

# Smoke Signal



MOYAONE  
ASSOCIATION  
NEWSLETTER

VOLUME LIX

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NO. 5

## **President's Note:** **Membership Meeting, Sat. May 11**

— Michael Leventhal  
*MoyaonePresident@gmail.com*

On Saturday, May 11 at 4 pm in the Wagner Community Center (2311 Bryan Point Road), the Moyaone Association will hold its semi-annual membership meeting. The meeting will include the annual Trustees' report, as well as reports by the Chairs of the Pool, Road, Building & Grounds, Public Affairs, and the Welcome/Membership committees. Also, the Nominating Committee will present the slate of officers to be voted on for the coming year. And just to make the meeting the fun event it is always known to be, there will be several new business items. Everyone should have already received the meeting agenda and the minutes of the December membership meeting in an email message from the Moyaone Secretary on April 23.

Even though you may have a host of activities and projects that may seem more important than taking the time to attend this upcoming membership meeting, vigilance and participation at these meetings is what keeps the Moyaone Association on the straight and narrow. It ensures that the fiduciary responsibility of the Board is met in collecting and spending funds entrusted to it based on the approved 2019 budget. Besides, the meeting is a great opportunity to see and talk to your neighbors about issues and topics that affect all of us. At the conclusion of the meeting will be potluck munchies and drinks.

I hope to see all of our Moyaone members at this meeting. If you cannot attend, you have been sent a proxy form (in the April 23 email message) to pass on to your friends within the Moyaone Reserve to register your vote on the issues raised at the meeting. Please don't be absent or silent ... the effectiveness of any membership organization is truly based

## **MOYAONE MEMBERSHIP MEETING** **Saturday, May 11 at 4 pm**

*(registration & membership renewal  
begin at 3:30 pm)*

**Wagner Community Center**  
**2311 Bryan Point Road**

*(followed by a wine and cheese social;  
please bring your favorite food or drink  
to share with your neighbors)*

on the willingness of the members to stand and be heard and counted.

As stated before, everyone who has/is paid/paying their 2019 membership dues are considered full members at the May 11 semi-annual membership meeting. Dues payments are gladly accepted at the meeting, should you wish to make a payment at this event. Please make our meeting and post-meeting a rousing success by your presence.

### **PROXY:**

I, \_\_\_\_\_,  
a current 2019 Moyaone Association full member in  
good standing and owner of a Moyaone residence  
at the address of

\_\_\_\_\_  
give to \_\_\_\_\_  
my proxy for the Annual Meeting held on Saturday,  
May 11, 2019 at 4 pm in the Wagner Center.



## **Links between Common Areas and Civilization**

— Charles Gaumond

I remember, perhaps falsely, that the French diplomat and political scientist Alexis de Tocqueville commented that Americans formed common interest groups more than in France. This past week, I listened to an episode of “99% Invisible,” a podcast that featured an interview with Eric Klinenberg, who recently wrote *Palaces for the People*, the term used by Andrew Carnegie to describe libraries. Klinenberg is a sociologist who studied disasters in various cities, one of which was a deadly heat wave in Chicago. Some neighborhoods fared significantly better than others where the elderly and weak died alone. One common factor that determined the resilience of a neighborhood against disaster was the existence of common areas like libraries, where everyone is welcome and various groups meet. Libraries offered meeting places, storytime for preschool kids, and safe areas for teenagers to go after school. The libraries offered to old, unemployed, and homeless people a safe and free place to go to use computers with internet connections. A byproduct of this was that people in those neighborhoods knew each other and, in a disaster, looked after each other and the vulnerable. This immediately made me think of our Moyaone neighborhood. Remember Snowmageddon in 2010 when back-to-back snowstorms hit much of the East Coast? Many good neighbors in the Moyaone went to great effort to check on each other, and to get fuel and food to people who needed it.

The Moyaone does have some common areas: the Wagner Community Center, including the swimming pool, community garden, picnic pavilion and grill, and playground. In addition, we benefit from neighboring (and partner) organizations including the Alice Ferguson Foundation, the Accokeek Foundation, the Greater Accokeek Civic Association, and the Friends of the Accokeek Library. These organizations host many events in our community. Through those events I have met many people, some of whom I know better than others but I recognize many people enough that I would immediately help them in a disaster — and so would you.

