

Save This Date

March 28

WRIA Oyster and Ham Dinner, 2:00 p.m.
Galesville Memorial Hall

WRIA Annual Oyster & Ham Dinner

Pass the word!!! The West River Improvement Association's annual, fund-raising Oyster and Ham Dinner will be held on Saturday, March 28 at 2 pm at the Galesville Memorial Hall. In addition to all you can eat fried oysters, baked ham, WRIA's famous potato salad, coleslaw and rolls, there will also be a large and deliciously appointed Bake Table. So bring your friends and your appetite to the Hall on March 28th. Be sure and purchase your 50/50 raffle tickets as well! If you are interested with helping out with the dinner service, please contact Holly Clark at 410-867-3508.

President's Letter

It is very cold and snowy outside as I write this. That weather was nice for the spaghetti dinner in February. But the WRIA calendar of Galesville events shows that spring is coming!

Saturday, March 7 1:30-4 PM is the Galesville Garden Day at the hall. The Maryland Master Gardener's Bay Wise folk will be there at 2 PM with tips on preparing your garden for spring and sources for native plants. The Stewards will hold a workshop on removal of invasive species. Bring some plants to exchange with neighbors and buy milkweed plants for your garden to sustain Monarch Butterflies. There is a lecture on butterflies and other pollinators at Carrie Weedon on Sunday, March 15.

Saturday, March 28 at 2 PM is the spring Oyster dinner. Come pad (or is it pat?) oysters in the morning, provide bake goods for sale, or help during the dinner. Or just come enjoy the delicious food and company of friends and visitors.

By then Spring will certainly be here! And we will all be outside enjoying Galesville.

See you there,

Cyrena Simons

Keep Galesville Clean!

Winter weather is hard on us all but the cold and wind is particularly hard on the trash men and our trash cans. When the winds blow through, cans tip over and trash gets spilled. Please try and pick up spilled trash as soon as possible, otherwise trash blows around town and freezes in the ditches. Eventually, it will make its way into the Bay if it is not scooped up before then. So, pick up litter in the ditch in front of your house as well as on your lawn. Let's keep Galesville litter free!

2015 Galesville Directory

Everyone in Galesville should have received a Directory form in the dues mailing in January. Holly and Lynne would really appreciate it if you would fill out and return the Directory form as soon as possible. Dues would be a bonus, but we would really like your Directory form. Include your street address on the form as well as the PO box. If you have not received a form, please contact us at 410-867-1121. We would like to be able to put out a 2015 Directory by the end of summer.

Thank you!

Bay Wise Gardening

Here is an amusing take on Bay-Wise lawn maintenance – much of it true: You will chuckle as you read this Because as stupid as it may sound, this is exactly what we do!

GOD to ST. FRANCIS:

Frank, ... You know all about gardens and nature. What in the world is going on down there on the planet? What happened to the dandelions, violets, milkweeds and stuff I started eons ago? I had a perfect no-maintenance garden plan. Those plants grow in any type of soil, withstand drought and multiply with abandon. The nectar from the long-lasting blossoms attracts butterflies, honeybees and flocks of songbirds. I expected to see a vast garden of colors by now. But, all I see are these green rectangles.

ST. FRANCIS:

It's the tribes that settled there, Lord. The Suburbanites. They started calling your flowers 'weeds' and went to great lengths to kill them and replace them with grass.

GOD:

Grass? But, it's so boring. It's not colorful. It doesn't attract butterflies, birds and bees; only grubs and sod worms. It's sensitive to temperatures. Do these Suburbanites really want all that grass growing there?

ST. FRANCIS:

Apparently so, Lord. They go to great pains to grow it and keep it green. They begin each spring by fertilizing grass and poisoning any other plant that crops up in the lawn.

GOD:

The spring rains and warm weather probably make grass grow really fast. That must make the Suburbanites happy.

ST. FRANCIS:

Apparently not, Lord. As soon as it grows a little, they cut it-sometimes twice a week.

GOD:

They cut it? Do they then bale it like hay?

ST. FRANCIS:

Not exactly, Lord. Most of them rake it up and put it in bags.

GOD:

They bag it? Why? Is it a cash crop? Do they sell it?

ST. FRANCIS:

No, Sir, just the opposite. They pay to throw it away.

GOD:

Now, let me get this straight. They fertilize grass so it will grow. And, when it does grow, they cut it off and pay to throw it away?

ST. FRANCIS:

Yes, Sir.

