



THE CLAIBORNE CLARION

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE
CLAIBORNE COMMUNITY

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MARY GREGORIO, PRESIDENT, CLAIBORNE ASSOCIATION
KIRKE HARPER, APRIL EDITOR

April Calendar

- 1 Stones and Bones - Archeology and Cemetery Tour of Claiborne. Bring digging tools. 2 PM at the Hall
- 6 Movie Night. 7:30
- 12 Public Hearing on Sewer for Claiborne. Location TBD.
- 12 Free Carpe Diem Concert at Brooklets Place 12:15
- 14 Claiborne Association Board Meeting. In person at the Hall. All welcome. 7 PM
- 19 Sherwood Seminar
- 20 Movie Night
- 30 Potluck Dinner. Bring your favorite dish to share. 6 PM at the Hall

Beowulf Energy May Purchase Air Rights Over Talbot Courthouse



Paul Prager, local entrepreneur, founder of Beowulf Energy, and raconteur has single-handedly rejuvenated downtown Easton. Prager who also owns or has rights to much of the land on Port Street in Easton, may now have reached an agreement to purchase air rights over Talbot County's Courthouse. An agreement may have been reached following a

**Mark Your Calendar –
(More Details Later)**

Second Tuesday each
month – Brooklets
Concert 12:15

May 4 Celebrate Cinco
de Mayo with chips and
dip at the Village Hall.

June 4 Chris Noyes
Concert at the Hall

July 4 Parade and Ice
Cream Social at the Hall

July 27 Annual
Claiborne Picnic



April Birthdays

- 5 Phil Sayre
- 10 Martha Hamlyn
- 22 Elizabeth Crenshaw
- 23 Linda Harper
- 30 Terry Babb
- 30 David Crenshaw

Sherwood Seminar

Dr. John Miller will mark
the return of the popular
Sherwood Seminar series.
Dr. Miller will share his
experiences while teaching

secret, and illegal under Maryland’s Sunshine Act, meeting attended by three members of the County Council. The rump meeting was held in a construction trailer at Lakeside in Trappe last week. Neither Chuck Callahan nor Mr. Prager were available for comment. Also unavailable for comment were Senator Addie Eckert and Representative Johnny Mautz. Senator Eckert’s staff said she would be available for any pictures.

Air rights, not previously applied in Talbot County, have traditionally been used for buildings and parking garages over railroads and stations, such as New York’s Penn Station and Washington DC’s Union Station Parking. Mr. Prager’s plans for Talbot County are unknown.

Mary’s Column

Hello Claiborne friends and neighbors! Hello peepers and daffodils and longer daylight and the sweet smell of damp earth. Hello spectacular sunsets. Hello snow flurries – wait, what? Yes. Starting in 27 minutes we’ll have 6 minutes of snow flurries and a chilly week ahead. But take heart; warmer temps are on the way. It is our season of rebirth and renewal.

The Claiborne Association is experiencing the excitement of renewal as well. Just look at the calendar of events! Finally, we can host a potluck – a staple of the Claiborne community and an opportunity for folks who are new to the area to meet neighbors, share a laugh and some fabulous food. We’ll have a chance to sing and dance with Chris Noyes and Crab Alley and we’ll have (hopefully) hand-dipped ice cream for the 4th of July parade.

You might have noticed, too, the beautiful contributions to the courtyard garden in front of the Annex. The garden honors the memory of Jo Batters and was designed and crafted by her friends. And around back, Patti’s orchard is beginning to show itself and remind us of Patti’s generosity.

In the spirit of rebirth and renewal, the Claiborne Association is beginning to work on strategic planning. The board, along with a few volunteers led by Kirke Harper, will begin a process for imagining the future. If you are interested in thinking with us about where we might be in 3, 5 or 10 years, who will be leading the Association, and how the Association will continue to serve the community, please let me know (gregorio27@gmail.com). We would love to hear from you!

“On a day when the wind is perfect, the sail just needs to open and the world is full of beauty. Today is such a day.”(Rumi)

and circling the globe in two Semesters At Sea. John's daily journal provides rich insights and vivid descriptions of life onboard as well as the sometimes-harrowing adventures they encountered along the way. He will also share his memories of Bishop Desmond Tutu who participated in the first cruise.

Join us at the Sherwood Seminar Tuesday April 19 for coffee at 6:30 pm and John's talk at 7:00 pm at the Sherwood Church Hall.



Progress in Jo's Garden



Spring Potluck Kicks Off Return to In-Person Events at the Hall – Martha Hamlyn

The program committee is beyond excited to get back to community gatherings. So excited that we're not holding back. We've got something on the calendar for each of the next 5 months and may well add to that list if Covid rates stay low.

