



Collage by Donna Stolarczyk

# *LIBRETTO*

## **SYMPHONY VILLAGE NEWSLETTER**

**JANUARY 2023**

**Vol. XVIII No. 1**

*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!**



Richard Scipione & Beth Campbell  
110 Overture Way

Greg & Kathy Lantz  
109 Concerto Avenue

Sharon Anne Johnson  
239 Concerto Avenue

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## **2023 SV HOA BOD**

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### **SV HOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS UPDATES – JANUARY 2023**

**BILL RIDGWAY, PRESIDENT**

Welcome to the New Year from your new SV Board of Directors. Many thanks go to our outgoing President Pat Fox and outgoing Treasurer Pat Ways for years of hard work and commitment in support of our community. We welcome our newly elected Board Members Nancy Emerick and Janet Leister, who took office after the Annual Meeting of the Members on December 7.

December 28 marked the first meeting of the new Board. Officers were elected: Bill Ridgway (President), Karen Kram (Vice President), Debi Wells (Secretary), Nancy Emerick (Treasurer), and Janet Leister (Member at Large). Each Committee was assigned a Board Liaison: Artisans (Janet), Budget & Finance (Bill), Covenants (Debi), Landscape and Irrigation (Nancy), Lifestyle (Janet), Operations (Karen), Publications & Communications (Karen). Additionally, the Board voted to reinvest a \$125,000 CD (called before maturity on December 22) for a three-year term following the same recommendation by the Budget & Finance Committee.

Our first thought for 2023 is to urge SV residents to support our committees. They do a remarkable job in keeping our Association running smoothly. All Committees need the renewed support of resident volunteers. Several have a particular need for someone to step up as Committee Secretary. This role simply requires writing and word processing skills to create documents such as recorded meeting minutes. We even have templates available for Committee minutes. Please consider volunteering!

We know there are people in our community with a wealth of skills and a lifetime of experience. Perhaps you have engineering skills and would like to learn the intricacies of our irrigation system? You might weigh in on community tree care or other landscape questions. Perhaps help expedite the exterior modification approval process for SV neighbors on the Covenants Committee? Do you have ideas for new Lifestyles events or event organizing experience? It is not too late to join your neighbors on the committee that is right for you.

The Board always welcomes feedback and new ideas. We want to remind residents that you can email us directly at [<mailto:board@symphonyvillagehoa.com>] or you can drop an anonymous comment into the [suggestion box](#) on the SV Home Page. Look for monthly updates like this in the *Libretto* and frequent eBlasts about time-sensitive events. Please sign up for eBlasts if you have not done so already. You can do it here: [<https://symphonyvillage.net/join-residents-email-announce-list>]

Hopefully you're aware that it was necessary to raise HOA fees this year for the first time since 2009. Significantly increased costs for service contracts and utilities combined with a new Maryland law that offers less flexibility in the annual funding of reserves made a fee increase inevitable. Owners who have authorized ProCom to collect payments via ACH debits will find the new amount (\$260/month) debited with no action required. New payment coupons were also mailed in late December reflecting the new fees. However, if you have arranged with your financial institution to send monthly payments automatically, that institution will need to be advised of the new amount.

Again, welcome and we look forward to hearing from you!

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## MARIJUANA GROW FACILITY IN CENTREVILLE – UPDATE

PAT FOX



As has been reported in the *Libretto*, at Board meetings, and on Nextdoor/Echoes, I am collecting data from residents about the noxious odor emanating from the Green Thumb Industries (GTI) marijuana grow and processing operation. This facility is in the Centreville Business Park off Comet Drive. The operation was recently expanded into the acreage behind the existing warehouse on Comet Drive with a large barn, green house, and now includes outgrow growing. While GTI has said you only smell the odor during September and October during budding season, people are still reporting in January—long past the season. We are researching if they are cultivating the plants indoors and if processing the medical marijuana products really makes this a year-round problem.

If you smell “skunks,” please let me know the date, time, and location each time. You can email me at [patfoxsv@gmail.com](mailto:patfoxsv@gmail.com). Several council persons and me are monitoring the situation and will be working with the town to develop production controls. With indoor operations, mechanical air scrubbers can be required. Outdoor odors are harder to control. Probably the most critical issue is to not allow this to expand uncontrolled into the

rest of the vacant 45 acres back there. With the recent 2022 Maryland referendum, 60% of voters approved legalizing cannabis ownership in small quantities. Therefore, the demand will increase exponentially after July 1, 2023.