GOD:

These Suburbanites must be relieved in the summer when we cut back on the rain and turn up the heat. That surely slows the growth and saves them a lot of work.

ST. FRANCIS:

You aren't going to believe this, Lord. When the grass stops growing so fast, they drag out hoses and pay more money to water it, so they can continue to mow it and pay to get rid of it.

GOD:

What nonsense. At least they kept some of the trees. That was a sheer stroke of genius, if I do say so myself. The trees grow leaves in the spring to provide beauty and shade in the summer. In the autumn, they fall to the ground and form a natural blanket to keep moisture in the soil and protect the trees and bushes. It's a natural cycle of life.



Please join us in celebration of

River Gallery's 26th Annual Juried Community Show

The exhibit runs from **March 6 to April 12.**

The judge is Jamie Wood, Art Educator.

The show includes all visual media.

River Gallery's hours are Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 11:00 to 5:00.

Also please come to the reception with light refreshments on Saturday, March 7th from 2:00 to 4:00.

1000 Main Street, Galesville, MD 20765,

www.rivergallery.org, 410 867 0954.

Any questions, please call Elsie Whitman 443-254-2018

or elsiebwhitman@gmail.com

or rivergallery3@aol.com

ST. FRANCIS:

You better sit down, Lord. The Suburbanites have drawn a new circle. As soon as the leaves fall, they rake them into great piles and pay to have them hauled away.

GOD:

No!?! What do they do to protect the shrub and tree roots in the winter to keep the soil moist and loose?

ST. FRANCIS:

After throwing away the leaves, they go out and buy something which they call mulch. They haul it home and spread it around in place of the leaves.

GOD:

And where do they get this mulch?

ST. FRANCIS:

They cut down trees and grind them up to make the mulch.

GOD:

Enough! I don't want to think about this anymore.

St. Catherine, you're in charge of the arts. What movie have you scheduled for us tonight?

ST. CATHERINE:

'Dumb and Dumber', Lord. It's a story about....

GOD:

Never mind, I think I just heard the whole story from St. Francis.

Want more suggestions to save effort and cost, while protecting the Bay?

The Bay-Wise, Master Gardeners of the University of MD Cooperative Extension Service are happy to come consult and advise on your yard. A yard visit is free; it is a chance for you to ask questions and learn about managing your yard. Here is the email contact to request a visit: getbaywise2012@yahoo.com



Henry Wilson Property Update

The WRIA working closely with the Anne Arundel County Cultural Resources Division has received a \$150,000 African American Heritage Preservation grant award through the Maryland Historical Trust to stabilize the historically significant Henry Wilson Farmstead, at 862 Galesville Road. This effort is intended to preserve the building while planning continues on the ultimate use of the 26.5 acre Henry Wilson Property that also comprises the Hot Sox ballfield.

Despite this Winter's mud, wind, snow and bitter cold, we are delighted with the progress of the stabilization work at the vacant farmhouse. To date, the structure has been raised approximately 14 inches, the foundation has been rebuilt and structural repairs to the floors and walls have been completed. Once the weather cooperates, a new cedar shingle roof will be installed, a portion of the siding will be replaced and the windows and door openings will be secured.

All the work is being completed in accordance with the Secretary of the Interiors Standards and Guidelines.

We are delighted Elsie Whitman, Roxanne Weidele and Laura Dixon, our local Village artists, have been recruited by Cyrena Simons to bring to life a trompe-l'œil for the front facade! Keep watching for this imagery to appear!

If you have any questions regarding this WRIA undertaking, please contact Bill Gibbons, at w.gibbons1@comcast.net.

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

Address Service Requested

Calendar of Events - Save These Dates

March 7 - April 12

26th Annual Community Show at the River Gallery
Friday, Saturday and Sunday
11:00 to 5:00

March 7

Galesville Garden Day
Galesville Memorial Hall
Tuesday 1:30 to 4:00

March 28

WRIA fundraiser
Oyster and Ham Dinner
Bake table
Galesville Memorial Hall
Saturday 2:00 p.m

April 5

West River Sailing Club
6:30 **Sunrise Service**

May 2

Community Square Dance
5:30- Potluck dinner/optional
7:00- Family-friendly dancing
8:30-10 p.m. More challenging dancing.
Galesville Memorial Hall

Thursday Nights

Irish Dance Classes
Galesville Memorial Hall
Contact: Joanie Ohrt
703-930-9911 for information

Yoga Year Round

Saturday mornings and
Wednesday evenings - at
the Galesville Memorial Hall.
Contact renyoga@earthlink.
net for more information.