

photo by George Drake



### SYMPHONY VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

### February 2019

Vol. XIV No. 2

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

### Town of Centreville Special Election for Infrastructure Replacement Project Decision

There will be a Special Election on Monday, March 4, 7 a.m. -7 p.m., for registered voters who are residents of Centreville. If you are a registered voter of Queen Anne's County, you are eligible to vote in Centreville elections. Voting will take place at the Queen Anne's County Office Building (110 Vincit Street) in the Planning and Zoning meeting room. This building is across from the ACME and the Lion's Den.

### Information Night for SV Residents on the Special Election Issues

On **Tuesday, February 19,** at 7 p.m., there will be an **INFORMATION NIGHT** held in the Concert Hall to present details of the Street Project and discuss the fact that this project is now expected to about double the original budget. This meeting is for SV residents and will be chaired by SV residents. The Town has bonds in place for the original amount, but needs to fund the additional amount, which is the reason for this election. There will be discussion of what a **YES** vote means and what a **NO** vote means so you can decide how you want to vote. Bring your questions and concerns to this meeting and invite a neighbor to come along.

The Centreville Town Council will hold its next meeting at the Symphony Village Clubhouse on **Thursday**, **February 21**, at 7 p.m. This will be a great opportunity to ask your questions of the three Town Council members concerning the Street project, the vote, or any other topic of Town business.

Two Centreville Town Council Members, Jim Beauchamp and Tim McCluskey, have asked to address the residents of Symphony Village on this issue. Their articles begin on page 13 in the *Libretto*.

#### SPECIAL ELECTION ABSENTEE VOTING

If you will be away from Centreville on March 4, absentee ballots may be obtained by calling the Town of Centreville office at 410-758-1180.

#### PLEASE VOTE!



Since this is a question, the choice will be simply YES or NO. It is important that all residents VOTE on this important issue.

## HOA / HOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## SV BOARD OF DIRECTORS ACTIONS – JANUARY 25, 2019, HOA MEETING

- Architectural Requirements: Approved a motion to approve the recommended changes to the Architectural Guidelines provided by the Covenants Committee, including changing the document name to "Architectural Requirements."
- Walking Path Easements: Executed an agreement between SVHOA and the owner of Centreville Business Park allowing Symphony Village to abandon its easement and the requirement by SV to maintain the path and releases it of liability for the length of the path along Route 213 owned by the Centreville Business Park.
- Ballroom Window Repairs: Approved a motion to replace the glass panels on the original three ballroom windows reused in the expansion project whose seals are leaking at a cost not to exceed \$2,000.
- Piano Location: Approved a motion to move the piano from the Concert Hall back to the lobby area.
- Atlantic Broadband WIFI and Telephone Service: Approved a motion to accept the proposal from Atlantic Broadband for phone and internet service in the Clubhouse, which will save approximately \$1,000/year and provide faster internet speed.
- Emerald Ash Borer Treatment: Approved a motion to authorize the Landscape Committee to prepare a Request For Proposal (RFP) and solicit bids for treatment of the 72 ash trees in the community.

- Spring Tree Planting: Approved a motion to authorize the Landscape Committee to prepare an RFP and solicit bids for planting trees on Orchestra and four trees in the common area in the spring.
- Outdoor Pool Repairs: Approved a motion to authorize \$1,200 in funds for Anchor Aquatics to replace the pool handrail (required by state inspectors) and repair the coping stones.
- Lifestyle Budget: Approved a motion to provide a \$1,500 budget for the Lifestyle Committee for 2019 with the amount to be taken from unappropriated Homeowners Equity line item.
- NOTE: Board will no longer meet monthly. Next scheduled meeting is March 29.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Artisans Guild**

#### SUE CANFIELD

Thank goodness it's February already. A lot has gone on in this New Year! At the end of January, our new show, **Fiber Arts**, made quite an impression! Once again, the talent hidden in this community has been unveiled. Originally, we thought we would have winter paintings and photos to fill in, but we had such a great response that we were able to have a completely original show. If you have not visited the Concert Hall, the show will remain until the end of March.

Our new show, **Spring**, will begin on April 6, followed with **Vacations** in June. We hope that these topics will include more artists from our Village. Please remember that all entries (watercolor, acrylic, oils, pen & ink, pastels, photographs, fiber, glass, etc.) must be able to hang on our system and that frames need to be wired.

The Artisan Guild has also sponsored several local Artists who have come to our Craft Room and given lessons. Maureen Bannon from Stevensville gave three two-and-a-half-hour sessions on acrylic painting, and Laura Laird will be coming on Saturday, February 23, to teach the art of Collage. Also, we are considering a watercolor journaling class with Jim Mahla from Delaware.

If anyone has an interest in pursuing an art form, please let us know. We will try and get an instructor

to come. Anyone may come and join us in the Craft Room on Thursdays from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

### Covenants

#### DEBI WELLS, COVENANTS CHAIR

#### ARCHITECTURAL REQUIREMENTS

2018 was a productive year for the Covenants Committee. Under the effective leadership of Irene Hoffman, two-to-three-hour weekly meetings were held to update the Architectural Guidelines. On January 25 this year, the Board approved in full all proposed changes to that document, now called *Architectural Requirements*. That name change reflects this document is more than advisory; instead, it is binding by our property deed, is registered with the County, and is enforceable. The new document will soon be on the Symphony Village Website.

