

# The Villager

Newsletter of the Davidsonville Area Civic Association

Vol. 48, No. 4

P.O. Box 222, Davidsonville, Maryland 21035

November-December 2021

## A vision for our community

One afternoon sometime before 2000, outside Davidsonville Elementary School all was in turmoil. Police cars, ambulance, buses stopped. And all traffic was held up as parents were trying to pick up their children after school. A child had been hit and injured by a car traveling too fast to miss a pedestrian. The child recovered but the driver was an emotional wreck. Davidsonville has been lucky that this was a one-of-a-kind event that has not (yet) been repeated.

In the past 20 years, traffic everywhere has increased, cars are being driven ever faster, and currently, school bus drivers are in short supply. The speed limit on #214 is 40 mph eastbound from Queen Anne Bridge Road and Timberlake Farm though the crossroad and continues until Castle Way where it increases to 45 mph until it reaches Riva Road and increases again to 50 mph. Some drivers heed the speed limit. A universal environmental awareness demands methods to improve everything. →

It's coming ba-ack!



Homestead Gardens notified DACA that they plan to hold and sponsor our twelfth Green Expo at their store on Central Avenue, just as always. Save the Date, Saturday, March 26, 2022. DACA will be there to give away 500 trees to visitors.

DACA's Board of Directors will address these growing problems.

## DACA's History and Mission

DACA was formally established in 1974 with the adoption of its Bylaws, and a Preamble that states: "We, the citizens of the Davidsonville Area, state and affirm our will to maintain and improve the quality of life in our community. We join together to counsel with one another so that we may wisely guide the growth and development of our village for the betterment of our lives and for the lives of our children and their children." In 2006, a Mission Statement was approved by the full membership to refine DACA's purposes including:

- Consider and deal by all lawful means with common problems involved in matters pertaining to land and natural resource utilization in the geographical area known as Davidsonville and to secure cooperative action in advancing common purposes of the members of the association.
- Promote community pride and civic interests.
- Promote land use policies that preserve the agricultural and rural character of the Davidsonville community, protect the environment, preserve open space, and improve safety – including the safety of roads and pedestrian byways – while respecting the property rights of residents.
- Strive to consider the needs of and represent the entire Davidsonville community.
- Anticipate future issues and problems affecting the welfare of the Davidsonville community and work to find appropriate approaches and solutions.

*(Please turn to page 3)*

DACA People

Thanks to Bill and Connie Scott and Faith Bange for their contributions to DACA in addition to renewing their memberships and to Liz and Keith Lewnes for their contribution to the Scholarship Fund in addition to renewing their dues.



Tickseed sunflowers brighten up a grassy meadow by: Kerry Wixted

Make a meadow for bees, birds, and butterflies

Bob Bradshaw was appointed last year by Governor Hogan to the Maryland State Parks Commission, an advisory board that meets regularly with the Superintendent of State Parks. You will see Bob's name on Patuxent River Road at Davidsonville Park in honor of his work with County Administration to create the park.

Bob is a member of a group seeking to enhance the environment by establishing natural meadows throughout the County to grow native grasses and wildflowers. The group is looking for open space of almost any size—backyards to big fields—to cultivate plants that attract butterflies and bumble bees, both of which are endangered and disappearing from the landscape.

Meadows are open, sunny areas that attract an abundance of wildlife from small mammals and grassland birds to their predators like hawks and owls. Despite their importance, the number of meadows around Maryland has declined. You can create meadow habitat in your backyard to help increase the survival of species which depend on this unique habitat.

Once established, meadows attract more wildlife and require less maintenance than lawns, saving you time and money as well as greening your landscape.

Please reply to [info@daca-md.org](mailto:info@daca-md.org) if you are interested or have the space for your own meadow.

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(from page 1) The complete Bylaws can be found at [www.davidsonvillemaryland.org](http://www.davidsonvillemaryland.org).

**DACA’s New Initiative**

It is impressive to recognize DACA’s success in working toward and accomplishing these goals. None of it has been rapid. Over the years many specific issues have been raised and in recent years focused on traffic management. Of late, more and more members have expressed their concerns to DACA regarding traffic on and near #214 and the impact of growing traffic on Davidsonville.

