



# The Villager

Newsletter of the Davidsonville Area Civic Association

Vol. 38, No. 6

P. O. Box 222, Davidsonville, Maryland 21035

March-April 2012

FREE ADMISSION!!

**DACA**  
**Green** Expo  
2012  
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INFORMATION: [www.daca-md.org](http://www.daca-md.org) or email to [greenexpo@daca-md.org](mailto:greenexpo@daca-md.org)

### DACA members and their contributions

Thanks to Frances Canavan, Barnes and Mariana Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel O'Donnell, Ken and Debbie Rubin, Mike and Peggy Wormwood, Janet Zaccari, and Paul and Lorraine Zublionis for their generous contributions in addition to renewing their membership in DACA. Thanks also to Natalia Bassford whose generous contribution entitles her to a lifelong membership.

Member responses to emailed January-February issue:

It looks wonderful Gail. Thanks again; love the colors!!  
Jan Sheppard

Will & Gail: I must comment that I think the Jan-Feb *Villager* just published is terrific, containing interesting and valuable information.  
Well done, Phil

Gail, Thank you for your efforts. I always enjoy reading your publication and I recently acquired a large job from a Davidsonville resident who saw the ad in *The Villager*. Thank you, Ray Alcorn *Music to my ears! Editor*

Gail thank you! *The Villager* is getting better and better! Good job Gail.  
RAC

Interest: The health and wellbeing of the people and animals living in Davidsonville. I believe DACA is doing a wonderful job helping both.  
Natalia

Thank you so much! There is a line about membership. Since we get it by e-mail we do not have the expiration date printed on top of the mailing label. Could you tell us when our membership expires? Thank you so much!  
Pallaro & Sonneborn

Gail - Can you tell me when our subscription expires? I looked at the address "label" of the newsletter but can't figure out the coding. It shows 1 3 198

I look forward to the *Villager*. The articles are always timely and the formatting is great! Thanks for doing such a terrific job.  
Cassandra Rice

Thank you all for your kind words and good thoughts. I am grateful for your feedback. I am still working on the mailing list expiration dates. I have them correct, mostly I guess, on my membership list, but the Excel spreadsheet I send to the printer is a challenge for me.  
Gail

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 Sustainable Resource Management, Inc.  
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 Arlington Echo Outdoor Education Center  
 Chesapeake Bay Foundation  
 Chesapeake Ecology Center RainScaping Campaign  
 Davidsonville Elementary School Green Club  
 Fairhaven School  
 Jug Bay Wetland Sanctuary  
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DACA thanks Elvia Thompson of Stellar Presentations for her exceptional work in making this community event possible, as well as the DACA Green Expo committee members who concentrated on producing the Green Expo.

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- Infrared Tools
- Homestead Gardens
- Killarney House
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Special thanks to Davidsonville Ruritan Club's President Russ Smith

State Senator Ed Reilly and former State Delegate Virginia Claggett will be among our shining stars, along with the Composters to make wonderful music for our country event.

See the school children's poster contest entries, judged by Bea Poulin, South County Community and Constituent Services Specialist and President of the Muddy Creek Artists Guild, and Jean Smith. Winners will receive gift certificates to Killarney House.

**Door Prizes!** Sign in at the entrance and pick up a chance on the door prizes: \$50 gift certificates to be used at Killarney House, Ciminelli Landscaping, Homestead Gardens, Tilden Lawn, or Infrared Tools. Use this opportunity to join your civic association. Ruritan Club would be delighted to welcome new members as well.

**Food and drink!** Robert Carobrese will be in the kitchen with A Little Taste of Italy; Ruritan Club President Russ Brown will have good beer for sale.

**Free tree seedlings!** DACA will give away white oaks, pin oaks, and redbuds to grace your lawn for many years to come.

Children will enjoy the scavenger hunt, face painting, and admire the Eco-Goats.



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**DACA on the roads**

The County must replace the bridge over Davidsonville Branch on Wayson Road between Roedown Farm and the DFRC. The County can get federal funds to assist construction if they make the bridge wide enough to meet federal specifications. Under those specifications, heavy trucks would no longer be prohibited from using Wayson Road based on the weight limit of the old bridge. DACA's concern was whether to risk the loss federal funding by banning heavy truck traffic on that road. President Will Biddle had to reply to the Public Advisory Board with DACA's position on banning heavy trucks on a country road.

