Thursday, January 10, 2019
HISTORIC BALTIMORE: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

Johns W. Hopkins

Baltimore has bragging rights to great historic architecture and wonderful historic neighborhoods. The places that shaped our city in the past, however, are not just nostalgic keepsakes. From former mill complexes along the Jones Falls River to row houses in center-city neighborhoods, Baltimore’s historic places are at the core of the city’s ongoing revitalization. Come poke into the nooks and crannies of historic Baltimore with Mr. Johns W. Hopkins, executive director of Baltimore Heritage, Inc.

Johns Hopkins has been the executive director of Baltimore Heritage since 2003, where he works to preserve historic buildings and revitalize historic neighborhoods in Baltimore. He sits on the board of directors of Civic Works, the Coppin Heights Community Development Fund, the Garrett Jacobs Mansion Endowment fund, the friends of Clifton Mansion, Corpus Christi Building Fund, and the GreenMount School, where his two children attend.

Tuesday, January 29, 2019
WHEN WAVERLY WAS THE CAPITAL OF BALTIMORE

Paul Gunning

During the period following WWII, Waverly went from a village to a social and economic hub of Baltimore. Much of its growth was based on three factors: 1) the growth of the surrounding residential neighborhoods; 2) the easy access to shopping through public transportation; 3) the Memorial Stadium which attracted major professional sports teams. Waverly was a self-contained area able to provide a full range of goods and services within walking distance or easy access by public transportation to all parts of Baltimore and surrounding counties. Learn about the heyday of this Baltimore neighborhood.

Paul Gunning is a retired clinical social worker who resides in York, Pennsylvania. A Baltimore native, his family was rooted in the Waverly neighborhood which sparked his interest in researching the history of this Baltimore neighborhood.

Thursday, January 31, 2019
“FREE BLACKS AND SLAVES ON MARYLAND’S EASTERN SHORE”: FROM LECTURE HALL TO BOOK STORE

Jacqueline Hedberg

In the fall semesters of 2017 and 2018, Jacqueline Hedberg taught a class at Osher entitled “Free Blacks and Slaves on Maryland’s Eastern Shore.” After this class, some of her students suggested that she have the lessons published. On January 21, 2019 (Martin Luther King Jr. Day), The History Press of Charleston, South Carolina, will release Jacqui’s four lectures in book form under the title Plantations, Slavery and Freedom on Maryland’s Eastern Shore. Come and learn how this book came to be created—from Jacqui’s passion for history to the book’s final publication. Discover the process by which a book is created. Book sales and signings will follow the talk.

Jacqueline Hedberg taught history in Baltimore County and for the Department of Defense in Germany and Japan. Since retiring, she has spearheaded the restoration of an historic graveyard on Hoopers Island, where she was born, and has written extensively about her birthplace. Hoopers Island’s Changing Face (Arcadia), was published in 2016. She has lectured at the Maryland Genealogical Society and the Dorchester County Historical Society. She is a charter member of Osher at Towson University.
MARYLAND’S ICONIC PREAKNESS STAKES

Karin DeFrancis

Poet Ogden Nash once opined "The Derby is a race of aristocratic sleekness for horses of worth to probe their birth to run in The Preakness". First run in 1873 at historic Pimlico Race Course, the Preakness has now touched three centuries, and will celebrate its 144th running May 18, 2019. A great Maryland treasure that propels the State, and it's hometown, Baltimore City, on the world's stage every third Saturday in May, the Preakness is a tremendous source of pride for the Maryland Jockey Club—North America's oldest sporting institution—and carries a legacy of wonderful stories, charming anecdotes, significant economic impact and massive preparation as the "Middle Jewel" of Thoroughbred horse racing's storied Triple Crown.

Karin DeFrancis is the daughter of the late Frank J. DeFrancis, former President of the Maryland Jockey Club. During her family’s ownership of the Maryland Jockey Club, Karin oversaw marketing, media, special events and public relations for Laurel Park and Pimlico Race Course, and as executive vice president, the operation and growth of the Preakness Stakes. Karin won an Eclipse Award for local television as executive producer of “The Preakness: An American Classic”. She recently resigned as consultant to Maryland Jockey Club to focus on documentary film making and animal rescue advocacy.

HIT & STAY: DOCUMENTARY AND DISCUSSION

Joe Tropea and Skizz Cyzyk

Join filmmakers, Joe Tropea and Skizz Cyzyk, for a screening of their award winning documentary, Hit & Stay, followed by a discussion. This film chronicles the actions of the Catonsville Nine and the Baltimore Four, protesters against the Vietnam War. Learn how the actions of these two local groups shaped the anti-war movement. Between 1967—1972, there were hundreds of acts of civil disobedience against U.S. draft boards and the Dow Chemical Co., resulting in the destruction of hundreds of thousands of 1-A draft files and the orderly process of the U.S. government’s ability to wage war in Vietnam. Hit & Stay portrays the hidden history of the Action Community and the raids they staged that turned priests, nuns, and college students into fugitives and targets of the FBI.

Joe Tropea (director, producer, writer) is a filmmaker and historian based in Baltimore. Tropea has worked as a journalist, videographer, and editor for Baltimore’s City Paper. He is currently the curator of films and photographs for Maryland Historical Society. Skizz Cyzyk (director, editor, director of photography, writer) has been making films since 1983. He founded and directed the beloved underground/DIY festival, MicroCineFest, worked as lead programmer for Maryland Film Festival, and has served for many years on the staff and advisory board of Slamdance.

GREEN MOUNT CEMETERY AND BEYOND—WHO’S BURIED IN BALTIMORE?

Wayne Schaumburg

Opened in 1839, the historic Green Mount Cemetery was Baltimore's first urban-rural or garden cemetery that is a burial place with a park-like setting located just outside the city. Organized in 1838 by a group of seven Baltimore gentlemen, Green Mount would be non-profit, privately owned, and open to anyone regardless of race, religion, or nationality. The cemetery includes 68 acres of land that was once part of a country estate owned by merchant Robert Oliver and called "Green Mount." Today it is the final resting place of Johns Hopkins, Mary Elizabeth Garrett, Enoch Pratt, William and Henry Walters, Betsy Patterson Bonaparte, Moses Sheppard, Albert Ritchie, Theodore McKeldin, Harriett Lane Johnston, John H. B. Latrobe, A. Aubrey Bodine, John Wilkes Booth, Walter Lord, and many more.

Wayne Schaumburg is a native Baltimorean with graduate degrees from Morgan State University and Johns Hopkins University. He taught social studies in the Baltimore City Public School system for 39 years before retiring in 2007. For the last 24 years, Wayne has led tours through one of his favorite city landmarks, Green Mount Cemetery.

Free and Open to Osher Members

Please RSVP by emailing Shelby Jones at sjones@towson.edu or calling 410-704-3688