I grew up in a small village of about 600 people where everyone knew everyone else. As I matured I realized that there were incidents — like increased property taxes or political affiliation — that caused discord in the community. In spite of that, it was a community. I also think about suburbanization of this area, with isolated



*In Memory*

## **Frances B. Day**

(March 25, 1949 – April 16, 2019)

Fran, a 4 and a half year resident of the Moyaone Reserve, passed away on March 16, 2019, following more than a 4-year battle with ALS. Fran loved living in the Moyaone during these years, particularly after getting our dog, Gabby. He made wonderful friends in the community, who were even more wonderful during his illness. Fran grew up in D.C. and remained in the metropolitan area, prior to moving to the Moyaone. He was well known in D.C. as a talented musician, particularly as a vocalist, and as an overqualified, but, fine house painter. He is survived by me, Gabby, two brothers, and many, many friends who loved him.

— Betsy Binder

developments that aren't really “neighborhoods,” as they have no public areas used for gathering. Many people nowadays shop for a house rather than a neighborhood, and no longer seek out common areas where they can see others in their community. There are some facilities, like some churches, where congregants know each other but live far apart. In one social exercise with a group of about ten people from Southern Maryland, I was the only one who knew any of my neighbors and I knew them all by name. This experience revealed to me the unique and wonderful qualities of the Moyaone Reserve, where people at least know many other people, even if they're irritating. What's the “take away” of this essay? At the very least, you should value the Moyaone community because it could save your life in a disaster. That's worth \$770 each year and the attendance at two meetings. One of those meetings is coming up soon, on Saturday, May 11, at 4 pm at the Wagner Community Center. See you there!





## National Historic Register Nomination: May Update

— Rita Bergman

The initial phase of the project is continuing, and site visits have been completed for the selected 11 houses included for Phase I of the grant. The draft versions of the completed Maryland Inventory of Historical Property forms have been reviewed and detailed comments were provided by the Maryland Historical Trust. Many thanks to the Moyaone property owners who met with our consultant, Robinson and Associates, and participated in the survey. A list of the houses and current owners included in the survey are listed below.

	Historic Name	Current Owners	Street Address
1	Harris House	Jim Thompson	2307 Rockwood Dr.
2	Dunphy House	Sam Litzinger/Laura King	1804 Bryan Point Rd.
3	Spratt	Patrick Holmes	1710 Bryan Point Rd.
4	White-Hinckley	David and Antonia Bookbinder	1700 Bryan Point Rd.
5	Plumer House	David Cremer	2002 Bryan Point Rd.
6	Vanderslice House	Michael and Luz Ramundo	14801 West Auburn
7	Withers	David Hansz	15101 East Auburn
8	Hickerson House	Sue and Phil Jones	1520 Laurel Drive
9	Miles House	David and Karen Miles	2407 Rockwood Dr.
10	Swick House	Steve and Rose Kim	15100 West Auburn
11	Straus House	Pierre Paret	1611 Bryan Point Rd.

These houses are representative of mid-century modern architecture in the Moyaone — as well as other Moyaone homes that have already been documented — all of which contribute to the rationale behind the National Register nomination. The second rationale, and equally if not more important, is the Moyaone’s contribution to the Mount Vernon viewshed. Together these form the two principal elements for our application.

We were notified in early May that we were awarded a grant from Preservation Maryland for \$5000 to support this project for which we are very grateful. We are still waiting to hear from other funding sources, including the Prince George’s County Council, Charles County Commissioners, and the Mount Vernon Ladies Association.

I have been asked a couple of questions regarding this designation including: 1) Will there be any restrictions to making alternation to properties with this designation, and the answer is “No.” 2) Will all the properties in the Moyaone be included in the National Historic District nomination even if they were not included as part of Phase 1? The answer is “Yes.” I will be at the Moyaone Community meeting on May 11 and will be happy to try to answer other questions as well as provide any additional updates.