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## COMMITTEE REPORTS

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### ARTISANS GUILD

KATHY MCMANUS CHAIR

Our next show “**Dance**” will open on **Sunday, February 5**. Peggy Decker will be the Featured Artist. Please join us on that date for an **Art Reception** from 4 to 6 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

Collection for this show will take place on **Thursday, February 2**, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. **During this time, please pick up any items that are currently on display.**

We encourage all artists in the Village to submit their works. All media are welcome! Please check the SV Website for submission forms and wiring instructions.

Everyone is invited to join us on Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 12 noon in the Craft Room to create, share, and socialize.

### GUILD MEMBER HIGHLIGHT

SUE CANFIELD

Moving to Symphony Village in 2013 was the beginning of a new life for me in many ways. I had been living in a very rural area of northwest Connecticut. When I retired from teaching, there were few opportunities for volunteering or enrichment in any of the areas I was interested in pursuing.

I moved to Symphony Village, became an Ambassador for Caruso, and gave tours of the Clubhouse, and talked about the amenities. Every time I toured the Clubhouse, we would come upon the Craft Room, and I would announce that “someday it would be wonderful to have watercolor lessons.” Well, Peggy and Art Decker were on my tour, and Peggy said that could happen.

It wasn't too long after that meeting that I met Peggy again, who was now a resident and a watercolor artist, She knew how to secure local artists to come and give lessons. Sally Clark from Centreville was our first instructor. I began my pursuit to become an artist. I still don't feel like an artist, but as someone who is working toward that goal!

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### COVENANTS CORNER

TOM MERINGOLO

As homeowners, we will have many ideas on how we'd like to improve or change our property's exterior. These wonderful enhancing ideas will eventually lead to the submittal of an Exterior Modification Form (EMF), as is required by the HOA governing documents we all signed upon moving into our beautiful Symphony Village (SV) community. The completed EMF is submitted to SV Management to be recorded. It will then be reviewed by the Covenants Committee for a decision.

The review of the EMF is an important job for the Covenants Committee resident volunteers. The committee will determine if each project submitted follows the SV Architectural Requirements, while maintaining the aesthetic value and consistency in appearance that appealed to all of us when we first came to consider moving into Symphony Village.

The Covenants Committee meets once a month and is a great team that works for the benefit of all residents. If you'd like to meet new residents, help your neighbors, enjoy teamwork, and have a bit of time to spare, please attend a meeting to see if you'd like to join us. Please call Tom Meringolo at 410-739-0982 or email me at [tmeringolo71@gmail.com](mailto:tmeringolo71@gmail.com) if you'd like more information.

## LIFESTYLE COMMITTEE

MARY JO & VINNY VOLPICELLI-CO-CHAIRS

MARIE BOSSIE-CORRESPONDENT

SV residents welcomed in 2023 at the New Year's Eve Party held at the Clubhouse with great music provided by Eddie "The Hit Man" Hitt. There was lots of fun, laughter, dancing, and a champagne toast at midnight for all attendees.

The Lifestyle Committee elected its new leadership at our January 2 meeting: Mary Jo and Vinny Volpicelli as Co-Chairs, Kateri Coombe as Vice Chair, and Joe Sykes as Treasurer.

Congratulations to the winners of the House Decorating Contest:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place Anna & Ken DiGiulian, 406 Harmony Way
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Rosemary & Anthony Rosenberger, 243 Opera Court
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place CC" Terry, 160 Orchestra Place



Thank you to our judges: Trish Draper from Edwards Pharmacy, Patrick Riordan from Economy Restoration, and to all the Homeowners who participated. Economy Restoration also provided the first and third prizes.

The first monthly Friday Night Social hour of 2023 was held January 6 with great food, attendance, and camaraderie. Mark your calendars for monthly Social Hours on the first Friday and third Saturday of every month, 6 to 8 p.m. No signup required, just join us at the Clubhouse and bring an appetizer or dessert to share. If you are new to the community, this is a great way to meet other residents. The next Social Hour is **Saturday, January 21; 6 – 8 p.m.** Come join us.

The Social Hour Committee is looking for hosts for the upcoming Social Hours for 2023. Please consider hosting a Friday or Saturday in the coming months. You can sign up in the book in the Wall Street Room or contact Helen Fitzgerald, chair, [helen6289@gmail.com](mailto:helen6289@gmail.com).

### Mark your Calendars

**Saturday, January 28, Movie Night** in the Clubhouse at 7 p.m.

**Saturday, February 11, Valentine Pasta Dinner**, at the Clubhouse, 5 – 8 p.m., hosted by Ed and Cindy Beres for all residents of SV. Watch for sign-up sheets in the Wall Street Room, coming soon.

**Sunday, February 12, Super Bowl Gathering.** Info coming soon.

**Saturday, February 25, Movie Night** in the Clubhouse at 7 p.m.

Please consider joining the Lifestyle Committee, as new members are always welcome. We will be setting our calendar of events for 2023 at the next meeting and are always looking for new ideas.

