



Photo by Gil Hoffman

# *LIBRETTO* 🎵

## **SYMPHONY VILLAGE NEWSLETTER**

**APRIL 2023**

**VOL. XVIII No. 4**

*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.

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### **Welcome to the Neighborhood!**



Vicki Pini     218 Concerto Avenue

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## **2023 SV HOA BOD**

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### **SV HOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS UPDATE – APRIL 2023**

**BILL RIDGWAY, PRESIDENT**

At the April 7 meeting, the Board discussed whether in-person or hybrid meetings are to be the norm for Board Meetings going forward. This meeting also tested a new sound mixer, but unfortunately the audio experiment was mostly a bust. We have not solved the primary challenge, which is to get reliable sound quality to those in the meeting room. The use of hand-held microphones also proved to be a step backward for Zoom users, so we will return to the drawing board to build a better plan. We'll do more testing before putting everyone through a repeat of this experience. Randy, I feel your pain!

**Board Meeting Venue:** Despite being cumbersome, the Board voted 3–2 NOT to abandon hybrid Board Meetings. No guidance was given to Committees on their meeting venue format. The Board's split vote was a recognition that Zoom meetings can be both a blessing and a curse. We value access for those traveling or who have medical/physical limitations. Remote access is something that people have come to expect post-Covid. However, the price we pay for large-room hybrid meetings is awkward hand-offs from speaker to speaker, missed communications, and disruptions that can make meetings longer and sometimes tedious. Hybrid meetings are also demanding of staff time. We all hope they can be made to work much better.

**Hearing Assistance Device:** The Board approved an Operations recommendation to purchase AudioFetch Express at a cost under \$1,000. The technology will use Clubhouse Wi-Fi with a phone app to deliver audio to Bluetooth-capable hearing aids. Look for details to be announced when operational.

**Parking Lot Repaving:** The Board voted to release a Request for Proposals developed by Operations. We are soliciting bids to mill and pave parking lots, replace curbing, and repair the north-corner stormwater drain. We are aiming for a possible contract approval in August with work to be done in the fall.

**Association Legal Counsel:** The Board unanimously approved two motions regarding our Legal Counsel. The first motion was an agreement to retain one of two firms recently interviewed, thereby terminating the current agreement with Whiteford, Taylor & Preston. A second motion was approved to retain the Law Offices of Gregory Alexandrides in Annapolis.

**Audit & Tax Preparation:** The Board approved a proposal from Goldklang Group CPAs for 2023 and 2024 Financial Audits and Tax Preparation.

**Clubhouse Recycling:** Following a recommendation by Operations, the Board voted to pursue a contract with Chesapeake Waste to pick up Clubhouse recycling weekly (at a cost of \$42/quarter). We also approved purchase of Clubhouse and event recycling containers at a cost not to exceed \$1,000. There will be future communications to clarify recycling practices and encourage residents to recycle responsibly, both at the Clubhouse and at home.

**Instructor Insurance Requirements:** The Board was asked to clarify insurance requirements for instructor-led activities. After much discussion and feedback from residents, the Board agreed to guidance that Item #20 in the SV Rules and Regulations should only apply to sponsored instructor-led activities involving physical activity (as the preamble suggests). Fees and Proof of Insurance will NOT be required of other sponsored instructor-led activities (whether or not a fee is charged to participants).

**Clubhouse HVAC Repairs:** The Board approved replacement of faulty HVAC control valves and actuators (bar area and craft room) for \$2,756. Additionally, to address a leaky/failing indoor pool HVAC evaporation coil, the Board approved replacement of this system component for \$17,218.

Finally, we want to thank Dave Peterson and Pat Fox for conducting a review session on April 5 covering our Terms of Reference document that spells out Committee roles and how Committees are expected to engage with Management and the Board. The document also covers the Budget process, Replacement Reserves policy, and recommendations regarding Contracts and Contractors. The primary purpose of the review was to highlight established policies. A second purpose was to invite committees and others to identify shortcomings in the present document and recommend updates. The Board expects to publish any proposed changes for comment by residents in the coming months.

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## OUTREACH!



# SHREDDING DAY

Wednesday, April 19, 2023

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Clubhouse Tennis Court Parking Lot



LORETTA QUIGLEY

You've turned in your taxes – now clean out the paper!

Shredding is free but donations to Outreach committee are appreciated.

Outreach wishes to thank Mary Ciesielski, Phyllis Endrich, and Deborah Shiley of Long and Foster Realtors for sponsoring this event.

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## COMMITTEE REPORTS

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### ARTISANS GUILD

CO-CHAIRS KATHY McMANUS AND SUE CANFIELD

Exciting exhibit for two of our residents! Anne Sharp and Ziggy Sharp along with Joe Mayer are having an exhibit in the month of April in Queen Anne's County Centre for the Arts in Centreville. Come and see the beautiful and interesting pieces now on display.

The Art Center is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Symphony Village Artisans Guild will also have a show at the Centre for the Arts during the month of June. Please come and join us!

*Stars and Stripes, Americana*, is our upcoming show! We will collect art on Thursday, May 4, from 10 a.m. until 12 noon. This show features everything and anything American. Please join us for the **Reception on Sunday, May 7**, from 4 to 6 p.m. Cathy Olson will be our featured artist.



*Ann Sharp and Ziggy Sharp*

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### COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

JOHN OLSON, CERT COORDINATOR

#### CERT SPONSORED PRESENTATIONS FOR 2023

Symphony Village CERT members strive to be proactive and know what to do during an emergency, and we also focus on prevention. Throughout the year, we plan several activities to increase awareness and help avoid potential emergencies.