Another element of the National Register application will include a building inventory of all the properties in the Moyaone since the entire Moyaone will be nominated as a National Historic District. This inventory will include all properties, developed and undeveloped, and will include

## Seeking an End to Delivery Vehicle Damage to Moyaone Roads

This note follows up from my recent post on *NextDoor Moyaone*, seeking any additional USPS kudos or concerns from *Smoke Signals* readers for when I soon



meet with the USPS Postmaster of Accokeek. Hats off to those others who also have shared their hopes for improved TLC of our privately maintained roads.

Texts and emails are welcome, as are photos of ruts and other damage. My thanks to Moyaoners who have shared their images of USPS damage, including a serpentine 30-foot tear in a road not 20 minutes graded. (That incident steered our road grader directly to the 20607 postmaster with photos from the grader cabin and earnest suggestions for improved postal carriers' behavior.)

Each USPS divot dug, each rut ripped into the Roads Team's smoothed surfaces, costs (y)our cash to fix. Thanks for your past and future stories of encouragement and of concern that I can tally together to give 20607's chief a spring 2019 snapshot of the mail delivery service we seek.

On a side note, I have also a call and incident report in to the *Washington Post* Delivery Manager (requesting gentler stops and starts). Additional evidence is also welcome, identifying newspaper-box-area damage.

*Kent, Moyaone Association Roads Chair*  
[KentLHibben@gmail.com](mailto:KentLHibben@gmail.com)  
(202) 316 8432 text/voice

property address, property owner mailing address; block, lot and/or parcel number; date of construction; architectural style or building form; structure type; number of structures on a property; relevant information on the architect, builder, or developer and summary information on architectural and historic integrity. If you see a couple of unfamiliar cars driving around the neighborhood, please do not be alarmed. These are our consultants — Daria, driving a white VW Tiguan or Mike, driving a Jeep Liberty, both with DC plates. They may be taking study photographs (not for public availability). If you object to any photographs of your properties, please let them know, and they will readily comply with your request. Or let me know, and I can notify them accordingly.



## ***The Importance of Native Plants***

—Mikaila Milton  
Biologist, Resource Management Division  
National Capital Parks-East  
National Park Service

As the Biologist for National Capital Parks–East, I have visited many homes in the Moyaone to assess trees that homeowners wish to have removed. While most folks I've met love trees, and have moved to this community to live within a naturally wooded area, many trees have succumbed to insect pests, disease, drought, or other forms of decline.

While it may seem that folks within the Piscataway scenic easement areas are surrounded by trees, one concern as old canopy trees are removed is invasive plants. Invasive plants are quick to exploit the light increase once these trees are gone and, along with high deer populations, can prevent the natural regeneration of native vegetation (Horsley et al. 2003, Habeck C.W. and A.K. Schultz 2015, Peebles-Spencer, et al. 2017).

Human-dominated landscapes are rapidly expanding worldwide. In many suburban areas, landowners have converted native plant communities into habitats dominated by nonnative species that are not susceptible to pest damage and require little maintenance. However, studies show that nonnative plants are also poor at supporting insects that are critical food resources for animals, such as native birds.

For example, Narango, et al. (2018) monitored reproduction and survival of Carolina chickadees within residential yards, and found that where nonnative plants were more common, both insect availability and chickadee population growth declined. The authors found that chickadee populations could only be sustained if nonnative plants constituted <30% of plant biomass in residential areas. These results demonstrate that nonnative plants reduce habitat quality for insectivorous birds, and that the restoration of human-dominated areas should prioritize native plants to support local food webs.

Native plants, on the other hand, have evolved in the ecosystem in which they naturally occur and are adapted to local soil, rainfall and temperature conditions. They have developed natural defenses to many insects and diseases found in the ecosystem in which they evolved. Because of these traits, native plants grow with minimal use of water, fertilizers and pesticides. Local wildlife has evolved with the plants in a given ecosystem and use native plant communities as habitat, food and shelter (USFWS 2001). Replacing dying trees with native species can help keep the forest ecosystem intact and provide food and habitat for native wildlife.

### **Definitions**

*Native plant* A plant that is part of the balance of nature that has developed over hundreds or thousands of years in a particular region or ecosystem.

*non-native plant* A plant introduced with human help (intentionally or accidentally) to a new place or new type of habitat where it was not previously found. USDA 2019.

