



The Villager

Newsletter of the Davidsonville Area Civic Association

Vol. 47, No. 3

P.O. Box 222, Davidsonville, Maryland 21035

September-October 2020

Scholarship awards

DACA's Board of Directors is pleased to announce that its fledgling scholarship program awarded two grants for the 2020-2021 academic year. Sarah Healy and Lainagail Greason are residents of Davidsonville and graduates of South River High School; they have served their community in many varied volunteer activities.

Sarah earned her Associates Degree in Transfer Studies from Anne Arundel Community College and is now a junior at UMD College Park, seeking a degree in kinesiology—principles and mechanics of body movement (I had to look that up)—and education.

Lainagail has entered her sophomore year at St. Mary's College of Maryland, where all students are in the Honors Program of the University of Maryland System. Her freshman year classes included several calculus courses, bioethics, politics, and art history; this semester she will add linear algebra and astronomy among others. She has not declared her major.

Davidsonville should be very proud of these outstanding scholars. Living in our area are many talented residents who can qualify for DACA's scholarships for post-high school education, whether academic, professional or technical. You do not have to be a college student to qualify, and DACA invites Davidsonville Area residents to apply for courses beginning in 2021. Qualifications and requirements are on page 7.

Results of absentee vote for officers and board of directors

Welcome our new board member Ray Alcorn, who volunteered to serve for the term through June 2023. He was elected unanimously by the current board members. Ray lives in Gravelly and owns Acorn Renovations. He has been a Villager reader and advertiser since 2006.

Jeff Bishop, Kate Fox, and Wayne Reid were re-elected for the term to June 2023. The incumbent officers, President Bruce Stein, Vice President Ed Woods, Secretary Gail Enright, and Treasurer Brian Stanton, were re-elected for a one-year term through June 2021.

Ballots were sent to 205 eligible voting members by email, and postcard ballots were sent to 30 members who do not use email. Forty-five email votes and eight postcard replies show more than 20 percent returns. The votes that were cast outnumbered any ever made at in-person annual meetings. In the interest of privacy, names of voters were not recorded and all ballots and emails were discarded after being counted and reported.

DACA's election worked by email and mail-in ballots. Don't forget to request your mail-in ballot for the general election on November 3, or plan to vote early at one of the many early voting sites, including South River High School.

DACA people

Welcome back Liz and Keith Lewnes and thanks for their generous contribution to the Scholarship fund in addition to renewing their dues. Thanks also to Dr. Carol Samango-Sprouse for her gift to the Scholarship fund. Many thanks to Life member Phil Livingstone for his generous contribution to DACA.



Gail,

Thank You. Your continued Stewardship of the Villager (and DACA in general) is certainly reflected in the community support that we enjoy. My take on things is that we should continue with the Villager "as is".... There are a lot of folks out there who don't have a clue who I am (or you, or anyone else is), But they know the Villager. Keep up the good work. Regards, Ed

Thank you, Ed. Your words mean a lot to me.

From a new member:

My husband and I do live in Davidsonville, on a piece of his family's farm that he inherited, so he's born and raised in Davidsonville, but I'm a "city girl" from Montgomery County, even though I've lived here 20 years!

Welcome aboard!

Thanks for giving us another superb issue of the Villager, Gail!
Lynn M.

Interests: Agriculture, land rights; what's happening around town.
A.B.

Who can replace Martin Zehner?? I thank everyone [board and officers] for their service to our community.
R.P.

We have always appreciated the work that you do and the Villager. Hopefully, your efforts will prevail in keeping Davidsonville's character intact.
W.J. & P.J.

You do a wonderful job. Thanks.
Dr. S.

Thanks so much for the heads-up about the zoning [land use change on Central Avenue]. All four residents here submitted comments opposing the zoning change. Like we need more traffic in Davidsonville!
Lynn S.

