



## Civic Association News & Notes

### *Notes from the President*

by Lisa Patterson-Troike

Once again, mother nature helped me with the content of this President's Letter. As I write this, Darnestown is recovering from a snow storm that left most of us without power for up to 4 days. I grew up in upstate NY where it was not unusual to have snow over the top of our yard light (5'). I don't remember ever losing power during a snow storm. What's the problem here? Pepco is the problem. The Public Service Commission (PSC) is the problem. Elected officials are the problem. Until our government representatives put pressure on the PSC to stick Pepco's hand in the socket, nothing will change. Ike Leggett has put together a task force to bring forth a list of demands and expectations for Pepco. Art Slesinger, our Utility Chairman, is serving voluntarily on this task force and for that, we thank him dearly. Governor O'Malley posted a letter on January 29, 2011 to Pepco's Chairman. An excerpt of this letter is as follows:

*"It is with great frustration and enormous concern for the 26,000 Montgomery County residents that remain without power that I write, yet again, to express my anger that we seem to be back where we started. (Cont'd on page 3)*

**Volunteers Needed for Welcome Committee,  
Quince Orchard Library, and Social Activities**  
Email [acorneditor@comcast.net](mailto:acorneditor@comcast.net) for more information.

**Next  
DCA Town Meeting  
Thursday, March 17th  
7:30 p.m.**

Darnestown Presbyterian Church  
Route 28 at Turkey Foot Road

**SPRING SOCIAL!**

**April 28<sup>th</sup>**

**See p18 for details and RSVP**

**DARNESTOWN DAY!**

**May 14<sup>th</sup>**

**See p9 for details**

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**If you are considering starting a business that requires a  
Special Exception, start by contacting the DCA.**

Inquiries concerning the Darnestown Civic Association should be  
directed to Lisa Patterson-Troiike (301-548-0999;  
lisaapatterson@aol.com) or mailed to  
DCA, 14132B Darnestown Road, Darnestown, MD 20874.

## DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE:

**May 1, 2011**

**The deadlines will remain firm.**

Articles for *The Little Acorn* may be mailed to  
14132B Darnestown Road, Darnestown, MD 20874 OR  
**acorneditor@comcast.net**. Please follow-up by phone  
or email to confirm receipt.

The editor can be reached at 240-683-0103.



## ***Notes from the President***

*(Cont'd from p.1)*

*Why can't Pepco perform as its fellow utilities do? To date, BGE has restored service to 227,800 of the 233,500, or 98%, of its customers affected by the storm. Pepco still has 27,500 customers in Maryland without electricity, a restoration rate of a dismal 80%. I am also outraged that your customer communication remains unacceptable; the outage map posted to your website crashed yet again, leaving customers seeking information about their outage in the dark."*

I know I sound like a broken record, but the squeaky wheel gets the grease, right? When we took Pepco's President around Darnestown back in November, there seemed to be agreement that more drastic cutting of trees and limbs was needed. When asked, there was no mention of any changes to infrastructure, aging equipment, better response time, etc. We understand that Pepco purchased property on the northwest corner of Rt.28 and Riffle Ford Road to potentially build a new substation. If built, it would seem that this would definitely help our situation. How long will that take?

I keep informing Pepco that because many of us rely on wells for water, we lose that necessity as well. Water is needed to sustain life. Enough said. We are working very hard on this issue and hope that someone will eventually listen.

On a brighter note, mark your calendars for the DCA's Spring Social to be held at Smokey Glen Farm on April 28th. Do to the economy, the event is no longer free, but we hope the minimal charge per person will encourage you to attend. Look for the RSVP on page 18.

## ***Darnestown Directory***

by Sarah Scherer

Every few months I receive an email or call from a Darnestown neighbor who can't believe that a listing in the Directory is several years behind the times and that someone new has moved in. To them, I say *thank you!* Very often, it is only through such a call or email that we are able to update our records. So please let me know if you or any of your neighbors have any changes.

I have heard from others that, with the power outages, the Directory has been very useful for reaching out to neighbors to check on them. Please help us to keep it all up to date.

## **Welcome New Neighbors!**

Stephen & Jeanette Staton  
15420 Deep Bottom Rd  
240-912-7765

James and Jena Richards  
15322 Quail Run Drive  
301-540-2054

As always, please keep me up to date on changes in your neighborhood. I can be reached at 240-683-8533 or [sarahscherer@comcast.net](mailto:sarahscherer@comcast.net).

## ***Seneca Forest Project***

by Steve Ellis

Why? Anyone who knows the woods around here has seen and understands the trouble our native forest is in. Practically every sapling of every native tree species is being eaten during their first or second year. Practically every spring wildflower and most other forest floor plants are also being extinguished. Several non-native invasive species are supplanting our native species in many areas. The deer don't seem to eat these foreign invasive plants. The DCA (consult past issues of the Acorn) has requested that we build 2 experimental exclosures in the Seneca State Park on our side of the creek with our own funds and maintain/monitor the fenced areas. The Department of Natural Resources and the Seneca State Park Management has given us permission to proceed with this project. Their specialists will advise us on removal of the non-native plants in and around our sites. Those involved are excited about this forest laboratory. Some have already attended a County program called Weed Warriors. This program trains volunteers to be permitted to remove/kill non-native species in the County parks. Our project committee should recommend that all volunteer monitors take this short free course.

The two exclosures are in a rough hexagon shape with each side about 100 feet. This computes to about 27,000 sq. ft. per site. An acre is 43,560 sq. ft. In early November a group of volunteers on several work days placed all of the necessary fence posts in the ground at our 2 sites in the Seneca Creek State Park. Those volunteers were James Wheeler, Scott Mostrom, Dave Bivans, Dan Dean, Pete Carstensen, Dick Jurgena, and Kevin Keegan. We rented an Auger for the 16 posts set in concrete. Twelve of these were corner posts with 2 brace posts for each corner. Between the corners are a



total of 21 heavy-duty posts and 60 10' angle posts. There will be two 4' wide gates for each enclosure that have been assembled. Carrying all of this stuff, including 22 bags of Sakrete, to the sites even utilizing wheel barrows for some of the materials was the least fun aspect.

The fencing materials were purchased from a Deerbusters outlet north of Frederick. Delivery was free. The cost thus far has been \$3,800. At a town meeting last year, the DCA voted to allot an initial \$5,000 for the project. One of our interested members, Gary Kahn, donated \$500 toward the cost. The strongest plastic 8 foot fencing on the market (that we are aware of) plus supplemental necessities will also be purchased from Deerbusters at a cost of about \$3,300. We solicited a couple of commercial fence companies looking for a charitable price, and the over the phone "lowest possible cost" for both enclosures was \$12,000. These people, I'm confident, would have increased the price after seeing where they were to be installed.

Bruce Deppa has ordered some plastic boxes for informative brochures that will be located around the sites. We are hoping to install the fence in late March before the Spring growth begins. I have a list of volunteers for the work ahead. If you are interested in helping out, please do and let me know (301-330-0699).

## ***Social Committee***

by Lisa Patterson-Troike

Special thanks goes out to the Beutz family for storing, stringing and maintaining the star and lights for our Holiday Tree located at Ancient Oak Drive and Darnestown Road. The cookies, cocoa, fire pit and welcoming arms were enjoyed by many. Scott Mostrom was so kind to lend us a canopy to keep us dry. With the weather not at its best, we wondered if people would still come. And come they did! Neither rain, sleet or snow will stop DT neighbors in the know. Luckily, Santa had Rudolf on his team that night and his bright red nose guided him through the rain and fog to our special evergreen. Santa brought candy canes for all and wished us all a "good night!"

