



LIBRETTO

SYMPHONY VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2024

Vol. XIX No. 3

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!



Curtis and Tara Turner
705 Harmony Way

2024 SV HOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MARCH ARTICLE

NANCY EMERICK, BOARD PRESIDENT

March signals the beginning of spring, warmer weather, and longer days. The onset of Daylight Saving Time, that many attribute to Benjamin Franklin, adds even more reason to rejoice and turn the page from being cooped up inside to all types of outdoor activities and hobbies.

Together, the General Manager and the Board have been busy planning and scheduling HOA activities that coincide with warmer weather. On our grounds, Level Green has completed the cleanup of leaves from common areas and from front home beds and will be completing annual edging services for homes and common areas. Weed treatments, mulching, and irrigation startups will follow. Bartlett Tree Service has been busy inspecting trees and providing pest management treatments, and Davey Tree has completed some pruning and stump removals. For our Clubhouse, we have scheduled a pressure washing of the exterior, window washing, and we will repaint the doors and shutters this year for a final spruce up.

Other outdoor maintenance projects completed so far this year include the removal of a beaver lodge from pond 1 including the trapping of several beavers. Also, additional work is planned to address some erosion that has

occurred at five separate locations around pond 2. You may also have noticed some new sidewalk work around the front of the Clubhouse.

Looking ahead, we encourage all homeowners to get outside now that it is warmer and take a look at your home's exterior, your driveway, and lead walks (this is the walkway leading to your front door) as well as your landscaping. Look for green mold or mildew on the siding of your home and your foundation. Check your driveway and your lead walks for blackening from the same. Have your shutters and door paint faded from the sun and weather? Spring is a great time to get started on home maintenance needs!

Symphony Village is praised as one of the most beautiful communities on the Eastern Shore. Our HOA works tirelessly to maintain the presentation of our Village to protect our property values. One of the things we have done periodically is to hire an inspection service to assess homes for presentation. It has been five years since our HOA has done this; so, this spring/summer, we have scheduled HOA Inspections to take a look at our community and notify homeowners of potential maintenance needs. Our General Manager, Rebecca, will be putting together a list of items for HOA Inspections to guide their review of each property. To help you prepare for this on-site inspection, Rebecca will send out an eblast that will help explain how the process works and some of the main areas that the service will be looking at.

Watch your email for more information to come on this!

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ARTISANS GUILD

Peggy Decker

The Artisans Guild is always looking for ways that ALL of our SV neighbors can be included, participate, and share in the joys of creating.

SO, WHAT'S NEW? A Monthly Mystery Challenge!

A word is drawn once a month. This is a "think out of the box" and almost anything goes type of creating. Projects created may be out of most any material and most any media. They may also be dimensional.

We ask that you place your projects on the large bright yellow display board currently hanging in the Craft Room. Please make sure to put your name on your project. If you have questions, please contact Peggy Decker by phone or text (626-833-1056).

You are invited to create projects for each past month/word and for the months and the words that are yet to be drawn.

January is SNEAKER. February is MOON. The word for March is ROCK.

Please stop by the Craft Room to see the creative projects already on display. It is your choice about when and the time you bring in your project(s) and how often you choose to participate. However, the more often you participate, the more fun you will have. You may display up to two projects for each Month/Word if there is room.

We meet almost every Thursday morning in the Craft Room from 10 a.m. to 12 noon to work on any type of project of your choice or just stop by to chat and laugh with us.

Join the challenge and have fun. Be surprised by your hidden creativity.

The Artisans Guild meets every month on the second Thursday at 3:30 p.m. in the Concert Hall. Our next meeting will be April 11. The theme for our next show on May 5 is "Patterns" and our Featured Artist will be Patty Smith.



January – Sneakers

February – Moon

COVENANTS COMMITTEE

Jane Diepenbrock, Chair

Spring Projects



Hippity, hoppity, Spring is in the air. Members of the Covenants Committee are ready and excited to work with you as you navigate the Exterior Modification Form (EMF) process. Once the process is completed and an approval letter is received, work on those exciting exterior spring projects may begin.

So, what are the steps in completing an EMF?

1. Decide on the project and the details.
2. Review the Architectural Requirements (AR) document on the Symphony Village website for the requirements related to your project. Please remember that even if your type of project is not listed in the AR, and the work impacts the exterior of your home, it must have an EMF.
3. If you are installing an awning, painting (siding, doors, or shutters), or adding a screened porch, please consult the appropriate notebooks on the HOA management desk for further details, such as approved colors and styles.
4. Contact two adjacent neighbors to let them know you are submitting an EMF and the nature of the work.
5. Print out a copy of the EMF form or pull up the electronic version. They both can be found on the Symphony Village website. Then fill out the form. You will be asked if two adjacent neighbors have been notified. The paper copy requires their signatures.
6. Please remember to attach all necessary documentation to the EMF. This will always include a picture of the area being impacted and a plat of your lot that can be obtained from Julia at the front desk. Other additional documentation varies with the nature of the project. If you have any questions, you may contact Julia or any member of the Covenants Committee.
7. Submit the completed EMF to either Julia or Rebecca at the HOA Management desk. All EMFs are to be submitted by the first Wednesday of every month for them to be considered at that month's Covenants Committee meeting.
8. Now, please remember not to start the project until you receive an approval letter.
9. If you will be using a shovel or any digging equipment to break ground, you will be required to submit a Ground Installation Form after the project has been approved. This will flag the irrigation company to come

out and mark the irrigation heads. In addition, you or your contractor must contact Miss Utility to have them come out and mark the utility lines. Two important notes here:

