

Smoke Signal



MOYAONE
ASSOCIATION
NEWSLETTER

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

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NOVEMBER 2023

NO. 11

President's Note:

Greetings, Friends and Neighbors,

Happy November and, Happy Holidays! Many thanks to our Fundraising Committee and all hardworking volunteers who participated in the planning, food preparation, setup and teardown of our signature Oktoberfest event, held last month on October 27. It was a beautiful evening, featuring delicious German fare, including grilled Bratwurst, Sauerkraut, potato salad, Strudel, Oktoberfest Bier, wine and other beverages. Thanks also to all the participants who bought tickets and attended. Oktoberfest continues to be one of our most prominent annual events. I also want to thank our volunteers who came together to place our Moyaone pool into hibernation this year (*see page 3*). It takes a small platoon to install the cover, which was accomplished later this year to allow time for a proper winterization. This should pay dividends when the time comes to place it into service for next year's pool season.

On a serious note, I've asked our roads crew to suspend operations for the remainder of the year, except for where there is an urgent need for road repairs. Fingers crossed we don't see a major storm. I have taken this action because our budget has almost reached the point of exhaustion. (*See also Stan Fetter's article on page 3.*)

All year we have avoided wasting funds on frivolous projects and even deferred needed work where possible to preserve funds. Our only sources of revenue to operate the Moyaone Reserve are the annual fees from you, the owners of the improved and unimproved properties in the Reserve. We receive no other subsidies and unlike the federal government, we pay our bills when due and do not carry debt. Unfortunately, for 2023, we received 20 fewer payments for the improved lots from our residents and owners than received the previous year, a reduction in revenue of \$16,400. Overall, out of 197 improved properties in the Reserve, we received fees for only 132 lots, 67% of the total. Our pool expenses this year were up almost 10% more than planned, much due to startup costs, and some additional expenses driven by new county-mandated operating requirements. This was coupled with a reduction in

revenue from non-residential pool memberships of almost 22% compared to the previous year. There are too many of our neighbors driving on our roads, using our facilities or attending our free events, who, for whatever reason, don't contribute their share. The Moyaone Association is a volunteer organization and not a formal Homeowners Association (HOA). An HOA would have the legal enforcement powers to ensure all residents were paying fees and abiding by our covenants. As a formal HOA though, our fees would also be many times higher than what we now pay. I highly recommend that neighbors reading this, who have not paid this year, to please pay your \$820 share, and those who know neighbors who have not paid, to please encourage them to do so. Checks can be made out to the Moyaone Association and mailed to PO Box 113, Accokeek, MD 20607, or pay through Venmo (@moyaonecomptroller). I know which residents have not paid and am prepared to publish the list of non-payers in a future letter if this will provide motivation for neighbors to pay their share. For those who have regularly paid their fees, I cannot thank you enough for your contributions. That is all for this month and, as always, thank you for all you do to preserve the Reserve.

Respectfully, John Rudzisz
President, Moyaone Association
MoyaonePresident@gmail.com

MOYAONE ASSOCIATION Annual Budget Meeting

Saturday, December 2, 3–5 pm

Wagner Community Center (2311 Bryan Point Rd). Agenda, proxy, and budget will be emailed to the community in late November. If you need to update your email address, please contact Moyaone Secretary, Jim Wickman (MoyaoneSecretary@gmail.com).

Plan to stay afterwards and meet your neighbors. Bring a favorite beverage and snack to share.



Gov. Wes Moore (left) and Chief Mark Tayac (right) at the dedication of Piscataway Park Maryland Heritage Area on May 9, 2023.

Moyaone Reserve and the Piscataway Peoples

by Rose Kim

In 1986 Congress authorized and requested that President Reagan make the week of November 23–30 American Indian Week, recognizing and honoring the achievements of Native Americans. Over the next several years, proclamations were authorized until 1990, when Congress passed Pub. L. No. 101-343, which authorized the President to designate the month of November as “National American Indian Heritage Month.” Congress chose the month of November to recognize Native Americans as this month concluded the traditional harvest season and was generally a time of thanks and celebration. With this in mind, this is a good time to reflect upon the Native American history that is literally in our own backyards here in the Moyaone Reserve.

Long before John Smith arrived, the Piscataway People called the Potomac River region home for thousands of years, and Moyaone was the political center of the chiefdom. In addition, the traditional burial grounds (Ossuary) of the Piscataway are located on the banks of the Potomac on the present-day grounds of the Alice Ferguson Foundation. You might be familiar with this site as the resting place of Chief Turkey Tayac.