At DACA’s September Annual Meeting traffic discussion centered on Central Avenue, particularly around the school and the intersections with Davidsonville Road and Riva Road. DACA has received various comments and suggestions from members regarding these areas. DACA has formed a committee to develop a vision for and ideas to address to the state and county, to protect, preserve, and enhance Davidsonville and its Historic Crossroads Community.

DACA asked Vincent Moulden, our Community Constituent Representative to the County Administration, to find out what plans—over the next five to ten years or maybe longer—the County and State may have for Central Avenue in Davidsonville and particularly the intersections of Central Avenue with Davidsonville Road, Riva Road, and Patuxent River Road, given the expected present and future changes in traffic patterns. Mr. Moulden reported that the County is investigating this, especially in light of insufficient bus drivers and the need for students to walk to school. James Kitchin was extremely helpful in providing websites with answers to these and other questions.

Thus, DACA’s Board is in the process of developing a vision of what DACA, its members, and Davidsonville residents want for the future of Davidsonville’s traffic control, safety, walkability, and other related issues. Among the suggestions and hopes we have received are:

- pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly roads;
- reduce speed limit to 30 mph in the Historic District from Homestead Gardens to Queen Anne Bridge Road to include Foxhall and Davidsonville Elementary School;
- crosswalks and a flashing traffic signal at the school;
- a flashing sign like the one in Riva to warn drivers of their speed through the Village;

- designated bike lanes and sidewalks on both sides of #424 from Homestead Gardens to Davidsonville Elementary and Queen Anne Bridge Road;
- a ban on the use of the noisy “Jake Brakes” of the heavy trucks passing through the Historic District and nearby residential areas.

On November 19, the Capital reported that plans and funds are in place to improve Central Avenue in Edgewater between Route 468 and Loch Haven Road to add capacity and bicycle and pedestrian improvements with funding from Anne Arundel County. Maybe there is hope for Davidsonville’s future.

**What DACA needs from you**

DACA’s Board invites readers to send us their comments and their wish list of ideas on these as well as other issues. And, as always, DACA welcomes volunteers to work with us on this initiative to benefit all of Davidsonville. Comments and ideas may be submitted to [info@daca-md.org](mailto:info@daca-md.org) or mail them in writing to DACA, PO Box 222, Davidsonville, MD 21035.

**Reviving an older issue**

Vice President Ed Woods, DACA’s safety and traffic chair, is renewing his quest to improve traffic flow at the intersection of #424 and the Rte. 50 eastbound ramp. He has been communicating with State Highway Administration to restore the left-turn light from a solid red to a blinker so cars turning left from #424 to the #50 eastbound ramp can proceed instead of idling when there is no oncoming traffic. There were no fatalities at that site when the left turn red signal was a blinker.

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**The need for citizen involvement**

Growth Action Network’s (GAN) October 30 newsletter reported that appointments to the first three Stakeholder Advisory Committees (SAC) for regional planning were submitted to the County Council for approval. Members have been proposed for Regional Areas 2, 4, and 7. While Davidsonville is in Region 8, the last region to be planned, it is important to be aware of events throughout the planning process.

Council Resolutions 55-21, 56-21, and 57-21 specify the proposed composition of the Stakeholder Advisory Committees (SACs) for Regions 2, 4, and 7 and were to be heard at the November 1 Council meeting. The result of this hearing were not yet posted on the Legislation website. Fifteen to seventeen members were chosen for each SAC.

One of the chief concerns of residents of the Regions is whether their committee members can fairly and accurately represent the perspectives and wishes of the overall population of the Region. Commercial interests, such as retail businesses, real estate brokers, and developers can benefit either directly or indirectly from land use changes and often have a certain degree of conflict of interest in those issues. Consequently, it is of some concern that that each committee includes at least six commercial members.

GAN hopes that broad community input will be solicited on all significant SAC decisions to bolster confidence that community wishes will prevail.

