



CALVERT HOUSE NEWS



ISSUE 3, VOLUME 5

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2011



Manager's Corner

Earthquakes! Hurricanes! And just a generally stormy, wet August! Combine that with one of the hottest Julys in recent memory, and I'm sure we're all looking forward to the coming of autumn. One of the few very nice days in July we enjoyed was on the Saturday of our summer social. It was so great to see so many of you come out, catch up with neighbors and meet new ones as well. To go along with the fine weather and company, Peggy Surdyk Events provided a wonderful spread of freshly grilled bratwurst, hot dogs, lemon chicken salad, watermelon and blueberry salad and those delicious black bean roll-ups that had everyone coming back for another taste. If you couldn't make it this year, we hope to see you next year as this event keeps growing in popularity.

The portico work continues on, though quietly and peacefully enough that I've not sent out my usual update letters. For those of you that come and go from the front, you've seen that pipes have been removed and others installed. There are many custom pieces in the new ceiling that have to be specially made and they take a long lead time. The completion date right now looks to be late October. I'll send notices out as work picks up or if any pipe replacements might affect the building at large. Rest assured that the front entrance will be completed and the drive open as soon as possible, looking better than ever!

If you've not visited the newly redone sunroom, please do so! We're all spruced up and ready to entertain. In addition to a comfy seating area, there are now two tables for those that want to take their laptops to the room to work. There is wi-fi available which also works on the sundeck; just phone the front desk for the current pass code. The sunroom also has a lending library, where you can pick up a book or drop one off. Some board games have been provided as well for those that want to socialize with guests or neighbors. Please take advantage of this great space and enjoy some lovely views of the city!

Laura Berney

"If you've not visited the newly redone sunroom, please do so! We're all spruced up and ready to entertain."

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If you can name this painting (right), the artist and name its location, you may win a fabulous Calvert House Tote, an Open City Gift Card and bragging rights. A drawing from all correct



responses will determine the winner. Please submit your answer in writing to the front desk or e-mail it to

Where ART Thou?

2401.lberney@communityrealty.com by September 15th. Be sure to include your name and apartment number with your response.

Last issue's statue, chosen in honor of the 150th anniversary of the unification of Italy, was the sculpture "Sacrifice." This statue is one of two comprising "The Arts of War" (along with "Valor") and is located on the DC side of Arlington Memorial Bridge. The statues were designed by artist Leo Friedlander and were a gift to the United States from Italy and erected in 1951.



A Day Worth Remembering



This September 11th marks the 10-year anniversary of the Al Qaeda terrorist attacks on the United States that targeted New York City and Washington,

DC. It was a seminal moment for those who experienced the day, much likened to John Kennedy's assassination, where each person can recall every detail of when they heard the news. Memories of 9/11/2001 remain vivid. For some it's the images on the television news of the plane hitting the World Trade Center, of its collapse soon after, or of the legions of brave fire and rescue workers fighting to move towards buildings that others were fleeing. Some best recall the feelings of that morning, the uncertainty, the shock, the fear, the sorrow.

Those of us in DC might remember

the fortress-like Pentagon having been hit and the panic of thinking what plane might come towards the city next and from where (before confirmation that all flights were down). The strange sight of uniformed men with M-16s on corners in downtown DC from Pennsylvania Avenue to K Street and the thunderous sounds of low-flying F-16 fighter jets patrolling over Washington made the day seem surreal.

Most reached out to friends and family and took comfort when they were found safe or simply took comfort in the contact with those they loved. For the family and friends of the nearly 3,000 people who died that day, comfort was harder to come by. The world changed in a moment for them and in the 10 years that followed; the world has continued to change for everyone. This Patriot's Day, September 11, 2011 remember the events of 10 years ago and how it continues to affect us still. A long memory is one of the best assurances that such a day will not reoccur.

Put Your Best Face Forward!

