



Photo by Len Saltiel

LIBRETTO

SYMPHONY VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2024

Vol. XIX 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!



Ed and Dianne Heffernan
102 Sonata Way

Carol Rykiel
714 Harmony Way

2024 SV HOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NANCY EMERICK, PRESIDENT

In December 2023 at our Annual Meeting, we approved the 2024 budget with no increase in our \$260 monthly dues. Our Village finances remain strong thanks to our past Board members, committee members, volunteers, and residents who help keep our business affairs running so well. We give many kudos and our appreciation to Bill Ridgeway, Debi Wells Hooper, and Karen Kram for their work and contributions to our HOA as past board members.

Our new board for 2024 was established at the December special meeting and consists of Nancy Emerick, president; Steve Nelson, vice-president; Carol Peed, treasurer; Janet Leister, secretary; and Dave Mason, member-at-large. Committee Liaisons were appointed as follows: Janet Leister, Artisans Guild and Lifestyle; Carol Peed, Budget & Finance and Publications & Communications; Steve Nelson, Operations; Dave Mason, Landscape & Irrigation; and Nancy Emerick, Covenants. Board meeting dates will be mostly on Wednesdays and more evening meeting times have been added in response to our members' requests. Our first meeting of the new year is set for 6 p.m. on January 31. We hope this will enable more members who are still working to attend. You can find the full schedule for 2024 meetings on the Symphony Village Dashboard.

The Board looks forward to an uneventful and prosperous year. But our Village is aging and repairs, maintenance, and sometimes replacements are anticipated to be more commonplace. However, between our strong budget and our healthy reserve funds, we feel well positioned to take care of concerns as they arise. We appreciate your confidence in our abilities to oversee Symphony Village's business, and we pledge to always listen to our members and have your best interests in mind.

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>

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ARTISANS GUILD

Janet O'Connor, Chair, and Dave Peterson, Vice-Chair
Kateri Coombe, Secretary

Happy New Year!

The Artisans Guild approved the selection of a new Chair, Janet O'Connor, and Vice-Chair, Dave Peterson, at the December meeting. Kateri Coombe will continue to serve admirably in the role of Secretary. We are happy to have Janet Leister continue as the Artisans Guild liaison on the Board of Directors.

The new team has tall boots to fill as Kathy McManus (Chair) and Sue Canfield (Vice-Chair)—and Cathy Olson for part of 2023—have provided years of leadership and creative opportunities for the Artisans members and Symphony Village residents. The quarterly Art Shows at the Clubhouse have attracted amazing art in all its forms from Guild members and residents. On-site art and craft classes have expanded under Kathy's and Sue's guidance and membership has grown. What a great team to follow!

The Artisans Guild looks forward to continuing quarterly Art Shows with food and drink receptions at the start of each new show. Themes this year will be **Travel** starting in February, **Patterns** in the second quarter, **Misty and Mysterious** in the third, and rounding out the year with **Artisan Choice**. We will also continue to offer art and craft classes and a few road trips in 2024.

Come by and check out the Clubhouse Craft Room. Peggy Decker and her helpers continue to give it an updated look and opportunity to display art. Also drop in to peek at works in progress on Thursdays from 10 a.m. to noon. Many Guild members gather to work on their art projects and gain valuable creative help from others in the group during that time.

Artisans Guild monthly meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at 3:30 p.m. in the Concert Hall. All are welcome to sit in on our meetings. Membership in the Guild is always open and gives participants first dibs on signing up for classes and sharing art and opportunities in Symphony Village and our greater community.

Thank you again, Kathy and Sue. We look forward to another great year of art.

LIFESTYLES

MARIE BOSSIE, CHAIR
KATERI COOMBE, CORRESPONDENT

Lifestyles is off and running for the new year. A big thank you to Vinny and Mary Jo Volpicelli for their hard work and dedication serving as the 2023 Co-Chairs of the Committee. The Co-Chairs for 2024 are Marie Bossie and Anne Marie Mason. Lifestyles is a hard-working committee; planning events and parties is not all fun and

games! Anyone interested in helping with the nuts and bolts of how the good times roll here in Symphony Village, please join us on the first Monday of the month at 3 p.m. in the Concert Hall. All are welcome!

Congratulations to the winners of the 2023 Holiday Home Decorating Contest:

1st Place

Anna and Kenneth DiGiulian
406 Harmony Way

2nd Place

Teresa and John Athas
609 Symphony Way

3rd Place

Carol and Doug Peed
211 Concerto Avenue

Congratulations to our winners and a big thanks to everyone who participated! Our neighborhood is beautiful, but the wonderful decorations just added to the holiday cheer!

New Year's Eve

What a party! DJ Eddie Hitman gave us another memorable New Year's Eve. Lots of dancing, karaoke, and the occasional outburst of laughter and singing. Everyone enjoyed a champagne toast to bring in 2024. A wonderful time was had by all. Special thanks to Marie Bossie and Anne Marie Mason, and all their many helpers for setting up, decorating, and taking care of the details so all who attended could simply have a great time. Also special thanks to Henry Basta, as well as the Clubhouse Trio (aka Norm, Marty, and Gary) for sharing their extraordinary singing talents with us.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Healthy Lifestyles

Carolyn Harty is resuming this program on January 17 at 10 a.m. Meetings will be held every Wednesday in the Concert Hall. Please contact Carolyn if you have any questions (mdgalonthemove@yahoo.com).

Movie Night is back!

