

Smoke Signal



MOYAONE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

THE MOYAONE RESERVE • LISTED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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NO. 8

President's Note: **Summertime ... and Stewardship**

— Rose Kim
MoyaonePresident@gmail.com

Summer is always fun and exciting in the Moyaone Reserve, and with the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions, I feel the season has been exceptionally joyful. The Moyaone Community Pool and Commons have been teeming with activity throughout — from Accokeek Swim Team (AST) swim meets, to family and friends gathering to picnic, to beautiful gardens and elegant fundraisers, to the kids who play soccer — all areas at the Commons are being used in positive and happy ways. How wonderful is that! And the fun doesn't end in August; September is full of activities: a Triathlon (see p. 7 for registration information), Community Yard Sale, Accokeek Artists Alliance event (p. 6), and winterizing the pool.

A special shout out to the AST; I understand they had a great season with outstanding participation (more about their season on pp. 4–5). Go Gators!

Please mark your calendars for Labor Day Sunday, Sept. 5, and join your friends and neighbors at the pool to celebrate the end of summer at the traditional Moyaone Community Labor Day Picnic (see p. 2). This year's picnic will honor long-time pool manager and resident Rhonda Hanson. I hope you'll join us in thanking her for her service to the Moyaone pool.

As the dog days of summer come upon us, and we think about all these wonderful happenings in our community, it is important to remember how they are able to happen. Without the financial support of our residents through the voluntary payment of Moyaone Association dues there is no pool, no Commons, no nice roads. I am deeply appreciative of those who pay their dues; however, there are a number of community members who haven't yet seen the value of helping to maintain our community's amenities.

We are all stewards of this community. You have chosen to live in a beautiful place that provides a respite from urban life and that also happens to offer some lovely amenities like private roads, the Commons, and Piscataway Park. As stewards it is everyone's responsibility to do their part to support their community. When you sell your home, isn't it nice that a realtor can market your property with photos of a sparkling blue pool and a seemingly endless country road.

How sad it would be if these things were not maintained to the standard that they are today and were left to deteriorate.

Over 60 years ago, Piscataway National Park was created to preserve the viewshed from Mt. Vernon. Some of you may not be aware that some of the original members of this community donated their easements to help create the park. I'm honored to live in the home of one of those founding members — David and Eloise Swick. Mr. and Mrs. Swick along with Belva and Roy Jensen, Bernie and Jane Berninghausen, Frances and Jack Wright, Gordon and Eileen Watts, George and Rosalie Wareham, Robert and Lenore Straus, Dixie and Ken Otis, Nancy and Charles Wagner, and Giorgio and Patricia Tesi, as well as the Piscataway Company and the Moyaone Association all contributed their easements to create Piscataway Park. These individuals truly understood the meaning of stewardship and thanks to these founding members' foresight and generosity, we get to call Piscataway National Park home. As the modern-day stewards of the Moyaone community, all that is asked of you is to play it forward by paying your annual Moyaone Association dues, or in public radio speak, the equivalent of the cost of a cup of coffee a day. Before we know it the year will come to an end; before that happens, please make your annual dues payment.

p.s. If you'd like to see a full listing of the founders of Piscataway Park, you can find a beautiful bronze plaque behind the National Colonial Farm Visitor Center on the left of the walking path — or go online [HERE](#) to learn more about our community at Piscataway National Park.

Moyaone Association Board of Directors

President — Rose Kim

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Vice President — Lindsay Laws

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Pool Manager Rhonda Hanson Announces Retirement

After managing the Moyaone Pool for fourteen years, I have decided it is time to retire. It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve the community as pool manager. A big thanks to the staff who have served during this time. You have made the pool a safe and welcoming place to be. Thanks to all of the parents who have worked so hard to make this a place children love to be. The pool and the Commons are the heart of this community. We have taught hundreds of local children to swim, given children a chance to participate in competitive swimming, contributed to community health through morning lap swim, and provided the community a chance to relax and socialize. I am proud of the wonderful, diverse community we have built through the swim team, swim lessons, and non-Moyaone memberships. I will miss the pool, but look forward to having more time to garden, travel, and enjoy the many cultural opportunities the Washington area has to offer.

