

Hello all,

Late September saw RAAC's annual members' picnic held at the lovely home of Linda and Bill Diétel. Many of you were there to enjoy a perfect fall day visiting with friends, enjoying music provided by Mandalele, and walking the beautiful grounds. Over the years Linda and Bill have hosted RAAC on many occasions - Soup & Soul events, dinners, and numerous committee meetings. Our many thanks to both for their generous hospitality.

RAAC's Appreciation Award was presented to Sallie Morgan at the picnic for 18 years dedicated to chairing the Second Friday at the Library Series. Sallie developed the series into a very popular event by bringing noted authors and other engaging speakers on topics of interest to the Rappahannock community. Thanks, Sallie, for making the Library Series a vital part of RAAC.

Joanne Hilty, President, RAAC

RAAC Newsletter

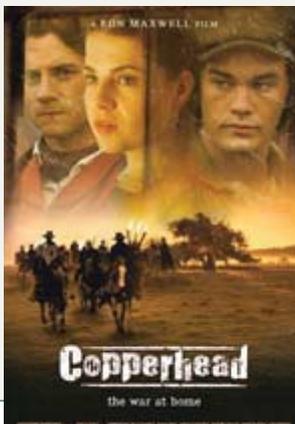
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First Friday at the Movies: "Copperhead"

**Fri, Oct 4, 8pm, \$6, at The Theatre At Washington
291 Gay St., Washington, VA
Directed by Ronald F. Maxwell
Starring Francois Arnaud, Billy Campbell, Angus
MacFadyen, Peter Fonda, Lucy Boynton
Rated PG; 120 minutes**

Beyond "Gettysburg" and other epic battlefields, "Copperhead" takes us into the battle for the hearts and minds of the North and explores the limits of dissent. Adapted from a 19th century



work of fiction, the movie is based on a part of American history unfamiliar to most Americans.

The main character is anti-war and seeks a non-violent solution to slavery and the preservation of the Union. His radical, pro-war neighbors are intolerant of any diversity of opinion and falsely accuse him of being a southern sympathizer and an enemy of the state. This narrative tells a story we haven't seen before and creates a world that films have rarely shown us.

Immediately following the film, John B. Henry, a Civil War historian and Rappahannock resident, will take questions from the audience. John recently moderated a discussion following a showing of "Copperhead" in Alexandria with Director Maxwell and Sidney Blumenthal, who is currently writing a biography on Abraham Lincoln.

Upcoming movie: "Quartet" will be shown on November 1. For more information, visit [RAAC's film page](#).

**Second Friday at the Library Speaker Series:
Author Tom Oliphant**

Fri, Oct 11, 8pm, at the Rappahannock County Library

RAAC welcomes best-selling author Tom Oliphant as the featured speaker at RAAC's Second Friday at the Library Series. Oliphant will discuss his newest book, "Baseball as a Road to God," which he calls "a mischievous way of examining some of the essential religious themes."

Oliphant and his co-author John Sexton take up such mysteries as faith, hope, doubt, and community, and they use baseball as their way in. A look at saints and sinners, for example, proceeds by way of two iconic stars of baseball's early days, the universally admired Christy Mathewson and villainous Ty Cobb.

Oliphant notes gleefully that baseball fans often talk about "miracles," even if they do not have a religious bone in their bodies. "There really are things that defy explanation," he says, and baseball can help explore those riddles.

The book grew out of an immensely popular theology course at New York University taught for many years by Sexton (who is also the university president). Each year Oliphant, an acclaimed journalist for 45 years and a devout baseball fan since boyhood, joins Sexton for some of the classes.

Oliphant, who lives in Rappahannock and in Washington, DC, was for many decades a Washington correspondent for the Boston Globe and then a syndicated columnist. He has covered the last eleven presidential campaigns and is a fixture on the PBS NewsHour and Sunday talk shows. He was the first reporter to write about the Pentagon Papers, and he was part of a Pulitzer Prize-winning team covering school desegregation in Boston.

In 2005, Oliphant wrote another best-seller with a baseball theme. "Praying for Gil Hodges" was about growing up in New York City and rooting for the Brooklyn Dodgers. He has made his living as a close observer of the political scene, Oliphant notes, but lately baseball has provided a welcome refuge.