In a split decision, the DACA board narrowly voted in favor of asking the Public Advisory Board to incorporate language in their recommendation to Department of Public Works, that DACA would support the widening the bridge to federal requirements if, and only if, heavy truck traffic is still prohibited from using Wayson Road.

The Woodland Beach Fire Department bought the R-1 zoned property on the southwest corner of Rte #2 and #214 to build a new fire house. The problem there is access to water for the fire company. The county water main runs down the north side of #214; therefore the fire department can legally tap into that line by drilling under the road surface to access it. DACA's board voted to send a letter to the Department of Public Works stating that we

have no objections to construction of a new fire house in that location.

Ed Woods reported that expansion of the Davidsonville Park & Ride lot is expected to start this summer. The state owns the old Davidsonville Road roadway property south of the lot. In the meantime, a sign posted there says, "When lot is full, go to Truman lot." Even when Davidsonville's lot is full empty spaces are available at the lot on Harry Truman Parkway.

The South River Federation received a grant from the Chesapeake Bay Trust to clean up the pond at Davidsonville Wildlife Sanctuary. It will make it nicer for the animals and prevent excess water from running into the streams. Stormwater management construction is in the permitting process. DACA contributed \$200 to the Davidsonville Wildlife Sanctuary.

**Mailing DACA's Villager; Annual Meeting**

DACA will hold the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of its general membership on June 7<sup>th</sup>. In order to cast a vote at the meeting, you must be a member and pay dues by May 7. Each year the March-April issue is sent to all postal patrons in Davidsonville's 21035 zip code to inform new residents about DACA and invite them to join their civic association. Memberships will gratefully be accepted at the Green Expo on March 17<sup>th</sup>.

Harwood Civic Association and DACA vs. Anne Arundel County

DACA and other civic associations and individual plaintiffs have entered a suit against the County challenging several zoning changes made by the County Council in Districts Six and Seven during the Comprehensive Re-zoning process. The purpose is to make every possible effort to keep South County rural. Similar suits are being brought against the Frederick County Council and Queen Anne's County Council.

Russ Stevenson of the Chesapeake Legal Alliance represents DACA, Harwood Civic Association, and the other plaintiffs. In November he wrote, "One particularly good piece of news is that I have found an excellent expert witness who is willing to help us on a pro bono basis. It appears that the Queen Anne's County Council just did the same thing (wrongly upzoning property) with respect to a very large tract of land that their comprehensive plan says should remain agricultural, ...and it is likely that we will be able to cooperate to some extent."

The suit alleges that the Comprehensive Re-zoning Bill 44-11 for Districts Six and Seven failed to implement and is inconsistent with the County's General Development Plan, and therefore violates the Maryland Annotated Code and Section 18-2-102 of the Anne Arundel County Code. It alleges also that the County Council, in overriding the veto of ten amendments, acted in an arbitrary, capricious, and unreasonable manner in violation of Maryland law. The ten vetoed amendments affect re-zoned properties in South County, Gambrills, and Edgewater. (The property on the southwest corner of Route #2 and #214, re-zoned from RA to R-1, has been bought by the Woodland Beach Fire Department. See article on page 6.) Some of the property owners who received the up-zoning for which they applied have entered the suit as Intervenor, seeking to dismiss the suit, claiming that the plaintiffs lack standing in the issue. Thanks to HCA newsletter for information.

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Four Legs Animal Hospital

Spring breeding season is upon us, including feral cats. Unfortunately, there are more cats than homes willing and able to care for them. The plight of the homeless cat is an increasing concern to many, and the cat breeding season starts again in spring. The health and wellbeing of the people and animals living in Davidsonville are very closely linked.

As a community service, Four Legs Animal Hospital is offering Cat-SNIP (Spay Neuter Initiative Program), our low cost spay/neuter option for local feral, homeless, and barn cats. The cost is \$40 for males, \$55 for females and includes a brief exam, surgical sterilization under anesthesia with pain medication, and a rabies vaccination. Humane traps are available with a deposit. Please help us decrease the number of homeless cats, and improve the health of these wonderful animals in our community. Call Four Legs Animal Hospital at 410-798-5222 with your questions about Cat-Snip, tips on catching these little guys, or to schedule an appointment.

