

The Villager

Newsletter of the Davidsonville Area Civic Association

Vol. 48, No. 6

P.O. Box 222, Davidsonville, Maryland 21035

March-April 2022



Saturday, March 26, 2022 | 10 am - 1 pm

Homestead Gardens, Davidsonville

Free tree seedlings! (while supplies last)

Support Your Community for Just \$20 a Year

The Davidsonville Area Civic Association (commonly referred to as DACA) was established in 1974 to:

- 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 protecting the property rights of residents
- Anticipate future issues and problems affecting the welfare of the Davidsonville community and work to find appropriate approaches and solutions
- Promote community pride and civic interests
- Consider the needs of and represent the entire Davidsonville community

Nearly 50 years later, the all-volunteer Davidsonville Area Civic Association is still at work.

If you are not yet a member of DACA, please join today.

(See the back cover or sign up online at www.daca-md.org.)

DACA helps residents stay informed! Members receive an email alert when a new issue of *The Villager* is ready to read.

DACA Members Write

Many thanks to Larry Hartman, to Margaret Herbers, to Rick and Patricia Keegan, and to Pete and Peggy Wormwood for their contributions to DACA in addition to renewing their dues. Hurrah for Life members Patty and Bill Glasgow, and Melissa Stanton, and Hallelujah for Betty Knupp for their extra support!



Betty Knupp, a former DACA board member and now a Life member for her past contributions, is living up to the title of Angel. She sent a very generous contribution for general expenses and a very, very generous gift to the Scholarship Fund.

She wrote, "You do a fabulous job on the Villager ... very informative and interesting to read. You and the DACA Board have accomplished your goal of preserving the rural character of Davidsonville and assuring a special quality of life here. Thanks for sending me [the printed] Villager which I read and pass on to new neighbors. Warmest regards, Betty

And, welcome new member Kate Lorenz, who wrote, "Thank you, Gail! Betty Knupp told me about the great work DACA does. Happy to be a new Davidsonville resident."

Thank you for all the work you do. Love Davidsonville. P.M.

Deer Crossing

Thank you to James Kitchin of the County Executive's office and Eric Terry of the Department of Public Works for responding to a Davidsonville resident's request that deer crossing signs be added to Mount Airy Road.



In memoriam
Therese Turner
1919 - January 19, 2022
DACA member 2005 - 2006

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Notice to All New and Renewing Members and Advertisers

After discussing DACA’s financial situation at its February 3 meeting, the board of directors voted unanimously to raise the dues to \$20 per person per year. Many thanks to Melissa Stanton for testing the website and the PayPal system by sending money, with a nice contribution sent through PayPal. Very fast—it took her maybe two minutes during the meeting without interrupting it.

Throughout its lifetime of printing paid advertisements, the *Villager* has charged very low fees in comparison with other publications of an equal quality. The general rule for many is that ads should pay for the cost of the publication.

The board members had previously discussed raising *Villager’s* advertising rates and the Editor issued new rates on February 4. The new rates for an entire year still do not cover the cost of printing the March–April 2022 issue unless more businesses buy space in the newsletter.

Some DACA members and businesses in and around Davidsonville place their ads primarily to show support for the civic association; others regularly make a contribution in addition to their ad fee. DACA is grateful to all and we hope their businesses thrive as a result of their visibility. Advertisers whose terms have not yet expired can expect higher costs in the future. We hope this will not cause them to cancel their ad.

Comparison of advertising rates	2021	2022
16 quarter-page ads	@ \$150 \$2,400	@ \$175 \$2,800
2 3" x 3"	@ \$105 \$210	@ \$145 \$290
5 eighth-page ads	@ \$90 \$450	@ \$115 \$575
	\$ 3,060	\$ 3,665

The cost of quarter-page ads will increase to \$175 per year; sixth-page ads (3" x 3") will increase to \$145 per year; eighth-page ads will increase to \$115 per year. At present, we have 16 quarter-page ads; two 3" x 3" ads, and five eighth-page ads. If we get no more advertisers, the new rates will add \$605 in receipts for the year.