#### PRESENTATIONS FOR SV RESIDENTS

The following presentations will be open to all SV residents.

##### **NUTRITION – APRIL 17 – 1 TO 3 P.M. IN THE CONCERT HALL**

Registered Dietician Nutritionist from Anne Arundel Medical Center, Ann Caldwell, will speak. All residents are invited. Sign up in the Wall Street Room!

##### **MEDEVAC TOUR – MAY 11 – 3 P.M. AT EASTON AIRPORT**

Maryland State Police helicopter sections transport many sick and injured patients to the hospital, search for missing persons, and assist state and local law enforcement agencies with a variety of missions. Based at Easton Airport in Talbot County, Maryland's Eastern Shore is the home of Trooper 6. It primarily serves Queen Anne's, Caroline, Talbot, and Dorchester Counties, but also serves those in Anne Arundel County as well. It's just a quick flight across the Bay! Space available for the Medevac tour will be limited so keep an eye out for an eBlast announcement and sign up.

##### **SHERIFF'S PRESENTATION – MAY 15 – 6 P.M. IN THE CONCERT HALL**

Sheriff Gary Hofmann will present a briefing on cyber security, scams, and criminal activity in Queen Anne's County. There will be a question-and-answer period. All residents are invited. Sign up in the Wall Street Room.

##### **WATER SAFETY DEMONSTRATION – JUNE**

This will be early in June by the outdoor pool. Queen Anne's County Department of Emergency Services (QAC/DES) will provide an instructor to conduct the training. All residents are invited. Sign up in the Wall Street Room.

## **CERT SOCIAL HOUR – AUGUST 19**

A brief demonstration of using the LifeVac choking rescue device will be provided. We will also have Emergency Information Forms on hand to distribute.

## **SV SAFETY DAY – SEPTEMBER 20**

For the second year, the Symphony Village CERT, in coordination with the QAC/DES, will host a Symphony Village Safety Day on **September 20 from 3 to 6 p.m.** This will be an open house event with drop-in and learn sessions.

There will be a series of demonstrations, activities, and exhibits including CPR/AED training, home safety, Meet the First Responders, etc.

### **ACTIVE SHOOTER/TERRORISM PRESENTATION**

The objective of the presentation is to identify actions to take when confronted with an active shooter and to describe actions to take to prevent and prepare for potential active shooter incidents. All residents are invited. We are still working out details for the event.

### **BAD WEATHER PREPAREDNESS**

Given that SV experiences high winds, we are exploring a possible presentation on what SV residents should do in the case of tornados and hurricanes.

## **PRESENTATIONS FOR CERT MEMBERS**

CERT members are also eligible for numerous other educational opportunities including the following:

### **CPR/AED/LIFEVAC TRAINING**

QAC/DES provides training to CERT members on CPR, AED, and LifeVac. The training takes about an hour. We are also exploring the possibility of offering this training to SV residents.

### **SYMPHONY VILLAGE DISASTER “GAME”**

The full CERT team will participate in a Symphony Village Disaster Game. This allows members to practice procedures to be used in an actual emergency.

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## **COVENANTS COMMITTEE**

**TOM MERINGOLO, CHAIR**

Spring has sprung and your external home projects are starting to roll in. In my three earlier articles thus far in 2023, I have emphasized helpful hints about our Exterior Modification Form (EMF) process. However, I thought I would take this opportunity to commend our residents for their excellent effort in following the Symphony Village Architectural guidelines!

The aforementioned areas include but are not limited to:

- Checking the SV approved and/or disapproved plant, tree, and shrub list before making your landscaping selections.
- Being proactive in ensuring that all rear patios and extended landscaping are well within your property lines and not infringing into SV common ground.
- **BEING ON TIME WITH YOUR EMF!** Thank you. Thank you. Thank you!
- Thus far in 2023, all EMFs have been submitted well before the seven days prior to the next CC meeting.

- Utilizing the Ground Installation Form that involves the engagement of Miss Utility or the necessity to move irrigation lines prior to project beginning. Irrigation line issues are sometimes overlooked by a resident and can cause unnecessary project delays. This form is referenced on page 2 of the EMF that is copied below.

### REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

Please include the following attachments, if applicable:

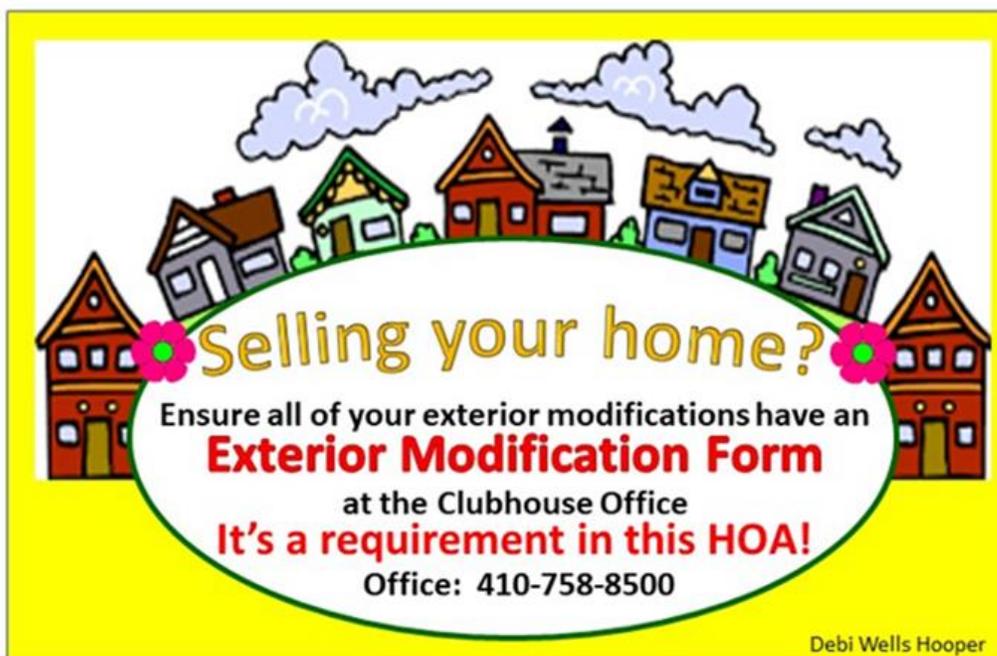
- ( ) Photo of location of project
- ( ) Detailed drawings of proposed project
- ( ) Measurements: Height, Length, Width
- ( ) Brochures – Samples – Photos
- ( ) Property Plat – Mark location of proposed project
- ( ) **Ground Installation**
- ( ) Landscapes/Hardscapes—Detailed Design Plan
- ( ) Deck—Detailed Plan with elevations and rail type
- ( ) Three Season Room—Detailed plan with elevation and window type

