

SKIPJACK COMMUNITY NEWS

PROVIDING INFORMATION TO THE COMMUNITIES OF WENONA, DEAL ISLAND, CHANCE,
AND DAMES QUARTER

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Text Too Small? -Press "Control" and scroll up to make text larger. -Tap and stretch fingers to zoom on a mobile device or tablet. -Print newsletter from email, not Facebook.



CULTURE CORNER

ARBY'S STORE BY: CHRISTINE WEBSTER

Should you be looking for a small store in Wenona, you might easily pass it on your way to the Wenona Point, which is as far as you can drive. In just a few feet, you arrive at the Tangier Sound and since your vehicle doesn't float, you must turn around! The scene is breathtaking with condominiums and beautiful homes on stilts, overlooking the waters of the sound (somehow the "city" folk knew about the possible high tides). As far as you can see, the waters go on with shimmering waves that sparkle in the sun like diamonds. The land has been purchased by "city" folk who unfortunately never met a mosquito or a green-headed fly.

One small piece of land in Wenona, owned always by down homer's, became historic even to this day, supporting a small store that had many owners and supplied the community with groceries and the watermen with gas. The small gas tanks are still hovering on the edge of the dock, making easy availability for the waterman to gas up while the boats were still in the water. Other tanks were at the store for

vehicles, this was back in the day! The store had everything you could want. It was a gathering place when winters were bitter and the watermen met to hang out when ice conditions up the bay rendered the watermen jobless. The store still remains a hangout for the community for all seasons.

Aubrey Holland, being the latest owner of 39 years, says that running the store required lots of hours and work. Managing the store was time consuming and at times exhausting, but Arby had learned to persevere and gave the job his best!



I am not sure when Aubrey became Arby, and then Arb! Maybe it was a sibling

thing or an island thing, either way, Arby it is!

Arby and I attended school together from first grade until graduation in 1968 and I wish I had photos, but owning a Polaroid Instamatic was a treasure in those days. I thought of Arby as a quiet boy, but as kids we often were afraid of our teacher, who had a ruler, or the principal who had a paddle, or our Dads who had belts or

switches that had to be collected by the offender, all weapons of choosing even for the slightest infraction! We had the fear of God instilled early. Sometimes the little rule breakers had to copy 10 pages of the dictionary, maybe this was more acceptable than actual brutality. Good thing that Social Services was not in the yellow pages! Parents of today would never consider such discipline, but sorry, in those days it worked!

Arby remembers being poor, as most kids in that day can! He was raised by strict parents and as soon as he got home from school, the crab pot chores awaited the Holland children. There was no time for homework, which was a teacher no-no, that warranted more discipline and the cycle went on! He recalls going to school with worn holes in his pants or shirts, causing him to be the focus of his other classmates who showed little understanding. The teasing and the poking fun were ignored by Arby. Hand me downs were part of his life and hard work turned a boy into a man much too early!

Arby was born to Captain Paul Sr. and Josephine Webster Holland on July 20th, 1950. He has 5 siblings; Doris, Paul, Ruth, Gary, and Janice. Captain Paul Sr. had several buy-boats and a crab house but did not make enough money to meet his family's needs which seemed to turn him into a hard man. Josie, as she was called, was a loving mother to her household. Arby used to ride with her when she took crabs to Baltimore, which allowed him some sleep! His Dad sought solace where there wasn't any, making life even harder! Arby says that his Dad became a new man when "he found the Lord in the 1960's". The Holland's family life took on new meaning!

The Holland family lived in a big house behind the store that was owned by

Captain Dick Webster at that time. After Captain Dick died, his son Captain Horace Webster, who could no longer live the waterman's life, became the next owner in 1947 and his wife Irene took over the small post office. It was said that Captain Horace was a postmaster but I have no verification of that. Captain Horace later turned the store over to his son-in-law David Webster who had an almost fatal dredging accident! He could no longer work on the water to



support his family! (David was married to Captain Horace's daughter, Nora; no relation but the same last name, perhaps the whole island was related if you

took the time to do a family tree, but why bother when you can find out easily by just reading this).

