

Smoke Signal



MOYAONE
ASSOCIATION
NEWSLETTER

VOLUME LXI

FEBRUARY 2021

NO. 2

President's Note: **Dear Friends & Neighbors**

Like the month of February, my President's message is short and sweet, my little Valentine to you.

Thank you to everyone who has either paid or has committed to pay their Moyaone Association membership dues in full or via ACH monthly debit. The community is off to a positive start with about 26 (and counting) memberships for 2021. For those who have not yet paid their dues — payment/commitment is requested by February 28. A payment form was included in the January *Smoke Signals*. I recently sent an email and form to those in the community with email addresses, and those without an email on file will receive the same via snail mail. For those of you who prefer to do business electronically, we added Venmo as a payment method this year. If you have any questions about dues or payments, please reach out to Paola Addamiano-Carts at moyaonecomptroller@gmail.com.

In this addition of *Smoke Signals* you'll see an article on page 5 from Kelly Canavan, AMP Creeks Council, about the ongoing appeal opposing the development of a multi-bay Royal Farms gas station complex proposed for the corner of Rt. 210 and Livingston Road (across from B&J's). Please take a moment to read Kelly's piece and if you are inclined, take action in opposition to this development. The Moyaone Board, at their January meeting, agreed the Moyaone Association would become a party of record in opposition of this project, further supporting a majority vote by the Association at the May 2019 Community Meeting that the Community would be on record as opposing this development.

While this winter has been fairly mild, recently we saw some snow, perhaps with more to come. As always, the Moyaone road crew, led by community Roads Chair, Stan Fetter, was prepared for any scenario. We are fortunate to have Stan's

volunteered knowledge and care overseeing our roads. Please join me in thanking him, and his team!

Stay safe, stay healthy.

Rose Kim

Moyaonepresident@gmail.com

MOYAONE MEMBERSHIP PAYMENT OPTIONS

Questions? Contact Moyaone Comptroller, Paola Addamiano-Carts, at:
MoyaoneComptroller@gmail.com

Single Payments

(Residents and Undeveloped Lots)

- Check paid to: The Moyaone Association (P.O. Box 113, Accokeek, MD)
- Venmo payment: @moyaonecomptroller

Debit Payment Plan (Residents Only):

- Ten (10) ACH deductions of \$77 to be debited monthly from FEB–NOV *or* MAR–DEC

Moyaone Association Board of Directors

President — Rose Kim

MoyaonePresident@gmail.com

Vice President — open

Secretary — Lona Powell

MoyaoneSecretary@gmail.com

Comptroller — Paola Addamiano-Carts

MoyaoneComptroller@gmail.com

Director-at-Large — Michael Leventhal

MoyaoneDirectorAtLarge@gmail.com

Greater Accokeek Civic Association (GACA) President Sums Up 2020, Looks to Future

3 February 2021

GACA Members and Friends of Accokeek:

I am writing to you on behalf of the GACA Board: Trey Thomas, Vice President; Lee Puterbaugh, Secretary; Erica Barry, Treasurer; Members-at-large, William Centeno, Dan Donohue, Stevenson McIlvaine, Roger Midgette, and Phil VanWiltensburg; and myself.

Here's a quote from my last "Year End" letter to you: "Each year since 1985 when it was first incorporated, the Board of The Greater Accokeek Civic Association (GACA) has sent out a letter such as this with a quick summary of the previous year's community activities and a request for support for the year ahead." We're still here, but what a difference a year makes!

Covid-19 restrictions kept GACA from holding regular membership meetings in 2020, and because GACA's expenses continue to be minimal (no meeting rental fees or refreshment expenses, for example), the Board has determined that membership dues will not be required in 2021; your 2020 membership status will be extended through 2021. Donations are always welcome, of course, but again GACA membership dues are waived this year.

Let me return to summarizing the year's activities: our regular GACA membership meeting was held in February 2020 at the Accokeek Volunteer Fire Hall, and one virtual meeting was held via Zoom late in September. We cancelled the two regular long-standing Route 210 trash clean-up events (spring and fall); even National Night Out Against Crime, traditionally held early in August, was cancelled. However, thanks to support from B&J Carryout, GACA did sponsor the annual community holiday tree at the corner of Route 210 and 373. We were also able to provide financial contributions to local nonprofits, the Accokeek Foundation and the Alice Ferguson Foundation, as well as to local food pantries, River Jordan Project and Faith Methodist Church. In addition, GACA established a special ad hoc committee – RACS (Roadway Advisory for South County) – and it has been working virtually with the Maryland Department of Transportation to address maintenance issues along our main roadway, Route 210. Member-at-large Phil VanWiltensburg has continued to email out information throughout the pandemic and will continue to do so.

