



PHOTO BY GEORGE DRAKE

# *LIBRETTO*

## SYMPHONY VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

**MAY 2020**

**Vol. XV No. 5**

**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.



*Spring Has Sprung!*

Bob and Catherine Amstel—141 Concerto Avenue

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## COMMITTEE REPORTS

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**MARY COLLINGS-OFFICER, CHAIR;  
JOE SIKES, COMMUNICATIONS**

### *SV Craft and Flea Market with Bake Sale*

**LINDA BLUME**



We obviously won't be having the Craft and Flea Market in May, but I still have hope for June, so stay tuned!

## SV Lifestyle Food Drive

The Lifestyle Committee is sponsoring an emergency Food Drive for the Sudlersville Community. Food will be distributed at the Sudlersville Elementary School. Please note the list of foods that are requested.



The Lifestyle Committee is sponsoring a **FOOD DRIVE**. Your donations of food will go to the children of Queen Anne's County to be distributed at Sudlersville Elementary School.



There is an emergency need as the food bank donations are down 90%.

Date: May 20, 2020  
Location: Clubhouse parking lot  
Time: 10 AM to 2 PM  
**FOOD ITEMS ARE REQUESTED:**

- Canned protein**-tuna, chicken, salmon, peanut butter, beans.
- Pasta & rice**-brown, white, mac & cheese.
- Canned vegetables**-low sodium.
- Fruits and juice**-own juice, fruit cocktail, applesauce, juice boxes.
- Cereal**-oatmeal, quick oats, granola/cereal bars.
- Soups and Stews**-low sodium, beef stew, chili, chicken noodle, vegetable, turkey & rice.
- Dairy**- shelf stable milk, evaporated milk, infant formula

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*Earth Day Photo Submitted by George Drake*



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# COVENANTS UPDATE

DEBI WELLS, CHAIR

**Want a New Roof?** Many communities managed by a Homeowners Association (HOA) have a uniform look. While our homes do not look identical, they have a similar style of brick, stone, or siding and roofing, landscaping, etc., throughout Symphony Village. Most of these exterior elements are written in the bylaws of our HOA (the bylaws you agreed to when you purchased your home). If you choose a roofing material that does not fit into the color scheme for the neighborhood, your house may stick out like a sore thumb. No sore thumbs allowed in Symphony Village!

*How will you know the new roof you want will meet HOA guidelines?* More importantly, how will you obtain the HOA approval letter required by the Town of Centreville for a permit to replace your roof? It's simple: submit an Exterior Modification Form (EMF)! An [Exterior Modification Form](#) (EMF) can be obtained online or by contacting HOA Management at the Clubhouse.



*Have a leak in your roof?* If you are replacing roof material to repair a leak with in-kind materials, an EMF is not required. However, if your leak (or leaks) results in a new roof, an EMF is required. For a leaking roof, the Covenants Committee approval will be available by a majority vote within a few days of the request. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board will support that activity with an email vote. After approval, HOA Management will author a letter to you that will allow your contractor to obtain the roof replacement permit required by the Town of Centreville.

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**How do I replace my roof now, during the COVID-19 pandemic?** Many roofing contractors are able to meet repair and replacement needs while respecting social distancing guidelines. This includes proposals and contracts that can be emailed or mailed, reviewed and signed virtually, or returned via mail. Many roof contractors have a variety of digital tools that allow them to manage your project—from estimate to installation—without ever needing to enter your home. Your roof can be replaced (most of the time) while you remain safe inside. So, if you are among those residents who have advised they may want to be proactive about the replacement of an aging roof now before it has a leak, go for it! Whether you connect with a contractor through a phone call or one of a number of new video meeting tools, be sure to ask the right questions and choose a roofer who supports social distancing guidelines.

Every HOA has a set of covenants, conditions and restrictions. In Symphony Village the document with those details is titled [Architectural Requirements](#). If you have questions about an upcoming roof or other exterior modification project, please call HOA Management (410-758-8500) or contact the Covenants Chair (Debi Wells, [debwells2011@gmail.com](mailto:debwells2011@gmail.com)).

On behalf of the Covenants Committee—stay safe and maintain social distancing. We look forward to some controlled community openings with you in the near future. What we are all facing, in light of COVID-19, certainly calls for continued adjustments to our lives, routines and community activities. But, we can do this! Good luck on your outdoor projects!

