



Photo by George Drake

LIBRETTO

SYMPHONY VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2020

Vol. XV No. 6

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!



Tom & Julie Seymour
154 Encore Court

Josephine Lynch & William L. Blake
126 Harmony Way



The Symphony Village Management Office
is temporarily closed to walk-in traffic.

To submit an Exterior Modification Form or talk with HOA Staff, please call 410-758-8500 or email the Staff at email addresses on the last page of the *Libretto*.

This policy is scheduled to last until residents are notified via eBlast that this policy has changed. Stay safe!

To contact the Village Management and Work Order Request:

<https://svcentreville.squarespace.com/village-management>

<https://svcentreville.squarespace.com/work-order-request-home>


2020 HOA BOD

SV BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PAT FOX, VICE PRESIDENT

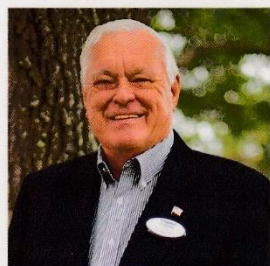

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ACTION ITEMS JUNE 5, 2020

- The Board ratified for the record unanimous electronic motions made between March 6 and April 3, 2020. These details were reported in the April 2020 *Libretto*.
- The Board ratified for the record the following unanimous electronic motions made after April 3, 2020:
 - Approved the March 6, 2020, Board meeting minutes with small typo changes including misspelling of a name.
 - Approved a motion to engage in a contract with Nexamp, a solar farm company. Nexamp will provide cost saving energy credits via a solar farm located in Chester, Maryland, through Delmarva Power. This alternative energy arrangement has been approved by the Maryland Public Service Commission. The solar farm and panels are located offsite so there is no physical or aesthetic impact to the community or Clubhouse. Nexamp estimates a saving of approximately \$3,055 annually on Symphony Village common area electrical expenses.
- **Ground Installation Form Revision** Approved unanimously clarifying language change to the Ground Installation Form recommended by the Covenants Committee which will state:
 - Annual and Perennial plantings (plants with little or no woody growth) do not require approval of the Covenants Committee or a Ground Installation Form when planted within an existing garden bed. This language replaces “Completion of a Ground Installation Form is not required for an existing or HOA previously approved garden bed.”
- **Roof Shingle Color** – Approved unanimously a motion recommended by the Covenants Committee that Exterior Modifications submitted for replacement of roof shingles (with the GAF Timberline UHD Charcoal color 3-Tab or Architectural shingle recently approved by the Committee) can be authorized by the General Manager.
- **Non-Emergency Exterior Modifications** – Approved a motion to change the March 26, 2020, Board vote to only accept emergency EMFs for leaking roofs and windows due to the pandemic crisis and resume regular Committee operations. With this motion passing with four yes votes, the Covenants Committee will resume their review of all Exterior Modifications submitted by residents.



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DISCOUNTED ELECTRICAL POWER THROUGH NEXAMP SOLAR FARM AVAILABLE FOR SV RESIDENTS

PAT FOX, VICE PRESIDENT

The Symphony Village Board recently approved, by a unanimous email vote, the signing of an agreement with Nexamp Solar Farm that produces alternative energy which feeds into the Delmarva Power grid. This arrangement will save the HOA an estimated 10% (or approximately \$3,055) annually on our electrical costs for the Clubhouse and other common area meters such as the irrigation system pumps. There are no upfront fees to Nexamp, and the contract can be cancelled within 90 days with no penalty. All power is still supplied by Delmarva wires and equipment and no solar panel or boxes are installed on the property. This arrangement is approved by the Maryland Public Service Commission.

This saving is also available to our SV residents! A number of SV neighbors have already signed up for this savings. You may contact the company at gosolar@nexamp.com. The Nexamp phone number is 1-800-945-5124. There are a few spaces left in their Chester, Maryland, farm. They are also building a new farm in Elkton, which will be open next spring. Get your place now!

