



Newsletter

# West River Improvement Association

# The Village Voice

September, 2009

## Inside this Issue

<i>Living Shoreline</i>	2
<i>New Directory</i>	3
<i>Haunted Walk</i>	
<i>Rental Fees</i>	
<i>Square Dances</i>	4
<i>Photo Gallery</i>	5
<i>Coming Events</i>	6

## Fall Flags



Many, many thanks to Joan Bell and Phil Brackett for changing the village flags from “summer” to “fall”. We appreciate the amount of work it takes to purchase and mount the flags.

*We're on the web ..*

*.... Visit us at :*

*www.galesville.info*

## Message from the Board of Directors

We are approaching the annual general meeting of WRIA, to be held Monday, October 5, at the Galesville Memorial Hall. This is our opportunity to share with the community accomplishments and concerns, both for the past year and the ones to come.

There is lots of good news this year. The hall has continued to increase rentals, roughly twice over 2008, and to complete repairs. The kitchen has received most of the needed work this year and now looks as good and functions as well as the rest of the newly renovated building. It has been used for meetings, dinners, socials, yoga, pilates, private parties and even as the set for an exercise video. Even for those residents who don't take advantage of these social events, the hall is of great value. It gave us a place to all meet with the fire chief when we wanted to voice our concerns over local fires. It would be our center for information and help in case of a disaster, natural or otherwise.

Separate from the hall, the association has been a partner in other endeavors around town. Most notably, the improvements to the county park which will help to reduce harmful run-off into West River. We also published the latest version of the (free) town directory and offered a tutoring service for local students (also free).

Now for concerns, we need more people to participate on the board of directors and as officers. The association would benefit from new ideas, energy and areas of focus.. Generally, this is a commitment to one meeting a month and occasionally helping with WRIA events. It's a wonderful way to know your neighbors and be informed about things that affect our community. Please come to the meeting on October 5 and let us know if you are willing to serve or have a suggestion of someone who might.

## Galesville's Smith Park New Living Shoreline and River Access



(Before)



(After)

Galesville's waterfront at Smith Park used to have a severe runoff and erosion problem. Through the combined effort and partnership of West River Improvement Association (WRIA), the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (Save The Bay) and Anne Arundel County along with help from the Chesapeake Bay Trust, Maryland Department of Environment and WestRhode Riverkeeper, we now have an extraordinary living shoreline.

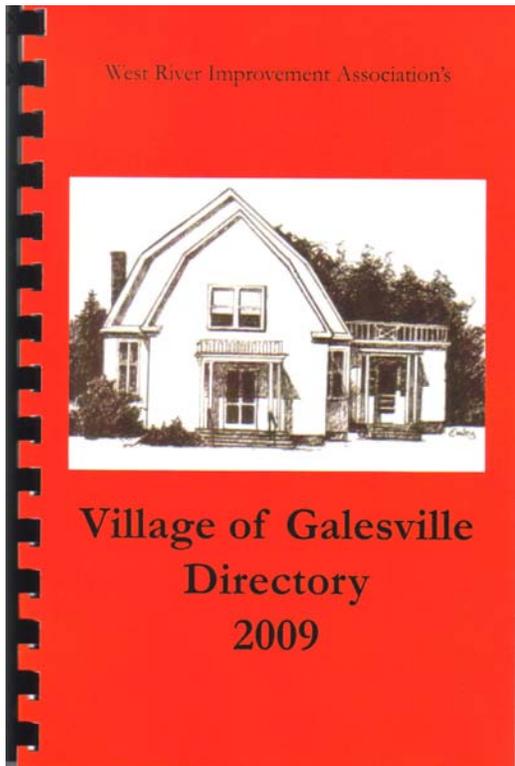
Why a living shoreline? It is a natural way to improve and protect our shoreline. It is a shoreline that is made up of a variety of native plants planted on a gentle slope from the water's edge. It acts as a very effective water quality filter for a huge amount of runoff from Riverside Drive, the park parking lot and most of the runoff from Pirate's Cove parking lot. It provides a critical natural habitat for many young fish and wildlife and greatly reduces the wave action that helps to prevent shoreline erosion. It has become a pleasant attraction and fascination for many villagers and visitors as well as a terrific education tool teaching us about living shorelines vs. hard shorelines (bulkheads). It also allows adequate kayak access to West River while preventing the destruction of the habitat.

The entire improvement cost \$90,000 and was paid for through grants raised by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and a \$2,000 contribution from WRIA from funds specifically designated for the park improvement. No tax dollars were used to build the shoreline. We thank those of you who gave up a beautiful Sunday afternoon this spring along with 35 other enthusiastic volunteers to work incredibly hard to get thousands of plants planted in the sand and dirt slope. None of us ever expected to see the incredible growth that has taken place since then. The wetlands has matured much faster than is typical. The plants are happy (and so are the fish!).



The West River Improvement Association is proud to have continued to make improvements to our community. We encourage you to take time to enjoy it. And keep your eye on the park as we will continue to see more improvements to increase the filtering of runoff. The WestRhode Riverkeeper, Chris Trumbauer, is currently working on an additional filtering system (bio-retention system) to be added to Riverside Drive and the edge of the park to slow down and begin to filter the road runoff before it reaches the wetlands.