### **Citations**

- Narango, Desirée L., Douglas W. Tallamy, and Peter P. Marra. Nonnative plants reduce population growth of an insectivorous bird. PNAS November 6, 2018 115 (45) 11549-11554; first published October 22, 2018 <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1809259115>
- Habeck, Christopher W. and Alexis Schultz. 2015. Community-level impacts of white-tailed deer on understory plants in North American forests: a meta-analysis. Oxford University Press on behalf of the Annals of Botany Company.
- Horsley, S.B., S.L. Stout, and D.S. DeCalesta. 2003. White-tailed deer impact on the vegetation dynamics of a northern hardwood forest. *Ecological Applications*, 13 (1), pp. 98–118.
- Peebles-Spencer, J.R., D.L. Gorchov, and T.O. Crist. 2017. Effects of an invasive shrub, *Lonicera maackii*, and a generalist herbivore, white-tailed deer, on forest floor plant community composition. *Forest Ecology and Management*. Vol 402. pp. 204-212.
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Connecticut. Accessed 4-25-19. [https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/ct/technical/ecoscience/invasive/?cid=nrcs142p2\\_011124](https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/ct/technical/ecoscience/invasive/?cid=nrcs142p2_011124)
- USFWS. 2001. Native plants for wildlife habitat and conservation landscaping, Maryland: Coastal Plain. <https://oceancitymd.gov/pdf/MDCoastalPlain.pdf>
- Helpful Links:**
- Presentations by Douglass Talamy, University of Delaware, author of “Bringing Nature Home”.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NTbPNwNIoLs>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HbsAAwpP34E>
- Native Plants for Wildlife Habitat and Conservation Landscaping, Maryland: Coastal Plain  
<https://oceancitymd.gov/pdf/MDCoastalPlain.pdf>
- Native Plants for Northern Virginia Planting Guide  
<http://nebula.wsimg.com/54e6449bca41f4358dfc9cf0a2cae51d?AccessKeyId=3787409C771EB71DC1CC&disposition=0&alloworigin=1>
- Native Plant Sales  
<https://www.mdflora.org/plant-sales>  
<https://www.plantnovanatives.org/local-native-plant-sales>
- Least Wanted: Alien Plant Invaders of Natural Areas  
<https://www.invasive.org/alien/factmain.htm>

# Alice Ferguson Foundation May/June Events

Alice Ferguson Foundation (AFF), 2001 Bryan Point Rd.,  
Accokeek. More information can be found at: [http://  
fergusonfoundation.org/events\\_list/](http://fergusonfoundation.org/events_list/)

## Hard Bargain Children's Garden Volunteer Days

Volunteers and friends, you're invited to come and help out at the Children's Garden, a space we use to teach schoolchildren about plants, and where their everyday food comes from. We need help weeding, mulching, planting, and more, to help this outdoor classroom grow. New volunteers and all skill levels are welcome. Next date: Sat., May 18, 10 am–noon.

## Wareham Lodge Farewell

Sun., May 19, noon–3 pm

Please join us for an afternoon on the Cafritz Environmental Center Lawn as we bid farewell to the Wareham Lodge. The Hard Bargain Farm icon that has welcomed thousands of learners over the years, both young and old, will be removed this summer to make way for new learning opportunities on the campus. Bring your own picnic and join us for the afternoon to share good memories and great company.

## Pinot on the Potomac

Sat., June 8, 5–9 pm

Raise a glass for a good cause; indulge in delicious wines and food; enjoy live music and a live auction; and immerse yourself in breathtakingly beautiful views of the Potomac River! Help support our environmental education programs which serve more than 8,000 students each year. RSVP at: <http://bit.ly/pinot2019>.

## Arts in the Woods: Sponsor-A-Flower

Showcase your talents by painting a flower and help us add some more color to the Hard Bargain Amphitheater. Your \$50 donation reserves your flower and paints, and enters you into a contest to win tickets for our 2020 season! Help us make improvements to the space, and supports our arts and education programs. We have a limited supply of flowers, so reserve yours today before they're gone. You don't have to be an artist to have fun with paint! For more information:

240-766-8830, [tthomas@fergusonfoundation.org](mailto:tthomas@fergusonfoundation.org)

## Upcoming Theater Performance



Fridays & Saturdays,  
May 10–25, 8 pm

Hard Bargain Players Present *Good People*, written by David Lindsay-Abaire. Directed by Kaitelyn Bauer Dieguez. Hard Bargain Amphitheater/

Arts in the Woods, 2001 Bryan Point Road, Accokeek.

