

THE DARNESTOWN CIVIC ASSOCIATION www.darnestowncivic.org

Volume 51, Number 2 June 2014

## CIVIC ASSOCIATION NEWS & NOTES

Notes from the President By Lisa Patterson-Troike

#### **Veteran Safe Haven**

The DCA received several inquiries regarding a Gazette article, "Nonprofit offering housing for homeless vets", printed on March 26, 2014, which featured a home in Darnestown. The DCA and community had not been previously informed of the facility and have been gathering information on the program. Several years ago, the U.S. Congress appropriated a multi-billion dollar nationwide effort to end homelessness. The home in Darnestown is just a small representation of this effort. For more information, please read the article written by Tim Sanders on page 7.

#### **Village News**

After years of waiting, SunTrust Bank has finally opened! Moses Nesmith, SunTrust Branch Manager for Darnestown, invited the DCA to partake in the "ribbon cutting" ceremony and grand opening on April 12<sup>th</sup>. Chris Collins, DCA Village Committee Chairman, and I attended the festivities and enjoyed refreshments, spinning the "prize wheel" and picking from the "money tree." We were very impressed with the "green" architectural and technological advancements that are part of this location. Read more about village businesses in the article by Chris Collins on page 6.

....Continued on page 7



## \*\*\* Alert \*\*\*

There has been a rash of check thefts from personal mailboxes here in Darnestown!

PLEASE do not put *outgoing* mail in your mailbox! For your protection, use the USPS mailbox on the Rt. 28 side of the 6-12!

Next DCA Town Meeting

June 19th | 7:30 PM

Darnestown Presbyterian Church

Route 28 at Turkey Foot Road

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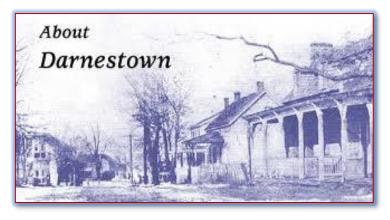
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Thanks for all of the great emails and feedback! Keep 'em coming!





Route 28, Darnestown looking west; late 1880's Courtesy Montgomery Historical Society

Several years ago, The Little Acorn was honored to run a series of informational articles detailing the history of our charming town. It's always enlightening to revisit our past, and with new neighbors arriving every year, we thought that this would be a great time to run our historical series again. Here now, is Part Two of the series. Enjoy!

## The History of Darnestown Part Two



#### RILEY'S LOCK (Lock #24, Milepost 21)

Less than two miles west of Violette's Lock, very near the IR/World Bank country club of Bretton Woods, is Riley's Lock, the Seneca Aqueduct with its adjacent canal turning basin, and the remains of the once thriving Seneca Stone Quarry. During its heyday, Seneca Creek clamored with the familiar ring of hammers on steel, "stone drills", and shouts of "hey locks!" as boatmen approached the canal's lock.

Canallers boated day and night, sometimes shouting or blowing a horn to alert the lock keeper. An Old-timer recalled "old man Johnny Riley," the last locktender at Seneca, as one who was never caught napping: "any hour of the night you went to his lock and holler... there was the lantern waving you ahead." The parking lot below the lock house was once a large basin where boats took on grain and flour from adjacent warehouses stocked from nearby Tschiffely Mill.

Milling in Seneca dates to 1780 as local farmers began to experiment with wheat. At the intersection of Seneca Creek and River Road are the remains of Tschiffely Mill, a grain mill built in 1866, which continued to operate into the 1930's. Seneca Creek State Park has developed a display along Black Rock Road to show how the similar Black Rock Mill operated. A narrow gauge railroad carried flour and other products from the boats tied up near Riley's Lock. Riley's Lock is the only one that directly abuts an aqueduct. The Girl Scouts give tours of the Lockhouse on weekends.

