

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.



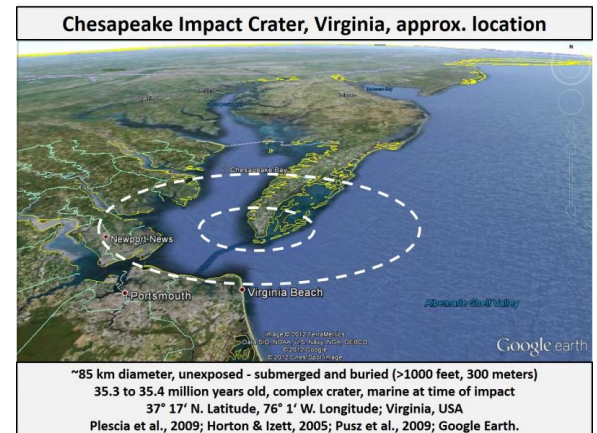
CULTURE CORNER

CHESEPIOOC; THE GREAT WATER

BY: GLORIA HORNER

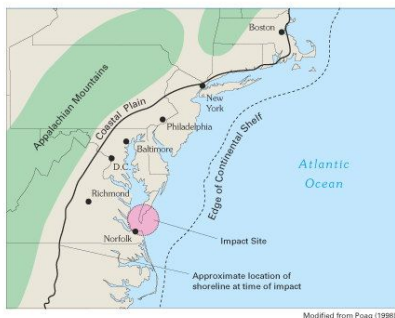
Like a child being cradled by its parents, the Chesapeake Bay seems small in comparison to the land which clasps it. And like a child, the Bay is nourished by the five states which discharge waters filled with everything imaginable, at least by humans, into the more than 100,000 streams, creeks, and rivers forming the watershed. From tiny languishing rivulets to raging rapids, each a strand feeding the Chesapeake Bay. They form an intricate web that connects each of the catchment areas which eventually reach the Chesapeake Bay. A split bag of fertilizer left for the rain to wash away will wend its way from lawn to street, to water source, and find its way into the bay. A random length of line tangled in some ancient submerged stump, cut free to allow the fisherman to continue a day of pleasure waits in the depths, unseen, but potentially deadly to some other creature. Even our dead eventually join the Bay. The lost islands of the bay once received the remains of our ancestors. As the islands slipped under the waves their graves gave up the mortal remains of those who lived and died on the bay; now joined in that ultimate union with the bay.

Even now, the cemetery for the Wesley Church, frequently inundated, reveals the mortal remains of members who lie in the body of the island. Slowly, high tide by high tide they are being claimed by the Bay. The Bay accepts all we offer, intentional or not. And we humans take from the bay; sustenance, pleasure, even our livelihoods are founded upon it. Time defines our coming into and going out of existence, however the Chesapeake Bay rolls on, our wild and beautiful child survives beyond us.



The finger of land leading from St. Stephens through Rock Creek, points towards Deal Island and on to the end of Wenona is alternately lapped and inundated by a variety of bodies of water. The Tangier Sound,

The Upper and Lower Thoroughfares, Monie Bay, the Manokin River, Big Sound Creek, Straight Gut, and dozens of small waterways, all tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay, surrounding and crisscrossing define the land we call home. At no point from St. Stephens going towards Wenona is anyone more than a few minutes from a body of water as they snake through the marshes, filling and emptying with the turning tides of the Chesapeake Bay. Historians believe Chesapeake comes from the Algonquin word 'chesepiooc,' meaning "great shellfish bay." When the English explorers arrived, they used the natives' words for the waterways. However, by the time of the settlers, the land was given English names and words. Even those early visitors and settlers accepted while land can be tamed, the waters of the Bay barely acknowledge the presence of humans.