The DCA Spring Social will be at Smokey Glen Farm on April 28th! Please fill out and send in the RSVP form, located on the inside back cover of this issue. \$15 for adults, \$10 for children 3-11 years old, and under 3 free. Smokey Glen will serve its world famous barbeque chicken with all the trimmings, including refreshments and smoked pies for dessert. Don't miss this chance to meet and reacquaint yourself with Darnestown friends and neighbors!

## ***News from the Upcounty Citizens Advisory Board***

by Bob Thompson

### **County Executive Calls for Ban On Roadside Solicitation Without A Permit**

At many intersections throughout the County, individuals can be found selling goods, panhandling or soliciting for charity from the medians. We have all seen individuals who are soliciting drivers step off the median or adjacent sidewalk and into the road to collect money, putting themselves and motorists at risk. In early 2010 the County Executive convened a task force which reported in November that roadway solicitation is often hazardous to both panhandlers and motorists, and can potentially undermine the County's comprehensive efforts to promote pedestrian safety. The report noted that, while some panhandlers are homeless, appropriate services exist in the County to serve these individuals, and panhandling can often be counterproductive to addressing homelessness as well as addiction problems. As a result of this report Mr Leggett has requested that State legislators who served on the Task Force introduce a bill in the 2011 Session that would authorize the County to establish a permit system for roadside solicitation. Under the proposed bill, solicitation from a median strip or sidewalk adjacent to a roadway without a permit would be prohibited. The proposed permit system should not negatively impact organizations like the Volunteer Fire Departments in any way. This local permit system would augment current State law, which already prohibits solicitation in a roadway.

### **County Seeks Budget Ideas and Comments via New, Easy-to-Use Link on Homepage**

A new link on the Montgomery County homepage makes it even easier for residents to provide comments and ideas on government restructuring, cost savings and other thoughts about closing the County's projected \$300 million budget gap for the coming fiscal year (FY). The idea for the link, which connects to a budget response form, came from Montgomery County Councilmember George Leventhal. Resident feedback will be used by Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett, as he prepares his recommended operating budget, which will be presented to the County Council on March 15, and the Montgomery County Council during its budget deliberations. County Executive Ike Leggett held five budget forums in January throughout the County and the County Council is holding a series of Town Hall meetings to hear directly from residents about their suggestions. The new web page will provide



the public with access to decision makers, and citizens may take advantage of it and share their suggestions with the County Council and the County Executive. The County Council approves the FY 2012 budget in May. The new fiscal year begins July 1. The budget form is available directly at [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/budgetcomments](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/budgetcomments).

The Upcounty Citizens Advisory Board represents more than 300,000 residents in the Upcounty area, north of Shady Grove Road and including the communities of Boyds, Clarksburg, Damascus, Darnestown, Derwood, Dickerson, Gaithersburg, Germantown, Laytonsville, Montgomery Village, North Potomac and Poolesville.

The 20-member Board advises the Director of the Upcounty Government Services Center, the County Executive, elected officials, and government staff. It provides input on which services and programs should be provided and how they will be delivered. The Board reviews and comments on the County's capital and operating budgets and master plans; assists with strategies to tailor services to regional needs; and conducts workshops and forums. Some members represent the Board on other ad hoc committees.

Members serve three-year terms without compensation, meeting certain Monday evenings of every month and occasionally on Saturdays. Members are expected to serve on at least one subcommittee, which meets approximately one evening every month on its own schedule. We work with a wide range of social, land use, infrastructure, and public safety issues. We are committed to rational development planning and protection of the Agricultural Reserve, this is particularly relevant to Darnestown, as our community is immediately adjacent to it and the rural village nature reflected in planning and zoning is directly influenced by the Agricultural Reserve. As a representative representing Darnestown, I am committed to communicating issues of importance to our community up to the County government, and carry news and information back to our community. Please feel free to contact me with your questions or concerns by email at [bob.thompson@comcast.net](mailto:bob.thompson@comcast.net) or by phone at 240-683-0103. Additionally the Board is staffed by the Upcounty Regional Services team. The Director, Catherine Matthews, can be contacted at 240-777-8040 or via e-mail at [catherine.matthews@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:catherine.matthews@montgomerycountymd.gov). For a wealth of information and available services, please visit the Montgomery County web site at <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/index.asp>.

## *Utility Reliability*

by Art Slesinger

This is being written as we are all holding our breath awaiting the ice storms of the first week in February. The snow storm of January 26th left many of us in the dark for 2 to 4 days and tried the patience of all Montgomery County residences. The disappointment, again, with Pepco has produced an outpouring of proposed rules and regulations to mandate performance or penalty rules. The Public Service Commission (PSC) has crafted a proposal that looks good but has very low performance goals and insufficient penalties at this point. The Feldman/Berliner proposed regulations would mandate that PSC impose penalties for poor performance. The Governor has also implied that he would propose his own regulations with the same intent. All of these efforts are in response to justified public discontent but premature from the perspective that the PSC has already started a formal proceeding against Pepco for their poor performance during the snow storms of 2010. That proceeding demanded that Pepco hire and pay for an independent technical power consultant to evaluate performance and practices at Pepco. That report is not due to be available until the spring, after the legislative session has ended. That report will be central to our identifying deficiencies in the Pepco organization.

I continue to work with the County Executive Work Group on Pepco. In April we will issue a report to the County Executive with suggested improvements in both Pepco and PSC. Since we are not experts in electrical distribution, we are hoping the inferences we find in performance data will be explained in the experts report and lead to better and more definitive suggestions. Note that the County is a party to the PSC action on Pepco performance and can file substantive comments on Pepco's response to the PSC. So after much examination, there is no guarantee of any improvement. Pepco has suggested, but not promised, to invest \$50 million a year over the next 5 years to improve the Montgomery County power infrastructure. Sometime during the last 8 years their investment in tree trimming dropped off and even the new efforts are barely equivalent to what was expended in 2003.

Lastly, I would suggest that everyone keep in mind your calls to Pepco during outages are the only way they have to see the entire picture. So call in when the lights go out, and call again if you think local progress has past you by. Additionally, you can file an online claim with Pepco [<http://www.pepco.com/home/emergency/claim>] if you believe your expenses are not excluded by their



rather expansive exclusionary policy. The DCA will be continuing to discuss alternative routes to pressuring Pepco for better service. To the greatest extent possible and with the help of the DCA board, I carry the message to the County and the state that Darnestown residents are inadequately served and we will not back down until service improves! We recognize that unreliable power is one of few negative blots on our otherwise wonderful community.

Email Art Slesinger at [art.slesinger@comcast.net](mailto:art.slesinger@comcast.net).

## ***Village Committee***

by Steve Ellis

### **The Franklin Press**

The owners of the Franklin Press, Art and Lucille DeGraba Brown, received final approval for a Compact Postal Unit from the Postal Service last November. The Ikea-like construction materials should be delivered in March and it is hoped that postal operations will commence by April 1<sup>st</sup>. This should make a trip to the Village even more convenient for people from the broader surrounding area.

### **Harris Teeter**

The temporary sign in front of the HT announces the installation of a back-up generator to protect the frozen and perishable foods in the *unlikely* event of a power outage. This is scheduled to be started on February 21. The generator will be located in the rear of the building; and unfortunately will be louder than the normal electrical operation. Let's hope that the power loss instances will be few and brief.

During the 2010 February's snow related outages, the HT lost all of the frozen and perishable foods. The company does have insurance for such events after a deductible. During the wet snow power outage in late January, the HT rented a generator, but the ice cream and the deli soups and salad well section was lost.

