

President's Message

Happy Fall to everyone. It's one where the temps start cooling, leaves change colors and there's excitement in the air for Fall Festivals.

Oktoberfest

Unfortunately, our beloved Oktoberfest is not happening this year but for a very good reason. As you may know, we received a grant from the State of Maryland to make improvements to our pool and bathrooms. Both bathrooms will be renovated to ADA standards as well as being upgraded with new tile and paint. If there is grant money unspent after these improvements, we also hope to upgrade the reception area and entrance. While construction hopefully will start later this month, the brewmasters need months before our Fall community gathering to malt, mash, boil and ferment the beer to be ready for Oktoberfest. So, while we will miss our brewmasters cooking up their special recipes for delicious Oktoberfest beer, we'll be able to enjoy it next year in addition to our new bathrooms.

Financial Trustee

An opening for serving as a Financial Trustees has presented itself. We appreciate everyone who has volunteered their time to serve. If you are interested in learning more on what this important role provides please reach out to president@moyaone.org as the Board looks to fill this position.

Social Media

There are any number of social media platforms discussing or hosted by Moyaone Association members. While these channels further enhance community and encourage discussion, considerate communications are encouraged.

Please note, to ensure consistency and official narratives, the MA Board, MA Chairs, and MA committees' **official** conduits remain:

- 1.) the Moyaone.org website
- 2.) the Moyaone Association Smoke Signals monthly newsletter, and
- 3.) communications from the above addressees, acting in their respective MA roles

December Community Meeting

The Board and Community chairs are working hard on preparing the 2026 budget in preparation to be voted on by members of the Moyaone in good standing (homeowners who've paid 100% of the consolidated fee). This meeting will be held at **3pm on December 6, 2025** at the Wagner Center. If you have questions regarding dues please reach out to myself or the Comptroller at comptroller@moyaone.org.

-Karen Bell, President

Calendar

The next Moyaone Association Board meetings will be the first Thursday of the month: November 6th. Come at 6:30 for informal talk and meeting starting at 7pm.

October 6-10

[Invasive Plant Removal @ Piscataway Park](#)

October 11- November 23

Smithsonian Institution's *SPARK! Places of Innovation* traveling exhibition @ the Accokeek Foundation (details below)

October 18

Accokeek Artists Alliance wreath-making workshop

October 18, 9am-noon

[Highway clean-up event](#) sponsored by the Greater Accokeek Civic Association in coordination with the Alice Ferguson Foundation

October 25, 10am-12pm

[Invasive Plant Removal @ Piscataway Park](#)

November 1, 2pm doors, 4pm games

[Maryland Fire-Rescue Services Memorial Bingo Fundraiser](#)

November 1, 4pm

[Moyaone Community Halloween Party @ 2311 Bryan Point Rd](#)

[Full schedule, and volunteer signups here](#)

November 2, 10-11:30am

[Shoreline Clean Up @ Piscataway Park](#)

November 8, 5-8pm

Moyaone Mixer by the Moyaone Building and Grounds and Fundraising Committees (Details below)

November 22

[Christ Church Accokeek 100th Annual Ham and Oyster Dinner](#) (12-6pm)

featuring [the Moyaone Weihnachtsmarkt Makers](#) (10am-4pm)

@ Christ Church Accokeek's parish hall on 600 Farmington Rd W.

November 21-22

AAA Winter Market @ 2311 Bryan Point Rd

December 5, 7pm

Do you love to sing? Join the Charles County Youth Orchestra for a sing along of Handel's Messiah on December 5 at 7:00 at Christ Church, La Plata. Contact Dr. Osman Kivrak, CCYO Director, at charlescountyyouthorchestra@gmail.com if you would like to part of the chorus. There are three regular rehearsals and one dress rehearsal-you can come to as many or as few rehearsals as you like.

December 6, 3pm

Moyaone Board Association 2026 budget meeting @ 2311 Bryan Point Rd

From the Association

Beyond your front door...