**Be an Election Judge**

The Anne Arundel County Board of Elections plans to hire 3,500 election judges for the Presidential primary Election to be held on April 3, 2012 and the Presidential General Election to be held November 6, 2012, in 189 precincts throughout Anne Arundel County. Given the need for highly motivated and dependable workers, the Board of Elections is reaching out to the community for assistance. The election judges who staff the polling places are a very important part of the electoral process. They are responsible for administering the actual voting procedures in each precinct.

For more information, contact the AA County Board of Elections at 410-222-6600, ext. 3139 and ask for the Election Judge Department, or visit the web site at [www.aacounty.org/elections](http://www.aacounty.org/elections) and complete the Election Judge application at the bottom of the home page. To apply, please send a resume and cover letter to David Garreis at [dgarreis@aacounty.org](mailto:dgarreis@aacounty.org).

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Before he has to make his rounds the long-eared rabbit invites you to lunch and hunt for eggs!

Saturday, March 31, 2012

Lunch and crafts

11:00 a.m. to 12:00

Lunch includes hot dog, chips, drink, cookies and treat bag.

Put your photo with the Bunny in a frame you create!

Noon: Egg Hunt for children up to 12 years old

\$5.00 per person of ANY age for lunch and photo

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**Where can we turn for help on zoning issues? Growth Action Network**

**G**rowth Action Network (GAN) is a grassroots coalition of environmentalists, community associations and individuals who educate and advocate that new development belongs where infrastructure already exists and where it will not harm water quality and the environment.

The mission of the Growth Action Network is to involve citizens of Anne Arundel County in the planning process and in advocacy to allow growth only where infrastructure is sufficient, and natural resources (including water and air quality) are protected, so that all growth will enhance the quality of life in the county for the benefit of residents and businesses.

GAN began in the summer of 2007 when about 40 individuals concerned about growth in Anne Arundel County were convened by the Arnold Preservation Council to see how “smart growth” could be supported. A Coordinating Council was formed to run the coalition by consensus. Now more than 120 members of GAN represent thousands of County residents. Members share information and work together as needed.

**Growth Principles**

- Strengthen county infrastructure
- Clean up watersheds and waterways
- Reuse existing structures
- Develop transit for Anne Arundel County

Plan for workforce housing near jobs, integrated with market housing

Protect remaining farms, forests and open space

**Early accomplishments**

Brought Eben Fodor, author of *Better Not Bigger*, to lead a day-long workshop on tools needed to manage growth

Convinced the County Administration to include a citizen panel in the fashioning of the County’s General Development Plan

Led the effort to establish reasonable impact fees so that development is not subsidized by taxpayers

Initiated regular meetings with the Director of Planning and Zoning

**In 2011**, GAN led community workshops from Linthicum to South County to prepare for the yearlong Comprehensive Rezoning of the County.

Prepared a letter to County Council signed by 24 members stressing the legal requirement to rezone only when consistent with small area plans of the General Development Plan (*see page 7*).

Assisted communities and individuals preparing testimony before the County Council

Worked with members in South County who sued the County Council for failure to follow the South County Small Area Plan represented in the case by the Chesapeake Legal Alliance. (*Please turn to page 12*)



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Wednesday	10:00-5:00
Thursday	10:00-7:00
Friday	10:00-5:00
Saturday	10:00-5:00

**South River Federation Events for volunteers**

Jennifer Carr, volunteer coordinator for the SRF, attended DACA's Executive Committee meeting in March to speak about the work the Federation is conducting. You can meet her as she will staff the Federation's table at DACA's Green Expo on March 17, and eagerly tell you all about what volunteers can do for the river.

South River Federation invites you to celebrate the arrival of spring with the clean-up of Warehouse Creek on Saturday, March 31, from 10:00 until noon.

Project Clean Stream on April 14 will work on the entire Chesapeake Bay watershed.

The South River Water Quality Snapshot will be taken on April 21. SRF staff and volunteers will conduct water quality tests at 40 sites around the river to get a snapshot of its condition on that day; this provides a good general barometer of the relative health of our streams. Volunteers must attend one training session before the Snapshot.

Send an email to [jennifer@southriverfederation.net](mailto:jennifer@southriverfederation.net) to participate in any or all of these events.



**South River on the Half-Shell**

The Federation will hold its gala South River on the Half Shell at Homestead Gardens on Saturday, March 24, from 5:00 until 9:00 pm. Palate Pleasers and Chesapeake Bay oysters are on the menu. The silent auction will give you the opportunity to bid on items from art work to summer vacations to fun and foolishness for the whole family. Music will be by Scott Hymes and Ben Grant. All proceeds benefit the South River Federation and its work to protect, preserve, restore, and celebrate the South River. And it's in the midst of Homestead Gardens' gorgeous spring flower show! Go to [www.southriverfederation.net](http://www.southriverfederation.net) for more information.