Arby went to computer programming classes in Silver Spring, Md on a scholarship with a classmate, but in 1969 he talked to a Navy Recruiter who promised him all kinds of enticing lies and so he enlisted and remained in the Navy until 1971 receiving a Hardship Discharge to help his struggling family back home, involving more hard work. Hard work was all Arby had ever known.

Sadly, in December of 1979 or January of 1980, (Arby wasn't sure of the exact date) the store burned to the ground, it had been owned by several others at that time. The landmark and history were wiped out in minutes. The property remained empty until Labor Day weekend of 1980 when a new store was built but the outside gas pumps were not replaced. Arby and his parents made the store a family business

until 1984, when Arby took over. In 1986 he married Debby White, who became his helpmate in the store. Arby was working at Moores Supply Co. at that time and trying to get the store up and running, which meant he had to quit Moores and focus on the store primarily!

Business was good and Arby felt the need for more space, so in 1989 he had a bar and grill added, which further met the needs of the community and brought more business! Eventually he added a space for outside picnic tables in the front of the store!

Then Hurricane Isabel made an appearance in 2003 with high winds sending a surge of water from the Tangier Sound which pushed its way from the dock and from Wenona Point. Arby says he neglected to remove the supplies that were on the floor of the store which became a loss since there was seven and a half inches of water inside the store! Folks were getting around in skiffs and paddled with an oar! The island stood still until the tide receded! Sounded like the havoc of Hurricane Hazel in 1954, but not the damage done to the



Skipjacks that were sent with the tide up on the land. When the waters receded, the Skipjacks did not, hard times for the

watermen. The Hurricane winds of Isabel also battered his homestead and it was condemned due to structural damage and tearfully he watched as the Fire Department burned it down. One never forgets their homestead no matter if it contains good or bad memories.

Arby states that the family lived in a large camper until he invested in a 2 story modular home in 2005, beside the store. The actual land was in 3 parcels or lots; the store, his childhood home and his new home and at times there were several different owners.

Arby's store became a landmark for visitors on Labor Day and on other holidays. The store was open early in the morning till late evening, 7 days a week! Busy times for Arby!

As cruel as Mother Nature can be, icy patches in February 2020, formed in hidden patches around the store. Arby was rushing out the door and slipped, hitting his head, causing a fracture of the cervical spine and a bleed in his brain. He says he doesn't remember what happened, that he can't recall any of this. The accident could have easily been fatal but God was near and with the whole community praying, he was eventually restored to full health.

Oddly enough, the next February, he tripped and fell, causing a bad sprain in his arm, but once again his body healed and the life of the store continued! So through falls, Nor'Easterners, Hurricanes, high winds, high tides and other freaks of nature, the store stands strong!

After so many years of being a merchant, Arby is ready to retire and get to enjoy whatever is before him. He has the properties for sale and his days in the store ended on the 30th of April. He is convinced the store will live on and still be an historical landmark of Wenona!

Arby feels that he has given his all to the community and he has. You will be missed Arby! Never forget that there is no place like Home!

COOKING WITH BERNADETTE

Red White and Blue Berry Trifle

1 1/2 pounds of raspberries (5 cups)
 3/4 cups confectioners' sugar
 1/4 cup fresh orange juice (from 1 orange)
 10 ounces of mascarpone cheese (1 1/3 cups)
 1 1/4 cups cold heavy cream
 1/2 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
 fine salt
 20 to 24 ladyfingers (from a 7 oz. package)
 broken into 1 inch pieces
 3/4 pound blueberries (2 1/2 cups)

In a medium bowl, combine raspberries with 1/4 cup confectioners' sugar and orange juice. With the back of a fork, lightly mash berries to release their juices and let sit 10 minutes. Meanwhile, in a large bowl, stir together mascarpone and 1/2 cup confectioners' sugar until smooth. Whisk in cream, vanilla and pinch of salt and whisk until soft peaks form, about 4 minutes.