We are all looking forward to a time when everyone is fully vaccinated and protected from Covid-19 and we can hold in-person meetings again. Until then, the GACA Board will continue to work virtually and keep the community informed. If an important issue comes to our attention and calls for scheduling a virtual meeting, we will let everyone know.

Stay safe.

*Sincerely,
Judy Allen-Leventhal
President, Greater Accokeek Civic Association*



Plaques Ordered to Mark Moyaone's National Historic District Status

— Rita Bergman

After approval by the National Park Service for having the Moyaone Reserve designated as a National Historic District in October 2020, we were able to proceed with acquiring historic markers. We solicited quotes from three firms to manufacture customized plaques. Following receipt and selection of the best quote, we submitted a grant in late fall 2020 to the Prince George's County Historic Preservation Commission to procure the plaques. We tweaked the language several times (thanks to Michael Leventhal and Rose Kim for their inputs) and finalized the wording as part of the bid. The final language was reviewed by the Moyaone Board as well. The grant was approved on January 20, 2021 and we ordered the plaques, which are expected to be delivered in March.

The plan is to mount the informational plaque at the Wagner Community Center on a 6-ft post, and to place the two smaller plaques (simply stating that the Moyaone Reserve has been listed in the National Register) at two different entrances to the Moyaone. A mock-up of the plaques is displayed above. Hopefully we can get the plaques installed in the spring.

This entire effort would not have been possible without many people in the community, including those who contributed to this effort from the beginning by having their homes listed in the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties, those who helped with obtaining grant money, and those who offered ideas and other support throughout the entire process. Thank you everyone.

The deadline for the March issue of *Smoke Signals* is Wednesday, March 3. Send your submissions to Editor Ruth Gaumond: moyaonenews@gmail.com

Teen Service Club “Interact” Launches Southern Maryland Heritage Project

The Interact Club of Charles County, a new teen service club sponsored by the Rotary Club of La Plata and the Neighborhood Creative Arts Center, is reaching out to community members of Southern Maryland and, in particular, Charles County, to share stories of growing up in Maryland. From farming to developing commerce, tornadoes to floods, rollicking town get-togethers to church events, civil unrest to proud moments — we want to preserve your story of growing up in Southern Maryland as part of the Charles County Heritage Project.

Interact is eager to preserve the valuable history of our beautiful area by seeking out content-rich stories about living in rural Maryland. This story will be unique in that it will be told by our own people, in their own words, and to the best of their recollections. Teen members or “Interactors” are also seeking photographs that may be shared online (with written permission from the owner). Pictures will be scanned and returned to the owner. Interactors will be combining stories with historical pictures to create a series of online videos.

Interact is Rotary International's service club for young people ages 12 to 18. Interact clubs are sponsored by individual Rotary clubs, which provide support and guidance, but they are self-governing and self-supporting. Interact clubs exist all over the world, serving their communities through good works.

The Charles County Interact Club is new to our area and is part of the many programs offered by the Neighborhood Creative Arts Center in La Plata, however, they have already made a difference through their efforts in cleaning up Chapel Point State Park, assembling 1000 children's craft kits for the Neighborhood Creative Arts Center Giving Fair, and sponsoring a Mapathon for the Missing Maps Project for Doctors without Borders. Missing Maps is an unprecedented collaboration between MSF, Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team (HOT), the British Red Cross and the American Red Cross. The project draws on a massive force of volunteers to create accurate, up-to-date, permanently open-source maps of locations vulnerable to disease outbreaks and epidemics. Through these projects, and the Charles County Heritage Project, teens from Charles County middle and high schools are learning the skills of leadership and service.

If you are interested in sharing your story or have a friend or relation that would like to share their story as part of the Interact Heritage Project, contact Interact Advisor, Georgia Bonney, at msgeorgia@neighborhoodcreativeartscenter.org. No story is too small or unimportant. Every story is a part of our history. Please share! Interactors will be conducting interviews during February and March. The project is scheduled to be completed by the end of May 2021.