- a. If you are using a contractor, they must call Miss Utility and get a number. A contractor may not use a number that is obtained by a homeowner. This number must be written on the ground installation form. You may ask Miss Utility to mark the utility lines with flags vs. paint.
- b. If any damage is done to the irrigation system, it is the responsibility of the homeowner or contractor to repair it.

Once you have written the Miss Utility number on the Ground Installation Form, please turn the form into the HOA Management office, and they will schedule the irrigation company to come out and mark the sprinkler heads.

10. Please remember that after your project is completed to contact a member of the Covenants Committee to schedule a final inspection.

*Please help keep our irrigation system working.
Fill out a Ground Installation Form before digging.*



COVENANTS RECRUITING

The Covenants Committee currently has five members. If you have good people skills, would love to meet new neighbors, and serve your community, this may be the committee for you. Please join us at the next meeting on April 10 at 1 p.m. at the Clubhouse to see what we are all about. I can be contacted any time at mathtutor2pir@gmail.com.

LIFESTYLES COMMITTEE

MARIE BOSSIE, CHAIR
KATERI COOMBE, CORRESPONDENT

March 2024 — Spring is on its way!

Vinny and Mary Jo Volpicelli put on a great Super Bowl Party. The winners of the Superbowl Pool:

First Quarter:	Second Quarter:	Third Quarter:	Fourth Quarter:
Pat Verna (\$25)	Jack Cohen (\$25)	Jack Cohen (\$25)	Kateri Coombe (\$25)
Marty Pawtowski (\$125)	Charlotte Godfrey (\$125)	Charlotte Godfrey (\$125)	Juana Ridgeway (\$125)

Music Trivia

Randy Officer held a Music Trivia competition on Sunday, March 10, in the Concert Hall from 2 to 4 p.m. Approximately 25 people attended, and a good time was had by all. The winning table was Donna Donaldson, Mike and Donna Stolarczyk, Sandy Cheyne, and Vinny Volpicelli. Each winner will receive a pullover hoodie sweatshirt.

Social Hours

Thank you to Carolyn Harty and Kathy Becker for all you did setting up the Social Hours. Please consider hosting! It's easy and it's fun! Our next Social Hour will be Saturday, March 16. We will celebrate St. Patrick's

Day, so wear your green! Irish Mary and her crew will host and provide her famous Irish Coffee! Don't forget to bring an appetizer or dessert to share. If you have any questions, call Carolyn Harty on 703-203-6696.

Upcoming Events

Safari to Kenya and Humanitarian Projects Presentation

March 18 at 11 a.m. – Mary Ciesielski and her co-worker will provide a presentation: Safari to Kenya/Humanitarian Projects. Sign-up in the Wall Street Room.

Healthy Lifestyles

Meetings are held every Wednesday at 10 a.m. in the Concert Hall. Please contact Carolyn Harty if you have any questions (mdgalonthemove@yahoo.com).

Introduction to the UFO Phenomenon

Pat Fox will make this presentation on March 22 at 7 p.m. in the Concert Hall. Please sign up in the Wall Street Room.

Movie Night

Randy Officer will show *The Boys in the Boat* on Saturday, March 30, at 7 p.m. in the Concert Hall. Bring your snacks and come join neighbors to watch.

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 April 10. No sign-up necessary. Any questions, call Eileen Rowley at 703-946-1075.

Other Upcoming Events

April 6 – Randy Officer will present *Earth, Wind and Fire / Chicago* filmed live at the Greek Theater. It will be shown in the Concert Hall at 7 p.m.

April 9 – Michele Walls and Peter Grim from Haven Ministries will present, and hope to raise awareness of, opportunities in the new initiatives that Haven Ministries is trying to implement. Wine and hors d'oeuvres will be served. Watch for sign-up sheets in the Wall Street Room and see the flyer for more information.

Save the Dates

May 15 – Food Drive to benefit Haven Ministries. Before the Drive, Mary Officer will provide a list of items (food and dry goods) for which Haven Ministries has the greatest need.

May 26 – Memorial Day picnic

July 23 – Cheeseburger in Paradise

September 25 – Rescheduled date for the Chili Cook-Off & Square Dance.

We are still looking for someone to coordinate the Spring Yard Sale. Anyone willing to help with this project, please call Marie Bossie or Kateri Coombe. Date TBD.

If you are an Android user and are willing to share your expertise, please contact Marie Bossie or Kateri Coombe.

The Lifestyle Committee is pursuing the possibility of having a Soul Line Dancing class at Symphony Village. The instructor, Diane White, recently taught this class at the Queen Anne County YMCA in Centreville. Several villagers have taken her class, enjoyed the music, teaching style, and low impact exercise. A showcase event will be planned to introduce the program. If there is enough interest (ten people), a program would be created

based on that interest. Frequency of classes would be based on participant feedback with an offering of session packages and/or drop-in classes. Please look for sign-up sheets in the Wall Street Room for the showcase!