As we think about the Piscataway today, it is important that they are not thought of in the past tense. We have many Piscataway neighbors and friends who are very much a part of Southern Maryland history and culture today. Some members of the Piscataway Indian Nation with whom you may be familiar include: Anjela Barnes, the Executive Director of the Accokeek Foundation; Dr. Gabrielle A. Tayac, who served on the staff of the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian for over 18 years; and Chief Mark Tayac (grandson of Turkey Tayac). Chief Tayac

XUYAWATUNEY TĒMIXĒQ MÒYAON We Welcome All to Mòyaon

PISCATAWAY VOICES

Mòyaon (Moy-OWN) is the principal capital village of our homeland, which we call Piscatawa (Peez-ska-DAH-wah).

Mòyaon: “everything is here”

POTOMAC RIVER

Although Mòyaon is the center of our vast homeland, we are still struggling against the ongoing impact of settler colonialism to regain full sovereignty and access to our lands.

As visitors to our sacred land, we ask that you be good guests.

Treat these lands like your home or your sacred site, with gentleness, respect, and care.

The Accokeek Foundation is placing a new sign (above) as a welcome to Piscataway Park: “We Welcome All to Mòyaon.” The Accokeek Foundation at Piscataway Park is located at 3400 Bryan Point Road, Accokeek; info@accokeek.org

is personally well known to many people in Accokeek. We have community members who are currently working in their professional capacities with members of the Piscataway–Conoy Tribe and Chief Tayac of the Piscataway Indian Nation to return sacred items to the Piscataway Ossuary that were removed years ago.

We talk a lot about stewardship in the Moyaone, particularly stewardship of the land. This is an important value that we share with the Piscataway People. I hope you'll take some time (and not just in November) to learn more about the Piscataway. Here are some resources:

[Rediscovering the Piscataway Hub of Moyaone](#)

[Piscataway Values](#)

[Piscataway-Conoy: Rejuvenating Ancestral Ties to Southern Parks](#)

[Destination Southern Maryland](#)



November Pulse of the Pool

WE DID IT. And it only took half an hour. Despite a last-minute date change due to the weekend rain forecast, our community came together Thursday evening, Oct. 19, to put the cover on. TopLine helped winterize the pool the day before, and the leaves were really falling in earnest. So, our timing was spot on.

Thanks to the following friends who lent their helping hands: Chris Aills; Alex and Axel Naar; Bill Robertson; Logan Kistler; Dave Koch; Thann Bennett; Laura and Jake Ellena; Nan Fremont; Bo Saylor; Bob and Kathy Cook-Deegan; Jon Gillespie; Kent Hibben; John Mitchell; Dave Cremer; Charlie Gaumond; Paola Carts; Maria Femia; Mr. Ludke; John Hollyfield; Ben, Crisson and Elliot Kirkup; Crystal and Luke Garcia; Ms. Carey; Nancy Weiman; and a bearded mystery neighbor in a green, short-sleeved t-shirt. Please accept our apologies if any names have been omitted. All volunteers are very much appreciated!

The 2023 Pool Committee is comprised of the following community members: Chris Aills, Micah Dixon, Crystal Garcia, Linda Gorsuch, Ben Grenoble, Rhonda Hanson, Alex Naar, Hsin-I Russell, Russ Strathern, and Nancy Weiman. Heartfelt thanks to our Pool Committee neighbor members for another successful pool season – we truly could not have had one without you.

We are fortunate to live in this (U)n(I)que comm(U)n(I)ty listed on the National Register of Historic Places. U and I

Moyaone Association Board of Directors

President — John “JR” Rudzis

MoyaonePresident@gmail.com

Vice President — Chris Aills

MoyaoneVicePresident@gmail.com

Secretary — Jim Wickman

MoyaoneSecretary@gmail.com

Comptroller — Linda Witkin

MoyaoneComptroller@gmail.com

Director-at-Large — Bobby Gheen

MoyaoneDirectorAtLarge@gmail.com

each contribute to its singular character. Over time as we become more self-sufficient, we learn to appreciate that our daily experience of living is a gift. Thank you for being a small part of this.

We welcome all who are interested in supporting our community pool. Please ensure the pool stays open another season by joining the Moyaone Association, which oversees the pool and roads maintenance.