To this end, GAN encourages continuation of hybrid County Council meetings. One of the unexpected fringe benefits of the Covid pandemic was the realization by many County residents that testifying at virtual County Council meetings was much easier than delivering testimony at an in-person meeting. Most residents who do not live in the immediate Annapolis area needed to budget 20-30 minutes of driving time in each direction and an hour or more of time waiting in the Council chamber for the bill of interest to be able to deliver two

minutes of testimony on a particular bill. Much of this unproductive travel and waiting time, as well as its cost and environmental impact could be eliminated when testifying remotely at a virtual meeting.

The benefits of remote video testimony have clearly been demonstrated, and there is a need for a hybrid meeting format that includes the opportunity for virtual spoken testimony. GAN has expressed the need for a hybrid format to the Council Chair and the Council Administrative officer. We have been told that equipment is not currently available to support a hybrid format, but that implementation of a hybrid format may be possible later in 2021 or sometime in 2022.

*(More on pages 10-11)*

**Advocates for Herring Bay join GAN**

The Advocates for Herring Bay (AHB) work together to preserve and enhance the environmental health of Herring Bay, a tributary of the Chesapeake Bay. AHB was founded in 2005 in southern Anne Arundel County. AHB is a nonpartisan organization and does not endorse candidates for political office.

**Volunteering on Planning Advisory Board**

County Executive Steuart Pittman announced the appointment of Gustav “Gus” Kurtz, Jr. as the new Chair of the Planning Advisory Board (PAB). Mr. Kurtz replaces Jerry Pesterfield as Chair.

The Planning Advisory Board is tasked with making advisory recommendations to the County Executive, Planning and Zoning Officer, and the County Council relating to master plans, zoning maps, and rules and regulations related to zoning. The Board consists of seven qualified voters who serve four-year terms and play a critical role in ensuring that the county’s land use decisions benefit our communities.

“No board or commission in county government is more impactful than the Planning Advisory Board, and nobody has been more thorough and responsible as its leader than Jerry Pesterfield,” County Executive Steuart Pittman said. “Thank you for your service, Jerry.”



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**Alliance for Livable Communities to Planning Advisory Board: Green Infrastructure brings value to everyone**

Anne Arundel County has submitted a revised Green Infrastructure Master Plan to the Planning Advisory Board (PAB). The plan provides a roadmap for County officials to work with landowners to voluntarily conserve an additional 5,000 acres of green spaces by 2030 while expanding green spaces in urban communities, with the objective of conserving a network of the most significant remaining natural lands in Anne Arundel County. The PAB will make its recommendations this winter.

The lands identified in the Green Infrastructure Network help protect water quality and air quality, provide habitat for plants and wildlife, create opportunities for recreation, and support mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change. All of these services are known as ecosystem services, and they bring valuable additions to the quality of life of everyone in our County. The Maryland Department of Natural Resources, has calculated and mapped the estimated value of ecosystem services for much of the land in Anne Arundel county (see DNR webpage). In some areas, typically forests and wetlands, DNR’s Green Print map shows that the value of ecosystem services provided by the environment exceeds \$1000 per acre per year. The Green Infrastructure network also provides new opportunities for a connected trail network that enables more walking and biking, reducing our reliance on polluting motor vehicles and better connecting us with our natural environment.

Development of Green Infrastructure areas dramatically reduces the ecosystem services provided. Fortunately, about 65 percent of the Green Infrastructure Network is protected from development by various types of easements and County acquisitions. About 35 percent of the Network, however, is privately owned and subject to the land use choices of the owner. The landowner controls an asset that has value both to himself and the general public. Owners’ perspective on their property often changes over time and over their lives. There is risk of an owner choosing to convert some or all of his equity in the land into a more liquid asset and destroying many of its ecosystem services in the process.

The coming Regional Area Plans should prioritize protection of Green Infrastructure and avoid land use or zoning changes that will allow more intensive development of land in the Green Infrastructure Network. Up-zoning of these properties or conversion from residential to multi-use or commercial zoning is clearly not in the public interest. However, GI property owners in search of an exit strategy have the options of conservation/preservation easements or possible outright fee simple sale to the County.

