

# LIBRETTO J

### Symphony Village's Newsletter

August 2011 No. 6, Vol. VIII

**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 NEW RESIDENTS

James & Patricia Arnts, 105 Concerto Ave

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### LIFESTYLE UPDATE

#### **Lifestyle Upcoming Events**

#### JIMMY BUFFETT



Hey Villagers! Want to waste away again in Margaritaville? Lookin' for your long lost shaker of salt? Then sign up for the Jimmy Buffett Happy Hour/Pool Party on **Saturday**, **August 20**, **from 6 to 10 p.m**. Adam's Ribs is catering this affair, serving roasted pig with island-style sauces, BBQ chicken and Caribbean jerk chicken on the grill, saffron-pineapple rice, fresh cucumber salad, coleslaw, Tuscan pasta salad with tomatoes, rolls and butter, and assorted island desserts.

Wear your flip flops, dance to the music of DJ Bob Duckman, and watch out for those pop-tops. Don't miss this one!

#### **LABOR DAY PICNIC**



Come one, come all to the annual Symphony Village Labor Day Picnic on **Sunday**, **September 4, from 4 to 8 p.m.** Dinner, catered by Adam's Rib, will be served from 5 to 7 p.m. The cost is \$15 per person, children ages 5-12 \$7.50, and children under 5 free. The menu will include hamburgers, hot dogs, smoked turkey breast, pit beef, coleslaw, baked beans, fruit salad, rolls, and condiments--including plates, napkins, and utensils. Adam's Rib will do on-site grilling and provide three catering staff.

Members of the Labor Day Picnic Committee will provide tossed salad and dessert. Lemonade and bottled water are included in the cost. Beer is \$1 and wine is \$2. Of course there will be music. Remember, sign up in the Activities Book for the Picnic AND to participate in the Water Volley Ball and Bocce Ball games.

#### **Radio City Music Hall Holiday Show**

December Event - *Radio City Music Hall Holiday Show* bus trip, December 7. The deadline to sign up for this event has been extended to August 31. Please see the Activities Book for details.

#### **OUTREACH UPDATE**

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Artisans' Fair



Plans are well underway for the  $2^{nd}$  Annual Artisans' Fair to be held on Saturday, September 24, 9 a.m. -3 p.m. at the Clubhouse. We expect handicrafts to include jewelry, handmade purses, watches, wood turnings, wood carvings, hand-painted pottery, watercolors, quilted items, items for baby, items for children, holiday decorations, tole painting, and much much more -i.e., something for everyone! We

will also have a variety of items for sale on the Outreach table with all sales going into Outreach's coffers. There is still time to sign up to display and sell your items – the deadline is Friday, September 9. There is also time to donate an item(s) to be sold on the Outreach table – that deadline is Friday, September 16. Registration forms and donation forms are available at the Clubhouse and electronically from Linda Blume (410-758-3194).

This year Outreach will offer lunch options during the Artisans' Fair. There will be gourmet sandwiches – chicken salad with cranberries and almonds; ham and Muenster with honey mustard; and cream cheese and olive – plus grilled hot dogs. A bag of chips comes with a sandwich or hot dog. Lemonade, iced tea, coffee, hot tea, and water will also be available.



And for dessert? Check out the Bake Sale! There will be cookies, cupcakes, brownies, dessert bars, and more. And to take home? In addition to all the "hand held" goodies, we'll have "specialty" cakes (e.g., Smith Island cake and Death By Chocolate cake), pies, and cheesecakes. Again, something for every taste! Please contact Shirley Clark (410-758-3076) if you can donate an item(s) for the Bake Sale.

All the money that Outreach raises at the Artisan's Fair will be donated to the Queen Anne's Emergency Center. If you have any questions, contact Nancie Cameron (410-758-3948) or Bea Trotta (410-758-0332).

#### **SV Name Tag Update**

Villagers purchased a total of 57 name tags during Outreach's recent sale. The name tags have been ordered and should arrive in late August or early September. Outreach will distribute the tags one or two evenings at the Clubhouse. Watch the CODA for the exact date(s).

#### **Outreach Sponsoring BINGO Night**

The SV Outreach Committee is sponsoring *BINGO* starting September 9 at 7 p.m. in the Grand Ball Room of the Clubhouse. We will hold subsequent Bingo nights the second Friday of every month. This is a way to raise money for Outreach so we can continue to support various non-profit organizations within Queen Anne's County.



A big thank you to Caruso Homes for helping us purchase the Bingo supplies. Their contribution was a huge help to us in getting our endeavor off the ground!!! We hope you will come out and support us. We are working to make it an enjoyable night with cash prizes and various types of Bingo games. The price per card will be \$1.50 and you keep the cards all night. We promise to have a lively caller! No refreshments will be served so if you want a snack, BYO. You can always go to the bar for beverages. See you Friday night, September 9, for BINGO!

#### IT'S BACK!!!!

The <u>Grandchildren's Hallowe'en Party</u> returns Saturday, October 22, from 2-4 p.m. at the Clubhouse for grandchildren <u>ages 11 and under</u>. Join us for fun, crafts, games, pictures, snacks, and a costume parade complete with 'trick-or-treating.' The price is \$5 per child, and there will be a sign up sheet in the Activities Book beginning in early September. Any questions, please call Carlene Cooke (443-242-8146) or Linda Farrar (443-262-8744).



\*\*Do any of you have teenage grandchildren who need community service projects? The Hallowe'en party is a fun way to earn a couple of hours by supervising games, running the tattoo booth, etc. Let us know!