Those who live along the Chesapeake Bay may see the water as constant, ebbing and flowing with tide, responding only to the gravitational friction between the moon and earth, and the land slowly responding in tandem with the seasons. For the men and women who live, work, and play on the Bay, the Chesapeake seems eternal. We assume little change from before the appearance of humans along its shores at least 12,000 years ago. But the Bay which so intimately defines our area, was born of a catastrophic celestial event. The bounty and beauty of the Chesapeake Bay exists due to a bolide, a stony or metallic asteroid, striking in the area we know today as Kiptopeke, Virginia 35 million years ago. Prior to the impact, a tropical rainforest covered the Appalachian Mountains down to the ocean. In an instant, that landscape changed forever when the

meteor, three miles across, smashed into the shallow ocean, traveling at 70,000 miles per hour when it exploded. The impact hurled millions of tons of debris and rocks into the atmosphere, producing a tsunami, devastating the eastern margin of the North American continent, while wiping out life on land and in the surrounding marine areas. While the bolide was vaporized upon impact it created a crater five miles deep and 24 miles across. Within hours, the explosion transformed the region, altered the geography, and from that impact, the Chesapeake Bay and thus the island we know became possible. That cataclysmic event brought into existence the Bay, the Delmarva Peninsula, and even our very lifestyle. Today, when traveling south along route 13, we cross that impact crater using the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel.

Over the ensuing millions of years, what we call the Susquehanna River flowed from the Appalachian Mountains creating a 400-foot deep river bed as it made its way towards the Atlantic Ocean, flooding the ancient Susquehanna River Valley, until just over 18,000 years ago, the Chesapeake Bay began to form. Rivers flow in response to gravity, always seeking the downward path, and the ancient Susquehanna River, obeying physics, flowed to reach the Atlantic Ocean. As the glaciers began to shrink about 12,000 years ago, at the end of the last ice age, sea levels rose and the waters of the Atlantic moved up into and defined the Susquehanna River Valley, creating what we call the Chesapeake Bay. By about 10,000 years ago, these waters had stretched up to southeastern Virginia and eventually the ocean waters reached what is now Havre de Grace, Maryland, where the Susquehanna meets the Chesapeake Bay today. The river's fresh water mixed with salt water to form the Great Water.

The Chesapeake Bay receives about half its water from the Atlantic Ocean in the form of saltwater. The other half is freshwater that drains into the Bay from the watershed of seven sources; Delaware, Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia. The Chesapeake Bay catchment area covers

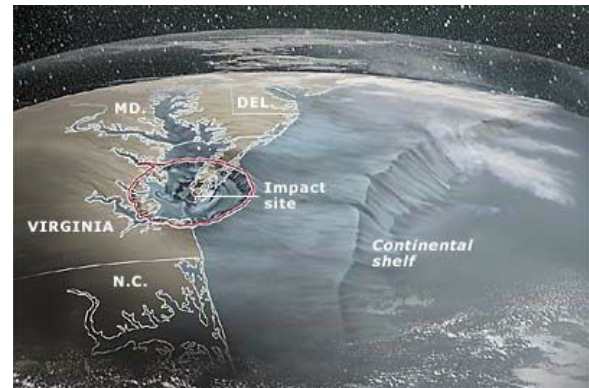
approximately 64,000 square miles. From the head in Cooperstown, New York to Havre de Grace, Maryland, where it empties into the Chesapeake. Water entering the Susquehanna takes six days to reach from the farthest corner of the source of the Susquehanna River to the head of the bay.

Today, five significant rivers flow into the western side of the Bay: the Patuxent, Potomac, Rappahannock, York, and James. These rivers produce substantial amounts of freshwater and explain why the western side of the Bay is less salty, produces more silt and is often littered with vegetative dross. On the eastern side of the Bay are the Pocomoke, Wicomico, Nanticoke, Choptank, and Chester rivers. These eastern rivers are tidal for most of their length, contributing far less fresh water than the rivers on the western side of the Bay. Due to their composition and tidal nature, the eastern half of the Bay is saltier, bordered by marshes, with an eco-zone of saltwater plants. In this fusion of fresh and saltwater an elixir nourishes the renowned seafood of the Chesapeake.

The Bay is etched with 11,684 miles of shoreline (that's more shoreline than the entire West Coast of the United States), including tidal wetlands and islands along with more than 100,000 rivers and streams which define the Chesapeake Bay. At about 200 miles long, making it the largest estuary in North America, and third largest in the world.