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## OUTREACH

**SUE CANFIELD, PRESIDENT**

I hope all of the residents in Symphony Village are in good health and good spirits during the COVID-19 pandemic. It certainly has been an unusual time for us all.

It has been a few months since Outreach had a regular meeting; I don't know when we will convene again. However, we are still making donations to needy people in Queen Anne's County.

Symphony Village Outreach made a donation of \$1,000 to the Queen Anne's Backpack Program at the end of April. The donation will help programs housed in Our Mother of Sorrows Church, Centreville United Methodist Church, and St. Paul's Episcopal Church. The number of bags needed has risen, as evidenced by the increased need in the Mother of Sorrows program—number of bags increased from 45 to over 125. These bags provide breakfast, lunch, and snacks for one child for two days.

We want to thank all of the volunteers who take the time to fill these bags and distribute them to the children.



Anita Gruss  
Manager

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## SNEAKERS

LINDA FARRAR, PRESIDENT

### *Sneakers Donates \$1,000 to the Backpack Program*

In April, Sneakers decided to send a \$1,000 donation to the backpack weekend organizers to provide food for children in need in our focus area. The money was divided among the communities of Centreville, Church Hill, and Sudlersville—the communities we normally serve. This donation was made possible through the generosity of the SV community in supporting Sneakers fundraising events throughout the year.

## MASK MAKERS

CAROL HODGES AND HARRIETT GOODMUTH

Thanks to the Symphony Village Sewing Group who has been busy making masks since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic in Maryland. In addition, many people donated fabric and elastic. Others donated money to help up with the cost. Our SV Community also made deliveries of the masks to the various organizations. It was a very big undertaking; we are so thankful that residents were willing to help in this effort. Listed here are some of the seamstresses:

*Betty Gingerich*  
*Betty McAtee*  
*Barbara Locke*  
*Lynore Swink*  
*Amy Landen*

*Pam Ogens*  
*Christine and Carl Collins*  
*Mary Lewis*  
*Barbara Sharkey*  
*Robin Downey*

*Christine Colabella*  
*Betty Lord*  
*Betty Rosensteel*  
*Harriett Goodmuth*  
*MaryKay Kerr*



These are some of the organizations that benefitted from these masks—**AAMC Infusion Center, AAC Detention Center, JHU Pediatric Oncology, MD VA Hospital Baltimore, QAC various departments, Hospice (various locations), Corsica Hills, Chesterwye Center.** Masks were also given to our friends and neighbors in Symphony Village. Harriett would like to mention that her daughter, Rebecca Jenkins, who resides in Anne Arundel County, encouraged her to start this venture. One of Rebecca’s co-workers told her that there was an urgent need for facemasks and asked her to make some. When the list got longer, Rebecca called

Harriett and asked her for help. Harriett knew she could not handle it all alone, so she reached out to the SV Community via Nextdoor.

Debi Wells and Amy Landen have been making masks for **QAC Community Emergency Response Team (CERTS)** in an effort to provide masks for first responders.

In addition to the residents listed, there are many others who are helping in different ways.



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## CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

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### ARTISANS' GUILD

**SUE CANFIELD**

During this time of COVID-19, the Artisans have been busy. Thanks to Peggy Decker, we had a two-week challenge. Each of us was asked to paint a picture every day. Size did not matter, just one painting each day. Paintings were posted on the Painting Group page on ECHOES.

Personally, I found it difficult to pick a subject on daily basis and on day nine and ten did not paint at all. I asked my grandchildren what they thought I should do. They suggested I play catch-up. Some artists were posting TGIO (Thank God it's over); yes, I am glad it's over.

I asked each participant to share their favorite picture from the two-week challenge. Enjoy some of the wonderful and beautiful art work shown below:



*Kathy McManus*



*Cathy Olson*





Robert Ciesielski



Sue Canfield



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## LUNCH BUNCH

BEA TROTTA & MARGE STRANO

The Lunch Bunch has not met for sometime! Although there are no specific plans for the next two months, we are hopeful for a Lunch Bunch event early in the fall.

Look through the small collection of photos to the right to see yourself or perhaps recognize a Lunch Bunch venue.