Cut 1 or 2 pieces of parchment 1 inch taller than the side of an 8 inch springform pan and line inside of pan. Place half of the ladyfingers in pan and top with half the raspberry mixture. With a small offset or rubber spatula, spread half the whipped cream over berries. Tap pan gently on counter to remove air bubbles. Repeat with remaining ladyfingers, raspberry mixture and whipped cream.

Top with blueberries and refrigerate until whipped cream is stiff and cookies have softened, at least 3 hours (or tightly covered with plastic, up to 3 days). To serve, unmold trifle and peel away

parchment. Can be cut into slices. I find it is better to prepare the day before. Enjoy!



Bernadette Gesser and her late husband Ed bought their property in Chance in 1988 and intended it to be for their retirement much later down the road. They had looked at property for months and months with their real estate agent, Vickie Hoffman Benton. It wasn't until Vickie showed them what became their house as the sun was setting on Tangier Sound that the decision was finally made. They were what they called "weekend warriors" traveling across the Bay Bridge from Pasadena, Maryland to spend weekends and vacations at their little sanctuary until Bernadette finally retired in 2006. They had their old house burned down and built the new house in 2007. One year, while they had their three granddaughters for a visit, they were fishing on the pier and the girls were having a great day, catching spot, croakers, rockfish and even a slimy old eel. The youngest granddaughter, Lindsey, asked if the fish were having as much fun as they were! Bernadette told her that every time they would put bait on the hook and the fish grabbed it before being caught, they were, indeed, having as much fun as the

girls. At bedtime that night, the oldest granddaughter, Haley, asked Bern to tell them a story about their fish. When she finished, Haley said "My friends would love that story Grandmom. You should write us a book." A couple of weeks later, Bern woke up in the middle of the night and went to the computer to start writing. She eventually had *Bob the Big Bad Bluefish* published. Bern has lived on the same property longer than anyone else on their little peninsula. She has been blessed with caring, talented and helpful neighbors through the years. She still enjoys the magnificent sunsets, fishing, crabbing and cooking for her friends and family.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

AARP TRIP

Upper Somerset AARP presents
Miracle on 34th Street
December 13, 2023



Cost is \$132, due when you sign up. Checks are not deposited until trip is confirmed. The cost includes the

2023 Christmas show at Toby's Dinner Theatre in Columbia, MD, bus transportation, buffet lunch and driver tip. Pick up at Ollie's in Salisbury at 7:30am. Expected return approx. 6 pm. All checks payable to **Upper Somerset AARP**. Mail to Sharon Malone 13371 Oyster House RD, Princess Anne, MD 21853.

Questions? Call Sharon Malone 410-621-0091 H or 410-726-1049 C.
swmalone@comcast.net

SKIPJACK FESTIVAL

The 2023 Skipjack Festival will be held on Sunday, Sept. 3- Monday, Sept. 4. We are actively looking for a volunteer to be the Festival Coordinator. Outgoing chair will be available to advise. If interested, please reach out!



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It is time to once again create the Ad Booklet distributed during the annual Skipjack Festival over Labor Day weekend in Deal Island, Maryland. Ads can be an advertisement for your business or for an event. Ads can be in memory of a beloved family member or in honor of someone very much still alive. Ads can demonstrate appreciation of a person, an organization, or an event. They can recognize and applaud or memorialize and honor. Ads can be a detailed personal recognition from your or your family or they can be as simple as a business card for your company. If you have previously purchased an ad, you will be contacted directly. If you would like to submit a "new" ad for the 2023 Ad Booklet, please contact Carrie Day at diclions58@gmail.com or 443-614-9926. Submission deadline is July 15.
 ¼ page: \$40.00, ½ page: \$60.00
 Full Page: \$100.00