Again, please consider signing up to host a Social Night!

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Joe Sikes, Chair; Fred Kurst, Vice-Chair

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

The Operations Committee met on February 13 and proposed the purchase of three 5-foot-wide benches to be placed throughout the SV neighborhood. These benches will provide resting locations for our many walkers. The benches are made of composite material and resemble those near the tennis courts. The BOD approved the purchase and proposed locations are: (1) near the entrance to the walking path at Pond 1; (2) Across from 235 Opera Court; (3) near the Bravo/Harmony entrance to SV on common property.

The Operations committee also met with several vendors in response to the Request for Proposals to replace coping, tile, and whitecoat on the indoor pool. We expect to review the proposals at our next meeting.

We also asked Anchor Aquatics, our pool contractor, for solutions to improve the quality of our indoor pool experience. The new Centreville YMCA pool employs oxidation techniques that significantly reduce chloramine odors without the expense or downside of saltwater chlorine generators. Four YMCA pools on the Eastern Shore have converted from saltwater back to chlorine pools. Hopefully we can benefit from their experience. Our next meeting will be held at 10 a.m. on March 21 in the Clubhouse. The meeting will be hybrid, and all residents are welcome to attend either in person or virtually.

PUBLICATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS — *LIBRETTO*

It's your chance to shine! Use your camera, cell phone, or artistic skills to create the next *Libretto* masthead for bragging rights in the community. Publications and Communications is looking for pictures we can feature on our masthead—that's the area at the beginning of the *Libretto* that features beautiful photographs from around our community. If you would like to submit a photo to be used as our masthead, please send it to the P&C Newsletter Editors at librettoeditors@gmail.com. Pictures should fit the landscape format. Any questions, please email the editors. Don't forget to include your name so we can give you credit for the picture. Thanks.

Welcome to Susan Rayner, the new chairwoman of the Publications and Communications Committee.

SYMPHONY VILLAGE OUTREACH PROGRAM, INC.

Joann Walker

The next Outreach event will be a Shredding Day in the Clubhouse parking lot on May 15. Residents can have their documents shredded securely for free. A donation to Outreach is appreciated. We would like to thank Mary Ciesielski and her Village Group from Long and Foster Realtors for underwriting this event.



Our Annual Author Luncheon will be on May 22 in the Concert Hall. Iris Krasnow will speak on *Finding Your Passion at Any Age*. Iris is a well-known author, journalist, and college professor. She has been interviewed by Oprah Winfrey and appeared on the *Today Show*. Her speeches are always enjoyable. Tickets go on sale at the April 5 Social Hour and will also be available by placing a check in the purple box in the Wall Street Room. Luncheon cost is \$35.

This month, Outreach is donating to the Queen Anne’s County Sheriff’s Department to provide educational materials for children who attend school safety programs. Please join us!

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

ASTRONOMY CLUB

Larry Rayner

An Eclipse is an astronomical event where the view of an object is temporarily obscured. Eclipses occur during syzygy (pronounced **si-zuh-jee**). The most common occurrence of syzygy is when the Sun, the Moon, and the Earth are aligned. This happens during a new Moon (the Moon appears dark because the illuminated side is facing away from the Earth) or a Full Moon. Syzygy affects the tides and can sometimes cause an Eclipse.

Our last total Eclipse was in 2017. The Astronomy Club hosted an Eclipse Party at the Pool and provided glasses for everyone. Everyone had a good time. On April 8, we will only see a partial Eclipse in our area as the Moon blocks part of the Sun. Even though it is only a partial Eclipse, it is still a memorable event to behold. As the path of the Sun and Moon align partially, the sky will grow darker, think of dusk, the winds will change, and the temperature will slightly drop. Look for this year’s Eclipse between 2 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. on Monday, April 8. Don’t be like our former President, protect your eyes from the Sun and enjoy this sight. Glasses can be purchased on Amazon, make sure they are NASA approved, a six-pack will cost between \$10 and \$18.



Join us in the Symphony Village Pool area on Monday, April 8, at 1:30 p.m. for a Solar Sighting Gathering of the partial eclipse.

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

JOHN OLSON – CERT COORDINATOR

SPRING FORWARD SAFELY



March is here, and with it comes the start of Daylight Saving Time (DST)! While we all enjoy the extra hour of sunshine in the evening, the time change can disrupt our sleep patterns and leave us feeling a bit off-balance. Losing an hour of sleep can disrupt your body’s natural rhythm and lead to some negative health effects. Studies have shown an increase in the risk of heart attacks, strokes, and even car accidents in the days following the time change. This is because the sudden sleep deprivation can put stress on your body and make you less alert.



The CERT team wants to remind everyone to **Spring Forward Safely!** Here are some tips to help you adjust to the time change and avoid any potential hazards:

Gear Up for Sleep: Our bodies need time to adjust to a new sleep schedule. If you can, try going to bed and waking up 15 minutes earlier each day until you get accustomed to the new time.