Grooming the Welcome sign

To Brian Riddle and Sean Meagher:

Thank you for clearing the weeds around the Welcome sign. It took me a few days before I drove that way, but then I paused to look and admire. Homestead is so good to DACA and the community!
Gail

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Rezoning to Commercial on Central Avenue at Riva Road

If you use Central Avenue to get to Edgewater, you should be concerned about a proposed Land Use change on 5.45 acres on the northeast corner of the intersection with Riva Road. It was re-zoned from RA to Small Business; now the owner wants it to be upzoned to Commercial. DACA’s board opposes the change on the grounds that Commercial zoning will allow and cause more traffic congestion. This is the property across from the BP station and Catlett’s. Apparently the long-range planning division of the Office of Planning and Zoning agreed with the land owner, even though they recommended against several similar requests in the already commercial area of the Safeway shopping center in Edgewater.

You can learn more on the interactive Draft Planned Land Use map on the Plan 2040 Community Engagement site. The OPZ comment period closed on September 10, but you can follow these directions to see previous comments under closed to comments. The County has done a terrific job making this portal user-friendly.

Go to <https://gis.aacounty.org/portal/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=0969c04f12f442eba1f6c392c487d6d8> Click on the tab *Comment on Draft Planned Land Use Map* in the line at the top of the screen. When the map loads, scroll through the list of Land Use applications on the right-hand menu to LUCA 176.

Click on LUCA 176; the map will zoom in to that parcel and the intersection, and the panel on the right will open to information on that land use application. You can read the county’s justification for the proposed change, and scroll through comments. Their current land use designation of Low Density Residential is **incorrect**.

In addition to commenting on the Land Use comment page, DACA wrote to Cindy Carrier, Planning Administrator for OPZ, with copies to the director of OPZ, the County Executive, Citizen Advisory Committee Chair Elizabeth Rosberg, and County Council members. The following is excerpted from DACA’s letter to OPZ:

In 2009 this parcel was zoned RA and was designated as Rural on the Land Use Map from the 2009 GDP. However, against the recommendations of OPZ and the Public Advisory Board, this parcel and the property across Riva Road were up-zoned to Small Business by amendment during the last comprehensive re-zoning. Now, the land uses of both these parcels are contained in the Draft Planned Land Use Map for Plan 2040, and thus designated Commercial, as are the two parcels across Central Avenue, which are already zoned C3. The inclusion of this and

other parcels like it in a Commercial Land Use category appears to create the effect of encouraging and tacitly supporting potential zoning changes. While this may not be the intent of Plan 2040, such an inference might be reasonably drawn about Plan 2040’s land use categorizations.

We disagree with the proposed land use recommendation by OPZ that LUCA-176 should match the commercial zoning across the street. The gas station has been commercial more than 50 years and was grandfathered into the zoning code.

The area around LUCA-176 does not have the infrastructure of road and intersection design and safety (i.e., it is not controlled by a signal light, has poor sight lines, and the gas station across the street has two entrances/exits onto Central Avenue), or municipal water and sewer to support any more commercial land use than already exists. This was pointed out in most of the comments on the Land Use application for LUCA-176, including DACA’s comments.

DACA urges OPZ to:

- 1) include a statement in the Land Use section of the GDP that Land Use Designations do not automatically indicate support for increasing zoning changes within those designations, and should not be used as such, and
- 2) change the recommendation in the OPZ proposed Land Use designation for LUCA-176 to keep it consistent both with the Development Policy Area (Rural) in which it is located and with OPZ decisions on other nearby parcels for which Land Use applications have been submitted.

Thank you for your consideration,

The Board of Directors
Davidsonville Area Civic Association

(More about the GDP on pages 10 and 11)

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Complaint of commercial use in RA zone

Sunrise Hill, at 561 Central Avenue between Williamsburg Road and the BP station, has been vacant since the dwelling burned several years ago. The County Inspector’s complaint report noted County Code violations of storage of any inoperable vehicle without a current registration plate and validation sticker, parking vehicles not accessory to a lawful use of a property, and the use of land for a landscaping and tree contractor without obtaining a special exception. An application for a special exception to allow landscaping and tree contracting was submitted July 29, 2020; the hearing date is not set.