The GI Plan targets protection of an additional 5,000 acres of the GI Network by 2030 through conservation easements administered by the County or private land trusts or through fee simple acquisition of properties by the County using County, State, and Federal funds. Because property values, easement costs, and available State and Federal funding can vary widely over time, the cost of protecting 5,000 acres is difficult to accurately estimate. The GI Plan states that \$40 million of funds were expended over the past decade for fee simple acquisition of 1,800 acres. Per acre costs for conservation easements are usually lower, since the landowner retains use of the property.

Ultimately, achieving protection of an additional 5,000 acres will depend on the political will of the Administration and County Council to allocate the necessary funding to the project. Full advantage should be taken of state, federal and private grant programs to accelerate protection of our natural areas, but the County will need to be fully committed.


County taxpayers should be prepared to strongly encourage their elected representatives to budget sufficient funds to assure protection of Green Infrastructure and its valuable ecosystem services. In a County with a \$1.7 billion annual budget, allocation of a few million dollars per year for Green Infrastructure preservation is easily justified and should be readily manageable.

*Alliance for Livable Communities, October 12, 2021*



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President

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### School Report from Cyndi Morgan at DACA's November Board Meeting

Bus transportation is still a troublesome issue, for lack of drivers and substitute drivers. Some drivers had to quarantine and training and certifying take time.

Middle school and high school students who quarantine and/or those who tutoring may drop in to attend the Virtual Homework Help and Tutoring program provided for free at <https://www.aacps.org/tutoring>. 140 teachers are covering the following subjects:

- English; Language Arts and Reading
- Social Studies for Middle School; U.S. History, U.S. Government, and World History
- General Science for Middle School; Environmental Science, Biology, Chemistry, and Physics for High School
- Math; Algebra, Geometry, Algebra II, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, AP Statistics
- Languages: Spanish, French, and Chinese; English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)
- Computer Science

Six schools were selected for a pilot program for random student surveillance for COVID testing (with parental permissions) including South River High School, Arundel MS, Bates MS, Lithicum ES, Van Bokkelen ES, and Tyler Heights ES to begin in the week of November 22. (Currently very few parents have consented to this

program.) Various school sites are hosting vaccination clinics in coordination with Department of Health, six days a week. The schedule and appointment sign-ups are available online at <https://www.aacps.org/vaccines>.

### Start School Later

October 16 from Lisa VanBuskirk

Since I last wrote to you in mid-August, school has started, school bus transportation is worse than ever thanks to driver shortages and AACPS's failure to communicate those shortages, and we have a new Board Member, Ms. Gloria Dent, who was appointed by the County Council last month. Its a busy school year already!

On Wednesday, October 20th, Prismatic Services presented their final report on school start times and software implementation.

I am confident that Prismatic Servces has developed bus routes for safe, healthier, and more age-appropriate school hours for all AACPS students, without requiring additional school buses. Transportation, therefore, is no longer the barrier to implementation. So when might AACPS implement new school hours and are there any other issues?

Ten months ago, the Board voted to implement no later than second semester (January 2022). They can keep that date, or they could also opt to delay implementation until next school year (September 2022). (Go to page 7)



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**Start School Later, from page 6**

Given all the challenges with the current school year, an argument can be made for delaying until September. Though those same challenges could also be used to justify keeping to the mid-year implementation. Emotionally and logistically, valid arguments support each date. Regardless of when implemented, AACPS must clearly communicate these new school hours to the community, including addressing known concerns about impacts on sports, extracurriculars, childcare, and more.

Above all else, I want the implementation to be successful, so there is no threat of returning to the current school hours. If AACPS is not ready for January, then it may be wiser to wait until September, though such a delay continues to harm students' health.

If you have a preference for one date over the other, I urge you to write to the Board of Education. You can submit written testimony (limited to 250 words), or sign up to testify virtually or in person via: <https://www.aacps.org/boardtestimony>. You can also send email to the Board at: [boardoffice@aacps.org](mailto:boardoffice@aacps.org) and to each board member. All their addresses are on page 14.

We are soooooooooooooo incredibly close to seeing the light at the end of this multi-decade effort to change AACPS's early high school and late elementary start times. This is my eighth school year testifying before AACPS on the issue, but I know many of you have seen your children graduate high school/college/graduate school, start careers, and even have children of their own, during this advocacy effort. Thank you for your continued support.