From Kate Mulligan's Towns Along the Towpath: "Pennyfield Lock is only about five miles from Great Falls Tavern, which is probably the most popular spot on the canal, but it is a scene far removed from the bustle and crowds down the Walk past two abandoned houses, towpath. complete with sagging porches, cross a footbridge to the shuttered lockkeeper's house, which overlooks the canal. The Potomac is in full throttle here, with an island tantalizingly close. Less than a mile upstream along the towpath is the Dierssen Waterfowl Sanctuary, a series of ponds that attract birds and birdwatchers. The latter say that on a spring morning, it's possible to spot as many as 80 different species. The towpath continues past beautiful cedar-topped cliffs, which turn into rolling countryside. Violette's Lock is a favorite spot for fishing and launching canoes for the trip to Georgetown. A 2,500-foot rubble stone dam supplies water from here to Little Falls. Water skiing is popular in the slackwater behind the dam. Riley's Lock hand Lockhouse, about a half-mile upstream along the towpath, is the canal's version of civilization. Seneca Creek Park, which has picnic areas, public toilets, and a parking lot, adjoins the area. Seneca Aqueduct, the first of 11 aqueducts between Georgetown and Cumberland, carried canal boats over nearby Seneca Creek. At Sycamore Landing, about five miles upstream, a footbridge across the canal bed leads to Sycamore Landing Road and the McKee-Beshers Wildlife Area."

continued...

#### **SENECA AQUEDUCT**

Built in 1829-30, Seneca Aqueduct is the first of 11 aqueducts along the C&O Canal that connects Georgetown and Cumberland. Back then, the duct was filled with water and carried canal boats over the creek. In September 1971, a bad freshet stone collapsed the aqueduct's west arch. Flood markers from the historic Potomac floods of 1899 and 1936 can be found on a sandstone post on the southeast corner of the parapet.

#### SENECA STONE MILL (Just west of Lock #24, Riley's Lock)

Down the path west of the aqueduct are the remains of the Seneca stonecutting mill, the oldest stone cutting mill in the United States. Built of local sandstone known as "Seneca Brownstone" about 1837, the mill was used to cut and dress stone from the quarries nearby to the west. Seneca quarry worked about 100 men, and at one time took out the red sandstone used to build the Seneca Aqueduct and neighboring homes such as Montevideo, as well as the Smithsonian Institution, the Washington Aqueduct (often called the Cabin John aqueduct), the Library of Congress, and the Washington Monument (used as backing stone), the Museum of Natural History in New York, as well as most of Washington's post-Civil War architecture. Freshly cut stone reached the mill on a narrow gauge railroad, in mule drawn gondolas. Water from the turning basin, which ran in a large channel through the center of the mill, powered a large turbine that drove the mill's machinery. (The remains were the setting of an independent short film entitled "From Hell, With Love" that was produced in 2002 as a project with Mt. St. Mary's College.)

#### **SENECA QUARRY**

Just west of Seneca Stone Mill are a series of overgrown quarries, developed from the high sandstone bluffs. This red sandstone deposit, which underlies most of the Western Montgomery County, is of the Triassic Age (about 200 million years ago) and is part of a larger formation that erratically spans from Connecticut to the

Carolinas. As far back as the 1790's, Seneca stone was quarried and rafted eight miles down the Potomac to Great Falls, where it was used in a "skirting canal" that enabled riverboat men to bypass the falls. When first cut, Seneca stone is relatively easy to work, but it hardens on prolonged exposure to air. Across the marshland north of the bluffs was a settlement of free black quarrymen, some of whose descendants now live in the Berryville Road area.

From Kate Mulligan's Towns Along the Towpath: "Tschiffely Road, near the store, runs from river Road to abandoned quarries and the remains of the Seneca Stone Mill, which was the center of the sandstone industry. According to local historian Jane Sween, the Seneca Sandstone Company used the facilities of the canal, which opened in 1830, to process the sandstone. The company installed a gate in the canal west of Seneca Creek, diverting water into the plant. Mules pulled uncut sandstone boulders in gondolas out of the quarries over the narrow gauge railroad track. Water from the mill race, fed by the canal, ran the turbines, which furnished the power for cutting. Seneca was once intended to be the starting point of a canal extension to Baltimore, an effort that never materialized. But it did become a bustling canal town during the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The canal was used for personal transportation between Seneca and Georgetown, as well as commercial shipping. The sandstone company closed in 1900, and the canal company ended operations in 1924. The area's natural beauty remained, however, and many loyal residents owned summer or year-round cottages. In 1957, Roy Lee Yinger, a columnist for the Montgomery County Sentinel, wrote, 'Seneca, believe me, is an enchanting and romantic spot.' Repeated flooding – and ironically, reincarnation of the canal as a federal park decimated the community. Hurricane Agnes destroyed many homes, and Montgomery County officials denied owner's permission to rebuild on a flood plain. In the late 1970's, federal officials bought up property to enlarge the C&O Canal National Historical Park."