DACA is very grateful for members’ quick response to the need for more income to cover ongoing costs. Since the January–February *Villager* was posted to the website on January 17, five renewing members included extra contributions with their dues. Those who renew memberships after these raises were published will have to pay at the new rate. Those who have paid already will not need to add to the dues they already paid. Contributions are always welcome.

Where Does All the Money Go?

The largest regular expense is for the *Villager*, six times a year, DACA’s most effective communication with all the members. It is fair for their dues to contribute to this cost. Five issues are printed and sent by USPS to members who do not use email, as well as to public officials to get it on their desks as well as in their email box, and to advertisers to have a paper copy in their workplace. Printing and postage for each of these five issues cost \$380; color ink costs \$60 more, so you’ve been seeing it lately with black ink on colored paper. The once-yearly printing and mailing of the *Villager* to all 3,000 postal patrons in the 21035 zip code is necessary as DACA’s only opportunity to reach the entire community, especially new residents, to inform them of DACA’s existence. This mass mailing costs \$4,100 in color; black/white saves \$500 but is not really eye-catching when we’re trying to get attention. (Prices are subject to change, although Minute Man Press of Crofton gives us very possible discount.)

Other expenses include the cost of on-line presence: email and the website, a major source for members, thanks to maintenance and updating by Melissa Stanton, our able and creative webmaster. DACA pays dues to the Davidsonville Family Recreation Center so we can use their facilities and store more than 40 years of records and *Villagers* there. Our liability insurance policy is required for nonprofit organizations at DFRC. The trees DACA gives visitors at Green Expo are purchased from the state tree nursery operated by Maryland Department of Resources. DACA pays dues and supports other like-minded organizations such as Growth Action Network, Chesapeake Environmental Protection Association, etc.

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Patuxent River Champion

*The Bernie Fowler Protection Act
In memory of Bernie Fowler*

Bernie Fowler died after a lifelong effort to restore and protect the Patuxent River.

From *Chesapeake Bay* magazine, December 14, 2021:

“Clyde Bernard ‘Bernie’ Fowler died Sunday, Dec. 12, at age 97. He

was best known for his annual wade-in at Jefferson Patterson Park, during which Fowler wore white sneakers and walked into the water until he could no longer see his shoes. His measurement became known as the “sneaker index.” When Fowler began measuring in 1969, he could still see his shoes in 52 inches of water, a depth never again met. A depth of 47 inches was measured in 2019, but as *Bay Bulletin* reported, 2021 brought a disappointing 34-inch sneaker index.

“Fowler spent his life and political career pushing for a clean Patuxent River—the largest river fully within Maryland borders. From 1970 to 1982, he was a Calvert County Commissioner, and from 1983 to 1994, he was a member of the Maryland Senate.” Mr. Fowler was a member of the Chesapeake Bay Commission and the Patuxent River Commission.”

As several members of the Patuxent River Commission reached the end of their four-year terms, it seems odd that Governor Hogan dismissed two of the most vocal supporters of the river (*Villager* January–February 2021). In the aftermath of their dismissal, three members of the Maryland Senate and 23 members of the House of Delegates introduced bills in January to their respective chambers to memorialize Bernie Sanders with the Bernie Fowler Protection Act, Senate Bill 367 and House Bill 617.

The essence of both bills is to increase the membership of the Commission from 34 to 35, by making the Patuxent Riverkeeper a permanent member of the group. The Commission’s duties include oversight of the river cleanup plans

and the ability to “review and comment on plans and reports related to the Patuxent River and its watershed.” It cannot enforce regulations or laws, merely to comment and offer advice.