If you are interested in learning more about the Charles County Interact Club, please go to <https://www.neighborhoodcreativeartscenter.org/rotary-interact> or contact Georgia Bonney at msgeorgia@neighborhoodcreativeartscenter.org



Have a Look at the National Colonial Farm in YouTube Videos

Check out YouTube videos from the Accokeek Foundation and discover a wide range of topics: <https://www.youtube.com/user/AccokeekFoundation/videos>

In a recent video, Cate Sharper (pictured above) invites visitors to join her to learn about Anansi the Spider in stories and other folktales from Africa. Cate is portrayed by Outreach Specialist Shemika Berry.

Or listen to an interview with an incredible volunteer. Brynna Bode began volunteering as a colonial child on the National Colonial Farm, but her love of history and agriculture has taken her much further than just the 18th century. Hear Brynna talk about her experiences in agriculture growing up, her time volunteering at the Accokeek Foundation, and what the future may hold for her.

Follow the Accokeek Foundation on social media ([Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#)) or [sign up for our newsletter](#) for updates about new and returning programs and events this year and beyond, or reach out to us at info@accokeek.org.

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



Light Pollution Is Destroying Our Night ... But You Can Make a Difference

— Mikaila Milton

Biologist, Resource Management Division
National Capital Parks–East, National Park Service
Washington, DC (email: mikaila_milton@nps.gov)

What is light pollution? Most of us are familiar with air, water, and land pollution, but did you know that light can also be a pollutant? The inappropriate or excessive use of artificial light – known as light pollution – can have serious environmental consequences for humans, wildlife, and our climate.

Five Ways Light Pollution Hurts Our Planet

1) *Light pollution devastates wildlife.*

Light pollution has been shown to disorient migratory birds and hatchling turtles, disrupt mating and reproductive behavior in fireflies and frogs, and interfere with communication in species from glowworms to coyotes. Changes in plant and animal reproductive activity can create difficulty in finding food and increase chances of starvation. Hundreds of terrestrial bird species fly and migrate under cover of night. Light fixation is a constant bird hazard that continues to kill thousands of birds in urban areas each year.

2) *Light pollution may harm your health.*

Studies suggest that artificial light at night negatively affects human health by increasing our risks for obesity, sleep disorders, depression, diabetes, breast cancer, and more.

3) *Light pollution can make you less safe.*

Bad outdoor lighting can decrease safety by making victims and property easier to see. A Chicago Alley Lighting Project showed a correlation between brightly lit alleyways and increased crime. In fact, most property crime occurs in the light of the day, and some crimes like vandalism and graffiti actually thrive on night lighting. Also, glare from bright, unshielded lights decreases safety because it shines into our eyes and constricts our pupils. This can not only be blinding but it makes it more difficult for our eyes to adjust to low-light conditions.

4) *Light pollution wastes energy and money.*

As much as 50% of outdoor lighting is wasted, which increases greenhouse gas emissions, contributes to climate change, and renders us all more energy dependent.

5) *Light pollution robs us of our heritage.*

Our ancestors experienced a night sky that inspired science, religion, philosophy, art, and literature. Today millions of children across the globe will never know the wonder of the Milky Way.

You Can Help: Utilize the Five Principles for Responsible Outdoor Lighting

1) *Useful*

All light should have a clear purpose. Before installing or replacing a light, determine if light is needed. Consider how the use of light will impact the area, including wildlife and the environment. Consider using reflective paints or self-luminous markers for signs, curbs, and steps to reduce the need for permanently installed outdoor lighting.

2) *Targeted*

Light should be directed only to where it is needed. Use shielding and careful aiming to target the direction of the light beam so that it points downward and does not spill beyond where it is needed.

3) *Low light levels*

Light should be no brighter than necessary. Use the lowest light level required. Be mindful of surface conditions, as some surfaces may reflect more light into the night sky than intended.

4) *Controlled*

Light should be used only when it is useful. Use controls such as timers or motion detectors to ensure that light is available when it is needed, dimmed when possible, and turned off when not needed.

5) *Color*

Use warmer color lights where possible. Limit the amount of shorter wavelength (blue violet) light to the least amount needed.

Humans evolved as diurnal animals, biased toward daytime and dependent on visual cues. The illumination of our nightscapes seems comfortable and necessary. But as we learn more about the effects of artificial night lighting on humans and other animals, we can increase our efforts to protect the night sky for our children and future generations.