DACA President Bruce Stein noted that the requirements for a special exception are detailed and technical. The only issue that might be debatable is in section 18-11-130 of the County Code that “The location and design of the operation shall be such that the use will not be a nuisance to neighboring properties due to noise, dust, and fumes.” Any opposition would have to come from neighbors that the business would cause such problems.

The owners are parking their equipment on the site, not planting trees. The County has an enforcement action against them because of the parking of the equipment.

This is from their application for a special exception: “The Annapolis Tree Company will use a portion of the site for the storage and dispatch of their tree contracting trucks and equipment. All of the proposed Tree Contracting use will be situated at least 50 feet away from the site property lines.”

Bill 57-20, Mobile Homes vote set for September 21 Council meeting

September 7, to the AA County Council:

Davidsonville Area Civic Association urges the County Council to defeat Bill 57-20. This bill will allow manufactured mobile homes to be located on RA parcels as a permitted use. State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) property tax data shows that there are more than 1,100 [1,121] unimproved RA parcels in Anne Arundel County. Although about 120 of these are 20 acres and larger, the large majority [999] are only a few acres in size and many of the smaller ones are located in clusters.

As written, Bill 57-20 potentially could create a large number of mobile home sites and even small mobile home parks distributed all over the southern portion of the County. Although it was originally intended to allow use for a single mobile home owner, it carries the potential for far-ranging unforeseen consequences due the large number of eligible unimproved properties. The presence of manufactured mobile homes can change the character of rural neighborhoods and can negatively affect property values. And introduction of a large number of new mobile home sites would alter the entire natural environment of southern Anne Arundel County.

Bill 57-20 is very broad in scope as well as appearing to be incompatible with the 2009 GDP or Land Use Plans recently proposed in a draft of Plan 2040. As such, it is likely to generate new and unexpected problems for many County citizens.

This Bill should be withdrawn or defeated.



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Development Impact and Stream Restoration

Koch Homes proposes to build an additional development on Della Way adjoining Cambria, on the Davidsonville side of Riva. Bruce Stein attended Koch's public information meeting regarding this development last year. He reports that the present Della Way residents are already having serious problems with stormwater runoff from other properties near the proposed Della Way development.

The proposed development is upstream of a tributary on the north side of Beard's Creek for which the County Department of Public Works plans to conduct a stream restoration project. Beard's Creek flows into South River. The two-acre restoration site is on community property owned by the Annapolis Landing HOA. In its existing condition, this section of Beard's Creek is highly eroded, making it a source of nutrient and sediment loads carried to the South River. The primary goals of this project are to minimize bank erosion, provide vertical and lateral stability within the stream channel, and to restore the valley-wide flood plain. This project will provide improved water quality in the South River and the Chesapeake Bay. This

stream restoration project is being constructed by AA County Watershed Protection and Arundel Rivers Federation. They are seeking a modification from the County Office of Planning and Zoning for disturbing wetlands, wetland buffers, streams, stream buffers, forests, and flood plains, and they recently held a public meeting to explain the modifications they are seeking.

The stormwater, noted above, flows into the tributary upstream of where the restoration is to occur, and may have contributed to the damage that the stream restoration is to repair. The Koch representative said that the only requirement of the builders is not to make the existing stormwater management system worse. He also said that they thought they would need to seek a modification of the sketch plan. If they seek a modification, they will be required by the Office of Planning and Zoning to hold another community meeting to explain the modification.


DACA's board voted to sign on to the Chesapeake Legal Alliance's letter seeking protection for waterways and habitat in PLAN 2040.



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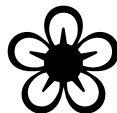
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- Bernie and Mary Lu Lammers
- Elizabeth and Keith Lewnes*
- Lynn and William Marano
- Meredith McQuoid-Greason
- Cyndi and Grayson Morgan
- George Picot and Jean Rock
- Teresa and Hassan Sadeghin
- Dr. Carol Samango-Sprouse*
- Brian and Melissa Stanton
- Bruce Stein
- Steve and Debbie Williams
- Marilyn Williamson

Thanks to our newest scholarship supporters, Liz and Keith Lewnes and Dr. Carol Samango-Sprouse.



