of his boat.

After retirement from the business world in 2006, he moved to Symphony Village. Pete continued to enjoy fishing and became more active in the MSSA group. During the cold months, he kept busy crafting his own lures. He attended fishing expos to promote

fishing tournaments and found ideas for the next fishing season. Pete was chosen as president of the MSSA Scholarship Foundation and was instrumental in awarding over \$275,000 in scholarships to university students, majoring in Maritime Sciences and Environmental Programs. The MSSA provided another way for Pete to use his mentoring skills with many of these scholarship winners.

Commander Pete Abbott, USN, served his country honorably, and we honor him posthumously here. It is important to note that he, along with other veterans living in Symphony Village, deserve our gratitude and respect for their service to our country. It is also fitting to recognize that these veterans have also served our nation as civilians after their military tenure, whether retired or after a limited tour of duty. Pete’s extensive civilian resume is certainly evidence of this service.

Pete’s recent funeral service at Arlington was well deserved. Dot, Sarah, and granddaughter, Katherine, walked behind Pete’s caisson as their own way of honoring him. Friends, neighbors, former Navy shipmates, and a collection of fishing and business friends gathered there to honor him as well.

Peter Abbott was a beloved husband, father and grandfather, a successful businessman, and an ardent fisherman. And he was also a proud Navy veteran.

May Pete rest in peace with his Comrades-in-Arms.



*Pete as Navy  
Commander*



*Pete and Dot fishing on his 80<sup>th</sup>  
birthday.*

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## CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

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### BOCCE

PAT CIPRIANO



*Congrats team Andrew and Marty who won the 2022 Bocce Tournament and brought home the McNeil cup. They over-powered team Ray and Jack and snagged the win!*

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### LUNCH BUNCH

BEA TROTTA & MARGE STRANO

The next Lunch Bunch is scheduled for **Thursday, December 1, at 12:30 p.m.** at the newly renovated Narrows Restaurant located on the water at 3023 Kent Narrow Way S in Grasonville. The beautiful waterfront spot provides stunning sunsets while dining. The Narrows is known for its crab cakes and an award-winning cuisine. We look forward to a crisp December day and an opportunity to lunch with our SV friends. For additional information and to view the lunch menu, go to <https://thenarrowsrestaurant.com>.



*Waterfront Dining at the Narrows*

Sign up online for the November Lunch Bunch starting **November 15** by using the [Lunch Bunch Sign-up Link](#). You can also go to the [Symphony Village Website](#) and scroll down to *Current and Upcoming SV Events* and click the link. As usual, you can sign up in the Club Activities Book at the Clubhouse. Please call Bea Trotta at 410-758-0332 (cell 610-217-4754) or Marge Strano at 410-758-2511 (cell 609-221-6378) if you have a question or need a ride.

Cold Weather Safety



Most people feel cold every now and then during the winter. What you may not know is that just being cold can make you very sick. A big chill can turn into a dangerous problem before you even know what’s happening. Doctors call this serious problem hypothermia. A body temperature of 95°F or lower can cause many health problems, such as a heart attack, kidney problems, liver damage, or worse.

Living in a cold house can cause hypothermia. People who are sick may have special problems keeping warm. Do not let it get too cold inside and dress warmly. If you keep your temperature between 60°F and 65°F, your home may not be warm enough to keep you safe. This is a special problem if you live alone because there is no one else to feel the chilliness of the house or notice if you are having

symptoms of hypothermia.

Here are some tips for keeping warm while you’re inside:

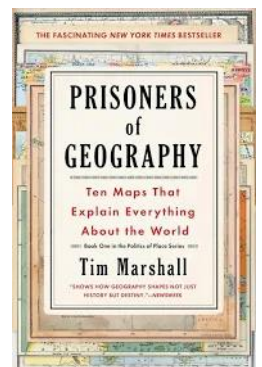
- Set your heat to at least 68–70°F. To save on heating bills, close off any rooms you are not using. Close the vents and shut the doors in these rooms. Place a rolled towel in front of all doors to keep out drafts.
- Make sure your house isn’t losing heat through windows. Keep your blinds and curtains closed. If you have gaps around the windows, try using weather stripping or caulk to keep the cold air out.
- Dress warmly on cold days even if you are staying in the house. Throw a blanket over your legs. Wear socks and slippers.
- When you go to sleep, wear long underwear under your pajamas, and use extra covers. Wear a cap or hat.
- Make sure you eat enough food to keep up your weight. If you don’t eat well, you might have less fat under your skin. Body fat helps you to stay warm.
- Drink alcohol moderately, if at all. Alcoholic drinks can make you lose body heat.
- Ask family or friends to check on you during cold weather. If a power outage leaves you without heat, try to stay with a relative or friend.
- Get additional information online at <https://www.ready.gov/winter-weather>.

