

by Len Saltiel

# LIBRETTO J

### SYMPHONY VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

JULY 2023 Vol. XVIII 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.

## **Welcome to the Neighborhood!**



Mark & Jennie Jacobs 235 Orchestra

#### SV HOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS UPDATE - JULY 2023

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

BILL RIDGWAY

**Now is the Time!** Consider running for the SV HOA Board. Our Association is a non-profit corporation with an annual budget of just over \$1.2M. Our five-member Board governs the Association and determines how your fees are spent on facilities, services, and reserves for the future. A sample of recent decisions can be found in the Board Highlights below.

We are very fortunate to get recommendations from our dedicated Committees and an experienced Management team. Over the years, Board members have come to the job with diverse experience in the workplace, with non-profits or local government, on our Committees, or sometimes with other HOAs. What matters is a willingness to take the role seriously and act consistently in the best interest of the Association.

New Board members will join the Board in December and serve for two years. To find out more, contact Bill Paschak (chair) or any member of the Nominating Committee. Current Board Members will also be happy to share their experiences. Your HOA needs your support!

#### **BOARD HIGHLIGHTS - JULY 2023**

#### DEBI WELLS HOOPER, SECRETARY OF THE BOARD

The Board appreciated residents attendance, in-person and virtually, at the June 23 HOA meeting. For those residents not able to attend, these highlights are offered. There were three unanimous Board email votes made prior to the July 23 meeting. Those votes were ratified at the June HOA meeting. Details can be read on the Governance page of Symphony Village Website.

<u>EDU Reimbursement:</u> A motion was made and approved for Debi Wells Hooper to draft a letter to the Town of Centreville to request a reimbursement of one EDU (of water and sewer consumption; paid in 2018) for the expansion of the Clubhouse. The draft will be presented and voted upon at the August HOA meeting.

<u>Nominating Committee:</u> The following homeowners were approved as members of the 2023 Nominating Committee: Bill Paschak (Chair), Mary Jo Volpicelli (Vice Chair), Mary Colling-Officer, Deborah Jones Miller, Marc Land, and Bob Montenegro. The Nominating Committee Board Liaison is Janet Leister.

<u>Erie Insurance Renewal:</u> The Commercial Insurance Account Proposal for ~\$15K was approved. This contract is effective through May 20, 2024, and is the community's blanket coverage to provide protection for all common area equipment, inventory, furnishings, and structures.

<u>Indoor Pool Cleaning:</u> A motion was approved for Anchor Aquatics to drain and clean the indoor pool (last completed in 2022); pressure wash the inside of the indoor pool structure (last completed in August 2021); and refill the indoor pool (last completed in January 2022) using a water truck that will cost less than using Clubhouse water for ~\$4K.

<u>Leg Press:</u> Recommended by the Operations Committee, a motion was approved for \$3.5K to purchase a leg press that will replace the outdated elliptical machine. The outdated machine will be sold, if possible (if a resident would like to purchase it, please contact our office: 410-765-8500). This leg press machine will allow the user to strengthen quads, hamstrings, and glutes using safe, controlled movements. <a href="IMPORTANT">IMPORTANT: It was discussed that all owners should take into consideration their unique physical abilities and issues when using gym equipment in the Clubhouse.

<u>Clubhouse Microphones:</u> Recommended by the Operations Committee, a motion was approved to purchase additional microphones for use during Committee meetings at a cost not to exceed \$1.2K.

<u>Stormwater Inlet Restoration</u>: Recommended by the Operations Committee, Apex Companies LLC provided a proposal for repairs to the grate inlets and underground piping of the storm water drainage system—\$5K. The decision was to seek additional bids.

<u>Sidewalk Replacement RFP</u>: Recommended by the Operations Committee, a motion was made and approved to authorize an RFP to replace concrete sidewalks consisting of 135 sidewalk blocks (identified by the Committee as tripping hazards) and to install an ADA-compliant exit ramp from the indoor pool. The cost for both projects is anticipated to be ~\$50K from the Reserve Fund. The Board requested the General Manager, Rebecca Wagner, to obtain information about the best location for the ramp from the indoor pool.

Removal & Replanting - Bravo Boulevard: Recommended by the Landscape & Irrigation Committee (L&I), a motion was made and approved to remove diseased knockout roses along Bravo Boulevard and plant Summersweet Clethra in four beds at a cost of \$5.9K. In the future, in addition to bids from Level Green, the Board requested that L&I obtain bids from other landscape contractors.

<u>Sweetgum Tree Mulch Rings:</u> Recommended by L&I, a motion was made to approve ~\$6.3K to expand mulch beds around 41 common area Sweetgum trees to help alleviate the gumballs in the lawn areas. The motion failed with the Board requesting the L&I Committee develop a trial recommendation or alternative solution(s).

<u>Private Yard Aeration & Overseeding:</u> Recommended by L&I, a motion was made to accept Level Green's proposal to aerate and overseed all owners front and rear yards at a cost of ~\$44K with the work to be done in

the early fall. The Board requested photos be taken by the General Manager, in coordination with L&I, before and after treatment to determine efficacy.

<u>Prohibited Tree and Shrub List Update:</u> Recommended by L&I, a motion was made and approved to update the revised Prohibited Tree and Shrub List prepared by the Committee.

<u>CD Purchases:</u> Recommended by the Budget and Finance Committee and approved by the Board: (1) invest a \$200K CD maturing on July 5, 2023, in the following manner: purchase a four-year non-callable CD for \$150K and purchase a five-year CD for \$150K with the extra \$100K coming from the Forebright Money Market Account and (2) invest the \$125K CD that matures on July 23, 2023, in the following manner: purchase a two-year non-callable CD for \$150K with the extra \$25K coming from the Forebright Money Market.

<u>August 4, 10 a.m.:</u> Please join the Board members for the next HOA meeting at the Clubhouse or virtually from the comfort of your home! Mark your calendars!

Website Suggestion Box Comments welcomed! Would you like to have a streetlight at the corner of Route 213 and Taylor Mill Road? Would you like to eliminate Committee reports at HOA meetings? What would you like to hear more or less of at HOA meetings? Would you like to have coffee and donuts served at an HOA meeting? Please email your opinions, ideas, and suggestions to the Board using the online Suggestion Box on the Homepage of the Symphony Village Website!