Sources and Further Information

International Dark Sky Association

<https://www.darksky.org>

<https://www.darksky.org/our-work/lighting/lighting-for-citizens/lighting-basics/>

Chepesiuk, Ron. 2009. Missing the dark: health effects of light pollution. *Environmental Health Perspectives*. Vol. 117(1). <https://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/doi/full/10.1289/ehp.117-a20>

Longcore, Travis, C. Rich. 2004. Ecological light pollution. *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment*. Vol. 2(4). <https://esajournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1890/1540-9295%282004%29002%5B0191%3AELP%5D2.0.CO%3B2>

C.A. Wyse, C. Selman, M.M. Page, A.N. Coogan, D.G. Hazlerigg. 2011. Circadian desynchrony and metabolic dysfunction; did light pollution make us fat? *Medical Hypotheses* Vol. 77(6). <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0306987711004762>

AMP Creeks Defines Next Steps in Royal Farms Development Court Case

— Kelly Canavan, AMP Creeks Council

Your responses were overwhelming. We're going to fight.

Thank you to everyone who took the AMP Creeks (The Accokeek, Mattawoman, Piscataway Creeks Communities Council, Inc.) survey and offered words of encouragement and guidance. We've begun work on our appeal opposing the Royal Farms development proposed for the corner of Livingston Road and Rte. 210, across from B&J's. Because this situation is a little complicated, let's run through what happens next.

- 1) Recently the Prince George's County District Council decided to call up the Royal Farms case. That means that none of us have to go through the step of filing a request for an appeals hearing.
- 2) The Clerk of the Council will select a date for the hearing and advertise it for 30 days. The clerk will also send a notice to all persons of record.
- 3) All people who are persons of record and want to file "an exception" (testimony) should do so with the Clerk of the Council as soon as possible so that council members can read their exceptions, but must file no later than 5 business days of the hearing date. (More on this below.)
- 4) Ordinarily, whoever is opposing the project being considered ("Opposition") is given 30 minutes to argue their case. This is usually done by a lawyer(s). However, the Council can make exceptions to that rule and will decide how the time will be spent during the hearing. Sometimes when there is a lot of opposition, there will be extra time given. Lawyers usually get the bulk of the time, but it is up to opposing parties to decide how to split it up. The Applicant will also get to make a case.

Two Things You Can do to Help

- 1) If you're a Person of Record, file testimony opposing the Royal Farms project (see below).
- 2) If you're able (and we understand if you aren't!), please donate to help cover costs of printing, postage, and lawyer fees. [You can find a link here — www.ampcreeks.org](http://www.ampcreeks.org). Every little bit helps!

If You Decide to File Testimony

What to Send

The District Council has not listened to the Zoning Hearing Examiner (ZHE) hearings or read the transcript. They are likely unfamiliar with the case and the property and surrounding area. Keep that in mind as you craft your points.

- 1) Make a clear argument.
 - State your point
 - Support it with facts
- 2) Don't attack the Council. We want them to be on our side!
- 3) Get to the point. The Council members have a LOT of stuff to read. Make this easy for them.

4) Want help drafting something? [Get in touch](#) — AMP Creeks is glad to assist!

Who to Send it To

Technically, it is supposed to be mailed to all parties of record as well as the Prince George's County Council, Clerk, and attorneys. However, because there are so many persons of record registered (303!), People's Zoning Counsel Stan Brown has advised that it is all right for persons who are NOT represented by counsel to send their testimony to the members of the District Council, the Clerk of the Council, and the attorneys in the case. You can do so by mail or email. Contact information is below.

1. Clerk of the Council — clerkofthecouncil@co.pg.md.us
2. Hon. Sydney Harrison (our councilmember in district 9) — CouncilDistrict9@co.pg.md.us
3. Hon. Tom Dernoga — CouncilDistrict1@co.pg.md.us
4. Hon. Deni Taveras — DLTaveras@co.pg.md.us
5. Hon. Dannielle Glaros — dmglaros@co.pg.md.us
6. Council Chair Hon. Todd Turner — District4@co.pg.md.us
7. Hon. Jolene Ivey — councildistrict5@co.pg.md.us
8. Hon. Derrick Davis — CouncilDistrict6@co.pg.md.us
9. Council Vice-Chair Hon. Rodney Streeter — CouncilDistrict7@co.pg.md.us
10. Hon. Monique Anderson-Walker — MAABourne@co.pg.md.us
11. Hon. Calvin Hawkins — RMRaysor@co.pg.md.us
12. Hon. Mel Franklin — mfranklin1@co.pg.md.us

