



LIBRETTO 🎵

SYMPHONY VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2021

Vol. XVI No. 11

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

Welcome to the Neighborhood!



Gary & Kateri Coombe
227 Harmony Way

Bill & Margie Starr
250 Concerto Avenue

SV PRESIDENTS REPORT

PAT FOX, PRESIDENT

Possible Pool Lift at Symphony Village

Many of you have heard that we may be installing a pool chair lift. If this project, which was requested by a resident, proceeds, it would be one chair lift shifted between the two pools. Initially it would be mounted at the indoor pool and moved to the outdoor pool in the summer.

This matter has been handled to date in closed Board meetings as it is a legal matter based upon Federal Housing Administration regulations, which state that a disabled resident can request a “reasonable accommodation.” While SV is not an ADA community, we are subject to FHA regulations.

Under the FHA regulations, the HOA can require that the party requesting the equipment pay for it and the cost of the installation. The HOA would be responsible for maintenance, including insurance, and any future replacement.

The Board and GM have been researching the issues associated with a lift and evaluating impacts and costs to the community to see if they are reasonable. At this time, the Board and GM are working with the residents requesting the unit attempting to resolve final details including an initial contract paid for by the resident to test

the thickness of the deck concrete at both pools. This must be at least four inches thick to carry the weight of the unit.

Should that test be successful, and all other requirements agreed to by the requesting residents, the complete package outlining the equipment specs, costs to the requesting residents, user rules, and mandatory user waivers, would then be on the HOA regular Board meeting agenda. The HOA would then be taking ownership of the equipment and accepting the fees provided by the residents to cover the installation expenses.

Governing Documents Revisions

We are almost finished with the update! All comments have been reviewed with many incorporated into the final draft. A very important change—based on resident suggestions—is to shift to two-year Board terms.

Our attorney will be updating the executive summary and the ballot.

As soon as we have final draft documents with the changes highlighted, we will post them on the Website for your review with the attorney's support documents to follow shortly thereafter, if need be.

We will be making copies of this material—both the original and the “revised” and mail to you all along with the ballot. You will have at least 30 days for review of this package before your ballot or proxy is due.

Remember, you can submit proxies by mail or drop them off at the Clubhouse in advance. If you choose to attend the meeting that we will schedule, you can submit your ballot in person. These two different forms will be explained in the mailing.

Remember 237 yes votes by households are necessary to approve any change!

Symphony Village Board of Directors Member – Pat Ways

We are happy to announce that Pat Ways has agreed to remain on the board and finish out the remaining year of his term. Pat has been dealing with health issues for the last several months, and we are pleased to say that his health has greatly improved, and he will be able to continue his work on the board.

We would like to thank those of you who expressed interest in serving the remainder of Pat's term and remind you that two seats will be up for election to the board next year.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS HIGHLIGHTS – NOVEMBER 2021

Debi Wells, HOA Board of Directors, Secretary

The following motions were made and approved at the November 12 meeting.

Landscape & Irrigation (L&I) Committee Approved Recommendations:

- The Level Green 2022 landscape contract was approved for ~\$254.4K/year.
- The Level Green 2022 irrigation contract was approved for ~\$31.3K/year.
- The plan for a wind sculpture to be installed in the large ceramic pot by the Pavilion was approved for ~\$3K.

Budget & Finance Approved Recommendations:

- The CD maturing at TAB Bank on December 29, 2021 was approved for reinvestment at that bank as a one-year CD for \$125K.
- The 2021 interest will be deposited in the community's operating fund.

Board meeting details: The information and contracts the Board receives to make decisions and vote is placed on the Symphony Village Website several days prior to each meeting. To review that *Reference Material*, click on this [link](#).

Staff update: Congratulations to our Maintenance Technician, Nick Oliver! He's the proud dad of a new baby girl named Maria, born on November 5. Everyone is healthy and doing fine.



Symphony Village
References Available!

Mike Schneider

EMAIL: Mike@PembertonAppliance.com

PHONE: 410-334-3992

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

COVENANTS COMMITTEE

Vicki Kober, Chair

The new [exterior modification form](#) has been posted on the [SV Website](#). Please download and complete it if you are making any exterior changes. You can also request it from the management at the Clubhouse.

