

# The Villager

Newsletter of the Davidsonville Area Civic Association

Vol. 47, No. 2

P. O. Box 222, Davidsonville, Maryland 21035

July-August 2020

## How does DACA conduct business during the coronavirus pandemic? Remotely!

The Board of Directors met through their PCs, laptops or i-Phones in April and May, and we are taking advantage of the ability to schedule special meetings to deal with specific issues of concern, especially zoning changes, variances and special exceptions to existing zoning classifications. As issues come to the fore, the Board votes via email whether to take action, i.e., write Comments on the County's web page and/or send a letter stating DACA's position to the members of the County Council.

See page 3 for information on Council Bill 12-20, Exemption of Schools from Adequate Facilities on requirements for workforce housing development.

Go to pages 3 and 4 for an update on Bill 16-20, Assisted Living Compounds in RA Zones, on proposed regulations.



## Skip the annual meeting; vote absentee!

The annual meeting did not take place in June, nor in July. Rather than wait to see if the general member-

ship is willing to come out in August, the Board has decided to conduct a vote by email for those who have it, and by USPS mail vote for those who do not use email. After this Villager is delivered by USPS, postcard ballots will be mailed to 39 non-email users, with a three-week time limited deadline for reply. We must conduct a vote for officers and board members. For the first time, all members will have the opportunity to vote without attending an annual meeting.

All officers must be elected to a one-year term. The incumbent officers (Bruce Stein, Ed Woods, Gail Enright, and Brian Stanton) have agreed to serve another term, and volunteers may be nominated. The Board of Directors will have four slots open in the term to June 2023. Jeff Bishop, Kate Fox, and Wayne Reid have volunteered to continue in place through June 2023. DACA needs a volunteer to fill the vacant slot formerly held by Martin Zehner.



**DACA people**

Many thanks to Jennifer and Robert Dorr for renewing their dues and their generous contribution to DACA’s Scholarship Fund, and to Nick Kemp and Kay Osburnsen and Sharon Loss for their gifts in addition to renewing their memberships.

Luv our sign! Thanks to all for a job well done  
Dee & Henry Stoehr

Thank you for managing to get the Davidsonville sign done. Liked the picture in the Capital too. CV

[We] appreciate all you do Gail, for our community. MLL

We appreciate our relationship with the Villager and will continue our support. Sincerely, Gary

In all the years I have been reading the Villager, I think you outdid yourself on this issue [March-April]. I especially appreciated your article on Martin Zehner. What a wonderful man. I spoke to him many times and to say his true love was the Farmers Market was an understatement.

The scholarship article reminded me that I had promised a donation . . . to be put towards the scholarships.  
Bob B.

*Special thanks to Bob Bradshaw for his generous contribution to the Scholarship Fund and his very kind words.*

*In memoriam  
Josephine Lucente  
March 5, 1932 - June 4, 2020  
DACA member since 1979*

*In memoriam  
Annabelle King  
July 13, 1935 - June 10, 2020  
Arthur J. King  
May 15, 1924 - June 27, 2020  
Longtime former Treasurer of DACA  
Parents of DACA members Erin King Holloman  
and Maureen King Dickerson*

Thank you Gail for putting in Delegate Saab’s letter – we appreciate it! I always find good nuggets of info in the newsletter so look forward to it. Sad about Martin Zehner but what a great example of a good man, right? The sign is beautiful – way to get it done! Thanks again, and be well!  
Debbie Yatsuk, Legislative Assistant to Del. Sid Saab

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DACA’s action on Adequate Facilities

DACA’s Board voted to write to the County Council to express its opposition to passage of Bill 12-20, which would exempt schools from Adequate Facilities review for residential developments that meet the conditions for workforce housing

Introduced by Sarah Lacey, District 1, the bill would requires developers to show adequate facilities—i.e., schools—to serve the increased numbers of pupils the development would bring to that school district. DACA joined the Growth Action Network sign-on letter for that bill.

On May 26, the County Council approved Bill 12-20 as amended, to take effect on June 27. The amendments narrowed the type of workforce housing that would qualify for an exemption.

May 11, 2020

To the County Council Members,

We, the undersigned, are joined in this letter as members of Growth Action Network, asking that you not support Bill 12-20 in its current form. This bill gives an exemption to Adequate Public Facilities review to certain workforce housing developments of up to 50 units.