— Rhonda Hanson



Pulse of the Pool

This community's pool, a hidden gem located in the Moyaone Reserve at Piscataway Park, is helping the Gators wrap up another successful season. We are looking forward to this year's Labor Day potluck and social on Sunday, September 5, starting at 4 pm. Bring a dish and help us make this year's Labor Day picnic a success. We will also be celebrating and honoring Rhonda Hanson for her fourteen years of service as the Pool Manager!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Save the date, mark your calendars, all hands on deck!

- Tues. Aug. 17 Pool Committee meeting
- Sun. Sept. 5 (4 pm–dark) Labor Day Picnic
Potluck & Honoring Rhonda Hanson
- Mon. Sept. 6 Potluck rain date
- Sat. Sept. 11 Moyaone Challenge & Triathlon (see pp. 7–8)
- Sat. Sept. 18 (9 am–12 pm) Pool Closing
Work party & social
- Sun. Sept. 19 Work party rain date
- Tues. Sept. 21 Pool Committee meeting

The Moyaone Association, a volunteer-funded homeowner group established circa 1952, owns and operates four communal spaces known collectively as the Moyaone Commons. The Commons include (from east to west): the Hollyfield Complex (Pavilion, Tiki Bar & Kitchen); Moyaone Pool; Wagner Community Center; and the Moyaone Play Fields and Court. The Commons are located less than a mile from the Potomac River and between protected woodlands, wetlands, and historical agricultural land.

The 2021 Pool Committee has as members: Crystal Garcia, Ben Grenoble, Rhonda Hanson, Rose Kim, Michael Leventhal, Hsin-I Russell, Tina Shotwell, and Nancy Weiman. Each of us represents some part of the pool's stakeholders, including, in no particular order, the Accokeek Swim Team (Go Gators!), the pool's management & lifeguards, the Moyaone Association members, and the 2021 pool members themselves. These groups make up our very own Pool Medley!

We welcome all who are interested in helping to make Rhonda's celebration a special event! Please join us at our next meeting, August 17, 6 pm at the Commons Pavilion, 2311 Bryan Point Rd., reach out to any of us, or to me (email russelhc@yahoo.com or call 301-292-8341), to reserve a spot.



A PERFECT SUMMER EVENING

Jazz Night at the Moyaone pool, held July 17, was a terrific success. The thunderstorms and rain drifted away, and the approximately 90 people in attendance were treated to a lovely evening in a beautiful setting. Highlights of the evening were provided by talented Moyaone Reserve residents. Joe Lapan provided the music, Tammy Thompson created the beautiful food, and Nancy Weiman entertained with her solo synchronized swimming performance.

Everyone enjoyed catching up with old friends and meeting new neighbors. This tremendous community support raised approximately \$1500 for recreational improvements for our community.

Photos: Valerie Volcovici and Jan Parker.



Staff from George Washington's Mount Vernon, Preservation Maryland, and Robinson & Associates join members of the Moyaone Association (from left: Moyaone Association Vice President Lindsay Laws, and Rita Bergman) to celebrate the listing of Moyaone Reserve to the National Register.

Heritage Fund Highlight: Moyaone Reserve Historic District

— by Jessica Feldt
Preservation Initiatives Manager, Preservation Maryland

Next to the Potomac River, contiguous with Piscataway Park, is the mid-century community of Moyaone Reserve.

Preservation Maryland's Heritage Fund, in partnership with the Maryland Historical Trust, recently helped fund the costs associated with the nomination of Moyaone Reserve to the National Register of Historic Places.

The nomination process was spearheaded by the Moyaone Association. In addition to the Heritage Fund, funding was provided by the Mount Vernon Ladies Association and Prince George's County.

The National Register of Historic Places is the official list of the Nation's historic places worthy of preservation. Authorized by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect America's historic and archeological resources.

The new Moyaone Reserve Historic District will encompass over 120 contributing single-family homes along with undeveloped parcels including protected marshland and the mid-century Wagner Community Center. The homes showcase a range of styles and many of them are designed to work in visual harmony with the natural environment that surrounds them.