READING FOR FUN – NOVEMBER 2022 REVIEW

JOE SIKES

The SV Book Club held a hybrid meeting on **October 19** to discuss *Prisoners of Geography* by Tim Marshall. Attendees included: Joe Sikes, Jan Withers, Kathryn & Jim Buckheit, Sue Goldberg, Carol Saltiel, Joanne Walker, Kitty Wilson, and Bob Nilsson. Peggy Decker could not attend but commented separately.

The development of human civilization has been strongly influenced by geography from its very beginning in the fertile crescent of the Tigris /Euphrates valley. The spread of humans to North America, for example, was facilitated by a land bridge from Asia to Alaska—a bridge that no longer exists. Civilizations have risen and fallen largely due to geographic features such as access to oceans, navigable rivers, fertile soil, mountain ranges, and associated climate factors.



The author explores ten regions of the world and describes how geographic factors have influenced their development historically and continues to do so in today's headlines. The book was written in 2015 but many of the lessons jump out from current headlines. He starts with Russia where lack of warm water ports and the central European plain have provided borders that have proven difficult to defend going back to the era of the Tsars. These features are a driving force in the current warfare in Ukraine and the Crimea. My father was part of the heroic effort in World War II to resupply the Russians in the frigid waters off Murmansk as the Germans approached Moscow through the European plain. During my studies at National War College during the Cold War, we often debated whether the Soviet Union was driven by ideology or geopolitics. Obviously, geopolitics won, but that certainly does not excuse Putin's war crimes.

The author's comparisons of North America, South America, and Africa are very enlightening. The United States enjoys protection from two oceans, deepwater ports, and miles of navigable rivers that enabled commerce and created the greatest economy in the world. Africa and South America, while rich in natural resources, lack the same natural harbors, and their rivers generally do not promote commercial transportation. (The Nile is the exception, but Egyptian civilization proves the rule.)

China is a fascinating study with its vast landmass and coast hemmed in by the island chains in the Pacific Ocean. The Himalayas form a natural protection from a growing India and explains China's annexation of Tibet. China is fearful of an Indian ally on the Chinese side of the Tibetan plateau. Likewise, China's focus on Taiwan and the South China Sea is based on fear of seaborne commerce being impeded in the Pacific.

The author finishes the book with the changing dynamics of the Arctic Ocean. The warming oceans have created ice-free sea lanes that never existed before, and countries bordering the Arctic are rushing to seek advantage. It is a competition in which the United States lags far behind the Russians, and climate change will only increase the importance of this region. Commercial ships have successfully navigated the northern passage since 2014 because the route cuts travel from Asia to Europe by fourteen days, reducing fuel costs. The deeper waters of the Arctic also allow larger ships than those used to navigate the Suez and Panama Canals.

The book is filled with interesting facts, and I have only scratched the surface. My only complaint was that the facts sometimes strayed from the central thesis and title of the book. In Africa and the Near East, for example, the author focuses discussion more on the arbitrary borders created by the colonial powers at the end of the colonial era. When discussing the Middle East, the author quickly devolves into religious and ethnic factors that drive politics. These are all critical factors, not less interesting, but change the focus from geopolitics to other issues.

These additional discussions did not deter the interest of the Book Club. Bob Nilsson and I had travelled to many countries included in the book and were able to share personal observations. Some members wished they had been exposed to more history of unfamiliar parts of the world in their elementary education. The club voted the book an excellent score of 7.7.

I share my own example of geography factoring into our decision to move to Symphony Village in 2016. The existence of an easily navigable land route to critical commercial facilities was one major factor. A walking path through treacherous cornfields sealed the deal. And it should be no surprise that a Dunkin Donuts sprung up there! There you go: a geopolitical case for Dunkin Donuts.

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](mailto:sikes.withers@yahoo.com).

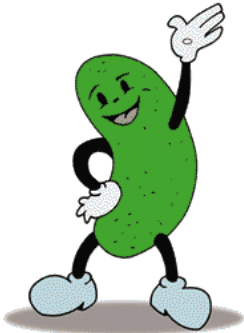
Our current list of books and associated review dates are listed below.