While costumed festivities have a long history, the specific idea of the Halloween costume is a relatively new sensation. Some say they date back to old Roman/Northern European and Celtic festivals

like Samhain, where revelers wore masks to 'hide' from ghosts and evil spirits that might do them harm. Others insist that the idea wasn't properly introduced until immigrant populations to America began the custom of 'guising' or trick or treating, the costume protecting their identity should a trick become necessary. But wherever it got its start, there is no doubting its popularity! Today the

holiday is the second largest commercial holiday in the US with 6.9 billion dollars being spent annually, much of that on

costumes. So indulge your inner child this year and dress up and join all

"Clothes make a statement. Costumes tell a story."

Mason Cooley

the other revelers!

For some great costumed events, check out about.dc.com for details on these area happenings: Night of the Living Zoo, Clarendan Ballroom Halloween Monster Bash, Nightmare on "M" Street, Surreal DC: A Magical Halloween Masquerade and the Halloween Bash at the Historical Society of DC.

Details

If you are a new or prospective resident to Calvert House, we're glad you've visited and/or made your home with us. We know you have choices, and we thank you for making our home your home. Please contact the front desk and office staff with any questions you might have about the building, amenities, or policies. We are here to help you 24 hours a day.

We're Online

www.calverthousedc.com
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Office Hours

Monday to Friday.....9 AM to 5:30 PM
Saturday.....10 AM to 5 PM
Sunday.....11 AM to 4 PM

Calvert House Staff

Community Manager.....Laura Berney
Assistant Community Manager.....
Rosalind Faulkner
Leasing Specialist.....Frank Kramarik
Lead Engineer.....Wayne Parker
Engineer Assistant.....José Peña



Olivia's Moved In

There's another new canine in the building. A small dog named Olivia moved in recently. While we continue to be a "cat only" building, Olivia is a medical assistance animal, meeting the legal requirements under the Fair Housing Act of 1988, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please continue to report any unauthorized animal to the office.

Bounty from the Bay and Beyond



Time was you were only supposed to eat oysters in months *ending* with the letter “r” (September, October, November & December). That was later amended to include months *containing* the letter “r” (January, February, March and April). This left only the mostly hot months of May, June, July and August as months to abstain from this tasty, but potentially dangerous, treat. The dangers of eating oysters are real, if overblown. Pathogens, such as *vibrio vulnificus*, as well as a buildup of toxins can cause serious illness and even death. It’s still a good idea to pass on a wild, locally harvested Gulf Coast oyster in August. However, nowadays, with oysters being farmed and flown from cold waters all over the world, oyster lovers can make safe and careful selections and enjoy oysters all year round.

The Chesapeake Bay was once considered the largest oyster-bearing body of water in the world. The abundance of oysters was in the billions, and early English explorer John Smith described spots where one could walk areas of the bay and hardly get wet if they kept on top of the oyster beds. Indeed the name “Chesapeake” is from the Algonquian for “Great Shellfish Bay,” which also alludes to the once-bountiful blue crab populations. These shellfish populations were water cleaners and responsible for the crystal clear waters the Chesapeake was once famous for, visibility from the surface reaching depths of 20 feet on sunny days. Due to environmental toxins, loss of habitat and over-fishing, the oyster population in the bay is much depleted. Where it once took

three to four days for the bay’s oysters to filter the entire bay, it now takes one year.

But not to despair! Oysters are a sustainable seafood success story! Easily farmed with little impact to the environment, many oyster farmers are giving back to the wild populations and cultivating varieties on the verge of collapse. Oyster farms are providing shells to help build beds in protected areas thus encouraging wild oysters to grow in numbers. Best of all they are providing many varieties of healthy, fresh oysters to restaurants all over the DC area!

Purists will tell you the only way to truly appreciate an oyster is raw on the half shell. Some will concede a bit of lemon, Worcestershire, cocktail or mignonette sauce might not be horrible, as long as you don’t overdo it and lose the taste of the oyster itself. Each

variety of oyster has its own character. Salty, sweet, tangy, tasting of the sea or minerals, soft and mellow as a melon, crisp and sharp as an apple, each type has something more to offer than just a

vehicle for the condiment. Even if you are one who normally likes their oysters fried, stewed or Rockafellered, perhaps it’s time to open a crisp white wine and get a plate of oysters on the half shell. After all, they’re in season!