Please email russelhc@yahoo.com, or text 240-383-9708, with questions, comments, feedback, or requests to join the 2024 Pool Committee.

Funding Shortfall Curtails Road Work

As you’ve probably heard, we had to suspend road work as of October 15. A combination of less than expected pool revenue, fewer members paying fees than expected, and higher than budgeted pool expenses have made a hit on the Moyaone Association’s cash flow. So, while there’s substantial money remaining on paper in the roads budget, the actual cash to back it up isn’t there.

This hit us in the midst of the fall grading cycle, most of which didn’t get done. It also means that we won’t be able to proceed with leaf removal and the winter grading cycle that normally follows. At this juncture, I expect we’ll restart early next year once funding is restored, and then we’ll have to play catch up for a while.

While our roads are in relatively good shape, this is going to create the potential for drainage problems and erosion depending on what kind of winter we have. So, we’re asking you to chip in here and keep an eye on your road frontage. Keeping the leaves out of the ditches and making sure culverts don’t get blocked will go a long way.

There are emergency resources for weather/storm damage, but otherwise what you see is what you’re going to have for a while.

Thanks for your patience and understanding (I’m just the messenger...).

*Stan Fetter
Roads Chair*

**Moyaone
Weihnachtsmarkt**

Sat, Dec 2nd | **Local Handmade Gifts Music Food and Drink**
2-7 PM

2311 Bryan Point
RD Accokeek, MD,
20607

Check out our website! 

Pre-orders available

Art for Sale, plus Silent Auction and Refreshments

Accokeek Artists Alliance

Saturday, November 18
11 AM- 6 PM

Winter Art Market

**Cafritz Center,
2201 Bryan Pt Rd,
Accokeek,
Maryland**

Join Us!!!



Come to AAA Winter Art Market, Nov. 18

— by Lona Powell

Youth to Hold Christmas Bazaar, Dec. 2

Add a little merriment to your holidays by shopping at the MOYAONE WEIHNACHTSMARKT (Christmas Market). The market started during 2020 as part of the Moyaone homeschool math club and continued as such in 2021 and 2022. Our competent business youth are now running the market themselves!

The goal is to have items on offer that showcase the creativity that goes with growing up in the woods. Most items are natural, handmade and locally sourced. A few items are "upscaled" materials. All are charming and affordable.

Come see what Moyaone Made™ looks like. Refreshments will be available for purchase. This year it should be super easy to make the market, as it brackets the Moyaone Association Budget Meeting. Date, time and place are: Sat., Dec. 2, 2-7 pm at the Moyaone Commons, 2311 Bryan Point Rd.



We are very excited about the Accokeek Artists Alliance's "Winter Market," and the wonderful mix of art that over a dozen local artists have produced. This one-day-only show and sale will be held in the Cafritz Center at the Alice Ferguson Foundation, 2201 Bryan Point Road, Accokeek, on Sat., Nov. 18. Hours are from 11 am to 6 pm. There will be lots of art, refreshments, and a fun silent auction. The silent auction will close at 5:30 pm. Come join in the fun!

**More Holiday Events:
SAVE THE DATES!**

A Very Merry Moyaone Holiday Celebration

Sat., Dec. 16, 4-8 pm
Potluck with holiday activities. Moyaone Commons, 2311 Bryan Point Rd.

Christmas at the Creek Returns!

Sun., Dec. 17, 4-6 pm
A beautiful benefit concert for the Fort Washington Food Pantry. Lynn & Keely Hollyfield, with Dave Abe, Steve Wolf and Jimmy Brink. Jody Marshall and Friends: Susan and Jim Queen, Paul Naha. St. John's Episcopal Church, 9801 Livingston Rd., Ft. Washington. Suggested donation: \$25 and bring a non-perishable item for the Food Pantry.

DEAR HERBY



A new monthly column for posing nagging questions about veganism to your favorite herbivore neighbors.

Hey There, Herby,
We are hosting a family Thanksgiving dinner and darned if one of our nieces hasn't gone vegan on us. We want to be accommodating but don't want to have to cook two meals. What can we do to be good hosts without going "nuts"?

Signed, Overwrought Omnivore Chef

Dear O.O.C.,

This is not an uncommon challenge now, and I applaud you for stepping up to the (dinner) plate! Here are my three top suggestions for meeting your goals and sending EVERYONE home happy, healthy and ... a little lighter for leaving behind fewer carbon footprints (and more happy animals)! Your lactose-intolerant and alpha-gal relatives will thank you too.