You can find the actual Ground Installation Form on our SV Website Home Page under “All Forms & Agreements.” (See homepage snapshot below.)

### Important SV Forms, Deadlines and Documents

- **2023 Committee Sign-up Form**
- Work Order Request Form
- Exterior Modification Process and Form
- Activity Request Form (**Online Form**) for Clubhouse Use
- Activity Request Form (**Printable Form**) for Clubhouse Use
- **All Forms and Agreements**

Thank you for the consideration given to our community when planning your projects!



**FOLIAR (RELATING TO LEAVES) DISEASES OF ORNAMENTALS**

*Reprinted with permission from Bartlett Tree Experts newsletter*

The majority of plant diseases are caused by fungi. Moist, cool weather increases the likelihood of infection and lengthens the time pathogens are active. Some common foliar diseases in our area are dogwood anthracnose, cherry brown rot, and apple scab.

Accurate identification of the pathogen is an important step in diagnosis and treatment. For example, dogwood anthracnose (*Discula destructiva*) can result in death of the dogwood host, whereas dogwood spot anthracnose (*Elsinoë corni*) causes leaf spots or death of entire leaves but does not kill the host. Many diseases share similar symptoms that may lead to very different outcomes, depending on the pathogen. One of the best ways to prevent disease in plants is to remove all diseased tissue to eliminate the source of fungal spores that initiate infection. However, with cherry brown rot (caused by *Monilinia fructicola* and *Monilinia laxa*), this is nearly impossible: because of the number of ornamental cherry trees in landscapes and the ability of spores to spread with wind and rain, removal of infected tissue from a site will not eliminate the re-introduction of spores from another area the following season. In these cases, the only disease management measures are to treat preventively or to plant cherry varieties with proven resistance.

Treatment timing and understanding disease management are also important. A good example is the treatment of apple scab (caused by *Venturia inaequalis*). Apple scab should be managed preventively during the spring because it causes premature leaf loss that reduces the aesthetic value of ornamental apples or crabapples.

Infection later in the season will not dramatically affect appearance. However, for fruit production, infection later in the season must also be managed because the scab fungus reduces fruit quality and appearance, even when it is past the point of damaging foliage.

Proper identification of pathogens, preventive management, and proper timing of treatment applications reduce the amount of material needed to treat disease and allow the use of ecologically friendly materials. Ask your Bartlett Arborist Representative to inspect your trees.

**TREES AND SOIL FUNGI**

When caring for trees, it's easy to see fungi as the enemy, given that, as the article above discusses, most tree diseases and decay organisms are caused by fungi. However, many fungi are important contributors to tree health. Symbiotic associations with mycorrhizal fungi are absolutely critical for optimum tree health and growth.

There is no question scientifically that mycorrhizal fungi benefit trees, but some debate exists about how to best encourage these associations. Most research shows that plants perform better with mycorrhizas; however, only a few experiments show any benefit to trees when mycorrhizal fungi are added to soil. Many times this is because spores in store-bought mycorrhiza packs are dead on arrival.

Product selection is also important because trees have very specific fungal associates, which vary depending on species, environmental conditions, soil type, and more.

Perhaps the most important reason several studies show little benefit from adding mycorrhizal fungi to trees is that no attention was paid to improving the poor soil conditions in these studies. Soils that lack mycorrhizas are too hot, too dry, too wet, lack organic matter, lack oxygen, etc., and without addressing the soil environment, any added fungi will soon perish. A better option is to create a soil environment in which natural and applied mycorrhizas can flourish.

Mulching trees, de-compacting soils, managing moisture, and adding organic matter are all methods for improving soil biology. By creating a soil environment as similar as possible to the forest floor, trees and their beneficial microbes will thrive.

Bartlett's Root Invigoration™ is a process that uses an air spade to clear away debris from roots without damaging them. It allows air and water uptake to improve, helping soil conditions to be more beneficial.

## LIFESTYLE COMMITTEE

MARY JO KEEFE & VINNY VOLPICELLI, CO-CHAIRS  
MARIE BOSSIE, CORRESPONDENT

The Lifestyle Committee thanks “Irish” Mary Ciesielski and her co-workers Deborah Shiley and Phyllis Endrich for hosting and making the Saint Patrick’s Day Social Hour a huge success. The Irish Coffee and toppings were enjoyed by all. In addition, our own Zina Lichaa made a fantastic birthday cake in honor of all residents who celebrated a birthday in January, February, and March. A great time was had by all who attended.