Randy Officer will show *Oppenheimer* on Saturday, January 27, at 7 p.m. in the Concert Hall. Bring snacks and come join neighbors to watch. It is sure to be a hit. Save the date for *The Holdovers* shown on February 24.

Social Hour

Mark your calendars for the next Social Hour, January 20, which will be catered. Please make your special dessert. February 2 and February 17 are the next two Social Hours. Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share with friends as we mingle.

Basic Use for Apple iPhone Users

Terri O'Connell is presenting **Basic Use & Tips for Users** on February 7 at 11 a.m. in the Clubhouse. Please sign up in the Wall Street Room so we know how many to prepare for. Please be sure your iPhone has the latest update, and you know your passwords.

Super Bowl Party

There will be a Super Bowl Party on Sunday, February 11, starting at 5:30 p.m. at the Clubhouse. Kick off in Las Vegas (the site of the Super Bowl) will be at 6:30 p.m. EST. There will be two football pools, if you wish to participate.

Valentine's Day Pasta Party

Ed and Cindy Beres are again sponsoring a Pasta Night for all residents, this time on Valentine's Day, February 14, at 6 p.m. Sign up in the Wall Street Room by February 10. No cost to residents courtesy of Ed!

Community Wellness Screening

The QA County Health Department will be here the second Wednesday of each month, usually in the Craft Room, to do screenings. Their next visit will be February 14. Please sign up in the Wall Street Room so they know how many people to expect.

SAVE THESE DATES

March 22 — Pat Fox will make a presentation on UFOs.

April 30 — Chili Cook-Off and Square Dance returns by popular demand!

Signup sheets for hosting Social Hours are in the Wall Street Room. Please consider hosting one. It's really pretty easy, and there are always committee members to help guide you! Many hands make light work!

If you have any ideas or thoughts about a new activity you would like to be involved in, please let Jenny Gallo know, and she will coordinate with the Lifestyles Committee.

Lifestyles Committee Members wish you a happy and healthy new year in 2024! Stay warm out there!

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.

Operations welcomes the new year and strives to make it as productive as 2023 was in maintaining and improving our awesome community. We anticipate upgrades for the indoor pool, continuing sidewalk repair and ongoing inspection of our stormwater swales and ponds. The Clubhouse interior inspection this year will benefit from discussions and input received from commercial designers in 2023.

The first order of business is to elect officers and kick off 2024 with an increased committee of 20 members. This will occur at our regular meeting on January 18 at 10 a.m. in the Clubhouse. As usual, the meeting will be hybrid and all residents are welcome to attend either in person or virtually.

SYMPHONY VILLAGE OUTREACH PROGRAM, INC.



Please Join us!

Joann Walker

Symphony Village Outreach Program has been sponsoring fundraising events and donating to Queen Anne's County charities and agencies for the past 17 years! Thanks to the amazing generosity of Symphony Village Residents, we have been able to make significant contributions to our community, especially towards helping those in need.

We are planning events for the new year. Our first Author Luncheon last year was very successful, and the Annual Card and Game Party is always a big hit. We will also conduct the HOA Raffle and a few other events still in the works.

We would love to have new people join us to help with these events and to bring new ideas to our group. Many hands make light work, and we have a good time along the way. The letters of appreciation from the organizations we help give us much joy. Please consider joining Outreach as you plan your 2024 calendar!

Our next meeting is Wednesday, January 24, at 3 p.m. in the Concert Hall. Hope to meet you there!

New Resident Welcome Night

Save the date! **Symphony Village New Resident Welcome Night** is on February 13 at 7 p.m. in the Clubhouse. Refreshments at 6:45 p.m. This is for all new residents who have moved to Symphony Village and have not attended an information session about our SV community.

Questions or comments, please contact Julia Detch at 410-971-9907 or detchja@verizon.net

New Residents

When you bought a house in Symphony Village, there were lots of papers to fill out in buying your new house. One of them was a New Resident Form that should have been filled out and returned to the office as part of your records. If you haven’t filled out that form, please do it and return it to the office.

Suppose you are away from your home—maybe you have gone on vacation, taken a long weekend for a nice trip, or are spending the winter in warmer weather.

Suppose something happens at your house—shingles blow off the roof, your front door blows open with all the wind we have been having, a window breaks in your house, you forget to put down the garage door—any number of things.

How are we going to contact you to let you know about the event? If you have filled out and signed the New Resident Form with all of your information and turned it into the Office, the information to contact you will be readily available. If you haven’t sent in the form, we might have a problem.

We’ve made it easy for you. The form can be reached using the link below. Please fill it out and return it to the Office and thank you for filling it out. The New Resident Form can be found on the community website or at this link:

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/500616cfc4aa3dba773667dc/t/60f874b645d5847517b2d766/1626895542976/New+Residents+info+form+07.20.2021.pdf>

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

6th Annual “I’ve Ridden My Bike Every Day This Year” Bike Ride



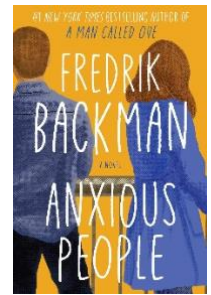
Every year the bike riders are encouraged to meet at the Clubhouse at 10 a.m. on January 1 to ride as long as the weather permits. As the picture shows, there were many participants this year. See how many bundled up participants you recognize. This year some cycled a few hundred feet while others cycled for 5 to 10 miles within SV. Following this ride, participants gathered in the Clubhouse for hot chocolate and pastries prepared and served by Loretta Quigley pictured here.



