



Photo courtesy of John Scott - Sunset from the kitchen window.
September 24, 2015.

THE CLAIBORNE CLARION

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE
CLAIBORNE COMMUNITY

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ROB AND SUZANNE TODD, OCTOBER EDITORS

BARBARA REISERT, CLARION FOUNDER AND EDITOR EMERITA * MARY GREGORIO, PRESIDENT, CLAIBORNE ASSOCIATION

Note the Date:

October 6:

Work Day at the Hall
8:30 a.m. is start time

October Birthdays

2 - Sarah Sayre

7 - Lexi Lednum

12 - Susanne Scott

16 - Ed Schaefer

23 - Mary Gregorio

31 - Aaron Walker

31 - Dawn Lednum

VILLAGE HALL UPDATE

We are now working with the county to change the zoning of the Hall from “church” to “community and cultural facility”. With this change we will be able to get a new use permit to legitimize our current uses of the building. This is the first step in getting building permits for a septic system and the other renovations we are planning for the Hall Annex. Those include a bathroom, kitchen, heating and air conditioning, emergency generator, lighting, insulation, drywall, paint, wheelchair lift, new sidewalk, etc.

We are applying for grants to supplement your contributions in order to fund these improvements.

GRANTS UPDATE

The Claiborne Association has been selected by “Christmas in St. Michaels” for a grant award. They will tell us the amount of the award early in 2016. We asked for partial funding to install a septic system at the Hall.

The Association has also applied to the Mid Shore Community Fund for a matching grant to install a wheelchair lift at the Hall.

We are also exploring the possibility of interest at the Town Creek Foundation of helping us create the Resilience Center at the Hall. Clay



All creatures weathering the storm ...



... including Kirke Harper and Jessie out for a walk.

Planning ahead?

Here are November's birthdays:

4 - Bob Todd

7 - Jake Flory

11 - Ella Murphy

21 - Bernie Boos

21 - Leigh Anne Schaefer

23 - Judy Harrald

24 - Mimi Holt

29 - Rob Todd

Stamp, Talbot County Emergency Services Director, has agreed to send a letter of support.

At the picnic we asked you to approve a Bylaws change as part of the grant application process. Lowes requires us to have a Maryland tax free designation before they will consider funding us. Maryland requires the Bylaws section we asked for before they will issue a tax free certificate. So we're plodding through the steps required to prepare the way for additional grant activity.

CURIOUS ABOUT THE STAKES AT THE JETTY?

A set of stakes recently appeared along the right-of-way between Dawn and Mimi's house and Bruce Friedman's. They were installed by the County, at the direction of the County's attorney, to mark off the area where the County believes it owns an easement across the properties. We believe this action is part of the living shoreline project the County began a couple of years ago to protect the eroding shore of the causeway. Stay tuned as this story evolves.

VILLAGE EMERGENCY RADIO NETWORKS CATCHING ON

Bob Luff, Talbot County's RACER (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service) Coordinator, reported to the Village Center Board that four Bay Hundred villages are now implementing or considering an emergency radio net. Starting with his home village of Whitman, Luff has now briefed and received expressions of interest from Bozman, Neavitt and Claiborne.

The Claiborne Association has embraced this idea and has purchased some radios to kick-start the network. The loss of electricity in large parts of the County during the rainy evening of October 1 served as a good reminder of what things could be like if our power were to be off long enough for phone company and cell tower batteries to be depleted.

Luff also pointed out that a phone company's system can crash if more than 15% of its customers attempt to place a call simultaneously. Cell systems can also crash in an emergency.

Please let Kirke Harper (410-829-6538; kirke.harper@gmail.com) know if you would like to participate in establishing the village network. You can

Thank you!

Kudos to Kirke Harper for providing a wealth of information and keeping us up-to-date on Village and County issues.

"Listen! The wind is rising, and the air is wild with leaves,

We have had our summer evenings, now for October eves!

-- Humbert Wolfe

purchase a Motorola Talk about radio for around \$50 for a pair. They can also be useful, and easier to use than a cell phone, if you're doing a project at your house and want to avoid shouting, "Turn off the circuit".

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN REVISION WORK CONTINUES

The County Council, the Planning Commission and County staff are continuing to work on revising the 2005 Comprehensive plan. The Council will hold another Work Session on Monday, October 5 at 4:00 in the Wye Oak room at the Community Center on Route 50.

The Planning Commission decided not to include the Village plans, in part because there were competing plans prepared in some villages and there were only a few plans overall. Quotes from some plans appear in the draft comp plan revision.

On September 21, the Council reviewed a proposal from County Staff that would assign each village to one of the 3 village zoning categories. Claiborne would be assigned to the Village Hamlet, the middle category of the three village zones. The Village Center Board will notify the Council that it objects to any approach to changing village zoning in which the villages are not offered a chance to express their preferences.

One of the major items yet to be decided is the density of development that will be permitted in the Village Centers, with and without sewer. That issue will be decided at a future Council Work Session.

On September 21, the Council looked at a chart prepared by staff that showed the impact of different density levels on development in 6 sample villages.

While they didn't use Claiborne as an example, the impact of permitting 4 houses per acre in villages with sewer service could eventually result in 8 additional houses built in Claiborne's village center. The impact would be less if the density is 2 or 1 house per acre.

The Council is also considering changes in Village boundaries as part of this process. Claiborne would not be affected by a boundary change.

Following all of these Work Sessions and after receiving Planning Commission comments, County staff will prepare a new draft comp plan and public hearings will be held. That will be the first real opportunity for the people to weigh in.

A FINAL WORD

Kirke Harper recently received this letter –

Dear Kirke,

I am a friend of Patti's and met you briefly when Patti was asking for friends and family to visit her in the big house by the water. There has been intermittent information about her death and scattering of ashes so I am passing this along in case you had not heard.

Her ashes were spread on Crystal Lake in Gilmanton Iron Works, New Hampshire on August 15. Remembrances were had, her two sisters and Schott family members were there. Some of her ashes were also placed under a bush in Jane (Schott) Benson's yard, and some will be placed in a barn that her husband Ken had a room in.

I hope all is well with you and Claiborne. It was/is a beautiful place and I was amazed at how close everyone was. Please extend my gratitude to the couple who live behind you on Bayside Drive. Apologetically I have forgotten their names. They let me stay with them when I was there.

Hoping this gives some closure of our dear friend Patti. May her memories live on.

Sincerely,

Ann Ryder