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#### SENECA MARSH: CANAL TURNING BASIN

Here, boats tied up to load stone from the nearby Seneca Stone Mill. Since canal boats were over 90-feet long, occasional basins like this one were the only places to turn around. Stone shipped from this basin went to the docks in Georgetown, or up canal to Point of Rocks for trans-shipment on the B&O Railroad, often carried on a steamboat especially adapted for the canal, the *Aunt Chercy*.

#### **POOLE'S GENERAL STORE\***

Across River Road, on Old River Road, is Poole's General Store and the Upton Darby House. It was built in 1901 by Frederick Allnutt, who previous owned a store along the canal in Seneca. Once of the few surviving turn-of-the-century commercial structures in Montgomery County, this authentic general store remains a vital part of the community.

#### **ALLNUT HOUSE or THE UPTON DARBY HOUSE**

Adjacent to Poole's General Store, the house was built in 1855 by Upton Darby, a prominent miller. The Frederick Allnutt family purchased it in 1900. It is currently owned by the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission to be incorporated into Seneca State Park.

#### SENECA SCHOOL

Funds to build this one room school house were raised by local miller Upton Darby through subscriptions solicited from the neighbors. Construction was completed in 1863. Parents paid for their children's books, and tuition was covered by several means. Families could pay cash toward the single teacher's \$200.00 per year salary, give wood or coal for the heat (a potbellied stove remains the only heat source), or help to "board" the teacher.

The age range for students was 6 to 16, with approximately 25 pupils at any given time. Grade levels 1 through 7 were taught and students were separated roughly by level of study in each particular subject, rather than by age as they are

now: a child might have studied 3<sup>rd</sup> grade math while also doing 6<sup>th</sup> grade reading or history.

Gender separation was maintained by seating girls and boys on opposite sides of the rom. The larger boys were expected to help bring in the wood or coal and carry out the ashes. Misbehavior begot corporal punishment.

#### **BLOCKHOUSE POINT**

This was the site of a Union outpost during the Civil War. The inland area beyond the cliffs is Blockhouse Point State Park, which can be reached from River Road. This is one of the most distinctive scenes along the river, where the rocky-forested cliffs are reflected in the still water of the canal, just a few precious feet of earth from the rough rapids of the Potomac. (C&O Canal Guide)

## Next: Rowsers Ford (Violette's Lock), the C.M.E Church, and Darnestown.

\*Editor's Note: Poole's Store closed in 2010. The Department of Parks is embarking on a restoration project and looking for a new tenant. For more information on the restoration project, please contact Jamie Kuhns, Senior Historian at 301-650-4362 or Jamie.Kuhns@montgomeryparks.org.

#### **Sources for this Series**

Detail of Darnestown from Simon J. Martenet Library of Congress, MSA SC 1213-1-464

www.mdslavery.net

The Maryland Historical Society

Towns Along the Towpath by Kate Mulligan

www.gazette.net

Civil War History & Darnestown www.sunsite.utk.edu/civil-war/Mass19.html

Battles of Ball's Bluff and Edward's Ferry – Experiences at Darnestown and Rockville www.sunsite.utk.edu/civil-war/CHIII.html



## The Village Corner

By Christopher Collins Village Chair

The Village – "A clustered human settlement or community, larger than a hamlet but smaller than a town, with a population ranging from a few hundred to a few thousand". Although this is a literal definition, The Village as it applies to Darnestown is the commercial area centered on the intersection of Darnestown and Seneca Roads, Montgomery County Maryland. The community's interest in this significant intersection has always been keen as it is a barometer of what is developing in the Darnestown community as a whole.

For instance, the Village activities of the past year have brought us Nick's Pizza, Sub and Ice Cream Shop. The facility is a reincarnation of the former Adrian's Market and Uncle Charlie's Bar B Q Emporium. Nick's also provides a selection of wines and beers to compliment your gastro experience. To add to the experience, they will even deliver.