Workforce housing is much needed in this County, but so are limits on school capacity. The County has made good progress in bringing school capacity to more reasonable levels. If this bill is passed it may solve the problem the sponsor is seeking to solve, BUT the bill will apply countywide to all closed schools and sets a precedent for others with needed projects of different kinds.

The predictions for the number of children that would be exempted are said to be small, but there is no certainty of that; it still allows chipping away at caps on school capacity, Parents have been clear that they do not want overcrowded schools.

There must be another way to solve the problem the developer finds with a closed school where the project is planned to go. Passing this bill for a single situation is not good public policy and the signers below ask that you vote No on Bill #12-20.

Sincerely, DACA

Passed by a vote of four to three, apparently the Council felt that the need for low cost housing outweighed the possibly low numbers of school children added to the area.

Residential Group Homes

Bill 16-20, introduced by Nathan Volke, District 3, deals with Community Based Assisted Living Facilities. DACA board member Kate Fox contacted Jessica Haire, our District 7 Council member, to seek an amendment that would deal with water and sewer issues. Alerted to the bill by the Windmill Point Neighbor Association in District 3, DACA wrote to the County Council on this bill also.

The bill creates structure to eliminate many loopholes in the current code, which allows residential facilities—community assisted living, group homes, recovery homes, rooming houses—in residential districts. It was submitted in an attempt to stop development of residential living facility “campuses” (i.e., facilities on adjoining parcels) that currently are allowed in the code. This bill was amended, but not significantly. It was heard as amended, and passed by votes of Pickard, Volke, Fiedler, Rodvien, and Haire on June 15<sup>th</sup>.

The following is DACA’s letter to the County Council: Dear County Council Members:

The Davidsonville Area Civic Association (DACA) supports Bill 16-20 as amended, but we are significantly concerned that the zoning conditions in the bill are not sufficient to ensure a limited impact by these facilities (specifically Assisted Living Facilities I and Assisted Living Facilities II) on the residents of the neighborhood and/or on the environment in which they are built. There are several conditions that should be added to the bill that would alleviate DACA’s main concerns. They are:

All facilities must be on municipal water and sewer. These facilities, will use more water and produce more wastewater than the average single family home. If the source of water for a facility

(Continued on page 4)

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**Group homes zoning** (Continued from page 3)  
 comes from a well, the use could easily have an impact on neighboring residential wells. In addition, the amount of wastewater produced, if discharged to a septic system, could have a significant impact on the surficial aquifer which could adversely impact neighboring septic systems, or if located near a stream or river, cause increased discharge of wastewater from the aquifer into those water bodies.

1. For the reasons stated above regarding septic systems for these facilities, they should not be allowed in Critical Areas.

2. These facilities should not be allowed to be adjacent to each other under any circumstances, regardless of ownership. These facilities alter the nature of a neighborhood, and despite the amendments to the bill adding conditions on the concentration of these facilities on adjoining properties, there are conceivable ways that, when under separate ownership, would allow two or three adjoining facilities to be built.

3. Because these facilities significantly alter the character of a neighborhood, including additional traffic from delivery vehicles, visitors, staff, and emergency vehicles and equipment, they should be a special exception use in all residential districts in order to allow neighbors to have input into their presence in the neighborhood.

4. In addition, out of an abundance of concern for the safety of the residents of these facilities, we believe the following issues need to be addressed in the bill:

1. They must be ADA compliant,
2. These facilities must have fire exit plans; and sprinkler systems if not otherwise required.
3. The roadway serving the facility must be of adequate width to allow emergency vehicles to access and park at the facility without obstructing residential neighborhood traffic.
4. These facilities must have plans for providing adequate health and safety measures to ensure proper care of residents, in particular to limit the spread of infectious diseases, such as has been experienced with Covid-19 in other residential facilities.

We would expect that in the process of obtaining a zoning certificate for these facilities in residential districts, the above issues would be addressed; requiring them as specific conditions in the bill would ensure full compliance.

Although we support the bill, and understand it provides some structure for these facilities, it is unclear to DACA how our concerns would be satisfied in the current bill to ensure the needs of local homeowners, the protection of the environment, and the safety of the residents of these facilities. We urge you to consider additional amendments to the bill that would address DACA's concerns.

Thank you for your consideration of these issues.  
 The Board of Directors of the  
 Davidsonville Area Civic Association

Bruce Stein – President;  
 Ed Woods – Vice President

Despite DACA's concerns, the bill passed without further amendment, and Jessica Haire did vote for it.