As Senator Sarah Elfreth became the Chair of the Chesapeake Bay Commission, DACA sent a letter on January 26 to her and to the three sponsoring Senators—Paul Pinsky, Obie Patterson, Michael Jackson—as well as to Senator Edward R. Reilly, and House District 33 Delegates Heather Bagnall, Rachel Muñoz, and Sid Saab, to ask for their votes for the Bernie Fowler bills:

Dear Senator Elfreth:

Congratulations on becoming Chair of the Chesapeake Bay Commission, and thank you for accepting that position.

The Board of Directors of the Davidsonville Area Civic Association (DACA) urges you and your colleagues to vote in support of Senate Bill #367, the Bernie Fowler Water Protection Act to restore the Patuxent Riverkeeper’s position to the PRC.

Davidsonville’s western border is the Patuxent River. DACA believes it is important that the Patuxent River Commission include the Patuxent Riverkeeper as a voting member. Fred Tutman has been a tireless advocate for the health of the river for more than 20 years, and his viewpoint is ever fresh and up-to-date with the current needs of the river.

Please vote in favor of SB #367, the Bernie Fowler Protection Act.

Sincerely, Bruce Stein, President,

Co-signed by DACA Board members H. Edward Woods, Gail Enright, Katharine Fox, Christopher Asher, Melissa Stanton, Wayne Reid, Lynn Marano, Cynthia Morgan, Andrew Healy, Jeff Bishop, Brian Stanton, Sean Healy.

Senator Elfreth’s Chief of Staff, Dylan Behler, replied very promptly, “Thank you so much for reaching out about this. I spoke with Senator Elfreth she absolutely supports this legislation.”

If passed by both Houses, the bill will take effect June 1, 2022, restoring the Patuxent Riverkeeper to the Patuxent River Commission.



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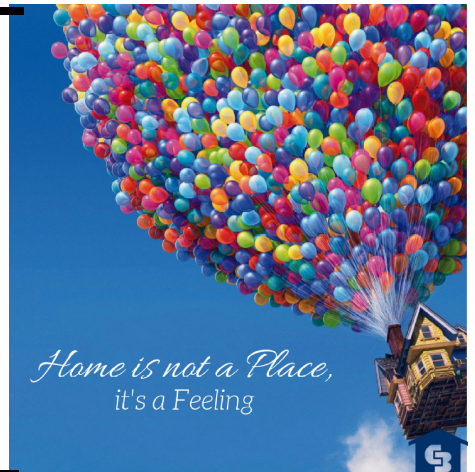
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School Report, from Cyndi Morgan

The Board of Education approved a shift in school start times for the 2022–2023 school year. This is the draft proposal for the following schools:

- Davidsonville Elementary: start 8 am, end 2:25 pm
- Central Middle School: start 9:15 am, end 3:55 pm
- South River High School: start 8:30 am, end 3:18 pm

Exact school bus stop times will not be finalized for several months. This is the work by Prismatic Services, Inc., the consultant hired by BOE to create efficiencies in student bus transportation. They state that, in their studies it will result in fewer bus stops throughout the county. For more information about the shift in start times, go to <https://www.aacps.org/domain/1800>.

The BOE approved making masks optional in schools starting Friday, Feb 18. Masks are still required on buses, as that is a federal mandate. Since Anne Arundel County met one of the “offramps,” it was determined that masks can be optional in schools. More info here: <https://www.aacps.org/optionalmasking>.

As of March 3, masks are optional on buses and in AACPS schools due to high vaccination rates and lower case rates in the county

Enrollment 2022 Summer Programs at AACPS is now open (March 1) and closes on April 1. For more information, go to: <https://www.aacps.org/summer>.

Survey form as part of the search for new Superintendent opened on March 7 and closes at 4 pm on March 21. Families are encouraged to provide their inputs for the search for a new Superintendent.