LANDSCAPE AND IRRIGATION COMMITTEE

Tom McManus, Chair

The Landscape and Irrigation Committee is always on the lookout for residents with an interest in the appearance of the Symphony Village community, and encourage their joining our team. With so many new residents, we are hoping some will recognize an opportunity to help.

We are not overly involved with the day-to-day operation of the contractors, i.e., mowing, fertilizing, chemical treatments, etc.; or irrigation issues and concerns; or work order requests. The day-to-day operations are best left to our Management Team to handle and coordinate.

Our focus is more on the future, on where and how we would like to see SV proceed going forward. Our committee can already see first-hand the early effects of global warming; and we have long understood the need to do even more to protect our environment, rivers, streams, and of course the bay itself. "Sustainable Landscape Practices" equates to less mowings, less irrigation, and fewer chemical applications. Our landscape contractor has calculated that we have approximately twenty-six (26) acres of turf here in the village, all of which receives constant care and maintenance. That is a lot of grass.

It would seem we could do better with less turf, and the corresponding reduction in the supporting services. Therein lies the challenge. People love healthy and well-manicured lawns and grassy views to look at and admire. Our challenge is how we satisfy these competing and conflicting forces. There are lots of experts offering radical suggestions, and some may be very valid; but we represent all the village residents. We must be fair to all and consider everyone's opinions and desires. For that reason, we need the knowledge and experience of all our residents with a passion for these concerns, along with your ideas for dealing with them.

In early 2022, we intend to begin the installation of a small test plot for a future meadow environment in SV, at a location on the hillside of Pond #3, by the corner of Bravo Boulevard and Harmony Way. Our plan is to continue to grow this area over the years to ultimately provide a wildlife-friendly natural habitat for pollinator insects and birds, and a view for all to admire.

Additionally, we have about 1,700 trees to be monitored and tended to, when necessary. Of course, we have a tree services contractor for the heavy lifting, but could always use some knowledgeable help in support of that effort. Finally, we also have oversight responsibilities for our SV-wide irrigation systems. So, if we have any engineers in the SV Community, please consider joining the committee.

It is increasingly important that we, as a community, be more creative and innovative when it comes to where we go from here with our landscaping goals, and how we achieve them. Please consider joining our team to helping figure this out for the benefit of Symphony Village, as well as those around us.

LIFESTYLE COMMITTEE **Mary Colling-Officer, Chair; Deborah Jones-Miller Correspondent**

Symphony Village has been abuzz with activities to support the body and soul. The flu vaccine clinic sponsored by Edwards Pharmacy resulted in a turnout of approximately 35 residents. Thank you Trish, from Edwards Pharmacy and Janet Leister from Symphony Village, for making this vaccine accessible to our community.



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The social hour on November 5 was well-attended. The music provided by Eastern Shore songstress Kathy Jones was fabulous! Thanks to Kathy and Villager Sandy Cheyne, who joined in on bass to add flavor to her performance.

NIGHT OF LIGHTS AND SOUP SUPPER

SAVE THE DATE: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 5:30 p.m.

It is once again time for a favorite SV event, the *Night of Lights and Soup Supper*. SV has kicked off the holiday season with this event for over ten years. For Village newcomers, this is a definite must! It is always a lovely evening, affording us the opportunity to share in goodwill and fellowship with our neighbors. The outside holiday lights will be turned on at this event. Our resident soup chefs extraordinaire will prepare 26 delectable soups for our pleasure. For those who are not soup experts, appetizers and desserts are also on the menu. Those planning to attend are asked to bring a soup, appetizer, or dessert. You may sign up in a separate yellow binder located in the Wall Street Room.



In addition to the dishes mentioned, volunteers are needed to help in the kitchen, set up, monitor the serving tables, clean up, greet our guests, etc. Volunteering is a great way for newcomers to get to know your neighbors.

The *Night of Lights and Soup Supper* begins at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 30. Should you have any questions or wish to volunteer, please call Amy Landen at 301-651-9423 or Karen Patterson at 443-852-1938.

A cocktail social hour is being planned for later in the year. Be prepared to come dressed to the 9s!! More information will follow.

There will be a Home Decorating Contest for Christmas at Symphony Village. Stay tuned for more information.



