# See what's happening with the Cape Road project- Page 4

# President's Perspective

When I saw this column in print in the last issue of *The Caper*, I realized I got a little carried away. That is what happens when the editor does not give me a word limit!

A quick update on the clubhouse renovation. The Board of Governors is considering adding funds from CSCIA's maintenance savings account to the funds approved in the SCBD capital budget to ensure that the final product is esthetically pleasing and a source of pride to the community. The additional funds are needed to cover the recent large increase in costs for petroleum-based products in general, and siding specifically. The additional funds will also allow an upgrade in the quality of the siding selected (meaning it will last longer) and a modification to the entrance of the clubhouse, replacing the current sidewalls with columns.

The CSCIA has recently been informed that the county's Traffic Engineering Division is taking steps to address the problem of crossing College Parkway at Green Holly to get to the Broadneck Park. The TED has developed a plan to provide a paved

connection from the sidewalk on the west side of Green Holly to the northwest corner of the intersection, a suitable paved, off-road waiting area on the northeast corner, and marked crosswalks. The plan also includes pedestrian signals across Green Holly and the eastern leg of College Parkway. The park is a great asset and the crosswalk improvements should provide much safer access. According to Diane Jennings, Legislative Assistant to

Councilwoman Cathleen Vitale "It is our goal to complete this work this spring. Even though some of the work may need to be replaced or adjusted when the [Broadneck] trail is constructed, we believe that it is important to have a functioning pedestrian access to the park in time for the upcoming warm weather seasons."

The CSCIA also received an offer from Constellation Energy to conduct a "Save Energy, Save Money" workshop for our community. The offer notice requests that we provide at least two weeks notice and have at least 25 households represented. I put the notice out on to the CSCIA Google Group and received only seven responses. While it would be best to have this workshop during the cold

weather, it looks like there was insufficient interest to take advantage of the offer. If you would be interested in attending such a workshop in late March or early April, send me a note at <a href="mailto:president2009@cscia.org">president2009@cscia.org</a> or call the CSCIA office at 410-757-1223

Coming next issue, What you can do to improve security in Cape St. Claire.

# **Dates to Remember:**

April 4 Easter Egg Hunt April 28 Quarterly Meeting May 30 Strawberry Festival

# In This Issue President's Perspective .1 Board in Brief .2, 3 From the Office .3 Cape Roads .4 Easter Egg Hunt .5 Garden Club .6 Swim Club .6 Youth Sailing .7 Oyster Nursery .8 Council In Action .9, 10 Recycling .10, 11 Caper Overseas .11-13



Founded March 1955 •Circulation
3,030
•In Our 54<sup>th</sup> Year
Published by:

# The Cape St. Claire Improvement Association, Inc.

1223 River Bay Road • Annapolis,
MD 21409
Hours: Mon/Wed/Fri
7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
CSCIA Office & FAX
(410) 757-1223
(410) 757-1697
Office2009@cscia.org

# **Caper Staff:**

Manager: Kari Maltz capermanager@cscia.org 301-651-4103

Editor: Barbara Morgan capereditor@cscia.org

# The deadline for articles and ads is the 12<sup>th</sup> of the month.

The Caper is published monthly and sent bulk rate to all residents of Cape St. Claire, all nonresident lot owners, local government officials and advertisers. Copies are also available in CSCIA Office, Broadneck Library and local stores.

## POLICY FOR ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

All submissions for The Caper must be received by the editor by the 12<sup>th</sup> of the prior month. Submissions should be emailed as Microsoft Word attachments (PC only) to: capereditor@cscia.org, or dropped off (on disc or CD) at the Clubhouse. Articles must be submitted electronically. DO NOT submit as inline text of email. All articles should be clearly labeled with the 1) submitter's name, 2) phone number, 3) article filename (s), 4) software product and 5) version used. Please keep a backup copy of each file and do not submit disks containing extraneous files. After The Caper processes each article, the submitter's disk can be picked up at the CSCIA office during regular hours. The Caper Staff and the Cape St. Claire Improvement Association reserve the right to refuse any article, letter or advertising that it deems inflammatory, in poor taste or inappropriate.

# **BOARD IN BRIEF**

The CSCIA Board of Governors met for its monthly meeting on February 9, 2009 at the Cape St. Claire Clubhouse at 7:30 p.m. in the Cox Meeting Room. President Biondi provided opening remarks and presented the agenda for the meeting.