Lighten Up Your Mornings: As we “spring forward,” mornings will be darker for a while. To avoid falls, consider using nightlights in frequently used areas like hallways and bathrooms. Having a well-lit path will help you navigate safely during those pre-dawn hours.

Double-Check Your Meds: Since routines may change, be extra careful to ensure you’re taking the correct medications at the right times, especially during the first few days following the time change.

Be Extra Cautious Outdoors: Whether you are walking, biking, or driving, be extra cautious during the first few days after the time change. Reduced light in the mornings can make it harder to see and react to potential hazards.

Staying Active Is Key! In addition to these tips, regular exercise can improve your balance, coordination, and overall well-being. This can help reduce your risk of falls, both during the time change and throughout the year.

CERT-SPONSORED SPEAKER SERIES

DEBI WELLS HOOPER, SV CERT MEMBER

Fraud & Scam Prevention Highlights

On February 27, the Symphony Village Community Emergency Response Team (SV CERT) sponsored a presentation by the Centreville Police Department about fraud and scam prevention with pizza and sodas donated by the Beres Group (REMAX Executive Realty) and salad donated by Mamma Mia’s. It was an informative and delicious evening for the 80 residents who attended! We also appreciated that Chief of Police Hobbs made himself available that night for questions; moreover, he is supportive of his officers’ time to educate our community.



Many residents were surprised by new scams described by Sgt. Foster and First-Class Officer Maya. Whether it’s a convincing email, a persuasive phone call, or an enticing online offer, scammers often prey on weaknesses and emotions to alarm and deceive seniors.

Phishing is the term used for fraudulent solicitation techniques used to acquire sensitive personal data. In phishing, the criminal impersonates a legitimate and reputable person or business. For example, you could receive a phishing phone call, email, or text from Medicare requesting your Medicare card number for what *seems to be* a valid reason. Stop! Hang up! Medicare will never call you. Protect your Medicare card number as you would protect a bank account number. That is, only provide it to doctors and those having a need. Another example, a utility company calls and states your account has been compromised or is in arrears and will be deactivated unless you confirm credit card details. Never provide your credit card unless **you** place the call.

Highlights from the Centreville Police Department presentation included topics, such as:

- **Phone calls:** Scammers often pretend to be with a reputable government agency, such as Social Security, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), a utility company, a known business, or a charity. They use technology to make their fraudulent phone number appear legitimate on your caller ID. Never provide financial or personal information to a caller. Instead, make the call yourself and verify.
- **Pressure:** This is a common tactic. Scammers want you to act before you think. This can result in embarrassment so that you don’t even want to *report* the fraud. Never react to pressure or threats (for example, do not react to a caller stating your water will be turned off or your driver’s license revoked, etc.) Instead, hang up and place a call to the business that called you and verify.
- **Payments:** Scammers want money! They will often ask you to pay through a specific method, such as a money order or gift card, payment application on your phone, etc. Instead, call the company in question that you supposedly owe the money, then verify.

- **Computer scams:** Yes, scammers have the ability and technical knowledge to post a pop-up *on your computer screen* with a phone number for you to call. Don't be fooled! Instead, take a photo of the screen with your cell phone, and shut down your computer. Then, research the agency on the pop-up (Microsoft, etc.) and obtain the correct phone number, then verify.
- **Texts and Emails:** Never click on a link sent to you unless you know the sender. Delete it. Then, contact the company directly and verify.
- **Gift cards:** Should only be used for gifts, not payments.

Bottomline: Always resist the pressure to act immediately. Honest businesses will give you time to make a decision. Never provide personal financial information including your Social Security Number, account numbers, or passwords over the telephone or on the Internet if you did not initiate contact. *Emails and Internet pages created by phishers may look exactly like the real thing!*

Scammers are constantly evolving their tactics. Staying one step ahead of them could save you lots of \$\$\$! Each year, the FTC publishes its [Consumer Sentinel Network data book](#). This book is a compilation of various fraud statistics available to law enforcement. In 2001, the first year of reporting, there were 325,000 reports. By 2019, this number had risen to 3.24 million reports of fraud. Since then, the biggest one-year increase happened between 2019 and 2020 when the number of fraud reports rose to 4.7 million (a 47% increase). The numbers have escalated higher over the past several years.

Think this can't happen to you? According to *comparitech.com*, the FBI estimates that [senior citizens lose more than \\$3 billion every year](#) to financial scams. Want to avoid being among the statistics? Then, never act under pressure and always place the call yourself, then verify!

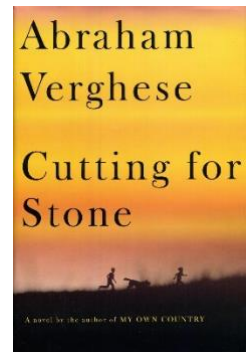
Cut out and save:

REPORT FRAUD & SCAMS	
Medicare	1-800-633-4227
Gift card scams	ReportFraud.ftc.gov
Fraud	ReportFraud.ftc.gov
Centreville Police (Local Administration)	410-758-8437
National Elder Fraud Hotline	1-833-372-8311

We have a new champion!

