



For All People...



The Summer News Weekly

# Craigville Chronicle

In All Seasons



**Craigville Village, Massachusetts  
LABOR DAY WEEKEND 2011**

## Community Calendar

<b>Friday,</b>	<b>September 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>4:00 PM</b>	<b>Cottage Owners' Meeting – Tab.</b>
<b>Sunday,</b>	<b>September 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:45 AM</b>	<b>Worship Service in the Tabernacle</b>
<b>Monday,</b>	<b>September 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>CBA Beach closes for the season</b>

### **Cottage Owners: It's Today**

Please come to the re-scheduled CCOA meeting today, Friday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 4:00 PM in the Tabernacle. Plan to stay around for a Community Garden Conversation, too, if you are interested. We will be reviewing summer activities and planning for next year, and look forward to your ideas!

### **Bookies Plan to Meet Again this Fall**

A note about the "Bookies": we met today (Wednesday) and had 9 people here to discuss The Help.

The members of the group who will be here in October decided to meet on Tuesday, October 25<sup>th</sup> at Eilean Swanson's home on Laurel Ave. at 10:00 AM. They will be discussing Caleb's Crossing by Gealdine Brooke. It is a story of an Indian from Martha's Vineyard who went to Harvard. It has had good reviews. We definitely will be meeting next summer, and who knows, the group may decide to keep meeting this winter.

We have all enjoyed our discussions. Welcome to anyone who would like to join us.

-Nancy Hansen, Coordinator

### **"CRAIGVILLE CARDS" and 2012 Village House Tour**

There are still a few packets of Craigville Cards left if anyone is interested in buying them. Five cards are in a packet, \$15.00 per packet. Scenes of the village of Craigville, the lake, and Craigville gardens. Also, if anyone is interested in having their house photographed for cards please let me know. All proceeds go to the Red Lily Pond Project Association.

Next July I would like to have another Craigville House Tour for the Red Lily Pond Project. Anyone interested in being one of the houses on the tour, please contact me. [capesunsetgirl@yahoo.com](mailto:capesunsetgirl@yahoo.com)

Thank you all for your support and ----See you all next year!

-Valerie B. Lane, Chair, RLPP Fundraising

### **CBA Beach: Weathered the Storm**

This is our final weekend for this season, and we remind you to please pay your guest fees and empty your bathhouse before 5:00 PM on Monday, September 5<sup>th</sup>. Hope you have a great winter!

-Domenic Botolino, Manager, CBA Beach

**REMINDER: IF YOU ARE ON THE CLUSTER SEPTIC SYSTEM, DON'T FORGET TO LEAVE YOUR POWER ON IF YOU ARE DEPARTING CRAIGVILLE FOR THE SEASON!**

## **Tabernacle Welcomes South Church Neighbors**

Rev. Michael S. McSherry currently serves as the Interim Minister of South Congregational Church (UCC) in Centerville. Before acting on his call to ordained ministry, Michael worked as a corporate lawyer for 25 years. A 2005 graduate of Harvard Divinity School, he served as the pastor of Central Congregational Church (UCC) in Jamaica Plain, MA until last year, when it merged with Hope Church to become Hope Central. The father of three young adult children, he lives with his wife Frances, a theatrical costume designer, in Newton, MA.

We are pleased to welcome the congregation from South Church for this combined worship service, and are also fortunate to have the South Congregational Church's Choir leading the music this Sunday.

The Tabernacle Worship Committee would like to thank everyone for their attendance and support of the Tabernacle this summer. A special thank you to all the people that participated in the service by being a greeter, a liturgist or helping provide and arrange flowers. Also, a special thank you to Mary Woodbury, Deborah Bissett and the Inn food service for the coffee and delicious treats each week.

### **CHAMP HOMES: Places of Hope, Built on Faith**

*Several years ago the Tabernacle Committee initiated a new outreach effort to a worthy Cape Cod project. A portion of each Sunday's offertory is donated to this outreach project. CHAMP Homes, which is a unique, faith-based, residential group of homes located in Hyannis, has been selected to be the project again this year. As many of you are aware, Champ Homes has a special connection to Craigville because the founders/directors of Champ Homes, Paul and Carolyn Hebert, were previously the Director of Food Service at the Conference Center. The CHAMP HOMES house over 50 men and women in a multi-generational family community, in four homes. As in the past, additional monetary contributions from members of the Craigville community are being accepted. Please deliver any contribution to the Conference office or in the offertory. Please make checks payable to CHAMP Homes. Thank you.*

-Ruth Robin, Chair, Tabernacle Worship Committee

## **Local Minister's "folk rock for the church" CD's Available**

This Sunday, Rev. Dr. Ed Deyton's recording, "In Season", will be offered for sale following the Worship Service in the Tabernacle. He will be donating half of the sales amount to the Red Lily Pond Project Association. Ed sings, plays the guitar, and also wrote all the selections. They include liturgical and gospel music roots and convey inspirational, spiritual messages. Watch for a recording of Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany available soon, too!