This connection to the natural environment was present in the community from the beginning of planning for the neighborhood as a place that sought to protect the rural, wooded area where the houses were built. Modernist architect Charles F. Wagner, Jr. built his own home in the community along with over 15 additional homes in the community.

—Reprinted with the permission of Preservation Maryland, Baltimore MD (preservationmaryland.org)

Adventures in Piscataway Park

The Fairy Trail is Back

The fairies of Piscataway Park have done it again. They've opened up eight brand new fairy houses for you to explore, and this year's trail is bigger than ever!

Piscataway Park is home to seven unique nature trails, and the fairies have built a home on each one of the trails (plus a bonus house!) to help you experience the park in a magical way. They've also put together a special activity book to help you learn more about each of the trails as you explore. Download the Fairy Trail guide!

Self-guided Adventures

If you enjoyed the Fairy Trail, check out one of the park's other self-guided adventures. Adventures that fit into your schedule, these self-guided activities allow you to explore Piscataway Park anytime it's open. From birding to time-travel, there's an adventure for everyone. Plan your visit

The Accokeek Foundation at Piscataway Park is located at 3400 Bryan Point Road, Accokeek. accokeekfoundation.org

Fall Fun on the Hard Bargain Farm

Hurry, before spots are gone! This fall, we invite you and your family to join us at the Alice Ferguson Foundation's Hard Bargain Farm. Hang out with our barnyard friends, lend a hand with a few chores around the farm, and meet the farmers and educators who care for our animals. Fun for the whole family! \$15 per person. Kids free under the age of two.

Unfor-goat-able Adventures

Aug. 14, 10 am–12 pm: SPOTS FULL!

Legend-dairy Discoveries

Sept. 11, 4–6 pm: SPACE LIMITED!

An Egg-cellent Experience

Oct. 16, 4–6 pm

SAVE YOUR SPOT HERE

We can't wait to see you at the Farm! Alice Ferguson Foundation, 2001 Bryan Point Rd.; fergusonfoundation.org

Mount Aventine to Hold Event on Sept. 26

On Sun., Sept. 26, 3–4:30 pm, Mount Aventine is hosting "Come to Tea and Meet the Countess' Family: Celebrating the Life of Margit Sigra Besseney." Friends and family will reflect on the Countess, last private owner of Mount Aventine. Enjoy tea and dessert canapes; sidesaddle riding demonstration and show; and house museum tour of the new exhibit on the Countess.

Mount Aventine at Chapman State Park, 3452 Ferry Pl., Indian Head. \$10 per person/\$25 per family. Reservations: friendsofchapmansp.org; (202) 460-0259.

Old Carpentry Tools Sought

The Friends of Chapman State Park is putting the finishing touches on a new exhibit, "19th Century Craftsmanship and Construction at Mount Aventine." We are in search of old carpentry tools for the exhibit. If you have any, we would love to see them and possibly incorporate them into the exhibit. Contact Sheryl Elliott by email: mountaventinecsp@gmail.com



This new retro AST swim logo was produced by Cynthia Rudzis (Cactus Hill). Thank you, Cynthia!

Accokeek Swim Team Recap

The Gators had another exciting swim season this year! It was a wonderful and joyous season getting back into the pool together, enjoying all the camaraderie of the community after the disruption of 2020. The team grew this year from about 60 swimmers in 2019. We had 84 total swimmers compete between the ages of 6 and 19; 21 swimmers were from 10 different families of the Moyoane, the complement coming from the surrounding areas. Those members who are also AST swimmers are as follows: Esther, Luke, Ben & Betsy Garcia (Poplar Hill Rd.); Josef, Johannes, Elsalore & Ginny Shotwell (Hidden Valley); Jude, Brelle & Hope Bennett (Old Landing); Haley & Ashley Gruwell (Poplar Hill Rd.); Aaron Lewandowski (Bryan Point Rd.); Bryce Sullivan (West Ridge Rd.); Mateo & Mina Zalzar (Poplar Hill Rd.); Jacob Aills (Hidden Valley Rd.); and Axel Naar (Bryan Point Rd.). Other AST swimmers are Josh & Sophia Vincent (Farmington).