Everyone from the SV Community is invited to participate. We usually meet the first Thursday of each month at 12:30 p.m. to have lunch at one of our many restaurants on the Eastern Shore, in Annapolis, and beyond. If you are new to our community, the Lunch Bunch is a good way to meet your neighbors. You can sign up approximately three weeks before a scheduled event. Events are announced online and in the **Activities Book** at the Clubhouse. Look for the date, time, and location of our next event in the June or July *Libretto*, the SV Website, and on Nextdoor.

If you have a venue suggestion for our next Lunch Bunch event, or want to receive a reminder to attend our next event, please send your email address to Marge Strano at [mbestrano@gmail.com](mailto:mbestrano@gmail.com) or Bea Trotta at [bptrotta@gmail.com](mailto:bptrotta@gmail.com). We are always looking to try new and interesting restaurants within a 20 mile radius of our community. You can also call Bea Trotta at 610-217-4754 and Marge Strano at 609-221-6378 with questions. We look forward to many more happy times together. In the meantime, stay safe and healthy!



## READING FOR FUN

JOE SIKES

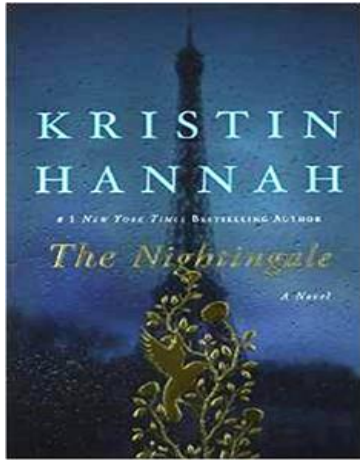
The Book Club held its second virtual meeting on Zoom this month demonstrating that *Old Village People* can learn new tricks! Bob Nilsson appeared to be sitting in an office that resembled the Taj Mahal. I don't think that was an option when I purchased my house. My wife apparently joined from Nassau, but at least I know where she is now. And, JoAnn Walker appeared to be in witness protection, or perhaps she just needs new light bulbs.

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At our meeting on April 21, we discussed an awesome book, *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah. Allegedly attending by magic were: Joe Sikes, Jan Withers, Bob Nilsson, Cathy Olson, Jim & Kathryn Buckheit, Karen Kram, Pat Fox, Sue Goldberg, Kathleen Sullivan, Celia Love, and JoAnn Walker.

*The Nightingale* is set in France during World War II and tells the story of the French underground resistance to the Germans. The story centers on two sisters whose mother died when they were young. Their father, shell-shocked from his battle experience in World War I, completely withdrew emotionally after the death of his wife. The older sister, Viane who was married and had a daughter, was living in a small village amid increasing tensions as war with Germany approached. The younger sister, Isabelle, was undisciplined and had been placed in a convent school by her father in hopes of getting her under control. As the war begins, Isabelle is dismissed from the convent school and

returns to her father in Paris.

In an excellent plot device, however, the opening chapter takes us to the Oregon coast, fifty years after the war. We find an elderly woman rummaging through memorabilia in the attic of her home, looking for items in an old trunk. The author withholds the name of the woman but returns to Oregon throughout the book, allowing two stories to merge in a final compelling twist.

Isabelle Rossignol (French for Nightingale) becomes an active spy and specializes in rescuing downed Allied pilots. She establishes a new identity as Juliette Gervais, but her assigned code name is the Nightingale (good thing that the Germans flunked high school French.) Viane's husband is called away to join the French Army and she is forced to provide billeting for German officers once France is occupied. While Isabelle throws caution to the wind in resisting the Germans, Viane focuses on protecting her daughter as conditions in the village deteriorate. As the situations become direr, she starts to resist more passively and, eventually, rescues many Jewish children whose parents are sent to camps in Germany.

The story is riveting as the sisters' lives intertwine throughout the war and the resilience of the French people is unbelievable given the disturbing behavior of their German occupiers and some French collaborators. The author provides a large cast of interesting supporting characters and keeps us in suspense to the final chapter.

One club member felt the story was so compelling that being quarantined in her house (dealing with shortage of food supplies, worrying about the dangers of going outside) made her feel like she was living in the story. Luckily, the guy in the brown uniform at the front door was only a UPS driver. PHEW! The club gave the book a score of 9.1 out of 10, our highest score ever and the first score greater than 9!

During the COVID-19 crisis we plan to continue meeting virtually using Zoom technology until normalcy returns. Invitations will be sent directly to those wishing to attend, providing meeting ID and password information. If you wish to participate contact me at: [sikes.withers@yahoo.com](mailto:sikes.withers@yahoo.com).

