

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT: December Membership Report, May Meeting Minutes, 2021 Moyaone Association Budget, and Ballot

2020 Membership Report

The Moyaone Association, Inc. (MA) per its bylaws is required to host two semi-annual membership meetings. Those meetings are traditionally held in May (the General Membership Meeting) and in December (the Budget Meeting). The May meeting was not held in-person due to COVID restrictions. A community update and vote were communicated electronically. With the COVID restrictions still upon us, the MA Board of Directors agreed that it would not be appropriate for a December in-person gathering and it was decided that the 2021 Budget would be sent to the MA Membership for approval via *Smoke Signals*. What follows is a community update and 2021 Budget overview for review and approval. Please note that votes can be cast by owners of improved Moyaone Reserve properties (lots with residences) who are in good standing. What does that mean? You are the homeowner of a Moyaone property and have paid your \$770 Association consolidated fee in full by November 30, 2020. If you own multiple Moyaone Reserve improved properties, you are still allowed only one vote. Though owners of undeveloped (unimproved) lots are not eligible to vote, their opinions are welcomed.

My overview follows, as well as the meeting minutes from the May 2020 MA meeting (bottom of Page B), 2021 Draft Budget (Page C), and voting ballot on Page D of this Special Supplement to the November issue of *Smoke Signals*. Please return your ballot either by mail to the Moyaone Association Secretary (PO Box 113, Accokeek MD 20607) or by email to: MoyaoneSecretary@gmail.com. The Moyaone Secretary must receive your ballot either by mail or email no later than November 30, 2020. Votes will be tallied and the results and feedback shared with the MA Membership in December.

If you have not yet had a chance to send in your 2020 consolidated fee, and you wish to vote, please include your check payment of \$770 with your mailed ballot. If you are registered in a consolidated fee installment plan and you will make the last payment in December, you may vote.

State of the Community and 2021 Budget

The purpose of the December meeting is to review the previous year's finances and approve the following year's budget. Let me start by saying, perhaps pleading is a better word, that more community homeowners need to step up and pay their consolidated fees. The Moyaone has 189 houses built on lots and 40 undeveloped lots owned by individuals. In 2020, 123 home owners paid their \$770 fee and 11 lot owners paid a \$150 fee. The remaining 66 home owners and 29 lot owners did not pay fees. If those individuals had paid their consolidated fees, the community budget would have an additional \$55,000. If all community members paid, we could make many improvements to our roads and Commons; we could even consider lowering the consolidated fee. As it stands, the drivability of the Moyaone Community roads, maintenance of the Wagner Community Center, pool and Commons rests on the shoulders of those families who choose to support the community through

payment of annual consolidated fees. This is not only disheartening, it's unfair to those who pay annual fees to carry the rest. I sincerely hope that in 2021 this trend will change and that every member of the community can find an extra \$2.11 per day (or \$770 per year) to support this unique community that has a provided such a beautiful respite during difficult times.

In May, the Moyaone Association felt the impact of COVID restrictions and quickly put in place a plan to manage potentially negative financial repercussions. Due to COVID, neither the Accokeek Swim Team nor Camp Accokeek had seasons this year. As a result, outside pool revenue was down by 50%. A Pool Task Force made up of Association members with expertise in recreational management or education administration was formed. They advised the Moyaone Association on operational procedures and best practices. Concurrently, the Moyaone Board made labor cutbacks at the pool and limited road maintenance to only what was absolutely necessary. These measures got the community through a hot, rainy summer, and while there were still restrictions, the Moyaone Pool was able to open to limited capacity in mid-June and remained open through the summer for the Membership to enjoy. Thanks to a well-managed roads operation, Moyaone private roads remained navigable and debris-free even after the most torrential rains.