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**Post Office Relocation update**

Richard Hancock is the Real Estate Specialist for the U.S. Postal Service who conducted the community meeting last summer to inform the local citizens about the removal of the Davidsonville post office. It is to be moved from its present location on land owned by Holy Family Church. The lease will expire in September 2020. DACA member Debbie Oakes has continued to follow the matter and report on any progress in the relocation process.

In March, Mr. Hancock replied to her inquiry: "We are working on a proposed site that works operationally and economically for our requirements. We are still in active negotiations so we cannot identify the location to the public at this time. We should be able to do so in the next 30 to 60 days. Please feel free to check back with me for additional information at that time."

On June 3, he wrote again to Debbie, "we are still moving forward on the relocation project but nothing has been finalized. We are also working with the church on a lease extension to maintain our operations in place while the project is completed. The time lines have changed due to the health crisis and economic challenges it has caused." Mr. Hancock can be reached at [richard.a.hancock2@usps.gov](mailto:richard.a.hancock2@usps.gov).

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Milkweed is critical for the survival of monarchs. Without it, they cannot complete their life cycle and their populations decline.

First Scholarship Award for 2020-2021

The Board of Directors of the Davidsonville Area Civic Association reviewed Lainagail Greason's application and voted unanimously to grant her an award toward her expenses this fall. Entering her sophomore year at St. Mary's College of Maryland, her first year transcript proved her academic qualifications; letters of reference from Girl Scout leaders and her church attested to her community involvement.

Scholarship Angels

- Tom and Kris Angelis
- Robert and Ann Bradshaw\*
- Kevin and Sharon Carlton
- Jennifer and Robert Dorr\*
- Gail Enright
- Judy Kienast
- Betty Knupp
- Bernie and Mary Lu Lammers\*
- Lynn and William Marano
- Meredith McQuoid-Greason
- Cyndi and Grayson Morgan
- George Picot and Jean Rock
- Teresa and Hassan\* Sadeghin
- Brian and Melissa Stanton
- Bruce Stein
- Steve and Debbie Williams
- Marilyn Williamson

\*Thanks to our newest donors, Jennifer and Robert Dorr, Bernie and Mary Lu Lammers, Robert and Ann Bradshaw, and Hassan Sadeghin.



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**Scholarship Fund seeks students!**

DACA’s Board of Directors invites individuals to apply for funds to further their post-high school education (academic, technical, or professional) in the coming year. To determine eligibility and apply for a scholarship, read the requirements and follow the instructions below.

I. Purpose and Limitations

1. DACA’s scholarship funds must be used for educational training: academic, technical, or professional.
2. The scholarship is available to individuals for one year at a time.
3. Scholarship awards are made at the discretion of the DACA Board.
4. Awards may be for up to \$500 at the discretion of the DACA Board and may depend on the number of applications.
5. Applicants and grantees may apply annually for an award for a maximum of four consecutive years

II. Qualifications

1. The scholarship applicant must be a member of DACA or be a child of a member who lives in the DACA geographic area, as defined by DACA’s Bylaws.

2. The applicant must be involved in a community activity within the DACA geographic area and be able to document that involvement (see Requirements).

III. Requirements

1. The application is due by May 1 (or the following Monday if May 1 should fall on a weekend). Applications received after the due date will not be considered. ***(Due to COVID-19, the deadline has been extended for this year until August 1. Please apply.)***
2. The applicant must include all of the following information and documentation in writing at the time of their application. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
  - a. State the intended use of the grant funds
  - b. Provide a letter of acceptance to the school or program for which they intend to use the grant funds [or a transcript of the previous year’s grades].
  - c. Describe in writing what they have done for their community or how they have participated in community involvement.
  - d. Provide a letter of recommendation from an officer of the community organization in which the applicant has been involved.

Submit all the above in writing to DACA Scholarship, PO Box 222, Davidsonville, MD 21035.

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*Update fom Lisa VanBuskirk*

As the last week of school approached in June, I wanted to update you on a few relevant items as we head into summer:

1. Maryland Together Recovery Plan;
2. Primary Election Results for Board of Education;
3. Anne Arundel Gun Violence Prevention Task Force;
4. Fiscal Year 2021 AACPS Budget; and
5. COVID-19 Sleep Survey.