**November 15**—*Something Unbelievable* by Maria Kuznetsova

**December 20**—*Old Woman with the Knife* by Gu Byeong-Mo

*PICKLEBALL...CHEERS TO YOU!*

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



The fall weather has settled in, and there is a crisp feeling in the air. We've experienced the wonderful fall foliage, taking in the reds that warm our hearts, the yellows that brighten our days, and the oranges that bring sunshine to our lives. But in addition to all those wonderful things, we are truly blessed to have such a wonderful "pickleball family" in Symphony Village. I am thankful, grateful, and blessed to have such caring friends to share laughter, exercise, and fun each and every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. It has been another superior year, bringing in more folks and having our courts modified with four courts to accommodate up to sixteen players at one time. Now that the weather is changing, I'd ask you to consider joining the YMCA for indoor play. It's a great cause and supports our community families. Your membership will include our local YMCA, any other YMCAs, and the very beautiful Chestertown YMCA where we travel for indoor play during the winter months. If the weather happens to cooperate, we will play in SV at **9 a.m. on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays**—the temps need to be over 45 degrees to play (smile)!

For you pickleball enthusiasts, please tune into **CBS on Thursday, November 17, at 9 p.m.** for *Pickled*. This is a two-hour pickleball tournament featuring 16 celebrities split into teams of two competing for the "Stephen Colbert Cup" in support of Comic Relief U.S. This just goes to show you how pickleball is spreading throughout the U.S. and is the new and upcoming sport. It should be entertaining, so tune in.

Lastly, the YMCA in Chestertown is sponsoring a Round Robin tournament and Potluck lunch on **Wednesday, December 7, from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. (5 hours)**. Registration is available online at the Kent County YMCA, Programs, Holiday Round Robin Pickleball Tournament and Potluck. If you are a member, the tournament is free. If you are not a member, you can still register to play for a \$5 fee. I'm told this is a non-elimination tournament. I know some of you have already registered; for those who have not, let's show our Symphony Village spirit and join in the fun! Spectators are welcome and do NOT need to register.

I wish everyone a very blessed and happy Thanksgiving. Thank you again for another fun year of pickleball. We truly have so much to be thankful for, and I am very thankful for each and every one of you.

### VILLAGE CHAIN GANG

DAVE PETERSON



The Symphony Village Chain Gang recently completed its 14<sup>th</sup> season of working the sidelines at the Queen Anne's High School home football games. In 2009 eleven stalwart residents volunteered and started a tradition that over the years would see a total of 27 residents participate in this endeavor. Working the games continues to give the members the best seats in the house. Queen Anne's High School greatly appreciates the efforts of the Village Chain Gang.

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### QUEEN ANNE'S CHORALE FALL SEASON

TOM ALAND

Queen Anne's Chorale is pleased to announce its 35<sup>th</sup> season with the Fall 2022 semester. Participants will be preparing repertoire for concerts on the weekend of **December 3 and 4**. The theme is *Peace and Harmony*. Selections include old favorites such as *I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day*, *How Lovely Are the Messengers*, *Grown Up Christmas List*, and *Let There Be Peace on Earth* along with other holiday standards that all ages will enjoy. Each concert includes the Select Ensemble, a traditional audience singalong, and other special music.

Queen Anne's Chorale is supported in part through grants from the United Way of Queen Anne's County, the Queen Anne's County Centre for the Arts, and the Maryland State Arts Council, an agency dedicated to cultivating a vibrant cultural community where the arts thrive. For more information visit [www.qachorale.org](http://www.qachorale.org). Email [artisticdirector@qachorale.org](mailto:artisticdirector@qachorale.org) with any questions.



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## CENTREVILLE HAPPENINGS

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### CENTREVILLE AND SURROUNDINGS

CHARLOTTE GODFREY



*Chestertown's Studio Art Tour  
100-year-old artist Betty McClintock*



*Kathy Sanetrik, Santa, and Julia Neph  
at Wye Mills Church Bazaar*

### So much to enjoy! Scroll through the listings for your next adventure!

**Chestertown Farmers' and Artisans' Market:** Saturdays year-round, 8 a.m. to noon, Fountain Park, High Street.

**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).

**St. Michaels Farmers' Market:** Saturday mornings 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. through November, 204 South Talbot Street. [www.stmichaelsfarmersmarket.org](http://www.stmichaelsfarmersmarket.org).