The SV Book Club met on February 20 and awarded the highest score in Club history. We just hope Jack Hennessey is still proud of us.

The new winner is *Cutting for Stone* by Abraham Verghese. Attendees at this historic event included: Joe Sikes, Jan Withers, Bob Nilsson, Mary Jo Volpicelli, Len and Carol Saltiel, Donna Harkins, Kathryn and Jim Buckheit, Sue Goldberg, JoAnn Walker, Peggy Decker, and Diane Heffernan. After spirited discussion and some last-minute lobbying, the group awarded a score of 9.11 on our 10-point scale.



Previously, *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah held the top spot with a score of 9.10 so, the comparison was razor thin. The previous champ stayed on top for a couple of years so we will see how long this new one will last. Ms. Hannah has a new book, *The Women*, which has been recommended to the Book Club by one of SV's most voracious readers, Pat Ways. Maybe Ms. Hannah would be willing to provide some signed books in defense of her crown. Stay tuned.

Meanwhile author Verghese has provided an extremely enjoyable reading experience with *Cutting for Stone*. His novel is wide-ranging starting from a Carmelite convent in Madras, India, settling in a Mission Hospital in Ethiopia and ending in the Hospital System of New York City. The protagonists are identical twin boys whose mother travelled to Ethiopia from India for their birth. Unfortunately, fate intervenes, and the boys grow up as orphans at the Mission Hospital (locally called "Missing.")

The boys, Shiva and Marion, are adopted and raised by two doctors at Missing. They are drawn to medicine, and both pursue careers as doctors, albeit by separate paths. Being identical twins, they are mostly inseparable growing up and generally indistinguishable. But they have different personalities that lead them down different paths.

The story is infused with much history, starting with the return of Emperor Haile Selassie to Ethiopia following World War II and continuing through a series of coups, some successful and some not, up to the present day. Missing Hospital treats all patients and, during times of turmoil, often become suspected of supporting rebels when they were simply treating sick patients. This dynamic keeps daily life at Missing Hospital interesting.

Marion eventually emigrates and ends up practicing medicine in New York City which allows the author to compare first world health care to that in a third world setting at Missing. The patients are different, the diseases are different, and the resources, both doctors and equipment, vary immensely. Marion's brother Shiva remains in Ethiopia and becomes a leading expert in diseases of his home country.

Author Verghese throws in a couple of love stories, a little guerilla warfare, a long-lost father, as the story works its way to New York City. There, a serious illness appears that challenges the twins to work together as they did when they were in the womb. The twists and turns that lead to the final chapters are impressive and highlight the story-telling chops of the author. Personally, I became enamored of the book in the early chapters because, for me, author Verghese is a veritable artist with words. The Book Club highly recommends *Cutting for Stone*.

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

March 19 *The Twyford Code* by Janice Hallett

April 16 *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus

May 21 *Mad Honey* by Jodie Picoult and Jennifer Finney Boylan

HAVEN MINISTRIES

Did you know that you can donate directly to the Haven Ministries Food Pantry from Amazon? Click on their wish list link below and have the items delivered to Haven Ministries, 206 Del Rhodes Avenue, Queenstown, MD 21658. If you have an Amazon Credit Card, you can use your points for a painless donation!

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3SOMX05LSSMTC?ref=list_d_wl_lfu_nav_2

YARD WASTE

CAROL HODGES

Yard waste service is from March 18, 2024, to December 16, 2024. Waste is collected by Downes Lawn Service. Yard waste pick-up begins on Monday, March 18, 2024, and will continue for the year until December 16, 2024.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

SENIOR CALL CHECK PROGRAM

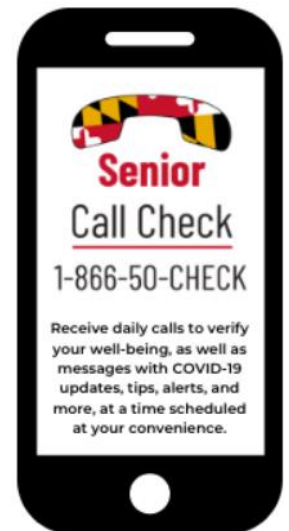
PATRICIA J. JAMISON, PH.D.

Maryland is the first state in the country to start a free, automated telephone service to check on its older residents. If you are a Maryland resident who is 65 years of age or older with a cell or landline phone who lives alone, then this new free program by the State of Maryland may be for you.

How does it work? Every day an automated telephone call will be made at a regularly scheduled time to a participant. If the participant does not answer the call, two more automated calls will be made. If those calls go unanswered, an alternate person chosen by the participant will be called. The failure of that person to answer will result in a call to the local non-emergency service to check on the participant.

To learn more about the program and how to enroll, call 1-866-50-CHECK (1-866-502-4325) or search, Maryland Department of Aging Call Check Program, and click on Senior Call Check Program – Maryland Department of Aging.

Please help spread the word to seniors living alone at home.



HINTS IN THE KITCHEN

ZINA LICHAA

The following is information I have collected for over fifty years and that I now have in my cookbooks.