If there was ever a problem with the solar farm, you would seamlessly continue to get your power from Delmarva. Any excess power you may use would be from Delmarva at the regular rate. You will get the invoice for the discounted power from Nexamp and an invoice for any excess power or regular monthly administrative costs from Delmarva Power.

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- Discounts to Symphony Village residents
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As you may recall, in last year’s election the voters passed a referendum adding two more Town Council seats for a total of five. The disputed election of Josh Shonts, which went to the State Election Board to resolve, is also being reopened as Mr. Shonts is resigning and moving out of state. That means we have four of five seats on the ballot for Monday, October 5. Jeff Morgan of Northbrook is one of the four and is up for reelection; it is unsure if he is running again.

Symphony Village needs representation on the Centreville Town Council—at least one seat or even two. We have not been directly represented for a number of years now. We need to have someone protecting our interests, especially our taxes. This is our opportunity! I am aware of one person who is interested, and we need to rally around.

Symphony Village represents nearly 700 eligible voters. We can easily bring one or two across the finish line. Mark Monday, October 5, on your calendar. Who knows if we will have polling places open or voting by mail, but vote we must to get our proper representation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COVENANTS UPDATE

DEBI WELLS, COVENANTS COMMITTEE CHAIR

COVENANTS COMMITTEE – STAGE TWO: EXTERIOR MODIFICATIONS RESUME!

We have all adapted to a new way of life as a result of the COVID–19 pandemic. Since early March, the Covenants Committee also quickly adapted—to limit the spread of coronavirus by cancellation of nonessential meetings and exterior modification reviews. We are now in Stage Two of Governor Hogan’s *Maryland Strong: Roadmap to Recovery* and have again adjusted the Committee’s responsibilities to best suit functioning effectively during this stage of the pandemic. Starting on June 8, the Committee again began its review of all exterior modifications, with some changes.

We’ve learned some valuable lessons during Stage One of the pandemic. Social distancing and wearing face masks helped to prevent the spread of COVID–19. As the Committee moves forward, we will use both as important tools. If an on-site review is necessary, an exchange of information prior (via email and telephone) will be emphasized with a request for residents and Covenants members to *socially distance* themselves and *wear a face mask* if it is necessary to speak in person. Other modifications to the [Covenants Committee process was outlined in an eBlast sent on June 8](#). Please review this information if you are submitting a new Exterior Modification Form.

Bringing a contractor into your home is typically normal. But, right now we’re not dealing with normal circumstances. While in Stage Two we are still grappling with a major health crisis. As such, you may want to think twice before hiring a contractor; however, that doesn’t mean you need to postpone all home projects. Stick to outdoor work! This may be a good time to get exterior modifications (landscaping, painting, roofing, gutters, etc.) completed and all are projects that don’t require a contractor to step a foot inside your home. It is also good for the economy! Please remember to also use the important tools the Covenants Committee will be using—social distancing and face masks!

On behalf of the Covenants Committee, we look forward to working with you on your exterior modifications and wish the best for you and your families. Stay safe!



For Symphony Village residents who may have missed the recent HOA meeting, and as a further description of what is happening with our irrigation system, a brief summary follows:

Our current system was initially established back in 2006 with the drilling of three deepwater irrigation wells on our property. Two additional wells were drilled in subsequent years, in coordination with the “build out” of the entire community. All wells were drilled to approximately 380 feet deep, with the well motor and pump placed at about 160 feet down. These wells are “artisan” type wells that means the deepwater aquifer pushes the water up the well shaft to about 85 feet below the surface (well above our motors and pumps). As we irrigate our community, the water in each well will drop, but not below 125 feet, still well above our equipment. This is the source for all our irrigation watering; it is very separate from the water you receive from the town into your homes. The local government limits us to extracting no more than 12 million gallons of water from this aquifer each season.