In addition to format corrections and minor changes for easier reading, a few highlights of the updated *Architectural Requirements* (AR) include:

- 1) To be compliant with current HOA laws:
  - a. Clothes drying outside is a green initiative recently supported by Maryland law. Consequently, the AR now states temporary, free-standing drying racks up to 4' tall may be used, then removed daily from a homeowner's private area.
  - b. A covenants appeal process update, as written by an HOA lawyer, has been included. In addition, the AR states the right of each resident to an appeal.
- 2) To be a better fit with the living experience of our community:
  - a. The Covenants Committee partnered with the Landscape Committee to refer residents to the Symphony Village website link of all approved and prohibited plants, shrubs, and trees listings. (Landscape Committee – thank you for all of your work!)
  - b. Covenants added a new section to the AR to describe the process for approval to plant around utility boxes.
  - c. Added a new form to prevent homeowners from accidentally forgetting to contact Miss

Utility and/or the HOA irrigation contractor to locate infrastructure (pipes, lines, and irrigation heads) prior to a ground-breaking project.

- d. Posting new amendments will no longer only be required on the Clubhouse bulletin board; instead, an eBlast alert will be sent to all who are registered, and posting on the Symphony Village Website will help communicate changes.
- e. Added an index to allow residents to alphabetically find their topic of interest.
- 3) To be less restrictive:
  - a. Changing perennials in an established garden bed no longer requires an Exterior Modification Form and approval.
  - b. Covenants added a five-year review period to the AR to ensure all information is valid and relevant.
  - c. Included window panels (clear, frosted, or textured glass) may be used for front doors.

During 2018, the Covenants Committee also processed 117 exterior modification applications. If you find minutia interesting, here are some details about those applications: one was withdrawn by the homeowner; one application was tabled; another was declined; and 114 were approved, some with contingencies. Landscape exterior modifications were overwhelmingly the most submitted, and storm doors won as the runner-up.

#### NEW EXTERIOR MODIFICATION FORM

As part of the update to the Architectural Requirements, a new Exterior Modification Form was created. Instead of four pages, this form is now three pages and is more comprehensive.

#### For all exterior modifications to your home, please obtain the Exterior Modification Form from HOA Management, complete it, then return it to the HOA Office for processing.

Any questions? Please feel free to email Debi Wells (debwells2011@gmail.com) or Lillian Sheehan (lilliansheehan@live.com).

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#### MARY JO KEEFE, CHAIR SUSAN RAYNER, VICE CHAIR

age Mother Nature is really having a good time with us. From weather

that rained on our Ballroom and caused us to cancel Movie Night, to our first (this year) cancellation of the Social Hour due to weather conditions, to brilliant, sunny days, that had us asking "when is the pool opening?"

Our Super Bowl LIII party was a big success, in spite of the game. Let's just say the buffet and conversation was

more exciting than the game and leave it at that! The score was so low that there were only a few football pool winners but the 3–3 square won



really big! The Committee suggests we continue to enjoy the Super Bowl at our Clubhouse. Every room and TV were used; even the card room players watched out of the corner of their eyes. The bar was hopping, the Wall Street Room was packed, and the Ballroom with the big screens was a great way to watch the game. Mark your calendar for next year and plan to attend Super Bowl LIV with the Patriots and to date an unknown team.

We held our first Palentine Party on February 14. The Lifestyle Committee wanted to take this day to say to

our "Pals" in the Village how much their friendship and support means to us. As of this writing the party hasn't taken place, but knowing the Ladies of Symphony Village, they had a fabulous time, sipping Champagne cocktails, iced



tea, and enjoying lovely hors d'oeuvres. We hope this tradition continues and our friendship circle expands every year.

Movie Night will be Saturday, February 23 when

Randy Officer shows *First Man*. Join us in the Ballroom at 6:30 p.m. for previews and stay for the post views. Randy always does a super job with



Movie Night. This movie is very timely as we celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of man walking on the Moon on July 20. Mark your calendar as the Lifestyle Committee will not let this extraordinary date go without a celebration. Look forward to Randy's March selection for Movie Night on March 30.

You will see a new sign as you enter the Village in the weeks prior to the first Friday and the third Saturday each month. The name Happy Hour is being replaced. We think of this change as a very positive move that better reflects the occasion. Happy Hours are traditionally 4 - 7 p.m. at bars and imply drinks and appetizers. What we really have in the Village is a Social Hour from 6 - 8 p.m. on the first Friday and third Saturday of the month. It is more a time to visit with neighbors, greet newcomers to the Village, exchange ideas, share appetizers with friends, and enjoy a beverage of your choice, not just alcoholic beverages.

To this end, the Lifestyle Committee will offer iced tea at every Social Hour at no charge. We hope to attract more neighbors to join in by lessening the attention on the bar and placing more emphasis on the social aspect of the gathering. We hope to see new faces on March 1, 2019, when the Publications and Communications committee hosts the Social Hour. P&C will highlight their activities on behalf of the community: writing articles and publishing the *Libretto*, organizing Welcoming Events for new residents, managing our Website—the list is endless. Hopefully, they will entice more residents to join the Committees.

On March 16, 2019, Zina Lichaa, Irish Mary, and the Lifestyle Committee are hosting a St. Patrick's Day/Birthday Social Hour. Please remember that if you want to celebrate your Birthday with the Village, you need to sign up in advance. The Sign-Up sheets are in the Wall Street Room in the Lifestyle Book of Events.