1. The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) has updated the draft Maryland Together plan for recovery. Unfortunately, despite some initial feedback which was acknowledged by MSDE staff, they have not included healthy and safe start times in their recommendation. Instead they offer a blanket suggestion that schools could be started earlier in the morning to make up for lost instructional time: “Open Schools Earlier in the Mornings – student school day is extended by including an earlier start time.”

This recommendation is inconsistent with MSDE's Orange Ribbon for Healthy School Hours and MSDE's Innovative School Schedule Workgroup (ISSW). The ISSW's recommendation specifically states “If school system leaders decide to implement an innovative schedule that extends the school day, then it may require students to come to school earlier and/or stay later which would go against the Start School Later (SSL) movement. As a result, implementing year-round schooling or extending the school year would be the preferred approach.”

It would be preferable to SSL if there were a caveat about middle and high school start times and the recommendation to start those at 8:30 a.m. or later. MSDE is accepting comments/feedback on the report. Please send your comments regarding the need to include safe, healthy, and age appropriate school hours to [educationplan.msde@maryland.gov](mailto:educationplan.msde@maryland.gov). You can also send copies to [info@mdpta.org](mailto:info@mdpta.org).

2. The results for the June 2 primary election were certified, which includes the candidates for Districts 2, 3, and 6. You can read candidates' responses to SSL's questionnaire on school start times and transportation at [www.startschoollater.net](http://www.startschoollater.net)

3. The Anne Arundel Gun Violence Prevention Task Force released its final report last week. Included in the recommendation is a reference to school start times, sleep, and risky behaviors: “Implement a later school start time in order to increase sleep for adolescents as prevention for gun violence risk factors.”

The final reports from the Joint Initiative to Address the Opportunity Gap and Mental Health Task Force have been delayed by the pandemic. I remain hopeful that school start times will be included in those recommendations as well.

4. The County Council adopted the Fiscal Year 2021 budget. I am grateful that funding for seven transportation personnel, recommended by the transportation consultant report, was restored to AACPS's budget. These positions should allow AACPS (finally) to fully implement the routing software purchased in 2015 and help implement the numerous report recommendations.

5. Lastly, SSL at the national level has partnered with sleep researchers to collect responses to a sleep survey during the pandemic. Please encourage your middle and high school students to complete the survey!



**Donald Shankle**

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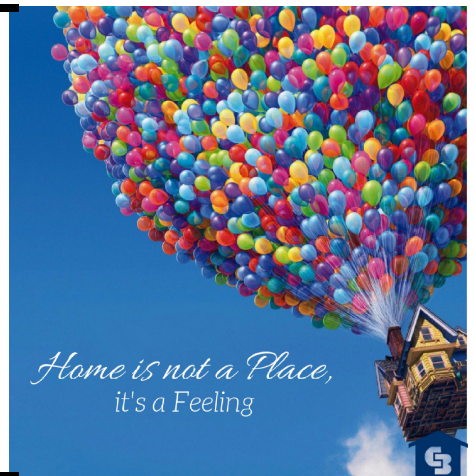
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**The GDP Process  
A Different Perspective**

*Guest commentary from  
Bob Gallagher, ALC Steering  
Committee, June 25, 2020*

For me, any mention of the general development plan triggers stress. That is probably because the word that most often comes to mind when these subjects are raised is “hypocrisy”—the past hypocrisy of county government when it comes to land use decisions.

The GDP process was intended to be the mechanism for citizens to control, subject to narrow constitutional limitations, how their communities are developed. Until November 2018, the previous County Executives, and too often a majority of the County Councils, demonstrated a cynical contempt for the will of the people. The County Executive did his or her best to limit and manipulate citizen input, publicly stating that the GDP was merely advisory and unenforceable. Small area plans were ignored. Planning and Zoning officials routinely handed out administrative waivers and routinely recommended or approved variances or other changes that were clearly inconsistent with the GDP. Some county council members shamelessly traded their votes to approve spot zoning in their districts.

Runaway development was a defining issue in the 2018 county election. The County Executive and a number of members of the County Council ran on a platform of reform. Several important reforms have been

put in place through legislation or administrative actions. I believe that the current County Executive [Steuart Pittman] and a tentative majority of the new County Council are committed to restore integrity to the planning and zoning processes.

Nonetheless, in light of the sordid history of land use planning in the county, it is not surprising that there is impatience to complete reform of the GDP process and to get a new GDP in place.