**Easton's Farmers' Market:** Saturdays, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., through December 17, Public Parking Lot. [marie@avalonfoundation.com](mailto:marie@avalonfoundation.com).

**Centreville Christmas Parade:** Friday, December 2 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Collecting Toys for Tots. Lawyers Row and Commerce St. <http://www.townofcentreville.org/event/centreville-christmas-parade-7/>

**Festival of Trees:** Friday, December 2 from 5 to 7 p.m. and Saturday, December 3 at 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., First UMC, 105 N. Mill St. Chestertown. [sikentqueenannescounties@soroptimist.net](mailto:sikentqueenannescounties@soroptimist.net), 410-708-6554.

**Festival of Trees:** Saturday, December 3, 12 to 5 p.m., Sunday, December 4, 11:30 to 3:30 p.m., at Towers Family Historical Museum, Denton. [www.compassregionalhospice.org](http://www.compassregionalhospice.org)

**Tree Lighting in Historic Stevensville:** Saturday, December 3. [www.stevensvilleartsandentertainment.org](http://www.stevensvilleartsandentertainment.org).

#### The Nutcracker:

- Eastern Shore Ballet Theatre presents the Nutcracker at Wicomico High School in Salisbury **Saturday, December 3, at 7 p.m.**
- Ballet Theatre of Maryland presents the Nutcracker at the Maryland Hall for Creative Arts in Annapolis **Saturdays and Sundays, December 10, 11, 17, 18, times vary.**

**Festival of Trains:** At the Kent Narrows Outlet Center, 54 Piney Narrows Rd., **Saturdays, Sundays, December 3, 4, 10, 11, at 11 a.m. at 4 p.m.**

The “**Outgoing tide**” is still playing at the Church Hill Theatre: don’t forget to check out what’s playing at the Avalon and others!

**Christmas in St. Michaels** includes lighted boat parade, tour of homes, holiday music and more, **Friday, December 9, through Sunday, December 11.**

**Peace and Harmony** holiday concert by QA Chorale, **Saturday at 7 p.m., and Sunday at 3 p.m., December 3 and 4,** Centreville United Methodist Church, [www.qachorale.org](http://www.qachorale.org).

**Salisbury Pops Holiday Concert:** livestream and in person **Tuesday, December 6, at 7:30 p.m.,** Salisbury University, Holloway Hall, [www.salisbury.edu/academic-offices/liberal-arts](http://www.salisbury.edu/academic-offices/liberal-arts).

**Wreath Making Class:** Richard Brusca Nursery, Inc, Sudlersville, **Saturday, November 26,** 9 a.m. 410-438-3180.

**Indoor Arts & Crafts Fair: Saturday, November 19, 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.,** VFW Post 7464, Grasonville.

**Rock Hall Holiday Market: Saturday, December 10, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

**Chesapeake Forum An Academy for Lifelong Learning:** [www.chesapeakeforum.org/new-courses/](http://www.chesapeakeforum.org/new-courses/)

**Ongoing Wellness Classes:** free and online, [www.edwardspharmacy.com](http://www.edwardspharmacy.com).

**Miniature Show and Holiday Art & Craft Sale:** KIFA, Stevensville, through Sunday, December 18. [www.kifa.us](http://www.kifa.us).

**Queen Annes’s County Library:** [www.qaclibrary.org/calendar-monthly](http://www.qaclibrary.org/calendar-monthly)

- Creative Aging Workshop—yoga for seniors ages 55+, **Monday, December 5, from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m.,** Centreville Branch.
- Veterans Book Club, **Wednesday, November 16, at 6:30 p.m.,** Centreville Branch
- Take online classes.

**The Adkins Arboretum:** (410-634-2847), [www.adkinsarboretum.org](http://www.adkinsarboretum.org).

- Watercolor Wreath: **Friday, November 18, from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.**
- Wreath Decorating Workshops: **10 a.m. and 1 p.m., Tuesday, November 29.**
- Holiday Greens Workshop: **Saturday, December 3, from 10 a.m. to noon.**
- Holiday Open House: **Saturday, December 3, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, December 4.**
- Soup Walk: **Saturday, November 19, at 11 a.m.**

**American Legion Jeff Davis Post 18:**

- Friday night dinners from **5 to 7 p.m. on November 18 and December 9.**
- Bingo **Wednesday, December 14.**
- Every Sunday Queen of Hearts Drawing.
- Wreaths Across America **Saturday, December 17.**

**Queen Anne’s County Centre for the Arts:** <http://queenannescountyvarts.com/index.html> 410-758-2520

- Heck with the Malls: unique gifts, jewelry, woodwork, toys, **Saturday, December 3, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**
- Stef Scaggiari Coffee House Series: **Saturday, December 10, from 7 to 9 p.m.**
- Wende Woodham Exhibition at the Queen Anne’s County for the Arts, 206 S Commerce Street, through **Friday, December 2.**

**The Attraction** Pick up a copy of the November 2022 *Attraction* in the Clubhouse or Centreville library for wonderful descriptions of numerous activities happening this month and December. I have added magazine page numbers for your further review of the events.