More scheduled speakers:

Friday, November 8, 2013, 8pm
 Marion Winik, author, "Highs in the Low Fifties"

Friday, December 13, 2013, 8pm
 Doug Norton, climate change, and photographer

Visit [RAAC's Second Friday at the Library webpage](#) for additional information as it becomes available.



**RAAC Community Theatre:
 "No Ordinary Person"**

Fri-Sat, Oct 18 & 19, 8pm, \$15
Directed by Joyce Abell and Sallie Morgan
310 Gay Street, Washington, VA

For the past 15 years, Joyce Abell has been talent scout, coach, editor, producer, and director for the unique Rappahannock show known as "No Ordinary Person." This annual evening of autobiographical stories grew out of the Life Stories workshops offered for several years by Julie Portman. It was Abell who envisioned bringing personal stories told by local residents to the stage to share with the whole community, and along with directing, she has also performed in almost every show herself.

This year, to celebrate the show's 15th anniversary, Abell and co-director Sallie Morgan wanted to honor the rich legacy of past stories along with the introduction of new work. **So for the first time, the RAAC Community Theatre is offering two different programs, with one set of storytellers appearing on Friday and a second group performing on Saturday.** Each evening will include some former stories from the past as well as some new tales. As always, these stories are drawn from a wide variety of life experiences, blending humor, grief, discovery, and delight.



Friday's performers will be Anne Williams, Director of Mountainside Physical Therapy and Mountainside Dance Center; Rappahannock County Administrator John McCarthy; Cliff Miller, owner of Mount Vernon Farm; and Nevill Turner, co-owner of the award-winning Virginia Chutney Company.

Williams recreates the sensory-rich world of a three year old, joyously taking in everything around her and struggling to understand the mysterious language and world of grown-ups. McCarthy, who spent part of his youth in Indonesia, recalls an encounter with a young Chinese boy that signaled the end of childhood innocence. Miller shares the deeply personal story of his father's horse, Traveler, and the painful process of saying good-bye to him after 37 years as part of the Miller family. And Turner's wide-ranging story is perhaps best described by its title: "Resume Padding and Blue Movie Stars."

Members of the cast:

Friday night. Top, left to right: John McCarthy, Nevill Turner, Anne Williams, and Cliff Miller

Saturday night. Bottom, left to right: Nevill Turner, Donald Chandler, Joyce Abell, and Nol Putnam

Performers on Saturday will include architect Donald Chandler, artist and writer Nol Putnam, writer and veteran of the RAAC stage Joyce Abell, and an encore performance by Nevill Turner.

In "Tobacco Road" Chandler paints a vivid portrait of his remarkable father and evokes both the joys and the challenges of his upbringing as the son of a sharecropper in North Carolina. Putnam and Abell, who did not know each other until they both ended up in Rappahannock, tell two quite different tales from their youths, with artist Alexander Calder playing a central role. And Nevill brings back his riotous tale about what not to do if you're running a restaurant in the Caribbean.

For reservations to the performance(s) of your choice, payments, and more information, visit the [RAAC Community Theatre webpage](#). If you wish, you may pay in advance using PayPal or a credit card. All reservations will receive an automatic confirmation; pre-payment guarantees your seat regardless of arrival time. Patrons who elect to pay at the door need to arrive no later than 10 minutes before the performance, as seats will not be held after that time. If you do not have Internet access, call 1-800-695-6075 to reserve.

The Kid Pan Alley Thanksgiving Community Sing with [Ysaye Barnwell](#), co-sponsored by RAAC, will be held Fri, Nov 29, 7-9pm at the RAAC Community Theatre. Tickets are \$20 adult and \$10 for children under 16 years. Click for [reservations](#) or go to bit.ly/ysaye13.

RAAC Theatre's holiday play, "Alice in Wonderland," is already in rehearsal. There are five shows scheduled: Dec 6, 7, 13, 14 & 15. You may reserve your tickets starting Oct 28 on the [RAAC Community Theatre webpage](#). The shows are expected to sell out quickly.