The builder of Symphony Village divided the community into five partitions, assigning each partition to a separate well. When one well fails, we can use another well to service the affected portion of Symphony Village. This has worked reasonably well for our community over the years. In 2018 we lost well #5 for reasons unknown. The well pump apparently overheated and fused itself to the well casing, so that it cannot be removed and replaced. We subsequently reallocated the Village into two halves, each being served by two wells. This has worked in 2019 and is the plan for 2020.

This year, our new irrigation maintenance company (Montgomery Irrigation) recommended that we have a series of “inspections and performance tests” done on our four remaining deepwater wells. This is consistent with the recommendation of our Irrigation Design Consultant, who is also looking at the system. As such, the intent now is to do the planning and specifications for having this effort completed in the fall of 2020, after we have finished with the irrigation for this season. If this exercise dictates some upgrades or changes to the wells are required, we can do that over the winter months and ultimately be insured the remaining wells (now 14 years old) can satisfy our irrigation needs.

As of this writing, Montgomery Irrigation has completed 96 repairs and/or adjustments to sprinkler heads, broken pipes, wiring, etc. They have ordered a component for pump #2, which will enable them to complete this start-up testing phase. After that will come the full residence audit, where we and the contractors can monitor the ongoing operation of the residence watering programs, and then the system will begin routine watering for the season.

Just as last year, we will water six days a week, beginning around 4 or 5 a.m. and finishing by 8 a.m. The turf at each residence will be watered three times a week and the front beds two times per week. The Common Areas will be watered on alternate days from the residences. The Landscape & Irrigation Committee webpage (on the Symphony Village Website) has the residence watering schedule; so, you may look up by address when the watering for your home will begin and end.

We thank you for your support and understanding and will keep all residents aware of the progress as we move forward.

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Coronavirus Librettos

The committee has been publishing the *Libretto* in April, May, and now June even though the Clubhouse was closed. We know many of you do not like to read the newsletter online, so thank you for doing so during these trying times. Thanks to all of the authors who submitted articles for us.

Free Personal Ads

Residents are able to place ads in the *Libretto*. Simply send the brief description and possible photo to the editors.

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

ARTISANS GUILD NEWS

SUE CANFIELD, CHAIR

A group of Artisans from Symphony Village has been getting together on a Zoom conference once a week. (Thank you, George Drake.) We are taking turns recommending artists and videos from YouTube. It is challenging, exciting, and keeps us painting. Each week we will view a different artist to learn new techniques, and we meet and share our paintings with each other. Each month we will share one of our favorite paintings with you. Our first attempt was painting trees. The artist was Geoff Kersey, Summer and Autumn Trees. The next was the peony flower. The artists were Emma LeFebvre and Ellen Crimi-Trent. This past week we watched artist Karen Rice show us atmospheric techniques painting fields of flowers.

We hope you enjoy these paintings. Want to join us? Send me an email!



Trees by Peggy Decker



Peonies by Cathy Olson



Peony by Kathy McManus



Bonnie Griffith June 2020



Field of Flowers by Sue Canfield



Trees by George Drake

BIRD CLUB

LINDA BLUME



The Carolina Wren is a permanent resident in SV and at only 5" to 5.5" is fairly easy to identify with its white eye stripe and upturned tail. This wren is more brightly colored than most wrens and has a rich musical song. Pairs remain together all year, and they may mate for life. They nest in a cavity of some kind including natural hollows in trees, but also in artificial sites such as nest boxes, crevices in buildings, on a shelf, or other unique locations around our homes. The wren's diet is mostly insects, but they will add berries, small fruits, and some seeds in winter. The wren may also visit a suet feeder.

BOCCE BANTER

PATRICIA CIPRIANO

Join us for open bocce each Wednesday from 6:30–7:30 p.m. No experience necessary, just stroll over to the bocce courts and the players will make room for you on a team.

The more the merrier. Remember to bring your masks, hand sanitizer, and a cold drink!

Let the good times roll!

