

Building a Better Community, Block by Block

Newsletter #23.04 April 2023

Next CAN Meeting - Thursday, April 20, 2023, at 6:30 pm — 8:00 pm
Studio 1, Robbins Family YMCA, 201 Talbot Ave, Cambridge
Our speaker will be Robbie Gill, Executive Director of the YMCA of the Chesapeake.
All CAN Board meetings are announced in advance and open to the public.
Everyone interested in CAN is invited to attend.

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#### **CURRENT LINKS**:

- JOIN CAN FOR FREE https://cambridgecan.org/join-can/
- CAN Meeting Minutes https://cambridgecan.org/category/meetings/
- CAN's City Council Meeting Notes <a href="https://cambridgecan.org/category/news/city-council-notes/">https://cambridgecan.org/category/news/city-council-notes/</a>
- CAN's Planning & Zoning Notes <a href="https://cambridgecan.org/category/news/p-and-z/">https://cambridgecan.org/category/news/p-and-z/</a>
- CAN's Website <a href="https://cambridgecan.org">https://cambridgecan.org</a>
- CAN on FaceBook <a href="https://www.facebook.com/CambridgeAssociationofNeighborhoods/">https://www.facebook.com/CambridgeAssociationofNeighborhoods/</a>
- Contact CAN <u>CambridgeCAN@yahoo.com</u>





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#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

-- Charles McFadden, President, CAN

#### **Academy Street Cemetery**

I had just returned from a month-long road trip to California when I drove down Academy St. and noticed the new fencing and retaining wall around the old cemetery. City Commissioner, Chad Markus has led the effort to fix up the old cemetery by having the City tear down the old, broken chain link fence and install a new retaining wall and a black metal fence around the whole property. This effort has improved the look of Academy St., but more importantly, it honors those who have passed on before us. Commissioner Malkus should be heartily thanked for his efforts.

#### **Lest We Forget**

Since I am never satisfied with the status quo, I would also like the City to honor its past by moving the Monument for Freedom, which is located in North Dorchester County near the dump, to a more fitting location. In 1985, 10 Black men filed a case against the City for gerrymandering all the Blacks in the City into one Ward (which was 10 times larger than the other four Wards) and also allowed representatives to live outside their Wards. The case was so historic that it changed the City, County, and State laws regarding equal representation. In 1987, a major donor paid for a monument to remember these men and their signature accomplishment; however, when he offered it to the City and County, they "could not find any land to put it on". The City needs to correct this injustice and move the monument to a proper place in the City so that everyone can understand the importance of this accomplishment and what it means to the Civil Rights movement.

-- Chuck McFadden, President, CAN

#### **CAMBRIDGE CORNER**

#### **DORCHESTER COUNTY VOTING RIGHTS MONUMENT**

-- P. Ryan Anthony, Reprinted with permission from the Cambridge Spy, April 5, 2023

The large blue-granite monolith is easy to miss, as it stands within a chain link fence on the side of the road between Preston and Hurlock on MD 331. Ironically, a slab jutting out at the base reads "Lest We Forget." "I think we have forgotten," said Cambridge resident Chuck McFadden mournfully.

The Historical Freedom Shrine, as it is officially known, is dedicated to ten Dorchester County men who brought about local and state voter reform in Maryland by challenging the injustices in the political process and leveling the playing field for minorities. It's strange to see such a significant monument in such an obscure place, and there are some people who think it should be moved somewhere more prominent so everyone can see it and understand the reason for its existence.



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Between the 1950s and 1970s, new federal laws were passed to outlaw various forms of discrimination against minorities, and among them were voting rules. But, into the 1980s, the five county commissioners of Dorchester County were elected using an "at large" system, in which the winners were the nominees who got the most votes from the entire county. This meant that all the council members always came from the most populated area—Cambridge—and were always white.

The same thing applied to the City Council of Cambridge itself: Because of the at-large election rules, it was very difficult to elect a Black commissioner, even from the largely Black Second Ward. And, since at least 1882, the boundaries of that ward encompassed all but one of the blocks where African Americans lived. According to the 1960 census, the Second Ward had over ten times as many people as the all-white Third Ward. The next year, the City redistricted to equalize the population of all the wards except the second. As a result, Black electoral participation was basically fixed to that voting area, thus depriving those residents of true representation.