1) The quickest hack is making a few VERY simple and unnoticeable substitutions in your recipes, starting with leaving your dairy butter in the fridge and substituting a good plant-based alternative — like Miyoko's (MOM's Organic Market and Whole Foods) and Trader Joe's, both readily available as are several varieties of Earth Balance (best choice for baking). Margarine is not vegan, btw. Also, swap out oat milk for dairy milk. Most love it! Your mashed potatoes and other cooked vegetables will be as awesome as ever. (And it can be a little secret between you and your niece.) Grab a jar of salad dressing sans eggs and dairy while you are out.

2) Tradition can be an important part of the holiday. But instead of only serving grandmother's favorite recipes, consider what could become future family favorites. There are "veganized" recipes for just about every traditional Thanksgiving dish, including Pumpkin Pie, Mushroom Gravy and Stuffing (the link to which will get you not one but 16 options — none of which cooks in a turkey, of course).

3) Your niece can share in a main course and get a healthy serving of protein — and you can make it easy on yourself — by purchasing a ready-made turkey or ham alternative. Tofurky, which makes a variety of plant-based roasts, is widely available; Gardein Turk'y Roast and Field Roast Celebration also come highly recommended. Be a great role model for the other guests and serve yourself up a hearty helping on Thanksgiving as well. You just might fall in love!

Where to find these various plant-based products? While local grocers may carry some of the above items, you are likely to have the most success by heading to MOM's Organic Market, Whole Foods Market, or Trader Joe's — or knocking on Amazon's very wide door.

Oh, and not all vegans are on the same page about what they will and won't eat, so be sure to ask your niece what is important to her. And have an extra wonderful holiday!

Have a question for your friendly Moyaone VEG contingent? Then please email MoyaoneVEG@gmail.com. We'll do our best to reply personally, either directly or via Smoke Signals.



Thanksgiving with the Turkeys: Where Turkeys Are the Guests of Honor

—Jeanie Ciskowski

On the Saturday before Thanksgiving, the turkeys are given a place of honor at Poplar Spring Animal Sanctuary.

At the biggest vegan potluck on the East Coast, a special meal is served to the turkeys and other rescued birds before the human guests have their meal. Long tables laid on the ground are heaped with chopped fruits and veggies, and the lucky rescued turkeys, chickens, and even a peacock and a peahen, help themselves to the feast.

Poplar Spring Animal Sanctuary was founded in 1996 as a haven for abused and abandoned farm animals. On over 400 acres of woods and fields, the farm is also a wildlife sanctuary where rehabilitated wildlife are released and protected.

Thanksgiving with the Turkeys is a popular community event that was started over 20 years ago by sanctuary founders Terry Cummings and Dave Hoerauf. Typically over 1,000 people attend this special event.

"It's a great way for people to come out and celebrate a cruelty-free Thanksgiving, which so many people don't get a chance to do with their families," Terry said.

It was also an opportunity to educate people about turkeys, she noted. "We wanted to show people that they all have personalities, that they're all wonderful, they're just like a cat or a dog, they're just like a companion animal. And we wanted to show that by having a vegan potluck that you can have delicious food without eating animals."

The sanctuary is home to about 200 other abused and abandoned farm animals, including goats, sheep, horses and pigs. The pigs get their own special treat at the event when a heap of donated pumpkins and squash are tossed to the pigs by the guests.

Come meet all the animals and enjoy a cruelty-free Thanksgiving!

The event is on Sat., Nov. 18, noon–4 pm. Please bring a vegan (no meat, dairy, or eggs) dinner or dessert item to serve 8. Tickets for \$10, a donation to benefit the animals, is available via Eventbrite (free for kids under 12): <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/poplar-springs-thanksgiving-with-the-turkeys-tickets-740087661117?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>
Visit the sanctuary website: <http://www.animalsanctuary.org>

Tasting Vegan Fare at Oktoberfest



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.

We asked non-vegans why they chose vegan options at the 2023 Moyaone Oktoberfest. Here's what they said:

1. Nahid (*on right*): "I'm more of a vegetarian but I chose the vegan options for health reasons, and, plus, I love animals."
2. John: "I tried the vegan Wurst and it was good!"
3. Luigi: "At first it was accidental but I decided to try it and it was good. I'll probably choose vegan again."
4. Gwen: "I like the vegan Wurst better than the regular one, and the vegan food is healthier and tastes just as good."
5. Ruth: "I just thought I'd try it and it was very good."