Over the past several years, the Moyaone Association has been working on two projects dealing with property taxes in Prince George's County and Charles County. The Moyaone Association owns seven properties in Prince George's County. It was brought to the attention of the Tax Assessor's office that five of the properties could never be developed; and two were undersized lots below the required five-acre lot minimum for building a house. In addition to informing the Tax Assessor about the lots, the Moyaone Association asked the Maryland Forestry Service to undertake a study of these properties and prepare a Forest Stewardship Plan, since the majority of them are forested. The Maryland Forestry Service completed its study and determined that five of the properties were eligible for a Forest Stewardship Plan and prepared one for the Moyaone Association free of charge. The condition of five of our lots plus the Forest Stewardship Plan substantially reduced the property taxes on those properties. As to the lot with our community pool, the Moyaone Association noted to the County that the State law on reducing the County tax on pools owned by a nonprofit organization (Moyaone Association) should be applied to this parcel. The County agreed and the County's portion of the property tax on the pool parcel was removed. The Board is pleased to announce that initial tax liability for 2020 for these seven properties was reduced from \$5,687.59 to \$1,133.94.

In 1965 the State of Maryland passed legislation permitting eleven counties in the State to grant Scenic Easement Tax Credits off a property tax bill. Both Prince George's and Charles County were listed in that State enabling legislation.

— Continued on page B of the Special Supplement

2020 Membership Report

— Continued from Page A of the Special Supplement

In 1970 Prince George's County passed a County Tax Ordinance permitting for a Scenic Easement Tax Credit. No such local tax ordinance was developed in Charles County, until now. The MA Board of Directors has met with the Charles County Commissioners and petitioned that such a local tax ordinance should be drafted and passed permitting Charles County property owners to a Scenic Easement Tax Credit. There are 46 such affected properties, of which 42 are located in the Moyaone Reserve. A draft tax ordinance will be presented to the Charles County Commissioners in mid-November, and if approved, taken up in their December Board of Commissioners meeting and, hopefully, passed. If approved, Charles County properties would be eligible for the Scenic Easement Tax Credit in 2021. Updates on any action taken by the Charles County Commissioners will be posted in *Smoke Signals*.

During the COVID quarantine and summer pool season, the Moyaone Commons area had an uptake in visitors. Unfortunately, some were not Member guests. There was some vandalism and theft. In an effort to curb this trend, the Association is installing additional lighting around the Wagner Community Building this winter and will have SMECO repair (at no cost) lights that were damaged

when the new septic system was installed. There will also be improvements made around the grounds based on the recommendations of the Moyaone Commons Task Force. Task Force recommendations can be found on the Moyaone website at: <https://www.moyaone.org/improvement-project/> The Association is being conservative with spending until we know what COVID challenges will bring to 2021, so the financing of any large-scale project recommendations made by the Task Force will be discussed at the May 2021 Membership meeting. At that time, the Membership may also voice their opinions on other potential project recommendations.

Earlier this year when the Membership invoices for consolidated fees were sent to the community, you were asked to pay either by check or set up an ACH payment plan to avoid PayPal user charges. I am happy to report that many of you listened, and as a result saved the community \$1,000 in PayPal fees. When you receive your 2021 consolidated fee invoices, please keep this in mind and avoid using PayPal if you can.

Thank you for your support of the Moyaone Association.

— Rose Kim
Moyaone Association President
MoyaonePresident@gmail.com

Moyaone Association Meeting Minutes, May 2020

Call to Order

A meeting of the Moyaone Association Board of Directors and Chairs was held via [survey monkey](#) from May 2–9, 2020 due to stay-at-home restrictions of Covid19. See Public Affairs email [here](#).

A copy of the December 2019 Moyaone Association Budget Meeting Minutes, the committee reports, and the slate of board members were distributed via [email](#) April 22, 2020 and USPS through [Smoke Signals](#).

Approval of Minutes

A copy of the December 2019 Moyaone Association Budget Meeting [Minutes](#) was distributed for comments and corrections via email before the meeting. Comments and corrections were reviewed. A motion was made to approve the minutes and the motion carried.