"I went back and looked at the city and how they had the streets divided in wards," said Greg Meekins, one of the men whose names are on the monument. "And streets specifically said, 'Whites Only.' This was prior to the 80s, but because it was in place, so long folks just assumed that you don't move out." "It's just inconceivable that anybody could come up with a system like that," said McFadden, "where they pushed everybody into one ward and the wards were not equal."

Concerned that the at-large system made it extremely difficult to elect anyone from the northern part of the county, some people got together in 1980 and raised litigation funds. The following year, an action committee called the North Dorchester Democratic Club was formed by a group of influential men, led by George C. Jones, who determined that the county commissioners could and should be elected by districts. The club approached Meekins, who at the time was president of the Cambridge branch of the NAACP, and they forged a partnership. "We thought it was an opportunity to enlarge minority representation," Meekins remembered. "So, that's why we got involved."

In November 1983, the club filed a complaint with the U.S. Department of Justice that the 1964 Voting Rights Act was being violated. After depositions by the members, the DOJ filed United States of America v Dorchester County Board of County Commissioners in U.S. District Court in Baltimore.

The following May, the Department was made aware of the county seat's voting practices, and in December 1984 United States of America v the City of Cambridge declared that the City's at-large system violated Section Two of the Voting Rights Act as well as the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution. Alleging that Cambridge had adopted the at-large format in order to dilute the voting strength of its Black citizens, the government asked the district court for an injunction preventing the City from conducting future elections under that system. The court ordered the defendants to come up with a plan for meeting the requirements of federal law.

Cambridge finally agreed to a consent decree, and settlement negotiations started in June 1985. A DOJ attorney told the City that the government sought a racially fair election plan. The outcome was the establishment of a new format that was approved by the Court and the DOJ. It included the stipulations that commissioners must reside in the ward they represent, they must be elected by the voters of that

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ward, and the voting population of each ward must be approximately the same. Similar requirements were established for Dorchester County elections.

On July 8, 1985, Judge Norman J. Ramsey ordered the creation of five equal voting districts, abolished atlarge voting, and signed the consent decree. In 1986, the Maryland legislature amended the state constitution. The results were the election of the first Black county commissioner in Dorchester history and the broadening of Black representation on the Cambridge City Council.

To immortalize the efforts of the North Dorchester Democratic Club, George Jones had a 20-ton monument created in 1987. The inscription includes the names of all ten men: Jones, Meekins, Charles F. Hurley Sr., Don W. Bradley, Oliver Harding, Richard Harding, William Reid, Edward Conway, William O. Corkran, and Leon Medford. The monument also offers information about the events that led to the end of at-large voting in Dorchester County. It is an impressive shrine deserving a place of honor.

However, because of a backlash of feelings about the voting rights cases, the local government could not "find" any public land—in Cambridge or the county—on which to put the monument. So, Jones had it installed on his own out-of-the-way property. It was erected on November 10, 1987. After Jones died, the land was sold twice, and the current owner put up the fence around the shrine to keep people out. According to Meekins, curious visitors have "caused a little pain for [the owner] and his family."

"I think it's a shame that it's sitting out there," lamented McFadden. "There's no parking, you have to just pull up to the side of the highway and walk around a drainage ditch to get to the fence that surrounds it." In an attempt to remedy this, Dr. Carl Barham started going to the state legislature annually to keep the monument in the public's view. His goal has been to see about moving it to a more centralized location, such as Cambridge or Hurlock. At one point, Meekins was interested in having it placed at North Dorchester High School, and he even approached the Board of Education about adding the lawsuits to the history curriculum so students would learn to be vigilant and keep their eye on what happens with voting rights in America. Generally, though, Meekins prefers to remain in the background. But he and Barham keep in touch.