**May 19— The League of Wives** by Heath Hardage Lee

**June 16—Turn of the Key** by Ruth Ware

**July 21—The River of Doubt: T. Roosevelt's Darkest Journey** by Candice Millard

**August 18—The Dutch House** by Ann Patchett

**September 15—The Deep South** by Paul Theroux

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# SYMPHONY VILLAGE CERT – 11 YEARS AGO

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JOHN OLSON – COORDINATOR

OLDIE  
BUT  
GOODIE!

On May 11, 2009, sixteen Symphony Village residents graduated from Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training and were presented Certificates of Completion at a ceremony held in the Clubhouse. The Queen Anne's County Department of Emergency Services provided the training at Chesapeake College at no charge.



CERT volunteers are trained to support family and individual safety preparedness by taking care of our own residents in catastrophic accidents/conditions before emergency responders can arrive. For 11 years, Symphony Village CERT volunteers have looked for ways to provide improvements and modifications to our community and homes to help ensure our safety and prevent accidents. To help prepare for potential emergencies, the team has also conducted numerous activities and sponsored many informative presentations for the community.



For more information on CERT, check out our website at <https://sv-info.org/cert-files/members.html>.

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## NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

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### RECIPE OF THE MONTH—SUBMITTED BY CHARLOTTE KURST

#### INSIDE-OUT SPAGHETTI PIE (*BETTER HOMES AND GARDENS WEBSITE*)

When my husband Fred and I returned to Maryland from Florida in the midst of the 2020 pandemic, we faithfully observed the 14-day quarantine period mandated by the governor. Our problem: we had completely emptied our freezer and refrigerator before leaving in early January, so replenishing our larder without going shopping was a challenge. Among the deliveries we managed to get was a five-pound frozen tube of ground meat. There was no way to use it in pieces (believe me, we tried our sharpest knife!), so we were forced to thaw it and cook several dishes to freeze. When we had already made meatballs in sauce, two meatloaves, and browned meat for later use in tacos, we still had a pound of meat left. That's when we went searching for something new. The result was the following, which we found to be different and delicious.

## INGREDIENTS

1 can evaporated milk  
½ cup fine dry breadcrumbs  
1/3 cup chopped onion  
1 teaspoon salt

1 teaspoon dried Italian seasoning  
¼ teaspoon ground black pepper  
1 pound lean ground meat  
4 ounces dried spaghetti  
1 tablespoon butter

1 egg, lightly beaten  
1¼ cup grated Parmesan cheese  
8-ounce can pizza sauce  
1 cup shredded mozzarella cheese (4 ounces)  
Fresh basil or parsley (optional)

## DIRECTIONS:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a large bowl, combine evaporated milk, bread crumbs, onion, salt, Italian seasoning, and pepper. Add ground meat; mix well. Lightly press mixture evenly onto the bottom and up the side of an ungreased 9-inch pie plate. Bake, uncovered, about 30 minutes or until done (160 degrees). Carefully tilt dish and drain off fat.

Meanwhile, cook spaghetti according to package directions; drain. Return to pan. Stir in butter until melted. Stir in egg and Parmesan cheese until spaghetti is coated. Spread half of the pizza sauce over meat mixture. Top with ½ cup of mozzarella cheese and the spaghetti mixture. Top with the remaining pizza sauce and the remaining ½ cup mozzarella cheese.

Bake, uncovered, about 20 minutes or until heated through. (If necessary, cover edges of meat mixture with foil to prevent overbrowning.) Let stand for 15 minutes before serving. Garnish with fresh basil or parsley, if desired.



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## SV OFFICIAL SYMBOLS

LINDA BLUME



There isn't enough resident interest in choosing Official Symbols for SV to continue a discussion in this issue of the *Libretto*. There were only five submissions with nominations. So, on to the next project, whatever that might be.

## HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW SV?

LINDA BLUME

1. How many trees are there in the median strip at the Symphony Boulevard entrance to SV?
  - a. 12
  - b. 16
  - c. 18
2. How many retention ponds does SV have?
  - a. 1
  - b. 2
  - c. 3
  - d. 4
3. What is the longest street in SV?
  - a. Symphony Way
  - b. Overture Way
  - c. Sonata Way
  - d. Harmony Way
4. What is the shortest street in SV?
  - a. Symphony Boulevard
  - b. Bravo Boulevard
  - c. Encore Court
  - d. Sonata Way

5. How many sides does the gazebo have?
  - a. 8
  - b. 6
  - c. 4
  - d. 3
6. How many holes are on the putting green?
  - a. 5
  - b. 7
  - c. 9
  - d. 18
7. How many wells does SV have to provide water to the irrigation system?
  - a. 3
  - b. 4
  - c. 5
  - d. 6
8. How many of the wells are functioning?
  - a. 3
  - b. 4
  - c. 5
  - d. 6
9. How many picnic tables are in the picnic pavilion?
  - a. 2
  - b. 4
  - c. 6
  - d. 8
10. How many streets are in SV? Can you name them all?
  - a. 7
  - b. 8
  - c. 9
  - d. 10

**ANSWERS TO SV QUESTIONS ON PAGE 17**

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# VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION

SUBMITTED BY GIL HOFFMAN



The dictionary defines a volunteer as “a person who offers himself for a service without obligation to do so or a person who performs a service willingly, without pay.” I would like to tell you of my experience as a volunteer since moving to the Eastern Shore of Maryland.

I was asked by Dusty Rhodes, a friend in the community, to work at the middle school in Stevensville in 1990. I had retired from General Electric the previous year, and built a house on Kent Island, so I agreed to try out something that I had never done before. There were four or five men who would come to the school on Fridays and work on tasks through the coordination of Sally Cuttler, the Media Center Specialist. The group had various skills, the tasks were varied, and the experience was positive.

I continued to do this work at the school for the next six or eight years. Sometimes I was asked to work with individual students, other times with individual teachers, and I settled into doing some of the things that I could do, enjoyed, and were needed. The reward was that my community was expanded, I was recognized, and most importantly, relationships were built. During this time, one of the things that I discovered was that I was getting enjoyment from working without pay.



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- Discounts to Symphony Village residents
- Emergency service

In 1997 I was challenged to go as a Volunteer on a Mission trip to Costa Rica. The missionary came to our church and gave a talk; one of my friends had gone on such a trip the previous year and thought that I should go. I was not convinced by his enthusiasm. However, when the missionary, Marion, talked to me, each reply of mine to his questions about my skills was, "This is just what we could use in Costa Rica." I agreed to go on a two-week, one-time trip. After the experience, I decided I needed to return. I couldn't imagine not seeing some of the people I met during the initial two-week visit. What had happened was that relationships had been formed.

As I write this, I am sitting in a retreat center office in Costa Rica, volunteering to attend to the office management while the missionaries are in the United States. Marion, the missionary who invited me to come down for the initial visit is 87 and just had cataracts removed from both eyes in Dublin, Georgia. He and his wife will return at the end of September and then I will return to Symphony Village.

My life has been changed since that first two-week visit. I have spent over 90 weeks here since that initial visit, and I have a few reflections on what I have learned:

The important thing about volunteering is that everybody brings something to the table; what volunteers bring to the table matters and is needed.

- The fruit of each person's gifts is what makes relationships grow.
- Supporting needs financially is good; serving to support them is better because it lasts longer.
- Children need opportunities to see and learn from adults within the community; our community can extend throughout the world.



- We often underestimate the contribution and value of the younger segment of the community. Often they are held back only by lack of opportunity.
- It is okay for people to be different from me and speak a language that I don't understand. I can still learn from them.
- You get more than you give.
- You get more than you give is probably the most universal comment that I heard from people who volunteer.

Try volunteering; you can help someone and you will get more than you give.

**Answers to Quiz—How Well Do You Know SV?**

Answers: 1) 18 trees; 2) 3 drainage ponds; 3) Harmony Way; 4) Bravo Boulevard; 5) 8 sides; 6) 7 holes; 7) 5 wells; 8) 4 wells; 9) 3 picnic tables; 10) 10 streets: Bravo Boulevard, Concerto Avenue, Encore Court, Harmony Way, Opera Court, Orchestra Place, Overture Way, Sonata Way, Symphony Boulevard, Symphony Way

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## CENTREVILLE HAPPENINGS

### 2020 Centreville Farmers' Market



The Centreville Farmers' Market (CFM) will open on Wednesday, May 20, with online-only-ordering. For the May 20 market, ordering will begin on Thursday, May 14, 6 p.m., at [Centreville Farmers' Market Ordering](#). The website displays which products are available from each of the market vendors, and you place your order and prepay on the same website. There is a maximum number of orders that can be processed each market

day, so place your order early to get best selection and availability. Ordering for the May 20 market ends on Monday, May 18, 8 p.m..