Meeting times have changed. Our new meeting time is 3 p.m., first Monday of the month. Come to a meeting and see what we're all about. No commitment required.

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## **PUBLICATIONS & COMMUNICATIONS**

**MARYKAY KERR, CHAIR**

Just a question to our readers...what would you like to see in the *Libretto*? Is there something that would be of interest to the Symphony Village community? We rely on reporters from our Clubs and Activities to submit articles for publication in the *Libretto*. Let us know what you would like to see in the *Libretto*. We're open to suggestions. Have an article, a suggestion, or want to submit a picture? Email it to the editors at [librettoeditors@gmail.com](mailto:librettoeditors@gmail.com). Hope to hear from you.

## **CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES**

**CAROL HODGES**

SV has many clubs and activities for residents to enjoy. Thanks to all who have chaired these activities and who have participated through the years. Currently there is a need for someone to run some of the listed activities.

### **Bird Club:** Volunteer Position Open

The SV Bird Club is a small group of residents who enjoy watching, feeding, and talking about birds. Watch the Activities Book at the Clubhouse for upcoming events and trips.

### **Dining-In:** Volunteer Position Open

Dining-In is a neighborhood social program in which residents meet for dinner in groups of 7 – 10 people, sharing the food cost and preparation. This is a wonderful way to get to know your neighbors, whether you're single or a couple! Guests will be randomly assigned to a host home and notified 5 days before the dinner. Dates will be announced, and signup will be in the Activities Book in the Clubhouse.

### **Dominoes:** Volunteer Position Open

There are a number of different types of dominoes games. We are currently playing Mexican Train. Most domino games are blocking games, i.e., the objective is to empty one's hand while blocking the opponents. In the end, a score may be determined by counting the spots (called pips) in the losing players' hands.

### **Social Singles:** Volunteer Position Open

We are a lively and active group of single women and men who live in SV. We try to schedule one monthly outing that includes lunch along with an interesting side trip. All SV singles are invited to participate in any of our activities. Watch the Activities Book at the Clubhouse for upcoming outings.

For a list of all activities, go to the [Club & Activities page](#) on the SV Website.

## **ECHOES vs. EBLAST**

ECHOES is a neighborhood of the social website Nextdoor. Neighbors around the world turn to Nextdoor daily to receive trusted information, give, and get help getting things done, and building real-world connections with those nearby—neighbors, businesses, and public services.

Residents join when they receive an invitation. If you need an invitation, ask a neighbor who is a member to send you one. I would be glad to send you one.

eBlasts are emails sent to all residents who have agreed to receive them. Most SV residents opt into receiving eBlasts by filling out the directory form upon moving into Symphony Village. Management or Bill Ridgway are allowed to send eBlasts. Listed below is possible eBlast content:

- Items related to the governance of the HOA.
- Announcements for Board and Committee Meetings.
- Items with a sense of urgency (e.g., lost pet).
- Items about SV social/fundraising events.
- Announcements of *Libretto* availability.
- Announcements of important SV Website changes.
- Items of importance to all residents (e.g., mowing/irrigation).
- Items of imminent danger to the community.
- Items related to the death of a resident.

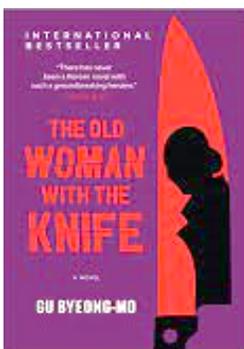
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## CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

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### READING FOR FUN – DECEMBER 20 REVIEW

JOE SIKES



The SV Book Club held a hybrid meeting on December 20 to discuss *The Old Woman with the Knife* by Gu Byeong-Mo. Attendees included: Joe Sikes, Jan Withers, Mary Jo Volpicelli, Sue Goldberg, Cathy Olson, Carol Saltiel, Kitty Wilson, and Bob Nilsson. Len Saltiel and the Buckheits could not attend but provided comment separately.

This *New York Times* bestseller was originally released in South Korea to rave reviews and translated into English in 2022. The protagonist, whose code name is Hornclaw, is a 65-year-old assassin who I figured the club members would relate to, especially if they are Breezeline subscribers. Hornclaw's antagonist is a younger male assassin, code-named Bullfight. Hornclaw had helped to found the organization for which she now works. The business euphemistically specializes in *disease control*. For a price, anyone can hire a

disease control specialist to eliminate their personal problems.