### **Metropolitan Washington Orthodox Senior Housing (MWOSH)**

There are two parcels 655 & 708 totaling approx. 8 undeveloped acres on Seneca Road behind the Shell station that are owned by MWOSH. While this group represents all of the Orthodox Churches in the Washington Metropolitan area, many on the board of MWOSH are members of St. George Church in Bethesda. MWOSH received approval of Special Exception (SE) #2648 in late 2005. The SE is for a 35

bedroom unit for senior housing. The attractive facility would include a kitchen and other common areas. The DCA has been very supportive of this endeavor; in part because of an agreement with the organization to make excess septic capacity available (min. of half an acre) for a septic easement for the potential Country Inn on the adjacent property next to the Shell station. The additional septic capacity is vital for any prospective restaurant, because it would allow for at least 100 seats for dining. Speculation for a name of the restaurant has been the Seneca Inn.

A Special Exception is good for 3 years. MWOSH applied and received 2 one-year extensions. They have put a great effort and significant funds into this project, and have received almost all necessary county approvals. They anticipated breaking ground by the end of 2010. However, they needed a loan. While they obtained preliminary approval for a HUD insured loan, the underwriting standards changed, and they are not able to get a loan for sufficient funds to proceed. Also, the county housing authority required that 6 units be Moderately Priced Development Units. MWOSH was also seeking support from the County. However, in the current economy, the County could not commit to be providing funds. Given these financial disappointments, MWOSH has suspended the project. They will take the next few months or more to reassess what to do next.

### **Parcel 641 -- The Country Inn**

This 1.8 acre parcel is adjacent to the C-1 zoned gas station and the small parcel with the weathered asphalt. It is L shaped with frontage on 28 and Seneca Road. This property is owned by Ben Sarfarazi who purchased it in 2005. His dream (as was ours) was to consummate a restaurant, but he never had sufficient backers to proceed. He has recently listed the property for \$465,000. That is less than what he paid for it. Both this property and the MWOSH properties are zoned RE-2 or residential 2 acre. The 2002 Potomac Subregion Master Plan recommends on page 99 that "**Apply the RE-2/Country Inn zone to the 11 (actually about 10) acres on the east side of Seneca Road including parcels 655, 708, and 641.**" This is the only spot in the Village where the "Seneca Inn" could be established. Many in Darnestown have desired a restaurant here in the Village for many years. If the design and type of restaurant was approved by the town, they would have DCA's strong support. Great location for something like Hunters, Normandy Farm, Bassetts and the Comus Inn. Whoever is willing to take this on would be a local hero in the opinion of many.



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# Community Interest

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## A Darnestown Timeline

by Bruce Deppa

A few years ago, I got a notion to jot down a list of significant dates and milestones in Darnestown's history during the past 100 years so we could publish a timeline. This would augment two timelines illustrating Darnestown's very early history that are used every year on *Darnestown History Day* at Darnestown Elementary School. The first of these, *Chronology of the Darnestown/Seneca Area*, was created by Mrs. Ann Jett as a hand-lettered text on sheets of large poster paper, and the second, a 16-foot illustrated timeline scroll, was created by Mrs. Sharon Scopin.

As I began typing my initial draft, it grew very quickly into a much longer list than I could have imagined. Thinking of milestones and events turned out to be easy. Filling in the actual dates has been much more difficult, and I need help!

Since the list already has more than 200 entries, we will publish it in parts, spread over several issues of *The Little Acorn*, and we're asking you to provide any dates that you can. If you know exact dates, that's great; if you only know years and/or months, that's great too. As you can see, there's a lot of blank space in the date columns. The list is in no particular order yet – that will happen after we have lots of dates filled in, when sequencing it by date will be meaningful.

Please contact me by e-mail or telephone, and help fill in the blanks. For reference, all I really need is the line number in the left-most column and your info about that event or milestone.

The spreadsheet below is the first portion of the entire draft list of community events and milestones in recent history. If you are interested in looking ahead to the rest of the matrix, you can view it online at [www.darnestown.org](http://www.darnestown.org). The online version will be updated monthly. I will welcome comments, suggestions, corrections, additions, etc.

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#	Year	Mo.	Day	Event/Milestone
1				First paving of Darnestown Road west of Quince Orchard Road
2				First paving of Seneca Road
3				First paving of River Road west of Muddy Branch Creek
4				First paving of Germantown Road west of Riffle Ford Road
5				First paving of Jones Lane
6				First paving of Riffle Ford Road, from Darnestown Road to Brandon Way Road
7				Second paving of Riffle Ford Road, from Brandon Way Road to Germantown Road
8				First paving of Turkey Foot Road
9				Installation of first traffic light in the center of Darnestown
10				Installation of first traffic light at the intersection of Darnestown Road and Germantown Road
11				Installation of first traffic light at the intersection of Darnestown Road and Riffle Ford Road
12	1967			Greater Darnestown Civic Association incorporated first time
13	1988			Greater Darnestown Civic Association re-incorporated
14				Greater Darnestown Civic Association name changed to Darnestown Civic Association
15				Greater Darnestown Civic Association granted 501 C-4 status by the IRS



#	Year	Mo.	Day	Event/Milestone
16				First publication of a Darnestown neighborhood telephone directory (containing 72 names)
17				First publication of <i>The Little Acorn</i> newsletter by the Darnestown Civic Association
18				Publication of <i>A Brief History of Darnestown</i> by the Darnestown Historical Society
19	1992	11		Publication of <i>It's A Darne' Good Cookbook</i> by the Greater Darnestown Civic Association
20				2nd printing of <i>It's A Darne' Good Cookbook</i> this time by the Darnestown Civic Association
21				Formal revision (1st) of the by-laws of the Greater Darnestown Civic Association
22				Formal revision (2nd) of the by-laws of the Darnestown Civic Association
23				First metes and bounds description of the boundaries of the Darnestown Civic Association.
24				Darnestown Historical Society formed
25	2003	7		State Highway Administration marked bicycle lanes along both sides of Darnestown Road through Darnestown
26				Establishment of Seneca Creek State Park
27				Establishment of Muddy Branch Creek County Park
28				Civic Association coordinated 1st of 2 archeological searches for graves on the Landow property
29				Civic Association coordinated 2nd of 2 archeological searches for graves on the Landow property
30				Food Lion store opened for business in the center of Darnestown
31				Texaco station became Shell station
32	2001	11	5	Stefanelli brothers Guy and Andy Stefanelli assumed ownership and operation of the Texaco station
33	2000	7	3	Civic Association bought first 60 American flags to display along Darnestown Road on special occasions
34				First annual "Darnestown History Day" for all fourth graders at Darnestown Elementary School
35				Darnestown Swim and Racquet Club opened
36				Quince Orchard High School opened
37				Ridgeview Junior High School opened
38				Ridgeview Junior High School name changed to Ridgeview Middle School
39				Jones Lane Elementary School opened
40				Darnestown Elementary School name changed from "Andrew Small Academy"





## ***Darnestown Day – May 14<sup>th</sup>***

by Elisabeth Monaco Kraft

After last year's inaugural Darnestown Day success, Saint Nicholas Episcopal Church is ready to begin planning again. Darnestown Day is being held on Saturday, May 14th, from noon to 4 p.m. on the St. Nick's parish grounds at 14419 Darnestown Road.

This year we want Darnestown Day to be bigger and better. The First Darnestown Day brought 3,000 people to the St. Nick's grounds. Food vendors and craft vendors found eager customers. Children enjoyed pony cart rides and engaged in games of fun. Area musicians and artists provided entertainment for all comers to enjoy. A new area of participation is being added this year: a Silent Auction. The Silent Auction will extend the fun for everyone.