READING FOR FUN – DECEMBER 2024 REVIEW

Joe Sikes, Chair

The SV Book Club met on December 19 to discuss *Anxious People* by Fredrik Backman. Attendees included Joe Sikes, Jan Withers, Bob Nilsson, Mary Jo Volpicelli, Len and Carol Saltiel, Donna Harkins, Cathy Olson, Judy Scully, and JoAnn Walker. Kathryn and Jim Buckheit could not attend but provided input separately.



Author Backman provides us with an opening scene involving a distraught father during an economic recession in Sweden. Unable to support his family, he is rejected for a bank loan and, in his depression, commits suicide by jumping off a bridge. After that cheery opening, the story moves forward ten years to the plight of another parent unable to support their family financially.

As the story unfolds, this second character has the bright idea to rob a bank and walks into a bank demanding all their cash. Oopsie! The bank is cashless, and the plan deteriorates quickly. Panic ensues. With the police on the way, the robber runs across the street to an apartment building and discovers an apartment showing in progress. The bank robbery has now turned into a hostage crisis. The two responding policemen, a father and son duo, are confronted with a hostage situation for which they have no training.

The hostages quickly discern that the robber didn't intend to hold hostages and, given that no money was stolen, they start to empathize with the robber's plight. Soon the eight hostages are sharing their own life problems as well. The hostage crisis develops into a group therapy session and a pact is made not to cooperate with the police investigation. This creates some hilarious dialog during the police interviews and, when the hostages are all released, the police cannot find the bank robber. So, we have a tasty mystery to solve.

The Book Club previously read books by this author (*A Man Called Ove* and *Beartown*) and one of his signature themes relates to how societies function best when people watch after each other, especially in the face of tragedy. In this book, author Backman carries the ripples of the original suicide through the story. The apartment complex provides a clear view of the bridge where the original suicide occurred and remains a central facet of the story. It turns out that many of the characters were involved with that bridge in one way or another, which sets up a final surprise at the end of the book.

The Book Club gave the book mixed reviews with a wide variance in scores. The large cast of characters was challenging to follow, and the interview sections were amusing but repetitive to some. My favorite character was Knut whose hostage wife, Estelle, insisted was "out parking the car." Unfortunately, we learn that Knut had died years earlier, and Estelle could not bring herself to confront that reality. The Club awarded a score of 6.31, which is about average on our ten-point scale.

We hold hybrid meetings, so contact me if you would like to attend virtually. My email is sikes.withers@yahoo.com. We meet at 7 p.m. in the Clubhouse on the third Tuesday of each month. Upcoming 2024 books are:

January 16 *The Maid* by Nita Prose

February 20 *Cutting for Stone* by Abraham Verghese

March 19
April 16
May 21

The Twyford Code by Janice Hallett
Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus
Mad Honey by Jodi Picoult and Jennifer Finney Boylan

ADVANCE DIRECTIVES

Hospital staff:

These are my directives:

- My daughter will make my health care decisions, if I cannot;
- I do not want pain medications;
- Please donate my organs;
- What else?

What will your directives include?

CERT Speaker Series:
Advance Directive Instructional Presentation

Mark Your Calendar:
Date: Tuesday, January 30
Time: 11:00am
Place: Clubhouse – Concert Hall
Speaker: Kara Greene, University of Maryland Shore Health

→ **Register! Wall Street Room**

CERT SPEAKER SERIES:

ADVANCE DIRECTIVE BENEFITS

DEBI WELLS HOOPER

(#1 BENEFIT: LESS STRESS ON YOUR FAMILY!)

Imagine your family trying to make important (possibly end of life) health care decisions for you, if you become incapacitated, without knowing what you want. Chocolate won't cure that kind of stress!

Will your son, daughter, spouse, or whomever you designate on your Advance Directive know if you want to be kept on life support? Yes, they will if you have thoughtfully completed an Advance Directive to help them! With an Advance Directive, your family will know which interventions you want or don't want. An Advance Directive gives your loved ones peace of mind, reduces potential conflicts among family members, and overall, decreases stress.

To complete an Advance Directive during an instructional presentation with your questions answered by University of Maryland Medical System Health Specialist Kara Greene, mark your calendar for this opportunity:

Date: Tuesday, January 30, 2024

Time: 11 a.m.

Location: Clubhouse – Concert Hall

Registration: Please sign up in the Wall Street Room

(Registration is required to know how many forms are needed.)

Through an Advance Directive, you are able to tell doctors what you want—or don't want—while you are able to do so. Having an Advance Directive is important at any age and usually means you will avoid unnecessary pain, unhelpful procedures, and unwanted hospitalization. When it comes to filling out your Advance Directive, you can be as general or explicit as you want. With an Advance Directive, you can:

- Appoint a doctor, family member, or friend to make health care decisions for you. (This is usually a person who knows your values and is important to you.)

- Specify where you want to stay during end-of-life care, such as hospice or at home.
- Ask for spiritual support.
- Donate organs and/or your body for research.
- Allow visitors or limit them.
- And more. It's not hard; instead, it's an outline for what you want!

You do not need an attorney or a notary to have an Advance Directive. Once completed and signed by you (in front of two witnesses), it should be given to your physician for inclusion in your medical record.

By attending this event, you will have the opportunity to complete an Advance Directive, and it will be submitted into the medical record database of the University of Maryland Shore Medical Center (UMSMC that includes Chestertown Hospital, Easton Hospital, UMSMC in Cambridge and Queenstown, Anne Arundel Medical Center/Luminus and any other hospital or medical center that uses Epic healthcare software. You may also provide it to any health care specialist yourself. Finally, if you change your mind about your Advance Directive, you can revise it at any time. Learn more and complete your Advance Directive on January 30 at 11 a.m. in the Clubhouse. Your decisions and details chosen for your Advance Directive will be private to you during this informational presentation.