How do Scholarship programs work?

DACA’s awards program was initiated by Tom and Kris Angelis in 2017 with a pledge of \$500 every year to DACA. DACA is one of seven organizations that the Angelises support in this manner. Tom and Kris are Life members of DACA and Tom is a former Vice President.

In its first year, DACA used money from the fund to reward art contest winners in the 2017 Green Expo at Davidsonville Elementary School. In 2018, still without set requirements, an award was made to an applicant to a private high school. Then the board got serious about setting standards, found on page 7.

I asked Tom how the programs work in other organizations he supports; some very well and some less so. The best example is that of his church, St. Paul’s Anglican in Crownsville, a relatively small church with about 300 members. The congregation has embraced the scholarship program and a good number of them have contributed to increase the fund. A scholarship committee of four, including Tom, set the qualifications and requirements; awards range from \$500 to \$1,500; and its recommendations are approved by the parish’s vestry. With additional gifts from its members, the church gave three scholarships of \$800 in 2017. When the fund was down to \$100, a church member beefed it up with a \$2,500 gift. Later the same year they gave \$1,000 to each of five recipients. In 2018 awards of \$1,200 were given to each of five recipients; in 2019 and 2020 they made five awards of \$1,250. In total, church members have contributed more than \$25,000 and their vestry has given all of it to scholarship applicants. Having made those awards, the current total still available is upwards of \$4,000.

Gail

Testimonial on scholarships

I can attest to the importance of funding students through these scholarships. As an undergraduate student, I received a scholarship from the Davidsonville Ruritan Club which helped me immensely with my tuition. I’m currently taking my last three Frostburg classes this summer to complete my BSN in August. It’s a lot to juggle doing class work and working full time too. I’ll keep Tom in my thoughts and prayers.

Sean Healy



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Scholarship Fund invites applicants for 2021-2022

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.
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.

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

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Solar farms proposed in Lothian

Virtual community information meetings were held August 3 to answer residents' questions about two proposed solar farms in Lothian. These projects are approved and now in the site planning stage. The Patuxent Solar site is at 4917 Sands Road, northeast of the intersection of Sands Road and Ed Prout Road. The Bathian Solar site is at 501 Bayard Road, southwest of the intersection of Bayard Road and South Polling House Road. The construction is part of Maryland's Community Solar Pilot Program from 2018.

Solar panel placement is limited to a small percent of the property they occupy. They may be appreciated for the solar power they produce or they may be disliked for being unsightly—all in the eye of the beholder.

Update on Rte 450 Drainage Improvement Project

In August, MDOT SHA crews continued pipe installation and concrete setting in the frequently flooded area of Defense Highway. Crews still need to complete work on the second half of the culvert and continue concrete work, landscaping and then remove construction staging.

Construction on the main channel (Bell Branch) and the side channel are complete and functioning well. The Isaias storm was a good test of the efficacy of the channel given the amount of rainfall. In previous storms, the road would have been closed much earlier in the storm and closed much longer. With these improvements, the closure time was less than a day. We are going to continue monitoring the site as we work toward completion.

From the office of
Delegate Michael Malone



A lower speed limit on Owensville Road

Dave Banner, a DACA member and resident of West River, is seeking help to increase the distance of the 30 mph speed limit area on Owensville Road and enforce it. He wrote, "The current speed limit is 40 mph going into the turn, whizzing by two old people whose driveway is on the curve. Nobody has died...yet." The lower speed limit should include the sight-limited curve.

Villager gave him email addresses of several SHA officials, and DACA Vice President Ed Woods replied "You have a legitimate complaint in my opinion. I would suggest a letter to the Traffic Engineering office and ask for a traffic survey including both volume of vehicles and average speed. Their monitoring equipment can do this, and that data can be used to show the need for a speed reduction. Any letter to the State Highway Administration should be copied to your state senator and delegates for your district."