For starters, we will try out our re-emerging social and culinary skills with a potluck on Saturday, April 30, at 6:00 pm. Bring a dish to share and your favorite beverage. (The food will be inside, but we will, weather permitting, have some outside seating to accommodate folks' varying social distancing comfort levels.) We have much to catch up on and new neighbors to meet!

On the calendar are a Cinco de Mayo gathering in May, a concert in June, our classic Fourth of July Parade and Ice Cream Social in July, and our traditional summer picnic in August. Details will be posted as we get closer to each of these but, in the meantime, keep your fingers crossed that we continue hold Covid at bay!

"Ask Norman" – Soil Improvement Advice

To say Norman Haddaway has diverse interests would be an understatement. Norman's knowledge runs from archeology, Native Americans, and history to biology and gun collecting. He is a skilled



waterman and hunting guide. And a gourmet cook. He may not make his own clothes, but he is much closer to self-sufficient than most of us. And his garden is a marvel.

This month The Clarion asked Norman for tips about soil augmentation. His response was generous and full of common sense. According to Norman, it takes years to create excellent soil. Norman makes compost from nearly every bit of organic waste

New plants combine with last year's plantings for Spring blooms in the memorial garden for Jo Batters at the Hall.



Guest Editors Needed

The Clarion needs guest editors for 2022. Pick one or more months to be creative. There's a template and lots of people willing to help and contribute. If you are interested, please contact Pat Flory at patflory@gmail.com or [443-472-6800](tel:443-472-6800).

Poetry Corner



Mosses fill old empty spaces
Between long laid flagstones,
Softening and blurring edges.
In bloom tiny soldier stems
Stand erect, red stalks

his yard produces. When he puts compost on his raised beds he adds wood ashes, lime, Leaf Gro, manure, and an organic liquid fertilizer. For the past two years he has used a new soil conditioner that contains composted lobster shells.

You can see the results in the March 19 photo of Norman with his spinach in a raised bed. The cold frame is filled with hundreds of seedlings.



"Ask Norman" is an occasional series created by John Scott.

Septic For Claiborne – Hope or April Fools?

Hope for future sewer service in Claiborne has risen once again since the March 9 County Council meeting. County Engineer Ray Clarke introduced a draft resolution that would authorize \$43,000,000 to improve nitrogen removal at the Tilghman Sewer Plant and extend collection lines to Sherwood, Wittman, McDaniel, and Claiborne. Resolution 119 would authorize a new project for fiscal years 2023 and 2024. The Council will seek public comment on a total of 15 potential changes to the County's Comprehensive Water and Sewer Plan at a Public Hearing on April 12. Following the hearing the 15 resolutions will be voted in or out of the next County budget.

Highlights From the March Talbot County EMS Council – Jeanne Kuperberg

The Department of Emergency Management is:

- Continuing to support the Health Department as the COVID 19 emergency evolves;
- Updating the County's Hazard Mitigation Plan;
- Migrating the 911 System to the "Next Generation" platform;
- Planning to create a North County Paramedic Station by moving the Surge Unit to a new location in Cordova;
- Planning to create a live backup 911 center at the Cordova Station; and
- Discussing relocating the Tilghman Island Emergency Vehicle to Whitman to meet 8-minute response.

Current planning for the FY23 budget is underway. Highlights are:

Tinting the garden floor with
A faint pinkish glow
Against the green brown. kh



We remember our dear
friend and neighbor
Peter Gregorio,
photographer and
mentor to all he met.

- Moving to a 25-year retirement plan and establishing a morale committee to boost recruiting;
- Funding for construction of the Cordova station plus \$285,000 to hire 4 additional staff for the unit;
- Requesting another ambulance and a replacement "Chase" vehicle; and
- Seeking pay parity to retain and recruit staff.

Hospital Update:

- The revised Certificate of Need for the New Hospital has been submitted and approved.
- Staffing at the existing Hospital is better. Hourly compensation rates have been adjusted by the University Hospital System to reflect those of the "mother ship" in Baltimore.
- ER wait times for admissions continue to be a challenge as is staff retention. The hospital is still supporting staffing with traveling health care providers.

History of the Claiborne Ferry by Marty Bollinger – Part 5

Of the five ferry operations serving Claiborne over the years, the most recent (and well known) is the Claiborne-Annapolis Ferry, later subsumed into the Chesapeake Bay Ferry System. This line served the route between Claiborne and Annapolis from 1919 to 1938 and then between Claiborne and Romancoke from 1938 to 1952.

An article in a file attached to the email you received transmitting this issue of the Clarion describes the history of those operations, and how the 75-year-long history of ferry operations in our community came to an end 70 years ago -- pending, of course, "the second coming of the ferry."

A final article in this series, which may be delayed a few months (until the CBMM library reopens), will describe the vestiges of the Claiborne ferry and railroad network that remain around us today, if one knows where to look.

Note: Not all items in this April 1st issue of the Clarion are accurate and truthful.