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

A reminder to join the **Quilting Group** on Wednesday, July 19, at 10 a.m. in the Craft Room for a sewing session to make **holiday stockings** to be sent to our troops over the holidays. The stockings are donated and filled with goodies and given to our troops over the holidays. Please join us! We provide fabric, and there will be a couple of sewing machines so you can stitch away! Questions, contact Sue Peterson or MaryKay Kerr.

#### **ARTISANS GUILD**

#### SUE CANFIELD, KATHY MCMANUS, CO-CHAIRS

The Artisans Guild has had a busy month. We had an Art Show in Centreville at the Queen Anne's County Centre for the Arts. It was a very successful show and a wonderful way to share the unbelievable talent we have in our Village.

On June 29, our own Joseph Lichaa taught us the proper way to paint trees. It was a valuable lesson. We all worked hard to improve our skills.



Sue Canfield, Patty Smith, Joseph Lichaa, Peggy Decker

On July 6, the Artisans Guild sponsored a Paint Night featuring Erin Zimmerman, daughter of Kateri and Gary Coombe. She instructed a group of 15 people. We all painted a Barn with an American Flag. It was a fun evening with a great deal of concentration along with lots of laughs.



Back row: Terri O'Connell, Charlotte Godfrey, Annette Nelson, Kateri Coombe, Sue Peterson, Jenny Gallo, Kathy Rambo, Eleanor Strietman, Terry Flannery, Lucy Hern, Anne Mason Front Row: Erin Zimmerman, Sue Canfield, Karen Paterson, Debbie Buss, and Margaret Flannery

Our next Show is <u>Light and Shadows</u>. We will have a Reception on Sunday, August 6, from 4 - 6 p.m. We will be collecting Art pieces on Thursday, August 3, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Hope to see many new works of art!

#### **COVENANTS CORNER**

TOM MERINGOLO, CHAIR

by Debi Wells Hooper, Board Covenants Committee Liaison

While propane tanks are resilient, in the U.S. they have an average lifespan of about twelve (12) years. Whether you own your tank or are leasing it, if you are considering a replacement propane tank, an Exterior Modification Form (EMF) must be submitted to the Clubhouse office. That paperwork is required to be reviewed and approved by the Covenants Committee before the removal and replacement process can begin. As is always the case, the EMF process helps to protect our infrastructure, especially the sprinkler heads!

Propane tanks must be buried (underground). Above-ground propane tanks are prohibited, except when necessary, on a temporary basis for the repair or removal of the permanent in-ground tank. A temporary tank will only be allowed for a period of thirty (30) days and must be removed at the completion of repairs or after installation of a new in-ground tank. The homeowner is responsible for any damage to common property as a result of repair or removal of the tank and installation of the new tank. As is the case with all exterior modifications, all property (common or private area) must be restored to its original look.

The Covenants Committee meets monthly on the second Wednesday of each month. All residents are welcome to attend, and if your EMF is being reviewed, you are encouraged to join us to answer any questions. The next Covenants Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 9, at 9:30 a.m. in the Clubhouse or by virtual attendance.

Have questions about Symphony Village Covenants or do you want help to complete an EMF? Please contact me at 410-703-6702.

# LANDSCAPE AND IRRIGATION COMMITTEE Bravo Blvd Beautification

PAT FOX & BETTY MCATEE, CO-CHAIRS
Betty McAtee

Bravo Boulevard will soon receive a "facelift!"

Knockout roses planted along the guardrail on Bravo Boulevard along with switchgrass and inkberry shrubs, have recently contracted a viral disease called "rose rosette." This disease is spread by microscopic arachnids (mites, related to spiders) that are carried from plant to plant by wind currents. Symptoms include distorted new red growth, sometimes called "witches broom," deformed rose buds, and sometimes an abundance of thorns easily broken off the stems. Since rose rosette cannot be controlled by treatments, removal of all diseased plants (along with all its roots) is recommended and replaced with alternate type plantings (but definitely not roses).

These knockouts will be replaced (hopefully in Spring 2024) by shrubs Summersweet (*Clethra alnifolia*).

These are compact shrubs, native to North America. They thrive in full sun, adaptable to poor soil conditions, and grow 3 to 4 feet tall and 3 to 4 feet wide. The summer panicle blossoms can be white or pink, depending on the variety.

These blossoms attract butterflies and hummingbirds. Summersweet shrubs display bright yellow foliage in the fall.

The Landscape and Irrigation committee is looking forward to a "new look" on Bravo Boulevard and hopefully the rest of Symphony Villagers are too.



#### LIFESTYLE COMMITTEE

# MARY JO AND VINNY VOLPICELLI, CO-CHAIRS MARIE BOSSIE, CORRESPONDENT

The Lifestyle Committee continues to be busy planning and coordinating fun events for all. We hope you have taken the time to participate and enjoy some of the activities.

#### Wednesdays, 10 a.m. <u>Healthy Lifestyles presented by Carolyn Harty</u>

Carolyn Harty continues to present useful information on healthy foods, activities, recipes, and tips for living healthier. Different topics and recipes are shared each week. Drop by the Concert Hall and check it out.

Remember, every other Monday morning at 10 a.m. at QAPR Ball fields on Route. 18. <u>Pick-Up Softbal</u>l Next game, Monday, July 17, at 10 a.m. Any questions, call or text Norm Bossie at 202-255-8942.

**Saturday, June 17** A special Social Hour was held at the Clubhouse to welcome all the residents who moved in since June 1, 2022. It was fairly well attended by new residents who had a chance to meet, chat, and learn about the ongoing activities in SV. Each new resident received a special invitation hand delivered by Vinny Volpicelli and Mary Jo Keefe as well as a special name tag and lei.

Saturday, June 24 Movie Nite—Randy presented *Hello God, It's Me, Margaret*.

Sunday, June 25 Sangrias & Salsas—2 p.m.—Jenny Gallo and Donna Donaldson

A very special thank you to Jenny and Donna for another fun afternoon for 25 people who attended and went home with a pitcher of Sangria or Salsa of their choice. Watch for future classes.