Approval of Slate

The slate is as follows: Rose Kim for President; Gail Dickert VP; Lona Powell Secretary; Michael Leventhal at large; and Bill Robertson for Financial Trustee. Paola Addamiano-Carts remains as Comptroller for one more year. Elizabeth Bender has 1 year left as financial trustee and Stan Fetter has 2 years left as financial trustee. I believe that the nominating committee has made great recommendations.

Survey Results

Sixty-seven persons have formally voted. Of the 67, only 11 votes are ineligible for counting (4 were not members; 5 were duplicate votes; 1 was an unimproved property owner; and 1 did not fill in the name/address box so there is no way to know if this is a member or not). That leaves 56 for full members who voted. Our membership to date is 110 property owners. The By-Laws state that a quorum is one-third of the full members, which means for the May 2020 Membership Meeting a quorum is 37 members. At this time we have a quorum. The two motions were passed by an overwhelming number of votes. The new officers begin their positions as of Sunday, May 11th. A copy of the survey results can be found [here](#).

— Samantha Katz, Secretary

MOYAONE ASSOCIATION FY2021 BUDGET (DRAFT)

Budget Code	Description of Code	2021 Proposed Budget Revenue	2021 Proposed Budget Expenses	2020 Proposed Budget Revenue	2020 Proposed Budget Expenses	Actual Revenue to date, 2020	Actual Expenses to date, 2020
4001	Consolidated Fees	\$ 98,000		\$ 97,400		\$91,114	
4002	Unimproved Lot Fee	\$ 1,800		\$ 2,200		\$1,800	
4003	Consolidated Fee + UI Lot Fee	\$ 4,500		\$ 2,850		\$4,496	
4004	Contributions	\$ 2,000				\$3,225	
	Total	\$ 106,300		\$ 102,450		\$100,635	
Pool							
		2021 Proposed Revenue	2021 Proposed Expenses	2020 Proposed Revenue	2020 Proposed Expenses	Actual Revenue YTD	Actual Expenses YTD
4610	Pool Memberships (non res)	\$ 22,500		\$ 22,500		\$9,300	
4620	Guests and Parties	\$ 500		\$ 1,000		\$5	
4625	Swim Lessons	\$ 1,600		\$ 1,600		\$55	
4660	Swim Team	\$ 250		\$ 250		\$0	
2004	Camp Accokeek	\$ 3,000		\$ 3,000		\$0	
5310	Pool Wages		\$ 40,000		\$ 42,500		\$29,067
5311	Swim Lesson Wages		\$ 1,000		\$ 1,000		\$0
5315	Payroll Taxes		\$ 9,500		\$ 3,690		\$9,104
5320	Chemicals		\$ 5,000		\$ 5,000		\$3,631
5322	Pool Supplies		\$ 1,200		\$ 1,000		\$967
5325	Pool Water		\$ 1,600		\$ 2,000		\$1,220
5330	Pool Maintenance & Repairs		\$ 4,000		\$ 3,000		\$1,898
5350	Insurance		\$ 2,885		\$ 2,850		\$2,885
5370	Pool utilities SMECO (5441)		\$ 3,500		\$ 3,500		\$3,026
5375	FIOS (Verizon)		\$ 2,000		\$ 2,000		\$1,448
5390	Licenses & Permits		\$ 650		\$ 650		\$630
5395	Misc Expenses/Administration		\$ 200		\$ 200		\$116
	Total	\$ 27,850	\$ 71,535	\$ 28,350	\$ 67,390	\$9,360	\$53,991
Roads							
	(leaf/snow/road grading)	2021 Proposed	2021 Proposed	2020 Proposed	2020 Proposed	Actual Revenue	Actual Expenses
5001	Contract Labor		\$ 17,500		\$ 30,000		\$7,759
5005	Maintenance/Gradall		\$ 7,000		\$ 7,000		\$12,697
5010	Materials		\$ 8,500		\$ 11,000		\$4,113
5020	Insurance		\$ 1,285		\$ 1,285		\$1,320
	Total		\$ 34,285		\$ 49,285		\$25,889
Buildings & Grounds							
		2021 Proposed	2021 Proposed	2020 Proposed	2020 Proposed	Actual Revenue	Actual Expenses
5110	Maintenance		\$ 5,000		\$ 2,500		\$6,781
5135	Insurance (bldgs/contents/liability)		\$ 1,550		\$ 1,550		\$1,585
5140	Utilities SMECO (4441) + Propane		\$ 1,500		\$ 1,500		\$1,597
5150	Trash Removal		\$ 700		\$ 700		\$675
5170	Supplies		\$ 250		\$ 250		\$729
	Total		\$ 9,000		\$ 6,500		\$11,368
Public Affairs & Administration							
		2021 Proposed	2021 Proposed	2020 Proposed	2020 Proposed	Actual Revenue	Actual Expenses
5210	News Letter Printing		\$ 108		\$ 108		\$34
5202	Postage		\$ 110		\$ 110		\$67
5230	Public Affairs		\$ 500		\$ 500		\$0
5235	Property Tax (Wagner/Pool Bldgs)		\$ 1,500		\$ 6,300		\$1,380
5240	Website		\$ 200		\$ 100		\$204
5250	Partner Memberships		\$ 600		\$ 600		\$445
5290	Insurance HOA Directors		\$ 332		\$ 332		\$367
5710	Accounting Fees		\$ 4,000		\$ 4,000		\$2,074
5725	Office & Admin		\$ 300		\$ 500		\$144
5760	Credit Card Processing		\$ 1,000		\$ 2,000		\$376
5765	Quickbooks Fees		\$ 785		\$ 750		\$755
5795	Misc.		\$ 125		\$ 125		\$225
	Total		\$ 9,560		\$ 15,425		\$6,070
Other Income							
		2021 Proposed	2021 Proposed	2020 Proposed	2020 Proposed	Actual Revenue	Actual Expenses
4901	Mortgage Income (Cottage)	\$ 2,000		\$ 0		\$1,718	
4920	Wagner Center Rental	\$ 250		\$ 500		\$66	
4990	Oktoberfest	\$ 2,500		\$ 2,500		\$0	
4995	Uncategorized Revenue	\$ 100		\$ 300		\$0	
	Total	\$ 4,850		\$ 3,300		\$1,784	
Total Revenue		\$ 139,000		\$ 134,100		\$111,779	
Total Expenses			\$ 124,380		\$ 138,600		\$97,319
Net Operating Revenue		\$ 14,620		\$ (4,500)		\$14,460	