**THIS SUMMER**

**Join Southdown Swim Club**

Southdown Swim Club, conveniently located near Giant Food in Edgewater, is a cooperatively-owned swimming pool. Membership is open to families from any area neighborhood, and grants the following benefits:



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**Old Time Churches and Other Inspiring Subjects.**

*“As I gazed at the details of this lovely scene, My curiosity was aroused...”*

From Juliana Walch Ammon’s “The Long Road Back”

The first lines of Mrs. Ammon’s poem could well have been quoted from her life-long friend, author and artist, Mildred Bottner Anderson. Just such curiosity and excitement at the beauty around her inspires Mrs. Anderson’s work, particularly her latest book, *Old Time Churches and Other Inspiring Subjects*.

Mildred Bottner Anderson is a fixture in the region’s arts and letters community and the greater Gambrills, Davidsonville, Crofton area. The launch of Mrs. Anderson’s second book is coincident with her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. The book is her gift to the community, her friends and family.

A collection of paintings in oil, water color and acrylic are the volume’s backbone. As one gathers from the title, Mrs. Anderson began with churches. “My friends were asking me, ‘Will you paint this church?’ or ‘that church?’ Soon I had painted 41 churches, most within an easy driving distance. In fact, with the help of Mrs. Anderson’s editor, Gail Enright, the paintings of churches are organized geographically. “You could hop in your car and drive from one church site to the next and make a lovely day of it,” Mrs. Anderson points out.

The 201 pages of *Old Time Churches and Other Inspiring Subjects* contain beautiful plates of 112 paintings. Among the flower paintings, she has captured favorite blooms and plants illustrating her own gardens and bouquets for all to enjoy.

The new book contains a variety of paintings of beautiful old homes and structures including barns, a lighthouse and scenes from Ms. Anderson’s travels in Europe. The four seasons are captured in canvases of rolling hills and farm lands. Two paintings are dedicated

to Don Riddle, founder of Homestead Gardens, recently deceased. Accompanying one of these paintings, *Homestead Llamas*, is a poem by Juliana Walch Ammon, “The Llama Girls Are Up To Something.” A tobacco barn inspired another of Mrs. Ammon’s poems, “The Long Road Back.”

As well as looking back and capturing the beauty of our past, Mrs. Anderson’s collection looks forward. She has always encouraged young people in the arts, has taught art in the public schools and also gives private lessons. Her two current students, granddaughter Katrina Marie Reinhart and Benjamin Lammers each have a painting included in *Old Time Churches...*

If you missed Mrs. Anderson’s book signings but would like to buy a copy of *Old Time Churches and Other Inspiring Subjects*, you may contact Mildred Bottner Anderson directly at 410-721-0498 or via email at [millebee@gmail.com](mailto:millebee@gmail.com). Janice F. Booth



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**Growth Action Network, (continued from page 9)  
GAN's plans for 2012:**

Conduct Advocacy Boot Camps around the County to share knowledge about the development process with citizens who are impacted.

Continue to assist communities to evaluate new development and insure that the development will not do harm to the environment.

Annual celebration and meeting with speaker to assist GAN members, the public, and county officials on how to look at growth issues strategically.

Propose key revisions to the Subdivision and Development Code to improve community meetings.

Convene a meeting on the Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance to assess its effectiveness

Work with Office of Planning and Zoning officials to improve the way comprehensive rezoning works improving notice to the public and consistency of rezoning and County plans.

**Network: Join the Action!**

The GAN Coordinating Council plans the agenda for GAN. Ann Fligsten has been hired as the Coordinator of the coalition to assist the members in their communication and actions to accomplish GAN goals.

Members are critical to its success since it is not a stand-alone organization, but an alliance of members who each take action as needed. The Arnold Preservation Council, Inc., a 501(c)3 organization, continues to be the fiscal agent for GAN and therefore contributions are tax deductible to the donor.

GAN does not charge membership dues. Instead, in 2012 it instituted an annual fund campaign to raise operating funds from members and the community at large.


To join, go to the website at [www.growthaction.net](http://www.growthaction.net) or contact Ann Fligsten 410-544-1454.