Living so closely entwined with the tide, change is perceived as slow as the seasons annually cycle, much as a person ages. Observed, but rarely realized through the lens of each day, our people and our Bay face the forces of man and nature. Erosion, transportation, building, and deposition of sediments are constantly changing the Bay's shorelines. Currents and tides erode to smooth peninsulas and headlands, dissolving then conveying and depositing the materials to other parts of the Bay. Rivers fluctuate and change with these sediments; at the mouths of tributaries and along margins of the Bay, new broad, flat banks of mud and silt settle. These natural movements of

sedimentation are often accelerated by human activity. By the mid-1700s, farmers cleared extensive acreages of land for agriculture, removing trees, whole swaths of forest chopped down generating excessive runoff, dregs, and sedimentation to slip away from the land and enter the waters. These changes, unlike the defining explosion, took years to impact the waterways. Some areas once able to host ships drawing several feet of water, became choked and filled in, reducing the navigable areas of rivers. The clearing of forests and other human practices increased population growth, creating a spiral that continues to alter the Bay's landforms, increasing runoff and sedimentation. The rise of sea-level also changes the landscape. Islands that once existed in the Bay during colonial times are now submerged, lost forever. Yet the Bay remains, slowly, but miraculously tenacious, a stoic survivor, folding and unfolding in response to what the tide delivers.



Thus, our island and surrounding lands are both nurtured and harried by the Bay. Without the refreshing tide rising and freshwater emptying into the Bay, the creatures we depend on for livelihood and pleasures of nature would soon disappear. Land we mere mortals may own, but the sea, well we are at her mercy. No one goes out in a hurricane, we hunker down for when the wind and water join, humans are reminded of our fleeting lives. While we see the Bay as ours, but rather by living so near, using it for our means of support and leisure activities we belong to the Bay--just another creature bound by the 'chesepiooc.'

THE HISTORY OF THE DEAL ISLAND/CHANCE AUXILIARY

Submitted by Tracy Fickett

The Deal Island/Chance Auxiliary was founded shortly after the fire company was founded. It was founded with just a few members and quickly grew. The purpose of the organization was to assist and support the Department, the firefighters, and our community.



In the early days, the members of the Auxiliary had many fundraising dinners. The dinners helped provide the community a way to socialize while supporting the fire department. The Auxiliary also provided firefighting personnel with food and drink as necessary.

The Auxiliary has hosted many fundraising events over the past years ranging from dinners to craft shows to a cake wheel at the Skipjack Festival each year! The most successful fundraiser to date has been our quilt raffle. The quilt has been generously donated by the Amish ladies. These successful fundraisers have allowed the auxiliary to contribute to the needs of the fire department each year.

The auxiliary is always looking for new members. Business meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 7 pm at the Fire Department.

COOKING WITH...FAYE HOFFMAN

Corn Pudding- Faye Hoffman, Wenona, MD

- ½ stick butter-microwave to soften
- 3 eggs
- 1 cup sugar

Beat the butter, eggs, and sugar together before next ingredients.

- Add 1 can cream style corn
- Add 1 can evaporated milk
- 2 tablespoons of flour

Mix all ingredients together. Spray a separate pan or baking dish with cooking spray. Pour in mixture. Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour.



Juanita "Faye" Hoffman

A native of Dorchester County, Juanita "Faye" Hoffman graduated from Cambridge High School in 1962. She married Robert "Allen" Hoffman of Wenona, in 1966. They have been married for 57 years (12/16/23). They owned Inland Soft Crab Company from 1982-2004, where

they shed soft crabs in floats in their back yard. Faye also worked at Deal Island School as a paraprofessional for 17 years. They have 3 daughters: Robin, Karen (deceased), and Tammy and 2 granddaughters, Madison and Paige and her husband Randy. Her husband Allen still takes commercial fishing parties on his boat "Miss Katara," which was built in 1978 by his father, Roger Hoffman, and named after their three girls.

LOWER WICOMICO RIVER MAINTENANCE DREDGING PROJECT

Project Overview

This project is a partnership between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, NOAA Fisheries, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Audubon, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Wicomico County and Somerset County. The Lower Wicomico River navigation channel will receive maintenance dredging and the materials collected, comprising of mostly silt and sand, will be hydraulically pumped and placed for wetland restoration. After searching for a suitable location, USACE and its partners selected a site within the Deal Island Wildlife Management Area (WMA) to receive the dredged materials. This placement site will attempt to beneficially use the sediment from the Wicomico River to rebuild degraded tidal marshes that provide habitat for local fish and wildlife species, including two threatened bird species, filter sediments, and improve shoreline protection of the tidal impoundment.