SKIPJACK RUN 10TH ANNIVERSARY

September 9, 2023 7:30am 5K or 10K

Professional chip timing by TCR Event Management. 100% of proceeds support Deal Island Community Thanksgiving Dinner on Thanksgiving Day. Awesome refreshments (got chocolate milk?), raffles & unique trophies. Race day registration. Simultaneous start for 5K and 10K. Overall Male + Female / Masters Male + Female (over 40) / Age Groups (Male + Female). Long sleeve cotton-feel Tech Tee - first 100 registrations. Multiple water stops. Walkers, jogging strollers & well-mannered canines with leashes welcome. No rain date or refunds. EMT assistance available. See you there! Online registration: <https://runsignup.com/Race/MD/DealIsland/SkipjackRunDealIsland>

LADIES WALKING GROUP

Ladies of Deal Island interested in starting a morning walking group beginning around June 13th, contact Cindy Anderson at 410-422-6881, clwanderson@outlook.com.



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CRAB AND SEAFOOD RAFFLE

The Deal Island/Chance Volunteer Fire Company Auxiliary is sponsoring a Crab and Seafood Feast Raffle!



\$10.00 per ticket. Tickets can be purchased at both the June breakfast OR from an auxiliary member. Drawing July 29, 2023 at Deal Island Firehouse Breakfast at 9 am. The winner will receive the following: Bushel #1 Crabs - 5lbs of Shrimp - Box of Frozen Prime Softshell crabs - 2 dozen ears of corn - Smith Island Cake - Conrads JO Blend of Seafood Seasoning - and gift certificates from Food Lion and Walmart. Proceeds to go towards kitchen improvements.

YARD SALE

St. John's Indoor Yard Sale
Saturday, June 3rd from 7:30 am to 2 pm
Hot dogs, chips and baked goods
Lots of bargains to be had! Donations of gently used and/or new items accepted.



CHURCH SERVICES SUMMER SCHEDULE

June 4 Church by the Bay
 June 11-June 25 St. John's (Deal Island)
 Sunday School at their church hall
 July 2 Church by the Bay
 July 9-July 30 Rock Creek (Chance) Sunday
 School at their church hall

COLLECTIONS FOR SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Local communities and organizations are again putting together "Welcome Back Boxes" of school supplies for Deal Island Elementary School. Drop off places for these items are Rock Creek Church (Chance), St. John's Church (Deal Island), and Church by the Bay (Deal Island Harbor). Items needed include:

Crayola markers, colored pencils, crayons
 Highlighters, Sharpies, Dry Erase Markers
 Post-Its, Hand Sanitizer, Tissues
 Erasers, Pencils, Pens, Glue Sticks
 Stickers (for grading papers)



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SKIPJACK PAGEANT



The 58th Annual Miss, Little Miss and Master Skipjack Pageant will be held on Saturday, Aug. 5th at 6:00 pm. at Deal Island Elementary School. It is open to girls and boys ages 5-7 and young ladies ages 15-18 as of Labor Day 2023. Full application with details and pageant rules are available

on request by contacting Angela McCoy at 443-735-2090, Kim Tyler at 443-235-2056 or Kelly Courtney at 410-603-8262.

FREE Summer Food Program

What? Free Summer Meals for Adults and Kids
 Each person will receive one bag filled with one meal plus dessert and drink

Where? Pure Word Bible Church
 11350 Stewart Neck Rd., Princess Anne

When? Tuesdays from 4:30 to 6 PM
 June 13, 20, 27
 July 11, 18, 25
 August 1, 8, 15, 22
 'First-Come-First Served'

Questions? Call 443-365-7927

Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man who trusts in Him (Psalm 34:8)

PUREWORD BIBLE CHURCH
 11350 Stewart Neck Road, Princess Anne, MD 21853 443-365-7927
 www.purewordbiblechurch.com pwb11350@gmail.com
 Pastor David T. Diskin First Lady Lonnie Diskin

Garden Statues with **Shelley Zimmerman**

July 15, 2023
10a-1p

\$20 per participant

Please sign up at socoarts.org

Rock Creek Church
23580 Deal Island Road
Chance, Maryland



FREE VEGETABLE DRIVE-THRU

Wednesdays 11am – 2pm
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!