December 2020 Moyaone Association Membership Voting Ballot

I _____, of _____,
(Print Name) (Print Street Number and Name)

vote as noted on the following Moyaone Association December 2020 meeting items:

1) **May 2020 Membership Meeting Minutes** ___ Approve ___ Do Not Approve

Comments: _____

2) **Moyaone Association 2021 Budget** ___ Approve ___ Do Not Approve

Comments: _____

If mailing your ballot please sign here:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please mail your ballot to ATTN: Moyaone Secretary, P.O. Box 113, Accokeek, MD 20607

If submitting your ballot via email please sign here:

I am submitting my Moyaone Association meeting ballot via email and in lieu of a written signature, by checking this box, approve signing this document electronically.

Print Full Name: _____

Print Date: _____

Please email your ballot to MoyaoneSecretary@gmail.com

**ALL BALLOTS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE MOYAONE SECRETARY
NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 30, 2020.**

Smoke Signal



MOYAONE
ASSOCIATION
NEWSLETTER

VOLUME LX

NOVEMBER 2020

NO. 11

See President's Membership Report, minutes from the May 2020 membership meeting, proposed budget, and voting ballot in the Special Supplement on Pages A–D.

National Historic Register Nomination Approved

— Rita Bergman

Great news! On October 7, the Moyaone Reserve was officially approved by the National Park Service as a National Historic District. The rationale for this designation is the presence of a unique collection of mid-century modern homes that span two counties in Maryland, and as another means to protect the Mount Vernon viewshed. It will also provide a deterrence to the development of land south of the Moyaone, such as that proposed last year by Dominion Energy. It should be noted that the Moyaone Reserve was instrumental in the passage of the nation's first local law granting tax credits for the preservation of scenic open space.