Dust off your dancing shoes and get ready to join us for a magical New Year's Eve celebration! DJ Eddie "The Hitman" Hill will be playing tunes and inviting folks to join him for Karaoke. Eddie has spun tunes in venues all over Maryland for over 25 years, including The Jetty, Kent Island Yacht Club, the United States Naval Academy, and 1771 in downtown Annapolis.

This event will begin in the Concert Halls at 9:30 p.m. and end at 12:30 a.m. There will be an official midnight countdown and champagne toast courtesy of Skip and Donna. An early countdown will take place at 11 p.m. for those who need to hit the sack early! Even though **NO FOOD WILL BE PROVIDED**, the bar will be open and you may bring snacks for your table. The price will be \$6 per person. If you have special song or dance requests, please submit them to Mary Colling-Officer at maryelizabethcollingofficer@gmail.com by December 15.

The Lifestyle Committee is looking for new members. If you are interested, please sign up in the Clubhouse Wall Street Room or on the [SVWebsite](#). Remember, *Current Members Must Sign Up For Next Year, Too.*

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OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

JOE SIKES, CHAIR; FRED KURST, VICE CHAIR

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

The Committee is currently assisting the GM in seeking contractors for three major projects: a Request for Proposals (RFP) to recoat the tennis/ pickleball courts; and Requests for Interest (RFI) to upgrade the parking lots and putting green. The Committee will assist the GM with site visits to help determine recommendations to the BOD regarding best courses of action. Most of this work would likely take place in the spring/summer of 2022.

The Committee will have a full plate of important and interesting projects for next year in addition to the actions listed above. We have a subcommittee reviewing our Replacement Reserve Study for an upgrade in 2023. Other projects on the horizon include continuing sidewalk improvements, Clubhouse refurbishment, and storm water management. As our community ages, more attention will need to be paid to our infrastructure.

Sign up for committees in 2022 is already underway, both online and in the Wall Street Room. We would love for new members to join our Committee veterans and make a difference in our great community.

Outreach Committee

Sue Canfield, President

12th Annual Card & Game Party, Carlene Cooke, Chair



The Symphony Village Outreach Committee was proud to host the 12th Annual Card & Game Party on November 4 at the Clubhouse. After a Covid-19 imposed hiatus of over a year, it was great seeing everyone enjoying themselves, visiting,

and playing a variety of games. Once again, this event was possible because of the great teamwork from the Outreach Committee and the support of the Symphony Village community and other guests.

There are many people to thank—first and foremost, Sue Peterson, my “second in command,” who was invaluable in helping to organize the Card & Game Party; she made my job so much easier. Thanks to Betty McCutcheon, who took charge of the morning treats, and JoAnn Walker, who took charge of the beverage station. Both are popular areas and were in good hands.

I need to say a special thanks to Teresa Athas, Lidija Kampa, and Betty McCutcheon who made themselves available the entire day to help wherever needed! Thanks to the Outreach President, Sue Canfield, for her help and support in the planning and helping where needed that day.

Thank you Bea Trotta and Loretta Quigley for working with The Eastridge Garden of Centreville to provide the table prizes, which were beautiful kalanchoe plants.

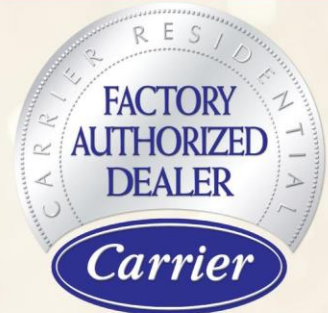
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Blue Heron Catering of Easton provided a delicious lunch of assorted sandwiches, Caesar salad, brownies, and cookies. Thanks to Betty, Bea, and Lidija for serving and to Teresa and Pat Scheirer for serving as bartenders for drinks.

Thank you to Jane Romany, Kathy McManus, Terri O'Connell, Lidija, and Teresa for manning the Registration Table and to Barbara Ways, Peggy Decker, Teresa, and Betty for selling raffle tickets.

A big thank you to those who contributed our wonderful raffle items: necklace and earring set, handcrafted and donated by Juanda Rogers and won by Anita Dell; wine basket, donated by Loretta

Quigley and won by Karen Patterson; autumn quilt, donated by the Symphony Village Quilters and won by Eleanor Strietman; Christmas quilt and table topper, donated by the Symphony Village Quilters and won by Barbara Ways; and a painting, donated by long time and very active Outreach member Linda Blume who recently passed away, and won by Betty McCutcheon.