Estimated timeline

Straw bales for containment are currently being placed around the perimeter of the materials placement site within the Deal Island WMA. In mid-late February, construction was expected to begin of the tidal ditch plugs required for containment. Once ditch plugs are completed, final straw bales will be placed to complete perimeter containment protections. It is estimated that this work may be completed by May 15th. Active dredging and materials placement are slated to occur between October 2023-February 2024, within the time of year to minimize aquatic resource concerns. Following placement, native marsh vegetation will be planted within two growing seasons and monitoring will occur for up to five years.

What residents might see and can expect

Straw bales are now visible in the marshes along the project site perimeter in Deal Island WMA. Dump trucks will deliver the materials needed for ditch plug construction to the gravel parking lot at the end of Riley Roberts Road. These deliveries may begin by mid to late-February.

Restricted access to Riley Roberts Rd. where it extends into the Wildlife Management Area, may occur throughout the ditch plug construction phase of the project during the Spring of 2023. For water access during this time, it is suggested to utilize the boat ramps at Dames Quarter, St. Peter's Creek, Deal Island and Wenona Harbor.

A conduit will be placed under Deal Island Rd./Rt 363 near Messick Rd. to accommodate the pipeline that will carry dredged sediments next Fall. Construction equipment will be visible along Deal Island Rd during installation of the conduit sometime in the next 2 months. Traffic flow is not expected to be significantly affected.



Questions/Concerns

For more information visit the Project's website: <https://www.nab.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Wicomico-River-Maintenance-Dredging-Project/>

Email: dealislandpeninsulapartners@gmail.com

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

St. John’s Church Indoor Yard Sale

March 4
7:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Refreshments available for purchase. Lots of treasures to be found! Donations of gently used and/or new items are accepted as well.



Flowers for Mother’s Day

The Deal Island-Chance Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary will once again be selling live flowers prior to Mother’s Day. Orders will be taken at the monthly breakfast through March. Delivery of the flowers will be at the April Breakfast, scheduled for April 29, 7:00-10:00 a.m.



Deal Island-Chance Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary Breakfast

March 25 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
Deal Island-Chance Fire Hall



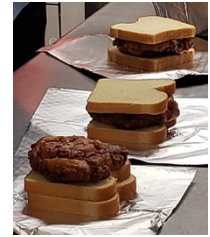
Deal Island-Chance Fire Department

Oyster Fritter Sandwich & Drink Sale

March 11, 10:30 a.m. - until sold out

Fire Department \$12.00

Drive through service. Please do not leave your vehicles. Fire Department members will be out to take your order and deliver your food.



Deal Island Elementary School Donation Requests

Donations needed of individually-wrapped snacks to be used during statewide testing in March. Ideas: granola bars, fruit snacks, fresh fruit, crackers, small bottles of water, cookies. Please, no candy. All donations can be dropped off at the school.



Also, needed: New or used sneakers kids sizes 4-12 or youth sizes 7-9 so students can still participate on gym days when they forget to wear their sneakers.



Please ring the buzzer and a member of DIS will be happy to assist you. Thank you to those who have already donated!

Deal Island-Chance Fire Department Virtual Quarter Auction

April 1, 2023

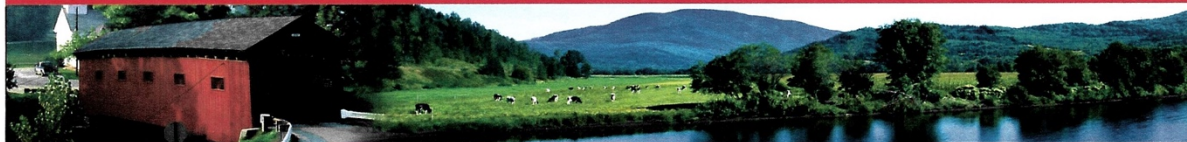
Numbers are \$30 each or 4 for \$100. Donations are currently being accepted!