*Deborah Shiley, Mary Ciesielski,  
and Phyllis Endrich*

Representatives from ACTS in Sykesville, Maryland, provided information about their Continuing Care Community including availability, accessibility, financial info, and levels of care. George and Mary Drake, former SV residents who live there now, were on hand to answer questions for residents.

Kudos to Randy Officer for a great Movie Night featuring *A Man Called Otto*. Reviews were outstanding and attendance was very high—a fun time had by all.

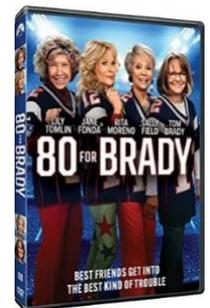
Thanks to Ed and Cindy Beres who hosted an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 8, on the common grounds around the Clubhouse. Each hidden egg had a prize in it. Congratulations to all the winners.

The Committee hopes everyone took advantage of the Annual Yard Sale—an opportunity to clean out those closets, garages, attics, and basements. Thanks to all who participated and thanks to Susan Rayner for coordinating and to her volunteer helpers.

## UPCOMING EVENTS: MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**Monday, April 17: Dumpster Day**, 8 a.m.–1 p.m. sponsored by Ed and Cindy Beres. The dumpster will be at the end of Taylor Mill Road. This is for Residents only. No tires, large furniture, computers, TVs, paint, or batteries. Once the dumpster is full, do not leave items outside on the ground.

**Saturday, April 29: Movie Night: *80 for Brady*** starring Rita Moreno, Sally Field, Jane Fonda, and Lily Tomlin. The reviews were great, so don't miss it.



**Friday, May 5: Social Hour** celebrating Cinco de Mayo. Carolyn Harty, our own Ms. Margarita, will offer her famous Margaritas. Come join the fun.

**Thursday, May 18: Food Drive–Haven Ministries**, 1 to 3 p.m. Clubhouse Parking Lot. Info to follow.

**Saturday, May 20: Social Hour celebrating the Preakness.** Ladies don't forget your special hats. Come cheer on your favorite horse. Who knows, you may even win a few bucks in the drawing.

**Saturday, May 27: Movie Night: *Champions*** starring Woody Harrelson.

**Sunday, May 28: Memorial Day Weekend Picnic**, 12 noon–4 p.m. Pool will be open. Fried chicken, potato salad, coleslaw, and rolls will be provided. Sign-up sheets in the Wall Street Room next week. Come join us.

**Saturday, June 17: Social Hour:** Special Welcome for New Residents who have moved in since June 1, 2022. More info to follow.

**Wednesday, July 12: Cheeseburger in Paradise** featuring the Chris Sachs Duo back by popular demand.

Helen Fitzgerald is looking for hosts and hostesses for the monthly Friday and Saturday Night Social Hours. It's pretty simple, and she does lots of prep work. Please consider hosting any first Friday or third Saturday. It would really be appreciated. Email Helen at [helen6289@gmail.com](mailto:helen6289@gmail.com) with any questions and to sign up.

## OPERATIONS

**JOE SIKES, CHAIR / FRED KURST, VICE CHAIR**

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

The Operations Committee met on March 23 and provided three recommendations subsequently approved by the BOD at its April 7 meeting. The BOD approved release of a Request for Proposals to replace asphalt on the Clubhouse parking lots. The GM will arrange a pre-bid meeting with interested contractors. Proposals will be required in time to allow review and recommendations presented to the August BOD meeting.

Secondly, the BOD approved purchase of the AudioFetch Express system. This system will attach to the Clubhouse Wi-Fi and allow residents to amplify audio to their hearing aids using their smartphones. Residents simply download a free app and can individually adjust sound for events such as Movie Night.

Lastly, the BOD approved contracting Chesapeake Waste to provide three recycling containers and weekly pickup of recycling waste from the Clubhouse, consistent with pickup in the community. While Clubhouse recycling brings us in line with the rest of the community, we will need to pay attention to proper recycling procedures. Expect further information and emphasis on recycling guidelines to ensure we maximize our efforts.

The next Operations meeting will be held on April 20, 2023, at 10 a.m. in the Clubhouse. The meeting will be hybrid and residents are welcome to attend either in person or virtually.



**Mark Your Calendar!**  
**CERT Speaker Series**

**Date:** Monday, April 17th  
**Time:** 1PM  
**Location:** Clubhouse – Concert Hall  
**Subject:** Presentation: Optimizing Our Nutritional Health  
**Speaker:** Ann R. Caldwell, Registered Dietitian Nutritionist, Luminis Health  
**Registration:** Sign-up Required! Please sign-up in the Wall Street Room

Making better food choices can reduce our risk for many chronic diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, osteoporosis and obesity along with the disabilities they can lead to. Please join us for this informative talk, questions are welcomed.

*Debi Wells Hooper*

## Coming Soon! Outreach presents An Author's Luncheon

Looking for all villagers (men and women) who like to read! Come join your Outreach team for a luncheon and program featuring our award-winning guest author, Susan Reiss, on **Wednesday, May 17, at the Clubhouse Concert Hall**. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. **The price of admission is \$35 to include a catered luncheon and a copy of the book to be discussed, *Messages in Time*. Checks are made out to S.V.O.P.I.**

About our Author: **Susan Reiss** trained as a concert pianist then worked as a television writer/producer for many years. Her work has received a Silver Medal, New York International Film Festival, the Cine Golden Eagle, three Tellys, and numerous Emmy nominations. She was named a Scribe of the Eastern Shore in 2015. Susan is the author of the *St. Michaels Silver Mystery series* set on the Maryland Eastern Shore, and a second mystery series *In Time*. She will talk about her recently published book in this series, *Messages in Time* at our program.