Margaret Flannery and Doug Rambo

Tuesday, July 4, Parade and Festivities, Jack Cohen did another great job organizing the Parade. Police and fire equipment led lots of convertibles and bicycle riders this year, many had decorated their wheels. Hope you were outside waving them on. After the parade, residents went to the pool, barbecued, and enjoyed the pool.





At **2 p.m. Isaiah's Ice Cream Truck** arrived. About 75 to 80 residents came and enjoyed social time in the parking lot while eating their ice cream. Everyone raved about the delicious ice cream. Remember the proceeds go to The Autism Foundation here in QAC that supports programs in our schools for special needs students. Any questions or to make a donation to the Foundation, call Martha Anthony, Cocoordinator at 443-988-1201. The Ice Cream Truck will return over the summer with dates to be announced.



**3 p.m.**—**Tribute to Our Flag, Fallen Heroes, and all Veterans**. Kudos to Randy for putting together a spectacular tribute on Independence Day. There wasn't a dry eye in the Concert Hall. I hope you were able to see this wonderful video tribute.

Wednesday, July 12, Cheeseburger in Paradise. Thanks to all the many volunteers who worked over the last few months to make this happen. It certainly took a village. The music by Chris Sacks was great as always and people enjoyed meeting and chatting with Roger Bartlett.

- Thanks to Kathy Sanetrik and her check-in team. What a challenge getting everyone checked in and obtaining their wrist bands.
- The burgers cooked by Dave Peterson and his team were perfect, they did an amazing job grilling for hours in the heat. Thanks, gentlemen.
- Thanks to Anne Marie Mason and her team who sliced, diced, and chopped



- Thanks to all the servers and people who replenished the food.
- Thanks to Norm Bossie and his team for manning the outside bar and Carolyn Harty and Karen Paterson for making those delicious Margaritas.
- Thanks to Skip and Donna for manning the inside bar.
- Thanks to Joe Sikes and his clean-up team.
- Thanks for all the attendees generosity, Joe Sikes collected and presented Chris Sacks with \$300.
- There were 280 residents signed up and 269 people attended. Doors opened at 6 p.m. and over 200 attendees were served by 6:30 p.m.





Everyone raved about the food, and especially the brownies that were very decadent. Many attendees sat inside in the Concert Hall and Card Room and those who brought a chair sat under the trees outside the pool. Everyone found a place to sit, eat, relax, and enjoy the music. Thanks to everyone who attended and made it the success it was.

It was a Night of Great Fun, Great Food, Great Music, and Great Dancing!



**Upcoming Events** We have exciting events coming soon that you won't want to miss.

**Wednesday, July19** 5-7 p.m., Ed and Cindy Beres will hold their annual Ice Cream Social for all SV residents. It will be held between the pool and the Bocce courts.

Saturday, July 29 Movie Night with Randy Officer, *About My Father*, starring Robert De Niro PLEASE NOTE: July and August movie start time is 7:30 p.m.

**Monday, September 4** Time, menu, and cost for Labor Day Barbeque coming soon.

Late October / Early November—Date to be announced—Len Saltiel presents his travels around the world.

**Please consider hosting a Social Hour.** Hosts and hostesses are still needed for the monthly Friday and Saturday Night Social Hours. It's pretty simple, and Helen does lots of the prep work. Please consider hosting any first Friday or third Saturday. It would really be appreciated. Email Helen Fitzgerald, coordinator, at <a href="helen6289@gmail.com">helen6289@gmail.com</a> with any questions and to sign up.

Happy summer.

#### SYMPHONY VILLAGE NOMINATING COMMITTEE SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

BILL PASCHAK, CHAIR

There will be three vacant positions for the Symphony Village HOA Board of Directors effective December 2023. The terms for Debbie Wells Hooper, Karen Kram, and Bill Ridgway are expiring, and the positions will be filled by an election at the December 2023 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 few months. The Nominating Committee will announce additional details of the election process to include how to submit a nomination in the upcoming August issue of the *Libretto*. Please watch for these important announcements.

If you have any questions, please contact one of the following nomination committee members: Bill Paschak, Mary Jo Volpicelli, Mary Officer, Deborah Jones Miller, Bob Montenegro, and Marc Land.

#### **OPERATIONS**

#### JOE SIKES, CHAIR, AND FRED KURST, CO-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 met on June 15 and recommended replacement of approximately 2,200 sq. ft. of sidewalks. The BOD authorized the GM to request proposals from local companies. The request for proposals (RFP) will be addressed at the next BOD meeting.

The GM also received asphalt proposals for upgrading the Clubhouse parking from multiple providers. The Operations Committee is reviewing the proposals and will make recommendations to the GM and BOD following our July meeting.

The next Operations meeting will be held on **Thursday**, **July 20**, at 10 a.m. in the Clubhouse. The meeting will be hybrid and all residents are welcome to attend either in person or virtually.

#### Publications and Communications

#### MARYKAY KERR, CHAIR

A BIG thank you to all the contributors to the *Libretto*. In addition to your informative articles, the submission of pictures help to bring the articles alive!

#### Finding Information on the SV Website Home Page

Many times we are in search of information about an activity that was published in ECHOES, eBlasts, or in a previous publication. We go to the SV Website and see it right there on the Home Page, but there is no information. Some of the Activities are posted as a hyperlink and the reader can click on it and information comes up. It would be very helpful if all who run an activity could give Len Saltiel (ljsaltiel@gmail.com) the information. He

would gladly create a hyperlink for your activity...so much easier to find the info



OUTREACH JOANN WALKER, CHAIR

#### **NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR**

on the website!

#### Mary Jo Volpicelli

Neighbor to Neighbor was formed over 15 years ago as a way to help residents who needed help with meals after an illness or family loss or rides to Doctor appointments on a temporary basis. It was focused on helping those in need on your block. As the community and friendships have grown, the need for this focus has changed. We now see friends helping friends, which is a good thing. So the emphasis of Neighbor to Neighbor is changing also.

We will now be known as **OUR NEIGHBORHOOD.** We will focus on a core group of volunteers who are willing to help any resident who needs help on a short-term basis. Mary Jo Volpicelli will chair this committee and is looking for volunteers who would be willing to be called on when the needs arise.

In addition, we would like to establish a community "phone tree" to check on the well-being of SV residents on a monthly basis. We need volunteers to help with this project.