#### RUNNERS, WALKERS, & SPONSORS NEEDED...for RUN4SHELTER



**RUN4SHELTER is** a Half Marathon, 10K, 5K race, and a Kids Fun Run. The race will benefit **Our Haven Shelter**— a temporary winter homeless shelter operated by Queen Anne's County Christian Assistance (QACCA). QACCA is a coalition of 11 local churches, working together toward providing permanent year-round accommodations for the homeless in Queen Anne's County. Currently, there are no permanent shelters. The race will start at the old Outlets in Kent Narrows, continuing

south through Kent Island, on Saturday, September 10. Starting times and entrance fees are:

7:30 a.m. – Half Marathon –\$65 8:00 a.m. – 10K and 5K – \$25 9:00 a.m. – Kids Fun Run – \$10

We would like to organize a **Symphony Village Team**. If you are interested in being on this Team, let us know as soon as possible because, on September 3, the registration fees will increase by \$5 for each race, except for the Half Marathon, which will be \$75, and the Kids Fun Run, which will stay at \$10. If you don't wish to run but would like to help, you are needed for water stations and registration or you can sponsor a runner. Also, donated items would be very much appreciated for the Silent Auction. SV Outreach has donated \$1,000 to sponsor this race and provide for the homeless in Queen Anne's County. Please join us in this worthwhile cause.

Run for your Health and help the Homeless!!! Call Dorothy Hamm (410-758-3803) to register, volunteer, donate items for the auction, or ask questions. Also, visit our website, www.run4shelter.net.

#### Neighbor to Neighbor

You haven't read anything about Neighbor to Neighbor in recent issues of the *Libretto*, but that doesn't mean we haven't been busy. We decided to keep meeting regularly during the summer months and spend our time together sharing information and ideas about how best to support our neighbors in times of need. Our Street Captains are equipped with resources to provide short-term assistance for a variety of situations, but in order to be helpful, Street Captains must know where there is a need. Please don't hesitate to call your Captain if you or a neighbor could use a little support. If you're not certain whom to call, please check the <a href="SV Website">SV Website</a>. You'll find Neighbor to Neighbor listed under "Activities/Groups."

#### PUBLICATIONS & COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

#### **Entertaining Grandchildren**

The committee is wishing to feature activities that residents have used to entertain visiting grandchildren. If you have had success, please share with your fellow residents by sending the information to Carol Hodges at <a href="mailto:lhodges@atlanticbb.net">lhodges@atlanticbb.net</a> to be included in future issues of the *Libretto*. Here is just such an activity.



Carlene Cooke's granddaughters, Allison and Jennifer, and Willie DiLaura's granddaughter, Josie, are so proud of the special boxes they crafted recently at Wye River Designs in Grasonville. Mosaics, jewelry, and stamping are among the variety of craft projects offered there. Crafters, young and old, are sure to be inspired by the samples throughout the shop. The owner, Candace, is glad to offer assistance. Wye River Designs is located at 4300 Main Street, Grasonville, across from the post office. They are open on Wednesday and Friday from 1-4 p.m., Wednesday 7 - 9 a.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Their website is www.wyeriverdesigns.com.

#### **Picture Directory**

Please send a picture for the Website Picture Directory. Residents like to be able to put a face with a name or vice versa. Email to Charlene Smallwood Brown at <a href="mailto:gsmallw594@aol.com">gsmallw594@aol.com</a> or deliver a hard copy. If you want someone to take a picture, call Carol Hodges at 410-758-0591.

#### **Advertisers**

Please support our advertisers. At the end of the newsletter you will find their ads.

Also, if you have good service from someone, encourage the company to advertise. You can print out the ad rates from the website or pick up a rate list from Nancy at the Clubhouse.

Supporting our advertisers helps keep our HOA dues from increasing.

<u>Disclaimer</u>: The Symphony Village Homeowners Association or any of its constituents does not validate, endorse, or support any of the vendors or products presented in the ads, and as such, assumes no liability.

#### **All Are Welcome**

Everyone is welcome to attend the next P & C meeting on Tuesday, September 6, 3 p.m., in the Grand Ballroom.

#### **SNEAKERS UPDATE**

#### \*\*\*\* Golf Outing \*\*\*\*

We are currently planning the first annual Sneakers Golf Outing at Hunters Oak on *Wednesday, September 14*. While we are still finalizing the details with Hunters Oak Management, we anticipate that the cost will be \$25 for members of Hunters Oak and



\$45 for non-members. This includes 9 holes of golf (shotgun, scramble format), prizes, lunch in their pub, and a donation to Sneakers. The outing is open to all golfers in Symphony Village and their guests. Spouses and friends are encouraged to join the group for lunch. The fee for spouses and guests is planned to be \$15, which includes the lunch and a donation to Sneakers. We are also obtaining sponsors for each hole, so as you play, take note of our generous friends and their businesses.

#### \*\*\*\* Sneakers Auction \*\*\*\*

Remember - save the date of *Saturday, November 5*, for the annual Sneakers Auction. We are always looking for items to be included in the auction (products, services, gift cards, vacation homes, etc.). Please contact Helena Joy (410-758-6532) or Linda Farrar (410-758-8744) if you have items to contribute. We will also have our raffles, which include, to date, a beautiful ring, a Paul Reid guitar, and a 50/50 raffle.

#### \*\*\*\* Symphony Village Night at the American Legion \*\*\*\*

Jefferson Davis Post of the American Legion held their second Symphony Village Night at the legion's home. Good food, fun, and great fellowship were shared. As part of the night, there were two raffles held – one for the Legion's Wounded Warriors project and one for Sneakers. They raised \$200 for the deserved Wounded Warriors and \$160 for Sneakers (thanks to the winners of each of the raffles who donated their winnings back to the charitable functions). On behalf of Sneakers we would like to thank the Legion and all of the participants who helped make this an exciting evening.

#### \*\*\*\* Next Meeting \*\*\*\*

Our next scheduled meeting will be held *Wednesday*, *September 21*, at 3 p.m. in the Clubhouse. This will be an important meeting as we get closer to the auction. All residents of Symphony Village are warmly encouraged to join us and participate in our ongoing activities.