This fundraiser benefits the charitable groups we partner with and will include a raffle table, 50-50 raffle, and door prizes, too. Our own SV Book Club will lead the Q and A after the presentation.

Ms. Reiss will do a book signing for all who are interested at the conclusion of the program!

**Tickets will be on sale Monday April 17, Wednesday April 19, and Thursday, April 20, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. unless we are sold out before!**

Ticket sales will be capped at 120 guests at tables of 8 so plan for your group or table and be ready to join in this fun-filled day.

Any questions or concerns? Please contact Loretta Quigley at [lorettaquigley@yahoo.com](mailto:lorettaquigley@yahoo.com) or 410-758-6775.

## PUBLICATIONS & COMMUNICATIONS

MARYKAY KERR, CHAIR

Some odds and ends for this month...

*Where are the business cards?*

The business cards previously found in the Craft Room are now located in the Wall Street Room in a notebook. If you need a vendor or trades person, please check the business cards in the notebook.

If you want your event posted on the Website with all of the information, please email it to Len Saltiel.

Also P&C would like to feature one recipe a month in the *Libretto*. If you have a recipe to share, please send it to [librettoeditors@gmail.com](mailto:librettoeditors@gmail.com) Thanks.

## CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

### PICKLEBALL...IT'S THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR

ROSEMARY ROSENBERGER

Bet you thought we were back in December with this article title! Well, we're not, and I'm glad that I've captured your attention! It's springtime, and the weather has become beautiful once more to play pickleball. It is the most wonderful time of the year for pickleball. We know there are a LOT of new residents out there who may be interested in playing, but don't know what it's all about. It doesn't matter. We are here to help you learn!



Pickleball is kind of like a mashup of tennis, badminton, and ping-pong. The USA Pickleball Association approximates that roughly 300 new pickleball courts pop up every month across the United States—either as their own standalone courts or as overlays on existing courts (basketball, tennis, volleyball, etc.). We have four pickleball courts here in our beautiful Symphony Village located at the tennis courts.

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***DON'T THINK YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES? THINK AGAIN!***

Meet Bobbie King, a Symphony Village veteran player. Bobbie has been playing with us for about five years and comes out each playday with enthusiasm, energy, and a big heart. That's all you need to play! The more you play, the better you'll get.

So, take a trip to the pickleball courts to take a look and see it in action! **Scheduled playdays are Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at 9 a.m.**

That's all for this month! Whatever it is that you choose to do, stay safe, and enjoy our beautiful Symphony Village! As always, please feel free to reach out to me if have any questions or concerns! If scheduled playdays don't work for you, I'm willing to come up any evening if you'd like to give it a try. Please contact me (Rosemary Rosenberger) at 443-676-3875 if you'd like to schedule some time to give it a try!



*BOBBIE KING,  
Our Pickleball Enthusiast  
and SV Veteran Player*

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**GRIEF WORKSHOP**

**ELEANOR STRIETMAN**

**COMPASS REGIONAL HOSPICE TO OFFER FREE GRIEF WORKSHOPS AT SYMPHONY VILLAGE**

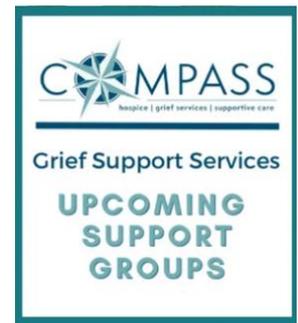
Before you say, “That’s not for me; I’m not grieving,” please read on...

Many people associate grief only with the death of a loved one. Grief, however, is our natural response to “loss” and loss is not always through death. As we age, we obviously lose our youth. Some retirees feel a loss of identity and purpose once they no longer work. Many older people experience health issues and are no longer able to participate in activities they once enjoyed. These are only a few examples, but I’m certain you know what I mean.

Whether we acknowledge it or not, most of us feel a definite sense of loss and—at least to some degree—we “grieve” for what is no more. Obviously, this negatively affects our enjoyment of life. But...the more we understand what we’re experiencing, the better the likelihood we can lessen the impact.

This is where hospice comes in. Hospice offers support for those who are grieving—regardless of the cause. To that end, Compass Regional Hospice is offering to hold free monthly “drop-in” workshops exploring “Understanding Your Grief Journey.” The focus will be a different topic each month. (For those who are grieving the loss of a spouse, Hospice is hoping to offer a six-to-eight-week weekly session beginning in June.)

To find out more about the workshops, please “drop-in” to the SV Clubhouse at 6 p.m. on Thursday, May 11. Light refreshments will be served.



## WANTED / NEEDED—GUYS & GALS

NORM BOSSIE

### “PICK-UP” SOFTBALL Players

Do you recall playing “pick-up” softball not so many years ago? Or belonging to an organized softball league?

Well, we’re looking for Guys and Gals interested in playing non-competitive, pick-up softball strictly for the fun of it. No try-outs required. No experience? Just show up. Restricted to players 55 or older (even much older).

Parks and Recreation management has approved free use of any of the county’s eight ballfields during the day (they charge for field use for leagues in the evening).

The first “pick-up” game is scheduled for **1 p.m. on Monday, April 24**. We will play at one of the four fields near the 4-H Club grounds on Route 18 (2.2 miles from Route 213).

Just bring your lawn chair, something to drink, and your ball glove (sunscreen optional).