This is the culmination of over a year's work of effort by our consultants, Robinson Associates, and the support and cooperation of many Moyaone residents. Special thanks to the Alice Ferguson Foundation, Accokeek Foundation, and the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association for providing letters of support for our application. In addition, we received grants from a number of organizations, including the Maryland Historical Trust, Prince George's County Historic Preservation Commission, Preservation Maryland, Prince George's County Council (especially Council Member Sydney Harrison), and an anonymous donor from the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association.

Combined with Piscataway Park (listed in the National Register on August 3, 1979), Marshall Hall in Charles County

(NR listing May 12, 1976), and Hard Bargain Farm in Prince George's County (NR listing October 8, 2014), the addition of the Moyaone Reserve as a National Historic District creates a large area, much of which is contiguous, to the places listed on the National Register.

Specifically, this is what the National Register designation means for property owners:

- Owners of private property listed in the National Register have no obligation to open their properties to the public or to restore them, if they choose not to.
- Owners can do anything they wish with their property provided that no Federal license, permit, or funding is involved.
- In Maryland, certified historic buildings, which include contributing resources within a National Register historic district, may be eligible for a homeowner tax credit. (This would be applicable to those homes that are included in the Inventory of Historic Properties.)

We are working on placing a historic plaque on the Moyaone Commons at some point in 2021.

Moyaone Association Board of Directors

President — Rose Kim

MoyaonePresident@gmail.com

Vice President — open

Secretary — Lona Powell

MoyaoneSecretary@gmail.com

Comptroller — Paola Addiamiano-Carts

MoyaoneComptroller@gmail.com

Director-at-Large — Michael Leventhal

MoyaoneDirectorAtLarge@gmail.com



2021 Pets of the Moyaone Calendar on Sale Now

It is time to reserve your 2021 *Pets of the Moyaone Calendar*. Each calendar is \$15 and will bring joy all year long. They make wonderful gifts for friends and family.

Calendars can be reserved by sending your order to petsofmoyaone@gmail.com. All proceeds will go to make improvements at the Moyaone Community Center and grounds.



Art Market Set for November 13–14

The Accokeek Artists Alliance (AAA) Art Market is just around the corner: Friday, November 13, from 6 to 9 pm and Saturday, November 14, from noon until 4 pm. A dozen AAA artists will be displaying amazing art for sale in the Wagner Community Center, 2311 Bryan Point Road. PLUS, there will be a Silent Auction of donated art set up in a tent outside of the Center. Enjoy hot cider, spiked or not, and a roaring bonfire outside while you wait your turn to enter the Art Market. Look for matching pale blue printed masks on all exhibiting artists.

All precautions will be taken to keep everyone safe and healthy. Masks and social distancing required inside and out. There will be a maximum of 25 individuals inside the Center at all times. While we're doing everything we can, we are also counting on attendees to help follow best practices.

Credit cards, checks, or cash cheerfully accepted.



8th Annual Moyaone Thanksgiving Day 5K Turkey Trot

November 26, 2020*
8:30 am (sharp)

Meet at the Wagner Community Center Commons
2311 Bryan Point Road

Masks Mandatory at Start and Finish

Walk or run with your family, neighbors,
friends, guests, dogs

**If raining, Trot will not be held.*

Moyaoner Looking for a Place to Rent

Hello neighbors, I am thinking of downsizing but love our community.

Does anyone have a private self-contained space to rent on their property over the long-term for a quiet person in exchange for steady monthly income?

— 20 year Moyaoner, nearing retirement.
Please call 202-207-8719.



Bev Linde with neighbor Marty Carts at their birthday celebration. Their birthdays were two days apart.