Over the years this function has become corporatized, and Hornclaw is forced to consider job performance and possible retirement. Working mostly with knives, she has been ruthlessly efficient her whole career, but is now seeing her skills deteriorate with age. The younger Bullfight demeans her at every opportunity, suggesting she is over the hill and attempting to take over her assignments.

The whole discussion is fascinating in that it reads like Tony Soprano running a health-care company. Bob Nilsson originally assumed the story was set in Hong Kong because the activity seemed plausible from his experience there. I knew the story was set in South Korea but related it to stories I had heard about the Japanese Yakuza.

Hornclaw eventually is injured on a botched assignment and must seek medical treatment from a trusted medical clinic. Unexpectedly she becomes emotionally involved with her doctor and his family. She had carefully avoided such entanglements her whole career and stayed in the shadows. Now she finds herself vulnerable to Bullfight who manipulates her concerns for the doctor's family. We strangely find ourselves rooting for a woman who has murdered hundreds of people.

As the ultimate confrontation draws near, Hornclaw is dealing with aging and retirement and emotions that don't normally factor in crime stories such as this. It seems to be a crime thriller genre with a uniquely South Korean perspective. The club found it different but intriguing. The theme of anonymity of the elderly also was familiar. Even trying to fill a prescription at the drugstore can sometimes raise such concerns.

I suggested disease control specialist could be an exciting retirement job for someone in a 55+ community but received no interest from the book club members. But then they wouldn't admit it would they? I will be on the

alert for anyone suddenly carrying concealed knives. The club generally enjoyed the book and graded it a 7.1 out of 10, which is slightly above average.

We hold our meetings on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Clubhouse. We have started to hold hybrid meetings, so contact me if you would like to attend virtually. My email is [sikes.withers@yahoo.com](mailto:sikes.withers@yahoo.com)

Our current list of books and associated review dates are:

**January 17**    *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* by Betty Smith

**February 21**    *The Woman in the Library* by Sulari Gentill

**March 21**    *The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane* by Lisa See

**April 18**    *Letters in Time* by Susan Reiss

**May 16**    *Founding Mothers, The Women Who Raised Our Nation* by Cokie Roberts

**June 20**    *Zero Fail: The Rise and Fall of the Secret Service* by Carol Leonnig

**July 18**    *The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue* by V.E. Schwab

**August 15**    *Apples Never Fall* by Liane Moriarty

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## COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

JOHN OLSON, CERT COORDINATOR

### STAIR SAFETY

According to the CDC, falls are the number one reason for injuries and deaths for seniors. The most reported injuries including those resulting from ladders, steps, and stairs are fractured ribs, skulls, hips, legs, and arms. Annual fall-related statistics for seniors include:



- One-in-three will suffer a fall.
- 7 million of those falls result in serious injuries.
- 27,000 die from fall-related injuries.

Serious injuries often result in lengthy and difficult recoveries, including hospitalizations, rehab, and even stints in a nursing home.



Falls on stairs occur for a variety of reasons, but health, environmental, and behavioral reasons are the most common. Health factors include reduced vision, weakness, drowsiness, loss of balance, and an inactive lifestyle. Nonexistent or defective handrails, poor lighting, and substandard tread surfaces are all environmental factors that can lead to a fall. Behavioral factors include lack of concentration, carrying objects while using stairs, and unsuitable footwear. Here are some things you can do to reduce the chances of falls and make your stairs safer to use:

Keep the top and bottom of stairways clear of loose rugs—they are a tripping hazard. Clear your stairway of any objects that block the pathway.

Stairs should never have lower illumination levels than adjacent areas. Use low-glare overhead lighting and consider a stair lighting kit to ensure each step is distinctly visible.

If your stairs are made of a smooth material, install rubber or abrasive treads or anti-slip tape for proper footing and grip. If your stairs are carpeted, be sure the carpeting is securely installed and not sagging or loose. The carpet should be tight against the nosing of each step.

Handrails are essential—in fact, it’s suggested they be installed on both sides of the stairwell when possible. Position handrails at adult elbow height and attach them securely to walls and posts. You should be able to put your entire weight on the handrail without damaging the handrail, wall, or post. An adult must be able to wrap their hand completely around the handrails. Extend the handrails the full length of the stairs—including beyond the top and bottom.

Proper lighting won’t be much help if the reason you can’t see your stairs is because your eyes aren’t what they used to be, so when climbing stairs:

- Remove your reading glasses, and if you have prescription glasses for distance vision, always wear them when using the stairs.
- Take additional care when wearing bifocal or progressive eyeglasses. Adjust the position of your glasses on your head so you can see the stairs clearly.

Walking indoors barefoot or in socks and walking outdoors or outdoors in high-heel shoes have been shown to increase the risk of falls in older people. Older people should wear shoes with low heels and firm slip-resistant soles both inside and outside the home.