The 50/50 raffle was won by Peggy Decker, who very graciously donated back a portion of her winnings. Outreach is extremely grateful for your generosity, Peggy.

Last, but certainly not least, a big thank you to all those who helped Carlene and Sue with set up: Sue Canfield, Carol Porosoff, Betty McCutcheon, Lidija Kampa, Barbara Ways, Kathy McManus, JoAnn Walker, Bea Trotta, CC Terry, Judy Ehrenfeld, Fred and Charlotte Kurst, and Jim Cooke. And to Nick Oliver, our Maintenance Technician, who did a fantastic job with setup and takedown on the day of the party.



As you can see from these names listed here, 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. 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. Your attendance enables Outreach to support community nonprofit partners in Queen Anne's County.

Anita Gruss
Manager



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PUBLICATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

MaryKary Kerr, Chair

While looking through the Symphony Village Website to see our new layout and update of information, I came across the information for the Neighbor to Neighbor program we have here in Symphony Village.

Neighbor to Neighbor

If you are not familiar with it, it was developed to assist SV residents whenever they require physical, emotional, and/or spiritual support. There are Street Captains for every street in our community. There is a list of the Street Captains on the Website so you can find out who you should call for help and information. If you have an upcoming surgery, your street captain will be very helpful with lots of information. Please check it out and if needed, give your Street Captain a call. They are here to help us...and only a phone call away.

This is the time of the year to sign up for committees. If you are interested in joining a committee—or renewing your membership on a committee—please sign up on theSV Website by Monday, January 3, 2022.

We are still on the lookout for two volunteers to fill positions on the P&C committee—to fill the vice-chair position and to take over the advertising duties. P&C would love to have you join us!

SNEAKERS

LINDA FARRAR, CHAIR

The Giving Tree

The tags for the gifts are on the tree in the Clubhouse lobby. This year we have 30 some children who have been identified by their school counselors as being in need. The ornament tags describe the item, size, and the child's first initial. The directions for purchasing/wrapping and returning the gifts to the Clubhouse are on a white piece of piece of paper located next to the Giving Tree. Also, if possible, we would appreciate it if you could include an age appropriate book with your present.

The deadline for all gifts, except coats, to be returned to the Clubhouse is Sunday, December 12. If you took a green coat tag, return by Monday, November 29. If you would rather contribute money and let us shop for you, please make your check payable to Symphony Sneakers and drop it in the small locked box in the Wall Street Room. If you would rather give cash, please put it in an envelope and give it to Linda Farrar, 118 Sonata Way, by Tuesday, December 1. Do not put cash in the locked box.

All funds received will be used for gifts not selected, food certificates, and/or emergency services for those families during the winter.

For questions, please contact Rochelle Ray (410-591-1491), Terri O'Connell (443-928-3368), or Linda Farrar (410-758-8744).

Thanking everyone in advance for your support.

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

THURSDAY BRIDGE



Every Thursday afternoon from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. residents are playing bridge in the Card Room. You sign up with Carol Hodges at lhodges@atlanticbb.net. If you haven't played bridge since college, you can sign up with Carol to have refresher lessons. Lessons are also available if you're a beginner.



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BINGO

Donna Donaldson

Contrary to what you may have heard, Bingo continues to be scheduled on the second Friday of every month at 7 p.m., same day, time, and place that it's been held for several years.

Now it's just going to be a "fun-raiser" instead of a "fund-raiser."

Since Outreach will no longer be sponsoring this event, neighbors have pitched in and are volunteering to make sure we can carry on the tradition. As in the present and the past, residents have gotten together very successfully to present many fun events for the enjoyment of the community. We look forward to continuing this neighborly atmosphere.

Prizes will be awarded based on the "gate" of the previous month so that we are self-supporting. Reusable cardboard Bingo cards are available as well as disposable paper cards and sanitizer is plentiful. The cost of the cards is going up from \$1.50 each to \$2, which should increase the prizes for the winners (and not provide quarters for the laundromat!). Donna Donaldson will be doing the calling and Brenda Fellows will be turning the crank.

Bingo is being held after the dinner hour, but feel free to bring snacks for yourself or your table. As always, beverages are available at the bar for Symphony Village Social Club members but bring your own if you wish. Guests, families and children are welcome (the more the merrier).