Please contact Mary Jo at keefemi@yahoo.com if you can help with these important projects.

#### **Memorial Book**



The Memorial Book is located in the Wall Street Room of the SV Clubhouse. It pays tribute to and shares the life story of SV residents who are no longer with us. Pictured at right is the first page of the book featuring Ron Lewis, beloved husband of Lynn Lewis. If you would like your loved one to be honored and remembered in the Memorial Book, please contact one of the Committee Members: Cindy Bogner 703-



655-6505, Charlotte McClatchy 443-350-7404, or Ellen Miller 443-262-8270.

#### **CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES**

#### SYMPHONY SNEAKERS - JULY 2023

LINDA FARRAR

As Bob Hope used to end his shows with his theme song of "Thanks for the Memories," so Sneakers closes out our 18 years of service to the Centreville area schools with Thanks for the Memories. What started as an appeal at a Caruso sponsored social event to give back to our new hometown, Centreville, blossomed into an exceptionally generous community in Symphony Village. You and prior residents generated funding of just under \$200,000. This included books, college scholarships, support for field trips, holiday gifts to those in need in Centreville, and numerous other programs was not just the money. You helped in the schools, including book giveaways; you mentored students who needed some extra attention; you designed and created works of art to be included in our auctions; you solicited local merchants for items to be auctioned off at our galas; you bought and wrapped packages at holiday time; you delivered food baskets, clothes, and toys to the schools to be distributed to anonymous recipients; and you turned out to attend fundraisers that made all of this possible.

We also thank the non-resident supporters of our programs. We had tremendous support from the Queen Anne's County School Superintendent, Dr. Carol Williamson, who was voted an honorary member of Sneakers for all of her support. We also thank Jeff Caruso and Caruso Homes for their support. Liz Draper, our other honorary member, and Queenstown Bank were enthusiastic sponsors of our efforts. Of course, we could not have functioned without the help and support of the Reading Specialists, Guidance Counselors, and Administrators, particularly the principals of the schools we served (Kennard, Centreville, Church Hill, and Sudlersville Elementary Schools, as well as Centreville Middle School, Sudlersville Middle School, and Queen Anne's High School). (As an aside, the principal of Kennard Elementary, the first school where Sneakers provided assistance, grew up on the farm that we now know as Symphony Village.) In fact, our name was derived from the fact that one of the first appeals was from Kennard's Guidance Counselor to buy "sneakers" for a student whose shoes were falling apart.

Covid and other issues made working in the schools more difficult, so the decision was made to dissolve Sneakers. While our community may not be working directly in the schools, Outreach has taken over our fundraising SV HOA Dues raffle and still supports the needs of our community, which will benefit the parents and grandparents of the students in the area. They will also continue the Holiday Giving Tree, benefiting the students and families in the community. We strongly encourage all of you to continue your generosity and support for the programs and events of the Outreach Program

Again, in closing, we truly say, "Thanks for the Memories"!

Linda Farrar

#### READING FOR FUN – JUNE 2023 REVIEW

**JOE SIKES** 

The SV Book Club met on June 20 to discuss *Founding Mothers* by Cokie Roberts. Attendees included: Joe Sikes, Jan Withers, JoAnn Walker, Bob Nilsson, Jim and Kathryn Buckheit, Kitti Wilson, Donna Harkins, and Sue Goldberg. Mary Jo Volpicelli did not attend but called her score in separately.

Cokie Roberts is a journalist and well-recognized political commentator, but also the author of three books. While the founding fathers are well known through books and more recently plays, the wives, mothers, and daughters who supported them remain mostly obscure. While the men were fighting wars and founding our nation, the women were often left to raise the children, keep their livelihoods solvent, and by the way, escape marguding Redcoats and Indian

children, keep their livelihoods solvent, and by the way, escape marauding Redcoats and Indians. Cokie Roberts has taken it as her mission to tell their stories.

These were some amazing women whose contributions are even more impressive when you consider that they were not allowed to own property, hold office, or even vote!

Some of the women are famous due to their husbands, such as Martha Washington and Abigail Adams. Nevertheless, it was enlightening to read what their lives were like during the Revolutionary War and the creation of a new government. Martha Washington was independently wealthy even prior to marriage and had the means to travel with her husband during the early years of our country. Committed to being with her husband, she undertook arduous and dangerous trips from Virginia to New Jersey, Philadelphia, and even Valley Forge, despite being a target of the British and their native allies. She was beloved by the troops and helped keep morale up during the early war years by feeding, nursing, and clothing American troops.

Many wives and families followed the Continental Army because they were too poor to do otherwise. Martha was royalty to them, but she avoided fancy clothes and pitched in to help with menial tasks like cleaning and mending uniforms. In many ways she set the tone that distinguished this new republic from the class-conscious monarchy that we rejected.

Abigail Adams did not have the same wealth or luxury of slaves to keep her farm running, and she was forced to keep it solvent while simultaneously managing her husband's law practice. When the British Army was encamped in Boston, Abigail was fending off unruly redcoats while tending her children and dealing with food shortages caused by the war. When she expressed her concerns about rumors of increased British war preparations, John's advice was that, if it got really dangerous, "fly to the woods with our children." Apparently, Abigail had no HOA in her community to rely on. I'm sure she wanted to tell John where he could "fly."

Lesser known, but equally amazing, was Eliza Pinckney who was left to run three plantations in South Carolina at the age of sixteen. Eliza not only kept the farms running but developed a strain of indigo and turned it into the primary cash crop in the South. She is the mother of two Founders, Thomas and Charles Pinckney, as well as two other children. Her indigo crop grew to be more valuable than the income from Mexican and Peruvian gold mines, making control of South Carolina essential for both sides when the revolution started. Her sons became Continental war heroes and signers of the Constitution.

Deborah Read Franklin took over Ben's printing business and real estate in Philadelphia and was able to provide him financial support while he toured the courts of Europe. The famous inventor was a rock star in Europe and eventually enlisted French aid, empowering the American victory in the war. However, Ben effectively abandoned Deborah by spending sixteen of their last seventeen years of marriage overseas. He only came home when she died. Rock star behavior hasn't improved much over the years.