There’s no need to rush down the stairs. Be alert, deliberate, and take your time to get down the stairs safely. Hold on to the handrails and be extra cautious when there is a transition between angled, shorter treads on winding stairways and rectangular treads.

In summary, you don’t have to avoid using stairs but take some extra precautions to make sure you do so safely.

### **CONSIDER BECOMING A CERT VOLUNTEER**

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program can teach you about disaster preparedness and how to organize to provide support during disasters. We meet the third Tuesday of every month at 4 p.m. in the Concert Hall. If you are interested or have questions, please call John Olson at 443-262-8458.

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## **LADIES HAPPY HOUR “HAIL AND FAREWELL”**

**CINDY BOGNER**



*Sue Canfield, Terri O’Connell,  
Sue Peterson, and Pat Toole*

*Anne Mason, Marti Beernink, Mary Ciesielski,  
Jenny Gallo, and Kathy Rambo*

Ladies Happy Hour has been an informal gathering on the fourth Thursday of the month for several years. It was started more than 15 years ago by former resident Nancy Cameron. When she moved away four years ago, four ladies stepped up to the plate to continue the event and led us through the challenges of the COVID years.

The December 2022 event was the right time to say “Farewell” to Sue Canfield, Sue Peterson, Terri O’Connell, and Pat Toole and thank them for a job well done. They were presented with personalized cups and a specialty cake as a gesture of thanks for all their hard work over the years.

It is also good news that five ladies have stepped up to the plate to keep Ladies Happy Hour going forward. We “Hail” Jenny Gallo, Anne Mason, Kathy Rambo, Marti Beernink, and “Irish” Mary Ciesielski.

Please mark your calendar and join us on the fourth Thursday of each month.

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## **OUTREACH**

**JOANN WALKER**

### **SAVE THOSE PULL-TABS**

**LORETTA QUIGLEY**

Once again, your Outreach team is thankful to those of you collecting aluminum pull tabs from cans of beverages, soups, pet foods, vegetables, fruits, and other consumables. These aluminum treasures are handed off to our local Shriners group in QAC for recycling.

Every penny goes to support transportation of sick children on the Delmarva to regional hospitals for care at no charge to the families.

**It is so easy to participate. Bag the tabs in a Ziploc-type bag and deposit the bag in the container in the Craft Room at the Clubhouse.**

- Did you know it takes 1,200 tabs to make a pound?
- Over 700,000 pounds have been collected since the program began in 2007.
- Nearly \$3,000,000 has been raised from this scrap in the last 15 years.

We are so proud to be able to contribute to this program every month. Please join in and save these tabs, too!

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## **SNEAKERS**

**LINDA FARRAR**

In case you didn't read the December *Libretto*, Sneakers was able to provide 36 children in 16 families with 8 gifts each, including clothes, shoes, coats, and three wish list items this year. We were also able to give each family a food basket that included a spiral cut ham and a large roasting chicken along with a generous gift card to Food Lion. This was all possible because of the generosity of all who contributed. I will not name all who helped this to occur because I am sure to miss someone. Thank you, thank you, thank you one and all.

We are now waiting to find out dates for book giveaways to resume.

As always we welcome new members. Unless necessary, we will not meet during the winter months but will keep everyone informed when we need volunteers.

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## **NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS**

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### **JANUARY NEIGHBOR OF NOTE: JOE SIKES**

**KATHRYN MARCHI**

Who knows what any of us were like as children: after all, we in Symphony Village are dignified retirees and our neighbors know us now. One among us was said to be a mischievous little boy. His name is Patrick Joseph Kelly Sikes, our Neighbor of Note for January.

Joe was born in Augusta, Georgia, but grew up in Cleveland, Ohio, when his family relocated there in 1956. He was from a large Catholic family, and Joe was described as a “saint, compared to those other Sikes’s brats!” Educated in Catholic schools, Joe learned the art of “apple polishing” nuns to avoid a ruler smack over his knuckles. Naturally he was an altar boy at that time and was said to pour the most wine in the chalice for the pastor at Mass. Attending a Jesuit high school, Joe later discovered that Jesuit doctrine was very similar to military doctrine and that certainly sustained him during his four years at the United States Naval Academy.

Upon graduation from the Academy in 1968, Joe began his thirty-year naval career. He entered flight training, was designated a naval flight officer, and ordered to Patrol Squadron Seventeen at Barbers Point, Hawaii. Along the way, Joe had other significant tours of duty: serving in Vietnam from 1970 – 1973; training of Imperial Iranian Air Force Flight Crews in 1975; exchange duty with the Royal New Zealand Air Force; command of Patrol Squadron Six from 1984 – 1986.