## **Events Committee Wants Your Ideas**

The Events Committee is open to taking all ideas and suggestions under consideration, and people interested in helping to implement new ideas or to resurrect old traditions are welcome to share them with us. Ideas which are looking for leadership are a group spelling bee; group trivia night; and a family pot luck with children's games on the Green. Meghan Lahey reports that the caller for the Square Dance will not be returning next year, and she is thinking of a replacement activity. We are happy to announce that Pamela Danforth will be hosting an Open Mike Night for our teen youth in the Tabernacle next summer!

This year, our sponsored activities have been the following:

1. Ice Breaker at the Trulls'
2. Fourth of July Parade
3. Illumination Night
4. Movie Nights
5. Tidy Town Days
6. Halloween in Craigville
7. Square Dance
8. Book Group

If you have any ideas, please let Joanne Hartunian, Meghan Lahey or Ellen Cardarelli know your thoughts.

Next season, for our events, we will need volunteers to open and to lock the Tabernacle and to assist with event parking where applicable. Contact Joanne at [joannehartunian@gmail.com](mailto:joannehartunian@gmail.com) if you are interested in helping out with events or in sharing a program idea for 2012. All suggestions and offers are welcome.

-Joanne Hartunian, Events Committee

## Craigville Retreat Center News

Please visit our wonderful new website, <http://craigvilleretreats.org>.

The Craigville Retreat Center announces that Chef Pablo (Nacho) Tapia will be leaving mid-September. We have hired a new Executive Chef, Edward L. Madden Jr., of Centerville, MA, formerly of Barbers Crossing in Sterling, MA and Colonial Restaurant of Webster, MA. We are very happy to have Ed joining our staff.

-Mary A Woodbury, Director, Craigville Retreat Center

### Red Lily PONDS Project: PHEW!

As the summer season draws to a close, I thought it would be useful to summarize the year's efforts to restore the Red Lily Pond. Here is a good acronym to remember the five critical areas of pond health: **PONDS**

**P**hosphorous causes rampant weed growth, so please use phosphate-free detergents.

**O**xxygen, dissolved in the water for fish to breathe, depends on flow, which is choked by weeds and collapsed culverts from the north end of the ponds to the Centerville River.

**N**itrogen fertilizes the weeds on the surface and the embankment wetlands. Since 85% of it comes from septic systems, we advocate for a sewer system.

**D**iversity of fish, fowl, and amphibians is key to the pond's health. From spring peepers to summer croakers, alewives to zooplankton, the food chain needs every link, so we protect a diverse habitat underwater and in the surrounding wetlands. We don't introduce invasive species or cut brush without permits and supervision from arborists.

**S**ediments on the bottom of the ponds provide food for the ducks, geese and swans, so we try to keep the pond floor clean by controlling runoff and not disturbing it by motorized boats.

This may all seem like common sense, but the devil is in the details! The acronym **PHEW** sums up our four-pronged effort:

**P**harmaceuticals are the emerging pollutant of concern in surface and ground water on Cape Cod. Often, these are endocrine disrupters, and wreak havoc with amphibians—and sometimes, people! Please don't flush those old pills down the toilet!

**H**erring are key to ocean's food chain, and they're disappearing from the North Atlantic. Difficulty making it to their spawning grounds is one reason, so we work to restore the herring run.

**E**mbankment restoration is key to viewshed and erosion control. Our annual fundraising pays for this.

**W**eed raking this fall will retain our **W**indow of opportunity to save this great pond while we **W**ait for the sewer system that will control our **W**astewater...the system that was coming in ten years...in 1960. We are very pleased that the Town of Barnstable Conservation Commission, at their meeting this week, approved our application for hydroraking in September and October (last done in 1997), so we will regain control of the weeds on the surface of the middle and north bays, and the margins of Lake Elizabeth, for the time being.

Looking for the long-term solution? The Conservation Law Foundation has been threatening to sue the towns on Cape Cod if they didn't control wastewater, and this lawsuit may be filed in September. By the time summer rolls around again, I predict this will be the top news story. So, next summer, let's host a series of community conversation on wastewater management for Craigville and the neighborhood.