Our team was led by two outstanding Gator Alumni, (below) Micah Dixon and Freedom Morant.



This season we competed in Division F of Prince-Mont Swim League, amassing 301 points at Divisionals to place Second. Of our 84 Gators, we had over 50 swimmers advance into post-season and compete at Divisionals; 10 continued to All-Stars (8 primary and 2 alternates). Overall, each swimmer increased their strength and skill. We are excited to watch these young athletes continue to overcome challenges and become their best!



(above) The 2021 All-Star Swimmers were (back row) Brady Amelechkin, Kyla Amelechkin, Josef Shotwell & Luke Garcia; and (front row) Johannes Shotwell, Ben Garcia, Elsalore Shotwell & Grace Loftus.

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Accokeek Swim Team Recap

— continued from p. 4

In normal times Prince-Mont Swim League only lets swimmers 18 and under compete. However, this year they allowed 19-year-olds that missed their final season in 2020. So, graduating from Accokeek Swim Team this year, but Gators Emeritus for life are (*below*) Brady Amelechian (18) from Fort Washington, and Jake Aills (19) from Hidden Valley.



The swim team is a wonderful way to get to know better some of our favorite neighbors. We had five awesome Spirit Nights; sharing and celebrating an array of food cultures: Latin, Pizza, Brinner, BBQ, and Family Favorites. The pie-eating contest is already legend.

The Swim Team has two individual awards that recognize the legacy of Marion Wright for sportsmanship & leadership and Gordon Watts for exceptional volunteerism. This year's Marion Wright award was awarded to (*above left*) Scarlett Vincent (Farmington Rd.). The Gordon Watts award went to (*above right*) Crystal Garcia (Poplar Hill).



Accokeek Artists' Group Plans Artisans' Market, Sept. 18

The Accokeek Artists Alliance (AAA) July meeting at Jan and Bill's home on Rockwood Drive had plenty to offer — studio tours of Bill's impressive wood shop and Jan's well appointed ceramics studio, classical piano music by Frank Pipitone (*pictured below*), and members "show-and-tell" of



their own art projects. The next in-home meeting will be at Candice Bigelow's on Sat., Aug. 28, 10 am–noon. She has made a career of her art, both as a studio artist and art teacher.

The Artisans Market is our next big event on Sept. 18, from 10 am to 3 pm on the Moyaone Commons, 2311 Bryan Point Rd. Vendor space is open to members and non-members alike. A fee for space at the market will be charged upfront with no commission taken from sales. In addition, the AAA will host a silent auction with all proceeds going to our well-known, talented, and much cherished member, Trey Thomas, for his recovery from a serious stroke.

Artisans Market Call for Artists

Inviting all artisans for this non-juried opportunity to sell your art and fine craft creations. All work must be made by the artist and be for sale.

Eligibility: All artists and fine craft artisans

Market Date: Sat., Sept. 18, 2021, 11 am–3 pm

Registration Fee:

- For space under the pavilion:
nonmembers \$75 and members \$55
- For outdoor space:
nonmembers \$50 and members \$30.

Location: Wagner Community Center Commons, 2311 Bryan Point Road, Accokeek, MD 20607

Set-up: Sat., Sept. 18, 8–10 am

A limited number of spaces are available under the pavilion (first come, first serve) and 10 x 10 spaces available on the lawn for canopy/tent setups. A limited number of 6-foot tables are available. Artists provide display fixtures as needed. Artists must be present for the duration of the event and are responsible for their own sales.

Register online at www.accokeekartistsalliance.com.

Charles County Youth Orchestra Announces 2021 Auditions

In person: September 18

By video: now until September 18

The Charles County Youth Orchestra (CCYO) announces auditions for all four of its ensembles: Prelude Strings, Encore Band, Encore Strings, and the CCYO in person on September 18 at the Neighborhood Creative Arts Center, 206 Washington Ave., La Plata or by video audition now until September 18. Details and instructions can be found at charlescountyyouthorchestra.org.

Rehearsals for the 2021–22 season will begin on the week of Sept. 20 and the winter concert is scheduled for Jan. 16, 2022.