Attendance: Governors Berley, Biondi, Campbell, Daly, Gallagher, Gardner, Mooneyhan and Newman were present. Governors Lamb and Maltz were absent. Budget Committee members Ritenour and Buchet were also present.

# **President's Remarks:** President Biondi

Reported that the CSCIA Ex-

# Cape St. Claire Improvement Association

www.cscia.org

Office:

President

Vice-President

### The Board of Governors

**Officers:** 

Lou Biondi

Josephine Gardner

Secretary	Frank Newman
Treasurer	John Berley
Committee:	Chair:
Beaches & Parks	Frank Newman
Building	Joe Daly
Caper	Kari Maltz
Clubhouse	Mary Lamb
Covenants	Joe Daly
Membership/	Kathleen
Nominating	Mooneyham
Personnel	Josephine Gardner
Piers & History	Sam Gallagher
Roads	Bruce Campbell
Website	Frank Newman

### **Budget Committee:**

Chuck Ritenour Michael Buchet

ecutive Committee met with the new CSCIA legal counsels. The junior partner has much experience in appeals type work and knows the appellate system. The senior counsel is very knowledgeable of the County zoning processes. They are currently on a case-by-case basis and not on a retainer. Investigated a potential problem at the Shell Gas Station. He followed up with Southern Maryland Oil (SMO) concerning digging at the gas station and was informed that the digging at the gas pump area was to refit valves and related connections

Introduced and welcomed a new member of the Board of Governors, Ms. Kathleen Mooneyhan.

# Minutes and Profit & Loss Statements:

A motion was made to approve the January 12, 2009 CSCIA Monthly BOG meeting minutes. The motion was seconded and approved. Another motion was made and approved to table the December 31, 2008 Profit & Loss Statements until the March 9, 2009 Monthly BOG meeting.

# **Committee Reports:**

Beaches & Parks – Governor Newman reported that the Deep Creek bulkhead repair permit requests were sent to the County. He also reported that a volunteer agreed to replace the "guard-shack" roof shingles for free

Piers – Governor Gallagher reported that construction of the new Deep Creek piers is complete. He also reported that he received 76% of the boat slip rental contracts back. However, some of the contracts returned lacked the required proof of insurance and/or proof of ownership, and some contracts contained inaccurate documentation. He is providing these slip renters with the opportunity to provide the required complete and accurate documentation.

Covenants – Governor Daly stated his intentions of better identifying violations of CSCIA covenants that are not covered by County zoning regulations, and initiating a more rigorous effort to have property owners correct reported violations.

Roads – Governor Campbell reported continued County de-

lays with the progress of the Cape St. Claire Road improvement project. Also, in reaction to complaints about the lack of snow plowing on certain streets, the residents were advised to immediately contact the County to report any problem areas. (County Roads Dept: 410-222-1384 or 410-222-7940)

Clubhouse – For the last few months this committee has been working on identifying desired types of exterior siding for the clubhouse, getting quotes, and reporting to the Board. Based on the current and detailed information provided, the Board gave its consensus to continue to pursue completion of this project through the normal acquisition process.

Adjournment: The February 9, 2009 CSCIA BOG Monthly meeting ended at 9:45 PM. The next monthly Board of Governors meeting is scheduled for March 9, 2009 at 7:30

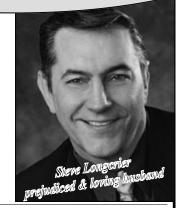
The CSCIA
wishes you the
Luck 'o the
Irish and a
Happy
St. Patrick's
Day





# Who's Dedicated to "Your" Needs?

Like any small business, agents must do Marketing, Contract Processing, Admin work, Information Technology and Sales. The issue is how much time do they spend on each. With a team, Mona spends far more time with you instead of writing the ads, maintaining the database, produce and send out the newsletters and cards, maintain multiple web sites, deal with SPAM and e-mail issues, maintain the office equipment, pay the bills, track down and schedule inspectors, do the processing and file the paperwork etc, etc so Mona can concentrate on YOU!! Some say their office supports them, but no office does everything mentioned above. Want personalized service? Call Mona!!







LACOVEY & ASSOCIATES

ABR CRS GRI

ASSOCIATE BROKER



Happy St. Patrick's Day!