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

JOHN OLSON – CERT COORDINATOR

Become a CERT Volunteer: Join Our Neighborly Network

Imagine being able to help yourself, your family, and your neighbors when disaster strikes. That's the power of becoming a CERT Volunteer—a member of our Community Emergency Response Team.



What is CERT?

CERT is a national program that trains volunteers in basic disaster response skills. Through free, FEMA-approved training, you'll learn:

- Disaster preparedness: Build an emergency kit, create a family communication plan, and understand potential hazards.
- Basic first aid and CPR: Equip yourself to handle common injuries until professional help arrives.
- Fire safety and suppression: Learn how to extinguish small fires and evacuate safely.
- Search and rescue techniques: Gain skills to locate and assist injured or trapped individuals.
- Teamwork and organization: Understand your role in a coordinated community response.



Why Become a CERT Volunteer?

Becoming a CERT Volunteer offers more than just valuable skills. It's about:

- Making a difference: You're training directly benefits your community and empowers you to help others in their time of need.
- Building resilience: CERT knowledge builds confidence and preparedness, making you and your neighbors better equipped to handle emergencies.
- Connecting with your community: Join a network of dedicated volunteers who share your commitment to safety and well-being.
- Personal growth: Learn new skills, build confidence, and gain a sense of accomplishment.

Become a CERT Volunteer Today!

The next CERT training program starts this spring. This is your chance to make a real difference in our community.

Sign up today! Contact John Olson, shop.1234@icloud.com, for more information or to register.

HERE'S TO YOUR HEALTH, HAPPINESS, AND PROSPERITY!

KATHERINE MARCHI

Reprinted from *Outlook By The Bay*

The holiday season is nearing and along with Thanksgiving feasts and Christmas preparations, another “custom” looms before us! It’s that dreaded “New Year’s Resolutions” list that many of us feel obligated to make. That is followed by the tremendous pressure to stick to each resolution and then the feeling of failure as they are stricken off the list, one by one! Why do we put ourselves through all of that?

The main reason for broken resolutions is that we unknowingly set ourselves up for failure! Even if we carefully write them all down, we sometimes lose the list or put it away to look at later. Many of our resolutions are way above our capacity to attain them and some are too vague or generic to nail down. I remember one such list in which I resolved to lose 25 pounds. When that didn’t happen pretty much right away, I scratched that one off! I also vowed to ride my horse three times a week when I only had time for one ride on the weekend—so much for that goal. Another list included three things: Eat healthy, well-balanced meals, exercise daily, and lose weight. How boring! There was no specific goal, and I quickly lost interest in that list too. Sad to say, I no longer make any resolutions at all until LENT! (my vow to stop eating sweets lasted only until someone offered me a Mrs. Sees’ chocolate truffle...shame on me!).

What can we do to prepare an attainable list to ensure our “health, happiness, and prosperity” in the New Year?

1. The first thing to do is WRITE it all down and keep the list in a prominent place. I believe you’ll be more inclined to work toward the resolutions once they’ve been “cast in ink”! Also think how you can make these resolutions easier on yourself...maybe you want to enlist the help of a friend, spouse, or grandchild. Their vigilance and enthusiasm may spur you on.
2. If you plan to lose weight, select a reasonable amount, and mentally challenge yourself to take it slow and easy. For example, if you really want to lose 25 pounds, put 5 pounds on the list and work toward that. Chances are when you set up a weight loss program, you’ll begin a trend, and you might even lose the 25 pounds...or more!
3. Let’s say you want to set up some kind of exercise program. Instead of vowing to “exercise daily” or “run two miles a day,” choose the type of exercise you want to do such as water aerobics, biking, running, or power walking. Then set a reasonable goal of doing this activity for 15 minutes, two or three times a week. Who knows? You might get started and work up to either exercising daily or even running the two miles a day! Certainly your energy level will greatly improve, which makes additional exercise more palatable. And you might even help yourself achieve # 2 weight loss goal while you’re at it!
4. Most of us know the value of eating healthy foods despite our craving for sweets, sodas, or Big Macs with fries and a milkshake...yum! Instead of placing a generic “eating healthy foods” addition to your list, invest in a good cookbook and vow to prepare at least two healthy meals a week. Weekends could even be “off

limits,” which, in my mind, makes it even easier to stick to this resolution! Setting up this doable routine might even extend to three or four well-balanced meals a week. Here again, this works in tandem with losing weight.

So far, I’ve only mentioned health issues that can lead to happiness. But there are other resolutions you can make to achieve that goal as well. Suppose you want to broaden your horizons or your social circle? Instead of vowing to “join a club” or “meet new friends,” get specific again. Decide what interests you and find a group that will meet that need. Let that group be your resolution. If you qualify, you might want to join the Junior League, or the Rotary Club, or a charitable organization such as Habitat for Humanity if you’re talented in that way. If you like playing cards, you could join a Bridge or Mah Jong group or even form one of your own. Along with this, you could resolve to learn a particular new card game, or you might decide to take a specific Continuing Education course at the local community college. You’ll be on your way to achieving both of the goals above.