Joe then received orders to Washington, D.C., for duty after which he attended the National War College, graduating in June 1988. After another promotion, Captain Sikes's next assignment was to the Office of the Secretary of Defense as the *Assistant Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Installations* (Joe says it took him six months to memorize that title)! His next assignment was in 1996 when he was assigned as Deputy Director of the Housing Revitalization Support Office to help implement the new Military Housing Privatization Initiative. This assignment was tasked with replacing and the renovation of 200,000 houses for military families around the world.



Backtracking a bit, it was during this tour of duty in Washington, D.C., that Joe met his wife, Jan. They were married in 1991. Each brought three children to the marriage. They now have five grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

Tragically, in 1992, their daughter Alisa was killed in a drunk driving crash. Joe and Jan then embarked on a lifelong mission to end this devastating and senseless scourge on our nation's highways. As a result, they continue to be active in Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), both serving on MADD's National Board and as MADD's national president. When Jan was president, Joe was known as the "first dude." Joe also served as the organization's Maryland State Chair for 15 years.

Retiring from the Navy in 1998, Joe began his 22-year career in the civilian sector. He was hired to the Secretary of Defense's military base closure staff to help implement the 1993 round of closures. He was then promoted to Senior Executive and took responsibility for the Defense Management Initiative for Competitive Sourcing. In 2010, Joe was appointed Director for Facilities Energy and Privatization, heading the Department's facility energy (electricity) program until 2014 when he was responsible for Defense Department climate change initiatives.

In 2015, Joe retired from the Federal Government. He and Jan began looking at active over-55 communities for their retirement. They visited Symphony Village because Ed Sullivan, a classmate at the Naval Academy, and former neighbors, Jim and Linda Pullen, were happily living there. Joe and Jan were very impressed with the beauty of Symphony Village and made it their home in 2016.

As you might guess, Joe soon became active in Symphony Village, joining the Lifestyle Committee, currently serving as treasurer; the Operations Committee, where he is the Chairman; and now heading up the Symphony Village Book Club. He is also a member of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and served on the Nominating Committee for the Symphony Village Board of Directors.

As an active retiree, Joe is a regular at the Symphony Village Fitness Center. He also participates in bunco, bocce, water volleyball, water aerobics, golf, and numerous bus tours of the Washington/Baltimore area. Outside of Symphony Village, Joe has found other activities as well. He has attended classes at the Institute for Adult Learning and will be teaching a course this spring. Joe also serves as stage manager for Queen Anne’s Chorale concerts.

When asked what he loves about Symphony Village, Joe stated that besides the physical community itself, he and Jan most treasure the spirit and friendship of the people who are their neighbors. They feel that they made a really good choice to move here six years ago.

So now that you are privy to the stellar career(s) of Joe Sikes, you can chuckle when you realize that he was once one of those little Sikes’s “brats.” Indeed, there are probably many more of us living in Symphony Village who would fall into that category as children!



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## SV SNOW REMOVAL

The SVHOA will contract to clear the walkway to the front door, driveways, and parking lots as designated by the Board of Directors. Plowing of those areas will begin when snow accumulation reaches a 3-inch depth or as determined by the Board of Directors.



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## YO JAVA BOWL CAFÉ

CAROL HODGES



Many people ask me, “Where is a good place” and “Where can I get bagels and lox”? I now can say a good place is Yo Java Bowl Café, 800 Abruzzi Drive, Suite B, Chester, Maryland. It is behind Adam’s Grill in the apartment building strip mall. I have heard many great comments.

They are open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for eat-in or carryout. For breakfast, the menu includes egg bowls, breakfast sandwiches, breakfast a-la-carte, oatmeal bowls, and more. The lunch menu has specialty sandwiches (that includes my favorite—Cranberry Chicken Salad), panini sandwiches, soups, half and half (half sandwich and soup or a side salad), super fruit bowls (acai, pitaya, coconut, yogurt) and more. Check out their website: (<https://order-yojavabowl.square.site/>). (It says order online, but you can go there and order.) Happy eating.

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## CENTREVILLE HAPPENINGS

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### CENTREVILLE AREA HAPPENINGS PLUS

CHARLOTTE GODFREY



*The train travels on an incline spinning the turntable in the opposite direction. This was taken at the Holiday Train Show on Kent Island.*



*On the way to Adkins Arboretum through Tuckahoe State Park.*

**So much to enjoy! Scroll through to find your next adventure!**

**Community Wellness at the Symphony Village Clubhouse Craft Room:** second Wednesday of every month from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. (February 8). Screenings include blood pressure, pulse, glucose, and cholesterol.