SYMPHONY VILLAGE OUTREACH

SUE CANFIELD

Save the Date: **Shredding Day** at Symphony Village
Mary Ciesielski is generously donating a **Shredding Day!**

Thursday, June 25, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Clubhouse Parking Lot

Donations for the Symphony Village Outreach Program (SVOPI)



PICKLEBALL – SCHEDULE AND LESSONS

ROSEMARY ROSENBERGER

Greetings fellow Villagers! Pickleball is back in full swing. Please consider joining in for some fun, laughs, exercise, and fresh air with us! Starting Tuesday, June 16, the schedule for SV play will be as follows:

- ◆ Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 9 a.m.
- ◆ Saturday morning at 10 a.m.

LESSONS: Interested in learning more about the game and how to play? In addition to scheduled playing times above, we will also offer two times during the week to provide instruction on how to play for those interested in giving it a try. Those sessions will be:

- ◆ Wednesdays, 6:30–7:30 p.m.
- ◆ Saturday, 9–10 a.m. followed by play starting at 10 a.m.

Take a stroll to the courts and check it out!

We look forward to you joining in the fun! Stay safe and have a happy summer!

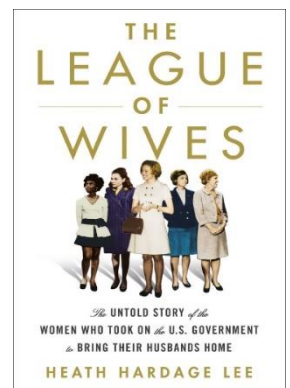
COME AND JOIN US! ALL ARE WELCOME!



READING FOR FUN – MAY 2020 REVIEW JOE SIKES

The SV Book Club met on May 19 to discuss *The League of Wives* by Heath Hardage Lee. Once again members beamed in from all over Symphony Village to include: Joe Sikes, Jan Withers, Bob Nilsson, Cathy Olson, Jim & Kathryn Buckheit, Karen Kram, Sue Goldberg, Kathleen Sullivan, Celia Love, JoAnn Walker, Peggy Decker, Patricia McManus, Charlotte Kurst, and Mary Jo Volpicelli.

Our book for May describes the experiences of the women whose husbands were prisoners of war (POWs) during the Vietnam War. The story starts from the early days of the war (about 1965) and follows their stories until their celebrated return in 1973. The central figure in the story is Sybil Stockdale, wife of James Stockdale who was shot down in 1965 and was the senior American POW during his captivity. As more POWs were captured, the cadre of wives also increased including Sybil's good friend Jane Denton. Jane's husband, Jeremiah Denton, was a Naval Academy classmate of James Stockdale. As much as I enjoy having Academy classmates living in Symphony Village, I don't think I would have chosen to move into the Hanoi Hilton with them.



The initial challenge these military wives confronted was to be able to function daily through their grief. Often, lack of legal authority hindered their ability to accomplish mundane daily tasks. Even paychecks were sent overseas, and the husbands were not there to receive them. Additionally, the wives did not know whether the men had died, been captured, or were classified as missing in action (MIA). The North Vietnamese provided almost no information on POWs and blocked the Red Cross from delivering mail and packages.

As the ranks of POW wives expanded, they started to reach out to each other for support. Because the men

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were deployed overseas, the wives were spread out at military bases across the country, forced to communicate using expensive long-distance phone calls. (Star Trek had the only mobile phones of the era.) Eventually, they formed the National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia to facilitate release of prisoners and accounting of the missing.

In their efforts to seek assistance and information about their husbands, the wives were met with silence from the North Vietnamese and resistance from the U.S. Government and military. They learned the inner workings of the State/Defense Departments in the Johnson and Nixon Administrations to better apply pressure. They became media savvy when they realized their power to influence two Administrations facing vehement anti-war protests. Many of the wives travelled the world and arranged secret meetings with North Vietnamese delegations. For the most part, they did not support anti-war efforts since their husbands had been fighting the war. But they learned that the anti-war movement had more success at facilitating communication with the prisoners and adapted to leverage that connection.