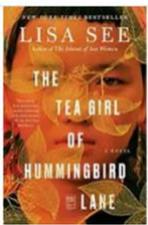
Note: If you have not had opportunity to sign up on the “I’m interested” page yet, please demonstrate interest by emailing Norm Bossie at [HRSWDCNLB@aol.com](mailto:HRSWDCNLB@aol.com)



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## READING FOR FUN – MARCH 2023 REVIEW

JOE SIKES



The SV Book Club met on March 21 to discuss *The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane* by Lisa See. Attendees included: Joe Sikes, Jan Withers, Sue Goldberg, Len & Carol Saltiel, Judy Sutter, Peggy Decker, Kitty Wilson, Jim & Kathryn Buckheit, JoAnn Walker, Cathy Olson, and Bob Nilsson.

Author See has fashioned a fascinating coming-of-age story centered on Li-Yan, a teenage girl living in the remote Yunnan mountains of southwest China. The year is 1988, but Li-Yan’s village subsists by harvesting tea leaves for sale in the local markets. Members of the Akha ethnic minority—they live with no modern conveniences and follow the religious beliefs of their ancestors. The early chapters of the book are jarring since their lives seem closer to the Stone Age than 1988.

The author manages to incorporate many unique facets of Chinese society into Li-Yan’s story, including the tea culture, China’s one-child policy, Mao’s Cultural Revolution, adoption of Chinese babies, and the modernization of cities and villages during this period. Li-Yan is banished from her village for having a child out of wedlock, wanders the jungles of Thailand, and escapes being stalked by a tiger. She eventually returns home and becomes educated in the tea trade.

A transformative event occurs when the local tea grown in Yunnan, known as Pu’er, becomes a hot commodity on the world market. Tea merchants arrive in droves and the Akha tribes start raking in profits hand over fist. Lin-yan becomes a celebrity as a Pu’er tea guru and starts her own business. But Lin-yan had given up her daughter for adoption when she was destitute and now is determined to use her wealth to find her.

Her journey takes her around the world, but she always returns to her Akha roots and the tea leaves that her village has always cultivated.

Her village modernizes because of their financial good fortune but the effect on their customs and beliefs is interesting to examine. Lin-yan’s wealth moves her into the elite reaches of society. In that world, she takes on an Anglo name becoming known as Tina.

Characters come in and out of the story and seem to be connected by an inordinate amount of coincidence. For me, many events seemed unlikely in a country with over a billion people. The author includes epigraphs

throughout the book based on Chinese proverbs and one of them was, “No coincidence, No story!” OK, I guess if the Chinese have a proverb to cover it, I will have to accept all the coincidences. They definitely made the story more interesting.

When we met to discuss the book, it seemed appropriate to have some Pu’er tea. Unsurprisingly, the Clubhouse coffee mess was lacking that selection, but Judy Sutter came to our rescue. She brought some Pu’er for us to share, and she is now our official Tea Lady! The tea was enjoyed by all who were not afraid to be kept awake all night. It turns out Pu’er tea is very caffeinated.

The Club enjoyed the book immensely and awarded it a score of 8.62 of 10. That is our seventh highest score since 2019. We hold our meetings on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Clubhouse. We hold hybrid meetings, so contact me if you would like to attend virtually. My email is sikes.withers@yahoo.com.

Our current list of books and associated review dates are listed below. I have added a second book by Susan Reiss to my previous list. The Book Club is working in concert with Outreach whose fundraising luncheon on May 17 features Ms. Reiss. Many of the Book Club members will attend and hope you will join us.

April 18        *Letters in Time* by Susan Reiss  
May 16         *Messages in Time* by Susan Reiss  
June 20        *Founding Mothers: The Women Who Raised Our Nation* by Cokie Roberts  
July 18         *Zero Fail: The Rise and Fall of the Secret Service* by Carol Leonning  
August 15      *The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue* by V.E. Schwab  
September 19 *Apples Never Fall* by Liane Moriarty

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## SYMPHONY VILLAGE CONTACTS

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**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

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



*Charlotte and John Godfrey  
spotting eagles at the  
Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge*



*QAC Arts County Centre featuring  
SV Artist Ann Sharp and Ziggy Sharp  
through Saturday, April 30*

So much to enjoy! Scroll through the listings for your next adventure!

**Community Wellness at the Symphony Village Clubhouse Craft Room:** second Wednesday of every month from 10 a.m. – noon (April 12). Screenings include Blood Pressure, Pulse, glucose, and Cholesterol.

**Centreville Farmers' Market** begins Sunday, May 14, from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. on Lawyers Row.

**Chestertown Farmers' and Artisans' Market** on Saturdays year-round, 8 a.m. – noon, High Street.

**Kent Island Farmer's Market:** Thursdays year-round, 3:30 – 6:30 p.m., at Cult Classic Brewery, 1169 Shopping Center Rd, Stevensville.

**Easton's Farmers Market:** 100 block of North Harrison St., Saturdays from 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.

**Art Walk in Downtown Chestertown:** Live music around town as you stroll. Saturday, April 15 from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. [www.townofchestertown.com](http://www.townofchestertown.com) (Arts and Entertainment District)

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

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

**Institute For Adult Learning:** 45 courses, history current events, brain & body health, literature, crafts and more. \$90 fee for unlimited courses. [www.instituteforadultlearning.org](http://www.instituteforadultlearning.org)

**Tour Historic Sites on the first Saturday of each month from May through October in 2023.** Spend the day or just a few hours touring train stations, colonial houses, an operating grist mill, a country store, an early courthouse, and churches. Admission is free. Brochures listing the sites are available throughout the County with opening days and times. More information, special tours, or a free heritage guide map are available by calling 410-604-2100. [www.historicqac.org](http://www.historicqac.org).