County Executive Pittman has said he wants to make sure that there is adequate opportunity for citizen input and, as a result of the pandemic emergency, that may take more time than originally budgeted. While any delay may be disappointing to those who have worked so hard to see the results of reform, Mr. Pittman’s reasoning makes sense to me. Moreover, the pandemic emergency may result in changes to the way we think about planning and preferences for where we live and work.

Here is a link to an article in Wired magazine that considers how planning can affect our susceptibility to pandemics:

[https://www.wired.com/story/coronavirus-covid-19-urban-planning-health/?ct=t\(RSS\\_EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\)](https://www.wired.com/story/coronavirus-covid-19-urban-planning-health/?ct=t(RSS_EMAIL_CAMPAIGN)). For example, because hotspots often start and accelerate in neighborhoods with a high density of disadvantaged people, providing them with safer options may become not only a social justice imperative but a more general public health imperative. Individual choices, as well as public health and planning (Continue on page 10)

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**ALC on Plan2040** (Continued from page 9)  
policy, also may affect how we approach the GDP. This article from Bloomberg describes how the pandemic may be affecting where people choose to live and the impact of those changes on real estate markets. I don't think any of us know how this might or might not affect our county.

All of the hard work in reforming the GDP process could be devalued if we charge ahead without giving adequate consideration to these new and extraordinary potential changes. Patience still can be a virtue.

### Virtual CAC meetings

The P & Z Citizen Advisory Committee met virtually on May 21. Go to ALC's website [www.Annearundel-livable.org](http://www.Annearundel-livable.org) for more information.

The next Planning and Zoning CAC meeting will be held virtually on July 15. Logon information is provided on the agenda, which is available online: <https://www.aacounty.org/departments/planning-and-zoning/long-range-planning/general-development-plan/cac-meetings/index.html>.

### AA County's Community Meetings Have Gone Virtual!

Communities must come first when the county considers development applications. A decision to develop is forever, and impacted communities must have a say in the process.

Covid-19 forced us to halt development decisions and in-person community meetings, and find new ways to expand community participation. The Office of Planning and Zoning (P&Z) and Office of Information Technology have put in long hours to completely overhaul the community meetings process and website.


Residents can view a calendar of upcoming community meetings in their area, review site plans and other documents, attend virtual meetings, watch previously recorded meetings, and provide public comments directly to P&Z through the Community Meetings website:

<https://www.aacounty.org/departments/planning-and-zoning/development/community-meetings/>

We hope this new process expands community participation in ways we could not have imagined before the crisis. This is just another big example of how we can Build Back Better!

*James Kitchin*

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**We want to get to the water!** *Mike Lofton's article in CEPA's newsletter, Spring 2020*  
**Public Access and the Future of Bay Restoration**

The mission of the Chesapeake Environmental Protection Association (CEPA) is plainly stated in our name. We aspire to be a leader in the work to restore the health of the Chesapeake Bay through a combination of public information; governmental influence; direct personal involvement; and advocacy for the Bay, its tributaries, and the source water resources of the Bay watershed. In pursuit of this mission, CEPA produces an Annual Plan to guide the work of the Board of Trustees. In 2020 the Board has added a focus on limited public access to the Bay as an issue of concern. In choosing to add public access concerns to the Plan, the Board has acknowledged the issue as one of significance and worthy of CEPA's scarce resources.

What is the Problem? A Presidential Executive Order in 2009 established the Chesapeake Bay program. Among its principle tasks was the creation of 300 new Bay access points by 2025. A modest goal at best and not one that is likely to produce safe convenient Bay access for millions of people that live in the watershed. According to the National Park Service, "The number of access sites is very low in comparison to the amount of shoreline in the Chesapeake watershed. There are just 770 existing access sites along the 11,684 miles of shorelines of the Bay and

tidal portions of its tributaries." Estimates put the portion of Bay shoreline available for public use at about two percent. Water access is central to the rich quality of life we enjoy in Anne Arundel County, but for generations, the public has been losing the ability to enjoy the waters of the Bay and its tributaries. In 2010, the county did not own a single public beach or boat ramp, and major rivers didn't have an access point that could be considered safe. A small group of people recognized the problem and met with Recreation and Parks Director Rick Anthony and Councilman Chris Trumbauer. That meeting led to the formation of the Anne Arundel Public Water Access Committee (WAC), now a powerful advocacy group of several hundred "wet feet" activists, many representing groups with hundreds and thousands of members. The WAC is the effective voice for those who want but haven't had safe, convenient public water access. Among the initial tasks of the Committee was an inventory of waterfront land already in public ownership. The results were shocking. The public owns thousands of acres of waterfront land that should be conveniently accessible to all--but has instead been closed to the public that owns it. Substantial progress has been made over the last decade. More than a dozen new water access points exist, state law *(Continued on page 12)*