The book revisits a lot of the inside story of how the Johnson and Nixon Administrations struggled to exit the Vietnam War. For those who watched the Ken Burns documentary on Vietnam, many of the characters will be familiar. Admiral Stockdale was the President of the Naval War College when I was a student in the late 1970s and his lectures were memorable. This book does not, however, include a lot of detail on the personal relationships or the struggles of the POWs. (see Note below)

However, as the wives meet one impediment after another, the book itself becomes repetitive as they continually have their hopes dashed. As a result, the book is not a “page turner” and the score awarded by the club reflects that. Any frustration we felt in reading the book only highlights how painful the actual experience was for wives whose husbands were in captivity for as much as seven years! We scored the book as 6.4 out of 10.

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Upcoming books are listed below. We plan to continue meeting virtually using Zoom technology until normalcy returns. Invitations will be sent directly to those wishing to attend providing meeting ID and password information. If you wish to participate, contact me at: sikes.withers@yahoo.com

Tuesday, June 16

Turn of the Key by Ruth Ware

Tuesday, July 21

The River of Doubt: Theodore Roosevelt's Darkest Journey

by Candice Millard

Tuesday, August 18

The Dutch House by Ann Patchett

Tuesday, September 15

The Deep South by Paul Theroux

Note: The Stockdales wrote a personal first-hand account, *In Love and War*, with chapters alternating between husband and wife. It better describes their personal struggles. I read it while at the War College and recommend for anyone interested in their story.

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THANK YOU FOR VOTING US BEST OPTICIAN

The Symphony Village Name Tag Sale...

Postponed until the Clubhouse is reopened...

At that time, an SV e-blast will be sent as a reminder with details on how to order and the cost. Thank you!

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

NEIGHBOR TO NOTE

DEBI WELLS, PUBLICATIONS & COMMUNICATIONS

HEALTHCARE HEROISM: MEET MARIA KOSZALKA, RN, ED.D. !

There continue to be many heroes, on many levels, during the international COVID-19 pandemic. Among these heroes, please meet our Symphony Village neighbor, Dr. Maria V. Koszalka. On most days you will see Maria walking her pup, Alfie, after work during dusk. (Maria's father's name was Alfonso. After his passing, she named her pup in loving memory of her dad.) You'll know Maria when you see her, she always has a friendly smile...and Alfie! You'd never guess her days are filled with challenges and, now, struggles because of the pandemic. As the Vice President of Patient Care Services and Chief Nurse at Johns Hopkins Bayview, Maria is responsible for the nursing staff supporting the Medical Center's clinical departments and those caring for patients. This is a huge undertaking if you consider the reputation of Johns Hopkins Bayview, which has a Level II Trauma Center and receives 80,000 visitors weekly—and that was *before* the pandemic!

Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center is one of six Johns Hopkins Medicine Hospitals and is recognized for its Centers of Excellences in programs such as the Women’s Center for Public Health, Asthma and Allergy Center, Memory and Alzheimer Treatments, Comprehensive Stroke, Total Hip and Total Knee Replacement, and Spine Program. It utilizes a multidisciplinary approach to enhance teaching and clinical research and is home of the Johns Hopkins Burn Center—the only adult burn trauma center in Maryland. Additionally, Maria is proud of being an integral part of this hospital’s outreach program. That is, Johns Hopkins Bayview seeks opportunities to educate members of the Baltimore community (on diverse topics from how to gain employment, on health care topics, and how to stay safe with COVID–19 year round) by providing physicians, nurses, and clinical experts to speak at local churches and with other organizations who want to learn.