**Bay Bridge Boat Show:** Boats, Music, Drinks and Fun! Bay Bridge Marina, Stevensville. April 14 – 16, Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., and Sunday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. [www.annapolisboatshows.com/bay-bridge-boat-show](http://www.annapolisboatshows.com/bay-bridge-boat-show)

**Critters and Cocktails Lectures Series at CBEC:** “For Goodness’ Snakes,” Thursday, April 20, at 6:30 p.m. <https://bayrestoration.org/speaker-series/>

**Paint the Town:** Plein Air Artists will spend three days painting Kent County’s beautiful landscapes, seascapes, and historic towns Thursday, April 20, through Sunday, April 23. Wet Paint and Show Sale on Saturday, April 22, in the River Arts Gallery in Chestertown. [www.community.chestertownriverarts.org](http://www.community.chestertownriverarts.org)

**Kent Island American Legion 2023 — Everything Market:** Saturday, April 22, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m., [kiaeverthingmarket@gmail.com](mailto:kiaeverthingmarket@gmail.com)

**Museums of Kent County Driving Tour:** Celebrate the history and diversity of Kent County Museums. Each will have an activity in celebration of Earth Day, Sunday, April 23, from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. [museumsofkent@gmail.com](mailto:museumsofkent@gmail.com)

**Fiber Arts Center Gallery, Denton.** Call 410-829-5136 or visit the website for detailed information regarding these classes. [www.fiberartscenter.com](http://www.fiberartscenter.com)

- **Christine Kamon Quilt Exhibit** through Saturday, April 29
- **Hutton Lancaster Legacy Quilt Class**, Friday, May 5, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- **Baltimore Country Cousins Class**, Friday, April 28, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- **Candy Dish Quilt Class**, Saturday, April 22, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- **Basic Sewing**, Thursday, April 27, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- **Sunflower Applique Quilt Class**, Fridays, May 12 and June 9, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- **Knitting 101/102**, Wednesday, April 26, 410-829-5136

**National Music Festival Resonance Concert:** Cheryl Losey – harp, Abe Feder – violoncello. Bach, Strauss, and more at St Paul’s Parish, Kent Episcopal Church off Rt. 20 in Chestertown, Sunday, April 23, at 3 p.m., [www.nationalmusic.us](http://www.nationalmusic.us)

**KIFA:** [www.kifa.us](http://www.kifa.us)

- **Painting with Oils with Marie Bannon**, Tuesdays, April 18 and 25 at 12:30 – 2:45 p.m.
- **Art Show by Working Artists Forum – KIFA, Stevensville** through Thursday, May 4, [arthousekifa@gmail.com](mailto:arthousekifa@gmail.com) or 410-643-7424 (see article p. 61 in April *Attraction*)

**Chesapeake College Arts Festival:** Workshops, dance theatre, music, art offerings. Saturday, April 22. [www.chesapeakefoundation.org/eastern-shore-arts-festival](http://www.chesapeakefoundation.org/eastern-shore-arts-festival)

**Feel the Spirit Concert by Queen Anne’s Chorale**, Saturday, April 22, at 7 p.m., and Sunday, April 23, at 3 p.m., Centreville United Methodist Church, (p. 61 in the April *Attraction*)

**Chuck Redd Concert:** Friday, April 21, at 7:30 p.m. at the Ebenezer Theater, Easton.

**QACPS ArtScene:** Tuesday, April 25, from 5 – 8 p.m. at Queen Anne’s County High School

**May Baskets of Queen Anne’s County Workshop:** bring your own basket – 10" diameter Saturday, April 29, 10 a.m. – noon at Queen Anne’s County Centre for the Arts.

**Celebrate Maryland Seniors:** Special event on Thursday, May 11, celebrating Older Americans Month. Contact Anne Van Benschoten 410-758-0848.

**QAC Arts Council Centreville:** Latin Grammy winning music duo 123 Andres will be at Pinkney Park, Crumpton, Monday, May 1, at 4:30 p.m., [QACCoordinator@gmail.com](mailto:QACCoordinator@gmail.com)

**Maryland House and Garden Pilgrimage:** Saturday, May 13, from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Tour 11 sites between Queenstown and Church Hill, Maryland, enjoy our local history such as White Sands, Bowlingly, two historical courthouses, Church Hill Theatre, Landsdowne, and more. Church Hill Theatre will be hosting a live concert on Saturday and Sunday. The garden club will host its annual plant sale on the green in Centreville. Spend the weekend exploring QAC. \$35 advanced ticket, \$40 on-site. [https://www.mhgp.org/\\$35](https://www.mhgp.org/$35), [jmooreprs2007@gmail.com](mailto:jmooreprs2007@gmail.com)

