

Isle of Kent - 1631

To Discover, Identify, Restore and Preserve the Heritage of Kent Island

NEWSLETTER OF THE KENT ISLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC.

FALL 2026

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President's Message

"WE NEED YOU!"

Our summer celebrating America's 250 Anniversary has been memorable here on Kent Island. We celebrated our greatest ever Kent Island Day in May and the Grand Opening of our new Kent Island Heritage Center as detailed in our last Newsletter. The weather has sent us another aspect of summer – severe heat and ripsnortin' storms. We hope our members were able to weather the challenges and still enjoy the best of our iconic Kent Island culture. We have been grateful for the turnouts of visitors to our First Saturday Open Sites events, especially on The Fourth when, despite the heat, families were still enjoying the patriotic atmosphere and strolling around Historic Stevensville. Then in August, we had a special treat when local musician, George Hall, set up at the Heritage Center and serenaded our visitors. George was joined by golden voiced Kent Island native, Bob Benton, whose grandfather once owned the building that now houses our Heritage Center and moved it up the hill to our present location in 1910. That live music is a real treat. We hope to do it again.

In July we hosted a new summer adventure, a historic evening boat cruise out of Kent Narrows aboard the new Chesapeake Water Tours pontoon boat. The cruise featured a narrated historic tour along the Eastern Bay side of Kent Island and Kent Narrows highlighting our storied Kent Island history from the perspective of the water. We enjoyed a perfect maritime evening and the warm hospitality of Capt. Ron and First Mate, Lexi. We hope to do it again in the future.

(Continued on page 2)

KIHS Committees

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Historic Christ Church

Nancy Cook

Kirwan House

Linda Collier

Renee Dye

Curtis Chance

I need to shift gears here to share some sad and sobering news about the recent passing of one of our most admired and respected longtime Heritage Board members, Carole Price Frederick. Carole, a proud multigenerational Kent Island native and retired Music Teacher, died in August after a series of health challenges. She was our long serving Corresponding Secretary and served for a period as our Newsletter Administrator and Editor. In her spirited, enthusiastic tone she often signed her notes to fellow Board Members as “Sassy”! She was honored as our Kent Island Day Grand Marshall last year, in 2025, our 50th Anniversary. See her picture and notes in this Newsletter. I also want to share the sad news of the passing of another respected Heritage Society member and iconic retired Teacher, Mildred Price, close aunt of our former Board Member, Chip Price. Chip spent the better part of this past year helping to care for his beloved Aunt Mildred. May Carole and Mildred rest in Peace. We offer our condolences to their families.

KIHS is directly involved with the Historic Stevensville Arts and Entertainment District and, in addition to our Historic Sites in Stevensville, we work with our local businesses to strengthen the vitality and success of Historic Stevensville. In coordinating events and issues in Stevensville we have learned of potential new plans for preserving and enhancing the history and heritage of Stevensville. The buyer of the Denny properties and several other Stevensville properties is considering a preservation concept and has reached out to the Heritage Society for possible future input and recommendations. It is very much in the concept stage at this point. Stay tuned.

As I have mentioned previously, we appreciate the tremendous support we are receiving from the Queen Anne’s County Economic and Tourism Development Office through the efforts of our new Historic Tourism Coordinator, Penny Young-Carrisquillo. Penny also coordinates the activities of the County-wide Historic Sites Consortium, in which we play an active role. She is also overseeing the County’s efforts to coordinate 250th Anniversary events. This support is providing new outreach and advertising efforts, both in the form of social media publicity and hard copy brochures and flyers.

As an important part of opening and showing our Historic Sites, First Saturdays from April through November, we have expanded our Docent Program. Hanna Wall, our Docent Coordinator, has developed a Docent Training Program and built a cadre of welcoming docent hosts for visitors at our sites. Two successful training sessions were held this past year, and we anticipate another session next spring. We encourage our members to consider becoming a docent for a fascinating and rewarding experience. This fall we will continue a great outreach experience with the Institute for Adult Learning (IAL), an educational organization based in Centreville. They have invited us

again to present three separate classes in November at the Kennard Heritage Center on several aspects of our Kent Island History. Then in December we will host an on-site tour of our Kent Island Heritage Sites. We look forward again to this great outreach opportunity to share our heritage and build new relationships and possible new memberships.