But what about the “prosperity” part of your goals for the New Year? What can you do to achieve that? It’s possible that prosperity means simply meeting or paying off some bills. If so, select a specific (here’s that word again!) debt that can be cancelled or a worrisome bill you might want to “pay down.” Be sure to make these payments according to what is reasonable for you to afford. Give yourself the right amount of time; set it up as a regular deduction on the computer or through your bank. You also might want to start a savings program. Again, be specific as to an amount that is affordable for you. Start with a small savings program and then increase as you can. You’ll be in a better financial situation as time goes on and your resolutions are again achieved.

Can you begin to see where I’m going with all of this?? In choosing thoughtful and specific goals, you are setting yourself up to achieve them. You might even be able to see how they all work in tandem with each other! The good habits you are forming (which you might not even realize at first) help you keep your resolutions! And in writing those specific goals, you have become pro-active in your own life.

Though I’ve only listed five possible resolutions, you might want to write more or less. It’s entirely up to you. Remember to be specific and reasonable, and you’ll find it easier to keep them throughout the year without much consternation. You might even add one that you give yourself permission to break if you choose. You’ll feel even more empowered and that’s good too!

In writing this article, I have begun to form a plan for my own New Year’s resolutions. I’ll keep you posted on how I do. Maybe we all will be successful!

INSTITUTE FOR ADULT LEARNING (IAL) SPRING 2024 SEMESTER REGISTRATION OPEN

Although the first classes begin in early February, many classes have start dates in March and April and some classes continue into May. With more than 40 class offerings and two-day trips to choose from, individuals can sign up for as many classes as desired by becoming members of IAL at any time during the semester. The membership cost is \$90 per semester.

Courses are in the areas of: History and Current Events; Brain, Body, and Soul; Environment and Science; and Literature, Arts and Crafts; and Culinary Arts. Courses range from one to six sessions and classes are held

Monday through Friday between 10:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. The location for most classes is the Kennard Cultural Center (410 Little Kidwell Ave) in Centreville. The focus is on personal enrichment and fun. IAL also offers monthly happy hour gatherings throughout the Mid-Shore area and has several day trips planned for this semester. For details on course offerings, trips, and how to become an IAL member, please visit the IAL website: InstituteForAdultLearning.org

For additional information, contact Cindy Bogner (703-655-6505) or Steve Quigley (410-758-6775) who are IAL Council members and SV residents.

Active Aging Center

210 Vincit St. Centreville, MD 21617 • 443-262-9904 • Bethany Bennan, Manager • bbennan@qac.org

How It Works

Our members will have access to the facility through Active Aging Center specific programming and blended YMCA classes. For access to amenities outside of those scheduled times, a YMCA membership will be required.

The YMCA offers an Open Doors Program, which is a sliding fee scale that is designed to fit each individual's financial situation. No one will be turned away for inability to pay.

If you are a member of one of OAC's Senior Centers, you are a member of all four! Stop in for a tour and more information Monday through Friday 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM.




Lunch

Sign-up for lunches is required two weeks in advance and a minimum of 10 lunch requests are needed each day to order.


Lunch is served at 12:00; come in by 12:15 to pick up your meal. Meals are given out first to those who have signed up in advance and any extra meals are available on a first come basis. The sign-up binder is located on the counter space between the Active Aging Center office and the kitchen.

For those 60+, there is a suggested donation of \$3 for the cost of the meal. Those who are age 55-59, must pay the full cost of the meal, \$6.30. All money given for meals is done so anonymously; no one is turned away for inability to pay.

Coming Up

 <p>Arthritis Tips January 19</p>	 <p>Singles Mixer February 6</p>	 <p>St. Patrick's Day Murder Mystery Party March 14</p>
<p>Doormat Craft January 26</p>	<p>Cupcake Decorating With Kathy</p>	

See pictures, event information, and any updates on our Facebook page.

 Just search: [QACActiveAging](https://www.facebook.com/QACActiveAging).

HAPPY 2024 FELLOW PICKLERS!

Rosemary Rosenberger

Happy 2024 to our wonderful Symphony Village pickleball players and our other fellow villagers! First and foremost, I'd like to thank everyone who came out during 2023 to



participate in this very fun and entertaining sport. We encountered some lively games, along with lots of laughs and a ton of friendship. That's what it's all about, and I hope that 2024 brings all of us more of the same!

I asked the HOA management to take inside the two newer nets until the weather warms up. For those enthusiasts who don't mind the cold and may want to play on a nice day, two nets along with the pickleballs will remain outside for the winter.

In addition, many of the SV picklers have joined the Centreville YMCA as members. We remain as a group playing Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, but play is always available every day at the Y starting at 9 a.m. Please know that we are in no way organizers at the Y; we just show up as a member to have fun and play.

My plan is to resume outdoor play in SV at the beginning of March, weather permitting. The days and times will remain the same and will be posted on the SV calendar of events. I'm hoping this year we can do a few round robin events, with perhaps a few pickleball social hours on a Friday evening. Stay tuned for future *Libretto* articles.

SCHEDULED PLAYDAYS (anticipating early March 2024): Tuesdays/Thursdays/Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. I am open to any suggestions you may have to make 2024 a great year for pickleball. Please feel free to contact me any time. For now, stay warm, stay safe, and get ready for spring!

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Jack of All Trades



Many times a resident has asked if there is someone who will do odd jobs, for example, replace ceiling light bulbs, move some heavy boxes, hang a picture, hang a curtain, move furniture in the house, etc.

Some have volunteered to be on a list of **Jack of All Trades**. If you need someone, call Julia Neph at the Clubhouse for the name of someone to call.

If you would like to volunteer to be on the list, let Julia know so she can add your name to the list. There is no charge for this recommendation.