Vaccination or Test Program for Student Athletes

Dr. Arlotto announced that spring high school student athletes will not be subject to the vaccination-or-test program that has been in place in the winter season. More detailed information can be found here: <http://aacpsschools.org/pressr/?p6392>

Start School Later, by Lisa VanBuskirk

After the February 2 meeting of the Board of Education an update was posted regarding the 2022–2023 start and dismissal time changes, AACPS released a new start time website and proposed bell times for individual schools.

Broadly, elementary school starts at 8:00 am with a few, including early elementary at 8:30; middle school and specialty schools at 9:15; high school at 8:30.

AACPS plans to hold a series of virtual community education events. Details are still to be decided.

Please email the Board of Education to thank them for bell times that are safer, healthier, and more age appropriate. Some people are upset and surprised by this decision, but it has been a long time coming. Please express your support to the board to ensure they are not tempted to backtrack in the face of complaints.

- boardoffice@aacps.org
- dschallheim@aacps.org
- mcorkadel@aacps.org
- mkellis@aacps.org
- rsilkworth@aacps.org
- clfrank@aacps.org
- jtobin@aacps.org
- gdent@aacps.org
- bomisore@aacps.org

I will keep you updated with the virtual education events.

Sincerely,
Lisa VanBuskirk
Start School Later Anne Arundel County



Ray Alcorn

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The Local Ag Report, from Margie Chase

Good Morning Farmer! is an online gathering place sponsored by the University of Maryland Extension Service. Farmers can discuss topics of interest, learn from experts, and provide support through community fellowship. You can access the programs at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdUe3FqZu9cRXsKVoVHURSMiUWjkQiQeeWrvyxAJTRksnzYow/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0. Winter/Spring Sessions are held from 8:00 to 9:00 am.

March 16, 2022: GMO (Genetically Modified Organisms) Agriculture: Where are we going?

April 13, 2022: IPM (Integrated Pest Management) for sustainable farming: How to make it work on your farm.

The Maryland Farm Bureau sponsored a Day in Annapolis by Zoom on February 9 for all members. Meeting with legislators is by far the most effective means of conveying the farmers' message. The virtual program began with a legislative briefing by the Farm Bureau's government relations staff. Farm Bureau members had small group virtual meetings with their members of the General Assembly. With only a couple of farmers in the General Assembly, we need now more than ever to engage our lawmakers on the value of agriculture in Maryland.



WORKING TOGETHER FOR A NEW FOOD FUTURE

Fair Farms advocates for regenerative agricultural practices that build healthy soils, with the goals of improving water quality, ecosystem health, and soil health, and reducing farm risk from extreme weather events.

At the state level, the Fair Farms team and its farmer advisors are busy in Annapolis advocating for funding legislation that would support sustainable farmers, the communities they feed, and the clean air and water we all rely on. The top priorities are described here.

1. Urban farming is getting attention in this legislative session. The Maryland Farm Bureau added urban farming to their policy agenda.

The Urban Agriculture Grant Program (HB 1216), sponsored by Delegate Melissa Wells (District 40), imposes a mandated appropriation in the annual State Budget Bill.

Delegate Wells seeks not only to obtain the necessary funding for the program but also to expand the grant program throughout the state. Legislation will focus on urban farms that supply local healthy foods to communities that do not have (Continued on page 7)

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Agricultural Legislation (Continued from page 6)

access to nutritious food. The bill proposes

- To create a ten-member review committee, five of whom will be urban farmers, to decide who will get the money.
- Priority funding for historically under-represented groups (Black, Indigenous, people of color).
- Grant funding for infrastructure like high tunnel systems, cold storage, and irrigation and land purchases.
- Nonprofits that work with urban farmers will be eligible for funds.

The first hearing for this bill was March 4.