For more information, contact Osman Kivrak, DMA; Director, Charles County Youth Orchestra with Encore Band, Encore Strings and Prelude Strings; (301) 375-7109, charlescountyyouthorchestra.org.

Aug. 8 Tour of Piscataway

Did you know that Prince George's County had four documented racial terror lynchings? [Prince George's County Lynching Memorial Project \(PGC LMP\)](#); will be hosting an educational car tour of sites related to the 1869 lynching of Mr. Thomas Juricks that occurred in Piscataway. The tour will take place on Aug. 8, 3–4:30 pm with an optional social gathering afterwards. At each site, we will get out of our cars to listen to our tour leaders and discuss the history. Please arrive at 2:45 pm at the following assembly site: [Fort Washington Forest Community Center at 1200 Fillmore Road, Fort Washington](#). That will give you time to check-in and organize into carpools to reduce traffic. We will depart on the tour at 3 pm.

Community Remembrance Projects

Also during this tour, we hope to discuss developing a community remembrance project to memorialize Mr. Juricks, speak the truth about the horrible events that transpired, and begin the process of healing and reconciliation. The tour is completely free. If you have any questions, please contact us at princegeorgescolmp@gmail.com.

Join the MOYAONE CHALLENGE on September 11

Join the **Moyaone Challenge** on Saturday, September 11 by entering one or up to two of the four events—Triathlon, Swimming, Biking, or Running. There will be three different age groups: Youth 10–18, Adult 19–59, Senior 60 and over. All events begin at the Moyaone Association’s Wagner Community Center, 2311 Bryan Point Road.



We will also have two events for kids aged 5–9. One will be an intergenerational, family relay that will include running 3 lengths of the garden. Family members and siblings are encouraged to participate. We will also have a distance soccer ball kick event. These events will be held in the soccer field starting approximately at 9 am. Registration is \$5 for either or both events.

Triathlon

Begins at 8 am and includes swimming, biking, and running. This includes a 250-m distance (10 pool lengths; no flippers allowed); a 8 km/5 mi bike ride; and a 2 km/1.2 mi run. **Bike helmets are required.** Transition time from one element of the race to the next is included in the total race time. Individuals or relay teams may enter. Early registration by Aug. 31 is \$25; after Aug. 31, \$30.

Swim Challenge

Begins at approximately 8:30 am, after Triathlon Challenge has completed. All strokes are accepted including walking,

but no flippers are allowed. Distance is 250 m (10 pool lengths. Early registration by Aug. 31, \$15; after Aug. 31, \$20.

Biking Challenge

Begins at approximately 8:45 am. Distance is 8 km/5 mi. **Bike helmets are required.** Early registration by Aug. 31, \$15; after Aug. 31, \$20.

Running Challenge

Begins at approximately 9 am. Distance is 2 km/1.2 mi . Walking is permitted. Early registration by Aug. 31, \$15; after Aug. 31, \$20.

To enter:

To enter, fill out the registration form below and sign the Participant Waiver on the reverse side. Deposit the form in the box at the Moyaone pool with your entry fee. You may also pay with Venmo (@moyaonecomptroller) or PayPal.

The cut-off date for early registration is Tues., Aug. 31. All registrations must be received by Tues., Sept. 7, 2021. Additional registration forms are available at the pool, and in the August *Smoke Signals*; or request a form by email: maryleephelps@gmail.com

No time, no energy, no problem! Become a sponsor for one or more of our athletes. Email Mary Lee Phelps at maryleephelps@gmail.com to find out how to be a sponsor.

The funds raised from this event will be used to make improvements to the Moyaone Commons.

MOYAONE CHALLENGE REGISTRATION FORM

Check the event you are participating in:

Triathlon____ Triathlon Team Relay ____ Swim Race Only____ Bike Race Only____ Run Only ____

Age Category: Young Adult (10–18)____ Adult (18–59)____ Senior (60 and up)____

Children’s events (5–9): Family Relay Race____ Soccer Ball Kick Event____ Both____

Name (or names for triathlon relay; family relay race):

Address:_____

Email:_____

Phone Number: (Mobile)_____ Home_____

Emergency Contact_____

Emergency Contact Phone Number_____

Amount of your registration payment _____

Payment by: Check _____ Venmo or PayPal_____

Participant Waiver

WAIVER/RELEASE, REQUIRED: I HEREBY ASSUME THE RISKS OF PARTICIPATING IN THE MOYAONE CHALLENGE.