- Academy Art Museum Two-day Workshops in **November and December, p. 12.**

- Holiday Events in Denton include a parade on **Thursday, December 1** and Christkindlemarket on **Friday, December 2**. p. 35
- Talbot Winter Festival includes a Festival of Trees, Carols by Candlelight, and Holiday House Tours: [www.TalbotWinterFestival.org](http://www.TalbotWinterFestival.org)., p. 58.
- Christmas in St. Michaels includes holiday house tours, a parade and evening lighted boats. [www.christmasinstmichaels.org](http://www.christmasinstmichaels.org)., p. 62.
- KIFA Holiday Open House: **Sunday, November 27, from 1 to 4 p.m.** “Make it, Take it” crafts, Kent Island Federation of the Arts, 405 Main St., Stevensville. [arthousekifa@gmail.com](mailto:arthousekifa@gmail.com)., p.104.
- Paralian Exhibit: Mark Castelli’s one-man exhibition through **Monday, November 8**, at the Massoni Art Gallery, p. 105.
- RiverArts Holiday Art Show and Sale from **Thursday, November 17, through Saturday, December 31**, at River Arts in Chestertown, 410-778-6300. p. 105.
- Emmanuel Church Bazaar, Chestertown: **Thursday, November 17, 8:30 a.m.** p.105.
- Hometown Holiday and Shop Local Day on High St. in Chestertown: **Friday and Saturday, November 25 to 26**, Santa, a parade, 410-778-2991. p. 105.
- Eastern Shore Sea Glass & Coastal Arts Festival: **Saturday, November 19, and Sunday, November 20**, at the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum, open at 10 a.m. [www.cbmm.org/seaglassfestival](http://www.cbmm.org/seaglassfestival), p.107.
- Museum of Rural Life Open in Denton **Saturday, November 19**, see the Annie Taylor house from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., [carolinehistory@gmail.com](mailto:carolinehistory@gmail.com) or 410-479-2055. p. 111.
- Preston Historical Society Museum Open: Saturdays through December (closed November 26). [PrestonHistoricalSociety.com](http://PrestonHistoricalSociety.com). p. 111.
- Cardboard Gingerbread House Workshop: Make and decorate, **Wednesday, November 16**, the Foundry, Denton. [www.carolinearts.org](http://www.carolinearts.org)., p 111.
- Open Studio: Meet artist Rose Leon, illustrator and multimedia artist, **Thursday, November 17**, 3 to 5 p.m., The Foundry, Denton. [www.carolinearts.org](http://www.carolinearts.org), p. 111.
- Market at Linchester Mill: **Friday, November 18, 5 to 8 p.m.** 443-786-8173. p. 111.
- Winter Festival including Festival of Trees, Carols by Candlelight, and Holiday House Tours. Supports Talbot Hospice. See schedule p. 112.
- A “Dickens of a Christmas” in Chestertown: Holiday House Tour, Holiday Tea and more, Friday and **Saturday, December 2 to 3**. [www.mainstreetchestertown.org/dickens](http://www.mainstreetchestertown.org/dickens)., p. 113.
- Easton Holiday Parade: **Saturday, December 3**, tree lighting at **6 p.m.** at Thompson Park followed by parade. p.115. Carols by Candlelight **Saturday, November 25**, p. 125.
- Bayside Quilters host sale **Friday, November 18**. Email: [baysidequilters@gmail.com](mailto:baysidequilters@gmail.com), p.123.
- Guided Birding Tour: **Sunday, November 20, at 8 a.m.**, Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge, Cambridge. 410-228-2677. p. 124.
- Cambridge Coin Show: **Saturday, November 19, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**, American Legion, 91. p. 124.

**If you know of any events you’d like to share, please email them to me at [godfreycb@me.com](mailto:godfreycb@me.com).**

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