410-757-7080

Mona@MonaLaCovey.com http://www.MonaLaCovey.com Experts

410-224-4400
Independently Owned & Operated

This is not a solicitation for currently listed properties.

# **Cape St. Claire Roads Committee at Work** for You

For those of you who haven't attended a Quarterly meeting in a while, I'd like to describe the plans the County has for improving Cape St. Claire Road.

The basic plan is to widen and improve the surface from Cape St. Claire Lane (near College Parkway) up to and including the intersection of Hilltop Lane and Little Magothy View (near Graul's). A highlight of the plan is to create separate leftturn lanes at this intersection to help the flow of traffic. As part of it's review of the project, the community provided feedback to the county that a it did not

want a traffic light at the intersection. While the county acquiesced to this feedback, the project does include the installation of the necessary infrastructure for a future traffic light installation, should the county determine that a light is necessary. Also included in the plan are curbed sidewalks along both sides, a hiking/bike path along one side, vastly improved stormwater drainage, and the installation of a water main up to the shopping center intersection. Finally, for those of you who have voiced your concerns, we are working with the County to move the brick guard shack to an appropriate and prominent location somewhere in it's current vicinity. We are also looking into replacing the current signboard.

> This project has been in the works for several years now. The planning process is pretty much complete, and plans have been reviewed by the CSCIA Board and residents at a re-

cent Quarterly meeting. The County is in the process of developing offer letters to the residents along the road to acquire the extra land needed for the project. If all goes well, we could see construction begin sometime late this year. The plans are kept in the CSCIA office, and are brought out for each Quarterly meeting for viewing and discussion with residents. If you have any general questions about the project, feel free to contact me at roads2009@cscia.org.



# **Goshen Farm Preservation Society**

The Goshen Farm Preservation Society meets on the first Monday of every month at 7:30 pm in the Cox Room of the club house. New members are always welcome. For more information please go to www.goshenfarm.org



1388 Cape St. Claire Road Annapolis, MD 21409 410-974-0737

www.graulsmarket.com

Serving Cape St. Claire since 1958

Monday-Saturday 8am - 9pm Sunday 8am - 5pm

Debit/Credit cards accepted

# FREE INVESTMENT REVIEW

# **Investments and Services:**

- Certificates of Deposit
- Stocks & Mutual Funds
- Retirement Planning
- Tax Advantaged Investments
   Annuities
- IRAs
- Long Term Care
- · Life Insurance

# Edward **Ione**s MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

www.edwardjones.com chad.miller@edwardjones.com

Chad Miller, AAMS® Financial Advisor 1390 Cape St. Claire Rd. Annapolis, MD 410-757-1374



# THE CASTOR BURING IS COMING TO CAPS ST. CLAIPS SATURDAY. APPIL TO MAN—NAIN BEACH

Hop on over and join your friends and neighbors for the Annual Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by the Cape St. Claire Strawberry Festival. The hunt will begin promptly at 11:15. The Easter Bunny will be available on the overlook for pictures. Please bring your own cameras. Hot Dogs, Hamburgers and Sodas will be available for purchase during this event.

# ADMISSION TO THE EGG HUNT IS BY TICKET ONLY.

Tickets may be obtained from RICHARDS TREE CARE during regular business hours, (Monday thru Friday 8:30 AM until 2:30 PM). The cost of the tickets is 1 dozen plastic eggs and 1 bag of individually wrapped candies small enough to fit inside of the eggs.

If you should have any questions about the egg hunt please call Mary at (410) 757-0593. And as always remember to thank the kind folks at Richards Tree Care for volunteering to be our ticket center.







# D.K. MILLER PLUMBING

Master Plumber - Insured and Bonded Quality Work At A Reasonable Price

Specializing in Kitchen & Bath Remodeling
Well Pumps • Tanks • New Homes • Service
SENIOR DISCOUNT

DANIEL MILLER, Owner LOCAL RESIDENT 35 YEARS 19 YEARS EXPERIENCE

(410) 757-5770



# Garden Club News

As I write this, my Prunus Mume (flowering winter cherry) is in full, fragrant bloom. How wonderful to see the cheery rose-colored blooms reminding me that spring is but a month away. Snowdrops, hellebores, winter jasmine – all are blooming, and the daffodils and crocuses aren't far behind, already poking their noses into the chilly air.