GTI REPORT TO TOWN OF CENTREVILLE COUNCIL AND STATUS

Pat Fox

Green Thumb Industries (GTI) provided a status report to the Centreville Town Council on January 4, 2024. As you can see by the report included in this month's *Libretto*, GTI hired an engineering firm to determine the source of the cannabis odor emanating from their buildings. They also included the proposed methods for addressing the problem. GTI made a financial commitment to "eliminate" the odor although caveated this target by stating that "success may be slightly different."

GTI stated their capital investment of HVAC equipment would be completed within two months and testing would take another month to complete. At that time monitoring will begin. While their indoor production will continue, they want to get their full outdoor operation started by May 31. They will test again in late August; testing results will be data driven—odor driving particulates. The engineering company feels that proper filtration of the outdoor grow drying trailer should solve this problem from the outdoor crops. This is different

from what we have been told which was that the odor comes from budding plants. We will see how it progresses.

The Town Council agreed that residents can call the town hall phone number 410-758-1180 if there are odors.

All – I’ve attached a copy of the letter sent to the town council by GTI outlining their plan for odor “reduction or elimination.” In their presentation last night, they did say “elimination” but with a caveat that “success may be slightly different.” Overall GTI did make a commitment of funds to address the problem, so it was a positive meeting. They discussed the information developed by the engineering firm they hired to test and evaluate various locations on the site and the specific operations creating the odor. They also identified what method they would use to tackle the odor. GTI proposed being able to spend several months getting the HVAC equipment installed and another month testing the operation. After that, concluding on-going monitoring of all operations will kick off. GTI told Council they would like to get their next outdoor crop planted in late spring. By late August, they would test again for early fall odor.

A Villager attending the meeting suggested a dedicated phone number for residents to report any odors. Council provided the Town Hall number and said they would field any odor reports.

After a discussion of alternatives to the tabled ordinance, that proposed eliminating the ability to grow cannabis outdoors, the ordinance was allowed to expire. It could, however, be resurrected if need be.

Our hope is that with GTI commitments the problem will be solved, but that remains to be seen. Thanks, Pat

QAC Health Department Free Wellness Screenings

- Blood Pressure
- Glucose
- Pulse
- Cholesterol

Every 2nd Wednesday of the month
10 am - 12 noon
Craft Room



Save the date!

Symphony Village

New Resident Welcome Night

(and for anyone who may have missed a welcome in the past)

February 13, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

More information to follow in the coming weeks.

A fun time at the 2024 New Year's Eve celebration!

Karen Patterson, Debbie Buss, Amy Landen, Kateri Coombs, Pat Fox, and Charlene McGrade showing their stuff



Carol and Doug Peed

New Residents Kum and Henry Basta chatting with Howie Fox



Kathy and Doug Rambo in the front with Pete Patterson and Cindy Bogner in the back

New Year's Eve Cake
Enjoyed by all!



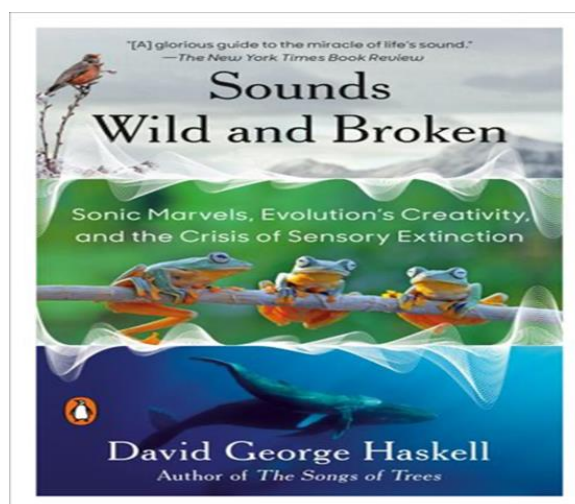
CENTREVILLE HAPPENINGS

CENTREVILLE AREA HAPPENINGS PLUS

Charlotte Godfrey



A musical comedy based on the book,
The Man Who Broke the Bank at Monte Carlo
www.garfieldcenter.org



A free event offered through the
Adkins Arboretum and being held at the
Avalon Theatre Sunday, February 4, at 2 p.m.
David Haskell is a biologist and nature writer.
www.adkins.donorshops.com

So much to enjoy! Scroll through the listings for more adventures!

Church Hill Theatre: www.churchhilltheatre.org

- A Friends & Family “Cabaret” Saturday, January 20, at 6:30 p.m.

Soul Train 70’s & 80’s Hip Hop Dance at the Grasonville Community Center, Saturday, February 3, from 8 p.m. to midnight.

Queen Anne’s County YMCA — It’s new and fabulous. Take a guided tour. Many free activities for seniors including use of the Olympic-size indoor pool, walking track, wellness center, activities, and games. 210 Vincit Street, Centreville, open daily.

Veterans Book Club: Connecting and Healing through Literature, open to veterans only, receive a free copy of each month’s book meets the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Center for the Military and Veterans in Stevensville. Email Eric Johnson at info@VAMSA.US

KIFA: open Thursdays through Sundays from 1–4 p.m., www.kifa.us

- **Limited Palette Show:** Artists exhibit using the primary colors of yellow, blue, and red only. Thursday, January 11, through Monday, February 26.

Queen Anne County Centre for the Arts: open Monday through Fridays from 10 a.m.–4 p.m.
www.queenannescountyarts.com

- **Small Works Opening:** Saturday, February 3.
- **Poetry Out Loud:** Saturday, February 10.
- **Love Letters:** Friday to Saturday, February 16, 17.