I was also impressed by a story of Rebecca Motte, who was the mother-in-law of Thomas Pinckney, mentioned above. The Motte plantation was captured by the British and used as a defensive position in the battle for South Carolina and control of Charleston. The Americans surrounded the British position, but the British, expecting reinforcements, refused to surrender. The American commander, Henry Lee, was hesitant to burn the Motte plantation to dislodge the British in deference to the Motte and Pinckney families.

As a solution, Henry Lee asked Rebecca Motte for her opinion on the situation before proceeding. Rebecca, without hesitation, said she was gratified by the opportunity to contribute to the American cause through sacrifice of her family home. Not only that, but she provided a stock of flaming arrows from East India to set the house ablaze. The British promptly surrendered. I am looking to procure some of those East Indian arrows for my home security system!

Cokie Roberts created an extensive search team to find the stories of the Founding Mothers and the book contains many fascinating tales. Unlike their husbands, there are few written records for these women, so the research was tedious. For example, Abigail Adams asked her husband to destroy her letters but, luckily, he didn't. Stories include Elizabeth Schuyler who married Alexander Hamilton and the exploits of the extended

Schuyler family. It also includes the juicy story of the intertwined Jefferson and Randolph families of Virginia, that the Book Club had previously read in the story of Martha Jefferson (*America's First Daughter*.)

The Club enjoyed *Founding Mothers* and awarded it a score of 6.93 on our scale of 10. Much of the story is told using the verbiage from correspondence of the 18th century that author Roberts has attempted to adapt for easier understanding. The syntax used during that century is still somewhat stilted that made the reading challenging.

The cast of characters is large and intermarried so keeping track of who is related to whom requires some notetaking. The author helpfully provides a cast of characters in the book to help sort it all out. Several club members also recognized and appreciated Cokie Roberts' sense of humor as provided in sidenotes to exchanges between the characters.

The SV Book Club holds our meetings on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Clubhouse. We 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 listed below.

July 18 Zero Fail: The Rise and Fall of the Secret Service by Carol Leonnig

August 15 The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue by V.E.Schwab

September 19 Apples Never Fall by Liane Moriarty

## INSTITUTE FOR ADULT LEARNING (IAL)

CINDY BOGNER



The Institute for Adult Learning (IAL), 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, will hold a Showcase of Classes for the fall semester on **Wednesday**, **August 9**, at the Kennard Cultural Center located at 410 Little Kidwell Avenue, Centreville, Maryland. Doors open at 1:30 p.m. and the program begins at 2 p.m.

The Showcase will provide an overview of 46 courses to be offered during the fall semester (September 6 - December 15) in categories such as brain, body, and soul; history and current events, local environment, and science; literature, arts and crafts; and culinary arts. All classes are held during the day, Monday through Friday, and range from one to six sessions.

At the Showcase you will be able to meet with instructors, hear brief overviews of upcoming classes and trips, catch up with old friends and meet new people, enjoy 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 classes.

For additional information, visit the IAL website at <a href="www.instituteforadultlearning.org">www.instituteforadultlearning.org</a>. Please feel free to contact Cindy Bogner (703-655-6505) or Steve Quigley (410-758-6775), who are SV residents and IAL Council/Board members, for additional clarifications.



# Mark Your Calendar! POOL SAFETY CLASS SIGN-UP AT THE WALL STREET ROOM!



DATE: Saturday, July 29

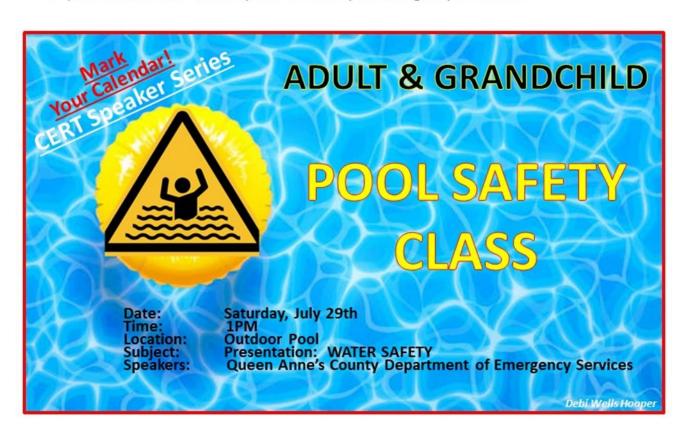
TIME: 1PM

PLACE: Outdoor Pool

SPEAKER: Queen Anne's County (QAC) Dept. of Emergency Services

Did you know drowning is the single leading cause of death for children ages 1-4? That's because most do not yell for help! What else do you need to know to keep your family and yourself safe?

This basic pool safety course, taught by the QAC Department of Emergency Services, aims to provide residents with essential knowledge and skills to ensure the safety of individuals in and around swimming pools. By the end of the course, attendees will understand the potential risks associated with pools and acquire the necessary tools to prevent accidents and respond effectively in emergency situations.



LUNCH BUNCH MARGE STRANO



The Lunch Bunch returns to a favorite location, <u>Bridges on Kent Narrows</u>, on Thursday, August 3, at 12:30 p.m. Bridges is located at 321 Wells Cove Road, Grasonville, where

spectacular water views enhance the dining experience. All SV residents and their guests are invited to attend. The Lunch Bunch provides a perfect opportunity to meet and greet new residents.



Sign up online by using this <u>Lunch Bunch Sign-up Link</u>. You can also go to the Symphony Village <u>Website</u>, scroll down to Events, and locate the Lunch Bunch. As usual, you can add your name to the list in the SV Club Activities Book at the Clubhouse. If you sign up online, please <u>do not</u> add your name in the book. Only sign up in one place.

Sign up dates start on July 17 and end on July 31. Please call either Bea or Marge on the mobile numbers provided below if you forget to sign up by the July 31 deadline. We look forward to a delicious lunch in a warm and social setting

You can call Bea Trotta at 410-758-0332 (Mobile 610-217-4754) or Marge Strano at 410-758-2511 (Mobile 609-221-6378) with questions or if you need a ride.