A little further north into the village is the Six – Twelve Market which provides the community with the everyday staples of a convenience store; ice, sundries, beer & wine and the ever required winning lotto tickets. A little known fact concerning the Six-Twelve Market is that they have been developing their wine selection to appeal to those refined palates in the Village, to include wine presentation events and tastings. Look to the future for new and interesting offerings.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our new neighbor in the Village, Sun Trust Bank. Leave it to Sun Trust to shine. They presented a grand opening just a few weeks ago on a bright and cheery Saturday morning replete with Montgomery County Executive candidates and our own Civic Association President, Lisa Patterson in attendance. The long awaited arrival of the full service financial institution has arrived and is





located at the south west corner of the Village intersection, in the new Petruccelli Retail Plaza.

One of our recent arrivals, the Harris Teeter Grocery store, continues to provide support to the community not only in the grocery department and in the pharmacy realm, but have been supporters of community activities to include the adjacent Heritage Park (on the north-east corner of Darnestown and Seneca Roads). A reasonably new neighbor but a destination point in the community.

As you can see, the "Village" is growing and we welcome our new business neighbors who by their efforts continue to shape and define the center of our community.



Pictured from Left to Right:

Madeleine Paré - Manager 6/12

Vanda & Nick Petruccelli – Shopping Center Owners

*Ike Leggett - Montgomery County Executive* 

Phil Andrews - County Councilman

Lisa Patterson - DCA President

Moses T Nesmith – Sun Trust Assistant Vice President, Branch Manager IV



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

Continued from page 1



#### **Darnestown Community Market**

Nick's Pizza hosts the Darnestown Community Market showcasing local artists, craftsman and vendors on specified Saturdays from 10 am - 4 pm. I visited the market and was delighted to see three familiar Darnestown residents selling their "wares." Sue Moses creates beautiful watercolor masterpieces and many of her paintings are inspired by looking out onto her back yard here on Esworthy Road. Ingrid Gooch has fresh duck eggs and bakes delicious pumpkin bread and chocolate fudge. Don Buck, "The Clock Doctor", will fix your timepiece and has several antique clocks for sale. A sketch artist, handmade jewelry, local farm fresh eggs and crafts of all kinds are also for sale. The market supports the "buy local" campaign many Darnestownians embrace!

#### **Darnestown History Day at DES**

Every year the Darnestown Elementary School PTA hosts a Darnestown History Day for 4<sup>th</sup> graders. As DCA President, I speak about Present Day Darnestown. Having done this since 2007, I am still excited to talk with the children and answer their questions. This year, I am doubly excited because my daughter is in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade and she asked that I not embarrass her too much! To go along with the students' curriculum this year, I've been asked to speak about what services are provided by the DCA, how to start a business in DT and how the DCA is like and different from local, state and federal governments. Other volunteers speak about early life in Darnestown, the Civil War, Presbyterian Church cemetery, horses and blacksmithing, quilting and more. Darnestown has an interesting past and present that should never be forgotten!



#### EXTRA !! EXTRA !!

## Nominations for Election to the DCA Executive Board

All Executive Board positions are elected positions. Committee chairpersons are appointed by the Executive Board to assist with DCA business and administration and function in an advisory capacity. Only Executive Board members have a binding vote on issues brought before the board.

Below is the slate of candidates for the 2014-2015 DCA Executive Board Officers to be voted upon at the June 19<sup>th</sup> Town Meeting:

1.	President	Lisa Patterson-	
		Troike* (Esworthy)	
2.	Vice President	Bob Thompson*	

(Brookmead)

3. Treasurer.....Guy Armantrout\* (Springfield)

4. Recording Secretary.....Susan Allaway\* (White Water)

5. Corresponding Secretary......Michael Gottlieb\*
(Pioneer Hills)

6. Chairman.....Art Slesinger (Tern)

7. Three-Year Trustee.....Karen Hinrichsen (Haddonfield)

\*Currently occupying this position

Dick Jurgena (Pagano) and Chris Collins (Springfield) will continue as Trustees for one and two years, respectively.

Thank you to all our dedicated, hardworking volunteers. Without you, Darnestown wouldn't be as special a place!