*Lisa VanBuskirk*

Update from the Office of Community Engagement and Constituent Services (CECS)

AACPS has put together a proposal to address the bus driver shortage that has been challenging families this school year. The County Council approved it and County Executive Pittman believes it will enable the bus companies to recruit and retain more school bus drivers. He instructed his legislative staff to move forward with an emergency supplemental budget bill at the County Council meeting on October 18.



**Have you ever moved 25,000 pounds?**

Our Camp Woodlands project is almost complete! Moving and installing a 25,000 pound head wall structure requires special equipment, careful coordination and a lot of skill. We don't often use structures of this size on our projects but the Resource Restoration Group, LLC did a fantastic job lowering the head wall into place.

In 2016, Arundel Rivers constructed step pools to slow and filter stormwater running off Riva Road at Girl Scout Camp Woodlands.



*The broad swath of light brown in the foreground is the silt and mud flowing from the gully into Broad Creek.*

The AA Bureau of Watershed Protection and Restoration designed the stream restoration project for the main eroding gully immediately downstream that flows into Broad Creek. We had installed a living shoreline project along the cove where the stream enters Broad Creek in 2014. Construction began in October for the main gully's stream restoration project. This gully is a source of some of the sediment (dirt) that turns Broad Creek chocolate brown every time it rains and gushes out into the South River. At some point, cinder blocks were dropped into the upper part of the gully to help spread out the impact of the water. It turned out not to be an effective measure

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### Pittman on the Bay Bridge

To Leaders and Members of the Broadneck Council of Communities (September 15)

I want to update you on my own thinking and the outcome of recent meetings I have had on Bay Bridge traffic.

I believe we are ready to move forward in partnership with Governor Hogan and the leadership of Queen Anne’s County on a plan to address traffic along the Route 50 corridor and eventual replacement of the aging Bay Bridge infrastructure.

I had a very productive call September 15 with Governor Hogan, and before that a series of meetings and calls with Queen Anne’s County leadership, a meeting with Director Ports and his team, and in advance of all that a planning meeting with District 5 Councilwoman Amanda Fiedler and Broadneck Council Chair Pat Lynch.

As you know, the Broadneck Council and I worked together on the Phase 1 NEPA study comments that challenged the plan to build a third span without addressing Route 50 corridor traffic flow. Our comments and the County Council Resolution 32-21 that reflected them, were duly noted at the state and federal level and gave us a seat at the table. Moving forward on any plan without Anne Arundel County’s support is difficult.

The compromise that allows our neighbors on the other side of the Bay and our partners at the state to move forward together is an agreement on a replacement for the westbound span. That bridge has outlived its expected 50-year lifespan and will eventually need to be replaced. If we all go into the next NEPA phase with the goal of replacing that bridge in conjunction with a plan that moves traffic along the corridor without regular delays, we can create a plan that works for our county. That span would likely require more lanes than the current two, accommodate alternate transportation modes, and protect Sandy Point State Park and other sensitive environmental areas.

In the meantime, I have consistently advocated for near-term traffic solutions, including the accelerated shift to all-electric tolling and an automatic lane closure system to make the contra-flow changes faster and safer. I thanked Governor Hogan for both of those initiatives on our recent call. I am also still advocating for closure of the westbound on-ramp at Oceanic Road during westbound backups to prevent drivers from using our county roads as a detour.

Please share your thoughts on this proposed way forward by emailing me at [countyexecutive@aacounty.org](mailto:countyexecutive@aacounty.org).

[Lori Rhodes, who coordinates all land use departments for the county, represented me at the meeting on September 23.]



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### Holiday Events from Arundel Ag Newsletter

November 20 – Grand Illumination at Homestead Gardens, 743 Central Avenue, Davidsonville. A visit to **Homestead Gardens** for any of your holiday decorating and gifting need is; more than your average holiday shopping trip, an experience that will leave young and old alike in awe.

November 27 - December ~ Visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus at **Greenstreet Gardens**, 391 West Bay Front Road, Lothian. The perfect Christmas tree for your home is in our nursery. Then stroll through our garden center with a cup of hot cider and find a holiday wonderland filled with fresh greens, wreaths, roping, garlands, and holiday decorations for every taste.