Now that's an exciting thought to get us all through the winter! Have a wonderful year, and thanks to everyone for your support of the ponds this summer!

-Steve Brown, President, RLPP

### Craigville Post Office Shop

The Post Office Committee wants to thank the village residents, their guests and the Conference Center quests, as well, for the continued support given to the Post Office shop. Our season ended on a small positive note financially, which is totally due to your patronage.

New items will be on sale for next year, as well as the old regulars such as the mugs, t-shirts, and glasses. Again, we thank you all.

-Debbie Almy (Chairman), Judy Perella, Kristen Shoemaker, and Willie Shoemaker

## BIRDS OR BIKINIS?

The busiest place this year has been the corner of Lake Elizabeth and Craigville Beach Road. George and Jennie Osprey arrived early in the spring and so did the steady stream of visitors. It has been a toss-up who were the most photographed, the birds or the beach bikinis. We believe, however, it was by far George, Jennie and their family. Everyone was watching daily to see when tiny little heads would pop out of the nest. When the high-powered cameras arrived, we knew. Two or three little heads were seen popping up and the noise factor increased. It became especially noisy when one of the adults arrived from a fishing expedition carrying their dinner. One day we were excited to see one of the parents push one of the babies out of the nest for its maiden flight. We thought for sure it was going to land in the parking lot, but it soared out over the ocean for a short trip and then back to the nest. As the days went by and the offspring grew bigger, it was difficult to tell the parents from the babes. They could be seen taking turns flying out of the nest and talking to each other from a nearby light pole. This past weekend presented a challenge to them with the approach of Hurricane Irene. They disappeared before the wind started to blow its gale forces. We thought for sure we saw the end of them for the season. As the sun arrived Monday morning, we heard loud noises from the nest and they were back; not quite ready to leave for the season. Unlike most of us when Labor Day brings the end to the summer season - the "snowbirds" head out to warmer climates, the "locals" start preparing for the winter season - we must say good-bye to another year. So from all of us here at Craigville Beach, we wish each and everyone a happy, safe and healthy fall and winter. See you in the spring.

-George, Jennie Osprey and family, along with  
Maxine and Bill Schortman

## THANK YOU from Debbie Almy-

I want to thank the many people who have given me such positive feedback about my two articles in the *Chronicle*. I do so appreciate your kind comments. I truly enjoy writing them for you as I love learning at the same time. YOU are the reason I continue to do this, and it is your suggestions and ideas that prompt me to take on an assigned topic. I wish you good health and best wishes for the winter. Thank you again. Debbie Almy

## WEATHERWIZE: DECOMPOSITION

By Doppler Debbie Almy

The death rate in nature is very high, as it must be, for if every baby whatever and every leaf lived, we would be buried in a short period of time. Decomposition is the natural process that helps plants and animals disintegrate. In nature, weather is the critical factor in this procedure, for temperature, sunlight, and precipitation all work together on this natural breakdown of all matter.

Another one of my least favorite animals is the field- or house mouse; consequently, I have numerous traps strategically placed all over my house from the cellar to the attic eaves. After being away from home, I made my usual patrol to check the traps. In the attic eaves I found a pile of gray fur with no discernible body shape connected to a trap. My question is, how did a mouse decompose on a wood floor inside in an enclosed dark eaves?

In the ground there are many organisms which eat carrion; one of them is the beetle. I have witnessed their action in a controlled setting when a carcass of a small animal was placed into an enclosed chamber loaded with these beetles. Within 24 hours, only the entire, pristine skeleton was left in the container, with no "meat" and very little external coverings of the animal. Granted this laboratory show was an extreme example of how these critters work in nature; but they do a very good job in their role in the entire food chain cycle.

Decomposition is "the metabolic breakdown of materials into simpler compounds." All living things have microorganisms within their bodies, which will take over as soon as the human systems stop working, that is the moment the heart stops. I will not describe in detail what happens to a corpse, for I do not want to be blamed for making the faint of heart ill. If there are any insects on a body, as, of course, there would be on a mouse, they develop into maggots which begin to eat on the body flesh. If a stray fly happens by, then its eggs on the carcass also develop into maggots and the feast continues. Once all the liquid flesh is gone, the maggots pupate and die off, for their host is offering no more food. All that is left is the fur and bones. In the wild, scavenger animals such as skunks swoop in to have their meal first; then what remains is left to rot. The wind blows the fur around, and the sun bleaches the bones until they are brittle and they break up into small pieces, thus adding calcium back into the earth. Our burial of human remains does everything to prevent or slow down this natural breakdown by putting the

embalmed body into a tightly-sealed coffin, then placed inside a lidded cement box in the ground. Our attempt to slow this process does work, for after years of being buried, exhumed bodes have been relatively untouched, helping with any DNA information to possibly solve mysteries.