And speaking of a wonderful opportunity, we anticipate continuing our mutual partnership between the Kent Island High School and the Heritage Society. We anticipate programs with student involvement in our heritage efforts and earning community service credits in a variety of ways. After successful activities last spring, we anticipate collaborating with teachers and staff from all Kent Island schools to share Kent Island history and heritage in the classroom, extending docent training for students and involving them as docents during open sites and helping on Kent Island Day. We are pleased to have received articles on Kent Island history from students which we look forward to including in future Newsletters. We appreciate the efforts of Social Studies Teacher, Luke Hartlaub, in guiding this effort and for the students’ work.

This fall, celebrating our new Kent Island Heritage Center, we will have the Heritage Center open for visitors every Saturday from noon to four. Stop in and enjoy our great exhibits! We thank our Heritage Center Team for that effort. Also, as a reminder, we will have our historic Sites open for visitors during the Artoberfest event on Oct. 3 and for the Classic Car Show event on Nov. 1. Looking further into December we plan to participate in the Queen Annes Holiday Train Show again this year. Our annual Holiday Reception and Elections will be held in December. Special announcements will be sent out for that event.

Before closing I need to share some important information. This will be the last Newsletter under the leadership of John Conley as our Editor. After excelling for nearly a decade as our Editor, John is stepping down from that position but will remain an active KIHS member and continue to assist in an advisory capacity during the Newsletter transition. We can’t thank John enough for his professional newsletter experience and accomplishments on our behalf and wish him well in

his future endeavors, including work on a third book. We are reaching out for new Newsletter leadership, possibly a team approach, and or with a new format. We are open to your ideas and recommendations.

We are also aiming to bolster our Heritage Society Board of Directors. Over the last several years, some of our Board members have experienced changes in health issues or major family or life issues that have made it difficult to continue being active with our Heritage Board. We have faced the reality that we have too few committed people doing too many good things. We are hoping to add about five new members to our Board this coming year. We welcome diversity in terms of age, interests, life experience, and abilities. We may be reaching out directly to some of you. If you have ever thought you might like to become involved as a member of our Heritage Board, now’s the time. As the stern Uncle Jack character at the top of this column states, **We need you!**

Our upcoming early fall event is our annual Fall Heritage Picnic at the Kirwan House and Farm on Sunday, September 27. It’s our annual old fashioned country family picnic with hayrides, live chickens, fresh pressed apple cider, home-made ice cream, fried chicken, and you name it potluck veggies, deserts, and fixin’s that you care to bring – all in the beautiful backyard setting of the Kirwan Place. And the historic Kirwan House will be open for tours. It’s a wonderful, well attended event, open to members and guests, in a great historic Kent Island setting. Please see our Fall Picnic announcement in this Newsletter and let us know if you plan to attend.

Meanwhile, thanks for your support and best wishes for a great fall!

See ya ‘round the Island.

Jack Broderick

Join Queen Anne’s County Parks and Recreation in Historic Stevensville for ARToberfest!

This free, all-ages event features live music, performances, local artisans and crafters, delicious food, kid-friendly activities, and more. Enjoy the vibrant Fall atmosphere while experiencing the best of local art and culture, presented in partnership with the Stevensville Arts & Entertainment District.

When: Saturday, October 3rd, 2026
Where: Historic Stevensville
Time: 11:00a.m.-3:00p.m.

2026 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 27
MEMBERSHIP PICNIC
Kirwan Museum

OCTOBER 3
ARTOBERFEST Stevensville

NOVEMBER 7
CLASSIC CAR SHOW Stevensville

DECEMBER 6
KIHS MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON
AND ELECTIONS

KIHS BOARD MEETINGS
are held on the third Wednesday
of the month at the Kirwan House.
All Society members are welcome
to attend or suggest topics for
consideration.

FOR INFORMATION on these and
other events, visit our website
kentislandheritagesociety.org

THE KENT ISLAND HERITAGE
SOCIETY MAINTAINS A SOCIAL
MEDIA PRESENCE ON-LINE AT
kentislandheritagesociety.org
and on Facebook , X (Twitter,)
YouTube, Instagram, Tiktok,
Pinterest, Hashtags, and E-Mail.