Avalon Foundation: more on website www.avalonfoundation.org

- **Comedy with Drew Landry:** Friday, January 19, at 7 p.m. at the Avalon Theatre.
- **Chris English with Grayson English:** Saturday, January 20, in the Stoltz Listening Room at 7 p.m.
- **The Rainbow Fish Musical:** Sunday, January 21, in the Avalon Theatre at 2 p.m.
- **Veronneau's Blue Tapestry:** The music of Joni Mitchel and Carol King in the Stoltz Listening Room Friday, January 26, at 7:00 p.m.
- **Carmen, the Met live in HD:** Saturday, January 27, at 1 p.m.

The Mainstay: more on website www.mainstayrockhall.org

- **Crossroads Blues—a Historical Live Music/Multimedia Overview of The Blues:** Friday, January 26, at 8 p.m.
- **Anniversary Tribute to the Beatles First Visit to America:** Wednesday, February 2, at 6:30 p.m.

Chestertown: www.townofchestertown.com

- **Frederick Douglas Day of Acknowledgment:** Saturday, February 10, from 12–5 p.m. at Washington College, celebrating Black History Month.
- David Kim (violinist) and Woobin Park (pianist) Duo at the Gibson Center for the Arts Wednesday, February 7, from 7:30–9 p.m.
- **Comedy Central in Chestertown:** at Phat Daddy's BBQ Restaurant, doors open at 5 p.m., show at 6 p.m., Saturday, February 3. Hosted by Al Carroll, with Bill Scully and Jojo Collins.

American Legion Jeff Davis Post 18: 2619 Centreville Rd., 410-758-3584

- **Legion Dinners:** Fridays from 5–7 p.m.
- **Queen of Hearts Drawing:** Sundays at 6 p.m.
- **Blood Drive:** Wednesday, January 17, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Shuffleboard League:** Thursdays at 6 p.m. January 18 and 25 at 6 p.m.
- **Lifeline Screening:** Monday, January 29, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Bus Crawl:** Saturday, February 3, at 11 a.m., visiting the Cambridge American Legion Post and three others.
- **Valentine's Day Dance:** Saturday, February 10, at 7–11 p.m.
- **Bingo:** every 2nd Wednesday of the month, February 14. Doors open at 6 p.m., game starts at 7 p.m.

Queen Anne's County Library: www.qaclibrary.org 410-758-0980

- **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. www.qaclibrary.org/adult-storytime-on-wheels.
- **Books by Mail:** 410-643-8161 or 410-758-0980.
- **The Memory Center:** Transfer old home videos to disk or thumb drive. Free at Centreville branch.
- **Adult Yoga:** Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. through January 31 at Kent Island branch.
- **3D Tutorial — Napkin Rings:** Tutorial class using 3D printer to make your own custom napkin ring, Saturday, January 20 from 10–11:30 a.m., Centreville Branch.
- **Crime & a Cuppa:** Join mystery reader extraordinaire Kathleen Wilson for an hour of mystery Saturday, January 27, at 10 a.m. at the Centreville Branch.
- **Line Dancing (all ages):** Friday, February 9, at 3 p.m., Kent Island Branch.

The Adkins Arboretum: (410-634-2847), [www., adkinsarboretum.org](http://www.adkinsarboretum.org), registration required for many of these events.

- **Color Pencil I – Techniques:** Fridays, January 19 through February 16, at 10 a.m.–1 p.m.
- **Yarnstorming & Crocheting Bee:** Tuesday, January 23, from 1–2:30 p.m.
- **“Owl” Do They Do That?** Class gives insight into how owls live up to this reputation. Wednesday, January 24, from 10 a.m.–noon.
- **Tree Walk in Honor of Tu B’Sivat, The New Year of Trees:** Sunday, January 28, from 1–2:30 p.m., learn about the holiday and take a walk.
- **Healing Walks:** Join naturalist Jenny Houghton on the first Friday of each month (February 2) at 10 a.m.
- **First Saturday Walk:** Join a docent and explore the Arboretum’s native plant habitats Friday, February 4, at 10 a.m.
- **Love in the Maryland Wild:** Which living things experience love? Biologist Sarah Witcher will explore connections between Maryland’s animals and plants Tuesday, February 13, from 1–2:30 p.m.

Markets:

- **Chestertown Farmers’ and Artisans’ Market:** Saturdays year-round, 8 a.m. – noon, High St.
- **Kent Island Farmer’s Market:** Thursdays year-round, 3:30 to 6:30 p.m., at Cult Classic Brewery, 1169 Shopping Center Rd., Stevensville.
- **Easton’s New Dover Road and Artisans’ Farmer’s Market:** Saturdays year-round, 9 a.m. – noon.

Learning Adventures

- **Chesapeake Forum:** Winter registration opened, Friday, January 12. Hybrid (in person and zoom), Field trips, Recordings. <https://chesapeakeforum.org>
- **Institute for Adult Learning:** 45 courses, history current events, brain & body health, literature, crafts and more. \$90 fee for unlimited courses. Brochures in SV Clubhouse. www.instituteforadultlearning.org

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Bulk Pickup & Yard Waste: 410-758-1180

Trash Removal & Recycling: 410-742-0099

December 13, 2023

Via email:

Centreville Town Council

Re: Green Thumb Industries, Inc. Centreville Facility

Dear members of the Centreville Town Council,

As you recall, on September 21, 2023 the Town Council held a hearing on Ordinance 05- 2005. At that hearing, and in letter from its counsel to the Town, Green Thumb Industries, Inc. (“GTI”) expressed its concerns with the Ordinance, specifically that if passed it would prohibit GTI from expanding its existing outdoor growing facilities on Lot K in the Centreville Business Park. Notwithstanding its opposition to the Ordinance, and that its Centreville operations comply with all applicable industry and government standards, GTI also told the Town Council that it wanted to work in good faith with the Town and the community to determine the source of, and develop a strategy to reduce or eliminate, odors that emanate from the GTI’s cannabis cultivation and processing facility in Centreville (“Facility”).