Contact Tracy Horner at 443-235-0554 for more information

UPPER SOMERSET AARP PRESENTS

Beautiful Vermont



INCREDIBLE PRICE INCLUDES:

- ◆ Motorcoach transportation
- ◆ 6 nights lodging including 4 consecutive nights in Vermont
- ◆ 10 meals: 6 breakfasts and 4 dinners
- ◆ Tour of Morse Farm Maple Sugarworks
- ◆ Visit the site where Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream is produced. Enjoy a fresh serving of an Iconic Ice Cream Flavor
- ◆ Dinner Cruise on Beautiful Lake Champlain with Entertainment
- ◆ Admission to Shelburne Museum
- ◆ Visit to Cold Hollow Cider Mill
- ◆ Tour of Rock of Ages Granite Quarry
- ◆ Visit to Stowe Village

For more pictures, video, and information visit:
www.GroupTrips.com/uppermersetaaarp

\$914*

7 Days 6 Nights

*PER PERSON, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

(Sun - Sat)
Sep 10 - 16
2023

Departure: District Court of Maryland Parking Lot, 12198 Elm St, Princess Anne, MD @ 8 am, then Ollie's Parking Lot, 258 Tilghman Rd, Salisbury, MD @ 8:30 am

Day 1: Board your spacious, video and restroom equipped Motorcoach and set off for beautiful Vermont! Tonight, check into an en route hotel for a good night's rest.

Day 2: Today after enjoying Continental Breakfast, you'll arrive in the beautiful state of Vermont! Dine at a local restaurant tonight before returning to your hotel for a four night stay.

Day 3: After enjoying a Continental Breakfast, you'll depart for the Shelburne Museum. NOT your typical museum, this OUTDOOR museum spans 45 acres with 39 antique buildings. See all this stunning attraction has to offer with ease! A shuttle circumnavigates their "campus" all day long. It takes about 15 minutes to do the circuit of this massive attraction, with whatever stops you like to get off at along the way to explore! It has a collection of 150,000 items including circus pieces, toys, carriages, vehicles, furniture, and more. The buildings are arranged to welcome visitors and tell informal stories. The buildings include houses, a schoolhouse, a jail, lighthouse, railroad station, barns, and 220 foot steamboat. Next, you'll head to downtown Burlington's Church Street Marketplace. This award-winning open air mall is a hub of activity where you'll find architecture and over 100 places to shop and dine. This evening, enjoy a scenic Dinner Cruise on beautiful Lake Champlain, complete with entertainment and dance floor.

Day 4: Today, you'll have a Continental Breakfast followed by a Guided Tour of the spectacular Rock of Ages Granite Quarry - the world's largest granite quarry. The scenery at this attraction is stunning! At the Craftsmen Center, you will watch talented sculptors transform granite into lifelike statuary. Then visit Montpelier, the State Capitol of Vermont. Upon arrival, you'll enjoy a visit to the Vermont History Museum. This afternoon you'll enjoy a fun tour of the Morse Farm Sugar Works. With operations dating back 200 years and spanning eight generations, see how real Vermont Maple Syrup is made from the tree to your table. Your visit also includes its "Sugar & Snow" experience! This evening you'll enjoy a dinner party with entertainment.

Day 5: After enjoying a Continental Breakfast, you'll take a scenic drive to the Cold Hollow Cider Mill, one of the leading New England producers of fresh apple cider. Today, the mill produces more than one million gallons of cider every year. You'll also enjoy a taste of fresh apple cider while learning how it's made. Then you will visit Stowe Village, a charming New England village. Later, you will visit the site where Ben & Jerry's produces its ice cream. Nestled in Vermont's Green Mountains, you'll enjoy one of their freshly made iconic ice cream flavors in this picturesque setting. In addition, you'll have an opportunity to explore to their flavor graveyard, where Ben & Jerry's comically retires its abandoned flavors. This evening, dine at a local restaurant.

Day 6: Enjoy a Continental Breakfast before leaving for a visit to the Empire State Plaza in Albany, NY. This evening, relax at your en route hotel.

Day 7: Today after enjoying a Continental Breakfast, you depart for home... A perfect time to chat with your friends about all the fun things you've done, the great sights you've seen and where your next group trip will take you!