Maria embarked on her goal to be a nurse by studying at Stony Brook University of New York. She resonated with its motto: To Learn, To Search, To Serve. With continued dedication to her chosen field, Maria furthered her education at the Teachers College, Columbia University (MA and Ed. D.) and at the Johnson & Johnson Wharton Fellows Program for Nurse Executives. So, it will probably not surprise you, with Maria’s credentials, that she also supports The Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing by lecturing on nursing leadership and patient care and serves as an advisor on educational programs for nursing management. One can only imagine how busy Maria is because of her chosen career, professional memberships, hobbies, travel, and family!

Maria and her husband, Mike, met as professionals working in a New York hospital. Mike was a police officer; Maria was a nurse. Mike will tell you Maria is the best nurse possible, having experienced her help first-hand when he was in the emergency room after a police-related car accident. Maria and Mike have three children, Michael, Kathy, and Brian, and nine grandchildren. Son, Michael, is also in the medical field as a certified nurse anesthetist at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York. During this pandemic, Maria has kept closely in touch with what is going on at son Michael’s hospital. Not just because he is her son; instead, because Maria is an advocate for sharing information and collaboration across the medical field and hospitals.

Maria and Mike enjoy a lot of fun together, especially travel to Maui where she likes to photograph whales. They enjoy nature—including her photography of birds and flowers. Walking, hiking, golf, swimming, and travel are Maria’s favorite activities. After a hard day’s work, her idea of a great way to relax is to head to our beautiful Clubhouse pool to swim.

Even a short conversation with Maria results in an observation of what makes a great nurse. She is capable, independent, and strong, which makes a great advocate! That’s what we all want in a nurse, right? Those attributes have been exceptionally useful during the pandemic. Like many others who are using their courage to serve patients despite danger to themselves, Maria and Johns Hopkins Bayview met the challenge! In early March, Maria proudly let neighbors know her hospital was already making their own face masks, hand sanitizers, and even creating their own COVID–19 test kits!

As a small show of appreciation for Maria’s tireless work on the frontline, her Symphony Way neighbors recently gave her a clapping ovation as she returned home and pulled into her driveway (collage of event pictured on next page.) All neighbors wore face masks, and many made posters expressing gratitude. While socially distancing, Maria thanked everyone. She then let everyone know “each and every one of us has a place in God’s world. My place was to be a nurse and to serve our patients and our country at this particular time. I am greatly honored by that opportunity and appreciate everyone’s support. Thank you!” Actually, we thank you, Maria, for all you do and for so many! We’re very glad Maria and Mike are our neighbors—they are a great asset to our community!

Know someone on the frontline? This month let’s be sure to take time to show gratitude for all the men and women who are getting us through this pandemic. From medical professionals, grocery workers, truck drivers, teachers, curbside and delivery restaurants to *all frontline workers who are putting themselves at risk, thank you!*



Symphony Way residents waiting to greet Maria Koszalka, RN, Ed.D.



Photos by George Drake; Collage by Debi Wells

Photos by George Drake—collage by Debi Wells

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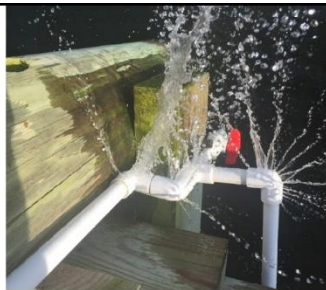
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DAY TRIP—ANNMARIE SCULPTURE GARDEN—SOLOMONS, MARYLAND

KATHY McMANUS

On what was finally, a beautiful spring day with blue skies, mild temperatures, and a soft breeze, we decided to plan a day trip. I had clipped an article on the sculpture garden some time ago and after finding they were open, we set out. It was about a 90-minute drive over the Bay Bridge and south on Routes 2 and 4. We passed through towns we had only heard about—Edgewater, Harwood, Huntington, Friendship, and more! It was an easy drive with little traffic.

The Garden consists of 30 acres with paths winding through the woods and grassy areas. The property was donated to Calvert County in 1991 by Francis and Annmarie Koenig with the stipulation that it be developed into a sculpture garden. Many of the works are on loan from the Smithsonian (Hirschhorn Gallery) and there's a surprise at every turn! The property also houses a Studio School and Arts building but both are currently closed due to COVID-19. Non-member suggested donation is \$5 per person as of June 12.