The Garden Club weathered the cold winter months with two wonderful talks, one about orchids and one about daylilies. The colorful blooms cheered our spirits, and we all learned a great deal. Just recently, members gathered together to pore over our favorite, colorful, plant catalogs, also a great cure for the winter blues. We also organized a collection of native plants to order for our plant sale: colorful flowers, coral and bright lime-green foliage, red and pink grasses, evergreen ferns, and even a native honeysuckle! We are all looking forward to spring when we can plant these beauties and share them with you at our sale.

Mark your calendars, our annual plant sale will be on **Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 8am – 2pm**, with the rain date that Sunday, the 17<sup>th</sup>. Please join us for a wide variety of hardy perennials dug from our own gardens at bargain prices, colorful annuals and flowering baskets, and for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time this year, gorgeous native plants for sun or shade.

As you do your own spring planting, please let us reuse your discarded plant pots! Pots can be dropped off at 1308 Cape St. Claire Rd, on the corner of Mountain Top, in the driveway. Thanks so much for helping our club and the environment by letting us get one more use out of your pots before they hit the recycling bin.

The Garden Club will meet in March for our annual Anniversary Dinner, celebrating the founding of our club 34 years ago. Along with our potluck dinner, we always enjoy our plant raffle and the fun company of fellow plant-lovers. In April we will continue planning for our sale, and be busy digging in our own gardens. And after the busy-ness of the plant sale in May, we are planning for June another round of the fabu-

lously popular
Cape Garden
Tours, where
we visit members' gardens
and even some
Yard of the
Month winners'
gardens. If
you'd like to
join in the fun,
please phone

349-3390 for details, or just show up at a meeting. We always love to see new faces!

Submitted by Audrey Lengbeyer



The Cape St. Claire Swim Club Inc. is currently accepting applications for leases the 2009 Swim Season. There are also a couple of memberships currently for sale. The Cape Pool offers a great value, and loads of summer fun! We have a beautiful, recently refurbished pool with diving board, and one of the largest baby pools in the county. Safety is important to us, and therefore we are well staffed with lifeguards. Also, we have a number of other fun activities available --- vollevball, grills, a pavilion, several picnic tables and lounge chairs, a swing set, horseshoes, and social events. Members also receive priority involvement with the Cape swim team and swim lessons.

Leases and membership sales occur on a first come, first served basis, and must be approved by the board, so don't delay! You can visit www.capepool.com to learn more about the pool, access the lease, membership information and applications. Inquiries, please contact Beth Lash at membership@capepool.com (email is best) or call 410-349-0384.

Submitted by Beth Lash



Remodeling Contractor 410-757-1388

Renovations • Additions • Bathrooms • Kitchens

O. Glenn Malone 1062 Park Circle Drive Annapolis, MD 21409 M.H.I.C # 72975 join in the fun, Fax 410-349-1977 please phone www.glbuildingdesign.com Laura at 410-

# **Letter to the Editor**

Dear Cape Parents, I don't want to hit your kids!

Two recent heart-stopping episodes while driving in the Cape have prompted this letter. Episode #1: It's mid-afternoon. I'm driving down Mountain Top road, just rounding the blind corner near the spot where Hill Top meets Mountain Top. There, in front of me, riding their wobbly bikes against traffic and in the middle of my lane, are two very young boys! I stop. They scurry off to the side. Accident averted.

Episode #2: It's night. My husband and I are driving on Hampton. We are momentarily distracted by the glare of oncoming headlights from someone who has left their high beams on. Then suddenly we realize that there are two children, nearly invisible in their dark clothes, skateboarding on our side of the road. We make a wide berth around them. Accident averted.

Parents: Do you know the hazards of the routes your children are walking, biking and skateboarding? Have you taught them how to deal with the most dangerous spots? Do they know alternative routes that are safer? Have they recently been reminded about basic safety rules?

Every Cape driver has an obligation to exercise special care because there are so many children in our community (hooray for that!). But parents, please go over road-safety basics with your children again. With savvy kids and careful drivers we should all do just fine.