If you have any questions, suggestions or wish to volunteer, contact Donna Donaldson – neverneverland316@gmail.com.

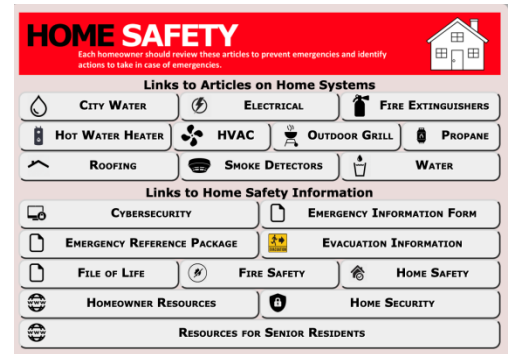


JOHN OLSON – CERT COORDINATOR

HOME SAFETY INFORMATION ON THE WEB

A large amount of information on home safety for Symphony Village residents has been assembled on the CERT Homeowners page of the SV Website at <https://sv-info.org/cert-files/homeowners.html>.

There are 56 articles with 145 links to additional information. The topics include:



Home Systems

- Electrical - your service panel, what to do during power outages and electrical storms.
- Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) - system overview, maintenance checklist, winterizing A/C units
- Hot Water Heater - overview, hot water shutoff, maintenance tips
- House Water - water shutoff, leaks, outside faucets
- Propane - shutoff, gas use tips
- Roofing - how to inspect your roof, identifying damage

Safety Articles

- Fire Extinguishers
- Outdoor Grills
- Smoke Detectors
- File of Life
- SV Emergency Information Form
- Fire Safety

- Town Water - shutoff, when to shut it off, water meter access, Centreville Water Department contact information
- Home Safety
- Home Security
- Cybersecurity
- Resources for Senior Residents

Also check out the almost 500 other articles available on the [SV CERT page of the SV Website](#) including many on emergency preparedness.

Symphony Village Chain Gang

DAVE PETERSON

The Symphony Village Chain Gang recently celebrated the completion of their 13th year of working the sidelines for all Queen Anne’s County High School football games. The Chain Gang has displayed a high level of professionalism while enjoying the “best seats” available. Over the years the Chain Gang has worked games in the heat, cold, wind, and rain. Prior to installation of the new artificial turf field in 2019, they also worked in the mud. The picture below includes present and past members of the Chain Gang along with the QAHS



Athletic Director. Mike King is missing from the picture. Those in yellow shirts are among the 8 from the original 11 who started in 2009 and are still active.

Seated: L to R – Tom Meringolo, Anthony Rosenberger, Diane Briggs, Skip Kornmeyer, Jim O’Connell

Standing: L to R – Dave Peterson, Daniel Miller (QAQHS AD), Bill Paschak, Rich Ryan, Ira Ehrenfeld, Dan Battista, Ron Dillon, Reggie Farrare, Bob Farrar, Dominic Mancinelli, Jim Halinka, Tom Scull.

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LUNCH BUNCH

Bea Trotta & Marge Strano



The December Lunch Bunch is scheduled for The Narrows Restaurant on Thursday, December 2, at 12:30 p.m. The Narrows is located at 3023 Narrows Way South in Grasonville. Click on the photo to the left to see the menu!

The Lunch Bunch is a wonderful social way for new neighbors to meet people in the Symphony Village community and a perfect opportunity to visit local restaurants and interesting luncheon destinations. Please consider joining us. The plan is simple; we order off the menu. Then, we relax, dine, and enjoy the company. Do you have a favorite restaurant? Let us know. We are

always looking for new ideas and locations.

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

PICKLEBALL 2021...GRATEFUL AND BLESSED!

Rosemary Rosenberger



HAPPY NOVEMBER 2021! At this very special time of year, I tend to focus much more on how blessed we are for each and every day and that life is a gift! Our pickleball crew has become another family for me; we enjoy the beauty of the mornings and the smiles and laughs we all share each time we play. As the fall progresses, our passionate picklers continue to come out each Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday for exercise and fun. We will continue to play until “old man winter” sets in and it is too cold for us to sustain the elements! So for now, we will continue with

REGULARLY scheduled play as follows:

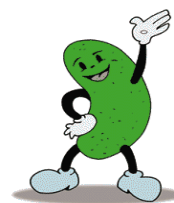
Every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at 9 a.m,

Centreville, will be hosting indoor pickleball at the Wye River Upper School on **Mondays and Wednesdays each week from 5 p.m. to-7 p.m. starting November 29.** The cost is free for YMCA members, with a nominal fee for non-members. Folks are highly encouraged to join the YMCA, and with the new YMCA center coming in 2022, it may be a great idea to join now!