IT'S TIME AGAIN FOR AN OLD-FASHIONED PICNIC

Join Kent Island Heritage Society
Members and Guests

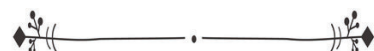
The Kirwan House and Farm
SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 27, 2026
1:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Please Bring A Covered Dish and Lawn Chairs for comfort

KIHS Will Provide

Fried Chicken, Hot Dogs, Iced Tea, Lemonade, Coffee
And HOME-MADE ICE CREAM!!!

Join us for Games, Conversation and Displays



PLEASE RESPOND BY SEPTEMBER 19

PROVIDE RESPONSE WITH INFORMATION BELOW
by Email to kentislandheritagesociety@gmail.com
or mail to KIHS P.O. Box 321, Stevensville MD 21666

Names of Adults (for badges):

Names and ages of children (for game planning):

Phone number and email in case of inclement weather:



Stevensville will host the
ANNUAL HISTORIC AND
SPECIALTY VEHICLES
CAR FESTIVAL
9 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.
SATURDAY
OCTOBER 3RD

The popular event will include
food trucks, vendors, and
entertainment. Kent Island
Heritage Society sites will be
open in Stevensville and the
Kirwan Museum in Chester.

For information, contact
Paul Placek at
pjplacek@verizon.net.



SPORTS ON KENT ISLAND

From two kids playing catch to high school teams to the organized community sports of today, sports and games of many kinds have been an important part of Kent Island culture and history. The 1956 Stevensville High School schedule was produced by Gil Dunn's Pharmacy which was in the Kent Island shopping center on Westbound Route 50. Gil Dunn was the iconic Past President of the Kent Island Heritage Society. He contributed to many projects, including saving and restoring the historic train station. He was a fan of baseball Hall of Famer Jimmie Foxx who was born in Sudlersville and who played games in Stevensville as a youth. Foxx donated several of his baseball items to Dunn which he displayed in his pharmacy. Dunn later donated several of those items for the Jimmie Foxx display in the Sudlersville Train Museum (www.sudlersvillmuseum.org). An Old Timers game will be played in Sudlersville at 1 p.m. on Saturday October 3 at 10 a.m.

KENT ISLAND Pharmacy C. G. DUNN STEVENSVILLE, MD. PHONE 3451 "Good Luck Pirates!"		STEVENSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL 1956 — 1957 Soccer Fieldball Basketball SCHEDULE Coach: Charles Zakarian Coach: Dora Gibson	
SOCCER—FIELDBALL		BASKETBALL	
Sept. 28		Greensboro	Dec. 5 A
*St. Michaels	Home	*Galena	Dec. 7 H
Oct. 5		St. Michaels	Dec. 14 A
*St. Michaels	Away	Open	Dec. 20
Oct. 9		*S. Dorchester	Jan. 4 A
Greensboro	Home	*Sudlersville	Jan. 9 A
Oct. 12		*Denton	Jan. 11 A
*Sudlersville	Away	*Centerville	Jan. 18 A
Oct. 16		*Sudlersville	Jan. 23 H
Greensboro	Away	Greensboro	Jan. 25 H
Oct. 23		*S. Dorchester	Feb. 1 H
*Sudlersville	Home	Denton	Feb. 8 H
Oct. 26		St. Michaels	Feb. 15 H
*Centerville	Away	*Centerville	Feb. 22 H
Nov. 2		*Galena	Mar. 1 A
*Centerville	Home	*Girls' game also	

Ruth Kolato
Lucille Lepp
Dorothy Lewis
Evelyn Ewing
Edythe Harris
Margaret Nash
Elizabeth Stallings
Mary Francis Tannu

Bright Price
Vernon Clark
James White
Walton Thompson
Ben Jewel
Bill Eaton
Peck Thompson
Matthews August



THE QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY MD250 COMMITTEE, MD250 REVOLUTIONARY BASEBALL
& THE SUDLERSVILLE COMMUNITY BETTERMENT CLUB PRESENT

THE SUDLERSVILLE
VINTAGE BASE BALL
SHOWDOWN & PICNIC
HONORING HOMETOWN HERO JIMMIE FOXX

SATURDAY
OCT. 10 2026
SUDLERSVILLE PARK, 206 E. MAIN ST.
FEATURING
THE ECLIPSE BASE BALL CLUB OF
ELKTON (EST. 1866) VS. THE RISING
SUN BASE BALL CLUB (EST. 1866)

VINTAGE UNIFORMS, VINTAGE EQUIPMENT & VINTAGE ANNOUNCING

PICNIC: 1PM Food vendors, hotdogs, The Blake Thompson Family Band
OPENING CEREMONY: 2:15PM National Anthem by Freddie Lewis, Jr.
FIRST PITCH: 3PM

PLUS! JIMMIE FOXX HISTORIANS,
SPECIAL GUESTS & EXHIBITS,
CRACKERJACKS & POPCORN!