There are many different ways to participate in Darnestown Day. St. Nick's is looking for eager vendors who would like to sell their crafts and wares and for businesses to meet prospective customers. Applications are now being accepted to reserve your space. Only a limited number of spaces are available indoors. In addition, advertising in the Darnestown Day brochure is being offered. This brochure will be given to every family attending and is a wonderful way to advertise your business to potential customers. Donations of gift cards, merchandise or other items for auction will be gratefully accepted.

To become a part of Darnestown Day, please call Liz Kraft at 240-447-2995.

## ***Those Who Serve...***

by Madeline Dalessio

Brandon M. Cooper, a 2007 graduate of Northwest High School and current senior Computer Science major at Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia, will pursue a career with the United States Air Force. He has been an enthusiastic participant in the Air Force Reserve Officers Training Corps (AFROTC) since his sophomore year through a program jointly sponsored by Morehouse College and Georgia Tech University. Upon graduation, in the Fall of 2011, Brandon will be commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant.

Missy Bateman was recently promoted to Specialist 4. All is well in Camp Victory - Al Faw Palace Baghdad Iraq.



If you would like future columns to include your child, spouse or self, please contact Madeline D'Alessio at [dalessio@comcast.net](mailto:dalessio@comcast.net).

## ***Darne Bloomers Garden Club***

by Luanne Deppa



During the winter months maybe some of you looked at your landscape and decided that some changes are needed, or you thought about just adding or replacing some plants that will enhance your yard and give it a new look for the up-coming spring and summer.

Have you considered planting more Maryland native plants and shrubs?

Native plants are plants found in your area before our early settlers came (when extensive land clearing began and exotic plants were first introduced). Hundreds, if not thousands, of plants fall into this category. Many native plants are beautiful, and are not used in our neighborhood landscape designs. Since native plants have been growing and evolving in an area for thousands of years and have adapted to the local soils and climate, they are more likely to thrive with minimal care than exotic plants. That can mean less need for water, fertilizer and pesticides. Native plants are less likely to create environmental concerns should they "escape" from your garden, unlike aggressive invasives.

By using a greater variety of species, you will have more varied seasonal interest (flowers, berries, leaf colors, etc.) and you will encourage a more balanced population of beneficial insects that will help keep the harmful ones in check. You'll also attract more birds and butterflies to your yard. Of course, not every native plant will thrive in every location. It's important to know your site conditions and the requirements of the native plants when making a selection.

You may find Maryland native plants in special marked sections at your local nurseries. If you don't see them, ask the manager for a list so you can purchase them. If you would like a bigger selection than they offer are the nursery, then check online for your native Maryland garden and landscape list. You may also want to select the plants and shrubs that deer don't like. Your nursery managers will have that information also, and so will your websites.



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# School News & Events

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During our December Darne Bloomers Garden Club meeting our guest speaker, Sarah Salomon, presented her demonstration of holiday floral and techniques, including mailbox swags, and then she led our Hands-on workshop creating a pave-style centerpiece.

For the January meeting, the guest speaker was Alex Dencker, manager of the Behnke's Nursery in Potomac. His topic was "Gardening with Native Plants and Managing Invasive Species." He inspired many of us to take a serious look at more native Maryland plantings for our landscape.

The February meeting speaker was Nick Weber of Heritage Rosarium with a lecture on "The Lure of Old Garden Roses." If you have a place in your garden where the deer don't roam, these wonderful flowers are a must in any yard. They add such beauty to any setting.

Darne Bloomers welcome new members. We meet on the second Thursday of each month at the Darnestown Presbyterian Church. Please call the president, Sandy Hribar, at 301-258-5249 prior to attending the first meeting. The club would like to appropriately welcome you by having supplies and materials prepared for you if the program for the meeting is a demonstration, or if the program is a field trip for that meeting.

## ***Children's Party Planning Company Launches in Darnestown***

By Mary Gies, Owner – Effortless Parties by Mary

*Effortless Parties by Mary* is a full-service children's party planning company established to bring families and friends together for reasonably-priced, fun-filled, and stress-free events.

The company provides personalized services including custom invitations and thank you notes, décor, creative cakes and cupcakes, catering, entertainment and themed activities, party gifts and goodie bags, photography and videography, and on-site event coordination.

*Effortless Parties by Mary* will work with families to host birthday celebrations, holiday soirees, recurring playdates, and family functions.

*We do it all so you and the kids  
can have a ball!*

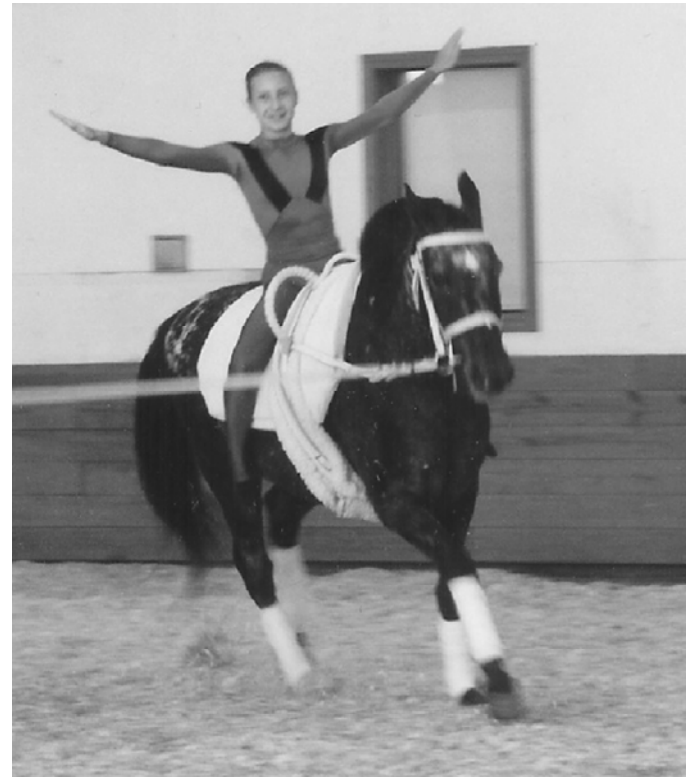
To learn more, please visit [www.effortlessparties.com](http://www.effortlessparties.com), e-mail [Mary@effortlessparties.com](mailto:Mary@effortlessparties.com), or call 301.233.6926.



## **The Butler School**

By Lisa Daly

### **Vaulting on Horseback at Butler School**



Butler School, a private Montessori school for children 3 years through 8<sup>th</sup> grade, is unique in the local area for blending equestrian sports into its school life. Vaulting on horseback, long an essential part of learning to ride in Europe, is growing in popularity in this country – and particularly at Butler School!

Four years ago, vaulting was offered to Butler students as one of their after school activities, and now is enjoyed in many different ways on the school's campus. The younger elementary students vault for six weeks as part of their P.E class. Students also enjoy this sport after school, either through the "Kaleidoscope" after school program or classes with Butler Barn. Several children now compete on a vaulting team, with hopes of qualifying one day for regional and national competitions.

This equestrian sport, which is sometimes referred to as "gymnastics on horseback", has captivated girls and boys who love horses and physical challenges. Movements are first practiced on a "vaulting barrel"



before the vaulter mounts the horse. The vaulter practices movements on the horse's back while it is walking or trotting in a circle on a lunge line controlled by the trainer. A harness with handles, along with a thick horse pad, enables even the youngest vaulters to feel confident as they learn a variety of "positions" on the horse.