2. Waste Diversion and Farm Composting (HB 1070) sponsored by Delegate Regina T. Boyce (District 43).

The Institute for Local Self Reliance (ILSR) is leading this effort. The bill will create an “Environmental Stewardship” fund that will help develop composting systems and educational programs for farms. The money will come from a small fee of \$5 per ton collected from waste haulers taking their trash to the dump. Passing a bill with a fee may be difficult, especially during an election year. The bill will establish two types of grants:

- Waste Diversion Grants (one for counties and another for businesses, schools, nonprofits, and farmers) will fund programs that decrease trash, and:
- Maryland On-Farm Composting and Compost Use Grant which will support farmers who want to compost on their land.

3. Agrivoltaics (farm-centered solar development on farmland) (HB 936), sponsored by Delegate Kumar P. Barve (District 17). Delegate Barve is championing a bill that will create a Blue Ribbon Community Solar Land Use Commission to work with the Maryland Department of Agriculture, the Maryland Department of Environment, and other stakeholders (including Fair Farms) to assess the potential for solar development within a four-mile radius of interconnection sites like a transformer or substation. HB 1070 and HB 936 were heard on March 2.



Maryland legislators visit a tree farm during the Million Acre Challenge farm tours

4. Maryland Farms and Families Fund, Maryland Food and Agricultural Resiliency Mechanism Grant Program, and Maryland Farm-to-School Meal Grant Pilot Program (HB 147, and SB 121), sponsored by Delegate Lorig Charkoudian (District 20) and Senator Katie Fry Hester (District 9). There are three significant parts to this bill:

- The Maryland Farms and Families Fund is a grant that non-profits can apply to for matching funding for programs like SNAP and WIC. It also expands funding to farm stands.
- It establishes the Maryland Food and Agricultural Resiliency Mechanism Grant Program and Fund to support food banks and other emergency food providers.
- It establishes the Maryland Farm-to-School Meal Grant Pilot Program and Fund to give grants to schools to buy local produce. The hearing on HB 147 was January 19.

All these bills were referred to the Environment and Transportation Committee. As they move through the Maryland General Assembly, Fair Farms will share updates through social media and its email newsletter.




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Environmental Legislation News from Arundel Rivers



Riverkeeper Jesse Iliff is advocating for a number of bills to help protect our rivers. These include forthcoming legislation on oysters, invasive plants, banning restaurants from using plastic utensils and straws, as well as ending “zombie permits” that allow for unregulated pollutant discharges.

A number of important and interesting pieces of legislation are coming up in this year’s general assembly session. As of January 20, just one week into the 90 day session, Arundel Rivers will be working on at least four bills, and tracking several more.

Senate Bill 7 and House Bill 15 were filed by two of Annapolis’s own representatives, Delegate Dana Jones and Senator Sarah Elfreth. They would require the Department of Agriculture to identify invasive plants as Tier 1 or Tier 2 invasives, depending on the danger the plants pose to the environment. Once classified, the bill prohibits use of invasive plants in outdoor applications by state or state-funded entities.

On January 12 Delegate Sarah Love, Annapolis, introduced Maryland House Bill 135, to prohibit, beginning January 1, 2023, a food service business from providing certain single-use food or beverage products to a customer ordering carry out or delivery from or dining inside the food service business unless the customer requests or accepts an offer for the single-use products; requiring a food service business to maintain a limited stock of single-use plastic straws for certain customers; and authorizing a food service business to submit a request to a governmental entity for a waiver of up to three months. *(Continued on page 9)*

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Arundel Rivers Legislation *(continued from page 8)*

Two additional bills have not yet made it out of drafting but will be introduced soon. One provides for increased oversight and enforcement of discharge permits that have been administratively extended beyond their original expiration, and also permits in significant noncompliance with stated effluent limits. This bill has grown out of an increasing number of permits that are expired or in significant noncompliance over the past several years as the budget for the Department of Environment has shrunk.

Senator Elfreth plans to introduce an oyster bill focused largely on funding, specifically on increasing spat, shell, and substrate resources. The substance of this legislation has been informed by the deliberations of the Oyster Advisory Commission, where Riverkeeper Jesse Iliff has a seat.