There are two options to receive your May 20 order: **Curbside Pickup**, 2 – 6 p.m., on Liberty Street near the old courthouse (\$4 Fee) or **Home Delivery** (\$7 Fee).

The CFM will continue with online ordering every Thursday through Monday with Wednesday afternoon pickup/delivery. If the COVID-19 restrictions are relaxed, it is hoped that a “foot traffic” CFM can be added to online ordering before the end of the season.

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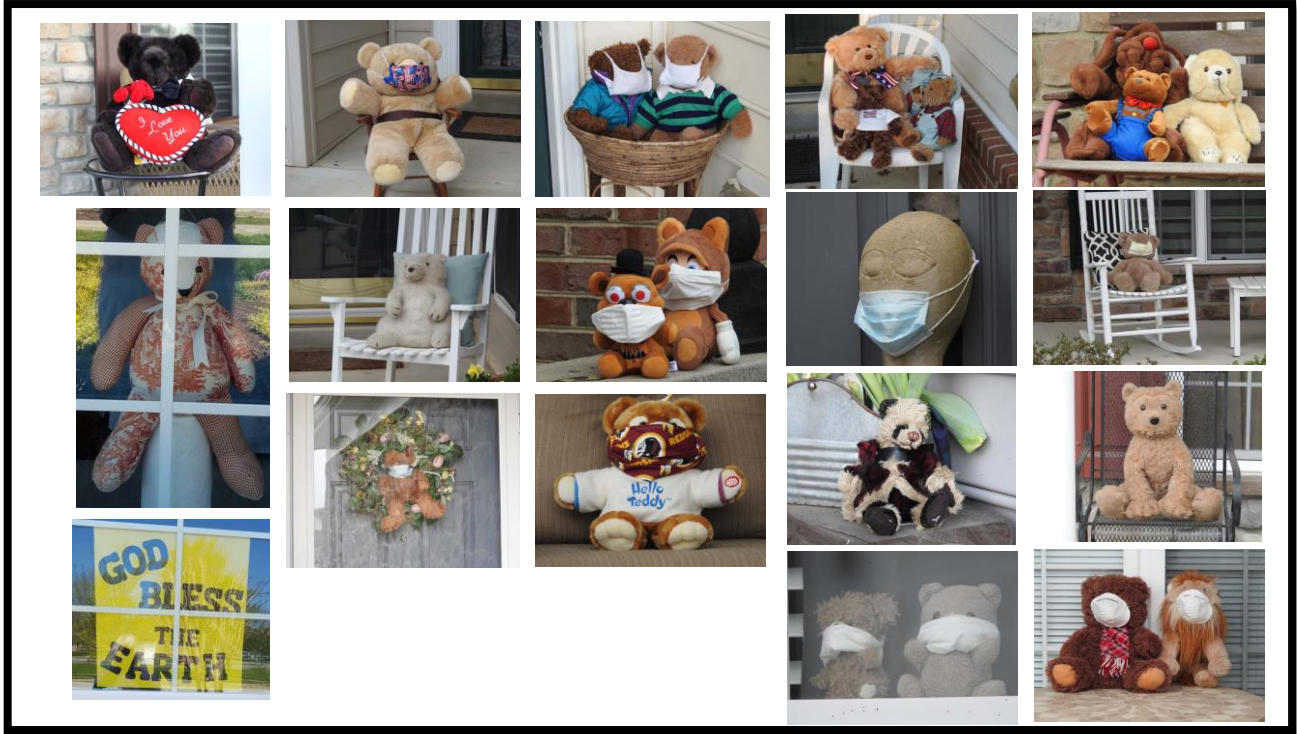
## PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

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No matter what state you reside in, please fill out the 2020 census. The easiest way—fill it out online. Google 2020 census and your state name. Select the entry that ends in dot.gov. Here's the address for Maryland: <https://census.maryland.gov/Pages/default.aspx>. The sooner, the better, and your state thanks you.

### BEAR COLLAGE SUBMITTED BY GEORGE DRAKE



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Trash Removal & Recycling: 410-742-0099

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