11th Annual

Moyaone Thanksgiving Day 5K Turkey Trot
November 23, 2023

8:30 a.m.

Meet at the Moyaone Commons
2311 Bryan Point Road

Walk or run with your family, neighbors, friends, guests, dogs
Join us for a cup of apple cider before heading home
If raining, Trot will not be held



Holiday Crafts with
CARRIE STAPLES

Create ornaments for Mount Aventure's holiday tree & yours, craft holiday cards

Sunday November 12, 1 pm-3pm

Mount Aventure in Chapman State Park

Materials provided

All ages and skill levels
+ refreshments, music

3452 Ferry Place, Indian Head MD
www.friendsofchapmansp.org



In addition to the Christmas Craft Show at Mount Aventure in Chapman State Park on Sun., Nov. 12 (see flyer above), Mount Aventure will hold a holiday open house in December.

The open house will occur the first weekend in December, Sat., Dec. 2 and Sun., Dec. 3, 10 am–4 pm each day. Music, refreshments, expanded gift shop. Please check the website for more details: friendsofchapmansp.org.

November Greetings from the Alice Ferguson Foundation

Many Thanks from AFF

We are grateful for the continued support from our wonderful neighbors in the Moyaone Community. To the families who took part in our Fun on the Farm workshops and summer camp programs, thank you. To the individuals who volunteered at the annual Potomac Cleanup and around Hard Bargain Farm, thank you. To our friends who joined us at Spring Fest and Pinot on the Potomac, thank you. Your generosity makes it possible for us to help thousands of students, teachers, and community residents find joy in nature each year. From all of us at the Alice Ferguson Foundation, we appreciate you!

Become A Member of the Alice Ferguson Foundation

Interested in becoming a member of the Foundation? Or need to renew your membership for 2024? Join our member community, featuring five tiers with exclusive perks and opportunities to visit our beautiful property. Hard Bargain Farm is the perfect place to spend quality time in the great outdoors and make unforgettable family memories that will last a lifetime.

Take a look at the benefits each tier offers and choose the level that is perfect for you by scanning the QR code below with your mobile phone or by visiting this link [here](#).



All current members have been mailed an invitation to our Annual Holiday Member Party on Tuesday, December 12, 2023.

Office Volunteer Needed

Do you have spare time and skills to share? We're in search of a dedicated volunteer to lend a hand with mailings and other tasks around the office, 1-2 times per month. [Sign up here](#) and we'll be in touch!

Alice Ferguson Foundation, 2001 Bryan Point Rd.; fergusonfoundation.org

Winter's Eve at the Accokeek Foundation, Dec. 2

Celebrate the season at the Accokeek Foundation's annual Winter's Eve festival on Sat., Dec. 2, 3-7 pm.

We're lighting up the hay wagon and decking the halls of the livestock barn. It's the perfect way to kick-off your holiday season!

Bring your friends and family for a festive Winter's Eve at Piscataway Park. Explore the farm by candlelight, meet and learn about heritage breed animals, and shop locally at the Visitor Center gift shop. Enjoy seasonal activities, cultural demonstrations, and fresh mulled cider by the fire.

It's an evening on the farm you won't want to miss.

This event is free to attend, with a suggested donation of \$25/family or \$5/person.

Proceeds from the event support the Accokeek Foundation's preservation and education programs in Piscataway Park.

Accokeek Foundation at Piscataway Park;
info@accokeek.org; (301) 283-2113; 3400 Bryan Point Road

Christ Church Accokeek Ham & Oyster Dinner Saturday, November 18, 2023 1 pm - 6 pm 98 years and counting!

Dinners include fried oysters, ham (not stuffed), green beans, turnips, potato salad, apple sauce and rolls. Dine in and carry out.

Pricing:

Adults: \$30.00 (comes with 12 oysters)
Children 4-10: \$15.00 (comes with 4 oysters)
Kids under 4: Free (no oysters included)
10 extra oysters: \$15.00
6 extra oysters: \$10.00

From 10 am - 6 pm:

Bake Sale
Buttercream Candies
Twice New Sale
50/50 Raffle & more!



Christ Church is a church family
leading people to new life and growing discipleship in Jesus Christ.
For directions or more information, visit us on the web at www.accokeekchurch.org.
Christ Church, 600 Farmington Rd. W, Accokeek, MD, 20607 (301) 292-5633.