“He was a bold man that first ate an oyster.”

Jonathan Swift

GREAT PLACES TO EAT OYSTERS

Hot N Juicy Crawfish (Woodley Park)—Just across the avenue from CH, this casual Cajun eatery offers oysters on the half shell by the dozen or half. hotnjuicycrawfish.com.

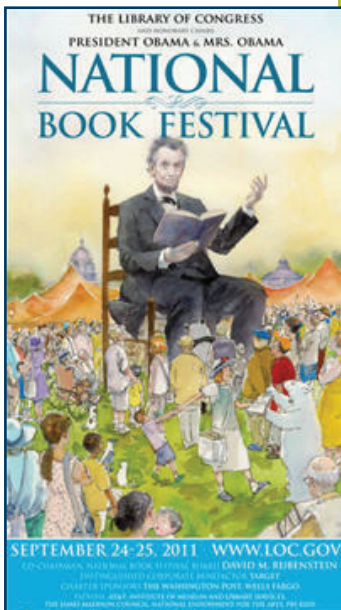
Tackle Box (Cleveland Park)—This New England-style sustainable seafood fish house offers a selection of fresh oysters on the half shell. Happy hour specials include \$1.00 oyster specials. tackleboxrestaurant.com.

Hank’s Oyster Bar (Dupont Circle)—When you put *Oyster Bar* right in the name of your restaurant, you know folks will be expecting you to deliver the best, and Hank’s does not disappoint! hanksc.com

Old Ebbitt Grill (Downtown)—A Washington institution since 1856 and the spot where many a Washingtonian ate their first oyster, Old Ebbitt’s is also host to their famous all-you-can-eat Oyster Riot held Thanksgiving week. Tickets go on sale September 6th and always sell out fast. Visit ebbitt.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
September Events				1 Rent is due	2	3
4	5 Labor Day Office Closed	6 Rent is late Late fees due	7	8	9	10
11 Patriot's Day Grandparent's Day	12	13 Full Moon	14 Breakfast to Go	15	16 Mexican Independence Day	
18	19	20	21	22	23 Autumn Begins	
25 		27	28 Rosh Hashanah begins at sundown New Moon	29 Rosh Hashanah	30 	

September/October Festivals and Events



- St. Mary's County Oyster Fest**—Oysters served raw, scalded, grilled, on bread, on the half shell, stewed, cooked in sauces, in salads, even in desserts, and more. Come for the shucking contest and the oyster-cooking cook-off. This year's festival will be held on Saturday and Sunday, October 16th and 17th at the County Fairgrounds on Route 5, just south of Leonardtown. oysterfest.com
- DC Fashion Week**—DC Fashion Week highlights fashion design, clothing merchandising and modeling; it also enhances the visibility of the nation's capital as a center of international fashion. DC Fashion Week spotlights world cultures on American fashion, proving fashion can be done with ecology and fair trade in mind. This month, Fashion Week will present an exclusive men's fashion show and feature a mesmerizing International Couture Collection at the French Embassy. dcfashionweek.org

- White House Fall Garden Tours**—Held from 10 AM to 4 PM on Saturday and Sunday, October 17th and 18th. The gardens on this unique tour include: Jacqueline Kennedy Garden, Rose Garden, Children's Garden, and the South Lawn of the White House. The National Park Service will distribute free, timed tickets at the Ellipse Visitor Pavilion located at 15th and E Streets on each tour day beginning at 8 AM. Tickets will be distributed—one ticket per person—on a first-come, first-served basis. whitehouse.gov
- National Book Festival**—Now a two-day event on the National Mall, this celebration of the joy of books and reading is sponsored by the Library of Congress. The event gives attendees the opportunity to visit with more than 80 award-winning authors, illustrators and poets who will talk about and sign their books. Join the fun on September 24th and 25th. loc.gov/bookfest.

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