Dave replied, "Wow. You are earning your pay!" He said that last year he talked with SHA folks and they replaced one sign. He was not sure if the engineer visited to consider relocating the 30 mph sign before the curve, west of village. I'll tackle again, and thank you."

AA County's Virtual Community Meetings

Residents can view a calendar of upcoming community meetings regarding applications for changes in zoning, special exceptions and conditional uses 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.

Copy this into your browser:
<https://www.aacounty.org/departments/planning-and-zoning/development/community-meetings/>.



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School news *with help from Start School Later*

In July, the County Council discussed the budget amendment from the Board of Education to transfer \$745,100 and seven staff positions out of the Transportation line and into School Mental Health.

Despite the opposition of Start School Later, Anne Arundel Connecting Together (ACT), the Anne Arundel Chapter of NAACP, and a collection of various community groups, the proposed amendment was passed by the County Council. A subsequent proposed amendment to restore the Transportation funding from the budget of Supplies and Materials was defeated by five-to-four. Start School Later supports the mental health positions, but not at the expense of the transportation positions. This need is made clear in the Prismatic Services report and the statements from ACT and NAACP.

School opening activities for teachers began on September 1, and school opened for grades one through twelve on Tuesday, September 8.

Fall 2020 Future Planning Committees (FPCs) composed of school district personnel, community leaders, students, teachers, families, employee bargaining unit members, and stakeholders from across the county met to plan for Fall 2020 schooling options. Committee recommendations were presented to the

Superintendent and Board of Education for their consideration and in consultation with the Health Officer of Anne Arundel County. The decision was made to begin the 2020-21 school year fully virtual. The FPCs continue to work on models to be used to bring back students to hybrid (in-person & virtual) learning when it is deemed safe to do so.



At DACA's August Board meeting, Cyndi Morgan reported that the Board of Education decided to hold distance learning for the first half of the year, which could morph to hybrid. The Superintendent plans to make a weekly re-

opening report on Wednesdays. The School Board handed out 60,000 chrome books for those who don't have them, and is working on connectivity issues. The School Board also plans to distribute technology-related school supplies. She also reported that some sports teams may be able to practice in the Fall but there will be no competition until 2021.

Sharon Laddie



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General Development Plan 2040, see page 3, Rezoning

As Maryland requires, AA County develops a GDP every eight to ten years to consider protection of the environment, development, health, and the economy. The GDP is Anne Arundel County’s comprehensive plan to guide land use in the County, capitalize on its assets, and conserve critical resources.

The County’s current GDP was approved in 2009 by the County Council. Until Plan 2040 is finalized and passed by the County Council, we continue to operate under the 2009 General Development Plan (285 pages!), which can be found on the County’s Planning and Zoning web site.

The Draft Plan 2040 was prepared by the staff and leadership of the Department of Planning and Zoning. The Draft Plan is informed by citizen surveys, planning meetings, and the regular review of the Citizens Advisory Council, composed of 24 members from all over the County and it has been posted by the County. To learn about it, type Anne Arundel County Plan 2040 in your browser.

Citizen review and input is important to the success of the GDP – both the planning and later implementation of the plan. Sixteen Small Area Plans (SAPs) were incorporated into the 2009 GDP. For the 2040 plan, the County has been divided into nine regions that will involve local citizens of each region. Because of the level of detail and involvement of County staff and local residents, three Regional Area Plans will be begun each year. These plans will be guided by the overall plan—the GDP—but will become very localized.

Alliance for Livable Communities is concerned about the process of the Regional Plans. Regional Planning after approval of the master plan is a new sequence for Anne Arundel County. Structural and procedural precedents will be set as Regional Planning goes forward. Prior to the 2009 GDP, the County was divided into sixteen small areas. Small Area Planning (SAP) committees in each area spent significant amounts of time gathering local citizen input and producing SAP content. Unfortunately, most of the detailed recommendations of the SAPs were neither incorporated in the GDP nor addressed by County Code. Many of the committee members felt that their time had been wasted.