The Groundhog has called for an early Spring. The Lifestyle Committee is holding him to his word, or lack of shadow. We are proud to announce a new event on March 20, 2019, the first day of Spring: Let's Step Into Spring! We all remember our New Year's Resolutions: *Diet, Exercise, Take Better Care of Ourselves*. Now is the time to start. Form a team of no more than 8, no less than 1, and sign up at the Clubhouse. Each week, your Team Captain will fill in your steps taken. From March 20 to April 20, we will track our steps, get in the habit of walking and taking good care of ourselves. The team who records the most steps wins a prize! Details will follow, Sign-Up sheets will go out, and posters will go up!

Looking ahead, we are thinking of several fun events: Adult Easter Egg Hunt, May Day Baskets and Ribbons with a walking tour of the community, Spring Yard Sale on May 11, and Preakness Day Social Hour. We are always working on new ideas and looking for new members to help us create and execute events. We meet on the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. and promise a lively meeting!

### Outreach

#### **10TH ANNUAL CARD AND GAME PARTY**

#### CARLENE COOKE

It was great to be back in our own Clubhouse for the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Outreach Card and Game Party. The event was a huge success, both financially for the beneficiaries and fun wise for all the participants. This was possible because of the great teamwork from the Outreach Committee and the support of the Symphony Village community.



There are so many people to thank: Lauren Rose and Carlene Cooke for heading up the Card Party part of the event; Lee Ettman and Candi Nilsson for running registration; Terri O'Connell for chairing the door and table prizes; Amy Marotta and Pat Scheirer for selling raffle tickets; Linda Blume for making her popular cross-stitch bookmarks and magnets for favors; and Marge Strano who once again did a wonderful job creating the very professional signage for the party.

Kelly Wilner of Sweetpeas Catering provided a delicious lunch of minestrone soup, assorted wraps, and salad. Willie DiLaura was in charge of the desserts that consisted of lemon squares, thumbprint cookies, and Linda Blume's truffles. Willie also once again made her 'card suit' cookies that are always a big hit. Many thanks Margo Wagner, Bea Trotta, Sue Canfield, Tom Burton, Sue Peterson, and Judy Ehrenfeld for helping to serve, and to John DiLaura for being a wonderful bartender.

Thank you Sue Canfield, Marge Strano, Candi Nilsson, Margo Wagner, Carol Porosoff, Barbara Rosdail, CC Terry, Terri O'Connell, Tom Burton, Sue Peterson, JoAnn Walker, Kathy McManus, Bea Trotta, Willie and John DiLaura, Judy Ehrenfeld, and Jim Cooke for helping Lauren and Carlene set up the rooms. And we do appreciate those who lent us their card tables for the event.

A big 'thank you' to those who contributed raffle items: Kent Island Jewelry for donating the sterling silver starfish necklace won by Villager Barbara Wade; Optical Galleria for donating the sunglasses and accessories won by Villager Rosie Lewis; and Sue Canfield for donating the Lenox Beverage Server won by Villager Marge Strano.

The 50/50 raffle winner was Symphony Village resident, Mary Shipley, who very graciously donated back a portion of her winnings. Outreach is extremely grateful for your generosity, Mary.

The Door Prize, a crystal necklace, bracelet, and earrings, was donated by Cathy Olson and won by visitor Jeb Wells.

It cannot be said enough that the Outreach Committee is extremely fortunate and grateful to have so many people willing to always help out with our events. And the list is really endless when you consider those who baked, donated table prizes, etc. If we have inadvertently omitted a name, please know that your efforts were appreciated, and you helped to make the day the success it was!

And most importantly, Outreach would like to thank the residents of Symphony Village and their friends for supporting this event! Also thanks to our friends from Kent Island, Easton, and the Western Shore for joining us. We could not have this event without you! Through your support, we were able to give a very nice donation to our two beneficiaries this year, QAC Goes Purple and Crossroads!

**Disclaimer**: Symphony Village and its constituents do not validate, endorse, or support any of the vendors or products presented in all ads and, as such, SV Village HOA assumes no liabilities.

### Bingo

The forty-five people who attended Bingo on February 8 all hoped to win the \$250 jackpot. While there were multiple winners on several games, and five people each won twice, no one won the jackpot. The good news is that the jackpot will be \$275 on March 8! Come join in the fun! Pizza will be sold for \$2 a slice starting at 6:30 p.m. Bingo starts at 7 p.m. See you there!

### **Outreach Donates**

#### SUE CANFIELD

Symphony Village Outreach donated \$2,000 to the QUEEN ANNE'S GOES PURPLE INITIATIVE to help eliminate opioid addiction. Sheriff Gary Hofmann, along with Wayne Wright, Chairperson for QAC Drug Free Coalition, accepted a check for \$1,000 for the Drug Free Coalition. John Plaskon, the Executive Director of The Crossroads Community, Inc., accepted a check for \$1,000.

Outreach was able to make this donation because of the support from Symphony Village residents participating in our annual Card Party and other events that we hold here. Thank you for your continued support!

#### Publications and Communications CAROL HODGES, CHAIR LINDA BLUME, VICE-CHAIR

#### ADS FOR THE LIBRETTO

If you or anyone you know would like to place an ad in the *Libretto*, contact Bob Rose. The information on rates and specifications are on the Website at the bottom of the home page. If you have good service from a business, invite them to place an ad. Perhaps someone in your family would like to advertise. Some residents have even put the ad in for a family member as a gift.

#### PUBLICATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE HOSTS SOCIAL HOUR

The P&C Committee was supposed to host Happy Hour on February 1, but the Happy Hour was cancelled due to the snow. As a result, the Committee is now hosting the Social Hour (*it's had a name change*) on March 1. Come and see all that P&C does for Symphony Village. Be sure to put in your guess for the January Mystery Resident so that you have a chance for a free beverage. The box for guesses is in the Wall Street Room. See you at the Social Hour on March 1.



Row 1: Warren Wright, Sheriff Gary Hofmann, Sue Canfield, Margo Wagner, Candi Nilsson, Carlene Cooke, John Plaskon, and Major Dwayne Boardman.

Row 2: Eleanor Strietman, CC Terry, Cindy Bogner, Tom Burton, Linda Blume, and Kathy McManus

### **Sneakers**

BIG NEWS—The HOA DUES FOR A YEAR Raffle was so popular at our gala we decided to repeat if for the year 2020 dues. This year Sneakers is sponsoring a June Social Hour and will begin offering the HOA DUES raffle tickets at this time. More details soon.

#### Remember, there will be only 300 tickets sold.

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Don't forget our Sneakers Auction returns this year so put Saturday, November 2, on your calendar. Here is a tale about the great time some of the winners from last year's gala had with their bread making prize.

Mary Ciesielski, Marian Waterman, Janet O'Connor and Mary Drake (substituting for Amy Landen who was sick) were winners of the Challah Bread Making raffle from the Sneaker's Gala in November.



On January 4 we learned the fine art of bread making and took our loaves of bread home to the oohs and aahs of family and friends. What fun we had! Zina is so knowledgeable. She is a great teacher and of course a great entertainer. Marian Waterman gave each of us Happy Challah-days refrigerator magnets to mark the event. Zina has promised an encore for this year's Sneaker's event.

#### **CONCERT**

Symphony Village was honored to host 50 Centreville Elementary School second graders December 14 as they presented their winter musical program to our residents. The program was excellent and had singing, dancing, and playing of kazoos. It is remarkable how talented these children are under the direction of Mrs. Eflin. Look for the date of their spring concert when

they will once again present an inspiring program. This is their way of thanking Symphony Village for their Readers are Leaders books and other ways we volunteer at the school.

## **CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES**

### **Bird Club**

LINDA BLUME The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Great Backyard Bird Count will be February 15 - 18. You can participate for as little as 15

minutes during the fourday event or for however long you wish. Just observe birds in your



vard, at a local park, or wildlife center, etc., and record your observations on the website. You can also access everyone's results online.

Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge near Cambridge has added a Waterfowl Cam (the camera pans across several impoundment ponds, changing the view every few minutes) to its Osprey Cam (the ospreys return to Maryland in mid-March) and its Bald Eagle Cam (currently offline until a new nest is located where a camera can be mounted in the summer of 2019).

#### **Bocce Banter BOCCE DIDN'T KNOW THAT!**

DON RIZZO

You undoubtedly have heard this story before. Although hopelessly surrounded on December 22, 1944, General Anthony McAuliffe, acting division commander of the U.S. Army's 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division defending Bastogne, Belgium during WW II's Battle of the Bulge, was said to loudly reply "Nuts" to a German surrender ultimatum. What really happened you ask?

Well, there was a lull in the action due to an unforgiving fog covering most of the area. However, there was some visibility, which extended about the length of a bocce court. Coincidentally, that happened to be the general's favorite sport having recently learned the game during his recent victorious march through the Italian country side.

Not one to sit idly by for combat to resume, and catering to his competitive spirit, the good general challenged his aide, Master Sergeant Rizzo, to one game of bocce for a carton of cigarettes. Exhibiting equal bocce skills, neither player let up on the other and, out of mutual respect, the two combatants soon dropped the formality of "Sir" and "Sergeant" and became known as "Mac" and "Riz" to one another. They were playing to 12 points. The game eventually became knotted at 10 points. On the next frame four of Riz's green balls and three of Mac's red balls had been thrown and lay close around the pallino with one red point for Mac showing. With one ball left, would he play it safe or go for the kill? The excited spectators knew the answer and, as he released his remaining red bocce ball, held their collective breaths.

Suddenly across the valley came the German general's electronically enhanced voice demanding the American commander surrender his troops or face total defeat.

At that exact point, Mac's last bocce ball struck the array of resting balls downcourt and, when the snow had settled, the one previous red point for Mac was replaced with two green points for Riz. A swing of three points—and the game!

Now Mac was not one to use profanity. The closest he ever came was when he yelled "Nuts," which is what he did at this point. And it was loud enough and timely enough that all in the immediate area took it to be his response to the German general's demand to surrender. History tells the story differently but now you know what really happened and you can rightfully say, "Bocce didn't know that" as in "Betcha didn't know that."

Let the Good Times Roll!

### **Dining In**

Dining In will be held Sunday, February 24, at 6 p.m. Sign up in the Activities Book and indicate if you will

be a guest or if you would be willing to host if needed. If more than one person hosts, more guests can attend. The hosts choose the menu and let the guests know what to bring. This is a great way to meet new people. Sign up by Wednesday, February 20.