Council directory page — <https://pgccouncil.us/directory.aspx>

13. People's Zoning Counsel Stan Brown, 1300 Caraway Ct., Ste. 101, Largo, MD 20744
14. J. Carroll Holzer, P.A., 508 Fairmount Ave., Towson, MD 21286
15. Macy Nelson, 401 Washington Ave., Ste. 803, Towson, MD 21204
16. Principal Counsel to the District Council Rajesh Kumar, County Administration Building, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
17. Larry Taub, 11785 Beltsville Dr., 10th floor, Calverton, MD 20707
18. Matthew Tedesco, 6411 Ivy La., Ste. 200, Greenbelt, MD 20770

We'd love to see what you send too! Copy us at kelly@ampcreeks.org

The Accokeek, Mattawoman, Piscataway Creeks Communities Council, Inc. (AMP Creeks) is a small nonprofit organization established in 2007. The organization often works with other civic and environmental groups such as Greater Accokeek Civic Association, Greater Baden Aquasco Civic Association, We Are Cove Point, Calvert Citizens for a Healthy Community, FANG Collective, and the Moyaone Association.



Alice Ferguson Foundation Opens Registration for Spring Nature Nuts

Nature Nuts Play Pods registration is now open!

Take advantage of this perfect opportunity for young explorers (ages 4+) to safely discover the wonders of nature and our farm with new friends. Weekly activities are led by our experienced educators and include visiting the barnyard animals, diving into scavenger hunts and hiking, creating seasonal nature crafts, and so much more. Spring programs feature several 5-week sessions on Mondays AND Wednesdays. Enjoy some fresh air and join us for action-packed, outdoor adventures at Hard Bargain Farm. Learn more about Nature Nuts Play Pods [here](#).

"I will definitely be recommending this program over and over again. I love that my son gets to make new friends while spending time outside in a safe environment, and I look forward every week to hearing about his adventures."

—Nature Nuts Parent

Mornings, 9:00–11:30 am
Afternoons, 1:00–3:30 pm

Monday Sessions

(Morning Sessions Only)

Session 1: March 8, 15, 22, 29, April 5
Session 2: April 19, 26, May 3, 10, 17

Wednesday Sessions

(Mornings and Afternoons)

Session 1: March 10, 17, 24, 31, April 7
Session 2: April 21, 28, May 5, 12, 19
Session 3: May 26, June 2, 9, 16, 23

Cost per session is \$125 per child. Register now, spots are expected to fill fast. See you in March!

[SAVE YOUR SPOT](#)

Join the #PotomacCleanup

Be a change maker in the Moyaone community by volunteering to lead cleanup events this spring. This year's flagship cleanup on the shoreline of Hard Bargain Farm is scheduled for Saturday, April 10. Our FREE, virtual "How To Organize A Cleanup" workshops will provide you with all the information about how to safely organize a cleanup and how to collect data to help support source reduction policies.

[REGISTER FOR WORKSHOPS](#)

Visit the Farm

Love is in the air and we love when our Moyaone Reserve neighbors visit us. Bundle up and come to Hard Bargain Farm to visit with our farm animals, take a nature hike, or explore the sights and sounds of birds in our area. Make plans to get outside and enjoy nature, as a family. We can't wait to see you at the Farm! Please link here to [SCHEDULE A VISIT](#)



Artists' Group Plans Valentine Art Exchange; Spring Fete on April 17

The Accokeek Artists Alliance (AAA) is having a Valentine's Day Art Exchange for members. Sixteen artists have signed up for this highly anticipated event, which involves artists creating a small work of art to be exchanged for another small work of art. The big reveal will happen at the Moyaone Commons Pavilion on Sunday, February 14, where art in paper bags will be lined up for each artist to randomly select. Be sure to check accokeekartistsalliance.com after the 14th for photos of happy recipients of new art.

We will be having a Plein Air Art Fete, Saturday, April 17, in and around Alice Ferguson Foundation's Hard Bargain log cabin. Various mediums will be involved. Stay tuned for this exciting opportunity for members to work with and alongside our talented AAA artists.

As always, check our website, accokeekartistsalliance.com, for instructions on how to join this fine group of artists and art enthusiasts.

TRANSITIONAL LIVING QUARTERS NEEDED

by Moyaone resident who lost home and possessions in house fire. All ideas welcome — vacant guest cottage, granny flat, guest suite, need for responsible occupant while away, etc. Ideal location Moyaone Reserve but greater Accokeek–Bryans Road area also suitable. Please call 301-283-2410. Leave message if call not answered.