- ◆ Put chicken stock cubes in the water to boil pasta. If you don't make stock when you roast a chicken, you're throwing away free money. Once the bird has been roasted and carved, I try to break the chicken carcass into a few pieces with my hands and chuck it straight into a large pot, cover it just barely with water, bring it up to a boil, and then drop it to a gentle simmer. This takes a total of five minutes, which you can surely carve out of your day. If you have any aromatics laying around (think onions, shallots, carrots, parsley stems, garlic, ginger, mushrooms), you will only benefit from throwing those in the pot as well.
- ◆ Add a splash of orange juice to pumpkin or banana bread. The acidity really adds some brightness against the spices.
- ◆ Keep ginger in the freezer. Use a grater to grate the frozen ginger into sauces, fried rice, etc. It's easier to work with when it's frozen.
- ◆ Baking powder on chicken skin makes it extra crispy.

- ◆ Save all vegetable scraps—onions, garlic, bell peppers, carrots, celery, herb stems—and collect them in a freezer bag. When it’s full, turn it into stock and then use that stock to cook rice, quinoa, lentils, etc.
- ◆ Keep Parmesan rinds in the freezer for stock, sauces, and stews. I just throw it in after everything else to simmer. It makes a remarkable difference, especially in tomato sauces.
- ◆ Pour leftover stock into ice cube trays so you always have frozen flavor starters.
- ◆ Mix butter and soy sauce in the same dish. It’s one of my favorite flavor combinations. It’s excellent in just about any savory dish, and it works especially well with mushrooms.
- ◆ Add a splash of vinegar to the water to boil potatoes for either potato salad or roasted potatoes. It stops them from falling apart.
- ◆ The microwave is extremely useful to speed up the process of making baked potatoes. I microwave them for 5 minutes, then put them in the oven for 15 minutes. Perfectly baked potatoes in 20 minutes instead of an hour.

CENTREVILLE HAPPENINGS

Queen Anne’s Chorale Presents *the Choral Classics Accompanied by String Quintet*

The days are definitely getting longer, and the chance of snow is getting less. It must be SPRING in Delmarva. Queen Anne’s Chorale, accompanied by a string quintet, presents a program of choral masterworks with selections by Bach, Beethoven, Brahms, Handel, Haydn, Mozart, Mendelssohn, and more!

Centreville Methodist Church will once again host the concerts on the weekend of April 20 at 7 p.m. and April 21 at 3 p.m. The theme is *Chorale Classics*. This concert will feature stunningly beautiful music with a few fun selections added to delight the audience. Each concert includes the Select Ensemble, a traditional audience sing-along, and other special music. Following the concert, singers will greet audience members during a light reception.

Tickets are available online at www.qachorale.org

Adults: \$25; Students (ages 13–17): \$15; Children (12 and under): Free.

Tickets are limited, so please do not hesitate to reserve a spot.

There are also opportunities to support QAC Chorale with donations or sponsorships. For more information, visit www.qachorale.org.

Queen Anne’s Chorale is an all-volunteer, non-auditioned community chorus with the motto “Entertaining, Engaging, Educating since 1989.” The ability to read music is helpful, but not required. We always welcome new singers! Queen Anne’s Chorale is supported in part through grants from the United Way of Queen Anne’s County, the Queen Anne’s County Centre for the Arts, and the Maryland State Arts Council, an agency dedicated to cultivating a vibrant cultural community where the arts thrive.

Registration form: <https://forms.gle/1sax14g43g4XkK4r6>. Questions? Contact Shae Parsley at sparsley@qac.org.

Centreville's YMCA opened in October 2023 and is a beautiful facility that includes just about everything you might expect including a world class pool, top of the line exercise equipment, and plenty of activities too numerous to list.

What you might not expect is it is home to an Active Aging Center for Seniors where you can participate in many programs, activities, and some facilities without being a member of the YMCA.

For example, seniors can use the Pool Lap Lanes or the Sauna most weekdays from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. for free. In addition, seniors can also use the Wellness Center (10 a.m. to 11 a.m.) and the Walking Track (11 a.m. to 12 Noon) for free. In between those times, there are scheduled games, yoga, and Zumba to name a few. The best way to find out more is to pick up a monthly schedule outside of the Aging Center for Seniors office that lists all the activities and times for each month.

But wait, there is more! The Aging Center for Seniors will also feed you lunch. Most weekdays, the staff serves seniors lunch. For those age 60+, there is a suggested donation of \$3 for the cost of the meal. All money given for meals is given anonymously; no one is turned away for an inability to pay. To participate, you must first fill out a form that makes you eligible to sign up for lunches. Once you hand in your filled out form, you are good to go. Sign-up for lunches is required two weeks in advance (a minimum of ten lunch requests are needed each day to order). Meals are given out first to those who have signed up in advance. Any extra meals are available on a first-come basis. Each month's menus are available outside the Aging Center for Seniors office.



SKYWARN

The Queen Anne's County Department of Emergency Services and our local National Weather Service have teamed up to provide TWO public offerings of the SKYWARN weather awareness and safety training on Friday, April 19, 2024. The morning session will be held from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and the evening session from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Both sessions will be held at the Emergency Operations Center in Centreville, MD.