So, to answer the question about “my” mouse and how it decomposed. The whole process started from within the body working the inside to the outside, not needing the natural critters found in the soil. Oxygen helped, as well, as the dark environment, simulating the darkness within the ground. Not a pleasant thing to deal with!

### **FEATHER/FUN FACTS: BATS**

By Debbie Almy

Bats in the belfry, or bats in your hair: what is the truth about bats? A resident recently asked me about bats and if there have been any occasions when they have gotten into a house here in the village. Well, I am not sure of any incidences of a bat visitor, but let’s learn more about this most common animal found everywhere.

There are over 1,000 varieties of bats worldwide, they are found on every continent except Antarctica, and their favorite climate is warm and nice - usually around the tropics. In the United States, Texas has 32 varieties, while Maine has just 8. Their senses are keen, for their hearing is excellent, using the funnel-shaped ears to receive the echolocation waves they emit. Their sense of smell is well-developed for identifying certain foods, as well as their own roosts. Nectar-eating bats use this sense of smell predominately. Bats are not blind at all; they see best at night, but only in black-and-white. Their feet have strong claws allowing them to hang upside down from a branch, while their wings with finger-like structures inside of them allow their flight to either be in a “lift” or “thrust” manner, meaning up, down or forward directions. Bats, as mammals, are covered with “fur” or hair, which helps with camouflage and keeps them warm in the winter. They keep their hair clean by grooming themselves very much like a cat does: that eliminates the myth that bats are dirty or diseased. They do not usually carry rabies, as often thought, but they are wild animals so touching them should be avoided. Bats’ diet consists mostly of insects, with a brown bat eating up to 1,200 insects an hour, while other species eat fruit, nectar, fish, meat or blood.

Another myth is that bats will get in your hair. Wrong, for if a bat can scoop out insects in the pitch black of night, it most certainly will avoid a person’s hair, for they are too smart for that. They are the only mammals that truly can fly, as opposed to the “flying” squirrels, who basically glide through the air.

Bats are also very helpful! Not only do they help control the insect population, but they also reseed cut forests and pollinate plants that provide food for humans. Bats also helped to teach us about sonar, which the U.S. Navy has utilized for years. Bacteria in their guano is useful in improving soaps, making gasohol, and producing antibiotics, besides being a fertilizer. The bats use their “echolocation” by sending out a sound wave which bounces off an object as small as an insect. The waves come back to the bat and they determine where the object is located, then fly to it for a snack. Remember, a bat eats a minimum of 600 insects a night, so they are a good friend indeed.

Bats are everywhere, and to spot one, the best time is at dusk, when they are becoming active. If you can, go to a high location and stare out at something far away, not moving your eyes. Pretty soon you will see black objects darting back and forth in your vision, and you have found the bats. What to do if you have an unwanted bat visitor in your house? If you can, shut the room off and open up an unscrewed window and it will vacate quickly. If that is not an option, then grab an old tennis, or badminton racket and take a swing. It may become tangled in the racket without killing it, so just take the racket outside and leave it on the ground. They are not to be feared at all, for they will not hurt you, and are most likely more afraid of you than you are of them.

**THE CRAIGVILLE CHRONICLE IS PUBLISHED FRIDAYS DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS. WEEKLY DEADLINES ARE EACH WEDNESDAY AT 12:00 NOON OF THE SAME WEEK AS FRIDAY’S PUBLICATION. WE WELCOME ALL NEWS PERTAINING TO CRAIGVILLE ACTIVITIES. We are always on the web at Craigville.org (postings to [info@Craigville.org](mailto:info@Craigville.org)). The *Craigville Chronicle* is sponsored by the Christian Camp Meeting Association and the Craigville Cottage Owners Association, and is produced weekly from the last week in June through Labor Day weekend. Please e-mail your news to Alice Brown, editor, at [aliceb@cape.com](mailto:aliceb@cape.com) (hard copies of news may be submitted at Craigville Conference Center Office in the Lodge).**

**COMING EDITIONS: NOVEMBER 2011, FEBRUARY 2012, MAY 2012. HAVE A SAFE AND PLEASANT FALL AND WINTER. THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION. –ALICE BROWN**