1. I hereby represent that (i) I am in good health and in proper physical condition to participate in the Event; and (ii) I am not under the influence of alcohol or any illicit or prescription drugs which would in any way impair my ability to safely participate in the Event. I agree that it is my sole responsibility to determine whether I am sufficiently fit and healthy enough to participate in the Event.

2. I understand and acknowledge the physical and mental rigors associated with triathlon, and realize that running, bicycling, swimming and other portions of such Events are inherently dangerous and represent an extreme test of a person's physical and mental limits. I understand that participation involves risks and dangers which include, without limitation, the potential for serious bodily injury, sickness and disease, permanent disability, paralysis and loss of life; loss of or damage to equipment/property; exposure to extreme conditions and circumstances; accidents, contact or collision with other participants, spectators, vehicles or other natural or manmade objects; dangers arising from adverse weather conditions; imperfect course conditions; water, road and surface hazards; equipment failure; inadequate safety measures; participants of varying skill levels; situations beyond the immediate control of the Event Organizers; and other undefined risks and dangers which may not be readily foreseeable or are presently unknown ("Risks"). I understand that these Risks may be caused in whole or in part by my own actions or inactions, the actions or inactions of others participating in the Event, or the acts, inaction or negligence of the Released Parties defined below, and I hereby expressly assume all such Risks and responsibility for any damages, liabilities, losses or expenses which I incur as a result of my participation in the Event.

3. I agree to be familiar with and to abide by the Rules and Regulations established for the Event. I also accept sole responsibility for my own conduct and actions while participating in the Event, and the condition and adequacy of my equipment.

4. I hereby Release, Waive and Covenant Not to Sue, and further agree to Indemnify, Defend and Hold Harmless the following parties: the Event Organizers, Race Directors, Local Organizing Committees, and Property Owners upon which the Event takes place, (Individually and Collectively, the "Released Parties" or "Event Organizers"), with respect to any liability, claim(s), demand(s), cause(s) of action, damage(s), loss or expense (including court costs and reasonable attorneys fees) of any kind or nature ("Liability") which may arise out of, result from, or relate to my participation in the Event, including claims for Liability caused in whole or in part by the negligence of the Released Parties. I further agree that if, despite this Agreement, I, or anyone on my behalf, makes a claim for Liability against any of the Released Parties, I will indemnify, defend and hold harmless each of the Released Parties from any such Liability which any may be incurred as the result of such claim. I hereby warrant that I have read this Agreement carefully, understand its terms and conditions, acknowledge that I will be giving up substantial legal rights by signing it (including the rights of the minor, my spouse, children, parents, guardians, heirs and next of kin, and any legal and personal representatives, executors, administrators, successors and assigns), acknowledge that I have signed this Agreement freely and voluntarily, without any inducement, assurance or guarantee, and intend for my signature to serve as confirmation of my complete and unconditional acceptance of the terms, conditions and provisions of this Agreement. This Agreement represents the complete understanding between the parties regarding these issues and no oral representations, statements or inducements have been made apart from this Agreement. If any provision of this Agreement is held to be unlawful, void, or for any reason unenforceable, then that provision shall be deemed severable from this Agreement and shall not affect the validity and enforceability of any remaining provisions.

Parental Consent (required if the participant is less than 18 years of age): As the Parent and/or Legal Guardian to the minor identified above, I hereby accept and agree to all of the terms and conditions of this Agreement on behalf of the minor in connection with the minor's participation in the Event(s). If, despite this Agreement, I, or anyone on the minor's behalf, makes a claim for Liability against any of the Released Parties, I will indemnify, defend and hold harmless each of the Released Parties from any such Liabilities which any may be incurred.

Participant Name (or names for adult relay, or family relay race), please print:

Participant(s) or Parent signature(s) if under 18:

Date