This class is highly recommended for those who enjoy weather topics, want to learn more about it, or want to become better prepared. The training is FREE and is a great opportunity to learn about local weather hazards and potential impacts to our community.

Those interested in attending either session can register at the link below or scan the flyer QR code.



Hope Through Shelter, Clothing, Food
and Support

TUESDAY EVENING MEET-N-GREET

APRIL 9TH | 6:00 PM

SYMPHONY VILLAGE CLUBHOUSE

PLEASE SIGN-UP IN THE WALL STREET ROOM
IF YOU ARE ATTENDING



PETER GRIM

Executive Director



MICHELLE WALLS

Business Development
& Fundraising

Join us for Wine &
Light Hors d'oeuvres
and learn about ways
to give Hope in QA
County

Give HOPE
to someone in need.

**Fundraising
Volunteerism
Upcoming Events**

www.Haven-Ministries.org



OPENING MARCH 30TH 2024



HERRON
CRANE
HERITAGE
Art & Music
EXHIBITION



The Queen Anne's County Centre for the Arts is excited to invite you to an exhibition of works by a very distinguished family of artists, spanning artistic disciplines, generations and styles. The opening is 6pm - 9pm on March 30th, there will be light hors d'oeuvres, drink, and music by the Dick Durham Trio. The exhibit runs from March 30th - April 30th at the Queen Anne's County Centre for the Arts, 206 S. Commerce Street, Centreville 21617. 410 - 758 - 2520

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

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, 844 645-8387.

Spring Card Party & Luncheon: at the Oxford Firehouse, Friday, April 5, at 11:30 a.m. \$25 includes luncheon and party. Bring your own cards; Mahjongg, Tripoley, and board games welcome. Make checks payable to the Oxford Fire Company Auxiliary.

Live Irish Music and Dance with Footworks Percussive Dance Ensemble (All Ages):

Saturday, March 16, at 10:30 a.m. at the Kennard African American Cultural Center.

Charley's Aunt at the Church Hill Theatre: March 16, 22, and 23 at 7:30 p.m., and March 17 and 24 at 2 p.m.

St. Patrick's Day Parade and Potato Races: Downtown Easton, 5:30 p.m.

MSO Concert: Chesapeake College at 3 p.m. www.midatlanticsymphony.org

KIFA: open Thursdays through Sundays from 1 – 4 p.m., www.kifa.us, 410 643-7424

- **8th Annual Paint Stevensville and Kent Island Surrounds:** Now accepting applications. Event from Wednesday, May 29 – Saturday, June 1; you can join or watch artists from all over the region.

Queen Anne's County YMCA: Swimming pool, sauna, basketball, exercise equipment, all kinds of classes including Water Yoga, Chair Yoga, Zumba, etc., at 210 Vincet Street, 443- 262-9994

Includes the Active Aging Center:

- **Needle Felting Workshop:** art of sculpting using special needles, no crafting experience necessary, Monday, March 18, at 10 a.m.

- **Caregiver Support Group:** Wednesday, April 10, at 1:30 p.m., Kramer Center, 104 Powell St., Centreville. 410-758-0848, ext. 2714
- **Gourd Birdhouse Craft:** Friday, March 22, at 10 a.m.

Chestertown: www.townofchestertown.com

- **Spring Birdhouse Scene:** Paint a birdhouse at RiverArts, 315 High St., all supplies provided Friday, March 15, at 8 p.m.
- **Pottery Classes:** Saturday, March 16, 23, 30, April 6, 13, from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. at 203 Truslow Rd.
- **How To Write Your Artist Bio:** Saturday, March 16, from 2 – 4 p.m. at RiverArts
- **Our Intuitive Powers: Their What, Why, and How:** Sunday, March 17, at Coventry Farms
- **Resonance Concert: Beo String Quartet:** Bach, Neukom, Shostakovich. Sunday, March 17, at 3 p.m. St. Paul's, Kent Parish Hall, 7579 Sandy Bottom Road.
- **Everyday Weather & More:** Thursday, March 21, at 4:30 p.m. at the Kent County Public Library, Chestertown Branch, learn how to stay safe during dangerous weather. And **Skywarn:** Become a Weather Spotter at 6 p.m.
- **Timothy Kern Annual Sporting Clay Shoot:** Saturday, March 23, at 9 a.m. at the Hopkins Hunting Sporting Clays – rain or shine!
- **Fermented Dairy: Butter, Kefir & Yogurt Cooking Class:** Saturday, March 23, from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the Eastern Shore Food Lab, 2nd floor, 236 Cannon St.
Sourdough Bread Class: Saturday, March 30, from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Breakfast Meats: Bacon, Sausage & Scrapple Class: Saturday, April 6, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Cheesemaking Class: Saturday, April 13, at 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- **Poetry Reading by Michael Dumanis:** Wednesday, March 27, at 6 p.m. at the Rose O'Neill Literary House, 407 Washington Ave.
- **Intro to the Potter's Wheel with Marilee Schumann:** Classes will be held at the Clay Studio Chestertown RiverArts, 200 B High Street. from 6 – 8:30 p.m. on Thursdays from April 4 – May 9.
- **Water Color for Beginners:** Wednesday, April 10, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., and April 11, at Chestertown RiverArts.
- **Concert Series: Young- Ah Tak Piano:** Saturday, April 13, at 7:30 p.m. at Washington College Gibson Center, Hotchkiss Recital Hall
- **Kaitlyn McCaffery Jazz Vocal Recital:** Wednesday, April 17, at 7:30 p.m., Washington College, Hotchkiss Recital Hall.