Last month I talked about the proposed Signature Club East development, a project planning to build 8 multistory apartment buildings, 3 to 5 stories, along with 3 multistory commercial buildings across from the Manokeek/Giant shopping center. The Planning Board had approved the conceptual plan, despite opposition from the neighboring residents. The conceptual plan (CSP-23002) is poorly thought out...it does not attempt to create a real tree buffer with its neighbors to the north; it does not attempt to save any of the signature trees on the site; it does not create a walkable community; it does not address the new influx of cars into a road system already in crisis; it does not address the already crowded schools issue nor the long response time for police and fire. The commercial buildings do not face the major (route 228) road as per regulation, and the parking for the entire development is inadequate.

The neighboring residents have hired an attorney and are appealing this Planning Board approval. The County Council, acting as the District Council, will hear this appeal on October 21st (Tuesday) starting at 10 am in the County Council Hearing Room, 1st floor, Wayne Curry Administrative Building, 1301 McCormick Drive, in Largo.

Please go to the Planning Board web site and sign up as a party of record. If you don't wish to speak, attending the meeting to show support for the appeal is also important. Calling our District 9 representative, Sydney Harrison, is also something you can do and voice your opposition to this proposed project.

Accokeek is a semi-rural community of single family detached houses and some townhouses, recently built. Apartment houses, such as being planned by the Signature Club East development is an urban building type that should not be introduced into our community. This is not a protest about renters, for Accokeek has plenty of renters. It is about changing the physical and visual character of the community we live in and support.

-Michael Leventhal

Come to the Moyaone Mixer – Free!

NOVEMBER 8, 2025 5-8 pm

Brought to you by the Building and Grounds Committee and the Fundraising Committee

What: Moyaone Mixer and hot dog roast

When: November 8, 2025, 5:00 pm until 8:00 pm

Where: The Moyaone Commons

Sponsor: the Moyaone Fundraising Committee and Building and Grounds Committee

Cost: FREE. FREE. FREE. FREE

Description: Join the Community - All residents, newer, older, and in between, to mix with fun, food, and drinks! A scavenger hunt with prizes will be held!

Come to the Moyaone Commons to meet and greet your neighbors for cocktails, beer, wine, or sparkling Water. We will provide the beverages, hors d'oeuvres, appetizers, and hot dogs (vegan options available!). We will have the fire pit ablaze and the charcoal grill grilling.

Kids are welcome!

Pulse of the Pool

The pace of the pool has slowed down now that the cover has been put on the main pool and the pool systems have been put to “bed” for the off-season! Thanks to all who helped shut down the pool for the winter. This included removing leaves from the pool, removing the ladders, adding winter algaecide, putting on the pool cover, and covering the baby pool, freeing up the “stuck” pool cover anchors, stacking and covering the deck furniture, cleaning the fridge and microwave, cleaning and organizing the lifeguard room and the equipment storage room, mowing and weed whacking. Without your volunteer labor, we could not open, operate, and winterize the pool. We appreciate you!

Tom Abernathy

Kim Allen

Roger Brul

Marc Cruz

Sebastian and Marina Del Calvo

Garcia Family
Rhonda Hanson
Doug Hattaway
Hans Hauck
Kent Hibben
Kirkup Family
Mike Leventhal
John Mitchell
Alex Naar
Bill Robertson
JR Rudzis
Hsin-I Russell
Matt Schwaller
Tina Shotwell
Vincent Family
Holly Wagner
(Apologies if we missed recognizing you)

And speaking of **pool covers**, we want to thank two anonymous donors for purchasing a Loop Loc cover for the wading pool! It should last us 15 years! Currently we are in the process of getting the anchors installed into the pool deck. Once that's completed, the cover will be put on, and things will be easier in the spring! Our thanks to our donors!

As many of you are aware, the pool becomes a hub in the summer for various types of activities.

Early Morning Swim: 7 days a week – gives adult lap swimmers, water walkers, and water exercisers a time of peace and exercise. There is a dedicated bunch, sometimes with 14 swimmers for the hour and a half!

Family Recreational Swim: Families with small children, couples enjoying a nice day at the pool, lap swimmers, and of course, the Gators just having fun at the pool – there was room for everyone, and a good time was had by all.

