

The Village Voice

West River Improvement Association

www.galesville.info

March 2018

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Lending Library Open 24 hours

Galesville's Little Free Library is increasing literacy in our community, day at night. Located in front of 1007 E. Benning Rd., this tiny book exchange service is free and generally includes books for adults and kids. Simply stop on by and open the door; a light comes on to illuminate your selection. Many thanks to Cecilia Petro. Find out more about the program at littlefreelibrary.org.

Community Engagement Survey Coming Soon

Be on the lookout for an emailed survey coming soon about community engagement events. What kinds of events would you enjoy? An afternoon tea? A Friday evening cook-out? A rainy day game party? Make your views known, so we can start planning the food and fun!

Support the Riverkeeper at Pigs & Pearls: Pirate's Cove, April 28

The annual barbecue and oyster roast to support the West & Rhode Riverkeeper is planned for Saturday, April 28, from 2:00 to 6:00 pm. For more information on the organization's events, services, and calls for volunteer citizen-scientists, see www.westrhoderiverkeeper.org.

Riverkeeper Pumpout Boat Service starts May 4

The West & Rhode Riverkeeper's pumpout boat service will begin on May 4 and run Friday through Monday, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm, until the end of October. Pumpouts are \$5 for the first 50 gallons, or you can get free pumpouts all season long when you support the Riverkeeper program at the \$50 level. Call or text 443-221-5104 or hail on VHF Channel 71. To become a supporter, visit www.westrhoderiverkeeper.org and hit the blue "Donate" button.

SERC Open House, May 19

Right in our own backyard, the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC) provides science-based knowledge to meet the environmental challenges of the 21st century. Learn about volunteer and education opportunities by visiting <https://serc.si.edu> or attending the SERC Open House on Saturday, May 19, 2018.

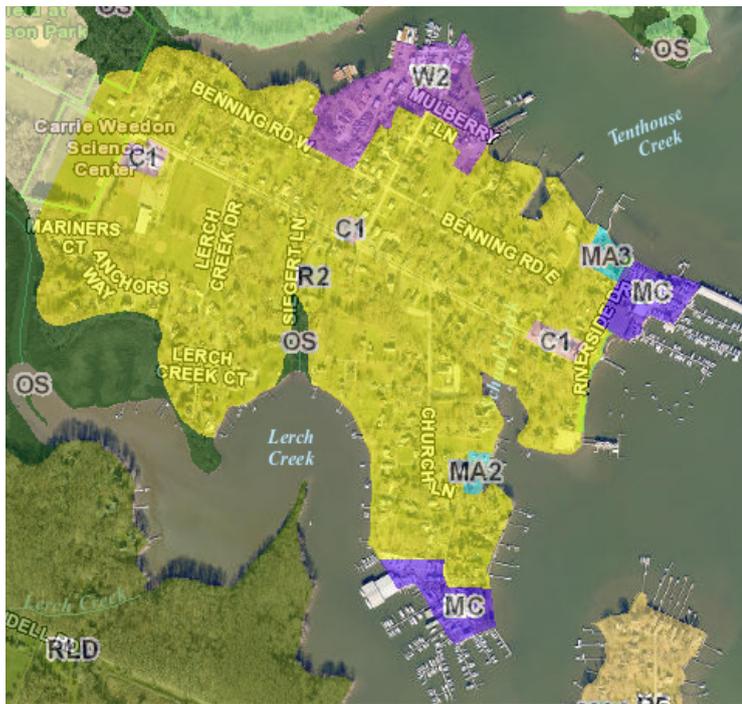
Wilson Park Hot Sox Field Meeting, May 15

Galesville Community Center will be hosting a community meeting on Tuesday, May 15, at 6:00 pm about the planned renovations to the Wilson Park Hot Sox Field. Guests will be County Executive Steve Schultz and Director of Recreation and Parks Rick Anthony.

Galesville Yard Sale

May 19

8:00 to 1:00
For information
contact
Dottie Rodda
443-607-6052
oct21dot@
ymail.com



Is your Galesville property zoned appropriately?

The Anne Arundel County Comprehensive Zoning process provides an opportunity for Galesville residents to participate in a process to make changes in village zoning in accordance with the policies and recommendations adopted in the County's General Development Plan. The County may also use the Comprehensive Zoning process to rezone property in order to address an identified community need. Unlike the Administrative Zoning process, which is decided by the County's Administrative Hearing Officer, the Comprehensive Zoning process involves introducing legislation to the County Council, which must hold public hearings on the proposed zoning changes prior to adoption of the legislation.

The County plans to initiate the next Comprehensive Zoning process following the next update of its General Development Plan sometime in the 2018/2019 timeframe.

As zoning is a land use tool the County utilizes to control the future physical development of land, the WRIA is interested in studying the current zoning districts throughout the village to see if there might be an opportunity to participate in the County's Comprehensive Zoning process.

If you are interested in discussing current and/or potential future village zoning with the WRIA, please contact Cecelia Petro at baylibrarian@gmail.com or Bill Gibbons, at w.gibbons1@comcast.net or at (410) 353-6273 by December 2019, with the comprehensive re-zoning legislation submitted to the County Council thereafter.

County General Development Plan (GDP) – Shaping the County Over the Next Twenty Years

The WRIA Board is actively following the General Development Plan process which has just completed listening sessions around the county, including one on February 8 at Southern High. Attendees at that meeting were vocal about retaining the rural nature of South County. Many citizens reminded county officials that the Small Area Development Plans developed with the last GDP have been ignored, creating great disappointment and distrust of the county by citizens. (Note: Galesville citizens worked for 2 years on a small area development plan for the last GDP, but it was voted down in the community and not incorporated with the 2020 GDP).