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.
- **Shuffleboard League:** Thursdays at 6 p.m.
- **Bingo:** every 2nd Wednesday of the month. Doors open at 6 p.m., game starts at 7 p.m.

Queen Annes'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.
- **Family Law Clinic:** Lawyer available for free limited legal advice Thursday, April 4 at 5 – 7 p.m. at the Centreville branch.
- **Crime & a Cuppa:** Join mystery reader extraordinaire Kathleen Wilson for an hour of mystery Saturdays, March 30, and April 27 at 10 a.m. at the Centreville Branch.
- **Must Love Books:** Pull up a chair and discuss your favorite romance novels. Saturday, March 16, and April 13 at 10 a.m., at the Kent Island branch.
- **The Chesapeake Bay – Past, Present, and Future:** Historian and award-winning author Ned Tillman will discuss the 300-year history of the northern Chesapeake Bay on Tuesday, March 19, at 6 p.m. at the Kent Island Branch.
- **AARP Tax Aide Tax Preparation:** IRS certified volunteers to provide free one-on-one tax preparation services. Appointments required. 410-643-8161 Thursdays, March 21, 28, and April 4 from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., Kent Island Branch.
- **Telescope Night with the Mobile Library at Sudlersville Park (all ages):** Friday, March 22, at 7:30 p.m.
- **Digitize your Likeness! 3D Scan and Print Your Face (all ages):** First come, first serve 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. on Thursday, March 28, at the Centreville Branch.
- **Outdoor Yoga:** Bring a mat. Weather permitting, Wednesday, April 10, at 6:30 p.m. at the Centreville Branch.
- **Ask a Gardner:** Master gardeners on hand to answer your questions about gardening, pests, plant problems and insects, etc. Saturday, April 13, from 10 a.m. – 12 noon at the Kent Island Branch.

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

- **2024 Juried Art Show:** Pastels, watercolors, oils, acrylics, sculptures, and more by artists Meheves Lelic and Irene Pantelis, on display at the Arboretum through Friday, April 26.
- **Healing Walks:** Join naturalist Jenny Houghton on the first Friday of each month at 10 a.m.
- **Everything You Wanted To Know About Hummingbirds:** Wednesday, March 20, at 10 a.m.
- **Plein Air Basics:** Join naturalist and impressionist oil painter to paint landscapes on Sundays, March 24, April 28, and May 26 from 1 – 3:30 p.m.
- **Spring Plant Sale ends Thursday, March 28.**
- **Beautiful Flight: Monarch Decline and How to Help:** Saturday, March 30, at 10 a.m.
- **Introduction to the MD Biodiversity Project:** Learn about and observe the natural ecosystems of Maryland's Coastal Plain, Thursday, April 4, at 1 p.m.

- **Spring Songbird Migration Walk:** Join Naturalist Jim Wilson to track migrating birds, Saturdays, April 6 and 13 at 8 a.m.
- **Wild and Wonderful: How Native Plants are Transforming a Formal Estate-Turned Public Garden:** Saturday, April 6, at 1 p.m.
- **First Saturday Walk:** Join a docent and explore the Arboretum's native plant habitats, Saturday, April 6, at 10 a.m.
- **Nature Journaling:** Create a personal interpretation of what you see on Sundays, April 7, 21, and May 5, from 1 to 3 p.m.
- **Rainbow Walk:** Leisurely group walk Thursday, April 11, at 5:30 p.m.
- **Watercolor II: Painting & Composition:** Fridays, April 12, 19, 26, and May 10.
- **Shorebirds: Are They Really that Hard to Identify:** Wednesdays, April 17 and 24, at 10 a.m., and a field trip to Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge on Wednesday, May 1.
- **Nature Prints on Clay:** Clay artist Paul Aspell creates a ceramic piece by impressing natural material into clay surface. Thursdays, April 18, and 25, and May 2.

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 – 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+zoom), Zoom, Field trips, Recordings. <https://chesapeakeforum.org>
- **Institute for Adult Learning:** 45 courses, history current events, brain and body health, literature, crafts and more. \$90 fee for unlimited courses. Brochures in Club House. www.instituteforadultlearning.org

SYMPHONY VILLAGE CONTACTS

Rebecca Wagner, CMCA, AMS
General Manager, Chief Operating Officer
gm@symphonyvillagehoa.com

Julia Neph, CMCA
Assistant General Manager
agm@symphonyvillagehoa.com

Nick Oliver, Maintenance Technician
maintenance@symphonyvillagehoa.com

Board of Directors group email
Board@symphonyvillagehoa.com

Symphony Village Welcome
SymphonyVillageWelcome@gmail.com

P&C Newsletter Editors
librettoeditors@gmail.com

Clubhouse 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