December 4 – Holiday Wreath Workshop and December 11 and 18 – Vintage Christmas Market at **Wildberry Farm and Market**, 1047 St. Stephens Church Road, Crownsville.

December 5 – First Sunday December Market at **Honey’s Harvest Farm**, 5801 Brooks Woods Road, Lothian

December 11 – Fresh Holiday Wreath Making Workshop by **Fairytale Farmette** at Honey’s Harvest Farm  
 December ~ Fairytale Farmette, fairytalefarmette.com, 3530 Patuxent River Road, Davidsonville – Fresh magnolia wreaths from Fairytale Farmette’s giant Southern Magnolia trees are available for preorder on our website.

All done!



### Christmas trees for every place



**Worry Christmas Trees**, 1501 Rossback Road, Davidsonville – Fresh cut Christmas trees are available every weekend in December. Spend the afternoon choosing that perfect Douglas or Fraser fir, freshly made wreath and fresh rope garland.

**Knightongale Farm**, (410) 320-1363, 3924 Solomons Island Road, Harwood – Fresh cut trees, garland roping, fresh wreaths, fire pit, tree accessories and more!

**Riva Gardens**, rivagarden.net, 3234 Riva Road, Riva – Fresh cut Frazier fir Christmas trees from tabletops to 15 feet! Fresh noble fir wreaths and greens! Lots of hand-made centerpieces, and great Christmas shop!

**Holiday Memories Farm**, 4848 Muddy Creek Road, West River (410) 562-9733 – Offering cut-your-own Christmas Trees as well as pre-cut trees for sale.

**Modlin’s Tree Farm**, (301) 643-3147, 5910 Little Road, Lothian – Cut your own Christmas trees, pre-cut trees, wreaths, garlands, decorations, gift shop, concessions, picnic area, winter hay rides. Christmas trees tied, baled and trimmed. Saws provided.

### A note from State Senator “Big Ed” Reilly

The Anne Arundel County Department of Health is offering FREE COVID-19 vaccination to all Marylanders age 12 and older. Anyone who is part of an eligible age group can register for a vaccine at the clinics listed in the following link. The Department of Health's clinics are held by appointment. Walk-ins are welcome, although subject to on-site vaccine availability. <https://aacounty.org/covidvax>

It has come to my attention that these clinics have openings, and there is little to no wait-time. If you haven't been vaccinated for the COVID-19 virus, or are in need of your second shot or the booster shot, this is a very easy and efficient service provided by Anne Arundel County.





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### GAN meeting with Office of Planning and Zoning

A Growth Action Network virtual meeting with Steve Kaii-Ziegler, Cindy Carrier, Christina Pompa, and Lynn Miller was held on November 8 with approximately 25 GAN members in attendance. In response to several questions submitted by GAN the OPZ staff members provided the following information:

The Cost of Growth Study is at an early stage. The consultant is collecting data for the fiscal impact model. The Impact Fee Study is also still gathering data. These studies are expected to be finished by summer 2022.

A new Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance for schools is expected to be proposed in about 18 months. A draft of the new APFO for transportation may be available by January.

Stormwater responsibilities listed under the Stormwater Action Plan will be handled by Inspections and Permits.

The AA County government is not subject to County zoning laws. This is done differently in different counties.

Outreach activities for the Regional Area Plans will make thorough use of internet surveys, virtual meetings, and other online techniques for gathering community input. These will augment in-person listening sessions and briefings.

Region Area Plans (RAPs) are expected to be under way by January. Topics beyond recommendations for land use and comprehensive rezoning will be addressed by the RAPs and will be different for each region. The RAP topics will align with Plan2040 and some possible topics are discussed in the RAP handbook.

Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) members were selected for recommendation to the County Executive by a joint committee of representatives from OPZ and the Administration.

Connection of a SAC applicant with a Land Use Change Application (LUCA) or ownership of property affected by the RAP is not considered a conflict of interest except in RAP deliberations on that specific property.

