



*Channel 956 & 957
Masonic Village Elizabethtown
Television
Provided by Residents for Residents*

How MVtv Works

The Masonic Village at Elizabethtown has contracted with Xfinity (Comcast) to provide what is commonly referred to as Cable Television to every residence on campus – rooms and apartments as well as cottages – through what is called a "Bulk Account." This contract provides some number of channels (120, as of January 2018) for resident entertainment. These channels are part of the Xfinity basic tier of programming for the Elizabethtown market. This cable television access is provided to residents for an additional cost of \$55 added on to the monthly maintenance fee. As MVnet is rolled out later this year, this is not anticipated to change.

Also provided in this agreement are two channels for "in-house" origination Channels 956 and 957, known as MVtv. They appear in the on-screen channel "Info" as "Security Camera – Cam1 or Cam2"

MVtv is enabled by way of a product called "*Touchtown TV+*" from Touchtown inc., in Oakmont, Pennsylvania.

The Touchtown service allows the MVtv volunteers to create slides and to present them in a daily rotation to keep fellow residents informed of events and activities on campus.

The primary source for these slides is the monthly Village Living magazine for announcements of trips and activities of interest. Additional information comes directly from administration or the organizers of the various activities on campus emailed to MVTV@MASONICVILLAGES.ORG.

MVtv also provides the daily menus for the various dining venues on campus. Urgent information, such as weather emergencies or event cancellations, is often presented as a "crawl" across the bottom of the screen.

Since the Village Living magazine goes to print approximately 8 weeks before the current month, MVtv provides a mechanism to inform people of any schedule or program changes or events, which did not make it into the monthly publication.

How does this happen?

In addition to reading through the monthly Village Living magazine and preparing slides for the trips and events found in that publication, a group of resident volunteers monitor the email account: MVTV@MASONICVILLAGES.ORG for changes and updates. They prepare the slides that appear in the daily rotation.

When do slides appear?

Most slides appear four days before an event, and are aired continuously in rotation until the event. Some slides are "one-shot" in that they only appear for a specific event, others, such as the dining menus, appear on a daily basis, but with different content each day.

Special events which did not make it in time to be included in the Village Living magazine, will frequently be shown for a longer period of time.

How long does a slide appear on the TV?

In an effort to present the slides efficiently, the slide rotation is kept to a length of approximately 8-10 minutes. This means that each individual slide is only on-screen for a period of 8 seconds.

For many people, that is still a long time to wait for a slide to "come around again." Individuals with access to a smart phone, tablet or computer, can view the entire slide show by using a web-browser (Safari, Firefox, Internet Explorer, Chrome, or Edge, etc.) and entering either link below:

<http://tinyurl.com/MVETV-956>

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Now, you can view all of the slides at your own pace. Once you open the site, click the arrows on the right or left to view the slides.

Note that you will NOT see any of the exercise or relaxation videos, nor will you see the Sell Chapel service on Sunday via the slideshow on your computer.

What else does MVtv do?

In addition to the daily slide rotation, MVtv also provides exercise videos on a regularly scheduled basis. These videos, led by instructors from the Baird Wellness Center, air on **Channel 957**.

Let's Stretch:	Monday through Saturday at 9 am
Chairobics:	Monday through Saturday at 9:30 am
Seated Easy Yoga:	Monday through Saturday at 10:00 am

And to unwind for a good night's sleep:

Time to Relax:	Every evening at 8:30, 9:00, and 9:30 pm
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Also, the two regular services at Sell Chapel air every Sunday morning on **Channel 956** beginning at 8:15 am and again at 10:00 am.

Events in the Deike Auditorium are broadcast on an occasional basis.

So, the next time you view MVtv or the slide show, please remember that MVtv is maintained and operated by your fellow resident volunteers to keep you informed of all campus happenings at Masonic Village.

Bill Magill – MVtv General Manager
Linda Graham – Assistant Manager
Carole Sieber – Programmer
Doris Ecklund – Progammmer
Janet Ray - Programmer
Jeff James - Programmer
Charles Curry – Sell Chapel camera operator
Charles Schreiber – – Sell Chapel camera operator
Renn Sminkey – – Sell Chapel camera operator
Wilson Kyle – Founder, Still photographer