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FOR INFORMATION & RESERVATIONS CONTACT:

Sharon Malone @: 410-621-0091
Make checks payable to: Upper Somerset AARP,
13371 Oyster House Road, Princess Anne, MD 21853

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Rock of Ages Granite Quarry



Dinner Cruise on beautiful Lake Champlain



Cold Hollow Cider Mill



Beautiful Vermont Scenery

PLEASE JOIN US FOR COMMUNITY
SENIOR (60+)

BINGO

\$5.00 TO PLAY

**SATURDAY,
April 15,
2023**

1	16	40	47	72
12	18	50	74	
22		46	64	
8	17	32	68	
6	28	37	54	61

5	29	42	52	68
14	17	38	60	75
7	22	39	49	62
13	28	33	46	63
3	27	32		73

Doors Open
4:00 pm
Games Begin
5:00 pm

95 ENTRY INCLUDES 6 BINGO CARDS FOR EACH GAME, 1 BINGO CARD FOR EACH SPECIAL GAME, 1 DABBER AND A CHANCE TO WIN SOME AWESOME PRIZES!

ALL PRIZES PROVIDED BY **Deal Island-Chance Lions Club!**
CONCESSIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE

20 REGULAR GAMES, 2 SPECIAL GAMES & 50/50
HELD AT DEAL ISLAND-CHANCE FIRE DEPARTMENT
ANY QUESTIONS OR TO VOLUNTEER PLEASE CONTACT
CARRIE DAY AT 443-614-0426 OR
EMAIL DICLIONS58@GMAIL.COM.
NO PRE-SALE. PURCHASE ENTRY AT THE DOOR.

WANT TO PLAY PICKLEBALL?!

No experience needed! Easy to learn and play!
If you're between 18 and 100 yrs old,
interested in more information,
Send email to DPickleBall784@gmail.com

Happy People Play Pickleball!
Deal Island Elementary Tennis Courts

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WICOMICO AARP TRIP- See GREASE at the Fulton Theatre in Lancaster, PA

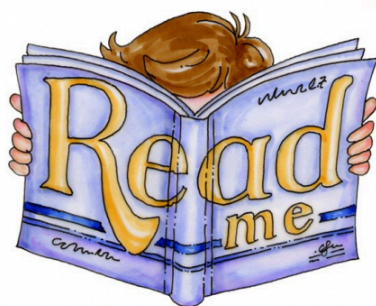
Date: Thursday, July 6, 2023

Cost: \$140 includes show and smorgasbord dinner at Shady Maple, bus transportation, and gratuities

Questions: Contact Joyce Hickman 410-749-2147 or 443-235-1297
ich64@comcast.net or Gayle Whitlock 410-749-1911
gmwhitlock6@gmail.com

THANK YOU TO ALL THAT MADE THE LOVE DINNER A SUCCESS!





Deal Island Elementary School is actively looking for Reading Buddies to participate in the Read to Succeed program.

A “Reading Buddy” meets one day a week for 30 minutes with a child who reads a book to you to help them improve their reading skills and reach their appropriate reading level. As you can imagine after Covid, there is a need for help!

If you are interested in participating, please contact :

Lois Hartstein
loishartstein@gmail.com

or

Cathie Thomas
United Way of the Lower Eastern Shore
cathie@uwles.org



Newsletter Contributors Wanted

If you would like to write a article promoting a local event or activity OR relating to our culture or history OR share a picture, flyer, etc., please email skipjackcommunitynews@gmail.com.

Newsletter Distribution

If you would like to be added to the email distribution list for our community newsletter, please email skipjacksommunitynews@gmail.com.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

3/4, 7:30 am-2 pm	St. John’s Indoor Yard Sale
3/11, 10:30 am	Oyster Fritter Sale at Fire Department until sold out
3/18	AARP Bus Trip to Sight and Sound
3/25, 7 am-10 am	Ladies Auxiliary Breakfast at Fire Department
3/25, 7 am-10 am	Deadline to order Mother’s Day flowers at Fire Department
4/1, 7:30 am-2 pm	St. John’s Indoor Yard Sale
4/1, 5 pm	Deal Island-Chance Fire Department Virtual Quarter Auction via Facebook Live
4/15, 5 pm	Senior Bingo at Fire Department- doors open at 4 pm
4/29, 7 am-10 am	Ladies Auxiliary Breakfast at Fire Department
4/29, 7 am-10 am	Mother’s Day flowers pick up at Fire Department