Each Regional Plan will need to address the issues of concern to the residents in its region. From the Plan 2040 visualization meetings held in each area, we expect these concerns to include zoning, type and rate of development, environmental preservation, school capacity, and traffic. Many of these issues are rooted in land use, and most will require regionally specific recommendations to be made about development—where it should occur, what kind should be encouraged, and when it should be permitted. The WHEN portion of these recommendations will complicate implementation, but it is not an insurmountable challenge. Other jurisdictions have addressed this, and we are confident that our own is fully capable. South County is Region 8.

(Continued on page 10)

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GDP, Plan 2040*(from page 9)*

The Regional Areas should not just throw their land use recommendations over the fence to the County Council for consideration. The Council has experience in zoning, but that is not enough. Plan 2040 needs to provide guidance to the Regions, to the Council, and to the Administration about data to be provided and how it should be used. The GDP master plan should specify the full set of recommendations that the Regions need to supply to the Council and describe for the Council and for the Administration the processes to be used for implementation.

Regional Plans must have several key components:

- There must be an implementation component. If a code change is needed, it should be specified and a timetable set.
- Recommended goals and strategies need to identify the responsible party(s), set schedules, and describe reporting methods.
- The role and authority of any implementation advisory groups need to be clearly identified.
- There must be a protocol for comparing revenue vs. expense for growth in any Region with the objective of making any growth pay for itself.

Due to manpower limitations, the nine regions are expected to be processed in groups of three, with each

group requiring 18 to 36 months for completion. For Regions 7, 8, and 9, comprehensive rezoning will not be initiated for six years (maybe as long as 2026 for Davidsonville/South County Region 8). How should land use decisions be made in the meantime? Plan 2040 should provide guidance.


Finally, Plan 2040 describes environmental goals affecting water quality, forest protection, Critical Area conservation, and climate change resiliency. The Regional Plans should spell out clearly how these goals will be achieved locally and the impact of local land use decisions upon them.

The public comment period on the draft 2040 Plan and Regional Plan map closed on September 10. To see the comments, copy this link into your browser: <https://share.hsforms.com/7496460/f262e935-beb0-42ff-a4e2-d178db121b16> or go to [Plan2040 Community Engagement](#).

The Plan 2040 virtual citizen advisory committee meeting will be held from 5:00 to 6:30 pm, Wednesday, September 23. You can register at the website. Copy this link into your browser: <https://www.aacounty.org/departments/planning-and-zoning/development/community-meetings/>.

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Lodging and special events in South County; Alcohol production on farms

On September 8, at the request of the County Executive, Council Chair Allison Picard introduced Bill 68-20 and Bill 69-20 to the Anne Arundel County Council. They will expand the uses allowed on farms and agricultural heritage sites in RA, RLD [rural low density], and R1 [one dwelling per acre] residential districts, most of which are in South County. Both bills are to be heard on October 5. You can find them at https://www.aacounty.org/departments/county-council/, click on Oct 5 County Council meeting, then scroll down to find them on the agenda.

Bill 68-20 is the result of a number of recommendations by the Anne Arundel County Agricultural, Farming and Agritourism Commission. It combines existing farm alcohol uses (farm breweries and wineries) into one use category of "farm alcohol production facility," which also encompasses farm distilleries. It would allow a farm alcohol production facility as a conditional use in RA, RLD, and R1 residential districts, exempt a farm alcohol production facility from the admission and amusement tax; establish the parking requirements. The facility shall be located on a farm of at least ten acres and shall be operated by the farm owner or farm manager. The farm upon which the facility is located shall produce at least one acre of grain, hops, fruit, or other ingredient, excluding water, that is utilized to produce alcohol. For a facility that produces mead, at least one acre of

land on the farm upon which the facility is located shall be used to nourish a colony of bees. The floor area for tastings, sale of alcohol produced on-site or accessory non-alcoholic beverage or food sales may not exceed the floor area being used for production and storage of alcohol.