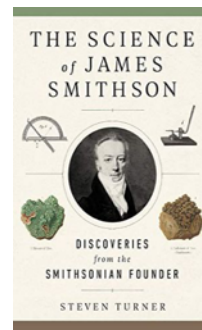
Beverly Linde 1942–2020

Beverly Diane Miller Linde died in Leonardtown, MD on September 21, 2020. The daughter of Eldred and Rosetta (Runke) Miller, Beverly was born on May 3, 1942 in Hutchinson, MN. She was baptized and confirmed at Peace Lutheran Church in Hutchinson, and later graduated from Hutchinson High School in 1960. She was a 1965 graduate of the University of Minnesota in Elementary Education. Married on June 19, 1965, Bev and George Linde enjoyed 46 years of marriage. Together they enjoyed traveling and boating on Bev's namesake, the "Impatience." She enjoyed teaching her sixth graders.

In retirement Bev appreciated having more time to sew – she sewed most of her clothes for years – and organizing around their home by building gardens. After George died in 2012, she got connected to a group associated with NRL. They traveled, they traveled, and they traveled – and they were wonderful friends. Her pastor described her as one of the congregation's champions. She was a Bible student and faithful attendee, helping to initiate the Stephen's Ministry at Our Savior's. She also thought it would be a good idea to study what Lutherans believe, and so encouraged a Bible class on the Lutheran Confessions. Beverly loved her Lord and her church.

In addition to her husband, George, Beverly was preceded in death by her parents and a sister, Diedra. She is survived by her brother Jeffrey and wife Anita; sister Kathy Baker of Hutchinson, MN; grandsons Michael and Peter and granddaughter Stephanie Graf. While she will be missed by us, she is definitely with the Lord and for that we all rejoice. Thanks be to God.

—Jeffrey Miller



Moyaone Neighbor's New Book Reviewed in the *Wall Street Journal*

— Charlie Gaumond

The Science of James Smithson: Discoveries from the Smithsonian Founder. By Steven Turner. Smithsonian Books, 296 p. \$29.95

Most of us are familiar with the many treasures of the Smithsonian Institution, but perhaps less so with James Smithson, the man whose fortune provided the funds for its creation. Fortunately, for that story we can turn to the new book by Moyaoner Steve Turner, *The Science of James Smithson*.

The October 24–25 weekend edition of the *Wall Street Journal* contains a positive review of the book. The reviewer, Christoph Irmscher, writes that the book "... is a quirky, oddly touching, book that allows us to step, for a few moments, inside the world of a practicing Enlightenment scientist, to sit beside him as he fans the flames of a candle with his little blowpipe, waiting for that small mineral in front of him to melt and yield its secrets."

The reviewer also "felt motivated to replicate his instructions for brewing a better cup of coffee, one that would taste good even during travel. Following Mr. Turner's summary, I placed a sealed glass bottle containing the grounds and water in a boiling pot and then strained the mix through a paper filter. I am happy to report that the result was, indeed fragrant, strong and hot – no mean feat at a time when, as Mr. Turner points out, most folks took their java weak and flavorless, with clumps of powder floating in the brackish liquid."

The narrative also touches on the class structure of England during the 18th century, which placed Mr. Smithson at a disadvantage that he felt, as the reviewer says, throughout his life. This examination of Smithson's life sounds like an illuminating addition to the history of science.

The Science of James Smithson also might encourage the curious to reconstruct experiments with a candle and simple implements, perhaps a good use of time during Covid quarantines.

Tobacco Talks, Winter's Eve, and Return of Farmhands Volunteers at the National Colonial Farm

— Casey Lowe Harlow
Marketing Manager, Accokeek Foundation

TUESDAY TOBACCO TALKS continue this November Tuesdays, 7–8 pm. \$10/session

It's impossible to explore the history and heritage of the Tidewater Potomac region and not talk about tobacco. So that's what we're going to do. Join us from 7–8 pm on Tuesdays in November to talk about tobacco. We're going to dig deep into how this plant horn-wormed its way into our lives and shaped the land and the culture of the place that we call home. Join us:

Tuesday, November 10. A Scientific Study of Sot-Weed
Too often, historians and agriculturalists are eager to explore the impact of this plant on the land, the culture, the workforce. How did those things, in turn, impact the genetic changes and deliberate genetic modifications of the plant itself? When a cigarette is smoked today, is it made of the same tobacco that the indigenous people raised 300 years ago in Peru? These questions, and many more, will be explored virtually in "A Scientific Study of Sot-weed" as we seek to uncover just how the world has impacted this unsuspecting plant throughout the past 250 years.