### Lunch Bunch—Mason's Redux

The Lunch Bunch will meet on Thursday, March 14, at 12:30 p.m. at Mason's Redux, 22 South Harrison Street in Easton. We look forward to a relaxing afternoon strolling and shopping through the streets of Easton after a wonderful lunch at Mason's Redux. Mason's new menu offers an interesting selection of appetizers, salads, soups, and sandwiches to satisfy a wide range of palates.

Signup on the <u>Symphony Village Website</u> at or you can sign up at the Clubhouse in the Club Activities Book.

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



### **Reading for Fun**

### JOE SIKES

The SV Book Club met on January 15 to review *News of the World* by Paulette Jiles. Attendees were Joe Sikes, Jan Withers, Susan Goldberg, Bob Nilsson,

Kathryn & Jim Buckheit, Lee Ettman, Peggy Decker, and JoAnn Walker.

Recommended by Susan Goldberg, the book took us to a time and place in American history with which we were



all unfamiliar. The story takes place in Texas following the Civil War (1870) and introduces us to Captain Jefferson Kyle Kidd, the central character of our story. Captain Kidd is a veteran of three wars, starting as a teenager during the War of 1812. He eventually became a printer in San Antonio, Texas, married and raised a family. As our story starts, he is a 70-year-old widower, his face "clean-shaven with runic angles." (I included this quote for our SV logophiles). His children live in Tennessee and he has taken to spreading news of the world throughout Texas during a period with few newspapers and a largely illiterate population. He subsists on nickels and dimes collected at his readings in various Texas frontier towns.

The Captain meets an old acquaintance who convinces him to take custody of a ten-year-old girl who has been rescued from captivity with the Kiowa Indians. In exchange for a \$50 gold piece, he agrees to return her from Wichita Falls in North Texas to her family in San Antonio. The rub is that Johanna, who doesn't even remember her English name, has been a captive since age six and had completely adapted to the Kiowa culture. She wants to return to the Kiowa and is ready to escape at any opportunity, even though the Kiowa no longer want her back.

The subsequent adventures they encounter on their journey are exciting and make for an interesting read. Johanna eventually sees the "Kep-Dun," as she refers to him in her halting English, as her only protector and the two slowly form a bond. There are many interesting characters along the way and interesting insights into the politics of post-reconstruction Texas. And the book club members all learned a new way to use dimes as a means of self-defense! We also learned that the Kiowa language had no letter "R" which we found "velly intelesting!"

The club engaged in an intense review to accurately grade the book with Bob Nilsson and Joe Sikes providing scores to four decimal points, ignoring the fact that the final score would be rounded off. The club scored the book as an 8.1 out of 10, which puts it in the top 10% of books we have read. Upcoming book club meetings will be held at 7 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Clubhouse. Everyone is welcome.

Meeting dates and associated books we plan to review:

February 19 *A Mind Unraveled* by Kurt Eichenwald March 19 *Behold the Dreamers* by Imbolo Mbue April 16 – *Educated* by Tara Westover

### CERT JOHN OLSON, CERT COORDINATOR

#### Winter Heart Health

The winter season can bring cooler temperatures and ice and snow for some. For most people, shoveling snow may not lead to any health problems, but it is important to know how wintry weather can affect your heart, especially if you have cardiovascular disease.

Did you know that your blood vessels tighten in cold weather, making it harder to pump blood? Add the physical exertion of shoveling heavy snow, and it could spell trouble. About 100 people — mostly men — die during or just after shoveling snow each year in the US, according to Harvard Health Publishing.

#### **REDUCE YOUR RISK OF A POSSIBLE HEART ATTACK**

- Use a small shovel to avoid lifting heavy weight
- Go slow and take frequent breaks
- Drink plenty of water and dress in layers to stay warm

Learn the heart attack warning signs and listen to your body. Even if you are not sure it is a heart attack, have it checked out. To learn more about the warning signs, visit the American Heart Association's website at www.heart.org.

Be aware of the dangers of hypothermia. To prevent hypothermia, dress in layers of warm clothing and wear a hat because much of your body's heat can be lost through your head.

If you have a medical concern or question or if you are experiencing symptoms of a medical condition (such as heart disease or diabetes), consult your health care provider prior to exercising in cold weather especially if this is a substantial increase over your usual level of activity. If you or someone else may be having a heart attack, call 911. Don't ignore or attempt to tough out the symptoms of a heart attack.

#### COMMON HEART ATTACK SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

- Pressure, tightness, pain, or a squeezing or aching sensation in your chest or arms that may spread to your neck, jaw, or back
- Nausea, indigestion, heartburn, or abdominal pain
- Shortness of breath
- Cold sweat
- ♥ Fatigue
- Lightheadedness or sudden dizziness

#### SYMPHONY VILLAGE Emergency Information Form

To help first responders in the event of severe weather problems, power failures, other possible disaster situations, or personal emergencies, we ask that you voluntarily complete a CONFIDENTIAL Emergency Information Form and return it to the Management Office. The form is available from the Clubhouse or online <u>http://sv-info.org/cert-files/pdf/InfoForm.pdf</u>.

The form contains information about who the occupants of the house are, who has key access to the house, if anyone has any disabilities, and other information that might be useful to first responders in an emergency.