**Ongoing Wellness Classes:** free and online, [www.edwardspharmacy.com](http://www.edwardspharmacy.com)

**Chestertown Farmers' and Artisans' Market:** Saturdays year-round, 1 – 5 p.m. Fountain Park, High Street.

**Kent Island Farmer's Market:** Thursdays year round, 3 – 6 p.m., at Cult Classic Brewery, 1169 Shopping Center Rd, Stevensville. (Wonderful freshly baked bread!)

**Chesapeake Forum, An Academy for Lifelong Learning:** [www.chesapeakeforum.org/new-courses](http://www.chesapeakeforum.org/new-courses) – example below:

- **Birds & Birding on the Eastern Shore Part I** with Wayne Bell, Ph.D., Hybrid. Two sessions plus ten field trips. Cost \$45. Thursday, January 19, at 2:30 – 4 p.m.

**Easton Night Out:** Every first Friday from 5 – 8 p.m. (February 3) the streets will be filled with music and excitement. Explore the downtown shops, restaurants, and galleries.

**Open Mic at QAC Centre for the Arts:** Tuesday, January 17, at 6 – 8:30 p.m., Acoustic musicians, writers, poets, etc., RSVP 410-758-2520.

**National Music Festival Resonance Concert:** with Thomas Parchman at St. Paul's Parish, Kent Episcopal Church, Chestertown, Sunday, January 22, at 3 p.m. [www.nationalmusic.us](http://www.nationalmusic.us)

**The Josh Christina Band** hosts a special performance at the Academy Art Museum in downtown Easton Saturday, January 21, at 7 p.m. Enjoy a mix of Jerry Lee Lewis, Elvis Presley, and Elton John.

<https://academyartmuseum.org/joshchristina/>

**Chesapeake Chamber Music Concert:** at Ebenezer Theatre, Easton, Sunday, February 5, at 2 p.m.

[www.chesapeakechambermusic.org](http://www.chesapeakechambermusic.org)

**Tom Cheezum Memorial Toy & Train Show:** at Preston Vol. Fire Co., Saturday, February 11, from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. 410-673-7538

**Lori Kesner on flute and Maria Jose Parker on piano:** at the Gibson Center for the Arts, Washington College, Chestertown, Thursday, February 16, at 7:30 p.m. 410-778-7839

**Working Arts Forum painting exhibit:** at the Easton Branch library through Monday, January 30.

**“Summertree” by Ron Cowen:** Friday, Saturday, and Sunday performances, Friday, January 20, through Sunday, February 5. Church Hill Theatre, 410-556-6003.

**Fiber Arts Center, Denton** – 410-829-5136

- **Knitting 101/102:** Wednesdays, February 1 and 15; March 15 and 29, and April 12 and 26.
- **Hand Applique Shamrock Class:** Saturday, February 11, from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

**Chestertown Events:**

- **African American History & Heritage Guided Tour:** Thursday, January 19; Saturday, January 21; and Saturday, January 28, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m., at 98 Cannon Riverfront Grille (call for more dates)
- **Kameelah Janan Rasheed Lecture & Opening:** Monday, January 30, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at the Gibson Center for the Arts
- **Artisan Show at the Artists Gallery:** on High St. in Chestertown, featuring handcrafted jewelry and crafts from its collection of artists along the Eastern Shore. Open through January.  
[www.atistsgalleryctown.com](http://www.atistsgalleryctown.com). p. 54 of the December *Attraction*

**Rock Hall Mainstay Events:** [mainstayrockhall.org](http://mainstayrockhall.org)

- **Chuck Redd and Nate Najar’s Birthday Tribute to Charlie Byrd,** Friday, February 10, at 8 p.m.

**Kent Island Federation of Arts:** [kifa.us](http://kifa.us)

- **All Creatures Inspiring and Funny:** A show celebrating the natures of all living organisms that provide a world of textures, colors, and shapes. Thursday, January 12, through Monday, February 27.

**Queen Anne’s County Library:** [www.qaclibrary.org/calendar-monthly](http://www.qaclibrary.org/calendar-monthly).

- **Ongoing Technology Help:** schedule 1-on-1 help by appointment at Centreville Library. 410-758-0980
- **Take online classes:** Gale courses instructor lead, 410 -758-0980
- **Black History Month: Tiny Art Show:** Tuesday, January 17, pick up canvas and supplies from either branch and watch a video to reimagine a work of art, literature, or poetry that honors a Black artist. Return to the library to participate in the Tiny Art Show. Works will be on display throughout the month of February.
- **Black History Month Bingo:** Drop by Centreville Library to pick up a bingo card that will introduce you to new authors and topics. Return card by Tuesday, February 28, to receive a prize.