McFadden knew none of this when he began researching the Cambridge City Charter "because of what's going on with the City Council and people living outside of their wards." He happened upon the voting rights case, which he had only vaguely heard of, even though he served with Meekins on the city's ethics commission for several years. "I thought it was back in the sixties, during the riots and all that kind of stuff," said McFadden. "I didn't realize it was '85, and I also didn't realize it was '85 when they had this disproportionate ward system."

Then, during Black History Month this year, Mayor Steve Rideout called Meekins and said, "I thought about that monument and would love to see it moved." Meekins was pleased that there was some interest in the project. But it had to wait until he investigated some of the technicalities surrounding the monument's ownership. He didn't know if Jones had included anything about it in the property's deed before he died.

"As soon as we find out what the technicalities are," explained McFadden, "I would like to approach both the county and the city to find funds to move it. It is a big object, not something you can put on the back of

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your pickup truck and move. This is big. But, if they could put it out there, they can put it anywhere they want."

If funds are not available for moving the monument, McFadden will be happy to lead the effort to raise the money needed for the move, a new place to put it, and a rededication. "So, I don't know what it's going to take," he said. "It's going to take some effort, but I'm retired."



McFadden thinks it's important to "make amends" for the neglect of the monument and its reason for being. "It's just as important to me as the riots in the 60s, maybe up there with Harriet Tubman." "It's a part of history," said Meekins. "And, ironically, despite all the black eyes Cambridge and Dorchester County get, we've been a trendsetter in the state as far as activism in the community, more so than some other counties."

The monument was important enough for Governor Larry Hogan to visit it a few months before he left office—the first Maryland governor to do so. He and Meekins took some photos together with it. Hogan recognized that the triumph of the North Dorchester Democratic Club needs to be remembered.

In November 2014, Dr. Barham said, "The works of ten bold, brave men should not be minimized or go in vain, because their passion and vigilance changed the political landscape of Dorchester County."

#### **CAMBRIDGE REAL ESTATE TRENDS**

-- Fred & Martha Phillips-Patrick

#### **National Residential Real Estate Developments**

According to Freddie Mac, as of April 13, 2023, "mortgage rates decreased for the fifth consecutive week. The Incoming data suggest inflation remains well above the desired level but showing signs of deceleration. These trends, coupled with tight labor markets, are creating increased optimism among prospective homebuyers as the housing market hits its peak in the spring and summer."

Redfin stated that in "March, 2023, home prices in Maryland were down 0.87% compared to last year, selling for a median price of \$378,900. On average, the number of homes sold was down 26.9% year over year and there were 5,594 homes sold in March this year, down 7,651 homes sold in March last year." However, from a low of 3739 homes sold in January, 2023, 5594 homes were sold in March, an increase of almost fifty percent! Let's see how the Cambridge real estate market has been performing.



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#### **Cambridge Market Update**

Realtor.com now characterizes Cambridge as a balanced market in March 2023, which means that the supply and demand of homes are about the same. In March 2023, the median listing home price in Cambridge, was \$286.5K, trending up 21.9% year-over-year. The median listing home price per square foot was \$155. The median home sold price was \$298.8K. On average, homes in Cambridge, sell after 78 days on the market. The trend for median days on market in Cambridge, MD has gone down over fifty percent since last month, and slightly up since last year. Days on the market peaked in February at 137 days. All good news.

**Sales:** Currently, according to Realtor.com, there are now 140 homes for sale (116 single family homes and 24 condos and townhomes) in the Cambridge area. There are also 3 multifamily units for sale, as well as 58 plots of land. The properties' asking prices range from \$13,500 to \$2,900,000. According to Realtor.com, 32 single family, townhouses, and condo sales were completed in March, ranging in value from \$44,000 to \$877,500. They are:

416 Maryland Ave	\$295K	13 Jenkins Creed Rd	\$340K	710 Hughlett St	\$67.5K
313 Washington St	\$150K	2519 Boeing Way	\$260.9K	5018 Rippling Rd	\$878K
409 N Seaway Ct	\$385K	210 Regulator Dr S	\$345K	1809 Hambrooks Blvd	\$185K
701 Gadwall Way	\$225K	165 Regulator Dr N	\$350K	1510 Winters Ct	\$372K
2700Willow Oak Dr	\$430K	1680 Terrapin Cir	\$300K	608 Red Bill Ln	\$205K
6001 Red Bill Ln	\$233K	606 Red Bill Ln	\$227K	710 Washington St	\$95.4K
506 Edlon Park Dr.	\$230K	827 Fairmont Ave	\$150K	726 Hughlett St	\$158K
3209 Holly Ln	\$383K	2136 Silver Goose Rd	\$505K	709 Wood Duck Dr	\$190K
2906 Cedar Woods Dr	\$298K	120 High St	\$300K	1614 Osprey Cir	\$350K
408 Robbins Farm Rd	\$323K	803 Wood Duck Dr	\$173K	306 Old Squaw Ct	\$228K
1702 Dark Rd	\$650K	620 Robbins St	\$44K		

#### Other Developments

As reported in the Dorchester Star on April 14th, the City of Cambridge announced the launch of the city's on-line short term rental application. According to the announcement:

"Short term rentals are an important part of our community providing visitors an alternative type of accommodation while visiting and enjoying the sites and experiences of Cambridge and Dorchester County," the statement said. "Guests frequently look to rent a short-term rental property when they have extended family traveling with them and/or they want to be able to cook some meals and have a home away from home relaxing experience."

Whether you are renting a room or a whole house, registration is required for any rentals greater than three days each year. The application, if approved, will result in a permit good for three years. All details of the program can be found on the City's website www.choosecambridge.com under the "Forms, Permits, and Ordinances" tab or search "short term rental" from the home page.

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### HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (HPC) REPORT

-- Sharon Smith

The March meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission was held on Wednesday, March 15, 2023. Three cases received administrative approvals this month for roof repair, doors and windows. The consent agenda approved new signage and kiosk for the Nathan of Dorchester,

Four cases were scheduled for full commission review; however, the applicants for the Mill Street Schoolhouse delayed their hearing. The other three cases approved a porch reconstruction, and various improvements to the exterior or two properties, including fencing, storm doors, porch floor and railing, and driveway.

Good news! Holly Baldwin has joined the Planning Department as Planner I, replacing Carlene Shaw and serving as the liaison for the HPC. Welcome to Cambridge, Holly.

Note that any exterior modifications to structures in the West End Historic District require prior approval from the HPC. Applications and design guidelines are available on the City of Cambridge HPC website at <a href="https://www.choosecambridge.com/206/Historic-Preservation-Commission">https://www.choosecambridge.com/206/Historic-Preservation-Commission</a> or from the Department of Planning and Zoning. HPC meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:00 pm in the City Council Chamber at 305 Gay Street. Meetings are open to the public and available on Town Hall Streams at <a href="https://townhallstreams.com/towns/cambridgemd">https://townhallstreams.com/towns/cambridgemd</a>.

#### FUN FACTS & LOCAL LORE -- Old Trinity Church and Cemetery

-- by Martha Phillips-Patrick

Old Trinity Episcopal Church and Cemetery is located only 8 miles from Cambridge, one mile west of the town of Church Creek at 1716 Taylors Island Road, Church Creek, Maryland 21622, 410-228-2940.

Founded in the 17th century by early English settlers, Old Trinity is the oldest surviving and continuously functioning church in the Continental United States. The Church also vies with two or three other buildings in Maryland as possibly the oldest surviving building in the State.

Built c. 1675, it officially became the Dorchester Parish Church after the Vestry Act created 32 Church of England parishes in Maryland. It was informally known as Old Church until 1853 when it was remodeled to conform to the then popular Gothic style. After that renovation, the Church was consecrated as "Trinity Church," though locally called Old Trinity ever since. The church has had a worshipping congregation through three and a half centuries of change. At times the site was all but abandoned, but a small group of folks have kept alive the church and the graveyard as a regional burial ground.



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The cemetery contains the graves of veterans of every American war as well as the graves of a number of Episcopal bishops from the area. Probably most notably the cemetery contains the graves of one of Maryland's Governors, Thomas Carroll and his daughter Anna Ella Carroll. Anna Ella Carroll is one of the women on the "Women of Dorchester County" mural in downtown Cambridge. Anna Carroll served as an advisor of President Lincoln during the Civil War and played a significant role in keeping Maryland part of the Union.