For anyone who is interested in taking up this exciting equestrian sport, vaulting is offered to children (ages 7-14) outside the school community through Butler Equestrian's program and during the summer at Butler Camp. For more information on classes go the Butler School website at [www.butlerschool.org](http://www.butlerschool.org), or call the Main Office at 301-977-6600. To find out more about the sport of vaulting, go to [www.americanvaulting.org](http://www.americanvaulting.org).

## Darnestown Elementary School

by Kristen Crook

In between the closings and late openings, Darnestown students still managed to get in some of the fun events that mark the winter including Muffins for Moms, the band and choral concerts and the annual Science Expo.

February was a month for giving. DES families contributed to "Share the Love", a healthy snack food drive to support the children at our adopted school Gaithersburg Elementary. In addition, we held our annual Pennies for Patients fundraiser to benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. It's amazing to see how generous our community can be!

We've got a new fundraising event coming soon! Music and Arts will be held on Friday, March 25th at Northwest High school and will feature a silent auction, music presentations and a chance to view drawings, sculptures and other artwork created by our students.

As part of their study of Colonial times, our 5th grade students are preparing for Darnestown's Annual Colonial Day scheduled this year for Friday, April 8th. The gym is transformed into a Colonial Village and the children spend the day living in Colonial times. This event is open to the public in the evening and it's well worth the visit!

### Upcoming Calendar of Events:

- Music and Arts: Friday, March 25
- Colonial Day: Friday, April 8
- Spring Break: April 18-25
- Donuts for Dads: Friday, April 29
- Talent Show: Friday, May 13
- Darnestown History Day: Thursday, May 26

Have you seen our websites lately? We've updated the school site and the PTA site to bring you more up to date content. Check them out!

[www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/darnestownes](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/darnestownes)  
[www.darnestownPTA.com](http://www.darnestownPTA.com)

Ms. Tamah Graber, Darnestown Elementary's well-loved librarian for the past 20 years, will be retiring in June. A farewell picnic is being planning for her on June 3rd and we are certain that she would love and appreciate having as many past and present students and parents there to say goodbye. If you are interested in receiving an invitation, please contact [saghakhan@comcast.net](mailto:saghakhan@comcast.net).

## DES Class of 2004 Reunion

Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 7 – 9:30pm in the DES Cafeteria. Everyone is welcome!

Contact Marilyn Donson  
301-948-4458 or [kdonson@aol.com](mailto:kdonson@aol.com).

## Mary of Nazareth

By Heather Long

### See You on the Slopes!



Ski Club is a long standing tradition for middle school students at Mary of Nazareth School. It is a well celebrated milestone and is often captured as their favorite memory in the yearbook. The energy in the halls the weeks of ski club is contagious!

One hundred and fifteen students, along with an abundance of chaperones, load their equipment into three buses for the trip to Ski Liberty Mountain. After an hour and a half of singing, cheering and chanting, the buses are unloaded and everyone is off to hit the slopes.

Ski Club is also a great way for our children to grow and show their maturity. They become responsible for



remembering their passes, gathering their belongings and reporting back to the bus on time. These ski club students do not disappoint. Of course there is the occasional forgetting of a pass or misplacing a glove. But overall, the children rise to the occasion and help each other in the lodge and on the slopes. The program also provides a great bonding experience for their middle school years.

### **Mary of Nazareth School Lowers Student Ratio**



As our mission statement declares, Mary of Nazareth School prepares academic program rooted in the faith and teachings of the Roman Catholic Church, as professed in the Creed, celebrated in the sacraments, lived in Christian virtue and affirmed in prayer.

Although faith is the heart of Mary of Nazareth School, quality education is our primary focus. We believe that smaller work groups and more individualized time with students help to realize our mission.

The year, we are excited to add Mrs. Moira Seminara and Mrs. Anne Peterson as the two assistants for the second and third grades classes. Their job is to assist with reading and math lessons, breaking the students into smaller workgroups. This lowers our student ratio in both subjects and in turn, increases student understanding. The assistants also provide administrative and testing support within the classroom.

The Mary of Nazareth School Board of Directors is devoted to using resources to reduce the teacher to student ratios. Currently, reading instruction for Kindergarten through grade three is conducted in classes of twenty, creating a 1:10 teacher to student ratio. Mary of Nazareth School has also invested an additional reading instructor in grades four and five which has reduced reading class size to fifteen students per class. Additionally, three groups of math are taught simultaneously in grades four through eight reducing class size and therefore better meeting student needs.

The administration, faculty, and staff of Mary of Nazareth feel strongly that the success we can quantify in math and reading is closely linked to our efforts of lowering our student teacher ratio.

## **Northwest High School**

by Tracy Callahan

### **NWHS Quick Notes**

The Northwest High School football/soccer stadium is home to the Battalion of Black, a nickname given to the Northwest fans. Because of black being one of the school colors, a motif of black is used in Northwest's stadium, nicknamed the Black Hole. The football team enters the stadium to a rendition of the The Imperial March and select Fridays are designated Black-out Fridays, when all students, staff, and parents are encouraged to wear black.

### **Notable Alumni**

- Michael Cornejo ('00), creator of MOCOFOOT BALL.COM, a Montgomery County Maryland high school football news website
- Allyson Hardy ('01), All-CIAA basketball player for Bowie State University. Played basketball for the Washington Mystiques and the Los Angeles Sparks of the WNBA. Currently plays for Satu Mare in Romania
- Joe Lefeged ('07), 2006 Washington Post All-Metropolitan Defensive Player of the Year who currently plays football at Rutgers University in Piscataway, NJ
- Freddy Llerena ('01), star soccer player who went on to play soccer at American Univesity
- Anwar Phillips ('01), All Big-10 cornerback for Penn State University and went on to try out for the New Orleans Saints and the Baltimore Ravens of the NFL
- Randy Trivers, Head Football Coach at Northwest HS from 1998 to 2006. Went on to coach running backs at Syracuse University in Syracuse NY and at Rutgers University in Piscataway, NJ. He is currently the head football coach at Leesburg High School in Leesburg, Florida.
- Ike Whitaker ('05), 2004 Washington Post All-Metropolitan Offensive Player of the Year who played college football at Virginia Tech University in Blacksburg, VA



## Feeder Schools

Students attending Northwest come from parts of Germantown, parts of Boyds, portions of Gaithersburg, Darnestown and very small portions of Poolesville and Potomac. Northwest is fed by three area middle schools and eight area elementary schools in the following feeder patterns:

- Kingsview MS (grades 6-8): Great Seneca Creek (K-5), Ronald McNair ES (pre-K-5), Spark M. Matsunaga ES (K-5)
- Lakelands Park MS (grades 6-8) (split articulation with Quince Orchard Cluster): Darnestown ES (K-5), portions of Diamond ES (K-5)
- Roberto Clemente MS (grades 6-8) (split articulation with Seneca Valley Cluster): Clopper Mill ES (pre-K-5), Germantown ES (K-5), Great Seneca Creek (K-5)

## Indoor Track News and Notes

The Northwest Jaguars had a dominant performance December 23rd at the Montgomery County Developmental Meet. With five new school records established, the Jaguars are setting themselves up for a successful winter season. Sheldon Trotman jumped 44'7" in the triple jump to establish a new school record by over a foot. Sheldon also had set a new school record in the long jump on December 4. Along with Sheldon, Chris Miller ran two new school records on Wednesday evening. In two very exciting 1600 and 3200 races, Chris raced step for step with the other top distance runners in the county. He ran 4:35 in the 1600 and 9:51 in the 3200. Britt Eckerstrom had a spectacular day as a mid-distance runner. Anchoring the 4 x 800, Britt ran with such ease that I had to re-check my splits four times to ensure that I was correct. Indeed, I was. Britt split a 2:14 on the anchor leg. After this, Britt ran the open 500 in 1:16.8 to break her old record from last year. She then went on to lead off the 4x 200 relay which dominated the field.