#### **CLUBS AND CLASSES**

#### SV BIRD CLUB

#### - Linda Blume

#### **Symphony Village Bird Club**

I attended my son's wedding in south Florida last month. When the time wasn't filled with wedding activities, I looked for birds. The highlight was at an I-95 rest stop in Florida (where we saw signs



everywhere warning us to beware of poisonous snakes) - we saw two sandhill cranes (pictured at left) just a few feet off the roadway. They are beautiful regal birds, especially when seen in the wild. At the same rest stop, we saw a flock of glossy ibis also foraging for food, unperturbed by all the cars and trucks coming and going. At another Florida rest stop, we saw a flock of birds, feeding on the ground that I could not identify then and have been unable to identify since (using my bird guides at home). Maybe you have an idea — the birds were a bit larger than a mockingbird, a medium brown in color with darker

highlights, a whitish underbelly, and a long bill. These birds were not mockingbirds or brown thrashers or crows or grackles or cowbirds – have a guess? We also saw lots of common egrets, cattle egrets, and little blue herons. I needed my bird guide to identify flying swallow-tailed kites. On the beach, we saw several flocks of American avocets and several brown pelicans.

Besides the captive macaws, African gray parrots, and green parakeets at the Naples Zoo, we saw a fish crow snagging food pellets tossed in the air toward a pond filled with fish and turtles. And another special treat – in a tree overhanging the alligator pool, we saw a pair of wild nesting white egrets with

one youngster just leaving the nest and two young little blue herons sitting on the alligator pool fence beside a parent. All the young birds had fuzzy topknots and were obviously just learning to fly. How cool! Thank goodness the young had not fallen into the water to make a tasty meal for one of the alligators!

Not to forget non-avian wildlife, little lizards or geckos (who can tell?) were everywhere outdoors at the Florida hotel. When they "displayed," a beautiful bright yellow dewlap appeared. Tiny frogs were also underfoot.

The many varieties of palm trees, all the Spanish moss hanging down from the trees, and the usual afternoon showers told us we were definitely in Florida.

And the wedding? Beautiful! The ceremony was on a Gulf of Mexico beach with a gentle breeze blowing and puffy clouds overhead (remnants of an afternoon thunderstorm) with the setting sun peeking through now and then. Simply perfect for the happy couple.

#### SV GAZEBO GARDEN CLUB

#### - Jack Hennessey

The Gazebo Garden has been thriving, thanks to the hard work of its members. We have been successful in getting the robins to find a new place to nest. After raising their first brood, the killdeer apparently found an alternate site for their second. As an added attraction, a pair of hummingbird moths has been feeding on the flowers in the garden. These moths are about 1/3 the size of our local hummingbirds, which made a strong return in the month of July. Several residents have used the gazebo



for family picnics. There is always a nice breeze in the gazebo; and, in case the breeze fails, there is a ceiling fan to keep you cool. Incidentally, we still need one more volunteer to tend one of the 20 beds in the garden. Contact Jack if you are available.

Our vegetable garden has had a rough start due to the invasion of the stink-bug. Our early zucchini and yellow squash were great, but they were wiped out early by the borers. All of our pumpkin plants have also been destroyed. Our tomato plants are producing well as are our eggplant. Many of our residents have been the beneficiaries of our garden produce.

As many as 50 purple martins have been seen at one time circling the gazebo martin house. By the time you read this, the martins may have left for South America. In 2009 and 2010, the martins left on August 15. (They left August 10 after this article was submitted.) An application has been submitted for approval to install a fifth martin house near the South pond. We will miss the martins and look forward to their return in April.

#### SV READING FOR FUN BOOK CLUB

#### - Jack Hennessey

The book club met at the Clubhouse on July 19 to discuss the book *Amandine* by Marlena Di Blasi, selected by Lee Ettman. The story follows the life of Amandine, a child born out of wedlock to the

daughter of a Countess, who sends the child to a remote French convent. Amandine is essentially raised by a governess, Solange, who is seen as the real heroine of the story. The setting is during the start of

WHILE MY SISTER SLEEPS

World War I, a very perilous time indeed! This novel winds its way toward a dramatic and compelling conclusion. The book received a rating of 7.2 on a scale of 1 to 10. Lee provided a dessert of lemon tea and blueberry pound cake.

The book for our August 16 meeting is *While My Sister Sleeps*, by Barbara Delinsky. This is the story of two sisters, one of whom is a world class athlete who has fallen into a coma as a result of an accident. Many interesting developments are woven into the story. A recommended read!

#### **SINGLES**

The Singles had a very nice dinner at Kitty Knight House on Thursday, August 4, and everyone enjoyed it. It was fun just sitting and talking, and one of the things we talked about was our next event. It will be another Thursday evening dinner at Four Seasons Bistro in Chester on September 15. There will be information in the Activities Book soon.

#### THINKS

Tennis update: The heat has not deterred tennis at Symphony Village, although the hours were changed to 8 a.m. Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. See you on the courts.

#### SIGN LANGUAGE FOR BEGINNERS

Phyllis and Dan Krpata have offered to teach a beginners sign language class this fall starting the week of September 12 if there is enough interest. The costs will be \$3 per class plus the price of the book. If interested, please sign up in the Activities Book. Indicate which day is your preference—Monday at 1 p.m., or Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday at 10 a.m.