#### CHESTERTOWN LIONS CLUB EYEGLASSES PROGRAM

Bob Montenegro recently received this thank you letter from the Chestertown Lions Club:

Thank you so much for collecting eye glasses and lenses for the Lions Club. You have provided hundreds of these articles for the past 10 years. VISION is a major theme for the Lions, and you have started the process by placing glasses boxes in your Symphony Village community. Please thank the Symphony Village residents for placing their old, worn, outdated and reparable glasses into and filling these boxes continually. You have delivered these glasses and lenses to the Chestertown Lions Club periodically. The glasses are then gathered in a designated central location from multiple Lions Clubs on the Eastern Shore where the glasses are cleaned, graded, refurbished, and submitted to Lions Club International to be delivered to Third World countries.

If interested in the activities of the Chestertown Lions Club, please go to our website: Chestertown.org

Thank you once again, Mr. Montenegro, and the residents of Symphony Village for your support.

Bob told me that the box for glasses will continue to be in the Arts & Crafts room, and he will continue to deliver them occasionally. Call Bob if you have any questions.

#### COMPASS WORKSHOP CONTINUE...PLEASE COME

**ELEANOR STRIETMAN** 

Please consider attending the Compass workshops held at the Clubhouse on the second Thursday of the month from 6 to 8 p.m. Under the direction of two Compass group leaders, we engage in confidential discussions that evoke comfort and guidance.

You might be thinking that these workshops are only for neighbors who are grieving, but that is definitely not the case. Everyone has experienced life's changes, losses, and struggles that can leave us feeling ostracized and isolated and negatively affect our ability to enjoy life.

These monthly gatherings were created to help participants to recognize and acknowledge those feelings of loss and change and to deal with them in ways that promote confidence and hope.

This group is effective when discussing difficult topics because participants are honest, empathetic, and compassionate towards each other. Group participants support one another by helping each other learn how to respond to life challenges, process their thoughts and feelings, and practice healthy and effective self-care.

Light refreshments are provided.

#### **ASTRONOMY CLUB ARTICLE**

#### LARRY RAYNER, THE ARMCHAIR ASTRONOMER

Near-Time News: In Greek mythology Artemus was the sister of Apollo. It is only fitting that the name



Artemus is now used for this new moon exploration series that follows the Apollo missions. The first Artemus Moon Mission, Artemus 1, was launched in 2023 successfully. This was an unmanned mission around the moon. Artemus 2, in 2024, will be a manned mission of four astronauts around the moon. Artemus 3, in 2025, will land a woman and person of color on the Moon using a Lunar Excursion Module (LEM). The term LEM was first used in the Apollo 11 mission. I remember reading that to keep the weight down, the walls of the LEM were so thin that the Astronauts were afraid they would puncture them if they made an incorrect move with their boots.

Space X Space Ship is to be launched anytime between now and December 30, 2023. Its mission is to successfully orbit the Earth and return to the launch pad. The first try resulted in failure of the Moon/Mars Rocket Ship (it blew up) just like the Soviets N1 Moon Rocket in 1968; the Space X vehicle, I believe failed for the same reason. Both vehicles design had too many rocket engines (50 +) and the vibration was too great for the plumbing to stay fixed, dumping fuel on the rocket engine causing a hypergolic explosion, (The N1 explosion was the biggest non-nuclear explosion in history). The Soviet N1 blew up one week before the U.S. circled the moon, the first time the Overview Effect was experienced. The Soviet explosion killed one astronaut and 134 other people near the launch pad. In comparison, the U.S. has lost a total of 135 people mainly through shuttle failure since NASA began its manned exploration.



The Overview Effect, that we have discussed before, can be detailed in a YouTube showing of *The Overview Effect, A Documentary*. This is a short story with views and discussions from Philosophers and Astronauts. You should try to see this during these turbulent times. This photograph is one of the most popular in history.



Important Up-Coming Event: In mid-July to the end of August, you will be able to see the Perseid meteor shower. It will peak around August 13. Unlike 2022, we will have less moonlight disturbance and therefore meteor showers will be more prolific.



SV SOFTBALL MARIE BOSSIE







Norm Bossie

Brad Kram

Charlene McGrade

On July 3, 23 Symphony Village softball players squared off on a warm, humid morning, Team Rock vs. Team Roll, and the laughter and fun began in earnest. A brief pitching duel between Bob Hooper and Jeff Herring was broken up by a line smash double to center by Randy Officer, scoring two runs. The spectators went wild.

Among the highlights, in his second at bat, Brad Kram (designated batter) singled sharply to right field and Karen Kram (designated runner) scampered to first for him.

The rest is history, as Team Rock defeated Team Roll 6–3. "More fun than the law allows." The next game is at 10 a.m., on Monday, July 17.

#### LADIES HAPPY HOUR

The next Ladies Social Hour is on Thursday, July 27. The menu is Shrimp Primavera, julienned summer veggies, shrimp in a light wine and butter sauce over penne pasta, Italian bread, and a Chiapparelli salad. A vegetarian option is available with notice. Please sign up in the Wall Street Room by Sunday, July 23. The cost is \$10 cash only. The Ladies Social Hour is hosted by Mary Ciesielski, Phyllis Endrich, Debbie Shiley, Marti Beernink, Carol Peed, and Annette Nelson.

The Queen Anne's County Mental Health Committee is sponsoring the biennial Old Bags Luncheon on Friday, September 15, at Prospect Bay Country Club. If you would like to donate a new or gently used designer handbag to this worthy cause, please bring it with you to Ladies Social Hour. Debbie Shiley will deliver it!

#### SYMPHONY VILLAGE CONTACTS

**Rebecca Wagner**, General Manager gm@symphonyvillagehoa.com

**Julia Neph**, Executive Assistant to the General Manager

agm@symphonyvillagehoa.com

**Nick Oliver**, Maintenance Technician maintenance@symphonyvillagehoa.com

**Board of Directors group email:** Board@symphonyvillagehoa.com

#### **Location:**

100 Symphony Way, Centreville MD 21617

#### **Telephone Numbers:**

Office: 410-758-8500 Fax: 410-758-8509 Bulk Pickup & Yard Waste 410-758-1180 Trash Removal & Recycling 410-742-0099

**P&C** Newsletter

librettoeditors@gmail.com

**P&C** Welcome Committee

SymphonyVillageWelcome@gmail.com







Kathy Sanetrik and Jenny Gallo in Oxford!