From 1953 to 1960, Col. Edgar Garbish and his wife Bernice Chrysler Garbish, as a memorial to Mrs. Garbish's parents, restored the small church (only 38' long and 20' wide) to a 17th century ideal, using a good deal of the materials and furnishings from the original church uncovered during the renovation.

Information for this piece is mostly from the Old Trinity Church website and comments by Father Dan Dunlap: <a href="www.oldtrinity.net">www.oldtrinity.net</a>. Services are held at Old Trinity every Sunday at 11AM. The Church grounds and cemetery are open daily. Private history tours can be arranged by appointment.

### MAKE CAMBRIDGE RESILIENT – Flood Mitigation Community Development Program

-- Larry White P.E., Project Manager

### **Make Cambridge Resilient Community Development Program Grant Award**

I have great news. In my last update, I mentioned that we had submitted a grant application for our "Make Cambridge Resilient Community Development Program" under the same FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) that we have submitted our application for the design and construction of our flagship Flood Mitigation Project. This is the part of our overall "Make Cambridge Resilient Flood Mitigation Plan" focused on "Risk Reduction Strategies for Tomorrow", i.e., reducing flood risks due to the long-term impacts of sea level rise and major storms and their impacts on future development in the City. On April 3rd, we received official notification from FEMA, through the Maryland Department of Emergency Management, that our grant was awarded. The award is for \$630,000 and extends for almost 2 ½ years to August 2025.



Major storms associated with climate change and continued development of urban area over the past few decades has significantly increased surface water runoff and decreased the amount of rainwater infiltrated into the soil and a deterioration of water quality. This grant is focused on proactively identifying and reducing these long-term risks of flooding and water quality degradation to the City of Cambridge. We plan to create an organization within city government that would be responsible for managing this city-wide long term flood risk reduction program. This

is an excellent time to stand-up this program while we are waiting on the award of the FEMA grant for the design and construction of our flagship flood mitigation project. Our Community Development Program will provide for the continuation of our risk reduction planning effort while we are implementing our flood mitigation project, keeping our community engaged in flood risk reduction long term with the goal of institutionalizing flood risk reduction in the community.



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The City has maintained our Make Cambridge Resilient website "makecambridgeresilient.org" and will renew our public outreach efforts and Steering Committee support throughout this program that will continue through the design and construction of our Flood Protection Project. Detail of our community development program will be on our website shortly.

#### **Community Development Program Overview**

Our "Make Cambridge Resilient Community Development Program" will be managed by a newly established Flood Mitigation Program Management Organization (PMO) within City Government. This establishes accountability within the city's management organization empowered to implement this effort.



We plan to hire an Environmental Program Manager professional to lead this effort and an Environmental Planner technical support staff that would be funded under the grant. Additional support will be provided through current staff expertise such as planning, Geographic Information Services (GIS) and engineering support. There are five key initiatives under our proposed Community Development Program to reduce our long-term flood risk.

They are described in detail in my CAN article of November 15th, 2022. A brief summary is as follows.

- 1.1 Integrating Flood Mitigation into City Planning. The City will institutionalize flood risk reduction in its project planning process including updating the City's Comprehensive Plan, the Working Waterfront Plan and establishing Design Standards and Ordinance to "Make Cambridge Resilient" to sea level rise and major storms going forward. We will utilize forward planning in taking into account projections of sea level rise and flood risk in planning all future public infrastructure projects and residential development to reduce and avoid risk and to guide implementation of the City's Comprehensive Plan and Working Waterfront Plan.
- 1.2 Implementing Green Infrastructure Plan. We will develop and implement a Green Infrastructure Plan. This will include the implementation of a range of nature-based flood mitigation features to reduce the amount of surface water runoff and contaminants it may carry into our waterways. Nature-based solutions can contribute to stormwater management both by reducing the volume and flow rate of stormwater runoff and removing contaminants from stormwater.
- 1.3 Reducing Flood Risks to Businesses and Residents. The project team will use the results of the planning process including the development of the Green Infrastructure Plan to provide support to businesses and residents in the planning of specific engineered and nature-based flood mitigation projects on their properties including support in obtaining grant funding. Our audience for this effort includes all property owners and businesses within flood risk areas.
- <u>1.4 Development of Flood Mitigation Workforce</u>. We will develop a long-term staffing plan based on program requirements, and experience obtained during program implementation. For example, while managing the design and construction of our hybrid flood mitigation project and developing our operations and maintenance plan, we will identify the skills and resources that will be needed to maintain our flood