#### TRIVIA QUESTIONS

In honor of Herman Melville's birthday, August 1, 1819 the following trivia is related to the sea

- 1. What is a conchologist?
  A. SHARK EXPERT B. EROSION EXPERT C. SHELL EXPERT
- 2. What does the word shingle mean?
  A. GROUP OF DOLPHINS B. A GRAVELLY BEACH
  C. EXPOSED SANDBAR
- 3. What is mal de mer? A. SEASICKNESS B. UNDERTOW C. MONSTER

#### **NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS**

#### **2011 Master Gardener Intern Training**

Queen Anne's and Talbot County Extensions are taking registration for the Fall 2011 Master Gardener volunteer training program to be held at Chesapeake College in Queenstown beginning Friday, September 9, and running through November 4. Classes will meet Fridays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. This well-rounded 40 hour plus course is designed to give you basic information in preparation for volunteering as a Master Gardener representative of the University of Maryland Extension. Topics include: ecology, botany, soils, plant diseases, insects (both pests and beneficial), weeds, and much more. This program emphasizes community involvement and outreach as well as environmental stewardship. A \$225 fee is charged to cover all costs including the Maryland Master Gardener Handbook. Space will be limited to 25 participants, so registration will be taken on a first-come-firstserved basis. This University of Maryland Extension Master Gardener volunteer training program is open to the public, 18 years of age and older, and payment assistance is available based on need. The University of Maryland Master Gardener vision is a healthier world through environmental stewardship. Volunteers for Oueen Anne's and Talbot counties provide more than 8, 000 hours annually in volunteer services that help save taxpayers' dollars. For more details or answers to questions, contact Betty McAtee (410-758-2443). To register email Rachel Melvin at rmelvin1!@umd.edu or call Rachel at 410-758-0166.

#### **Bus Trip to Mount Harmon Plantation**



The Queen Anne's County Historical Society is sponsoring a bus trip to Mount Harmon Plantation on **Saturday, September 24**, to view the Revolutionary War <u>Reenactment</u> and Colonial Festival being held at Mount Harmon that weekend. Events at Mount Harmon will include British and Rebel encampments, skirmishes involving over 1,000 re-enactors, tactical demonstrations, colonial crafts, and much more. The cost of the bus trip is \$50 per person and includes entrance to the plantation grounds, a box lunch, and bus transportation. If you wish to tour the Mount Harmon manor house, that is \$5 extra.

Pre-registration is required since bus capacity is limited. To attend, contact the Historical Society at 410-758-3010 or gachistorical@verizon.net. If you have any questions, contact Doris Pullman.



Mount Harmon Plantation in Earleville (Cecil County) is one of Maryland's most beautiful historic sites. Mount Harmon features a restored 18<sup>th</sup> century manor house, colonial kitchen, formal boxwood garden, tobacco prize house, and 200 acres of open space, nature trails, and a spectacular waterfront setting on the Sassafras River. Known in early days as World's End, Mount Harmon is listed on the

National Historic Register.

#### Baltimore Symphony Orchestra 2011-2012 Season at Chesapeake College



The Mid-Shore Symphony Society announces the 41<sup>st</sup> year of bringing the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra to the Eastern Shore. The 2011-2012 season will be a stirring and passionate one full of energy, and all local music lovers are urged to purchase tickets early to assure preferred reserved seating. Enjoy it all without crossing the Bay Bridge with plenty of free parking at the Todd Performing Arts

Center at Chesapeake College.

The 2011-2012 program at Chesapeake College:

• Friday, September 30, 2011:

Sibelius: Symphony No. 5

Mozart: Piano Concerto No. 19, K.459

Elgar: In the South Saturday, February 18, 2012:

Brahms: Tragic Overture Mozart: Piano Concerto No. 20, K. 466

Wagner: Overture to Der Fliegende Hollander (Overture to the Flying

Dutchman)

Strauss: Tod und Verklarung (Death and Transfiguration), Opus 24

• Friday, March 9, 2012:

Elgar: Serenade in E Minor, Opus 20

Bach: Violin Concerto No. 2 in E Major, BWV 1042

Mendelssohn: Octet (Orchestral Arrangement)

The best way to ensure getting the seats you want for the concert series or for any one concert is to purchase tickets now. To request a ticket information flyer and order form, contact Cindy Reed (410-226-5795), cindy@oxfordmd.com.

#### MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS

#### **Meet Royce and Amy Holm**

By Karin Anne Larsen

Keeping up with Royce and Amy is a challenge. On the morning of our interview, they had just biked almost 30 miles and ended this trek because of a brake malfunction. Royce was contacted about an emergency transmitter that had just gone off and he had to go find it. Royce and Amy don't seem to slow down much and have been part of the Sheriff Auxiliary since December of last year. They provide support and help as needed by the Sheriff for additional coverage and to help the Sheriff's office provide a larger presence in Queen Anne's County. How did this come about? Basically, when Sheriff Hoffman visited SV last summer for CERT, he indicated that the department was looking for volunteers. Royce found out they had a plane and started



volunteering.

Having moved from Crownsville about five years ago, the Holms have two daughters, one lives here in Centreville and one in Aurora, Colorado. They have three grandchildren, three step-grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. Royce works for Ourisman Chevrolet of Bowie, and Amy works at Chester River Hospital Center. They are both CERT Members and have participated in drills for Queen Anne's County. Royce, who has been a Civil Air Patrol member for 15 years, flies search and rescue missions, and trains cadets, to name a few responsibilities. The Holm duo love dancing, biking, and being on the water, as they were avid sail boaters who enjoyed 30 years in the Bowie, Arnold, Annapolis, and Crownsville area.

So what do these active SVers like to do as volunteers? As Auxiliary members Amy Holm may be called at any time to work with victims of crime for the Victims Services Program offered at the Sheriff's Office while Royce is in the air providing support to the Sheriff Auxiliary. Both Amy and Royce have special phones and may get called to assist as needed. For instance, they provided support for the July 4<sup>th</sup> fireworks, the Fishing Derby at Terrapin Park, and at the Memorial Day Parade, to name three. They have helped to direct traffic for events or concerts and help with sobriety check points. While Royce, a licensed pilot, is an active member of the Civil Air Patrol, he is also the only Auxiliary member who is a pilot. Royce may receive missions such as photographing, aggressive driver patrols, or search and rescue, to name a few. There have been two flying missions so far. It surely doesn't hurt that Royce, for the Civil Air Patrol, uses his experience as a mission check pilot, which means he trains other pilots how to do search and rescue missions and then certifies them.