Submitted by Christiane Carlson-Thies

# **Youth Sailing News**

It's not too early to think about what you'll be doing at the beach this summer. Youth Sailing is busy gearing up for our 36th season. We have nine 420s, as well as three Vanguard prams and six Optimist sailing dinghies in our program, so there are lots of opportunities to learn new sailing skills or polish old ones. If you'd like to see what the program is about or to register, information will be available after March 1st at the Broadneck library branch (look

for the bright blue registration packets), on the community home page at (www.cscia.org) and the Yacht Club web site ww.yccsc.org), or you can request PDFs by emailing Capeythsailng@yahoo.com.

Registration preference is given in the order that applications are received, with special consideration to last year's participants and Cape residents through April 1<sup>st</sup> or until a session is full (whichever comes first). The half-day pram and full-day Opti sessions fill quickly for all three sessions, so if you know of anyone who is interested in these classes, tell them to return their registration forms right away.

Thanks to our fundraising efforts, we were able to replace one of our 420s with newer boat. These boats should make participation in local regattas exciting for our student sailors. And, we added another Optimist sailing dinghy to our program to accommodate the growing interest in this class.

We're selling those oval black and white stickers with CSC on them. Contact Shelley Greenhouse via email at capeyouthsailing@yahoo.com to find out how to order one for yourself.

Stop by and say hello at our Strawberry Festival booth or at our organizational meetings on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 pm, in the Cox meeting room of the community clubhouse.

Submitted by Shelley Greenhouse Yacht Club of Cape St. Claire Youth Sailing Program



# Greetings from The Cape St. Claire Oyster Nursery

What's new with the Oyster Nursery?

Brad Knopf and Richard Danforth attended the Magothy River Watershed Conference held in January at the Gibson Island Country School. They report that intense discussion revolved around our river's health, touching on topics such as critical area, storm water runoff, living shorelines, bacterial and nutrient pollution, and of course, our beloved oyster population. It was made clear that our oysters are in deep trouble. Over fishing, pollution and other factors have almost eliminated them. Some suggest introducing an Asian species that seems to grow faster, and may be disease resistant. The Army Corps of Engineers released an environmental impact statement to that effect, but evidence was also introduced indicating that the Asian oysters retained bacterial and viral infection for a longer time. Professor Mark Luckenbach, VIMS Marine Science agreed that restoration of our native oyster population is by far the best alternative.

Updating you on nursery repair work. John Mullen of JM Mullen Electric Co. installed a new circuit inside a new conduit (to protect the wiring), from the pole to the oyster nursery. Thanks, John! We appreciate

Thanks, John! We appreciate this volunteer work since this

wire was constantly failing. Thanks to Joseph Presti who has volunteered to help on and off this past season.

Dick Carey from the Magothy River Association has shown us a better way of building cages for the oyster spat to grow in. Our old ones (of seven years) have fallen apart! Now to figure out the cost and raise the money.

We hope for another good season of raising oysters. The reefs we have helped replenish are thriving. New volunteers are always welcome! See you at the Little Magothy.

Submitted by your Cape Oyster Team: Rene Burgan Rick Danforth Bridgette Presti Brad Knopf David Einstein.





spirits, microbrews and cigars!

Wine Tasting

Call for Date and Time

Win <u>RAVENS</u> tickets all season long!!



"WE BUILD ON YOUR IDEAS" SERVING THE CAPE FOR 25 YEARS MHIC 26468

S. J. Dowling your house specialist (410) 757-2382 sjfixit@aol.com

HISTORIC RESTORATION D KITCHENS D BATHS D DECKS

# **Council In Action** By Cathleen M. Vitale Councilwoman. District 5

For many, we hoped the new year would bring smiles to Wall Street as well as Main Street. We hoped the economy would at the very least begin to look like it wanted to show promise and the State and County would be discussing small economic issues, not huge budget shortfalls. I know that's what I wished for on New Year's Eve. Unfortunately for me, like all those blown out birthday candles, I keep wishing...and wishing...and wishing. Well, wishing is not enough. Action is required.

As the State enters its FY10 budget cycle, the word from Annapolis is bleak. The State has indicated that there is a budget shortfall in the hundreds of millions of dollars. With each passing day, the County remains hopeful that the State will not merely solve their budget crisis by pushing to the Counties those expenditures that they no longer wish to pay.