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mitigation infrastructure. We will establish and implement an educational and training program- The UMCES is expert in the design of nature- based flood mitigation measures and they are in the business of teaching and training and have offered their support in the development of our workforce. The City is also partnering with specialist in workforce development in the industry such as Chris Wheedleton, of Partnership for Learning and Lead support person to DOCO Workforce Development who has developed a training and recruitment programs for students in the DOCO area.

1.5 Flood Protection and Stormwater Management Infrastructure O&M. A key priority will be to ensure our flood protection infrastructure is maintained properly and that there is adequate funding to support it. Our hybrid "Make Cambridge Resilient Flood Mitigation Project" is complex combining both engineering and nature-based feature and spanning both public and private property that will require the development and implementation of an operations and maintenance plan that defines roles and responsibilities and provides funding to support it.

Ensuring an adequate funding stream for our stormwater management, flood risk reduction measures, and our shoreline protection system for the City can be accomplished through a minimal utility fee or a special taxing district. The City will consider adopting a stormwater and shoreline resilience infrastructure tax and a long-term capital improvement plan addressing both current and future infrastructure needs.

#### **COMMUNITY NEWS – COOPERATING COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS**

#### **MAIN STREET GALLERY – Spring Show 2023**

-- Theresa Knight McFadden

Main Street Gallery is excited to present "SPRING SHOW 2023 –including New Artists, New Media". The gallery has recently welcomed four new members who bring with them a wealth of talent, experience and exciting new work in a variety of media. They will be showing alongside the gallery's other 9 members.

Sheryl Southwick is a well- known, award winning artist and arts educator from Easton. Sheryl makes collages, paintings and prints and says, "Color and texture have been the main focus of my work since I began painting". She says that a year spent in Paris and the French artist Pierre Bonnard were great influences on her art.

Cambridge woodworker Bill Pavan is showing his graceful wooden bowls, vases and pepper mills which are often accented with metal and inlays of natural materials such as oyster shells. His work, he says, "specializes in accentuating the natural beauty of wood, metal and other renewable resources". Besides his art, Bill has a career as a geneticist at NIH.

Rick Klepfer, who lives and maintains his studio in Cambridge, is showing a suite of black and white pen and ink drawings of Dorchester County scenes and flora and fauna from the Blackwater wildlife refuge. Rick has divided his working life among his art, architecture and writing and has contributed articles and illustrations to many national publications.



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And finally, David Stevens returns to the gallery after a long absence. David, who has spent his career devoted to his art, was one of the original members of the coop and at that time showed his photos of maritime scenes. The multi-talented artist will now be showing his abstract, wall hung wooden sculptures, some of which incorporate stained glass.

"Spring Show 2023" opens on Wednesday May 3 and runs through Sunday July 2. Come meet the artists at two receptions on second Saturdays, May 13 and June 10 from 5-8 pm. All are invited and light refreshments will be served.

Main Street Gallery is located at 518 Poplar St. in Cambridge's lively arts and entertainment district. The gallery is open Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 11-5 and Saturdays from 11-7. For more information call the gallery at 410-330-4659 or visit their website at <a href="https://mainstreetgallery.net">https://mainstreetgallery.net</a>

Images below are, in order, by Sheryl Southwick, Rick Klepfer, David Stevens and Bill Pavan.









#### **MIDSHORE MEALS TIL MONDAY**

MidShore Meals 'til Monday is working to end childhood hunger on Maryland's Eastern Shore by providing weekend food for food-insecure children in Dorchester County. Meals 'til Monday sends home healthy, nutritious food for children at the end of each school week and during the summer months for breakfast, lunch and snacks to bridge the hunger gap for children without access to adequate food. Meals 'til Monday programs currently provide food for more than 500 elementary, middle and high school students.

