



Sister Cities

of Salisbury/Wicomico County

Fall Newsletter



Shore Bird's Stadium Sign Installation

By Tony Russo

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As part of the 2014 Youth Leadership Academy, local students dedicated a Sister Cities International display at Arthur W. Perdue Stadium.

During the summer, the students installed two directional signs celebrating Salisbury's participation in the Sister Cities International program.

Through the Foundation in Human Potential - sponsored *Make it Matter Movement*, students planned to spend the year getting in touch with their peers from various Sister Cities and developing a greater understanding of the cities' cultural differences and similarities.

Since the inauguration of the Sister Cities International directional pole, students have established a digital pen pal program where, using an anonymous Instagram account, they can stay in touch with students from Tartu.

In the coming months, they plan on reaching out to students in Salisbury, England as well.

Anyone interested in following the project can follow @sistercitiesmim on Instagram.



What are Moon Cakes?

Moon cakes are a traditional Chinese pastry generally eaten during the Mid-Autumn/Harvest Festival. The festival celebrates the Autumnal Equinox and involves family getting together to share moon cakes while watching the moon. They are round in shape, like the full moon, and consist of a pasty skin enveloping a sweet, dense filling.



Exploring Salisbury, England

Chairman of Sister Cities Association of Salisbury/Wicomico County visits Salisbury, England

In middle October, Marion Keenan had tea with Jo Broom, the Mayor of Salisbury, England and City Clerk, Reg Williams.

Matters including the size, history and some current activities of their respective cities were discussed.

Salisbury, England is one of the three sister cities to Salisbury, Maryland.

"I have visited several times before and thoroughly enjoyed my most recent week in our 'mother' Salisbury," Keenan said.

According to Keenan the current Salisbury, England is a functional, pedestrian-friendly, and lively city.

The meeting was held in a historic building called Guild Hall, which houses Mayor

Broom's offices and serves as the location for city council meetings.

During the meeting Keenan presented Mayor Broom with a gift from Mayor Ireton.

Salisbury, England maintains a rich and historical background. Read Marion Keenan's first hand account on page 3 to learn more!

Simple Moon Cake Recipe

Ingredients:

- 1/4 cup sugar
 - 2 egg yolks
 - 1/2 cup salted butter
 - 1 cup all-purpose flour
 - 1 cup of your favorite jam
- (traditionally red bean paste is used so if you want a more authentic version, you can use a can of red bean paste instead of the jam).

Directions:

1. Preheat the oven to 375 degrees.
2. Combine the butter, sugar and 1 egg yolk and stir.
3. Mix in the flour.
4. Form the dough into one large ball and wrap it in plastic wrap.
5. Refrigerate dough for half an hour.
6. Unwrap the chilled dough and form small balls in the palms of your hand.
7. Make a hole with your thumb in the center of each moon cake and fill with jam.
8. Brush each cake with the other beaten egg yolk and place on a cookie sheet.
9. Bake for about 20 minutes or just until the outside edges are slightly brown.
10. Makes 24



Visiting Our First Sister

By Marion Keenan

One of the most exciting aspects of Sister Cities is the opportunity to establish personal connections with people who live and work far from us. I recently had that opportunity while once again visiting our English “sister.”

As you read in this newsletter, I had the honor of bringing greetings from Mayor Ireton to his British counterpart, Salisbury Mayor Jo Broom and to City Clerk, Reg Williams.

Over a delightful afternoon tea in a historic room of the Guild Hall, we chatted about our long relationship as “sisters,” the memorable people we have met through that relationship, and our cities themselves.

The city has ancient roots. Built upon an Iron Age settlement,

Romans later occupied the area. Subsequently, it was known as Old Sarum. Today’s Salisbury is a vibrant, pedestrian-friendly city with every

contemporary convenience yet also with striking remnants of the pre-historic and magnificent medieval structures.

The Guild Hall itself is but one example. A tour

through it takes one back to the time when guilds laid a foundation for self-governance.