After touring the Gardens, we took a short drive to Solomons Island, a small, charming community on the water. There seemed to be adequate parking and a boardwalk with benches for a leisurely stroll. It was a great way to spend the day! Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center, 13470 Dowell Rd, Solomons, MD 20688

WELCOME HOME DEBBIE AND REGGIE!

For anyone who doesn't know Debbie and Reggie...they sold their house here and moved to South Carolina close to Myrtle Beach. They have returned and repurchased the **same** house they had previously owned!

Reason for moving back? They missed their friends!



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SYMPHONY VILLAGE TRIKE CRAZE

MARY DRAKE

Keep your eyes open when you are walking or driving around Symphony Village, and you will see a plethora of trikes (tricycles): red trikes, blue trikes, green trikes, and black trikes. I've counted 15 of them! Why are so many people jumping on this new craze? There are at least nine good reasons why residents are purchasing trikes.

1. First and foremost, triking is fun.
2. It is more stable than a bicycle; and, if you are experiencing balance issues, a trike is for you. The stability of the trike helps you to mount and dismount with ease.
3. Trikes offer a degree of safety because they stay on track unlike a bicycle.
4. If a tricycle has a basket, it doubles as a beast of burden; and you can haul your pool or gym items and can leave the car at home. If you are really gung-ho, you can ride to the Food Lion and get some groceries. That hill on the trail is a doozy, and you will need to build up your muscles before you attempt that climb.
5. The comfort of a trike seat is unparalleled. The upright position of the traditional trike and the wide seat may be beneficial to people who have back problems.
6. Never ridden a bike? Then the trike is for you. You can just get on the trike and pedal off. Folks who have ridden a bike before may have to get used to the differences between a bike and a trike, but it is an easy transition.
7. Riding will give you a health boost and is recommended for people who have diabetes, arthritis, inflammatory diseases, etc.
8. If you are in good health, you can optimize your fitness level. Trike riding at least one hour a week will increase muscle strength and build aerobic health.
9. Triking enhances coordination. The various muscles of the arms and legs coordinate to pedal, mount and dismount; the hands and eyes coordinate to steer—all this happens in conjunction and unison with the brain.

Trikes are in high demand at this moment, but don't jump into buying one without proper research. You will find plenty of information on the Internet. There are upright, traditional, recumbent, motorized, reverse pedal, folding, and chopper style trikes.

Before you buy a trike, consider how you want to use it. Get a trike with a built-in basket if you want to cart your dog or your groceries. A folding trike might be best if you plan to take it to the beach for riding the boardwalk. Consider a bike with a motor that you can utilize when a hill gets a little too high.

When you find your dream bike, check to see if a local bike store carries the brand or if they are willing to assemble it for you. Ask the dealer if he is able to get parts easily if you need a repair.

Happy trike hunting. The trike community hopes to see you soon with a new set of wheels.



Photo by George Drake

Trike Peloton—(L to R): Christa Fookes, Mary Drake, Catherine Amsel, Harriet Goodmuth, Joanna Nies, Tom Baker, Janet Eby, Kathryn Marchi, Norma Cantwell (number one tricyclist), Anne Drescher, Bob Drescher



Photo by George Drake

Trikes and Cavalier King Charles Spaniels

(L to R): Mary Drake & Muffie, Norma Cantwell & Branson, Kathryn Marchi & Charlie

SENIOR MOMENTS & SV HUMOR

LINDA BLUME

In the past, the *Libretto* has included Senior Moments and SV Humor Stories—anonously, of course (but sometimes everyone knew anyway). With a blast to the past, please enjoy four:

Home Sweet Home (reprinted from the August 2009 *Libretto*)



The all-too-familiar story goes something like this. A homeowner pulls into the driveway and is quite surprised that the garage door opener is not working. Several more frustrated taps and then a glance at the home tells the story. He/she was in front of the wrong house. And yes, several houses away, that garage door has been going up, going down, going up.