Another citizen pointed out that the county currently provides incentives for housing development because the county imposes inadequate, low-cost impact fees on developers. A way to slow growth would be to impose impact fees that more adequately reflect the cost of development (schools, water and wastewater, roads, etc.).

Since this plan is supposed to guide development for the next 20 years, be sure to have your say by taking the survey offered at this website, and keep abreast of the progress of the plan.

www.aacounty.org/Plan2040

Welcome to Galesville

Anne and Matthew Arnold
1047 E. Benning Road

Loren Barnett
960 Main Street

Casey and Kristi Ward
1017 E. Benning Road

“One Million Abolitionist” Project

The GCCO is looking for sponsors to help purchase approximately 250 books at \$4.00 each to distribute to the youth in South County beginning during the 4th of July Parade.

Through the “One Million Abolitionist” Project, The Frederick Douglass Family Initiatives will print over one million hardcover copies of the *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave* to be distributed to youth across the United States. The goal of this initiative is to inspire young readers to explore African American history and create projects to address urgent social justice issues in their community. Imagine one million young people working toward equality in the spirit of Frederick Douglass!

A hard copy of the Bicentennial Edition *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave* will be purchased and distributed at no cost for youth visitors between the ages of 8 to 17 years old.

Riverkeeper moves into new office at SERC

The West & Rhode Riverkeeper has moved from Discovery Village to a new office on the campus of the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center. The new address is:

Jeff Holland
West & Rhode Riverkeeper
647 Contee’s Wharf Rd.
Bldg. T04
Edgewater, MD 21037
jeff@westrhoderiverkeeper.org
443-758-7797
www.westrhoderiverkeeper.org

Riverkeeper seeks volunteers for citizen-scientist program

Volunteers serve as citizen-scientists to monitor the quality of the water in the West and Rhode Rivers every Wednesday morning from 8 - 11 a.m. between early May and the end of October. We’re looking for experienced small boat operators to drive one of the two 18-foot outboard runabouts used in the program. You do not need to be experienced to assist in gathering data. We’ll be holding training sessions in April. For more information, contact Riverkeeper Jeff Holland at jeff@westrhoderiverkeeper.org or call 443-758-7797.

Keep Scooping the Poop

We make it easy in Galesville to pick up after your dog; there are pet waste bag stations at Smith Park and Galesville Park. The marinas provide them to their patrons, too.

It might not seem like a problem, but animal waste is one of the many seemingly small sources of pollution that can add up to big problems for water quality, and even human health. Animal waste contains two main types of pollutants that harm local waters: nutrients and pathogens. When this waste ends up in water bodies, it decomposes, releasing nutrients that cause excessive growth of algae and weeds. This makes the water murky, green, smelly, and even unusable for swimming, boating, or fishing. The pathogens, disease causing bacteria and viruses, can also make local waters unswimmable and unfishable, and have caused severe illness in humans. (Source: EPA.gov).

In Memoriam

Dorothy Smith

April 27, 1916 -
September 26, 2017

Galesville Community Square Dances

Dance Parties - April 7 and May 5
at the Galesville Memorial Hall and supported by the WestRiver Improvement Association (WRIA).

There will be optional Potluck Dinners that will start at 5:45 PM followed by family-friendly dancing at 7:00 PM and then, from 8:30 to 10:00 PM, there will be more challenging dancing.

Adults: \$10, Ages 5 to 17 years: \$5,
and under 5 can come in for free.
For more info, call 301-926-9142.

Renaissance Yoga Year Round

Saturday mornings 8:00 am Morning Yoga,
9:15 am Absolutely Abs, 9:45 am Relax & Restore
Wednesday evenings 6:45 pm Intermediate Yoga
7:45 Community Yoga

Galesville Memorial Hall
For more Information visit
<http://www.renyoga.com>

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

Address Service Requested

Calendar

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| Mar. 24 – Grounds Clean Up Day,
Galesville Heritage Museum, 8:00-10:00 am | May 1 – GHS Board Meeting, Galesville Memorial Hall,
7:30 pm |
| April. 2 – WRIA Board Meeting,
Galesville Memorial Hall, 7:30 pm | May 6 – Galesville Heritage Museum Open House,
1-4 pm |
| April 3 – GHS Board Meeting,
Galesville Memorial Hall, 7:30 pm | May 7 - WRIA Board Meeting,
Galesville Memorial Hall, 7:30 p.m. |
| April 7 – Square Dance & Potluck Dinner,
Galesville Memorial Hall, 5:45 pm | May 15 – Wilson Park Hot Sox Field Meeting,
Galesville Community Center, 6:00 pm |
| April 8 – Galesville Heritage Museum Celebrates MD
Day, Galesville Memorial Hall, 2 pm | May 19 – WRIA Galesville Community Yard Sale,
(Rain date MAY 26) 8:00 am – 1:00 pm |
| April 14 – WRIA Oyster & Ham Dinner,
Galesville Memorial Hall, 2 pm | May 29 – Museum Meeting, Galesville Heritage Museum,
9:30 am |
| April 22 – Galesville Heritage Museum Opens for Season,
1-4 pm | June 2 – GHS Fundraiser, JULIA CHILD-QUEEN OF
CUISINE, Galesville Memorial Hall, 5:30 pm |
| April 24 – Museum Meeting, Galesville Heritage Museum,
9:30 am | June 10 – Market Day at the Galesville Heritage Museum,
1-4 pm |