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

Community Wellness at the Symphony Village Clubhouse Craft Room: second Wednesday of every month from 10 a.m. – noon (August 9). Screenings include Blood Pressure, Pulse, Glucose, and Cholesterol.

**Centreville Farmers' Market** every Sunday from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. on Lawyers Row.

Chestertown Farmers' and Artisans' Market: Saturdays year-round, 8 a.m. – noon, High St.

**Kent Island Farmer's Market:** Thursdays year-round, 3:30 – 6:30 p.m., at Cult Classic Brewery, 1169 Shopping Center Rd, Stevensville.

**Easton's Farmers Market:** 100 block of North Harrison St., Saturdays from 8 a.m. − 1 p.m.

**Denton's Farmers Market:** Wednesdays, 4:30-6 p.m. at the corner of Market and Third St.

Market at the Mill: Saturday, July 29, from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m., Linchester Rd, Preston

**Trappe Farmers' Market:** every other Saturday, July 15 through October 14, in the parking lot of Momma Maria's Mediterranean Bistro from 7:30 – noon. p. 56 of July *Attraction* 

Easton Night Out: Every first Friday from 5 - 8 p.m. (August 4), the streets will be filled with music and excitement. Explore the downtown shops, restaurants, and galleries.

**Institute for Adult Learning:** 45 courses, history current events, brain & body health, literature, crafts and more. \$90 fee for unlimited courses. www.instituteforadultlearning.org

**Tour Historic Sites on the first Saturday of each month from May through October in 2023.** Spend the day or just a few hours touring train stations, colonial houses, an operating grist mill, a country store, an early courthouse, and churches. Admission is free. See all the sites on p. 28 of the July 6, *Update*, www.SHOREUPDATE.com or call 410-604-2100, www.historicqac.org.

**Find Your Chesapeake:** a new adventure is featured each month with Trips and Tips including birdwatching, fishing, camping, and hiking. www.FindyourChesapeake.com

**Veterans Book Club:** Connecting and Healing through Literature, open to veterans only, receive a free copy of each months book. Meet on the third Wednesday of each month (July 19 and August 16) at 6:30 p.m. at the Center for the Military and Veterans in Stevensville. Email Eric Johnson at info@VAMSA.US

**Voices and Votes: Democracy in America:** a traveling Smithsonian Institution Exhibition at the Kenard African American Cultural Heritage Center in Centreville, open 3 – 7 p.m. Wednesdays – Fridays, and 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays through July 24.

**Annual Photo Contest:** Maryland Department of Natural Resources is accepting entries for the annual photo contest through Tuesday, August 1, at 5 p.m. www.news.maryland.gov/dnr/2023/03/maryland-department-of-natural-resources-2023-photo-contest-now-open

**Summer Concerts in Muskrat Park, St. Michaels:** Every Thursday through August 31 from 6 – 7:30. July Performers: Blues Deville, Ampersand, Down the Road, Three Penny Opera, www.stmichaelsmd.org

**The Mind Noodler – Matt Donnelly:** at the Cult Classic Brewing Company Thursday, July 27, from 7-11 p.m. Comedy, magician act.

KIFA: www.kifa.us

- Street Scenes and Walkways: with Garden Club floral interpretations through Sunday, July 23.
- **Annual Photography Show:** from Thursday, July 27, through Sunday, August 27.

**Avalon Foundation Free Saturday Outdoor Street Concerts:** Saturday nights at 7 p.m. on Harrison Street in Easton, p. 31 in July *Attraction*, avalonfoundation.org

- US Navy Band Cruisers, July 29
- **Motown and More,** August 5
- Philip Dutton & the Alligators, August 12

Queen Anne's County Arts: open Monday–Friday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. www.queenannescountyarts.org

- **Eastern Shore, Heritage & History Series: a writers circle lecture:** "A Time & Place" shared experiences of four writers, Saturday, July 22, from 7 9 p.m.
- **Tattoo and Bike Exhibition:** Opening Saturday, August 12, at 4 6 p.m.
- ACAC Thursdays in the Park Concert Series: each begins at 7 p.m. www.queenannescountyarts.com, see p. 61 in July Attraction
- Wheelhouse (Rock, R&B): July 17 at Cray House Green, Stevensville
- **Leonardo Garcia y Son Horizonte (Salsa, Latin Jazz):** August 3 at the Matapeake Beach Clubhouse, Stevensville
- Red Betty & the Ruckus (Rock, Americana): August 10 at Kent Island Resort, Stevensville

#### Chestertown: www.townofchestertown.com

- Cars on High: Third Thursdays, July 20, and August 17. Admire classic, exotic, antique and customized cars on the 300 block of High St., p. 62 in July *Attraction*
- Sourdough Bread Making Class: Saturday, July 15, at the Modern Stone Age Kitchen, 236 Cannon St. from 10 a.m. noon. <a href="www.christina@eatlikeahuman.com">www.christina@eatlikeahuman.com</a>
- **Organizing Your Health:** Join the UMMS Shore Community Outreach Team for a discussion on how to best organize and manage your health care. Monday, July 17 from 11:30 a.m. 1 p.m., Chestertown Town Hall second floor meeting room. Free but registration requested. 410-810-5661
- **Girls Night Out on the River Packet:** Ladies nights on the Chester River, Thursdays, July 20, and August 17, from 6 9 p.m. on High Street Town Dock, reservations required, 410-635-0321
- **3D Archery Shoot and Concert at Piney Grove Farm:** to benefit Operation Enduring Warrior, Saturday, July 29, from 9 a.m. 9 p.m.