GTI engaged Byers Scientific, a leading expert in the field of emissions and odor mitigation, (“Byers”) to undertake an evaluation of the Facility. On November 29, 2023, Josh Rembusch, Vice President of Byers, conducted an in-person site assessment. The assessment consisted of an inspection of the Facility’s HVAC system, aided by the use of an anemometer to determine the face velocity of various facility exhaust sources. Both internal recirculation and exhaust to outside ambient air were tested, air samples collected, and GC/MS [Gas Chromatography / Mass Spectrometry] analysis were performed by Byers. The assessment also included the outdoor growing area on Lot K.

Mr. Rembusch identified sources of odorous emissions listed below and recommended reduction/elimination measures for each. For the purposes of general facility air assessments, potential cannabis odors include both terpenes (various aromatic compounds) and sulfurs (skunky odors):

- Extraction Exhaust (inner booth space):

The Facility’s extraction inner booth space exhaust is 18” in diameter and exhausts air at a rate of 1800 ft/min. This room is classified Class One Division One (C1D1) due to the potential flammability of the process. Installing inline molecular air filtration is not an option due to the fire safety requirements. With this life safety requirement in mind, the solution for odor control entails the use of Atomization (microscopic droplets) of a solution of water and odor neutralizer on the exterior of the building right at the exhaust point. This control method seeks to neutralize, not mask, the aromas and odors associated with cannabis-related emissions. Both the volume of air movement in this

area as well as the quantity of cannabis processed each day through this particular system gave Byers and GTI significant confidence that addressing this area, in particular, will have a material impact on our odor footprint in the area.

- Extraction Exhaust (outer booth space)

The Facility's extraction outer booth space exhaust is 18" in diameter and exhausts air at a volume of 1300 CFM. This source of potential odor can be addressed with a molecular air filtration system.

- CO2 Room Exhaust

The Facility's CO2 room exhaust is 12" and was estimated at 1,200 CFM. This source of potential odor can be appropriately addressed with a molecular air filtration system.

- Post-Processing Room

The Facility's Post-Processing Room has two (2) exhaust hoods. These hoods were not observed to be a significant potential emissions source at the time of the site visit. Nevertheless, they are being noted as a potential area for observance and further analysis for potential fugitive emissions. No filtration deemed necessary for these exhausts.

- Kitchen Exhaust Hood

The Facility's Kitchen hood exhausts emissions directly to the exterior of the building. This source of potential odor can be appropriately addressed with a molecular air filtration system. Precise CFM were not determined on this visit but will be calculated prior to final filter recommendation.

- ERV Exhaust

The Facility has a small exhaust incorporated into its ERV system with an estimated 500 CFM. This source of potential odor can be appropriately addressed with a molecular air filtration system.

- Cultivation/Harvest – Indoor

Based on Byers staff observations, the Facility's Cultivation Room design and air movement strategy appear to be adequate for minimizing potential odor in the main hallway. However, all harvest events are potential contributors to a Facility's odor profile due to the large plant disturbance event and GTI should observe this area during harvest for any potential spikes in odor detection. Byers recommends that GTI continue to monitor for odors during the one day per week harvest event and minimize the time doors are open to the grow rooms and keep the double doors to and from the main cultivation hallway closed. No controls recommended at this time.

- Drying Trailer Outdoor Facilities – Lot K

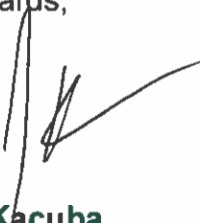
The output of this unit can be as much as 189,000 cfm of odorous air. For proper odor mitigation, this application requires heavy recirculation with molecular filtration (MF) and a final polishing step with a dedicated filtration for 10% exhaust. Based on studies of outdoor grows across the country, Byers feels that mitigating the dry trailer is the only required and efficacious need related to the outdoor garden

As you could expect, both the capital and ongoing operation cost to implement these measures will be significant. Nonetheless GTI is prepared to undertake the Facility improvements described above and then continue to be proactive in its monitoring of the Facility with the assistance of experts such as Byers. GTI anticipates all measures could be in place before the summer of 2024.

With the understanding that GTI is committed to making the recommended odor control improvements, GTI respectfully requests that the Town Council act unfavorably on Ordinance 05-2023. As described above, Ordinance 05-2023 will have no effect on reducing odor emanating from the Facility. If and when GTI makes site plan application to expand its outdoor growing on Lot K, the application will include a thorough assessment of possible odor sources and mitigation measures for the expanded outdoor facilities which the Planning Commission may consider as part of its review to ensure the expansion will not result in an increase in odor.

Thank you for your consideration. We can make ourselves available to answer any questions you may have and would welcome the opportunity to provide additional information as needed.

Best Regards,



Jeremy Kacuba
Vice President of Operations
612-910-3086

CC via email only
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Joseph Stevens, Esq.
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Rebecca Brown, GTI