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**Public water access** *(continued from page 11)*  
 amendments support expanded access, and the county’s first public boat ramp opened in the Spring 2016 and a second in 2018. The WAC is now the clearinghouse for public water access action, helping anglers, windsurfers, kiteboarders, kayakers, paddle boarders, birdwatchers, trailer boaters and swimmers work with local non-profits and government on water access projects. A map of the new public water access points has been created by a group of kayaktivists, resulting in the 100-mile Anne Arundel County Water Trail, online at <http://www.aacwt.org>. Yet, a substantial problem still exists. The recreation plan for Anne Arundel County, (<https://www.aacounty.org/departments/recreation-parks/forms-and-publications/lpprp-20180904>), documents public water access as a “primary deficit.”

Why Does it Matter? Certainly, the economic impact of Bay related activity is critical. Anne Arundel’s maritime and water-oriented visitor industries are pillars of the local economy. Thousands of jobs, hundreds of businesses and millions of dollars of tax revenue are dependent on safe convenient access to our waterways. More importantly, the sense of place that evolves from outdoor experiences along the waters of the Bay region often leads to a feeling of shared responsibility for the resources. People who enjoy the outdoors are more likely to become active citizen stewards, engaged in the many conservation and stewardship efforts taking place throughout the region.

Despite this, physical access to the Bay and its tributar-

ies—the very resources that form the basis for the Chesapeake’s unique identity—is inadequate. This has real consequences for quality of life, for the economy, and for long-term conservation. There are many reasons to dramatically improve public access to the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. Public recreation, quality of life, and economic impact top most lists. In addition, many believe that our failure to move aggressively to reverse the decline in water quality stems from the fact that so few citizens have developed a personal relationship with the Chesapeake. They don’t care because they don’t have the kind of personal experience with the Bay that creates a passion for action. For a majority of Anne Arundel County residents, access to the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries is not safe and convenient. Initiatives to advance Bay restoration face continuous threats of reduced funding and reduced regulatory enforcement. As long ago as 2006, Bill Burton, well known Bay advocate, asked “How can vital citizen support come about to save the Chesapeake without access to it? People must have a taste of the Bay before they are willing to fight and sacrifice for its well-being.” (Bay Weekly, 4-12-2006). In 2020 and beyond, CEPA will seek to engage in activities to improve the quality of life for all and to build the base of inspired Bay advocates essential to sustaining the multi-generational effort required for successful Bay restoration.

*Mike Lofton*

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- Light bulbs and broken glass

Take household hazardous waste to the Millersville Landfill, 389 Burns Crossing Road, Severn, MD, or to the Southern Recycling Center, 5400 Nutwell-Sudley Road, West River. Non-meat food waste should be composted.

After coronavirus restrictions are lifted, take clean dry plastic grocery bags and clean food wrap to the grocery store that accepts them: zip-lock bags, bread bags, newspaper sleeves. During the shutdown, we have been inflicted with a superabundance of plastic grocery bags, as check-out clerks are not allowed to touch customers' reusable grocery bags. Please contact the Bureau of Waste Management Services Customer Service at (410) 222-6100 for answers to your questions or concerns.



*August*

**COVID-19 update from Department of Public Works**

Avoid non-essential visits to the County landfill and Recycling Centers  
 Bring ONLY waste that requires immediate disposal  
 Use curbside collection for your household recyclables, bagged garbage and yard waste in paper bags.  
 Do not put out old furniture, mattresses, and similar bulk items.

**Recycle bin labels**

Although I have adapted to getting the Villager by email and enjoy being able to look at back issues, there is nothing like holding it in your hand. Not only did I get the March-April issue in my mailbox, there was also one in the post office box for Lake of the Pines



Community Association. Canceling of the Expo was really unfortunate as are many other things that are currently occurring.