Not to be outdone by these new school records, there were many other fantastic performances:

- Olivia Ekpone dominated the 55 meter dash and 300 meter dash.
- Naomi Sheppard ran a 5:34 in the 1600 as a freshman
- Andrew Kyeremeh ran 1:09 in the open 500

- The girls 4 x 200 ran 1:44 with all the splits at 26.5 or faster

## *NWHS Indoor Track claims two best-in-country records so far this season.*

Olivia Ekpone and Britt Eckerstrom re-established why they are two of the best runners in the country this past weekend. Olivia won the 55 meter dash in a fully automatic time of 6.96 which tied the meet record and is the US #1 time in that event as of this weekend. Britt was not to be outdone as she ran the 500 meter dash in 1:15.07 fully automatic time to set a new meet record and to establish her place as the US #1 time in that event. Both of these ladies joined forces on the 4 x 200 meter relay which also won on Saturday in a blazing time of 1:44.11. In a tough race, the girls' held their own in the 4x 200 with India Knight and Sheridan Allen running also on that relay. Olivia's day was not done; however, as she won her third event of the day – 400 meter dash in 56.69.

The rest of the team also competed well. The girl's 4 x 800 meter relay ran a great race to place 3rd overall. That team was comprised of Achankeng Acha-morfaw – who ran an aggressive first leg, Kaitlyn Gularson – a junior who is running track for the first time, Christine DiNardo – a senior who is coming off of an individual state medal in cross country, and Naomi Sheppard – freshman who ran a spectacular anchor leg to bring home the bronze for the Jaguars.

Naomi came back to run 5:32 in the 1600 in only her 4th race at that distance.

## *Indoor Track County Meet Results*

Congratulations to the Northwest Girls' indoor track and field team for dominating the competition last night in the Montgomery county championships.

The girls' were dominate from start to finish by sweeping all three relays (as they did last year). The 4 x 800 meter relay was an exciting event as BCC went out strong with a tough lead off leg. Achankeng Achamorfaw stayed strong and handed off in a solid 2nd place to newcomer Kaitlyn Gularson. Kaitlyn ran strong and raced well to hold the 2nd place position. Kaitlyn handed off to freshman Naomi Sheppard who also raced well to give Britt Eckerstrom the baton 35 meters behind BCC's anchor leg – Alex Doll. (Backstory – Alex Doll won the state championship as 9thgrader in the indoor 1600 and Britt was 2nd that year. They are both national level soccer players who will play for powerhouses next fall: Alex at Stanford and Britt at Penn State. Their opening game as freshmen in college will be against



each other). When Britt got the baton – there was no question that she was going after the win. She went out in her first 400 in 62 seconds (!) and continued to press the race. She took the lead with 300 meters to go and never looked back anchoring the team to their second county title and in an impressive 2:12.6 split!!!!

The girls 4 x 200 meter relay was also dominant. Leading off was Hayley Henshaw and she handed off in 2nd place. Britt Eckerstrom took the baton and passed the leader with 50 meters to go to give Sheridan Allen space to open up and race the third leg. Sheridan handed off to Olivia with breathing room and the Jaguars came home with another victory.

Not to be outdone, the 4 x 400 meter relay team, decided they needed to win as well. Achankeng Acha-morfaw led off with Britt running 2nd leg. Freshmen Tiara Wellman ran a studly third leg to give Olivia Ekpone the baton and to win the relay.

The boys' 4 x 400 meter relay ran very well to place 4th overall out of the 2nd heat. Winning their heat was Andrew Kyeremeh, Barry Solomon, Cameron Brown, and Jacob Brennan.

Individual standouts were:

Olivia Ekpone – 55 meter dash county champion (new county record)

Olivia Ekpone – 300 meter dash county champion (new county record)

Britt Eckerstrom – 500 meter dash county champion (only .23 off of the county record)

Naomi Sheppard – 800 meter run bronze medalist (only a freshman!)

Chris Miller – 1600 meter run bronze medalist (new school record)

### **Boys Basketball Update**

The Boys Varsity team currently has a winning record with Darnestown residents Jake Fakler and Bobby Sonkin getting court time and playing well.

### **Upcoming Events at NWHS**

March 9th is the Mulch Sale. This is one of the schools largest fundraisers!!! Can they count on you? Please purchase your mulch from Northwest, they will deliver it to you and it attractively priced. Go to the website Northwest High School boosters and order next month.

You'll be glad to have the mulch and support a great cause. Sharon Lockwood ordered 100 bags last year!!!

Baseball is just around the corner, The Northwest Jaguars led by new Varsity Coach Todd Varesco, will feature a hustling, hard hitting team. Come out and catch a game, (schedule on the website) and see the new scoreboard.

Please pass on any Northwest news to Tracy Callahan at [Tracy@tracycallahan.net](mailto:Tracy@tracycallahan.net).

### **Seneca Academy**

by Brooke Carroll

While the wintry weather is upon us, folks at Seneca Academy are busily preparing for the warmer summer months and camp! We welcome all community members to join in the fun at Seneca Summer Camps!

This summer our youngest campers (ages 3 through rising kindergarteners) will participate in Amazing Animals Camp. This camp, held from 9am to 1:30pm, will allow campers to explore animals from around the world through stories, art, games, and with in-camp "field trips" with live animals! Our older campers (rising 1st graders through rising 6th graders- or rising 8th graders for Film and Band camps) have several camps to choose from including Art and Adventure, Craft & Cooking and Adventure, Field Games and Adventure, Mad Science® and Adventure, Band and Adventure, and Film Making and Adventure.

Adventure camps are held from 9am-3pm. Campers will engage in their chosen activities for half the day at Seneca Academy, and will take the school bus on adventures around the county for the other half of the day. There are a variety of adventures planned for all! Camp begins June 20th, takes the week of July 4th off, and runs through July 29th.

For more information and applications, please visit us at [www.SenecaAcademy.org](http://www.SenecaAcademy.org) or call our office at 301-869-3728. Hope to see you at camp!

Seneca Academy is an International Baccalaureate Candidate School. For more information, please visit our website: [www.SenecaAcademy.org](http://www.SenecaAcademy.org)

### **Thomas Jefferson Preparatory**

by Michelle Wentz

TJP is a non faith-based, non- profit, private school, in its fourth year. To receive information or schedule a tour, please log on to [tjprep.org](http://tjprep.org) or 301-330-7550.



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# Sports News & Events

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## ***Darnestown Softball 2011***

by Dave Bivans, Highlanders

Once again *The Little Acorn* deadline is approaching as fast as a Winter Storm Watch; may the wintry-weather be well behind us by printing time so that we can have another pleasant start to the Darnestown Softball season.

Like last year, the League is made up of five neighborhood-based, co-rec teams [Bondy-Haddonfield-Ridgefield (defending champs), Ancient Rollin Mountain Quails, Western Darnestown, Berryville-Seneca, and Highlanders), supported in part by our Darnestown Civic Association. Games are played Sundays (no games on major “holiday” weekends, e.g., Memorial Day, Mother’s Day, Father’s Day, etc.), late-afternoons/early-evenings at our local Cliff Bland Park. The season runs from April through July (extending to August if the weather proves uncooperative).

Darnestown homeowners and renters are eligible to play, and many teams can use some additional players to fill in and pad their lineups, especially to cover vacation schedules. No experience is necessary, just a desire to get some fresh air, exercise, and have a good time with a little neighborly competition. If you are interested in playing and need a team assignment, please contact me (301-977-4734, [dnlbivans34@verizon.net](mailto:dnlbivans34@verizon.net)) and I’ll get you the necessary information to sign up.