Arundel Rivers Federation congratulates Jesse Iliff, who has ably served as its Riverkeeper for the South, West, and Rhode Rivers, on his appointment as Executive Director of the Severn River Association. As Riverkeeper, Jesse provided strong leadership on the rivers and as an advocate for our rivers. Arundel Rivers looks forward to partnering with Jesse and the Severn River Association.

Birds, Bees, and Butterflies in Your Meadow

Having talked with James at Bowen’s, I will purchase a special seed that should be used to create the wildflower meadows. James will stock it for those interested in creating a meadow. Seed will be available on May 1, with instructions who how to plant. James can advise you how much you need based on the size of your plot and soil type. Meadow grass and flower seed will be paid for (up to certain amount) by a donor/supporter of bees and butterflies! If you are interested, please go to Bowen’s and tell James it is for your DACA wildflower meadow. He will know how much to give you and charge it to the donor.

Anonymous member

From the Maryland Legislature

Senator Sarah Elfreth introduced Senate Bill 7, (matched with House Bill 15) which would require the Department of Agriculture to identify and classify invasive plants depending on the danger they pose to the environment, requiring the Department of Natural Resources to create, maintain, and publish on its website a list of plant species native to the State; requiring that each entity that receives State funding and each State agency prioritize the use of plants native to the State for every planting project; exempting the sale of plants native to the State from the sales and use tax, etc. Once classified, the bill prohibits use of invasive plants in outdoor applications by state or state-funded entities.

From the Capital, February 27:

While hiking in Franklin Point State Park with Jeff Holland, Senator Elfreth told him about the “Great Maryland Outdoors Act” she introduced. SB 541 is to boost funding via a Park System Critical Maintenance Fund for state parks to improve infrastructure and enhance staff salaries which have been seriously underfunded; create a Parks and Recreation Commission; and a Parks System Capital Improvement and Acquisition Fund [from MD Horse Council publication *Equiery*, March 2022]. Access to Franklin Point State Park is on the Dent Road entrance from Shady Side Road between Churchton and Shady Side.

Delegate Muñoz noted the House Bills to watch in this session.

HB 117: Declaration of Rights—Right to Reproductive Liberty

HB 425: Public Safety—Untraceable Firearms

HB 561: Child Custody Cases Involving Child Abuse or Domestic Violence Training For Judges

HB 1062: Criminal Law—Animal Cruelty—Petition for Costs for Care of Seized Animals

All bills are filed at

<https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Legislation/ndex/house>.

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GAN Member Meeting with the Office of Planning and Zoning

Three topics were on the Agenda for Growth Action Network's February 22 virtual meeting with Steve Kaii-Ziegler, Christine Pompa, Cindy Carrier, and other staff from the Office of Planning and Zoning:

- (1) Concerns about the survey process used by the Regional Area Plans (part of comprehensive rezoning process);
- (2) Fundamental problems with Adequate Public Facilities Ordinances for Transportation; and
- (3) High density development in Parole without road upgrades.

OPZ's comments on these topics are summarized below:


Recent surveys used to gather community input for Regions 2, 4, and 7 did not incorporate any means for preventing respondents from submitting multiple responses or verifying that they actually lived in the Region or were even adults. Consequently, GAN expressed concerns that the surveys could be hijacked by special interest groups, diluted by responses from other Regions, counties, or even states, or could become assigned projects for children in groups like middle school civics classes or Boy Scout troops. GAN suggested required entry of a driver's license or other ID number as a means to minimize these problems. OPZ staff responded that they didn't think there was evidence these things were happening, and that children under 16 should not be discriminated against. There were

also concerns about people who are elderly or disabled or don't drive. This response seemed inadequate, and GAN remains in doubt about credibility of the survey data.