Secondly, I am also happy to report that the SV courts are to be resurfaced by mid-April 2022 to include four pickleball courts! Thank you Operations Committee and the BOD for your support, and thanks to the avid tennis players who share the space with us!

I wish each and every one of you a blessed and Happy Thanksgiving! Enjoy your time with family and friends, and share a smile with someone you may not know! Whatever it is that you choose to do, stay safe and enjoy our beautiful Symphony Village! As always, please feel free to reach out to me should you have any questions or concerns!

I am happy to report some **EXCITING NEWS** this month! The YMCA, in partnership with the Wye River Upper School in



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Patrick Nichols

The SV Book Club met virtually on Tuesday, October 19, to discuss *When My Name Was Keoko* by Linda Sue Park. The book describes the occupation of Korea by the Japanese before and during World War II. Korean language was banned and all citizens were required to take Japanese names. In the spirit of the book, my attendance list assigns the following identities: Hirohito Sikes, Hanako Withers, Hiroshi & Keiko Buckheit, Hideo & Hoshi Saltiel, Sakura Goldberg, Kazue Olson, Kazuko Kurst and the well-known biruda, "Nils-San." Yasu Volpicelli and Tamiko Decker provided grades separately.

This month's book was chosen to allow the Club to compare Korean occupation during World War II by the Japanese after reading about Nazi occupation in Europe in books like *The Nightingale* (French resistance). The Japanese empire annexed Korea in 1910, so the duration of the occupation was considerably longer than seen in Europe. The story is told in alternating chapters by a Korean brother and sister, both teenagers. They had grown up under the Japanese and had been educated in the Japanese language with stories of the Japanese empire. In fact, use of the Korean language was forbidden and was cause for immediate punishment.

Much like in Europe, the local inhabitants were made to provide supplies to support the Japanese war effort, leaving meager food rations for Korean families. They were also subjected to a fear campaign about atrocities to expect if American soldiers invaded. In fact, school children were trained with sharpened bamboo sticks to resist American soldiers in case of invasion. I became aware of this practice when stationed in Okinawa in the 1970s. The local Ryukan people were inculcated with such a grave fear of Americans that, following the allied invasion in 1945, hordes of civilians committed suicide by throwing themselves off local cliffs.

The two teenagers, Keoko and Nobuo, knew well that the Japanese were their true oppressors and thought many of the rules imposed on them are foolish. But the propaganda movies about Americans gave rise to a fear that an American invasion would not distinguish between the Japanese and their Korean subjects. Luckily there was no invasion but, sadly, we see 75 years later that Americans have much to learn distinguishing between different Asian ethnicities.

As the war goes badly for the Japanese, more strict measures were employed and Korean boys were conscripted to fight for the Japanese forces. Nobuo sees his first airplane and joins the Japanese Air Force in hopes of learning to fly and getting better treatment for his family. He eagerly volunteers for a flying mission, but discovers he has been assigned as a kamikaze pilot. This not only makes the plot interesting, but also reminded me that I had the unusual experience of meeting a Japanese kamikaze pilot in 2005. While not the most decorated kamikaze, his flight training experience was very similar to my own.

The author wrote the story for young adults, which worried me when we selected the book. However, the story was well written and many of the more repulsive Japanese excesses were not told in graphic detail due to the intended audience. The resistance by other members of their family was more surreptitious when compared to European theater novels we have read. Many members of the Korean resistance fled to Manchuria to escape the Japanese. The rise of the Communist Chinese followed closely by the Korean War left many relatives on the North Korean side of the subsequent divide of the peninsula. Korean families were fractured much as they were in Germany, but, of course, they remain so today.

The Book Club found the book easy to read, and it greatly enlightened us about an unfamiliar part of WWII. They enjoyed it very much and graded it 7.87 out of 10. Our new list of books and the dates for Book Club discussion are listed below. We continue to meet on Zoom, so contact me at sikes.withers@yahoo.com if you would like to attend.