The Council has been anxiously watching our state partners to see whether or not they participate in finding solutions or pass the buck to the County. Issues of concern that citizens should be involved with include in particular, school education (including teacher pensions currently paid by the State); open space money (parks and recreation); health department and public safety programs; and community college and library services. While there is hope that federal funds may come to the State through some kind of economic stimulus package, the funds that will be available will be stretched thin among the twenty three counties and Baltimore City.

Here in the County, while we are better off than many of our

neighbors, we are not insulated from the problems affecting governments and private industry. Revenues for the County are down. Unemploy-

ment has not escaped our county. With more individuals being laid off, income tax, sales tax and licenses are lower than expected. There is an expected 45 million dollar shortfall that must be addressed. Unlike the federal government, we can't print new money, and unlike the State, we can't simply shift the deficit to someone else. We have a responsibility to address the problem, to face it head on. So how do we do that?

We attack the problem the same way our citizens are responding at home. As I continue to meet with community tendance, what are you doing at

groups, I often ask those in athome to try to protect or insulate your family from the economy. Answers are wide and varied. Interestingly, they are Easy



# The Cape SIGNBOARD

**Please contact Mary Lamb at** signboard2009@cscia.org for reservations or information



designer's named clothes (St. John, Giorgio Armani, Piazza Sempione, DKNY, Burberrys, CHANEL and much more!)

QUALITY CLEANING FOR QUALITY PEOPLE

INCOMING SHIRT. DRYCLEANING ORDER.

No limit. Present coupon with incoming order. Excludes rush jobs. Expires 4/15/09

INCOMING SHIRT. DRYCLEANING ORDER.

No limit. Present coupon with incoming order. Excludes rush jobs. Expires 4/15/09

# Please Visit Our Website: www.bergmancleaners.com

1340 Cape St. Claire Shopping Center Mon.-Fri. 7:00am-7:00pm • Sat. 8:00am-5:00pm 410-757-7570

no different than the decisions that need to be made at the County level. In my house, Mark Jr. is often reminded to turn off the lights when he leaves a room (the County continues to take steps to reduce utility costs); the computer I write my column on is a 2002. No automatic replacement program for our house! (the County is freezing computer replacements and delaying new expensive software programs). One resident told me he instituted their own vehicle policy for his children. If you can get there some other way, if the school bus takes you there, or your feet are functional, no car. He told me he expects to gain an extra year before vehicle replacement (even if his kids don't talk to him). The County has a similar policy. We have reduced take home cars, halted vehicle replacement programs where possible, delayed new vehicles (including public safety) and are trying to do with less.

Over the past few weeks, I keep thinking about the movie "Dave", starring Kevin Kline. In an effort to implement a program that was important to the First Lady, he had to find 600

million dollars in the Country's budget. Little by little, he reviewed each department, each program and each expenditure (a daunting task even on a county level). He found small expenditures that could be delayed or that were unnecessary. Instead of sweeping whole sale cuts, he made small seemingly undetectable changes to each department and was able to find the missing funds. I guess I see the County's responsibility much the same way. There are areas that we can reduce expenditures, leave positions unfilled and delay new programs and replacements. What does that mean? When you call the County because a service you are accustomed to has been slowed or delayed, or a project has been put on hold, ask if it's part of the "Dave" program. If you are calling my office, I hope to proudly say "Yes". In order for this to work, however, two points need to be made. First, be patient with us. We are trying not to increase unemployment, lost revenue or destroy programs. Second, if you have a thought about how we can do better, call me or email me. This situation requires both smart and creative thinking.

NO idea should be rejected. I look forward to having my phone ring and my emails full. Help me with the solutions. <a href="mailto:cvitale@aacounty.org">cvitale@aacounty.org</a>; 410-222-1401; 410-544-4937.

# Anne Arundel County Recycles. More. Often. and You Can Too!

How can I recycle MORE?

Are you a resident who already recycles as much as you can? If yes, are you sure?

Please know that recycling is easy in Anne Arundel County. Most people recycle items that come from the kitchen, but what about your home office? Laundry room? Family or kid's room?

You may be surprised to know that recent surveys at the land-fill have shown that at least half of what is thrown away COULD be recycled. Recycling makes good environmental and economic sense. Recycling is an easy way to





save energy, reduce pollution, save money and take better care of our environment.

So remember to place a recycling container next to each trash can in your home: in the office, bathroom, kitchen and laundry room. Paper, plastic, metal and glass can all be placed in the same container for collection.