Kudos on the contents and so glad you publicized the new labels for the recycling bins. I personally distributed one to every Lake of the Pines resident. Unfortunately it is not evident they were installed on the recycling bins as was intended. I think Recycling and Waste Reduction has done a good job of publicizing the importance and the rules.

*June Fleck*

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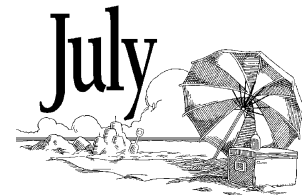
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Planning is under way for the LSO's 2020-2021 season, and the LSO will keep you informed in the weeks ahead. The mail address is: LSO, PO Box 926, Edgewater, MD 21037. Go to [http://lso-](http://lso-music.org)

[music.org](http://lso-music.org) to purchase tickets, sign up for our newsletter, and to donate.

**Anne Arundel  
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The Auxiliary of Anne Arundel Medical Center, 2001 Medical Parkway, Annapolis, needs volunteers ages 18 and older, daytime and evening hours, weekdays and weekends. Positions include opportunities in patient interaction, customer service, and retail assistance. The auxiliary has been serving the hospital since 1944. Volunteers are an integral part of AAMC's mission of providing patient-centered, high-quality health care services. Please call the auxiliary office 443-481-5050 to volunteer or to request more information.



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**SACReD**, by Mike Shay

*SACReD is based in South County. Its work has affected the quality of life there and throughout AA County for 25 years. Mike Shay cites the organization's successes and obstacles they have met.*

Among SACReD's recent victories, we boast of the preservation of Turtle Run, 160 acres on the headwaters of Deep Cove Creek near Franklin Point State Park, an effort over ten years; Franklin Point, 500 acres forever now a state park. We fought Safeway when they wanted to put their largest size store with 50,000 square feet of parking in Deale. More recently we worked together to save 15 acres next to the Deale Library from development of 20 new homes, which will now be a town park. We are currently working to have sidewalks installed in Deale.

Together we have seen hardball politics up close, and it is not pretty. We have been marginalized, called names, locked out, thrown out, and had the police called on us, all because we care. I have run for office three times—once for State Delegate, once for County Executive (Green Party), and again for State Delegate. It would have been a miracle if I had won those races, but we ran and ran hard. SACReD moved issues and met other people who cared and had vision. It was quite an effort for all who helped in those campaigns. It has always been about working for issues and really not about running for office, but we have seen that elections matter, we live in a tough district, and we must stay engaged.

So I take stock in the friends we have, the beautiful place we live in, and this diverse community that includes talented people who know one another. In this tough pandemic time we have the exact type of community that will not only survive but thrive. I have seen more people grow doing volunteer work than I have ever seen people grow in a job.

If those before us had not fought in similar struggles, we would look like many other communities that are unplanned and overcrowded. We have a chance to shape our community, resist inappropriate development, and support appropriate development and services for the next generation. We must never forget that we should be proud to take the high road and stick to the facts. We can hope that science, justice, civil rights, and human decency will win today and tomorrow.

*SACReD's website is being updated and will soon be available on line.*



Deep Cove Creek, oil painting by Lisa Egli

### Transition in AA Economic Development Corporation

*County News from James Kitchin*

County Executive Steuart Pittman announced that Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Ben Birge will become the new President/CEO for the county's Economic Development Corporation. Its mission is to support business and business growth in Anne Arundel County, increasing job opportunities. Mr. Birge is tasked with implementing the County Executive's post-pandemic "Build Back Better" economic development vision. He also named Matt Power, deputy CAO for land use, as the new CAO to replace Mr. Birge. Kai Boggess-de Bruin, PhD, currently the deputy CAO for health and human services, will become Chief of Staff.

The current chief of staff, Jennifer Purcell, PhD, is stepping down from her post to implement priority projects for County Executive Pittman with a focus on education, health, and community engagement initiatives.

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The Villager is published at least six times each year. We invite your written and signed contributions of letters, articles, and community notices.

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**MEMBERSHIP:** I wish to be a member of DACA and receive the VILLAGER. At \$10.00 per year for each person, my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed, payable to DACA for membership for \_\_\_\_\_ person(s) for \_\_\_\_\_ year(s). Also enclosed is my contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to DACA to help with the expenses incurred in the effort to maintain the quality of life that brought us to the Davidsonville area and to help guide the growth and development of our community OR \_\_\_\_\_ for the Scholarship Fund

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Your comments, your interests?