**Attraction** (page numbers listed for further reference in the April *Attraction*)

- **Easton Choral Arts Society “Stand and Sing Concert”** at Christ Church on South Harrison St., Easton. Friday, April 28, 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, April 30, 4 p.m., p.17.
- **Bus Trip to Longwood Gardens:** Wednesday, April 26. \$85 includes entrance fee and bus fare. Call 808-276-8078 to reserve a seat. p. 25
- **Spring Fling:** Race Street, Cambridge, evening of live music, [www.downtowncambridge.org](http://www.downtowncambridge.org)
- **10<sup>th</sup> Annual Chicone Village Day at Handsell in Vienna:** Saturday, April 20, from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., a special day to honor the history and culture of the Eastern Woodland Native People who inhabited the eastern part of the U.S. including the Delmarva Peninsula, p. 31
- **Easton Shore Sea Glass and Coastal Arts Festival** at the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum’s waterfront campus, Saturday, April 22, from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., and Sunday, April 23 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., p. 40
- **The Tri-County Cycling Classic:** [www.ridec3.org](http://www.ridec3.org), p. 45
- **The Avalon Theater is hosting Metropolitan Opera Live in HD transmissions:** “Der Rosenkavalier” at noon on Saturday, April 15; “Champion” on Saturday, April 29, at 1:55 p.m., and more on p. 56. [www.avalonfoundation.org](http://www.avalonfoundation.org)
- **Chesapeake Music’s Interlude Concert series:** the Aero Saxophone Quartet at the Ebenezer Theater in Easton, Saturday, April 22, at 7:30 p.m., p. 53
- **Jazz sounds of saxophonist Stephen Philip Harvey and his octet SPH8:** on Saturday, May 6, at 8 p.m. at the Ebenezer Theater, p. 53
- **Rural Life Museum:** Denton, Saturdays, April 15, 22, and 29 from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Docent led tours of WWI and WWII exhibits and more, p. 57
- **Third Thursdays:** of every month including April 20, downtown Denton businesses extend their hours and offer specials, p. 57
- **Art Auction:** (live and silent) benefits Haven Ministries, art reflecting scenes from Eastern Shore, Friday, April 28, at 6 p.m. at the Casica Winery, Stevensville. \$30. advanced ticket sales, p. 60
- **Jeep Day:** Saturday, April 29, from noon – 6 p.m. at Patriot Acres Farm Brewery in Sudlersville, p. 60
- **Land Jam:** Live music, food, crafts, and outdoor recreation including guided trails, birding walks, and wildlife displays. Saturday, April 29, 1 – 4 p.m., Wye Island National Resource Management Area, 632 Wye Island Road, Queenstown, p. 60
- **“Prescription Murder”:** Saturday, April 15, at 8 p.m., and other dates at the Garfield Center, Chestertown, p. 70, [www.garfieldcenter.org](http://www.garfieldcenter.org).

**Queen Annes's County Library:** [www.qaclibrary.org](http://www.qaclibrary.org)

- **Ongoing Technology Help:** schedule 1-on-1 help by appointment at Centreville Library. 410-758-0980
- **Adult Story Time on Wheels:** Themed backpack kits filled with books, activities, sensory items for adults with memory loss. 410-758-0980, [www.qaclibrary.org/adult-storytime-on-wheels](http://www.qaclibrary.org/adult-storytime-on-wheels).
- **Books by Mail:** 410-643-8161 or 410-758-0980.
- **Lost Recipes Virtual Reality: Drop in for Food, Culture & History** – In the virtual reality game, you will be guided through historically accurate cooking techniques from Ancient Mayan, Chinese, and Greek cultures, Mondays, April 17 and 24 from 2 – 7 p.m., Centreville Branch.
- **Booked For Lunch:** Bring a bagged lunch to the Kent Island branch to discuss *Orphan Train* by Christina Baker Kline, Thursday, May 11, at noon, Kent Island.
- **Broken Dish Heart Mosaic:** Join Wye River Designs in creating a heart mosaic using broken dishes. All supplies provided, Tuesday, April 18, 5:30 p.m., Kent Island Branch
- **Veterans Book Club:** Supportive environment for discussion of military experiences, and through works of literature, Tuesday, May 9, at 6:30 p.m., Centreville Branch

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

- **Climate Circle:** Climate crisis and building a community around solutions; third Wednesdays, April 19 through May 23, from 2 – 4 p.m.
- **Earth Day Walk:** Sunday, April 16, at 1 p.m.
- **Botanical Art Open Studio:** second Fridays, May 12, from 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- **SOUP 'n WALK:** Spring Ephemerals & Pollinators Soup 'n Walk, Saturday, April 15, 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
- **Spring Songbird Migration Walk:** Saturday, April 15, from 8 – 10 a.m.
- **Artist Exhibit:** Discovering the Native Landscapes of Maryland's Eastern Shore, Thursday, April 29.
- **The Book Club** meets on the third Tuesday of each month (April 18) at 2:45 p.m. at the Arboretum with no meeting in August. The book club reading lists are on the website.
- **Yoga in the Woods** begins Saturday, April 15.
- **Healing Walks:** begin Friday, May 5, email Jenny Houghton for information to join.
- **Mother's Day Tea and Walk:** Saturday, May 6.

**American Legion Jeff Davis Post 18:** 2619 Centreville Rd.

- **Every Saturday Queen of Hearts:** Ticket sales at 4 p.m. and Drawing at 7 p.m.
- **Dinners:** Friday nights at 5 p.m.
- **Bingo:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. (games start at 7 p.m.)
- **Brandon and Thordis:** acoustic duo Saturday, April 15, at 7 p.m.
- **Town Hall Meeting:** Thursday, April 20, at 7 p.m.
- **Bull/Oyster Roast:** Music, Silent Auction and Games, Sunday, April 23, noon – 4 p.m.
- **Blood Drive:** Post Parking Lot, Wednesday, April 26, 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

- **Team Foster Charity Bike Ride:** Saturday, April 29, 2 – 5 p.m.
- **Eastern Shore Barn Party and Fundraiser for JR’s Journey** at Red Acres Farm in Worton, MD., Saturday, April 29, from 5 – 9 p.m.
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Lewis Class Shoot at the Point at Pintail:** Sunday, April 30, at 8 a.m.

**Avalon Theatre:** [www.eastonmd.org](http://www.eastonmd.org) (see website for more events) 410-822-7299

- **Hosting Metropolitan Opera Live in HD on Saturdays:** “Lohengrin” March 18 at noon, “Falstaff” April 1 at 12:30 p.m., and “Rosenkavalier” April 15 at noon.
- **Mari Black:** Multi style violinist, Sunday, April 16, at 3 p.m. in the Stoltz Room
- **Glenn Miller Orchestra:** Avalon Theatre Friday, April 28, at 7 p.m.
- **Karla Bonoff Concert:** Friday, April 21. at 8 p.m.

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