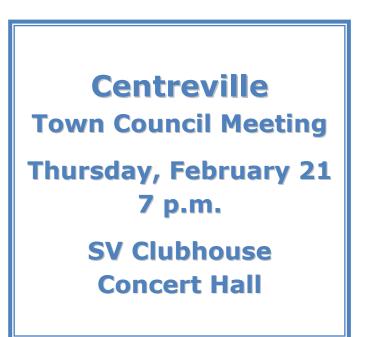
	Print Last Name:		
	Print Street Address:		
SYMPHONY VILLAGE	Please voluntarily complete this form and return it to the clubhouse office.		
EMERGENCY INFORMATION FORM	Names of all Occupants in your home:		
		arage Door Keypad Code:	
In the event of severe weather	Cell Phone: C	Cell Phone #2:	
problems, power failures, other	Email Address:		
possible disaster situations, or personal	Who has key access to your home in case of emergency?		
emergencies, the Symphony Village	Neighbor:	Phone:	
Community Emergency Response	Nearby Family Member:		
Team (CERT) members could be your	Do you or any of the occupants of your home have any of the following disabilities?		
first responders prior to the arrival of	Vision: Hearing: Respiratory (oxygen): Mobility (walker, wheelchair):		
professional emergency response per-	Other: Please specify:		
sonnel. To help us as first responders,	If evacuation is necessary, do you require a special vehicle or lift?		
we are asking that you voluntarily complete this confidential Emergency	Do you have any pets in the home?	(yes or no & type)	
Information Form and return it to the SV Management Office. A group of	Please remember to keep the <i>File of Life</i> Emergency Information updated and on your refrigerator.		
your Symphony Village neighbors have	What is CERT?	Symphony Village CERT Mission	
completed classes and are certified by	CERT training promotes a partnering effort between en	Statement	
Queen Anne's County as members of CERT.	CDAI training promotes a partnering error retween en gency services and the people that they serve. Th goal is for emergency personnel to train members neighborhoods, community organizations, or work blaces in basic response skills. CERT members at	of The mission of the Symphony Village Com- munity Emergency Response Team (CERT) is	
IN AN EMERGENCY	then integrated into the emergency response capab for their area	ality 1. To prepare, protect, and assist our families,	
DIAL 911 FIRST.	If a disastrous event overwhelms or delay community's professional response, CERT membe	the friends, and neighbors within Symphony Vil- lage in the event of a minor or major disaster	
All information given on this form	can assist others by applying the basic response ar organizational skills that they learned during train	ing.	
will be held in strict confidence and will be used for emergencies only.	These skills can help save and sustain lives follow a disaster until help arrives. CERT skills also app daily emergencies.		

### **February Word Scramble**

Unscramble these words that relate to February.

- 1. REA SFUMF
- 2. RSS PEDIT'NE YDA
- 3. RHSTTOES HOMTN
- 4. EHT OSWN NOMO
- 5. UDGGHONRO AYD
- 6. ETSATMNE
- 7. LNEVSIT'ANE YAD
- 8. WOSN SOBTO
- 9. UISAAQRU and SIPSEC
- 10. FCSRA

Don't peek...answers later in newsletter



## **NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS**

### Box Tops for Education LINDA BLUME

Symphony Village has been participating in <u>Box Tops</u> for <u>Education</u> for quite a few years. Box Tops

collected are donated to Centreville Elementary School. The number of products that include Box Tops on their labels seems to be declining, but there



are still quite a few if you look carefully, and they include baking and bake ware, beverages, cereal, frozen items, paper products, and many more. You can see a complete list of participating products on the website by clicking on Earn Box Tops and then Participating Products. On the website, you also have access to money-saving coupons by clicking on Save on Products. Here in SV, there is a collection box located on the counter in the Crafts Room. Your help in collecting Box Tops is appreciated. When I take them to the school, I tell them they're from Symphony Village. Thank You!

## **CENTREVILLE HAPPENINGS**

### **American Legion**

#### AMERICAN LEGION JEFF DAVIS POST 18

The public is always welcome to attend Friday Night

Dinners at the American Legion, and the Post especially appreciates SV participation! Dinners are Friday nights from 5:30 – 7 p.m. or until sold out. Upcoming dinners:



- February 15: Pork Roast with Sauerkraut
- February 22: Fried Oyster Dinner
- March 1: Fried Chicken Dinner
- March 8: Spaghetti and Meatballs Dinner
- March 15: Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner

For more information, call 410-758-3584.

#### **Centreville Events** AMERICAN LEGION CHALLENGE CHILI COOK OFF

American Legion Jeff Davis Post 18 hosts a Chili Cook Off on **Saturday, February 16**, at 2 p.m. (judging begins at 2:30 p.m.). Everyone is invited to taste the chili offerings for a \$5 tasting fee. Call the Post at 410-758-3584 for more information.

#### EASTERN SHORE, HERITAGE AND HISTORY SERIES: A PLACE WE CALL HOME

The Queen Anne's County Centre for the Arts presents Brent Lewis on **Saturday, February 16**, 7 p.m., as the first of a series of three lectures in its Eastern Shore, Heritage and History Series. Brent Lewis has deep Eastern Shore roots. His books include *Remembering Kent Island: Stories from the Chesapeake* and *A History of the Kent Island Volunteer Fire Department*, and the novel *Bloody Point 1976*. This will be an evening of readings, wine, and snacks. The event is free; reserve your spot by calling 410-758-2520.

#### ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT COUNTRY BREAKFAST

The Goodwill Volunteer Fire Company in Centreville will host an All-You-Can-Eat Country Breakfast on **Sunday, February 17**, 7:30 – 11 a.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults.

#### A HAWK'S TAIL: FALCON DEMONSTRATION

<u>A Hawk's Tail: Falcon Demonstration</u> will take place on Sunday, March 3, from 10 a.m. to noon at

Conquest Beach Park (1000 Conquest Beach Road) in Centreville. Watch as a falconer displays stunning birds of prey. Learn about raptors' role in the



environment, interact with the bird, and watch it fly as the falconer answers questions. The cost is \$15 per person. Registration spaces are limited; preregister on the website. This is program #190004. The rain date is March 9.

#### **COFFEEHOUSE 206 CONCERT SERIES**

The Queen Anne's County Arts Council will host <u>An Evening with</u> <u>Keri Anthony</u> on **Saturday, March 9**.



#### WHITE MARSH PARK FISHING DERBY

The Queen Anne's County Department of Recreation and Parks hosts the <u>White Marsh Park Fishing Derby</u> on **Saturday, March 16**, 8:30 - 11 a.m., at White Marsh Park (200 Bloomfield Farm Lane) in Centreville for children ages 5 - 16. Prizes will be awarded in each age bracket for largest fish, smallest fish, and most fish. Pre-registration is not required but is strongly recommended (go to the website). A limited number of rod/reels and tackle box supplies will be provided. The cost is \$5 per child. This is program #180013.

To see a list of tourism and local attraction websites, press "Event Source Links" on the <u>Sources</u> page on the SV Website.

#### **Events at Centreville Library**

- Friday, February 15, 2 4 p.m.: Friday Film "Glory" (Free)
- Saturday, February 16, 11 a.m. noon: <u>African</u> <u>American Read-In</u> (Free; preregister on website)
- Saturday, February 16, 3 4 p.m.: <u>Crime and a</u> <u>Cuppa</u> (Free; preregister on website)
- Wednesday, February 20, 7 8 p.m.: <u>United</u> <u>States Colored Troops from Queen Anne's County</u> (Free; preregister on the website)
- Thursday, February 28, 6:30 8:30 p.m.: <u>Friends Trivia Night</u> (Free; preregister on website)
- Friday, March 1, 3 5 p.m.: <u>What's That Bird?</u> -<u>Birds at the Feeders This Winter</u> (Free; preregister on website)

The revised *Architectural Requirements* can be viewed at <u>https://symphonyvillage.net/official-docs/</u> or

https://static1.squarespace.com/static/500616cfc4aa3 dba773667dc/t/5c66ff18b208fc5c00ae1189/15502538 58580/Architectural+Requirements+021319.FINAL.p df.

### **Contacts at Symphony Village**

Al DelaCuesta, General Manager <u>gm@symphonyvillagehoa.com</u>

Rebecca Cook, Assistant General Manager agm@symphonyvillagehoa.com

Board of Directors group email: Board@symphonyvillagehoa.com

Clubhouse phone 410-758-8500

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

#### Word Scramble Answers

- 1. EAR MUFFS
- 2. PRESIDENT'S DAY
- 3. SHORTEST MONTH
- 4. THE SNOW MOON
- 5. GROUNDHOG DAY
- 6. AMETHEST
- 7. VALENTINE'S DAY
- 8. SNOW BOOTS
- 9. AQUARIUS and PISCES
- 10. SCARF



On March 16, 2019, the Lifestyle Committee is hosting a St. Patrick's Day/Birthday Social Hour from 6 - 8 p.m. Please remember to sign up in advance. The Sign-Up sheets are in the Wall Street Room in the Lifestyle Book of Events.

#### FROM COUNCILMAN TIM MCCLUSKEY

#### THE TOWN OF CENTREVILLE INVESTMENT FUND AKA "PERMANENT FUND"

In 1981, the Town of Centreville sold its Electric Utility to what is now Delmarva Power. The Electric plant and countless miles of wires and poles spanning from Wye Mills to Kingstown were in dire straits. Maintenance was spotty, and upgrades would have cost millions of dollars. Delmarva Power offered \$2.72 million to the Town for the utility, and the voters of the town decided to sell in a special election. This was after a similar special election the previous year which failed. What changed? The Town Charter was amended to require that the proceeds from the sale of the electric plant be held in a special fund, separate from all other town monies, and if the principal was to be expended, the town voters must approve the liquidation, preventing future Councils from spending this windfall. The assurance of the permanence of this fund was the key to the sale of the electric utility. The charter also called for 20% of the interest generated to go back to the principal and 80% to be spent in the general fund for normal government operations.

Over the past 39 years, the principal of this fund has grown to over \$3.8 million. In that time, it has also produced over \$2.5 million in interest which has helped fund the budget to run the town, offsetting the property tax rate. Through these interest payments, the fund has provided infrastructure improvements such as Kidwell Avenue and the Watson Road realignment, amenities such as the parking lot on Happy Lady Lane, Millstream Park, much needed trucks, building maintenance, and even the star on top of the water tower, as well as general government operations like salaries and equipment. In the early 1990s, the Town borrowed from the fund to build the business park (near the Food Lion Shopping Center) and to construct the water tower. The fund was paid back with interest. At no time was the principal of the fund expended.