You make a choice with every item you throw away, a choice between throwing it in the recycling container or throwing it in the trash can. We encourage you to recycle at home, at work and on the go. Please visit our new website at

www.RecycleMoreOften.com or contact us at 410-222-7951 for a list of newly added accepted items to help boost your recycling and to take the 50/50 Challenge.



# **A Caper Overseas**

The Final Installment Continued from February......

We also enjoyed very much how Israeli and Palestinian life remain close to agriculture and the land. Though I personally wasn't able to have my own patch of land to work as I do at home, I saw the growing of my food everywhere: from sunflower seeds drying in the field, to mango and pomegranate groves, to fields of lettuce and spinach. The produce there was so fresh, trucked in that morning from the fields, which were at most 3 hours drive away from the big cities, bought directly from the farmer by my city shopkeeper. Perhaps Americans living in the Midwest might feel this close to their

farmers, but here, certainly, we are typically a very long chain away from the people who grow our food. Food in Israel seemed much closer to the farm where it was grown, and this is another element of Israel life that we hope to incorporate into our lives here: buying directly from farmers or farming cooperatives. (Look at eatwild.com or google "CSA" for more information.)

Yes, the children learned some Hebrew, and yes, they learned a lot about how people can live so differently yet be just as human and happy as we are. (Well, who knows what our 2-year old learned – that everyone is her friend, sharing their flip-flops and ice creams with her no matter what country we traversed!) Everyone at home seems to imagine we had a year unimaginably exotic and completely different from normal life in Annapolis. In some ways it was. But most of all, our year was our children simply living

# REPLACEMENT WINDOWS

by DHI Window Company

- ♦ Factory Direct
- ♦ Very Fair Pricing
- ◆ Good, Quality Energy Star-rated Windows
- ◆ Lifetime/Transferable
  - Warranty

- No Pressure/ No Sales Pitch
- **♦** No Subcontractors
- ◆ Local Resident in Business since 1987
- ♦ Excellent Cape References



410.757.9644 David Hoggard

MHIC #78991



For more information visit us online at: **studio180dance.com** or stop by.

131 GIBRALTER AVE. ANNAPOLIS, MD

410 268 5299

Summer Camps

My First Dance Camp: ages 4-6 June 22-26

Dance Camp: ages 7-18 July 6-10

Aerial Dance Camp: all ages July 13-17

Two-week Dance Camp. ages 7-18 July 20-24

Dance Intensive: ages 7-18 Aug. 3-7

Summer Classes

Tuesday - Thursday: June 16-Aug. 6 their lives as children do – testing their parents, making a mess, romping at playgrounds with friends, gluing, beading, coloring, and painting, learning how to cooperate with one another and share, and all that very inane, normal stuff that never stops no matter how exotic and rarified one's surroundings are. In so many ways, it was life as normal, just with different scenery.

So why are we so glad we went? Well, how wonderful it is to have that different scenery. How empowering to find that we can deal with adversity, find our way in a deeply foreign place, and still find so much to enjoy. How wonderful to come home and find our little house, so reassuring and comfortable, so familiar. How happy I've

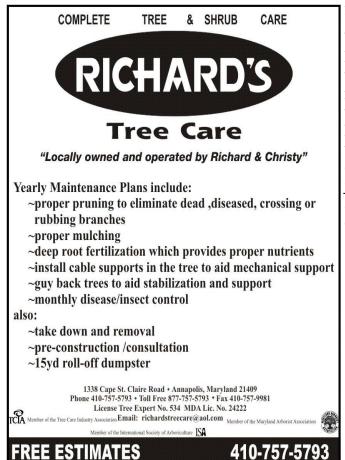
been, since returning, to weed and rake, mulch and plant – to invest in the future of a space that is mine, and not merely for a year. How fun to step away from our familiar surroundings, see them afresh, ... and finally realize that our living room has been crying out for a paint job. How rejuvenating to see Annapolis with new, appreciative eves, to recognize all the reasons we call this wonderful town our home. How marvelous to return to old friends and communities, to be known and appreciated and missed.