So look for the Auxiliary unit at one of the county events, and you may see Amy and Royce in uniform carrying out their duties. If you want to say hello, you'd better be quick if you want to keep up with them, or just try to catch them around the Village!

#### Symphony Village's own Queen Victoria

#### by Brenda Stoltz



I heard rumors that a **pirate** had been seen roaming around the Symphony Village swimming pool introducing himself as "One-eyed Jack the Pirate." He was telling folks to go to the Avalon Theatre to see *The Pirates of Penzance*, an operetta produced by The Wye Operetta Workshop. However, One-eyed Jack looked suspiciously like our neighbor Jack Hennessey. If you had heeded his advice, you would have seen two other historical figures from the past who also resembled SV neighbors – Queen Victoria and her Royal Escort (Joan Hennessey and Jack Walsh lookalikes). Queen Victoria was dressed in a regal gown; a diamond tiara adorned her head. She made her grand entrance in a horse-

drawn carriage that had stopped in front of the Theatre. A reporter approached and asked about the Queen's presence at the operetta. The brief interview ended, and the Queen's Royal Escort (Jack W.) helped her out of the carriage and escorted her into the Theatre to watch the performance. Queen Victoria waved to her audience as she and her Royal Escort moved through the crowd to their box seat. When she was seated, the audience rose and sang "God Save the Queen." Joan and Jack put on quite a performance and set the stage for the wonderful show that followed – *The Pirates of Penzance*.



I couldn't help but wonder what it felt like to be "Queen for a Day."

We have many talented neighbors in Symphony Village. Please let us hear more stories.

#### **AMAZING FACTS...** About some of our pretty amazing neighbors

How about these amazing people with the following education credentials? Wait a minute! Does this entire listing belong to one person? It certainly does—definitely an amazing Villager. Juris Doctor from the University of Baltimore, BS in Physics from St. Joseph's University, BS in Economics from Loyola University, AA from



Chesapeake College (Accounting), AA from Anne Arundel Community (Theater), and Basic and Advanced Certificates from the US Patent Academy.

If you know about another amazing neighbor, relate your amazing fact to Pat Scheirer, and we will publish it in next month's issue. It can be something about a friend, spouse, neighbor, or even yourself. We'd love to hear from you, and we promise not to mention any names. If you are puzzling over previous facts/persons, call Pat (410-758-1907), and she will reveal the amazing person.

#### TRAVEL

#### **SKELLIG MICHAEL IN IRELAND**

by Mary Ciesielski, aka Irish Mary

Valentia Island is on the southwest coast of Ireland in County Kerry, not too far from Killarney. It was a true island until a bridge was built from the village of Portmagee on the mainland back in the 1960s. Portmagee is a starting point for trips to Skellig Michael, a tall rock rising from the Atlantic Ocean about 12 miles away. I had always been curious about Skellig Michael, knowing it had been inhabited by Christian monks many hundreds of years ago, and a pilgrimage destination in the more recent past. I knew very little else about it, but thought over the years that it would be a great place to visit. So here

we were on Valentia Island in June of 2011, and it seemed the time had arrived to pay a visit.

Arrangements for the boat trip were very informal—we were advised by a couple of Valentia Islanders that if we wanted to go to Skellig Michael, we should do so the following day, as the weather looked good enough for boats to land. They put us in touch with a boat owner, and the time of departure was arranged. We showed up at Portmagee on Sunday, June 19, and found Donal McCrohan and his father, Jim, at their boat. Besides our daughter, Karen, her Irish husband, Aonghus, my husband, Bob, and myself, there were two other passengers on



our boat, an Irishman living in France and his French companion. The weather was sunny one minute and cloudy the next, which is pretty typical for Ireland. The boat ride was scenic, bumpy, and a little scary for some of the landlubbers (that means me). After about 50 minutes, we had our first close-up view of Skellig Michael, a grass-covered rock rising up towards the sky. It looked very formidable from the sea, and it was difficult to imagine that we would be able to reach the top. The boat docked without incident, and several other boats arrived around the same time.

We walked about 200 yards along a level surface to the other side of Skellig where a guide gathered a large group of us at the foot of the steps to warn us of the dangers of the climb—no handrails, etc. – and to remind us not to leave litter after us. Oh, and no bathrooms! The steps—more than 600 of them—were uneven flagstones, with differing heights between them. In some places there was a grassy bank to hang on to, but in other places, nothing. The steps wound around the rock, and the views of the Atlantic Ocean were stupendous. On either side of the steps were stretches of grass and rock. People stopped along the way to rest or just look around, and there was a friendly atmosphere as we all made our way to the top.



Being fairly remote, Skellig is home to many unusual birds. We were delighted to see many puffins close up as we walked. I was able to stand about a foot from one very tame puffin and take photos. They use rabbit burrows for their nests, so they had plenty of places to set up their homes. We were told that the puffins arrive in March and stay until August every year.

By the time we stopped for our picnic lunch at a spot called Christ's Saddle, we enjoyed sunshine as we ate our sandwiches and fruit. Thus fortified, we

continued our climb up the last 100 or so steps to the pinnacle. We approached through a walled



walkway, and we could see several beehive-style cells and oratories, as well as a cemetery and several ancient crosses. There were numerous cells on different levels, with steps leading up to the higher levels. The view from the top was spectacular, and the day was now perfectly clear with azure skies. Just standing there, over 700 feet above sea level, it was exhilarating to look out across the Atlantic and know that monks many centuries ago saw the very same view. Life had to be extremely difficult for the monks, but then they were not on this rock for a life of comfort. A guide told us that there might have been three monks living in a cell, and

some cells looked to be about 10 feet in diameter. The cells are made of stones piled one on top of another with no mortar. They start wide at the bottom and are shaped to form a dome at the top. The height inside some cells was perhaps 15 feet. There were a few openings higher up on the walls to provide light. The entrances were not high, so one wonders about the stature of sixth-century monks, as it was very easy to bump one's head walking in and out of the cells. The guide told us the monks grew their own vegetables and fruits. They ate birds' eggs and probably birds also and they had animals there. It was customary for the local people to bring gifts of food to the monks, but how did they get the food up to the top of the rock? Were there steps there at that time? How did they haul up the materials to build the cells, and how was livestock transported from the mainland so long ago?—so many questions!