Welcome to Southie, a Boston neighborhood where a night on the town means a few rounds of bingo, where this month's paycheck covers last month's bills, and where Margie Walsh has just been let go again from yet another job. Facing eviction and scrambling to catch a break, Margie thinks an old fling who's made it out of Southie might be her ticket to a fresh new start. But is this apparently self-made man secure enough to face his humble beginnings? Margie is about to risk what little she has left to find out.

\$12 Adults; \$10 Seniors, Students, Military, AFF Members, AFF Staff. Email [hbplayersboxoffice@gmail.com](mailto:hbplayersboxoffice@gmail.com) or go to [www.hbplayers.org](http://www.hbplayers.org) for reservations. Refreshments are available; no outside food or beverages allowed. Performances are outdoors; comfortable, weather-appropriate clothing and bug spray are highly recommended.

## Summer Theater Camp

*Calling all young theater enthusiasts and drama stars!*



Art  
S

## Arts in the Woods: Youth Theater Camp

June 25–29 (Mon–Fri), 9:30 am–3:30 pm. \$200 per participant/\$180 for AFF members. Optional extended day provided between 3:30 and 5:30 PM at \$35 per child.

The Children's Summer Theater Camp is back! This camp will introduce young theater enthusiasts, ages 7–14, to the world of the acting and theatrical make-up. Both kids new to theater and young veterans are welcome, with activities ranging from beginner acting to advanced acting concepts and acting techniques. This fun, hands-on exploration of the world of stage makeup includes a variety of themes and styles, including age and character make-up, scars and special effects. Each student will receive a Student Stage Make-up Kit to use at camp and enjoy at home. Application form: <http://bit.ly/ChildrensTHEATERcamp>



# May Events at the Accokeek Foundation

National Colonial Farm at Piscataway Park,  
3400 Bryan Point Road, Accokeek

For more information, visit [accokeek.org/events](http://accokeek.org/events)

## **Piscataway Park Visitor Center & Gift Shop**

The Visitor Center and Gift Shop are open Tuesdays–Sundays, 10 am–4 pm. Stop in to pick up an updated trail map, book a guided farm tour (Mondays & Fridays; see below), rent gear for a nature adventure, or pick up some handmade and artisan crafts and novelties.

## **Hands-On History**

Butter churning, candle-making, and yarn-spinning — see the skills and trades of 1770 in action, led by local experts and educators in historic costume. Demonstrations are free to attend and are ongoing between 1 pm and 5 pm on select weekend dates.

**Sat., May 11 & Sun., May 12.** Colonial Beauty Products. Explore beauty regimens from 1770.

**Sat., May 25 & Sun., May 26.** Sweets, Stories, and Shenanigans. Learn about tasty treats and tales of yore from 1770.

## **National Colonial Farm Tours**

**Mondays & Fridays, 1–2 pm & 2–3 pm.** Take a tour through 1770 led by one of the National Colonial Farm’s costumed interpreters. Explore the grounds of a working tobacco farm and meet its two- and four-legged residents. Suitable for all ages. \$5/person.

## **Guided Trail Walks**

Explore the natural wonders of Piscataway Park with a guided trail walk led by an educator. Identify plants and animal life, learn about wild edible plants, or explore the changes in the Potomac River Landscape since the colonial period. \$5/non-member, free for Accokeek Foundation members. Departs from Visitor Center at 1 pm and 3 pm.

**Saturday & Sunday, May 11 & 12.** Take a Walk on the Wildflower Side.

**Saturday & Sunday, May 25 & 26.** Magnify Your World.



*Foxes. Art by Sheila Cox.*

## **Moyaone Association Board of Directors**

- *President* — Michael Leventhal  
MoyaonePresident@gmail.com
- *Vice President* — Rose Kim  
MoyaoneVice President@gmail.com
- *Secretary* — Gwen Peters  
MoyaoneSecretary@gmail.com
- *Director-at-Large* — Karen Hoagberg  
MoyaoneDirectorAtLarge@gmail.com

## **PG County Police Open House**

During the month of May, the Prince George’s County Police opens its doors to the community for an informational session at each district. The “Open House” allows the community to meet their neighbors, church leaders, school officials, and multiple county agencies to discuss and brainstorm strategic ideas to make our communities safer.