There are very few municipalities of our size nationwide who can claim an investment of this size and age which has been so productive to the funding of the town government. It is a testament to the citizens of Centreville in 1981 to require the charter change restricting the spending of the principal.

On March 4, the Town of Centreville will hold a special election requesting the citizens approve the liquidation of the entirety of the \$3.8 million Investment Fund. The verbiage of the ballot is below. The Council is not unanimous in its decision to liquidate the fund. I would encourage you to contact the Council members to discuss their reasoning for/against liquidating the fund.

#### OFFICIAL BALLOT TOWN OF CENTREVILLE SPECIAL ELECTION MARCH 4, 2019

#### QUESTION A – USE OF PRINCIPAL OF THE INVESTMENT FUND TO PAY FOR REMAINING COSTS OF WATER AND SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT ON LIBERTY STREET AND COMMERCE STREET

The Town Council of Centreville sold an electric plant in 1981. The proceeds from the sale were put into a fund known as the "Investment Fund." Pursuant to Section 1205 of the Centreville Town Charter, before the Town Council of Centreville may expend any of the principal of the Investment Fund, the question of the expenditure shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the Town at a special election.

The Town of Centreville has been replacing water and sewer infrastructure on Liberty Street and Commerce Street. The total project cost was estimated to be \$4 Million Dollars. Currently, the Town has expended approximately \$4.89 Million Dollars and anticipate additional charges of up to approximately \$3.81 Million Dollars to finish the project. Rather than borrow the money, a majority of the Town Council wishes to use the principal of the Investment Fund to pay for the remaining costs of the project. The Investment Fund currently has a principal balance of approximately \$3.81 Million Dollars. For the purposes of this ballot question, all references to "principal" include all accrued interest that has been added to the principal.

- □ **FOR** the use of the principal of the Investment Fund to pay the remaining costs of the water and sewer infrastructure project on Liberty Street and Commerce Street
- □ AGAINST the use of the principal of the Investment Fund to pay the remaining costs of the water and sewer infrastructure project on Liberty Street and Commerce Street

#### Tim McCluskey, Council Member

Town Council of Centreville	tmccluskey@centrevilletowncouncil.org	443.262.5729

#### FROM COUNCILMAN JIM BEAUCHAMP

#### **SPECIAL ELECTION ON MARCH 4**

As you may have heard, the Town of Centreville is having a Special Election to determine how to pay for the ongoing utility construction project. We are replacing 100+ year old water and sewer lines under Liberty and Commerce Streets. The Special Election will be held March 4; more on that later. Your vote, either way, is very important.

The total cost for the water and wastewater utility project is now forecast to exceed the original estimate by almost \$4,000,000. I am furious.

We cannot pause or halt the project—the State Highway Administration is going to rebuild and repave the roads as soon as we finish our utility project. We can't cancel the project—the water and sewer lines have been failing for many years now, causing leaks and expensive repairs. We have to finish the project now.

The way I see this, we have three problems. First, how did the initial estimate of the cost miss by so much? Second, why did it take so long to figure out that our town is facing a cost overrun? And third, how is the Town going to pay for the additional costs? We must solve that third problem now. Once we determine how to pay to keep the project on schedule, we can come back to the first two problems. We will have answers. We can't ignore these mistakes. For now, we have to pay to finish the project.

The Town has an 'Investment Fund' (sometimes referred to as the 'permanent fund') with a balance of about \$3,800,000. The fund was set up in 1981 with proceeds from the sale of the Town's electric utility to Delmarva Power. That's right, the Town once had its own electric utility.

The fundamental question being asked on the ballot: should the Town spend the Investment Fund to finish the utility project? Or, will the Town borrow the money from the Investment Fund to finish the project. Either way, we will be using the Investment Fund—we either spend it or borrow it and pay it back.

The Town can 'borrow the money from itself' to pay for the utility construction and pay it back through everyone's water bill over the course of 20 years. The payment to pay back that loan would add well over \$100 to everyone's annual water bills, or \$25–\$30 added to your existing quarterly water bill.

If we spend the Investment Fund, it's gone for good. If we borrow the Investment Fund, everyone will pay to restore the fund through your water bills for 20 years. It's just about that simple.

Make no mistake, the Town government and the Town's Utility Enterprise are financially strong. The Town has over \$4,100,000 in the bank. The Utility Enterprise has over \$4,000,000 in the bank. Spending the money in the Investment Fund will not put the Town or its Utility in any financial risk.

The Special Election is Monday, March 4. The polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the County Office Building across from the high school. If "YES" wins the election, we will spend the Investment Fund; if "NO" wins, we will borrow the Investment Fund.

**Personally, I will vote "YES"** to spend the Investment Fund. I think that the proceeds from the sale of the electric utility can come to the rescue of the water utility without putting the additional burden on the utility customers.

Jim Beauchamp, Centreville Town Council





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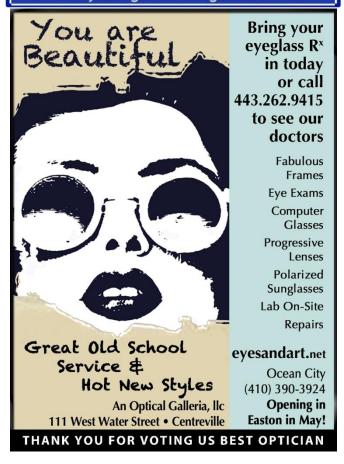
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