Adequate Public Facilities Ordinances for Transportation have been in place for many years, but traffic congestion continues to grow. GAN asked OPZ staff to explain why large increases in traffic around developments are observed if the current system of traffic studies before developments are approved is working. The OPZ staff response was that traffic can change with many variables and confirmed that it does not perform any follow-up analysis on traffic volumes generated versus what is predicted in traffic studies.

Roadway improvements to provide congestion relief are mentioned in the draft Parole Master Plan and it acknowledges that road upgrades are badly needed. Another high-density development has been approved along Riva Road in Parole, and GAN questioned whether road upgrades shouldn't be planned, approved, funded, and constructed prior to the completion of these new developments. OPZ explained that the new several-hundred-unit development currently under way might increase Riva Road traffic by only a few percent and that Town Center areas should be thought of differently from other areas of the County.

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Unpaid EZ Pass Bridge Tolls Waived by Maryland Transportation Board *(Sent by Senator Ed Reilly)*

Did you slip through the Bay Bridge toll booth without paying? You've got a break.

At its monthly live-streamed public meeting in February, the Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) Board approved a Customer Assistance Plan that includes a civil penalty waiver grace period starting February 24 through November 30, 2022. Customers who pay their unpaid tolls by 11:59 pm on November 30, 2022, are excused from all civil penalties. The MDTA has ceased referring toll bills to the Central Collection Unit (CCU) and MDOT Motor Vehicle Administration (MDOT MVA) temporarily. The MDTA will resume referrals of unpaid toll bills and civil penalties to CCU and MDOT MVA on December 1. This plan does not impact the posting of backlogged tolls. The MDTA will continue posting COVID backlogged tolls into summer 2022. For customers who choose not to pay their Video Tolls before the due date on the notice, mailings of citations/civil penalties will continue during the grace period and will remain in effect unless the unpaid tolls are paid by 11:59 pm on November 30, 2022, within the grace period.

Join DACA: What Do You Get Out of It?

“**E**ven though we have been here for years, we always learn something new about this area from your newsletter.”

Keep up with what is going on in the county, state legislature, schools, land use, agriculture, and environmental programs.

You can participate in community and countywide policy decision making.

DACA's longevity and well-thought positions have endured it with the respect and attention of the County Executive, County Council, and county department heads and officers.

DACA provides advice and support for individual members' requests for help from county departments.

DACA serves as an umbrella for home owners' associations, providing more clout than each smaller group.

DACA's membership in countywide associations provides more clout when addressing these officials on issues.

What Issues Does DACA Attend To?

- Preserving the lifestyle we sought when moving here
- Zoning and land use changes
- Preserving open space, agricultural land
- Traffic and road construction

(Continued on page 12)

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What Else Does DACA Attend to? (From page 11)

Environmental issues

- Protect waterfront land (critical areas) and streams—there are many streams flowing through Davidsonville to the rivers and the Bay
- Promoting renewable energy sources

What are some of DACA’s accomplishments?

Most of DACA’s accomplishments are invisible

- Defeated a proposed shopping center on the vacant corner of #424 and #214 (the issue that started DACA in 1973–1974)
- Defeated the proposed salt dome at Rte #50 and #424

On the positive side

- Founder and sponsor of Green Expo 2009–2019, and reinstated this year!
- Supports tree planting and wildflower meadows
- Installation of the Welcome to Davidsonville sign

Sometimes, as a volunteer organization with limited resources, DACA cannot take on every issue. But when we can’t, we do offer what advice and assistance our experiences have given us to assist others in their concerns with various south county land use issues (example, the dog park).

What Do Members Say? *The editor saved these email messages without the writers’ names.*

“Probably the thing that got me most interested in DACA was the salt dome issue, the size of the meeting and the attention the pols (state and county) paid to it. I think this is one of DACA’s big triumphs, and I had barely become a member.”

“The mutual respect and communication we have with the County government. As we are nonpartisan, IMO, they respect our opinions as speaking for the residents and best interests of south county, not in the interests of one political

side or the other.”

