

WELCOME to  
*Sperryville!*

## SPERRYVILLE COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

### ANNUAL REPORT 2021/2022



**APRIL 20, 2022**

# Sperryville Community Alliance

P.O. Box 63  
Sperryville, Virginia 22740

April 20, 2022

Kerry Suttten  
*President*

Robert Archer  
*Vice President*

Kevin Cheetham  
*Treasurer*

Kim Nelson

Anita Carshult

Dorothy Lessard

Dear Sperryville Friends and Neighbors,

The past two years created challenges for everyone. The COVID epidemic changes our daily lives and limited our ability to be engaged with our community. The Alliance cancelled SperryFest 2020 and SperryFest 2021, postponed the celebration of Sperryville's 200<sup>th</sup> birthday, and restricted community activities. We focused our energies on maintaining and expanding the network of Sperryville walking trails and sponsoring COVID-conscience events to begin to bring our community together again.

This annual report is intended to share these activities, initiatives, and financing of the all-volunteer Alliance. It is important that we keep you informed of Alliance efforts on your behalf and to encourage your engagement. Our monthly meetings are open and you are welcome to join. Volunteer opportunities are always available for those interested in supporting the community.

SperryFest 2022 is just around the corner and we have planned a number of new and exciting changes to bring our community together. We are working with our local partners at the Rappahannock Association for the Arts and Community to repeat last year's successful Sperryville Summer Concert Series. Watch for significant enhancements to the network of Sperryville walking trails as our new Sperryville Trail Advisory Committee completes a Master Plan and implements its recommendation. There are also some promising movements to improve public safety in the community and better connect the village with more pedestrian access.

Finally, we are an organization run by donations. Grants and gifts are always welcome and can be dedicated to any current initiative. If you are interested in supporting our activities, talk with a Board member or donate at [www.SperryFest.org](http://www.SperryFest.org).

The Board and I are eager to return to normalcy in which we can come together to celebrate our history, get some exercise, race some ducks and catch up with neighbors.

Sincerely,



Kerry Suttten

# Sperryville Community Alliance

## MISSION STATEMENT

*Support the well-being of the community and residents of Sperryville, Virginia by promoting activities to enhance the safety, inclusiveness, and vitality of Sperryville.*

The Sperryville Community Alliance was established on April 9, 2019 as a civic 501(c)3 non-profit to support the Sperryville community. To focus our initial efforts, the Board established four focus areas that include (1) traffic calming, (2) pedestrian safety, (3) community beautification, and (4) amenity improvements including community events. Here are some of our activities in the past year.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS.

After two years of cancelled events and community isolation, the Alliance leapt into action to create safe ways for the community to reengage. The Alliance hosted Sperryville's delayed **200th birthday** with a community potluck on Main Street on July 18, 2021.



Harkening back to a simpler time, the Alliance sponsored two socially-distanced **croquet tournaments** and hosted a four-show "**Sperryville Summer Concert Series**" with our friends at RAAC.



ScarryVille brought over 700 kids and parents to Sperryville's Historic Main Street on Halloween night. On April 30, 2022, **SperryFest** is back on Sperryville's Main Street with an artisan market, Kid's Corner, food and beverage





vendors including our wonderful Rappahannock County wineries, and **The Great Rubber Duck Race Down the Mighty Thornton River** with 1,000 ducks competing. All these activities brought our community together.



### COMMUNITY SAFETY

The **Sperryville Community Study** identified pedestrian safety and traffic calming as the top concern of residents. The Alliance purchased and installed **pedestrian crosswalk signs** that slow traffic at two existing crosswalks. The Alliance drafted a county resolution to require studies on how to improve community safety including crosswalks, speed indicator

signs, an extended sidewalk on Sperryville Pike, safety measures on Main Street's sidewalk, and widened shoulders on 211. While the resolution failed to be considered, recent developments point to some progress toward achieving some of these goals to improve safety in Sperryville.

### OUTDOOR AMENITIES.

The **Sperryville River Walk** and **network of community walking trails** opened in 2019 and continues to grow. The newly appointed Sperryville Trail Advisory Committee, a committee of the Alliance, recently completed a request for a **trail master plan** with a focus on creating a showcase for native plants and invasive remediation. The plan will include recommendations for picnic and seating areas, signage, and educational kiosks as well as ensure funding for long-term maintenance.