Evening Adult Swim: A way to relax in the evening, whether you want to float in the pool or do laps. Especially pleasurable this summer with the glow of the underwater lights!

Water Exercise Classes: This year, we had two types of classes – shallow water exercise and Restorative Yoga, both taught in the evening to very enthusiastic groups for a fee to cover the cost of the instruction.

Swimming Instruction: Instructors taught mainly children, often as private lessons, the fundamentals of swimming, starting at the beginning or working on strokes with the goal of becoming a Gator swimmer.

And speaking of the Accokeek Gators swim team: What a marvelous year. Undefeated in their dual meets, just missing 2nd in Divisionals – and breaking records that have been on the board in the pool lobby – some records posted from 1980 and 1981! While we are so pleased with all of the Gators and their improvement, let's also note our record holders: Josef Shotwell, Johannes Shotwell, Elsalore Shotwell, Patrick Loftus, Grace Loftus in individual events, and the

girls medley relay team of Betsy Garcia, Hope Bennett, Ashley Gruwell, and Crisson Kirkup. WAY TO GO, GATORS!! And many thanks to the excellent coaching of Kate Rowe, Kyla Amelechkin, and Aziza Brown. They are truly amazing coaches!

And we must recognize our excellent management and lifeguard team! Kyle Amelechkin did an excellent job as Manager with Warren Weber as Assistant, Maya Civil as Head lifeguard, Charlene Drennan as pool operator, and lifeguards Jude Bennett, Axel Naar, Ashley Gruwell, Scarlet Vincent, Shealyn Oakes, Asha Brown, Micah and Luke Doyal.

See you in the Spring!

-The Pool Committee

From our Partners

Accokeek Artists Alliance



The Accokeek Artists Alliance (AAA) had another very successful "Sip 'N' Share" meeting in September. It was so inspiring to see what everyone was up to. The meeting also included a fun swap of art supplies which seems like it will encourage swappers to expand their creativity in many new directions.

This month AAA members are looking forward to a fall wreath making workshop on October 18th.

Next month the popular AAA "Winter Market" will be back on November 21 and 22. Please mark your calendars for this great event. As in previous years, the fun will include a reception and a silent auction. Further ahead, AAA members are preparing for a gallery show at Mattawoman Creek Art Center in Smallwood State Park in the spring. Check out all the AAA activities or join up on the web at www.accokeekartistsalliance.com

Accokeek Foundation

Spark! Places of Innovation Debuts at Piscataway Park

From October 11 through November 23, the Accokeek Foundation will host *Spark! Places of Innovation*, part of the Smithsonian's Museums on Main Street program. This national traveling exhibition showcases stories from more than 30 rural communities, exploring how creativity and innovation are rooted in place—from small industries to technological advances.

In addition, the Foundation will present a companion exhibit, "Narratives of the Potomac," highlighting recent research into the region's history and culture. Stories feature the contributions of local veterans, Indigenous history, watermen, and new educational programs that connect Piscataway Park to its surrounding communities.

To enrich the experience, educational programming will be offered from October 14–November 21. Visitors can enjoy a guided 60–90 minute experience: 30–45 minutes in the *Spark!* exhibit followed by a deep dive into innovation with Accokeek Foundation staff.

- Schools: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 10:00 AM
 - Public Tours: Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays at 1:00 PM
- Advance registration is required through the Accokeek Foundation website at www.accokeek.org.

The Accokeek Foundation is honored to be one of only six cultural organizations in Maryland selected by the Maryland Humanities Council to host *Spark!* through the Museums on Main Street initiative—a partnership of the Smithsonian Institution, state humanities councils, and local organizations bringing world-class exhibitions to rural communities.

We are also seeking volunteers to serve as museum docents at the "Spark!" exhibit. Those interested in volunteering can register here:

<https://volunteer.bloomerang.co/JE/1y2dtyj4xnc7n2>

From our Community

The Table Top Games group is still meeting monthly. We meet once a month to play various games and are considering adding a second day to play a role-playing game such as D&D. We schedule about two weeks ahead of time so contact Doug Ciskowski at Dciskowski@yahoo.com if you want to be included.