FOR MORE INFO: 410-703-9212 OR SHATIM216@GMAIL.COM
Supporters: Sudlersville Memorial Library, Sudlersville Lions Club, Sudlersville Volunteer Fire Company

KIHS Heritage Center to Open Saturdays in Fall



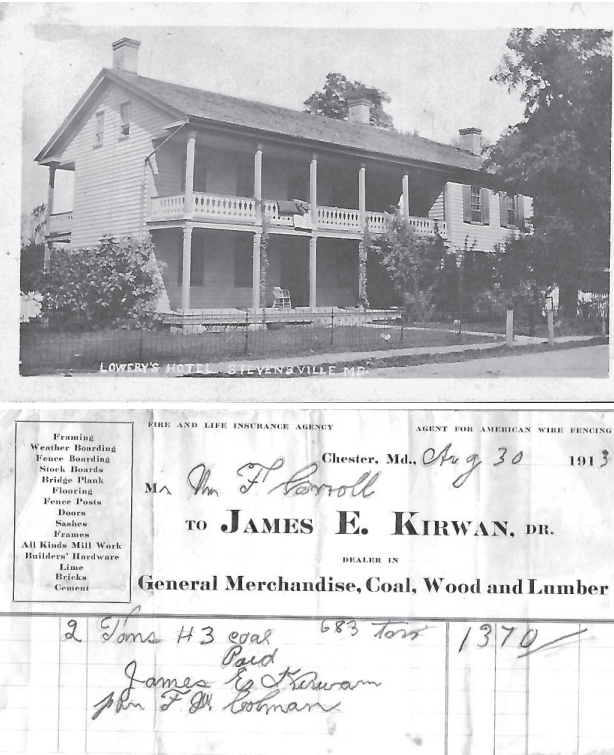
The new Kent Island Heritage Center at 310 Love Point Rd. in Stevensville will be open from Noon to 4 p.m. on all Saturdays beginning on September 5. All other sites will continue to be open from to Noon to 4 P.m. on the first Saturdays of the month from April through November. If we can get more people to volunteer to serve as docents, we will consider trying to open more frequently to share Kent Island history with visitors to the area. We welcome more people to join us at docents at the Heritage Center. You can quickly learn enough about local history to be a host at the Center and will enjoy meeting local people and visitors from all over the country. Please contact KIHS if you would like to learn more about volunteering to help the Kent Island Heritage Society, research, preserve, and share our special history.



**KIHS Board Member
Carole Frederick
Passes Away**

Longtime KIHS Board Member and former editor of this newsletter Carole Frederick passed away in August after a long illness. Carole was a native of Kent Island and served the local community and the Heritage Society for many years, including as a Board Member of the Friends of Historic Christ Church. She taught music at Severna Park High school and other schools and continued to teach piano lessons at her home in Stevensville. Carole served as Grand Marshal of the 2025 Kent Island Day Parade and will be missed by the community she loved. A Celebration of Life will be held 1:00 to 4:00 pm at the Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center in Grasonville on September 20.

KIHS Seeks Old Kent Island Photographs



The Kent Island Heritage Society is looking for old pictures of Kent Island and especially of Stevensville and of buildings no longer standing. The pictures will be used for displays in the new Heritage Center and for other projects. Pictures from personal collections of people and buildings are especially welcome as we document our history. Pictures can be scanned or provided in person. All pictures will be returned. Send to jconcomm@gmail.com.



Kent Island Heritage Society members enjoyed a cruise of Kent Island's Eastern Bay side aboard the Chesapeake Water Tours pontoon boat. The area's special historic, nautical, and nature highlights were discussed during the trip.