Note: Several GAN members have expressed concern to OPZ and the County Council that three of the SAC members in Region 2 either have LUCA's (Land Use Changes) or they work for developers in the Jessup Rt. 175 corridor. Although this does not disqualify these members from serving on the Region 2 SAC, it does seem to raise questions about bias in their perspective.

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**Submit your comments on  
Green Infrastructure Master Plan to  
Planning Advisory Board by November 28**

Public comments received before September 26 have been incorporated into the first draft of the Green Infrastructure Master Plan and a revised version has been delivered to the Planning Advisory Board (PAB). The PAB draft is available for download at Green Infrastructure webpage link below.

The PAB draft reflects revisions of the original draft to address public comments made during the first comment period. Themes of these comments were:

- Support of land conservation
- Balancing conservation with development
- Concerns about property rights, public access, and trespassing
- Maintenance
- Funding

Consequent revisions made included:

- Clarification that the Plan does not affect existing regulations or zoning
- Clarification that the Plan does not allow public trespassing on private property
- Clarification that recreation can be compatible with conservation
- Map refinements including removal at owners'

requests of 6,000 of the initial 113,000 acres of Green Infrastructure land

At the November 10 PAB meeting, the Plan was overviewed by OPZ and six oral comment statements were received from the public. Written comments from the public will be accepted by the PAB until November 28.

This is a plan for conserving the most significant natural lands in the County. They protect water and air quality, provide habitat for plants and wildlife, create opportunities for recreation, and support mitigation of climate change. These Ecosystem Services make valuable contributions to the quality of life of everyone in our County. Appendix F of the Plan shows that Ecosystem Services provided by Green Infrastructure in the County have an annual value of more than \$340 million per year.

All County citizens are encouraged to review the revised plan available at the Green Infrastructure web page <https://www.aacounty.org/departments/planning-and-zoning/long-range-planning/green-infrastructure/index.html> and submit written comments to [greenplan@aacounty.org](mailto:greenplan@aacounty.org) by November 28. Copy these links to your browser line to see the Plan and submit your comments.

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Cold Feet, by Jack Turner  
from SERC's 2020 solstice photo competition

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Chesapeake Environmental Protection Association



The Chesapeake Environmental Protection Association (CEPA) works to restore the Chesapeake Bay by affecting environmental policy and action.

CEPA provides education on Bay issues and encourages public activism and involvement in both legislation and enforcement.

Our goal is sustainable growth in the region a future where our precious natural resources are in balance with their use.

The limits of the Chesapeake Bay’s resources have already been breached by the impact of human activities that affect the watersheds. Unrestricted commercial and residential growth, fueled by permissive zoning, leads to more infrastructure for water supply, sewerage treatment, landfills, roads, county maintenance facilities,

schools, and so on. All of these activities impact the Chesapeake Bay.

Citizen activists like CEPA members have an urgent role to play in restoring the Bay to health. Specific issues that CEPA’s members are focusing on include:

Over-nutrication from agribusiness (fertilizer, manure, animal byproducts, etc.)

Point source pollution and nutrification from sewerage treatment plants and industrial and municipal facilities

Silt and biological and chemical pollution from runoff

Marine life sustainability issues including disease, invasive/alien species, and over-harvesting

Ground water resources (purity, depletion, and recharge)

Shoreline erosion

Go to CEPAonline.org for more information and to read CEPA’s quarterly newsletter.

The moon went dark

If you were awake between 3:00 and 5:00 AM on Friday, November 19, you could have witnessed a partial eclipse of the November full moon, called a Beaver Moon. When the earth passed between the sun and the face of the full moon it cast its shadow on the moon, leaving only the smallest sliver of light on the left side. The umbra was dark red. Luckily for me, I did not have to be outdoors to watch it, but sat inside by a window to see it all and stayed awake! Gail

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“Nature's Winter Lights” Frozen snowflakes on a windshield at sunrise, by Natasha Hitchcock

**Smithsonian Environmental Research Center *Winter Photo Challenge: 12 Nights of Solstice***

Submit your winter photos for SERC’s second *12 Nights of Solstice* celebration on social media! This year’s theme is “Life While Nature Sleeps.” For 12 nights starting on the winter solstice December 21, we’ll share your inspirational nature photos blending the ideas of life, winter, and stillness. Six photos will come from the public, and six will come from Smithsonian staff and volunteers.