Artists of Rappahannock Studio & Gallery Tour

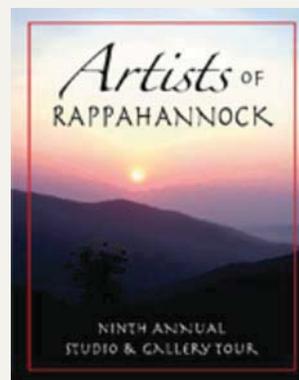
**The Tour begins at the Washington Fire Hall
Sat-Sun, Nov 2 & 3, 10am-5pm, \$10 admission**

There's only a month to go until this popular event brings nearly 1,000 art lovers to Rappahannock County! Over 50 artists are participating this year in 19 open studios and 7 galleries, including several artists new to the Tour. So don't forget to mark your calendars for November 2 & 3, and get ready to enjoy amazing artistic talent in a beautiful setting.

For a preview of the art, visit the [artists' pages](#) and [gallery pages](#) on RAAC's Tour website. For frequent updates on Tour news, artists, and preparations, "like" us on Facebook. (From your Facebook home page, search for "Artists of Rappahannock".) For information on restaurants and lodging in Rappahannock County, [click here](#).

We look forward to seeing you in November.

Erratum: *We published incorrect dates for the Tour in our last issue. November 2 & 3 are the correct dates.*





News: Mitchell Fund announces additional awards

RAAC was delighted to announce in September three additional 2013 Mitchell Fund arts awards totaling \$6,730.

Forrest Marquisee, a talented musician and videographer, will explore and document rising musical talent in Rappahannock in a video that will be posted on YouTube for a broad public audience.

The Fund is eager to support developing talent in Rappahannock. Sarah Grenzeback is an emerging artist whose funds will be applied to special classwork to refine her drawing skills.

On October 26, Peggy Shadler's performance of 1000 Faces will thrill and excite the Rappahannock community again. Peggy created and supported this very successful event for many years, and it is a privilege for the Mitchell Fund to support her performance this year.

A total of \$15,255 in Mitchell Fund grants has been awarded in 2013. Information on the 2014 awards cycle will be available soon, with detailed information to be posted to the [Mitchell Fund page on the RAAC website](#).

News: Rappahannock's Artisan Trail progresses

The Artisan Trail Management Team has begun meeting monthly to plan the development of Rappahannock's Artisan Trail. On Oct 22, 11:30 to 12:30, a "Lunch and Learn" open forum will be held at the Little Washington Winery with director Sherri Smith. Anyone who is interested in learning more about the Trail is invited. Also on Oct 22, there will be a "Naming the Trail Event" at River District Arts, 5-7pm. All residents are welcome to join in the fun and excitement of naming our trail.



Please RSVP to the "Lunch and Learn" and the "Naming of the Trail Event" to Patti Brennan at raparttrail@gmail.com.

Mark Your Calendar!

**For all the details, additions, and changes, visit [RAAC's calendar](#).
More events are in planning and will be added soon.**

- Oct 4**, Fri, 8 pm, First Friday at the Movies, "Copperhead"
- Oct 11**, Fri, 8 pm, Second Friday at the Library, author Tom Oliphant
- Oct 18 & 19**, Fri & Sat, 8 pm, RAAC Community Theatre, "No Ordinary Person"
- Nov 1**, Fri, 8 pm, First Friday at the Movies, "Quartet"
- Nov 2 & 3**, Sat & Sun, 10 am-5 pm, Artists of Rappahannock Studio & Gallery Tour
- Nov 8**, Second Friday at the Library, author Marion Winik
- Nov 29**, Fri, 7-9 pm, Kid Pan Alley Community Sing with Ysaye Barnwell
- Dec 6**, Fri, 8 pm, RAAC Community Theatre, "Alice in Wonderland"
- Dec 7**, Sat, 3 pm, RAAC Community Theatre, "Alice in Wonderland"

Dec 13, Fri, 8 pm, RAAC Community Theatre, "Alice in Wonderland"

Dec 13, Second Friday at the Library Series, photographer Doug Norton

Dec 14, Sat, 3 pm, RAAC Community Theatre, "Alice in Wonderland"

Dec 15, Sun, 3 pm, RAAC Community Theatre, "Alice in Wonderland"

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RAAC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization staffed solely by volunteers.

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