- **Veterans Book Club:** Tuesday, February 14, group aims to bring veterans of all eras together to talk about military experiences in a supportive environment for discussion through works of literature. Centreville branch, third meeting, Tuesday, February 14, at 6:30 p.m.
- **Crime & a Cuppa:** with mystery reader extraordinaire Kathleen Wilson, Saturday, January 28, at 10 a.m. at the Centreville Library.
- **Murder by the Book:** a mystery book club, Tuesday, January 17, at 6:30 p.m. at Kent Island Branch.
- **Creative Aging:** Join Murdoch Florists in creating beautiful flower arrangements; flowers, and supplies provided. Individuals with cognitive memory loss are welcome. Thursday, January 19, at 10:30 a.m., Centreville Library.
- **Dyeing with Osage Orange Sawdust:** Watch this video on Library's Facebook and YouTube page to learn a bit about natural dyes. Friday, January 20, at 2 p. m.
- **The Good Bad & Ugly of Plastics:** Information session Saturday, January 21, at 11 a.m., Kent Island Branch
- **The 10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's:** presentation by Alzheimer's Association, Tuesday, January 24, at 6:30 p.m. Kent Island Branch.
- **Seed Swap & Garden Day:** Swap seeds and talk about plants. Saturday, February 11, at 9:30 – noon, Kent Island Library. (You don't have to bring seeds)
- **Creative Aging Workshop:** Easy chair Zumba class. Individuals with cognitive memory loss are welcome. Wednesday, February 15, at 10 a.m., Centreville Branch.

**The Adkins Arboretum:** (410-634-2847), [adkinsarboretum.org](http://adkinsarboretum.org)

- **The Arboretum** in Ridgely is seeking submissions for its annual Juried Art Show to exhibit in March and April. Deadline is January 19.
- **Climate Circle:** climate crisis and building a community around solutions. 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays through May, from 2 – 4 p.m.
- **Collage:** Sundays, January 22, February 5, and February 12, from 1 – 3 p.m., join artist Diane DuBois Mullaly to create nature-inspired collages.
- **Exploring Colored Pencil,** Saturday, January 28, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.; Sunday, January 29, 12 – 4 p.m.
- **Botanical Art League Group Show:** Wednesday, February 1, through Friday, February 24.
- **First Saturday Guided Walk:** all day Saturday, February 4.
- **Understanding Animal Venom:** Tuesday, February 7, from 1 – 2:30 p.m. Advanced registration required for a Zoom invite.
- **Valentine Partner Forest Bathing:** Saturday, February 11, 1 – 2:30 p.m. With a partner or friend, join forest guide Shelli Smith to experience the forest and connection.
- **Introduction to Oils and Aromatherapy:** Saturday, February 11, from 11 a.m. – noon. Learn about the practical uses and advantages of oils.

**American Legion Jeff Davis Post 18:**

- **Every Sunday, Queen of Hearts:** Ticket Sales at 4 p.m., and Drawing at 7 p.m.
- **Bingo:** the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month, February 8, at 7 p.m.
- **Dinners:** Friday, January 20, at 5 – 7 p.m., fried oysters Friday, January 27, 5 – 7 p.m.

**Saint Michaels:** [smartleague.org](http://smartleague.org)

- **Ken Rose and Sharon Thorpe photography** on display at The Blue Crab restaurant through the month of January.

**Avalon Theatre:** [eastonmd.org](http://eastonmd.org) (see website for more events)

- **Ken and Brad Kolodner:** Saturday, January 17, at 7 p.m.
- **Larry Campbell & Theresa Williams** – Thursday, February 2. “In their songs, you’ll hear a little Tennessee twang, a dab of Delta blues, and some folky fascination.”

If you know of any events you’d like to share, please email them to me at [godfreycb@me.com](mailto:godfreycb@me.com)

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## TOWN OF CENTREVILLE NEWS

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### TOWN OF CENTREVILLE GOVERNMENT NEWS AND COMMENTS

Monday, March 21 — Yard waste pickup resumes on Monday, March 20, 2023.

A schedule for live Christmas tree pickup will be every Tuesday in January. For trees to be picked up, they must be undecorated and placed curbside no later than 6 a.m.

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### SYMPHONY VILLAGE CONTACTS

**Rebecca Wagner**, General Manager  
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**Board of Directors group email:**  
[Board@symphonyvillagehoa.com](mailto:Board@symphonyvillagehoa.com)

**Location:**

100 Symphony Way  
Centreville MD 21617

**Telephone Numbers:**

Office: 410-758-8500  
Fax: 410-758-8509

**Bulk Pickup & Yard Waste:** 410-758-1180

**Trash Removal & Recycling:** 410-742-0099