Tuesday, November 17. Buyouts and Beauty Queens: Tobacco Culture in the 20th Century
Why is tobacco culture relevant today if the buyout was 20 years ago? Following pressure from the anti-smoking movement, the Maryland state government encouraged tobacco farmers to find alternative crops. While you won't see many broad green leaves in fields today, the legacy of the cash crop continues on. Find out who Queen Nicotina is and her role in tobacco farming. Join us virtually as we explore the buyout's effect on agriculture in Maryland, past Queen Nicotinas, and the history of this scholarship contest.

Tuesday, November 24. Sacred Tobacco: A Native Plant
Tobacco is a profitable plant that causes great controversy. What was its original purpose? What are some uses of the plant that has been passed down from generation to generation? Together with the National Museum of the American Indian, the Accokeek Foundation will virtually explore the medicinal uses and sacredness of the tobacco plant.

SAVE THE DATE FOR WINTER'S EVE "LITE" Saturday, December 5

Join us for a 2020 approved version of the popular Winter's Eve holiday festival. Tour the National Colonial Farm and grab a family photo in the decorated historic house, meet-and-greet our barnyard animals, and shop the gift shop. DIY wreath kits will also be available to purchase and pick up during the event. Visit accokeekfoundation.org for more details and to register. Pre-registration online for timed entry required.

PARK HOURS UPDATE

Beginning on November 1, the gate of the National Colonial Farm will be open from 7 am to 7 pm. These opening hours will be effective through March 31, 2021.

WELCOME BACK FARMHANDS VOLUNTEERS

Starting the week of November 1, volunteers will be welcomed back on-site to assist the livestock manager with animal care chores. If you are interested in volunteering with the Farmhands, please contact volunteer coordinator Kaylin Beach at volunteers@accokeek.org. Volunteers must complete appropriate paperwork and training before joining the team.

*For more information, contact the Accokeek Foundation,
3400 Bryan Point Rd., Accokeek; (301) 965-9574,
accokeekfoundation.org*

Come Visit Us at Hard Bargain Farm

— Tori Avvenire
Marketing & Communications Coordinator
Alice Ferguson Foundation

The gates to the Alice Ferguson Foundation's Hard Bargain Farm remain closed to the general public, but here's how you can still enjoy our property:

- Take in the sights and sounds of nature during a walk through our wet meadow, open Monday through Friday from 9 AM to 3 PM.
- Schedule a private visit to the farm for fun, outdoor activities. It's a great way to spend quality time with family while exploring nature and discovering something new. Learn more at: <https://fergusonfoundation.org/visit-us/>
We would also like to wish the Moyaone community a safe and wonderful Thanksgiving holiday! Follow us on our Facebook page as we announce some exciting news in the coming weeks:

<https://www.facebook.com/alicefergusonfoundation/>
Alice Ferguson Foundation, 2001 Bryan Point Rd., Accokeek.
Learn more at: www.fergusonfoundation.org

Weihnachtsmarkt (Christmas Market) in the Moyaone, December 11

Did you know that a group of local families banded together to form a "pandemic learning pod"? The math students have been studying business math and will be hosting the Moyaone Weihnachtsmarkt on Friday, Dec. 11, in the afternoon/early evening. On offer will be Christmas decorations and gifts, all hand-crafted by the learning pod families, as well as hot beverages, cookies, and more. Be on the lookout for more information, including the market's website, in upcoming emails, signage, etc. Immediate questions can be directed to math instructor Paola Addamiano-Carts at cartsfamily@alacarts.net or 301-283-0167.