Quick Response (QR) Code

SCAN KIHS QUICK RESPONSE (QR) CODE TO REACH OUR WEBSITE

You can reach our Kent Island Heritage Society website with most Smartphones which are equipped with QR Code readers in their cameras. Hold your Smartphone camera over the QR Code so that it is clearly on the phone screen. The phone will scan the code and connect to the site. Some phones might require you to take a picture of the QR Code.

KENT ISLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC.

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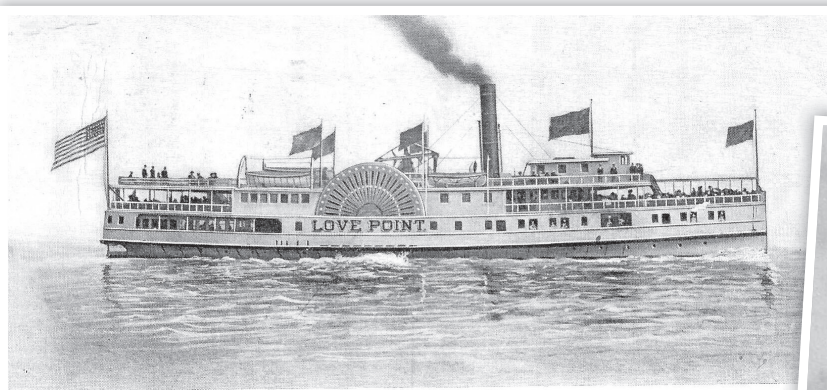
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



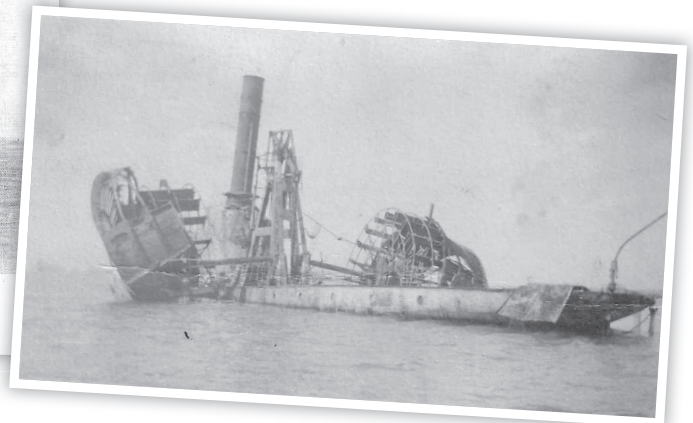
POSTCARD from Kent Island:

From John L. Conley Collection

The steamboat *Love Point* had a long and productive life until being destroyed by fire at the Love Point Pier on March 11, 1909. The *Love Point* began life in the Wilmington DE shipyard of Harlan and Hollingworth as the *Emma Ford* in 1884 for the Chester River Steamboat Company. She was purchased by the Maryland, Delaware and Virginia Railway in 1906 and suffered but survived a fire and was given the new name *Love Point* as pictured on this postcard mailed in 1908. She made daily runs between the Chester River and Baltimore. A March 13, 1909, article in the *Baltimore Sun* reported that a fire broke out on the steamer on the evening of March 11. Though most of the crew was asleep at the time, they all "narrowly escaped", including the "scantily clad" Captain John A. Clarke. The fire was so intense that the "Doomed vessel was ordered cut loose from the wharf and drifts out in the river as a floating torch." The estimated \$90,000 loss was covered by insurance. The lost ship was later replaced by Westmoreland, which is shown in many pictures and served until dismantled in 1925. Alas, like the ship for which it was named, most of what was once the historic *Love Point* resort is now little but a memory. For detailed information on the steamboats that once plied the Chester River and beyond, read Lost Chester River Steamboats by Kent Island Heritage Society Member Jack Shaum.



ON BOARD MARYLAND, DELAWARE AND VIRGINIA RAILWAY'S STEAMER LOVE POINT
"THE LOVE POINT TRIP"



LET US HEAR FROM YOU!!!! Please contact KIHS if you have comments on items in Isle of Kent 1631 or if you have questions about Kent Island history that we can try to answer. We welcome topics you would find of interest and especially information you can provide for future issues. Contact: John Conley: jconcomm@gmail.com | cell: 703-216-0449