Being somewhat of a nomad for a year also clarified for me just how little the material things matter to us. We brought just 8 suitcases of our personal belongings to Israel. While there, we bought shoes and craft mate-

rials, borrowed a lot of toys and books for the kids, and that was really all we needed. When we arrived back home, the contrast between the essentials we'd just lived with and the immense clutter of our

normal life was jarring, and it made me realize even more just how few things we really need. Food, clothing, shelter, health, and togetherness – these are the things we cannot live without. The rest is just gravy, and I was grateful for the reminder. And I've been busy clearing out some of the clutter.

It all makes me wonder whether on some level humans are happier as nomads. Now don't get me wrong, I am the biggest homebody there ever was. I always have anxiety attacks the first few nights of my trip whenever I travel, even locally. And I love the garden, which is all about permanence and longterm investment. It doesn't come easily at all for me to uproot, but still, the psychological benefits of long-term travel seem as powerful to me as those of sunshine. To have a fresh start away from our regular lives, to explore new territory, languages, and cultures, to have fewer material things weighing us down, to be welcomed there and then welcomed back here. to see one's regular life from a different angle – it seems to pare away all the nonsense and bring into focus the most essential elements of a happy life:





connection with people and meaningful and memorable experiences.

Being away for a year, and knowing we'd be leaving Israel after just one year also forced me to enjoy the people and places without any expectation of holding on. As someone who's always struggled to just enjoy the moment, without thoughts of the future, this was a great occasion for me to practice being present in the Now, immersing myself without concern for 'bigger' things, savoring the interactions and experiences as they come, and opening myself uncalculatingly to the people who cross my path every day. This is a way of being I hope very much to continue as I return to life in the Cape.

Going away for a year has been so positive for us that we wish that everyone could have the opportunity. We've been feeling so fortunate that my husband is in a line of work that provides sabbatical leaves. And then the other night we met a family of fellow homeschoolers who went adventuring for *two* years, and neither parent was a

professor! When that husband found himself out of work, the family decided to take their sailboat first to the Caribbean for the winter and then up the coast to Maine for the summer. Then they sold their boat and went to Europe for four months. They came back and did some housesitting for a friend. One thing led to another, and they were away two whole years. Now they are back in their house in Annapolis. What guts! I so admired the tremendous courage it must have taken to walk away from their secure, comfortable, and predictable life. I was so inspired by their spontaneity to start brand new lives in so many new places, their openness to welcome new and unfamiliar adventures, and the optimism they had to believe that they could find joy and fulfillment

no matter where they were on the globe.

Talking with them left me hoping that each person might be offered the opportunity to get off the beaten path, to take a detour, to check out for a year or two. My sincere hope is that each of you has that chance, and that when the time is right, you enthusiastically and optimistically say, "YES!"

Submitted by By Audrey Lengbeyer



# ELECTRACON INCORPORATED Licensed, Bonded & Cape Resident Insured Discount

# Electrical Contracting

Emergency Service • Pier/Marina Wiring
Attic/Ceiling Fans • Service Upgrades
Security Lights • No Job Too Small

"Ask About Our Free Safety Inspection"

FREE ESTIMATES

410-757-1722

1 YEAR WARRANTY FREE ESTIMATES

Additions, Garages, Restorations, Kitchens, Bathrooms, Maintenance, Roofing, Windows, , Drop Ceilings, Drywall,

Odd Jobs, Tile, Siding & Decks etc...

ALL HOME IMPROVEMENT NEEDS
From Start to Finish-No Need to Call Several Contractors

# Advertise Your Business in the Caper Newsletter

Distribution over 3,000 to Cape St. Claire and greater Broadneck Area:

Caper advertising is available in 1/8, 1/4 page and 3/4 page sizes through June

Rates are:

1/8 page \$63.00

1/4 Page \$120.75

1/2 Page \$288.75

3/4 Page \$420.00

Frequent discounts are available for consecutive insertions. Deadline is the 12th of the month prior to publication month (ex. February 12th for March issue)

Check or Money order must accompany ad order.

Call 301-651-4103 or go online to http://www.cscia.org/caper/caper.cfm for more information

Cape St. Claire Improvement Association 1223 River Bay Road Annapolis, MD 21409-4999

POST OFFICE: DO NOT DELAY - TIME DATED MATERIAL -

PRST—STD US Postage Paid Annap, MD 21409 Permit No. 224

**BOX OFFICE HOLDER—LOCAL** 

Or Current Resident Rt. Cape St. Claire Annapolis, MD 21409

For Advertising Information, Call 301-651-4103