Meals 'til Monday needs your support to keep providing essential nourishment to our children. Donations are fully tax deductible and can be made at <a href="https://www.mscf.org/donate-online/">https://www.mscf.org/donate-online/</a>. For more information about MidShore Meals 'til Monday, please call the Director, at 703-371-5191, or visit their Facebook page or website at <a href="https://www.midshoremealstilmonday.org/">www.midshoremealstilmonday.org/</a>





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#### **CAMBRIDGE EMPOWERMENT CENTER (CEC)**

The Cambridge Empowerment Center is a nonprofit, multi-use community center in the heart of the Pine Street Historic District in Cambridge, Maryland. The Center is governed by a board of directors, known as The Pine Street Committee, Inc. who oversee the programs and the use of the building.

Donations are critical to our 2023 success and are appreciated. You can donate at our website – cambridgeempowermentcenter.org, or send a check to The Pine Street Committee, PO Box 494, Cambridge, Md. 21613







The Cambridge Empowerment Center and the Harriet Tubman Museum and Educational Center are teaming up to sponsor a free, family fun event on Pine Street. **On May 20<sup>th</sup>, at 11:30**, "Music on Pine" will start off with a kid's activity at the Empowerment Center (615B Pine Street) with "Lunch and Books". Kids and their families will be served a free lunch with reading and craft activities. At 1:00, Walter Jones will delight all with a musical story. At 2:00 the event will continue on Pine Street with a DJ, line dancing, and performances by our own students from local schools. There will be vendors and a Tricky Tray fundraiser for both organizations. Please come out and support your community!

Vendors are needed (both food and sales) and should call Joyce Green to reserve a place/table (443-477-2572)



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#### WHCP's 2023 FUNDRAISER -- Three Music Events, An Eclectic Mix Just Like WHCP!

Josh Christina. May 25 at the 447 Venue (40/ticket). "...an infectious blend of piano driven high-octane boogie-woogie and pop 'n' roll." Think of a mix between Jerry Lee Lewis, Elvis Presley, and Elton John and you've got Josh Christina. If you're a fan of piano driven rock 'n' roll, Josh will restore your confidence in the ability of young musicians to carry on the great tradition of the rock pioneers. He writes his own music, refurbishes the classics, and plays a mean piano. He's also known for creating legendary live performances with his band. Don't miss your chance to see this rock 'n' roll revivalist in his element—performing for music lovers of all ages.

Kentavius Jones and Friends Unplugged. August 3 at the 447 Venue (\$40/ticket). Kentavius Jones is part of a new generation of music artists with new energy and purpose on the Eastern Shore. A regional favorite, Kentavius grew up listening to Stevie Wonder, Miles Davis, Eric Clapton, and Jimi Hendrix on his father's turntable. A gifted vocalist and guitarist, Kentavius nods to those influences while fashioning a unique brand of soulful rock. KJ killed it last year as one of WHCP's event series performers, so by popular demand he is back! And he is bringing some of his musician friends as well. Do not miss this opportunity to celebrate WHCP's expansion this summer into the greater Mid-Shore!

Dave Chappell Band featuring Tommy Lepson. Sept 2 dinner and a show at the Dorchester American Legion (\$55/ticket includes dinner). Dave Chappell is one of is one of the most sought after and respected musicians on the East Coast. He has performed with legends Jerry Lee Lewis, Sam Moore, Percy Sledge and Johnny Johnson. For this show he's bringing Tommy Lepson, a nationally-recognized Hammond organist, singer and winner of eleven WAMMIE awards. His gritty and flexible R&B voice conjures images of James Brown one moment and Sam Cooke the next. He's appeared with the Kinks, the Fabulous Thunderbirds, NRBQ and Chuck Berry and recorded with Nils Lofgren and many more. It's a special dinner and a show Labor Day weekend in Cambridge MD.

Or buy all three before May 25 for \$115! - Go to WHCP.org/events for more information and tickets!





