

# THE CLAIBORNE CLARION

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE CLAIBORNE COMMUNITY

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**ROB & SUZANNE TODD, FEBRUARY EDITORS**

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MARY GREGORIO, PRESIDENT, CLAIBORNE ASSOCIATION

## February Birthdays

Anna Kabler .....Feb. 13  
Kim Titus.....Feb. 14  
Susan Cornish.....Feb. 14  
Marie Deck .....Feb. 16  
Terry Boos .....Feb. 24



## FUN! FUN! FUN!

Well, fun in the time of COVID.

February is now officially  
**PUZZLE MONTH!**

Look inside your cabinets for some jigsaw puzzles that you would like to share and place them on the table in the Hall. Take any you would like to try. All puzzles left there at the end of the month will be donated to the St. Michaels Community Center.

## Hello Clarion friends and neighbors!

I hope you are well that you are taking really good care of yourselves. As you might imagine, the pandemic has put a serious cramp in Claiborne's style of gathering to enjoy shared meals, storytelling, and fine music. We did gather outdoors to participate in the National Memorial service on January 5<sup>th</sup>. We rang the bell at 5:30, shared a poem and spoke about some of the friends we've lost this year. As is true across the country, some families have been hit harder than others; few families are immune to the losses.

Some things are percolating, though, and may bring a bit of light to these dim days. A vaccine is in the works and a number of folks have either received it or have appointments scheduled.

Information about signing up to receive the vaccine is available here: MD Department of Health. <https://covidlink.maryland.gov/content/>. Additional information about scheduling an appointment can be found here: <https://www.vaccineconsent.com>. We are currently in Phase 1C eligibility – Adults age 65-74, essential workers in lab services, agriculture, manufacturing, postal service, etc.

The Claiborne Assn Board continues to focus on improvements to the Village Hall and planning for its sustainability. If you use the Village Hall for your mail pickup, you'll notice some embellishments – mats to protect the floors and a notice about book exchanges. As always, there is a spot for much-needed non-perishable food donations for the St. Michaels Community Center.

Board meetings, which are virtual until further notice, are always open to Association members. Contact [gregorio27@gmail.com](mailto:gregorio27@gmail.com) if you would like to attend or if you have agenda items to add.

So along with washing your hands and wearing your masks and maintaining some physical distance to limit the spread of the virus, what good things are you doing for yourself this cold and blustery day? does it involve chocolate? a good book? a cozy fire? a seed catalog?

Enjoy! – Mary, Claiborne Association President



**Ice in Broad Cove** (the body of water adjacent to the Landing) finally arrived the last week of January when the overnight temperatures dipped into the upper twenties for a few days. Don't get excited just yet, ice boaters. It will take a bit longer at those temperatures for it to be safe to venture forth.



**A good thing to remember...  
Valentine's Day  
Sunday, February 14.**



A light snow to close out January.

## Untitled by Kitty O'Meara (2020)



Written as the coronavirus outbreak became a pandemic, this poem soon went viral after everyone from Deepak Chopra to Bella Hadid shared it across social media. Here O'Meara suggests social distancing could be taken up by purposeful activities such as dancing, exercise, and self-reflection. Perhaps something other than darkness could come from isolation.

Jim Richardson shared this poem the evening of January 19 at the Village Hall where we rang the bell in honor of the 400,000 people who have died from COVID19.

*And the people stayed home.*

*And read books, and listened, and rested, and exercised, and made art, and played games, and learned new ways of being, and were still.*

*And listened more deeply. Some meditated, some prayed, some danced. Some met their shadows. And the people began to think differently.*

*And the people healed. And, in the absence of people living in ignorant, dangerous, mindless, and heartless ways, the earth began to heal.*

*And when the danger passed, and the people joined together again, they grieved their losses, and made new choices, and dreamed new images, and created new ways to live and heal the earth fully, as they had been healed.*



## Newborn in Claiborne – Malaki C. Carter



Hi! I'm Malaki C. Carter. I am new to the Claiborne community. I was born at 8:36 a.m. January 4, 2021.

I came in at a whopping 9 lbs. and 21 inches. I just wanted to thank everyone that sent me gifts before my arrival. As Malaki's parents (Connie and David), we wanted to thank everyone for the gifts and all the concerns everyone had with this long road we had bringing this blessing into the world.

Thank you. – Connie, David, Brooklyn, and Nevaeh

Science Corner – Reported by Sarah Sayre

## Winter is finally here!!!

Okay, it has been pretty cold recently, but for this reporter, **snow** really defines winter. (Maybe I should still live in northern Maine. Hmmm, no.)

This winter has been, as predicted, warmer than normal. It is a further demonstration that the earth's climate has been changing, warming as the atmospheric blanket thickens and can trap in more heat. This warming is what disrupts the climate. The climate then affects the weather. (Think of the **climate** as the range of clothing you have in your closet: summer clothes, winter clothes, and sweaters for in-between. **Weather** is what you are wearing today.)

Some of the plants and trees around us are rushing into spring even before February! Daffodils are sprouting, trees are extending their new twigs, others are letting their buds swell, forsythia is blooming, ivy has new tendrils. (Camellias always bloom around this time, silly flowers.)

What can we expect from the rest of the winter?

**The Old Farmer's Almanac** (Dublin, NH) says: ...a light winter for most of us here in the United States, with warmer-than-normal temperatures in the forecast for a large part of the country.... precipitation will be below normal from Delmarva into North Carolina; But" "sheets of sleet!" in the Atlantic Corridor.

**The Farmer's Almanac** (Lewiston, ME) says:

...expect 'wet' to be a wintertime constant, with rain average to below-average... snowfall possibility of a blizzard hitting the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast states during the second week of February....may bring up to 1-2 feet of snow to cities from Washington, D.C. to Boston!

**The Hagerstown Town and Country Almanack (Hagerstown)** says: expect a milder-than-average winter, with slightly below-average amounts of precipitation. Into January, we'll revert into a milder pattern....Once we get into February, winter will see more of a comeback.

**NOAA's Climate Prediction Center (CPC) forecast December-February:** Equal chances of warmer-than-normal, near-normal, and colder-than-normal. While this La Niña is expected to be moderate to strong, these winters can be highly variable....the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast, falls into the category of equal chances for below-, near-, or above-average precipitation.

**Your reporter:** I will wait until tomorrow when Punxsutawney Phil has the last word.



Photo: Sarah Sayre



Photo: Sarah Sayre



Photo: Sarah Sayre



Photo: Sarah Sayre



Punxsutawney Phil (not Phil Sayre)