- **PRINCESS ANNE:**
MANOKIN CHURCH PARKING LOT
11892 SOMERSET AVE.
PRINCESS ANNE, MD 21853
June 7, July 5,
August 2, August 30
- **CRISFIELD:**
413 TERRAPIN TRAIL RUN
4053 WINMAN LN.
CRISFIELD, MD 21871
June 14, July 12,
August 9, Sept. 6
- **DEAL ISLAND-CHANCE:**
DEAL ISLAND CHANCE FIRE DEPT.
11030 DEAL ISLAND RD.
DEAL ISLAND, MD 21821
June 21, July 19,
August 16, Sept. 13
- **WESTOVER:**
SOMERSET COUNTY HEALTH DEPT.
8928 SIGN POST RD.
WESTOVER, MD 21871
June 28, July 26,
August 23, Sept. 20

 Somerset County Health Department

BUS TRIP

November 25, 2023

\$165.00 p/p

Trip Includes:

- = Tour Bus & Driver Tip
- = Buffet Lunch at Miller's Smorgasbord (includes buffet, drink, tax & tip)
- = Sight & Sound Show - Miracle of Christmas

Schedule for Day:

6:00 a.m.	Depart from Deal Island School
10:00 a.m.	Arrive at Kitchen Kettle "On Your Own"
12:00 p.m.	Depart Kitchen Kettle
12:30 p.m.	Miller's Smorgasbord
2:00 p.m.	Depart Miller's
2:15 p.m.	Arrive at Sight & Sound for 3:00 p.m. show of Miracle of Christmas
5:30 p.m.	Depart Sight & Sound
10:30 p.m.	Arrive at Deal Island School

Two Payment Options Available:

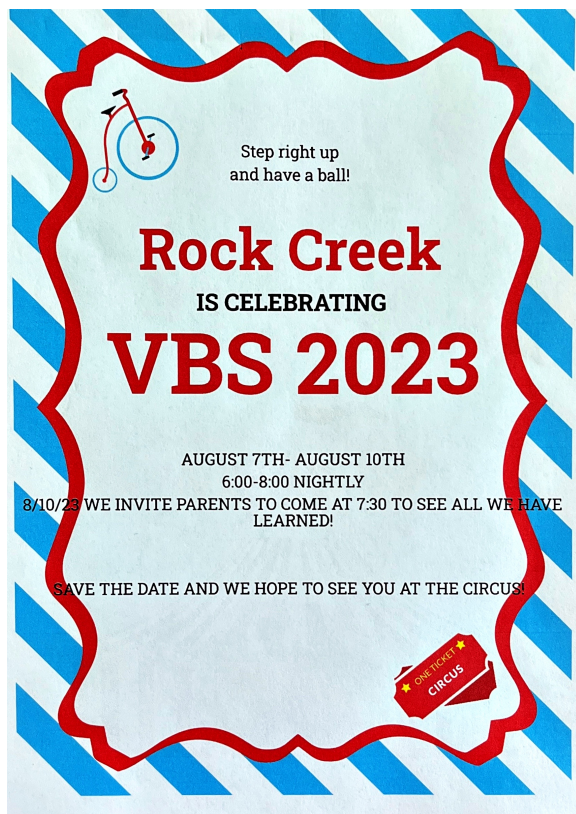
Option #1 - Pay \$165 in full
Option #2 - Pay \$50 by 05/15/23, \$50 by 07/15/23, \$65 by 09/15/23

There are 56 seats. Your seat is not confirmed until your initial \$50 payment is received. Tickets are NON-REFUNDABLE unless the trip is cancelled by the Deal Island-Chance Lions Club. If the trip is cancelled, everyone will be fully refunded. If you need to cancel for a personal reason, you will only be refunded your money if we can find a replacement for your seat. If your ticket has not been paid in full by 09/15/23, your seat will become available for purchase. You will be refunded any money paid if seat is resold but you will forfeit any money paid if it is not.

Payment methods: Cash or Check, payable to "Deal Island-Chance Lions Club".



Gift Certificates are available. Please contact Carrie Day or email DCLions58@gmail.com for more information.