“We act as advocates and commentators on various land use issues affecting south county: “Keep south county rural” (easier said than done). This is harder, and, at least procedurally and administratively, harder and more time consuming than it sounds. Sometimes, professional legal counsel is required, which calls for money. (We have been lucky in getting pro bono counsel recently, but that is not guaranteed in the future).”

We are an environmentally oriented organization. While “green” has taken on a politically oriented meaning, we are mindful that south county has been an abundantly productive area since before us folks from the old country showed up here in the 1600s or so.

“The most telling description of environmental changes in south county was made by Martin Zehner (1925–2020), who said in one of our meetings that when he started farming in 1935, he would plow the field, and hundreds of birds would flock down to feast on the bugs, worms, and so on. But today, hardly any do. He said he was trying to change his farming methods that he had been told were the ‘best practices’ for many years. Personal note, 20 years ago when I first moved here, there were tons of birds in my backyard, which is full of trees—now, it is unusual when I see more than one or two at a time.”

“To keep south county rural, the land must be economically viable, or housing developments will inevitably take over. Farms in south county probably cannot remain economically viable by growing mass market crops (e.g. soybeans) and competing with the rest of the world’s growers. Higher value crops and uses of the land that will retain the historical rural and agricultural nature must be found. Easier said than done, but I think possible, and need to be found.”

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Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC)



and our exhibitors, to be revealed on March 26 (LOL!)



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Anne Arundel County

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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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"I think that I shall never see..."

Just as we humans are comprised of many parts functioning together allowing us to do wondrous things, the anatomy of a tree is just as wondrous, empowering them with super hero qualities.

A tree is comprised of its leaves, stems, trunk and its roots. When you look at a tree, note that about five percent of the tree is comprised of its leaves, 15 percent its stems, 60 percent goes into its trunk and 20 percent is devoted to its roots.

Here is the super hero part. Through a process called photosynthesis, leaves pull in carbon dioxide and water and use the energy of the sun to convert this into chemical compounds such as sugars that feed the tree. But as a by-product of that chemical reaction oxygen is produced and released by the tree. It is proposed that one large tree can provide a day's supply of oxygen for up to four people.



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



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“Strum” by Jessie Montgomery

“Ebben! Ne andro lontana” from La Wally by Catalini

“He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands”

“Lift Every Voice and Sing”

Featuring the Coalition for African Americans in the Performing Arts (CAAPA) and showcasing the winners of the LSO’s state-wide, annual Young Artist Competition. CAAPA helps promote opportunities for Black classical musicians and others in the performing arts through arts performances, education, and outreach. They offer frequent concerts and other events fulfilling this vision throughout central Maryland.

Final Concert

Celebrating Annapolis Green June 11, 2022

Season finale and gala to promote a sustainable, environmentally friendly community with memorable music to match. In collaboration with Annapolis Green.

Tickets are available from Maryland Hall at www.marylandhall.org/events/ or call 410-263-5544. Individual concert tickets cost \$25 each. Students are always admitted free but still need a student ticket ordered through Maryland Hall. Tickets are also available at the door on concert dates.

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

Live Arts Maryland Stands with Ukraine

On Ash Wednesday, March 3, 2022, Live Arts Maryland sponsored a public vigil to demonstrate support for the people of Ukraine. From their website:

“In times of turmoil, music brings us together and we stand with Ukraine. Members of the Annapolis Chorale, and the Choir of St. Anne’s Episcopal Church were joined by members of the community to sing the Ukrainian National Anthem.”

Come to Expo to get your trees!

...And to meet the members of DACA’s Board of Directors. They will be there to help you select your trees and wrap them for you to carry home to plant in your favorite location, an investment for future generations.

A tree has the ability to provide an essential of life for all living things on our planet—oxygen, and the power to remove harmful gases like carbon dioxide making the air we breathe healthier.

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The Villager

Newsletter of the Davidsonville Area Civic Association



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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.

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Your comments, your interests?