- **Beginner Wheel with Chris Neiman:** Class will be held at the Clay Studio, 204 High St., on Tuesdays from 6 8:30 p.m., running from August 1 through September 5. Course introduces basic pottery wheel techniques. 410-778-6300.
- **White-Line Woodcut Print Workshop:** Saturday, August 5, from 10 a.m. 4 p.m. at River Arts Education Center, 200B High St., 410-778-6300
- First Friday Celebration in downtown Chestertown: extended shopping hours

**American Legion Jeff Davis Post 18:** 2619 Centreville Rd.– slow summer months, call for activities 410-758-3584

- Queen of Hearts Drawing: every Sunday at 6 p.m.
- **ALR Cruise Night:** Wednesday, July 19, from 5 8 p.m.
- **SAL BBQ Chicken and Corn Hole Tournament:** Saturday, July 22, at noon.
- **Blood Drive:** Monday, July 24, from 11 a.m. 5 p.m.
- Attraction (page numbers listed for further reference in the July Attraction)
- **Food Truck Nights:** Fridays, July 21, and August 18, from 4 − 7 p.m. at 7013 Main Street Queenstown to support the Queenstown Volunteer Fire Department, and Friday, July 28, from 5 − 8 p.m. at the Crumpton Volunteer Fire Department, p. 60
- **Plein Air Art Exhibit Easton 2023:** Friday, July 14 Sunday, July 23, prestigious week-long art festival and competition, p. 18 and 21, www.PleinAirEaston.com
- "Midsummer Night's Dream": show is short with "whimsical quirks," Saturday, July 15, and Sunday July 16, see p. 19
- Kent County Fair: Wednesday, July, 19 Saturday, July 22, at the Kent Ag Center, Chestertown, p. 62
- St. Michaels free waterfront concert series: Thursdays from 6-7:30 p.m. at Muskrat Park in St. Michaels, p.44
- "A Scrappy Life," Quilts by artist Alice Kish: on display at the Fiber Arts Center in Denton Wednesdays Saturdays from 12 4 p.m., through Saturday, September 2, p. 15
- **Bay Paddle:** Saturday, July 22, at 8 a.m., paddle races starting at Matapeake Park and finishing at Haven Harbor South in Rock Hall, p. 62–63, www.baypaddle.org
- **Reimagined Runway:** Saturday, July 22, 6 p.m. at the Fire House in Rock Hall, a Carnivale Gala, wear colorful outfits made from recycled anything, p. 63
- **Open Mic Night:** With Ford Schumann at the Garfield Center for the Arts at the Prince Theatre Wednesday, July 26, from 7 10 p.m. Play music of your own or with a band, read poetry, do a stand-up routine. E-mail schumannford@gmail.com, p. 63
- **Crazy Days:** Annual sidewalk sale, Thursday Saturday, July 27 29, from 10 a.m. 6 p.m. in Downtown Chestertown, p. 63
- "Fabulous Forgeries" Exhibit opens at the Troika Gallery Friday, July 14, p. 11
- Chrome City Fundraiser Event: Sunday, July 30, 10 a.m. 2 p.m. at the Benedictine's
- Ridgely Campus. Motorcycles, hot rods, classic and custom cars are invited to participate, p. 13
- Oxford one-of-a-kind painted Picket Fences: on display throughout the town of Oxford for the entire summer.
- **Oxford Paint Out:** all day, Sunday, July 16, with exhibition and sale at the Oxford Community Center from 5 6:30 p.m., p. 33
- Oxford Summer Concerts at Oxford Community Center: Rosewood (traditional Americana music) Saturday, August 5; and The Rising Tide (eclectic mix of folk, rock, and country) Saturday, August 12, both from 5 7 p.m., p. 33.

- Summer Talk Series with the Horn Point Lab: Sharing what they are learning about the natural world around us. Tuesday talks will run weekly from 5:30 6:30 p.m., at High Spot in Cambridge, see schedule on p. 50
- St. Michaels Art League Exhibit: featuring pastel works at the Talbot County Free Library through Monday, July 31, p. 45
- Old Wye Mill: open May through October from 10 a.m. 3 p.m. on Wednesdays through Saturdays, and Sundays from 1 3 p.m.
- Third Thursdays: of every month downtown Denton businesses extend their hours and offer specials 5-7 p.m.
- **Rural Life Museum:** Open on Saturdays from 11 a.m. 4 p.m. in Denton through November, World War I and II exhibits, etc., p. 15
- See more Mid Shore Calendar Events p. 68 69

#### Queen Anne's County Library: www.qaclibrary.org

- **Ongoing Technology Help:** schedule 1-on-1 help by appointment at Centreville Library. 410-758-0980
- **Adult Story Time on Wheels:** Themed backpack kits filled with books, activities, sensory items for adults with memory loss. 410-758-0980, www.qaclibrary.org/adult-storytime-on-wheels.
- **Books by Mail:** 410-643-8161 or 410-758-0980.
- Genealogy/Local History Research Office Hours: get one-on-one help to investigate your family tree, Tuesdays at the Centreville branch from 10 12 noon.
- **The Memory Center:** Transfer old home videos to disk or thumb drive. Free at Centerville branch. 410-758-0980.
- Free Limited Legal Advice: Thursdays at 5 7 p.m. August 3 at the Centreville Branch and July 20 and August 17 at the Kent Island Branch.
- **Veteran's Book Group:** Tuesday, August 8, at 6 p.m. at the Centreville Branch.
- Crime & a Cuppa: Join mystery reader extraordinaire Kathleen Wilson in an hour of mystery Saturdays, July 22 and August 26, at 10 a.m. at the Centreville Branch.
- **Book/DVD Donation Day:** Wednesday, July 19, from 4 6 p.m., Centreville Branch,
- Used Book Sale: Thursday, August 17, and Friday, August 18, at the Kent Island Branch

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

- Artist Katherine Binder Zoetrope's Wheel of Life watercolors: on display through Friday, September 1.
- Outdoor Sculpture Invitational: Artists in Dialogue with Landscape on view through Saturday, September 30.
- Love in the Maryland Wild: Wednesday July 19, at 1 2:30 p.m.
- Fall Native Plant Sale: orders accepted Thursday, July 17 Thursday, August 17.
- First Saturdays Guided Walks Saturday, August 5 at 10 a.m.
- Natural Dyeing Summer Solar Edition: Sunday, July 30, from 1-2:30 p.m.
- **Identifying Native Bees:** Tuesday, August 8, 10 11 a.m.
- **River Friendly Yards:** Tuesday, August 15, 10 11 a.m.
- **Healing Walks:** First Friday (August 4 and September 1) at 10 a.m., email jhoughton@adkinsarboreturm.org or call 410-6342847

\*\*\*Please send me pictures of events you attend! If you know of any events you would like to share, please email them to me at godfreycb@me.com