*From GAN's 2011 Annual Report.*

**In memoriam**  
**Gilda M. Zehner**  
**October 21, 1926 - February 13, 2012**  
**DACA member since 1986**  
**Beloved wife of**  
**former DACA President Martin Zehner**

**In memoriam**  
**Norma Rowe Carpenter**  
**December 27, 1910 ~ February 27, 2012**  
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**Composters sing for Green Expo**

The Composters is a band created especially for the Davidsonville Expo. Comprised of Jenn Byrne, Larry Byrne and Pete Reichwein, they have performed regularly as a trio around Annapolis under the name of Jenn, Larry and Lumpy or the Jenn Byrne Trio. Although each member sings lead, Jenn (of *Hypnotic Panties* and *Crosstown*) is the primary vocalist as well as bass player. Her voice is very versatile and she sings many styles including jazz, Brazilian, soul, ballads, old standards, contemporary styles and others. Larry (*Higher Hands*) is a very talented guitar and keyboard player, and vocalist. Rounding out the talent is Pete Reichwein (*Crosstown*), vocalist and dobro player of the group. His playing can add a twist to any song and his instrumentals are unique. The Composters will entertain you, will make you smile, even make you chuckle. So come by the Expo to visit the many green booths and displays to learn how to make your home more earth friendly. Then stop by the cafe to enjoy a bit of lunch and some music. You will be glad you did. *Bobbi Reichwein*

**Keep on recycling, and composting too!**

Once upon a time, rural areas did not have public trash collection; we had to dispose of it ourselves: throw it in a ditch on your farm; burn paper and other trash; carry the undisposable to the landfill.

Nowadays we can put our trash out for the County Department of Public Works to remove; almost every driveway has its yellow recycle bin set out on weekly pick-up days. Home compost bins are pretty common.

Starting in June, trash and recycling pick-ups will be only once a week. So be aware, and don't decorate your road front with garbage set out days before the scheduled pick-up. Only the crows, raccoons, foxes, and groundhogs approve!

**Londontowne Symphony at Homestead Gardens**

Homestead Gardens will host the Annual Gala Benefit for the Londontowne Symphony Orchestra on Tuesday, March 20. Patrons will be treated to the Spring Flower Show, music by members of the orchestra, appetizers by local restaurants, wine by Boordy Vineyards, celebrity chefs demonstrating the preparation of their favorite cuisine, an opportunity to meet orchestra members, and a silent auction featuring gifts from local businesses.

You will have a wonderful time while supporting this fine orchestra. Cocktail attire is requested. Doors are open from 6:00 until 9:00 pm. Tickets are \$35 per person or \$60 per couple. Tickets can be purchased at the door or in advance through [www.LondontowneSymphonyOrchestra.org](http://www.LondontowneSymphonyOrchestra.org) or by calling 410-562-8920.

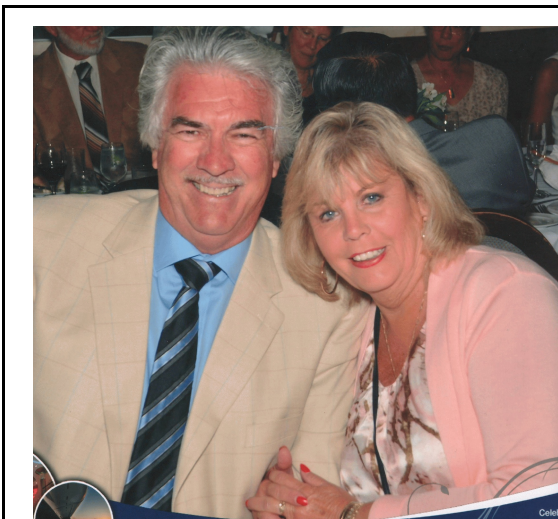
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Visit [www.jugbay.org](http://www.jugbay.org) for fees, directions and updates to the schedule. To register, call 410-741-9330 or e-mail [programs@jugbay.org](mailto:programs@jugbay.org). Programs are open to families and individuals. An adult must accompany children under 13. Please note age limits for each program. For hikes and walks, wear comfortable walking shoes and dress for the weather. Reservations and entrance fees are required for all events unless otherwise noted. Adults: \$5; Children under 18: \$3 .00; Over 60: \$3; FOJB family membership: \$25.00. Most of our projects require no experience; you come to learn!