One can learn of the justice system throughout the

centuries, see paintings of the mayors over time, and reflect upon how English law and culture has been incorporated into our own.

In about 1066 the Normans conquered the area. By 1092

they had built a large cathedral in Salisbury. The area thrived.

Foundation stones for a new cathedral were laid in 1220 and it was consecrated in 1258.

The cathedral’s magnificent spire, the tallest in England, was started in 1013. It can be seen from miles around.

The cathedral also houses the world’s oldest working mechanical clock, dating from 1386.

Despite its glories, the Cathedral is a welcoming place.

During our visits there for the magnificent evensong, we were

warmly greeted, as are all

visitors.

The Cathedral’s Chapter House

has the best-preserved copy of Magna Carta.

This vellum document, written in Latin in 1215, stressed that everyone, even the king who signed it and subsequent monarchs, had to treat people fairly. No one is above the law.

2015 marks the 800th anniversary of Magna Carta.

This document has inspired not only our own country’s Bill of Rights and Constitution, but also the constitutions of many other democratic countries.

The Chapter House also has superb medieval art.

Just as in our own Salisbury and Wicomico County, the residents of our “mother” city have a renewed interest in local produce and products.

There is a lively open-air market at the Guild Hall. Farmers bring fresh produce and other vendors sell interesting and good quality items.



In more ways than one, we truly are sisters.



Photo Source: Estonianworld.com

In early September, President Obama traveled to Tallinn, Estonia and Wiltshire, England; closely passing two of Salisbury's Sister City locations: Salisbury, England and Tartu, Estonia.

Sister Cities is a nonprofit organization founded by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1956.

By creating bonds between different people around the world, Sister Cities has become an advocate of peace.

There are now programs in over 140 countries that successfully unite citizen diplomats around the world.

Estonia is a prosperous region in Northern Europe that shares many common interests and values with the United States.

In Tallinn, Estonia's capital, President Obama and the President of Estonia held a joint press conference to commemorate the 10th anniversary as NATO allies and discuss matters of security.

In Wiltshire, President Obama visited the ancient monumental site known as Stonehenge.

He was given a private tour by the curator and spent about 20 minutes exploring the giant monoliths.

President Obama Travels Near Salisbury's Sister City Locations

By Madelyn Granger

Salisbury has a sister relationship with Tartu, the second largest city in Estonia.

Tartu is often referred as the intellectual and cultural hub of Estonia.

While in Tallinn, President Obama was less than 3 hours away from Tartu.

At Stonehenge, President Obama was about 30 minutes away from another Sister City known as Salisbury, England.

Salisbury, England possesses the first UK cathedral school, founded in 1091. It also has the best preserved of the four original Magna Carta.

As Sister Cities, Tartu and Salisbury support cultural understanding and education through PenPal programs and study abroad opportunities.

By visiting Estonia and England, President Obama set an example for other citizen diplomats and helped promote the Sister Cities vision of "global peace through mutual understanding."



Photo Source: Beforeitsnews.com

The Flag of Estonia



Why these colors?

One popular explanation derives from a poem by Martin Lipp. The blue color is explained as the vaulted blue sky above the native land. Black symbolizes attachment to the soil of the homeland as well as the fate of Estonians - for centuries black with worries. White is connected with hard work and other more abstract human values.

Source: www.estinst.ee

Mayor Ireton Meets With International Students

During October, in the Council Chambers of the Government Office Building, Mayor Ireton met with Salisbury University's International Students to discuss the workings of the city government.

Mayor Ireton made the meeting personal and relaxed by joking with the students and opening the floor up for any questions.

He showed his teacher side by individually calling on students if they had not yet asked a question.

After the group shot was taken, everyone had the opportunity to take an individual picture with the mayor.

Before leaving for his next appointment, Mayor Ireton presented the international students with Salisbury decals and keys to the city.

Refreshments were enjoyed as the students continued conversing about this great experience.

(Photo Credit: Tony Russo)





(Photo Credit: Tony Russo)

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