Neighborhood Creative Arts Center Expands Virtual Classes, Offers Free Tutoring and Home School Guidance

The Neighborhood Creative Arts Center (NCAC) located in LaPlata, Maryland, is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that opened its doors in November 2019. Georgia Bonney is the nonprofit's founder and director, and our community's own Dr. Osman Kivrak serves as President of the Board of Directors. Though the COVID-19 epidemic required closure of the facility and in-person classes, it has continued to support its mission to enrich minds through art in the community and is offering a variety of virtual programs this fall, many of which are available for free.

Free Parenting Symposiums. In anticipation of community needs, NCAC has culled its expertise with schooling in the home environment to offer free parenting symposiums. These once-a-month, hour-long Zoom discussions will focus on a dedicated topic related to homeschooling (and, by extension, the school at-home conditions under which all of our children are currently learning). To further support these educational challenges, NCAC has partnered with the local nonprofit organization Stella's Girls to provide free tutoring by university students for middle and high schoolers. A complementary tutoring program for younger grades is in the process of being organized and will be available soon.

Weekly Clubs. For those interested in a community-led homeschool supplement, the Especially for Homeschoolers (EFH) Virtual Co-op kicked off the week of September 14 with a series of three different hour-long clubs held weekly. Clubs are parent-led and broken out by age groups that meet at different times via Zoom.

Virtual Field Trips, Game Days. Additionally, NCAC has booked Virtual Live Field Trips that are free to any interested youth and has organized Virtual Game Day every Friday afternoon during which children will play Kahoot, Jeopardy, and other interactive games. These virtual field trips have been extremely popular, with over 500 participants to date.

Virtual Service Project Planning. For those older children aged 12–18 looking for a service-oriented experience, the NCAC is sponsoring a virtual Rotary Interact Club. This free club meets weekly and empowers youth to develop leadership skills through the organization and execution of a community project as well as a project that promotes

international awareness and understanding. Thus far, the club has more than 50 enrollees.

NCAC also offers a multitude of in-depth educational opportunities. These virtual, tuition-based programs include the following:

- **Finance workshops** comprised of six classes held once a week that teach children fundamental concepts of saving and investing through engaging fun activities.
- The **Thinking Kid (TTK)**, a live on-line program providing an educational curriculum (with the exception of math) for students aged 7–15. Each class meets weekly for one hour of live interactive instruction taught by world-wide experts. TTK also offers after-class clubs for those wanting to explore varied topics.
- **Music Instruction** for all ages and instruments are offered in a 34-week session with the option of either 30- or 45-minute lessons. Our accomplished instructors effectively transitioned to on-line teaching in March 2020 and have found lessons over Zoom to be focused and productive. In light of the current constraints on home-based school band and orchestra instruction, providing your child with one-on-one lessons is a great way to advance their music skills. Sign-ups occurring after the session has begun will be pro-rated to adjust for the number of lessons your child is taking.

Community Mural Project. Further establishing community connections, NCAC partnered with the Town of La Plata, Dorchester Community Center, and others to create a mural at the Dorchester Community Center. Under the leadership of NCAC's art instructors, student artists from NCAC and the community helped plan the mural, which was painted the weekend of October 31. In the coming months, NCAC will be planning and painting several other murals in La Plata.

All of the programs described above are addressed in detail on our website:

www.neighborhoodcreativeartscenter.org

For more information, please contact Georgia Bonney, NCAC Director, at

msgorgia@neighborhoodcreativeartscenter.org or by calling at 301-542-9359.

NCAC is grateful to the following organizations for their support: Charles County Arts Alliance, Charles County Health Department, La Plata Rotary Club, and Maryland Humanities and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Though the migration to a virtual arts center was a pivot we had not anticipated after opening our center in late 2019, we have successfully adapted and found effective ways to spread the joy of art and learning remotely. Art provides a thoughtful way to explore, express ourselves, and make connections with others and the world around us. That seems especially important in the separated environment of the COVID-19 pandemic.