After we saw all parts of the monastic settlement, we started back down to meet the boat for the journey back to Portmagee. The descent was very challenging for many, though several teens and pre-teens were observed skipping down the steps. For some, it was much more laborious, especially in many areas where there was nothing to hang on to. Furthermore, when one looked down, the steps seemed to disappear and the vast Atlantic Ocean was all around. It was in those moments that one remembered the number of lives lost here over the years, a recent loss being a lady taking photos who stepped into thin air.

Mercifully, our small party made it down without incident, and the return trip on the boat was a delight. On the way we slowed down at Little Skellig, just a short distance away. This is home to about 40,000 gannets, and these birds seemed to occupy every space on this huge rock. After we left the boat in Portmagee, the sun was still shining, so we enjoyed a snack and drink sitting outside a local pub. We were fortunate to be able to make the trip to Skellig Michael. One man told us his brother had traveled to the area three different times, but there were no boats due to the rough seas around Skellig. During the month of May this year, only three days were suitable for boat traffic. So, for us to decide on Saturday that we would go on Sunday and to actually get there—it had to be fate—or would you say it was the **luck of the Irish!** 

#### **RESTAURANT REVIEW**

#### Joe Breeze Coffee Shop



Let's imagine it's the 1800s in Centreville when you enter Joe Breeze Coffee Shop because this restaurant occupies a circa 1885 very rich, yet warm feeling building, just like the coffee! Check out the high ceilings and the varied seating choices between round tables, bar, backroom, or patio. The ambiance continues throughout the restaurant with paintings on the walls by Chestertown local artist, Jim Reynolds.

by Karin Anne Larsen

Owners Steve and Robin Johnson opened Joe Breeze Coffee Shop in the fall of 2009. Joe Breeze features specialty coffee drinks, hot

chocolate, teas, and cold drinks. The menu includes breakfast, lunch, and dinner items of soups, salads, and sandwiches. This particular day my **Shrimp Salad Croissant**, packed with fresh succulent shrimp, and surrounded with thick and crunchy potato chips, sure tasted great especially with my refreshing **Vanilla Iced Café Latte**. However, if you're up and out early, **try <u>Joe Breeze's Bangin' Bagels.</u>** There's the **Dreadlox** which is a bagel with cream cheese, smoked salmon, red onion, and capers or the **Veggae** with the cream cheese, red onion, and avocado. Try a **Panini**, a **New York Reuben**, a **BLT**, or a delicious **Tuna Salad/Whole Wheat.** You can also order brown bag specials of: a sandwich, chips, canned drink, and cookie, all packaged to go. With these choices, you can try the **Mocha Frappe**, the **Caramel Macchiato**, or the **Breeze Freeze** made up of fresh pineapple, coconut, mango, and strawberry. The prices at this coffee shop range from \$1.50 to \$6.95; and, in addition, Joe Breeze's has specials that vary in price.

So stop in and meet Kristen, Ray, and Daniel, all enthusiastic employees at the coffee shop; and do try an **Ol' Crabbers Delight**, listed in the menu as one of their coffees with a "a rich bold roast to get you started.....you'll be able to pull the pots, pick the nets, and haul the dredges with the best of em!" "Or you can sample the **Mornin' on the Shore**: A pleasant blend, compared to that of watching the sun rise on the Chesapeake Bay and the work boats going out....mild and refreshing; you'll never get tired of it!" Hey Symphony Village folks, come dine outside, listen to Bob Marley tunes, and feel the breeze, Joe Breeze, that is.

Joe Breeze Coffee Shop is located at 128 N. Commerce St. Centreville, Md. 21617. Telephone is 410-758-6779 and email is <a href="https://www.joebreezecoffee.com">www.joebreezecoffee.com</a>; Hours are Monday-Friday, 7 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. This restaurant offers free WI-FI.

#### Addition to Last Month's Pasta Salad Recipe

In the July *Libretto*, Trish Radeff shared her recipe for Pasta Salad. She loves to use Vegetable Supreme (a spice that has been discontinued by McCormick). She wants to share with you that McCormick's Perfect Pinch Salad Supreme is an equivalent and is available. Hope you enjoy this at your next picnic.



#### RECIPE

#### From the kitchen of Joan Hennessey

#### **Harvey House Cole Slaw**

Slaw Dressing

1 head green cabbage, slivered 1 bell pepper, cut into small sticks 1 sweet onion, halved and sliced thin 1 cup sugar (may use less)

1 cup canola oil 3/4 cup white vinegar 1 tsp. celery seed 1 tsp. dry mustard 2 T. salt



- ✓ In a large bowl, layer cabbage, pepper, and onion. Sprinkle with sugar.
- ✓ Mix oil, vinegar, spices, and salt in small saucepan. Bring to a boil.
- ✓ Pour hot dressing over slaw. Mix.
- ✓ Refrigerate overnight.

Keeps very well. May be frozen.

#### NEWS & EVENTS

#### Queen Anne's Chorale Open Rehearsal.



Please join us on September 12 for an "open rehearsal" and reception at Centreville United Methodist Church from 7 - 9 p.m. NO audition is necessary! ueen Anne's All levels of singing experience and voice parts are welcome. For more **Chorale** information please visit <u>www.qachorale</u> or call 410-643-1314. \*New singers should arrive at 6:30 to register and receive music.

#### Adopt-a-Pet

Queen Anne's County Animal Service (located off of 301) is a county run no-kill pet facility which takes in dogs, cats, hamsters, rabbits, and any small pet that needs a good home. The shelter not only helps find homes for the animals, but also works on the animals' social skills until they find their new forever home.