Bill 69-20, titled "Farm or Agricultural Heritage Site Stays and Special Events," will allow nine to 15 annual farm or agricultural heritage site special events, and annual farm or agricultural heritage site stays as a conditional use; and 16 to 30 annual farm or agricultural heritage site special events and farm or agricultural heritage site stays as special exception uses.


Mike Lofton translated the details as follows: "The legislation will allow farms as small as ten acres and historic sites as small as five acres to host up to 30 special events per year with a maximum of 200 guests. Events may operate as late as 11 pm. The proposal will also allow farms and historic sites to offer two weeks' lodging for up to 50 guests. The bill has no limit on the number of "stays."

You may share your thoughts with County Council member Jessica Haire, JHaire@aacounty.org, Council phone 410-222-1401, and with County Executive Steuart Pittman.

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Agricultural News

When Martin Zehner died, the Davidsonville Area Civic Association lost its primary best, real farmer/agricultural representative. Agricultural preservation is one of DACA’s central purposes and the community misses the reports that Martin made to the board. Bobby and Margie Chase suggested that DACA invite Lisa Barge, Agricultural Marketing and Development Manager at AA Economic Development Corporation, and David Myers, Extension Agent for University of Maryland Extension Service, to keep DACA informed on issues of interest to our local agricultural community. Both replied quickly and sent their various newsletters.

Dave wrote, “I also miss Martin. It is hard to believe he is gone. It has been quite awhile, but I have attended past DACA meetings. Anytime the group would like an Ag Update, I would be happy to attend. In the meantime enjoy the newsletter information; here is a link to my Ag Website at: <https://extension.umd.edu/anne-arundel-county/agriculture-natural-resources-0>.

The Arundel Ag Newsletter from Economic Development reminded readers that Anne Arundel County Fair has been cancelled for 2020, but the livestock shows will be available for viewing on the Anne Arundel County Fair Facebook page. The annual livestock auction will take place on September 19 and be available to watch online. The 4-H and FFA youth work hard to raise their animals every year, especially this year as they faced COVID restrictions. They are the future of agriculture and deserve our support! You can learn more at the web page aaedc.org/agriculture/overview/.



**A major highway through Davidsonville?
The third Bay Bridge, again!**

Oh, no! We thought they decided not to put it here! The third span of the Bay Bridge is still in discussion. MDTA has announced that the 14 locations that were being investigated for additional traffic across the Chesapeake Bay have been reduced to three. The least disruptive would be a third bridge at the existing crossing from Route 50 to Kent Island. A second option would cross from Route 100 in Pasadena to Rock Hall. Most disturbing to South County would be from Crofton to Queenstown, from Route #50 south on #424 (Davidsonville Road), to #214 (Central Avenue), through the Mayo Peninsula to reach the Eastern Shore north of Easton. It is disturbing that this South County option is still under consideration, due to the lack of infrastructure and the destruction it would wreak in numerous communities.

The options that are being considered are Corridor 6, Corridor 7, and Corridor 8. You can review the plan here: https://www.baycrossingstudy.com/images/nepa_process/BCS%20Alternatives%20Report.pdf

Drive Through COVID-19 Testing

Drive-through COVID-19 testing is available for Anne Arundel residents Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to noon, on Saturday from 10:00 am to 11:30 am, and Tuesday from 6:00 until 8:00 pm, at the Health Annex, 1 Harry Truman Parkway, Annapolis. If you call 410-222-7256 for an appointment, it may be quicker.

Testing is available at no cost, with or without symptoms. A doctor’s note is not needed. If insured, please bring your insurance card. If you have COVID-19 symptoms, it is best to be tested within 48 hours of the onset of symptoms. Individuals with severe difficulty breathing should immediately call their primary care provider or 911.

For more information, go to the website of the Anne Arundel County Health Department at www.aahealth.org.