Building a Better Community, Block by Block

## JOIN US TO LEARN ABOUT THE HEALTH OF THE CHOPTANK RIVER

# SHORERIVERS' ANNUAL STATE OF THE RIVERS ARE BACK!

This series of free presentations is held each spring to inform the public about the health of our Eastern Shore waterways and our progress toward protecting and restoring local rivers.

Special thanks go to our generous sponsors: Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay, Choptank Oyster Co., Cult Classic Brewing, Orchard Point Oysters, Ten Eyck Brewing Company, Kent County Community Center, the Galena Volunteer Fire Department, and Jeff & Beth Horstman.

## **DATES INCLUDE**

Wednesday, April 26, Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum | 5:30–7pm featuring your Choptank & Miles-Wye Riverkeepers

Wednesday, May 10, 447 Venue | 5:30-7pm featuring your Choptank Riverkeeper

FIND MORE DETAILS &
DATES FOR ADDITONAL
PRESENTATIONS AT:
SHORERIVERS.ORG/EVENTS



Each event is free and open to the public; drinks and light refreshments, including local oysters, will be served!





Building a Better Community, Block by Block



### **REGISTER TODAY:**

MarylandFreedomSwim.com (select "Volunteer" on the left)

QUESTIONS ABOUT VOLUNTEERING FOR THE SWIM SAFETY TEAM?

mpluta@shorerivers.org

Brought to you by TCR Event Management, Proceeds benefit ShoreRivers Inc.

Building a Better Community, Block by Block



Targeting rising 7th, 8th & 9th graders An exciting program will be offered to middle school students this summer.

Animation
App Development
Aviation
Chess
Cyber Security
Drones
Media Arts
Presentation/Video Design
Robotics

The program runs from July 10 - August 3, 2023 Two Sessions Offered: Mon - Thurs from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

## Session I

7/10-7/13

7/17 - 7/20

## **Session II**

7/24 - 7/27

7/31 - 8/3

SCEP will engage students in hands-on activities that lead to career paths in: cybersecurity, media arts, video production, computer science, and engineering.

## **Location**

Dorchester Career and Tech Center 2465 MD-16 Cambridge, MD

Register online @ www.pfccoalition.org/SCEP.asp

For more information call: 301-772-1552



Building a Better Community, Block by Block

#### **CAN MISSION, MEMBERSHIP, and COMMITTEES**

The Cambridge Association of Neighborhoods (CAN) fosters neighborhood cohesion and community involvement to enhance the quality of community life for all residents of Cambridge through community events, social activities, and neighborly assistance; and protect and enhance properties in Cambridge by improving building and zoning codes, supporting adherence to those codes, and engaging constructively with City Government, including the Historic Preservation Commission. CAN welcomes members from all Cambridge neighborhoods who are interested in organizing and working together, building a diverse membership reflecting the diversity of Cambridge residents. Membership is FREE – information is available on the CAN website at <a href="https://cambridgecan.org/join-can/">https://cambridgecan.org/join-can/</a>

#### **CAN HOUSING QUALITY COMMITTEE – PLANNING AND ZONING ISSUES**

The Housing Quality Committee monitors issues affecting the quality of housing and the maintenance of property values in the City, including code enforcement. Committee members attend Planning Commission meetings to monitor zoning-related issues and report the information to the Board and Membership. *Please contact* Chuck McFadden at <a href="Ragtime31@gmail.com">Ragtime31@gmail.com</a> to volunteer.

#### NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE - SOCIAL EVENTS & 'NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS'

"Neighborhoods" are organized by small groups willing to work together to address neighborhood issues through small social events and "neighbor-helping-neighbor" activities. The **Social Events Subcommittee** organizes community-wide events. *Contact* Chuck McFadden at *Ragtime31@qmail.com* to volunteer.

#### **CAN COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE – WRITERS NEEDED**

CAN'S Communications Committee needs writers, including volunteers to take unofficial notes at public meetings. *Please contact Tom Puglisi at tom.puglisi@comcast.net to volunteer.* 

#### **POWER WASHER AVAILABLE**

CAN has an electric power washer available to members. Contact Chuck McFadden at <u>Ragtime31@gmail.com</u> if you would like to borrow it.