A Senior-to-Senior program allows citizens of QAC to adopt a senior animal (six years or older) for an adoption fee of \$70 for dogs and \$60 for cats. Adopt-a-Pet is sponsoring Two for One Adoptions. You can get two dogs, two cats, or one dog and one cat, for one adoption price. The shelter is being overrun by adorable kittens (42 at the last count) plus cats, and some really sweet, small dogs. Check them out on www.petfinder.com.

Do you love animals, but don't want the responsibility of owning one? The shelter needs: dog socializers, cat cuddlers, office support, media specialists, foster parents, event and fundraiser personnel, and educators. It is a great place to volunteer and the staff, as well as the animals, are very appreciative of any help they receive. The shelter's office hours are: Monday-Friday 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Adoption Hours: Monday - Saturday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Contact info: Phone: 410-758-2393 or 410-758-3493.



**⇔Darla** - Black Lab - My name is Darla, I am an older dog and I am very sweet - I am up to date on my shots - I was found in Chestertown as a stray; I had been running around for about 4 months before anyone called Animal Control. I now live at Animal Control and I get along with other dogs. They say I am very sweet and I am looking for my forever home.

⇒**Penny** - My name is Penny, I am about 7 years old. They really like me here at the shelter, I spend a lot of my time up front helping Tracy with all her paperwork. As much as I like it here I would really love to find my forever home. I am a really good girl and they tell me I am potty trained.



#### **Corsica Watershed Awareness Day**

Corsica Watershed Awareness Day will be held **September 17** from noon to 4 p.m. at Bloomfield Farm on Route 213, just north of Centreville. This event gives people of all ages an opportunity to reconnect with the river that makes the area a special place to live or visit. This **free** event combines family fun with engaging environmental education. The "fun" part includes tours of the historic farmhouse, a variety of tasty food offerings, hayrides, pony rides, petting zoo, pond fishing, face painting, pumpkin painting, and creative craft activities for children. Lively musical entertainment will be offered throughout the day by Chester River Runoff, a dynamic local bluegrass group that mixes original Chesapeake songs with unique takes on traditional favorites.

The first 150 families attending the event will be given a free native tree. A raffle will also be held with the prize being a kayak and related equipment. Rain barrels will also be sold by the Town of Centreville for only \$10, one per household. Per grant documents, rain barrels must be installed within the Corsica River Watershed.

Sponsors of the event are the Corsica River Conservancy, Queen Anne's County Parks and Public Landings, and the Town of Centreville. Exhibitors, including the Maryland Departments of Natural Resources, Environment, Agriculture, and Planning, as well as Town, County, and local organizations, who will display information on rain gardens, oyster restoration, storm water management, river testing results, living shorelines, land preservation, cover crop programs, septic system upgrades, and other environmental issues. Back by popular demand will be Scales and Tales with their wildlife exhibit and the Fishmobile from Phillip's Wharf.

The goal of those sponsoring the Corsica Watershed Awareness Day is to foster awareness among community members of what can be done to restore the quality of the river while providing a thoroughly enjoyable fall afternoon for the participants and volunteers. For more information, contact Queen Anne's County Parks and Recreation at 410-758-0835 or visit <a href="www.corsicariverconservancy.org">www.corsicariverconservancy.org</a> or call Becky Richardson, Outreach for CRC at 443-262-9779.

#### "Children's Games and Amusements" at Wright's Chance



Wright's Chance will hold a special event "Children's Games and Amusements" on Saturday, **August 20**, 10 a.m. -2 p.m. The focus will be on activities that children enjoyed over 200 years ago, but some modern activities will be offered as well. Expected activities include walking on stilts, using quill and ink, making corn husk dolls, making nosegays and

sachets, making wooden spoon dolls, making tussey musseys, and so much more! Events will take place in the back yard of Wright's Chance. Admission is \$3 adults, \$1 children ages 4-13, and free for children age 3 and under. Light refreshments will be served. If you plan to attend, please call 410-758-3010 and let the Queen Anne's County Historical Society know so plans can be made accordingly.

#### **LOCAL EVENTS** by Linda Blume

There are too many Local Events this month to include all of them in the *Libretto*. The entire list appears on the SV Website SV Website, and we will put a hard copy of the complete list in the *Libretto* binder that is located in the Wall Street room of the Clubhouse.

#### **Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum Events**

The Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum in St. Michaels is holding special events **now through Labor Day**. These events are free with paid museum admission:



- Public Tours: 45 minutes in length: Fridays and Saturdays: 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.;
- Waterman's Wharf docent interpretation: daily: 11 a.m. 3 p.m.;
- Chesapeake People: Visit with Chesapeake People who share their stories: Saturdays: 11 a.m. − 3 p.m.
- Family Drop-Ins: a host of activities just for children: Thursdays and Fridays: 2 4 p.m.; and
- Boat Yard Skills Demonstration: Learn a traditional boatyard skill from a trained shipwright: Monday Friday: 1:30 p.m.

For a \$10 fee you can climb aboard the buyboat *Mister Jim* for a scenic cruise on the Miles River: Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, and Mondays: noon, 1 p.m., 2 p.m., and 3 p.m. (<u>Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum</u>)

#### The Jetty Gives a Hoot



The Jetty Dock Bar in Grasonville will hold a benefit for the Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center on **August 18**, 7 - 10 p.m. There will be live music by Hot Tub Limo. Cover charge is \$5. (CBEC)

#### 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Caroline Summerfest



This year's <u>Caroline Summerfest</u> will be held on **August 19 – 20** in downtown Denton. This year's theme is "2011 A Space Odyssey!" The family-friendly event will feature live musical performances, a parade, games and activities for children, great food, vendors, arts and crafts, fireworks, and more. The hours are Friday 5 - 10 p.m. and Saturday noon – 9 p.m. Free.