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 Del. Michael E. Malone 410-841-3510 michael.malone@house.state.md.us
 Del. Heather Bagnall 410-841-3406 heather.bagnall@house.state.md.us
 Del. Sid Saab 410-841-3551 sid.saab@house.state.md.us

Anne Arundel County

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 Vincent Moulden, Community Constituent representative for the
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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**Medical Center**

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.

No curbside trash or recycling Landfills and Collection Centers will be closed on

Tuesday, Nov. 3 Election Day
 Nov. 26 Thanksgiving Day
 Nov. 27 Thanksgiving Friday
 Friday, Dec. 25 Christmas
 Friday, Jan. 1 New Year's Day

Davidsonville Country
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Davidsonville Country Living is a magazine dedicated to residents of our fair community that features families and individuals who make Davidsonville the place we love. It also features an occasional piece of local history or a story of nostalgic interest. If you are a Davidsonville resident not currently receiving the magazine and would like to, please send your email address to david.grabau@n2pub.com. David Grabau will send you a free PDF version which you can open and read.

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Farewell and thanks from Ann Fligsten

Ann Fligsten resigned from the Board of Directors of Growth Action Network at the end of August. She wrote, “Leaving GAN was a hard decision as I do love the organization and value all we have learned and accomplished together. GAN began in August 2007 and became an independent, nonprofit corporation in 2013, when I began to serve as the Executive Director. This September I am starting a new law firm with my son, Daniel, who is also a lawyer.... I do not want to sever all my ties to GAN and hope to continue on a new GAN group of advisors (no meetings, no obligations except to assist the Board with advice, when asked).”

Some highlights of GAN’s work:

Fought for increase in developer’s impact fees
 Helped form the citizen advisory group for the 2009 GDP

Made changes in how community meetings with builders are organized

Strengthened restrictions on subdivision modifications

Initiated regular member meetings with Office of Planning and Zoning

Assisted member organizations with their local growth and development issues

Piloted a course in how to testify before the Administrative Hearing Officer

Testified on behalf of GAN and members before the County Council, Administrative Hearing Officer, and the Board of Appeals

Finally got a countywide ban on new private rubble landfills passed

Vice Chair Pat Lynch will serve as Acting Chair for the interim; GAN has a very strong, experienced Board who have a passion for making this County the best it can be. We face many challenges: How much growth can AA county sustain? How can climate change be met with solutions? Can the water quality of our rivers be improved with no limit on growth? What about forests, farms, and open space we want to protect? Growth Action Network will be part of the solution to these critical issues. The GAN Board and members are committed to finding answers to these questions; GAN’s track record predicts further success in the future.

With best wishes and thanks to all,
 Ann Fligsten



Dave Lanier with a snakehead. You can help our rivers by catching and eating invasive fish such as snakeheads and blue catfish! Invasive fish outcompete native fish for food and habitat.

Arundel Rivers Federation Fish Count

Every year we survey local streams to learn what types of fish there are and the abundance of fish living there. This year we sampled 16 sites, most of which are at our stream restoration projects. We collected and recorded a total of 2,165 fish from 20 different species!

The Federation is proud of the role it plays in keeping residents informed about when and where it is safe to swim. All summer long, Marvin Solberg and Diane McBee, two excellent Federation volunteers, spent Wednesday mornings every week taking water samples at local participating beaches and marinas to be analyzed by Home Land laboratories in Annapolis.

The rains from Hurricane Isaias hammered the rivers. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) advises not to swim in water containing above 104 mg/l enterococci. Our twenty sites together averaged 2,392! The bacteria levels this year kept spiking, even at sites that historically have had low levels.

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The Villager

Newsletter of the Davidsonville Area Civic Association
P. O. Box 222, Davidsonville, Maryland 21035



DACA web site: www.daca-md.org

- Bruce Stein President 410-956-3759
- Gail Enright Editor 410-533-4766
info@daca-md.org and on Facebook

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

J O I N D A C A

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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