Questions or suggestions? Don't hesitate to call Mary Tod Winchester, 410-867-1968, or email [bmtwinchester@comcast.net](mailto:bmtwinchester@comcast.net)



**Halloween Haunted Walk**

Again this year, the Galesville Heritage Society will conduct a Haunted Walk for children on October 31st from 5:30 til 8:30 P.M.. There will also be games for the little ones. To be held at the Heritage Society Museum, this event is free; however, donations are always appreciated.

The updated 2009 *Village of Galesville Directory*, a free gift to you as a service of the West River Improvement Association (WRIA), is finally available. Galesville residents, new and long term, have found the *Directory* to be a trusty and helpful resource. The businesses that paid for ads included in the *Directory* have made its publication possible. Please show your appreciation by patronizing these businesses and/or organizations.

Many thanks go to members of the West River Improvement Association who worked hard to publish this *Directory*. Special thanks to Mary Tod Winchester for getting it all started, Elsie Whitman for initiating the advertisement drive, Holly Clark for verifying the residential information and tracking down all the business advertisements, Laura Dixon for the drawing of the Galesville Memorial Hall on the front cover, Lynne MacAdam for editing, scanning and pulling it all together in a publishable format and Lithopress in Edgewater for printing and binding.

Directories have been delivered to all Galesville residents and those businesses that placed advertisements. If you wish additional copies of the 2009 *Directory*, they are available for \$3.00 from Lynne MacAdam, 410-867-1121.

**GALESVILLE MEMORIAL HALL**

**RENTAL FEES**

**General Rental:**

**Full use of Hall, including kitchen.....\$600.00**

**Limited use of Hall (kitchen locked).....\$300.00**

**Security deposit.....\$300.00**

**Rental to Members of WRIA**

**Full use of Hall, including kitchen.....\$300.00**

**Limited use of Hall (kitchen locked)..... \$150.00**

**Security Deposit ..... \$300.00**

**Rental for Community and Non-profit Events**

**Non-profit groups for non-profit events ..No charge**

**Community functions.....Request \$50.00 donation**  
(Game night, Tai Chi, etc.)

**For-profit class (4-hour limit) ..... \$150.00**  
(Yoga, Aerobics, etc.)

**For rental arrangements, contact Carole Turner.**  
**Telephone: 410-956-0230, or 301-261-5563.**

# Potluck and Dance!



Fall 2009 Dances: SATURDAYS:

October 24; December 5

## Galesville Memorial Hall

952 Galesville Road, Galesville, MD

Live Music!! Traditional Appalachian Dance Tunes

Played by Leah Weiss (fiddle), Gary Wright (guitar), and Friends

Sit-ins welcome on fiddle, guitar, & clawhammer banjo

Squares, Circles, Longways Sets & Waltzes

Calling/Leading by Janine Smith

## ALL AGES WELCOME!

Potluck Dinner 6-7 pm

Doors Open 5:30 pm

Plates, cups, napkins, utensils provided

Dance from 7-10 pm

No partner, experience, or lessons necessary

Yes, YOU can do it!

*Adults: \$10, Children 10-18 years: \$5, Under 10: free*

Directions from Annapolis: Take Route 2 South, turn left onto Route 214 (Central Ave) in Edgewater. After South River High School, turn right onto Route 468 (Muddy Creek Road), and approximately 5 miles later turn left at the first stop light onto Galesville Road. Galesville Memorial Hall is on the left near the fire station. Info: (301) 926-9142. Proceeds benefit West River Improvement Association

This and That from the Photo Gallery



Dinnertime



West River Market



Waterfront at Pirates Cove



Blizzard of 2003



May Baskets



Hall Renovations - Blue Crew



Ice Cream Social



Hall Dedication



Naval ROTC Color Guard



WRIA's Entry—2009 4th of July Parade



Rosenwald School

**Calendar of Coming Events**

- Monday, October 5** West River Improvement Association—General Membership Meeting  
Galesville Memorial Hall—7:30 P.M.  
Election of Officers  
Speaker: Melissa Brown, Principal of Lothian Elementary School
- Saturday, October 17** Yard Sale—Carrie Weedon Science Center—8:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon
- Saturday, October 24 and Saturday, December 5** Square Dance and Potluck  
Galesville Memorial Hall - 5:30-10:00 P.M.
- Saturday, October 31** Haunted Walk  
Galesville Heritage Society Museum—5:30-8:30 P.M.
- Friday, November 6** Galesville Heritage Society Basket Bingo at Galesville Memorial Hall  
Doors open –5:30 P.M.  
Dinner, snacks, beverages available for purchase– 6:00 P.M.  
Bingo– 7:00 P.M.
- Wednesday, November 11** Veterans' Day Celebration  
Galesville Memorial Hall—11:00 A.M.
- Saturday, November 14** Galesville United Methodist Church Chicken and Oyster Dinner  
Galesville Memorial Hall - 2:00P. M.
- Friday, December 11** Community Holiday Social  
Galesville Memorial Hall— 7:00 P. M.

West River Improvement Association  
952 Galesville Road  
P. O. Box 104  
Galesville, MD 20765

Address Service Requested