#### Rivah Run



Rivah Run will be held on **August 20**, 9 a.m. - noon, beginning at Martinak State Park and flowing up-river to the Choptank Yacht Club. This is a non-competitive open 2-mile paddling "Poker Run" event for all ages (under 18 must be with an adult) on the Choptank River. Any type of paddle craft may participate. Each paddler stops at a series of checkpoints to receive a playing card and at the finish, the best five-card poker hand wins the top prize, a Mackinaw Canoe. A limited number of canoes are

available for rent. Pre-registration cost is \$10.00 per person. Advance registration is suggested. Registration fee the day of the event is \$15.00 per person. (Caroline Recreation Department)

#### **Queenstown Volunteer Fire Department Fair**



The Queenstown Volunteer Fire Department Fair will take place on **August 26–27**, 5-10 p.m. both days. Friday night fireworks will begin approximately 9 p.m. The fireman's parade will be Saturday at 6 p.m. (Queenstown VFD)

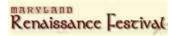
#### Silopanna Music Festival



The <u>Silopanna Music Festival</u> on **August 27** will feature Sharon Jones & The Dap-Kings, Trombone Shorty & Orleans Avenue, Matt and Kim, Fitz and The Tantrums, Jimmie's Chicken Shack, All Mighty Senators, Grilled Lincolns, Harper Blynn, and many more. Local vendors and a gaming area will contribute to the festival atmosphere.

The event takes place at the Anne Arundel County Fairgrounds in Crownsville. General admission is \$39.50 in advance, \$45 the day of the show, with children under 6 admitted free. Gates open at 11:30 a.m.

#### **Maryland Renaissance Festival**



The Maryland Renaissance Festival runs weekends, August 27 – October 3, at the Anne Arundel County Fairgrounds in Crownsville. This is a 16<sup>th</sup>-century English festival with 10 stages, a 5,000-seat jousting area, and 140

food and craft shops.

#### The Foundation's Annual Bogeys and Birds Golf Fundraiser

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Bogeys and Birds is a golf tournament fundraiser benefiting The Foundation and the numerous charities that The Foundation supports. This year's event will be held on September 1 at Queenstown Harbor Golf Links.

#### **Monty Alexander Jazz Festival**



Jazz on the Chesapeake presents the Monty Alexander <u>Jazz Festival</u> on **September 2-3** in Easton. The incomparable jazz pianist, Monty Alexander, who serves as namesake and artistic director of the festival, will headline the September 3 evening concert at Easton's historic Avalon Theatre. Grace Kelly, the vibrant young saxophonist who wowed audiences at last year's festival will be back by

popular demand for an evening concert on September 2. The expanded festival program for 2011 includes plans to turn Easton's historic district into a Café Jazz scene on Saturday with wall-to-wall jazz from noon to 10 p.m. See the website for ticket prices.

#### **Labor Day Picnic and Parade**



Grasonville will hold a Labor Day Picnic and Parade on **September 5** on Route 18 to raise money for the Grasonville Community Center. (QAC Tourism)

#### **Farm Dinners on the Shore**



The next <u>Farm Dinners on the Shore</u> will take place on <u>September 9</u> and <u>10</u> at Galena Blooms Flower Farm. You'll be welcomed by resident cat Neal who presides over all the comings and goings at the farm. He's surrounded by flowers – gomphrena, Queen Anne's lace, sunflowers, and more. Go to the website for all the details.

#### Run 4 Shelter 5K and 10K



Run 4 Shelter is the major fundraising event for Our Haven Shelter and will take place on **September 10**, beginning at staggered start times. Runners and walkers will make their way along a fast and flat paved course that alternates between wooded trails on Kent Island and the wide-open scenery of the Chesapeake Bay. This year a half marathon race has been added. There is also a fun run for children. Our Haven Shelter is a mission of

Queen Anne's County Christian Assistance and provides shelter, meals, and assistance to homeless men, women, and children in the local area.

#### 44th Annual Maryland Seafood Festival "Savor the Bay"



The Maryland Seafood Festival will be held on September 10-11 at Sandy Point State Park. The festival showcases the best of Maryland seafood with family entertainment, arts and crafts, exhibits, live music, and a crab soup cook-off. Advance tickets are \$12 adults with children 12 years and under free. At the gate, adult tickets are \$14 each. Senior tickets (with valid ID) are \$9. Doors open to the public at 10 a.m.

#### The Best Night Hike Ever



What is your fondest memory of being outside past sunset? The Pickering Creek Audubon Center naturalists discussed this question and came up with a list of their favorites for this Best Night Hike Ever that will be held on **September 16**, 6-9 p.m. Walk through a field lit by fireflies, call in owls, head out on a starlit paddle down Pickering Creek, and settle in by the campfire for s'mores and storytelling. We'll do

them all as we discover the 'after hours' side of Pickering Creek. Fun for children and adults! Registration is required – call Pickering Creek on 410-822-4903. The cost is \$50 adult, \$25 children ages 12 and under. (Pickering Creek Calendar)

#### **Fall Native Plant Sale**



Adkins Arboretum will hold its Fall <u>Native Plant Sale</u> on **September 17-18**, 10 a.m. -4 p.m. Late summer and fall blooming native plants will be on sale, and there will be guided walks through the Arboretum woods.

**REMINDER:** Go to the <u>SV Website</u> to see all 32 Local Events, 5 Continuing Events, and 14 Events Outside the Four-County Area.

#### TRIVIA ANSWERS

- 1. C Shell Expert (An amateur conchologist found a rare paper nautilus shell.)
- 2. B Gravelly Beach (I should have worn my flip-flops to cross the shingle.)
- 3. A Seasickness (Mary gave Bob some Dramamine because Bob was green with mal de mer.)



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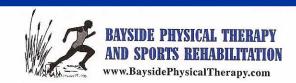
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