November 16 *A Great Reckoning* by Louise Penny

December 21 *The Island at the Center of the World* by Russell Shorto



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2022

January 16 *The Last Thing He Told Me* by Laura Dave

February 15 *The Unexpected President: Life and Times of Chester A. Arthur* by Scott S. Greenberger

March 15 *Harlem Shuffle* by Colson Whitehead

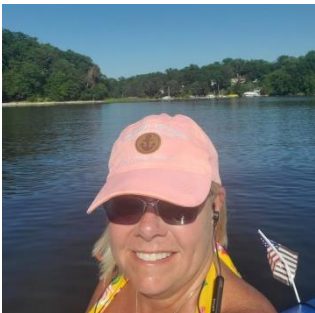
April 19 *The Lincoln Highway* by Amor Towles

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

MEET YOUR NEW SYMPHONY VILLAGE ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER, JULIA

NEPH

KATHRYN MARCHI



This month I am happy to introduce the new Assistant Manager for Symphony Village, Julia Neph.

No stranger to a management position, Julia has spent her life's work managing businesses and communities. Born and raised in Michigan, she graduated high school and decided to delay her college education to live and learn in the "real" world. She began bartending in several night clubs in the Detroit area, working her way up to managerial positions. Her jobs took her to high end, live-music-venue nightclubs of 300+ seats that featured rock and jazz productions from around the globe.

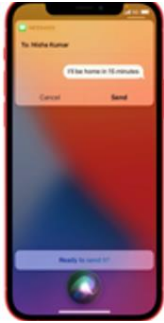
During this time, Julia married and had a child. At age 30, she enrolled in Oakland University and received a B.S. in Psychology. She then moved to Ellicott City, Maryland, and began working for Humanim, a nonprofit company for folks with mental health disabilities. Julia started out as a mental health counselor, working her way up to case manager for 35 homes in that area and then residential property manager for same. She really enjoyed working with the resident managing, their medications, helping them with life skills, and even refurbishing their homes with items from various donors that she, alone, sought out! Julia said that she really found her niche, working in the mental health area; it became her passion to help people in that situation.

After her divorce, Julia moved to the Severna Park area in Maryland and began working in the Tuscany/Canterbury neighborhood in Baltimore as the on-site manager of "Winthrop House," an 11-story condominium complex with 157 homes. Living on the Severn River, Julia then discovered the love of kayaking.

As we all know, life takes many different turns and that is what brought Julia and her fianc'e to Greensboro, Maryland, here on the Eastern Shore. They bought a house there, and in October 2021, Julia became Symphony Village's Assistant Manager. She is enjoying meeting homeowners here. She said she was warmly welcomed, and everyone is friendly and helpful.

Transitioning from living in the city to country life has been interesting and enjoyable for Julia. It's a very different lifestyle from working in Baltimore and commuting every day in heavy traffic with all of the congestion and noise of the city. She is now able to continue kayaking on the Choptank River and having her daughter and son-in-law visit. Julia is even introducing her three-year-old granddaughter to fishing! Add to that an upcoming wedding (delayed, thanks to Covid) and life on the Eastern Shore is good for Julia and her family.

Having a job that she enjoys and a new rural lifestyle, Julia is a happy camper. Welcome to Symphony Village, Julia!



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Celebrate "A Family Christmas" with Queen Anne's Chorale



Queen Anne’s Chorale is delighted to invite everyone to “A Family Christmas,” a celebration of the holidays in music and song on Saturday, December 4, at 7 p.m. or on Sunday December 5, at 3 p.m. The Chorale will sing many holiday favorites and, as always, the audience will be invited to sing along on a few familiar pieces. The concerts will be presented at the Centreville United Methodist Church. Tickets are \$20 for adults and can be purchased at the door. Students through grade 12 are admitted free of charge if accompanied by an adult. (Special note: Anyone who purchased a Chorale Season Pass for the 2019-20 season will be admitted to this concert without charge.)

THE WESTMINSTER RINGERS



The Christ Church Parish, Kent Island, presents a Christmas concert featuring the Westminster Ringers. They are back by popular demand! Hear this auditioned hand bell ensemble play over 200 instruments to perform your favorite sacred and secular Christmas music on Saturday, December 11, at 7 p.m. This concert is free and open to the public. No tickets needed, but **masks will be required.** *A free-will offering will be collected to support the Ringers.*

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