As always, I’m looking forward to the warmer weather, seeing our neighbors on the ball field, and a fun and successful new season.

## ***Darnestown Swim and Racquet Club***

by Dave Hardy

As February turns to March, longer days and warmer temperatures remind us that Memorial Day is right around the corner. Which means the Darnestown Swim and Racquet Club (DSRC) will be opening its doors for the 36th season in the Darnestown community. All winter long we have been working hard to make improvements that include new deck furniture, repairs to the tennis courts and other improvements to the grounds.

DSRC keeps its membership capped at 450 families so that our members can enjoy the facility without concern

of overcrowding. This year we have a limited number of available memberships! If you or anyone you know are interested in joining please act quickly and contact our Membership Director, Carrie D’Antona [cdantona@verizon.net](mailto:cdantona@verizon.net) or our club manager Dave Hardy at 301.330.1340 or [davidhardy27@hotmail.com](mailto:davidhardy27@hotmail.com).

Our swim team looks to build upon a wonderful first season for Head Coach Kate Ulicny as they went undefeated in their 2010 season. The Demons have moved up to ‘C’ division for 2011, their highest seeding in 7 years! 2010 saw many new faces on the swim team and some of our highest enrollment numbers in a decade of excellent swimming. We look to have more new faces this year and for those current members to continue their development and success.

Our tennis season starts shortly with spring daytime, afternoon and evening clinics. Bob Denham returns to DSRC for his 6th season where he oversees the tennis program, including a daytime tennis camp, team practices as well as private and semi-private instruction. Our unofficial men’s and ladies night tennis season will begin when weather permits-typically 50 degrees and higher (Wednesday and Tuesday night respectively). This will continue through the official opening of The Club. Check the DSRC website for our many social tennis events. Our tennis courts remain open to members on a year round basis and members will find new lighting and parking areas for off-season tennis an enjoyable addition to our 6 lighted courts.

Our social director has been working hard to plan our many family as well as adult social events that will be kicked off with our Opening Day party on the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend, May 28th. We offer a total of 6 official social events during the course of the season ranging from a “school’s out party” for the kids to celebrate the official beginning of summer to our adult crab feast and end of season party. We also offer the reservation of our covered pavilion to our members at no extra charge for use for birthday parties, team sports parties or any other gathering of family and friends you may want to have at the Club.

We will be continuing our “refer a friend” program that we started in 2009. Any member who brings in a friend or neighbor as a new member will be receiving a \$100 check from the Club in return for their recommendation.

For additional information and as contact information, please visit us at [www.dsclub.com](http://www.dsclub.com). Have a great spring and we look forward to seeing everyone at the Club Memorial Day weekend!



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# Newcomer's Corner

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## *Gaithersburg Area Newcomers Club*

by Lynda Slesinger

### **Expand social connections and make new friends...**

The Gaithersburg Area Newcomers Club welcomes *new residents* and those in *life transition* (lifestyle changes, retirement, etc.). We offer an extensive variety of fun social activities. For more information or to receive a Newsletter, contact DCA Member, Lynda Slesinger, at 301-990-1067.

## *Kites Without Strings – The Social Site For Singles*

By Ruth Choi and Laraine Goldberg

KWS is a constantly updated and comprehensive catalog of singles' events in the DC area. KWS is not a match site, but a network of local area singles eager to reinvigorate their social lives by doing the things they love. Through a number of easy applications, you can learn about upcoming activities, host and post an event of your own, discuss topics related to your life, exchange facts and opinions and learn through each others experiences, and stay in contact with friends. So please join us...it's Free! For more information, please visit [www.KitesWithoutStrings.org](http://www.KitesWithoutStrings.org).

### **Purchase a Darne-Good Cookbook today...**

Darne-Good recipes are contributed by your neighbors... real people with busy lives who cook with common ingredients from their fridge and pantry, just like you.

### **These are tried-and-true recipes worth sharing.**

Still just \$15 each  
(only \$14 when ordering 6 or more)  
and FREE DELIVERY  
anywhere in Darnestown...  
right to your door!

To order your copies and  
arrange payment and delivery,  
call Carolyn Thompson (240-683-0103)  
or email [acorneditor@comcast.net](mailto:acorneditor@comcast.net).

**Please make check payable to Darnestown  
Civic Association**

## *Information for Newcomers*

If you are a new resident of Darnestown, welcome to our neighborhood! The information on this page should be helpful and will introduce you to some things that give Darnestown a sense of community.

The Darnestown Civic Association, Inc. is a nonprofit corporation originally formed in 1967, which represents the interests of Darnestown area residents in all matters pertaining to the welfare of Darnestown and its residents. The general purposes of the DCA are explained in its bylaws and Articles of Incorporation. Payment of annual dues (\$25 per individual or family) enables you to vote on issues during Town Meetings.

The membership year of the DCA is January 1 through December 31, and annual dues billing statements are mailed out at the end of December each year, although dues may be paid any time during a given year. Current officers of the DCA are listed on Page 2 of *The Little Acorn*.

### **Mailing Address:**

Darnestown Civic Association  
14132B Darnestown Road  
Darnestown, MD 20874

**Boundaries:** Since Darnestown is not incorporated, it has no official boundaries. The activities and focus of the DCA include an area of some 12 square miles, centered approximately at the intersection of Maryland Routes 28 and 112 (Darnestown Road and Seneca Road). Maps are available at Town Meetings.

**The Little Acorn newsletter** is published quarterly, in March, June, September and December. Its name derives from its origin as a tiny newsletter in the Ancient Oak subdivision more than 20 years ago. Now it is mailed (3rd class) to every residential address that we have in our DCA data base. Volunteers, based on information from membership remittance form and our Welcome Committee, maintain this name and address file. The newsletter should arrive in your mailbox early in each of the above months. If you don't receive an issue, please contact the editor or any DCA officer. Publication of *The Little Acorn* is entirely a volunteer effort except for the printing and mailing.

**Town Meetings** are held quarterly by the DCA, usually on the 2nd or 3rd Thursday of March, June, September and December in the Fellowship Hall of the Darnestown Presbyterian Church at the intersection of Route 28 and Turkey Foot Road. Meetings are scheduled for 7:30 p.m., but are not called to order until 7:45 to allow some time for meeting neighbors, etc. Each issue of *The Little Acorn* features an announcement about the upcoming Town Meeting.





Annual Meeting and Election of DCA Officers coincide with the Town Meeting in June. Nominations are announced in June edition of *The Little Acorn* in advance of the Annual Meeting in accordance with the bylaws of the GDCA.

**Telephone Directory:** Every two years, the DCA publishes a directory of residents' names, addresses and phone numbers and mails it to every residential address in our database. To obtain a copy of the Directory, call Sarah Scherer at 240-683-8533 or [sarahscherer@comcast.net](mailto:sarahscherer@comcast.net). They are only available while supplies last.