You've been there, right?

Who are You? (reprinted from the September 2009 *Libretto*)



A resident reported she recently joined Facebook and is slowly learning her way around. She had asked her sister, Kim, to “be my friend” which she agreed to. She was enjoying the messages from Kim Graham. She checked out Kim’s info and realized that her birthday was different from her sister’s birthday. So, she sent an apology to Kim Graham saying that she must have added her as a friend in error as she realized that Kim wasn’t her sister. Kim replied back, “No, I am not your sister. I am your sister-in-law!” (She had forgotten that her brother’s wife’s name was Kim).

My Car has been Stolen! (reprinted from the January 2011 *Libretto*)



One of our residents had her garage full of her children’s belongings for several months. Finally, the possessions were reclaimed, and she had an empty garage. Hurrah! She was able at last to park her car in the garage. The next morning, she went out the front door to get in her car. What! Someone has stolen my car! Luckily, before she dialed 911, she remembered.

“PJ to the Rescue” (reprinted from the June 2011 *Libretto*)



Last week, on one of those sweltering, hot days, four SV ladies (whom we shall call Mable, Mae, Milly, and Molly) went shopping together. When they arrived at Home Goods, Milly and Molly, who were seated in the back seats of the car, couldn't open their doors (a safety device designed for grandchildren not grandmothers). No problem, Mable (the driver) opened the doors from the outside.

Being familiar with these “safety locks,” Mae started fiddling with the door trying to release the safety—causing the locking mechanism to flip down, and the rear door now wouldn't close. Trying to show Mable what she had done, Mae demonstrated on the front door. Now it, too, wouldn't close. Laughing hysterically, the other ladies (Milly and Molly) quickly disappeared into the cool store and were happily shopping while the two frustrated “senior-mechanics,” armed with screwdrivers and pliers, were sweating outside in the hot sun fighting with the locks. Nothing they tried worked. Finally, Mae suggested tying the front and back doors together by pulling the seatbelt through the open windows so the doors would stay closed and driving to the nearest gas station for “professional” help. To be on the safe side, Mable was also calling AAA.

Fortunately, about this time, “along came PJ.” With a smile on his young face, he introduced himself and asked if he could be of help. (Who knows how long he had been watching and laughing from a distance.) Mae asked whether he knew anything about cars. PJ quickly replied, “I know everything about cars.” In two seconds, he demonstrated that the doors could be unlocked simply by pulling on the inside handles as you do when you open them from the inside. With “red,” sweaty faces, Mable and Mae gratefully thanked him and tried to give him “hush money,” which he refused. When they insisted, PJ gave them his business card before he left and invited them to visit his church. With his business card in hand, Mable and Mae ran into the store to tell their friends about how their shopping day was saved when “along came PJ”—a minister and an “angel in disguise.”

Would you care to share one of your Senior Moments or a Symphony Village Humor story? Just email to one of the *Libretto* editors: Carol Hodges (speanut31@gmail.com), Marge Strano (mbestrano@gmail.com), or MaryKay Kerr (marykay.kerr@mail.com).

CENTREVILLE HAPPENINGS

Centreville Farmers' Market



The Farmers' Market continues weekly with online-only ordering. There are currently seven vendors, and negotiations to add a few more are ongoing. Additional products are added each week as the growing season progresses. Orders are placed online from **6 p.m. on Thursday through 8 p.m. the following Monday** for curbside pickup or home delivery on Wednesday. Go to [Centreville Farmers' Market Ordering](#) to create an account (if you don't have one yet), look at the product catalog for that week, place an order, and prepay. Once you have an account, you will receive an automatic email every week when the market opens for ordering on Thursday that takes you to the weekly product catalog. Local vendors appreciate your support!

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<https://census.maryland.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

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