Step right up
and have a ball!

Rock Creek IS CELEBRATING VBS 2023

AUGUST 7TH- AUGUST 10TH
6:00-8:00 NIGHTLY

8/10/23 WE INVITE PARENTS TO COME AT 7:30 TO SEE ALL WE HAVE LEARNED!

SAVE THE DATE AND WE HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE CIRCUS!

 CIRCUS



SEPT 9, 2023 SKIPJACK BIKE TOUR

The Skipjack Bike Tour is a rolling start so once you are signed in feel free to "Hit the Road" and enjoy the beauty of Somerset County. The annual ride starts at Deal Island Harbor, home of the largest gathering of Skipjacks on the Chesapeake Bay. Enjoy a great day as you set out on a 15, 30, or 60 mile ride through the wildlife refuge, marshes, and backroads that wind along Deal Island Road (RT. 363). Along the way you will find plenty of rest stops, our famous brownies, and again this year Darlene's fresh grilled hot dogs!!

In case you didn't know, the Skipjack Bike Tour helps the Deal Island Chance Volunteer Fire Company support and serve 25 square miles that include the communities of Deal Island, Chance, Wenona, Dames Quarter, Oriole, and St. Stephens. Your support keeps our equipment running, our gear ready, and community safe!!

REGISTER ONLINE AT:

<https://skipjackbt.dealischancevfd.com/>

Deal Island Chance Volunteer Fire Company – EST 1954

15, 30 & 60
MILE RIDES

REST STOPS
SAG WAGONS
FAMOUS BROWNIES

CUSTOM T-SHIRTS
WHILE THEY LAST

REGISTRATION
\$30 BEFORE AUG 31
\$40 AFTER AUG 31

DAY OF
REGISTRATION
7 TO 9 AM AT THE
DEAL ISLAND
HARBOR.

PROCEEDS BENEFIT
Deal Island/Chance
Volunteer Fire Company
dealischancevfd.com
410-784-2335

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

6/3, 7:30 am-2 pm	St. John's Indoor Yard Sale
6/4, 10 am	Church by the Bay
6/13th,20th,27 th , 4:30-6 pm	Free Summer Meals-Pure Word Bible Church in Princess Anne
6/17, 10 am-1pm	Wreath Making Workshop at Rock Creek Church Hall (full)
6/21, 11 am-2 pm	Free Vegetable Drive-Thru at DI-Chance Fire Department
6/24, 7 am-10 am	Auxiliary Breakfast at Fire Department
7/1, 7:30 am-2 pm	St. John's Indoor Yard Sale
7/2, 10 am	Church by the Bay
7/6	Wicomico AARP trip to see Grease
7/10, 11 am-12 pm	Maryland Food Bank Mobile Market at Fire Department
7/15	Deadline for submissions to Skipjack Festival Ad Booklet
7/15, 10 am-1 pm	Garden Statue Workshop at Rock Creek Church Hall
7/22, 5 pm	Senior Bingo at Fire Department- doors open at 4 pm
7/29, 7 am- 10 am	Auxiliary Breakfast at Fire Department, Seafood Raffle Drawing
8/5, 6 pm	Deal Island Pageant at Deal Island School
8/7-8/10, 6 pm-8 pm	Vacation Bible School at Rock Creek Church
8/12, 10 am-1pm	Beginning Stained Glass Workshop
8/26, 10 am-1 pm	Flower Pounding Workshop
9/3-9/4	Skipjack Festival
9/9, 7:30 am	10 th Anniversary Skipjack Run
9/9	Skipjack Bike Tour
9/10-9/16	Somerset AARP trip to Vermont
11/11, 10 am- 1 pm	Christmas Cookie Decorating Workshop
11/25	Miracle of Christmas Lancaster bus trip
12/8, 6-9 pm	Sea Glass Christmas Tree Workshop
12/9, 10 am-1 pm	Sea Glass Christmas Tree Workshop
12/13	Somerset AARP trip to Toby's Dinner Theater in Columbia, MD