**Organizations, Clubs, Groups, PTAs, etc.,** provide much of the social interaction that give any area a sense of community. Below are many of Darnestown's:

***Barnesville School***

21830 Peach Tree Road  
Barnesville, MD 20838  
301-972-0341  
John Huber, Head of School

***Boy Scout Troop 1094***

Scoutmaster Bud Wildman (301-990-8318)

***Brownies and Junior Girl Scouts***

Cathy Sharpe (301-519-9520)

***Butler School***

15951 Germantown Road  
Beckie Hardie, Academic Head (301-977-6600)

***Circle School/Seneca Academy***

15601 Germantown Road  
Darnestown, MD 20874  
Brooke Carroll, Head of School (301-869-3728)

***Darne Bloomers Garden Club***

Sandy Hribar, President  
Betsy Kingman, Membership (301-921-1988)

***Darnestown Civic Association***

14100 Darnestown Road, Darnestown, MD 20874  
Lisa Patterson-Troiike, President (301-548-0999)

***Darnestown Elementary School***

15030 Turkey Foot Road, Darnestown, MD 20878  
Laura Colgary, Principal (301-840-7157)

***Darnestown Swim and Racquet Club***

P. O. Box 3574, Darnestown, MD 20885  
Jeannie Tucker, Membership ([Jeannietucker@aol.com](mailto:Jeannietucker@aol.com))

***Friends of the Library-Quince Orchard Chapter***

Membership, Elizabeth Cookson  
301-869-6326

***Jones Lane Elementary School***

15110 Jones Lane, Gaithersburg, MD 20878  
Carole Sample, Principal  
301-840-8160

***Kehilat Shalom***

9915 Apple Ridge Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20886  
301-869-7699

***Lakelands Park Middle School***

1200 Main Street, Gaithersburg, MD 20878  
Deborah Higdon, Principal  
301-670-1400

***Mary of Nazareth School***

14131 Seneca Road, Darnestown, MD 20874  
Michael J. Friel, Principal  
301-869-0940

***Quince Orchard Community Library***

Quince Orchard Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20878  
240-777-0200

***Northwest High School***

12501 Richter Farm Road, Germantown, MD 20874  
Lance Dempsey, Principal  
301-601-4660

***Quince Orchard High School***

15800 Quince Orchard Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20878  
Ms. Carole Working, Principal  
301-840-4686

***Ridgeview Middle School***

16600 Raven Rock Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20878  
Dr. Carol Levine, Principal  
301-840-4770

***Thomas Jefferson Preparatory***

12801 Darnestown Road, Darnestown, MD 20878  
Zorianna Harabatch, Head of School  
301-330-7550

***Trout Unlimited***

Seneca Valley Chapter, #369  
website: <http://senecavalleytu.org/>  
Charles August ([csaugust@comcast.net](mailto:csaugust@comcast.net)), Secretary  
240-401-8669



# Spring Social

## A Darnestown Community Meet-Your-Neighbors Reception

at  
**Smokey Glen Farm  
Main Pavilion Area**

**Thursday, April 28, 2011  
6pm–8pm**

**Serving their world famous barbeque fare  
with all the trimmings**

**RESERVATIONS WITH PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED BY APRIL 15TH!**

Full names of those in your group : \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# adults @ \$15 each \_\_\_\_\_

# children 3-11 yrs old @ \$10 each \_\_\_\_\_

Children under 3 free!

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please list full names of those in your party.

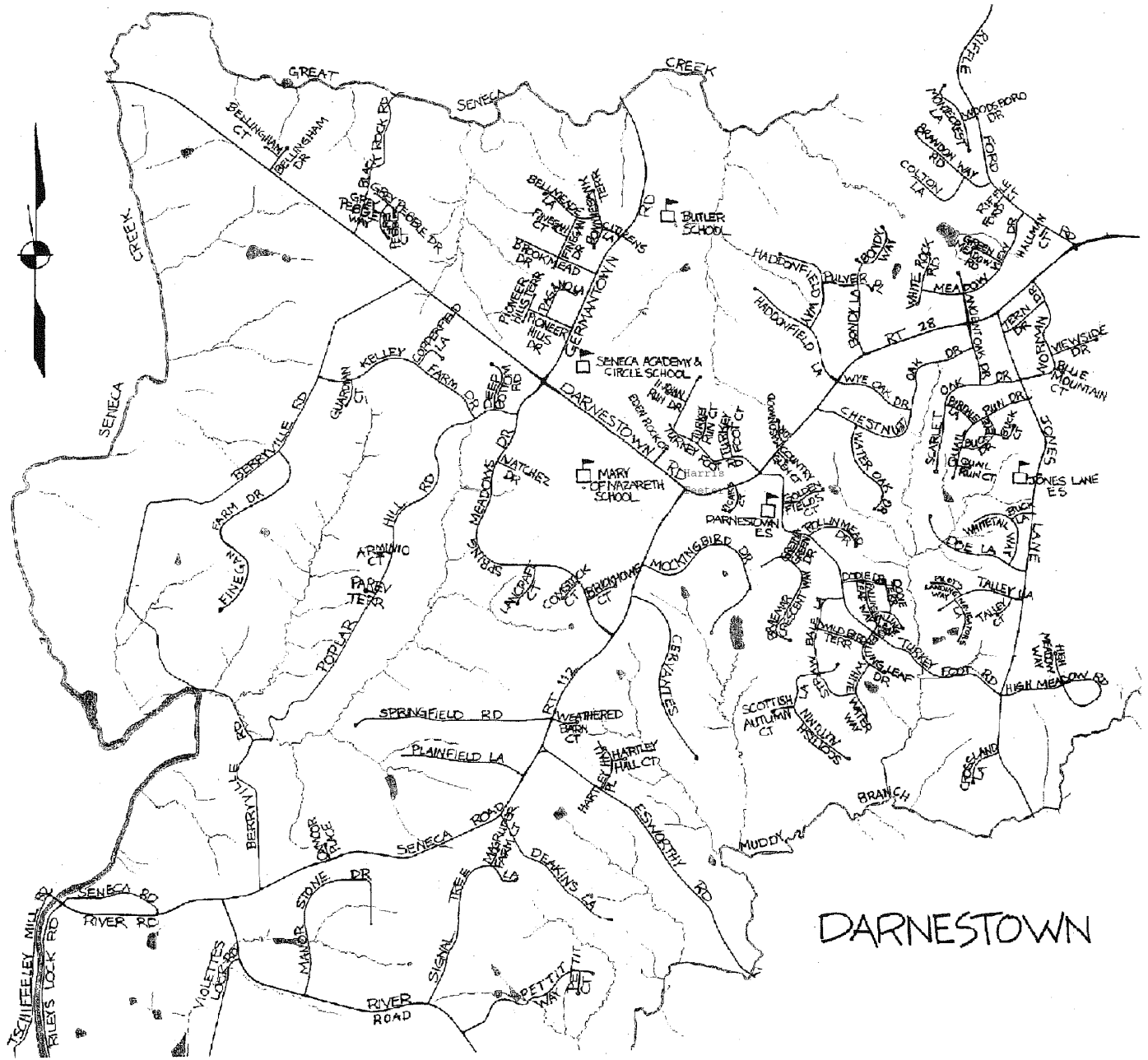
Nametags will be awaiting you at the door and will serve as your ticket.

**\*\*NO REFUNDS\*\***

**PAYMENT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AT THE DOOR**



DARNESTOWN CIVIC ASSOCIATION



[www.Darnestowncivic.org](http://www.Darnestowncivic.org)



# Darnestown Civic Association, Inc.

14132B Darnestown Road  
Darnestown, MD 20874

**dca@darnestowncivic.org**



A cup of joe and an Acorn.  
Life is sweet.

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## Darnestown Civic Association — 2011 Membership Form

Please make check payable to Darnestown Civic Association and mail with this completed form to  
DCA Membership, 15711 Pagano Lane, Darnestown, MD 20874

- Annual Dues \$25                       Friends \$50                       Sponsorship \$100

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Include e-mail address only if you wish to receive mass e-mails from DCA of important community happenings.

- New home/address in Darnestown       New to Darnestown (existing address)       Didn't receive notice in mail