District VII will hold its open house this Thursday, May 9, 4–7 pm, at 11108 Fort Washington Rd., Fort Washington, MD. If you miss that one, District V will hold its open house on Thursday, May 23, 6–8 pm, at 6707 Groveton Dr., Clinton. For more information, call (301) 772-4710.



(above) A page from Lona Powell's sketchbook from a recent trip to Paris. (below right) An unpainted flower awaits decoration, part of a promotion to support arts and education at the Alice Ferguson Foundation.

## Accokeek Arts Alliance Gathers Momentum

About 15 people gathered at Bill and Jan Parker's house on May 4 for a meeting of the Accokeek Arts Alliance. Trey Thomas, Arts and Cultural Lead for the Alice Ferguson Foundation (AFF) talked about a new fundraising effort to help make improvements to the AFF Hard Bargain Amphitheater and to support arts and education programs. A donation will allow participants to paint 4-foot tall flowers to decorate the amphitheater (see poster at right). A generous donation from Kent Hibben in the name of the Alliance to the "Sponsor-a-Flower" fundraiser will allow three artists to paint three of the flower sculptures.



Trey also talked about upcoming AFF programs and events, including a play opening this Friday, May 10, at the Hard Bargain Amphitheater.

Plans were discussed for an art exhibit by local artists to take place this fall. The exhibit will be curated by Anne Stokes, with works to be evaluated some time this summer.

Thomas Clay showed four of his miniature cathedral models and talked about the International Paper Modelers Convention ([ipmc-info.org](http://ipmc-info.org)). In recent years, the art of paper modeling has steadily gained in popularity worldwide. Thomas has built many paper architectural models (see his website: [cathedralquest.com](http://cathedralquest.com)).

Cindy Rudzis displayed a portrait, followed by a talk by Lona Powell on travel sketchbooks. She displayed several sketchbooks from various trips she's made since 2012.

## THE ALICE FERGUSON FOUNDATION'S ARTS IN THE WOODS SPONSOR-A-FLOWER

Showcase your **talents** and help us add some **color** to our Amphitheater by painting a flower!



**Time and Date TBA**

**SAVE YOUR SPOT:** <https://bit.ly/2H878Zd>

### YOUR \$50 DONATION

- Reserves your flower and paints.
- Helps us make improvements to the space.
- Supports our arts & education programs.
- Enters you into a contest to win tickets for our 2020 season!

*You don't have to be an artist to have fun with paint!*



Limited flowers available, so reserve yours today.

For more information: 240-766-8830, [tthomas@fergusonfoundation.org](mailto:tthomas@fergusonfoundation.org)

During her travel, she makes a quick sketch of the day's highlights and uses a small watercolor kit during the evening to complete her work. Her most recent trip to Paris included a drawing of Notre Dame done just a few weeks before it burned. A source mentioned was *The Urban Sketcher: Techniques for Seeing and Drawing on Location* by Marc Taro Holmes.

New members, both artists and art appreciators, are welcome. The Alliance plans to meet again near the end of June. Please contact Peggy Reichard ([preichard1@verizon.net](mailto:preichard1@verizon.net)), Lona Powell ([lona\\_p@yahoo.com](mailto:lona_p@yahoo.com)) or Daniel Wise ([danielpastels@gmail.com](mailto:danielpastels@gmail.com)) if interested in joining this diverse talented group, or to be put on the email list.

**HOUSE FOR RENT:** 15305 Reserve Road available 7/1/19. Large, fully renovated rambler with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, library, family room, full attic/plenty of storage. New kitchen and baths. Some brick floors and exposed brick walls, beamed wood ceilings, massive central fireplace with insert. Circular drive, mature plantings, large rear deck overlooking lovely fenced yard. Many amenities. Lots of charm. City water and sewer. Easy living in a beautiful setting. Pool membership included. Call Sue at 301-814-7329.