Creative interpretations of the theme are encouraged! Use the entry form at [SERC.si.edu/winter-photos-entry-form](http://SERC.si.edu/winter-photos-entry-form), to submit up to three photos with a short description and credit information before midnight December 6.

A panel of SERC judges will select the final 12 photos based on 1) the “Life While Nature Sleeps” theme; 2) artistic beauty; and 3) creativity and originality.

Visitors: Our campus will be closed on the following Saturdays for annual forest management: Nov. 27, Dec. 4, Dec. 11, Dec. 18 and Jan. 8. We will also be closed on Dec. 25 and Jan. 1 for the federal holidays. All visitors should do a self-health check before arriving and bring a face covering if you need to use any indoor facilities. See our COVID-19 Visitor Guide for where to park, updated maps and hours, and other safety information.



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**Contact information for Government Officials****State District 33**

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**Anne Arundel County**

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 Clerk of the Circuit Court [aaclerkadmin@mdcourts.gov](mailto:aaclerkadmin@mdcourts.gov)  
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[boardoffice@aacps.org](mailto:boardoffice@aacps.org) [garlotto@aacps.org](mailto:garlotto@aacps.org)

**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

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**At Jug Bay**

*Davidsonville Country Living* magazine is dedicated to residents of our fair community and features families and individuals who make Davidsonville the place we love. It also features an occasional local history or 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](mailto:david.grabau@n2pub.com).

David Grabau will email you a free PDF version which you can open and read.



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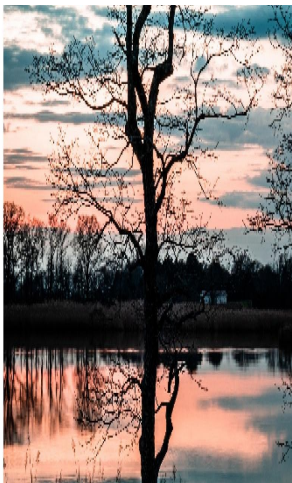
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Go to <http://lso-music.org> to purchase tickets, sign up for newsletter, and to donate. Our mailing address is: Londontowne Symphony Orchestra, PO Box 926, Edgewater, MD 21037.



Pastel water colors mark a cold winter sunset on Maryland's Eastern Shore,  
by Max Ruehrmund  
from SERC's 2020 solstice  
photo competition

**AA County Farmers Market: 40 years strong**

In celebration of its 40th year anniversary, the Anne Arundel County Farmers' Market has added Wednesday afternoons to its weekly schedule. Increased demand from customers led the market to provide this new time slot on October 6th, from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm. The open air market under a pavilion at the corner of Riva Road and Truman Parkway provides freshly prepared foods along with locally sourced, garden-fresh produce, meats, and seafood from a diverse group of vendors. Other products such as freshly baked bread, olive oils, specialty bourbons and tequilas, and sweets will be offered. It will be *the* place to stop on the way home for a ready-made dinner.

In addition to the new Wednesday market hours, the Holiday Market will open November 20th and run through December 19th on Saturday 7:00 am -12:00 pm and Sunday from 10:00 am -1:00 pm. Vendors will offer unique gift items from handmade wooden ornaments and toys to scented candles, evergreen wreaths, fine jewelry, cutting boards and furniture, along with seasonal produce, meats, milk and eggs, pies and other sweet stuff. It is truly a holiday market.

AAC Farmers' Market is always striving to improve its offering to our customers and enhance the market place itself. The outdoor venue provides a safe, pleasant environment to browse, shop, and socialize. Four new picnic tables were installed and a bike rack will soon be in place. This year, the market also upgraded its lighting and installed new industrial fans.

For more information, visit the website at: [aacofarmersmarket.com](http://aacofarmersmarket.com).  
*Terry Cummings*

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For more information, check out the website at

[www.aacofarmersmarket.com](http://www.aacofarmersmarket.com), or contact by email  
[aacfmsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:aacfmsecretary@gmail.com)



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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](http://www.daca-md.org)

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

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Your comments, your interests?