The Alliance purchased and installed eight **Adirondack chairs and a picnic table**, built by students at Rappahannock County High School, along the trail. The network of trails was recently **expanded** with a new trail that follows the Thornton River to the River District. Over the past years, the Alliance has sponsored four community clean-ups with partners including Rappahannock League of Environmental Protection (RLEP), RappFLOW, and the Friends of the Rappahannock.



To brighten the holiday seasons, the Alliance purchased and installed a series of solar twinkling lights to make the trails sparkle.

### SPERRYVILLE HISTORY

The Alliance continues to work to recognize the historic nature of our community by seeking expanded **historic designation**. We provided seed funds to a local author to collect stories and photos of Sperryville's history into an **history book** to ensure our past is not lost.



For more information on these and other activities, please visit our website at [www.SperryFest.org](http://www.SperryFest.org) or our Facebook pages at [#SperryvilleCommunityAlliance](https://www.facebook.com/SperryvilleCommunityAlliance) and [#SperryFest](https://www.facebook.com/SperryFest). You can join our electronic mailing list that includes occasional updates on activities by signing up on the home page at [www.SperryFest.org](http://www.SperryFest.org).

The Sperryville Community Alliance is a 501(c)(3) public charity with non-profit status (IRS tax ID: 83-4373808) and welcomes tax deductible contributions that can be dedicated to specific initiative or used in the General Fund. To make a donation, please contact any member of the Alliance Board or use the DONATE button at [www.SperryFest.org](http://www.SperryFest.org).





Photos courtesy of the Estes Family, Raymond Boc, Garrey Curry, Kimberly Nicole Photography, Kay Skalicky, and Kerry Suttan. Sperryville logo courtesy of Robert Archer.

## Summary of Financial Statements

In the past year, the Sperryville Community Alliance has benefitted from generous private donations as well as grants from regional non-profits, including the PATH Foundation and the Krebser Fund. While the 2020 and 2021 SperryFest community celebrations were cancelled due to COVID, planning for the April 30 SperryFest and the *Great Rubber Duck Race Down the Mighty Thornton River* is underway.

In its third year of operation, the Alliance collected \$74,418.76 in donations, grants and revenue. The Krebser Fund approved a grant to the Alliance of \$19,500 for the development of a master plan for the network of trail, an invasive species remediation plan, and landowner agreements. Of raised funds, 64 percent or \$47,397.85 was raised in association with the Give Local Piedmont campaign and is dedicated to the construction, maintenance, and expansion of the network of trails in Sperryville. Private donations and planning for SperryFest 2022 added \$24,520.91 to the Alliance General Fund.

The Alliance used these funds to maintain and expand the Sperryville River Walk, complete the Sperryville Community Festival, and sponsor a number of community events including the Sperryville Summer Concert Series, the Sperryville Bicentennial Plus One celebration, two community croquet events, SperryFest 2022. The Alliance, which is 100 percent volunteer operated, used 5.2 percent of expenditures on overhead costs for fundraising, website hosting, financial software, postage, and printing. As of April 15, 2022, the Alliance has a total of \$58,550.18 at Atlantic Union Bank and \$19,500 being held by the Krebser Fund.

### Statement of Financial Position

April 7, 2021 – April 15, 2022

<b>INCOME BY SOURCE</b>	
Trail Fund - Private Donations	\$ 47,397.85
Grants	\$ 22,000.00
General Fund - Private Donations	\$ 13,050.91
SperryFest	\$ 11,470.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 93,918.76</b>

<b>EXPENDITURES BY INITIATIVE</b>	
Sperryville Network of Trails	\$ 11,734.04
Community Events	\$ 7,959.45
Sperryville Community Study	\$ 4,500.00
Administrative	\$ 1,355.39
Community Safety	\$ 321.02
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ 24,193.49</b>

<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 93,918.76</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ 24,193.49</b>
<b>BALANCE, as of April 15, 2022</b>	<b>\$ 69,725.27</b>