**Equinox Hike** - Saturday, Mar 24; 5:00 – 7:30 pm

Join a volunteer naturalist to explore of the Sanctuary to celebrate the coming of Spring. Look and listen for signs of new life exploding all around us. We'll end on the Marsh Boardwalk and watch the sun set over the Patuxent. For ages ten and up.

**Herp Atlas Survey Orientation** - Saturday, Mar 31; 1:00 – 4:00 pm – Assist with the Maryland Amphibian and Reptile Atlas Survey, a five-year project to map the amphibians and reptiles within the state.

**Big Tree Hike** - Saturday, Apr 14; 10:00 am – 1:00 pm  
We will visit some of the oldest trees in the Sanctuary.

**Soup and Science: Help the Monarch Butterfly**  
Sunday, Apr 15; noon – 3:00 pm – Enjoy hearty soups, and then a presentation on the life of the Monarch butterfly. Educator Sean McGuinn will discuss the butterfly's life cycle and migration habits and the work that Anne Arundel County students are doing in the Monarch program at Arlington Echo.

**Women's Nature Retreat** - Saturday, Apr 21; 10:00 am – 2:00 pm – Relax, take a hike with a naturalist, and learn about nature journaling, along the banks of the scenic Patuxent River and surrounding forest. For adults only. Bring a bagged lunch and a water bottle. \$10 fee. Download a form at [www.jugbay.org/education](http://www.jugbay.org/education).

**Wildflower Hike** - Sunday, Apr 22; 1:00 - 4:00 pm  
Botanist Kerry Wixted will show our area's wildflowers, then take a walk to see the blooms of the day. For adults and families with children at least eight years old. Rain or shine.

**Turtles of Jug Bay** - Saturday, Apr 28; 1:00 – 3:30 pm  
The Sanctuary is a turtle hot spot, counting nine turtle species on its reptile list. We'll scour the Sanctuary to find as many as we can. For adults and children over 11.

**Pollywogs and Pond Dwellers** -- Sunday, Apr 29; 2:00 – 4:00 pm – Frogs and toads spend a good part of their lives in water as tadpoles. We'll explore the pond to find tadpoles, salamander larva, and aquatic insects. Wear shoes that can get muddy and bring a change of shoes and socks. For ages six and older.

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Vice President

Wealth Management Advisor

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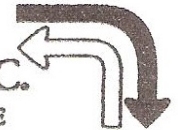


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**Baffling the Barber Beavers**

Beavers are back in the area and that is a positive sign for the South River! Situated in a flood plain with low-lying spots, Governor’s Bridge Road can flood in heavy rains or as a result of beaver activity, as in the past. Last year, the South River Federation reached out to the Department of Public Works (DPW) and asked them to consider installing a Clemson Leveling Device, also known as a beaver baffler. The device consists of a three-dimensional space which can take in water from all angles — a wide-gauge PVC pipe with holes drilled in it — and move it through the culvert under the road. The pipe is very hard for the beavers to plug completely, thus “baffling” them, and hopefully driving them elsewhere to build dams where they won’t affect the road. DPW installed this system last June on the upstream side of Governor Bridge Road to avoid future conflicts. Please remember, working towards a healthier, more swimmable and fishable river likely means a return of the wild-life that called this land home long before we did.

*Jennifer Carr, South River Federation*  
 Why are they called the “Barber beavers?” Because this is where Governor’s Bridge Road meets St. George Barber Road. *Editor*

**State legislature**

The State Legislature has four environmental protection/preservation/conservation bills awaiting votes and passage. They deal with Wind Energy; a five cent tax on plastic bags; Clean Water/Healthy Families (stormwater management); and a budget for Green Infrastructure. DACA’s Board discussed these bills briefly and voted in February to send a letter of support for all four bills.



*The Permit Connection, Inc.*

*Diane J. Schwallenberg, R.S. Terri L. McNicholas*



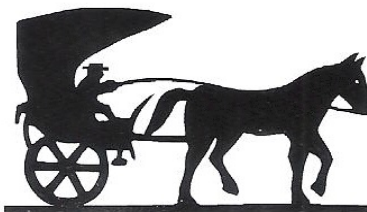
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[Theherbaltouchusa@earthlink.net](mailto:Theherbaltouchusa@earthlink.net).



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| Gail Enright | Editor   | 410-533-4766 |
|              | <a href="mailto:info@daca-md.org">info@daca-md.org</a> |              |

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Your comments, your interests?