#### Opening Day!

By Dave Bivans, Highlanders

A beautiful day graced Darnestown on Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup> for the first games of the 2014 Darnestown adult co-ed recreational softball season. Both games were well contested (at least until the final inning) and witnessed by a large home-town contingent of family members and The opening game had defending friends. champion Bondy-Haddonfield-Ridgefield (BHR) squeaking by Seneca-Highlands-Berryville (SHB) in a 10-9 thriller. BHR coach and pitcher, Steve Groff, kept the SHB swingers off-balance with his southpaw screwball challenging SHB to get the ball out of the infield. Game two featured Western Darnestown (WD) piling on 9 runs in the last inning to top the Ancient Rollin Mountain Quails (ARMQ) 18-7. ARMQ ace, Dee Gazda, threw well but WD's well-placed hitting and speed on the bases allowed the game to get away as the sun was setting.

Play continues on Sundays through August 10<sup>th</sup> except May 11<sup>th</sup> (Mother's Day), May 25<sup>th</sup> (Memorial Day weekend), June 15<sup>th</sup> (Father's Day), and July 6<sup>th</sup> (Independence Day weekend), with games scheduled for 5:00PM and 6:30PM. Come on out to Darnestown's local Cliff Bland Park to cheer on your favorite team... or join in the play!

#### See you at the ballpark!













By Art Slesinger



As The Little Acorn gets ready for press, we have learned that PHI, the owners of PEPCO will be merging with Exelon, the utility that owns BG&E, among other things. Assuming this merger is approved by the Public Service Commission, one can only speculate as to what it will mean for PEPCO customers.

During the Leggett work group study in 2011, we learned that BG&E was better equipped to handle a significant outage. Whether the distinction is true today is not clear. But with PEPCO becoming part of a larger organization, they should be able to call on more resources when bad things happen. Conversely, our voice with the power supplier is diluted and our concerns may not be heard in a larger organization.

Most important is whether or not the new owners will honor commitments to continue to invest in PEPCO and get service reliability back to acceptable levels. We will follow up in the next Little Acorn with more substance if it becomes available.

## Quote of the Quarter

"You're never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read to a child."

~Dr. Seuss





#### The Seneca Forest Project – Update!

By Karen Hinrichsen

In 2010, several Darnestown citizens under the guidance of Steve Ellis initiated the **Seneca Forest Project**. The purpose was to show and document the recovery of our woodlands from deer damage.

The ecosystem of our local woods and gardens has undergone a dramatic transformation over the last 20 years. The ever-increasing deer population has led to intense browsing of almost all plants. New seedlings are prevented from maturing and many species of grasses, flowers, bushes, and tree saplings in our area have been eradicated. Non-native and invasive grasses, such as the Japanese Stilt grass, have filled the gaps in their places. Additionally, these invasive grasses with scant root systems die in the fall, leaving the ground unprotected, thus exposing our hilly lands to erosion.

With the goal of being able to reestablish a natural habitat in a protected environment, the DCA approached the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and the Management of Seneca Creek State Park. With their permission, in 2011, two parcels of woodlands were selected and protected by an 8-foot high deer fence. The sites measure about ½ acre each and are located within Seneca Creek State Park in Darnestown; one near Seneca Creek and Route 118, the other one near the cul-de-sac of Haddonfield Way.

The DCA has been offering financial support for the fence structures and their maintenance. Volunteers check both areas regularly. Unfortunately, the fences were damaged by several strong storms, thus requiring substantial reconstruction. We certainly hope to be spared from derechos and hurricanes in the next few years!

The good news is that both sites show new undergrowth of Mountain Laurel and other native plants. This spring, even more varieties of plants and undisturbed growth are to be expected. Japanese Stilt Grass is still the dominating ground cover, but hopefully the recovery of native plants will eventually suppress the dominance of this and other invasive species.

We are planning to document the progress of new growth and need the help of intrigued volunteers (girl

scouts/boy scouts and middle school/high school students as well as enthusiasts of all ages).

If you are interested in participating in the **Seneca Forest Project** or if you have any questions, please contact Karen Hinrichsen at karen.hinrichsen@gmail.com



New undergrowth at creek site



New tree growth at Haddonfield site

#### The Safe Haven Program

By Tim Sanders



In 2010 the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness presented the nation's first ever comprehensive Federal Strategic Plan to prevent and end homelessness in the USA - Opening Doors. The plan endeavored to put the US on an ambitious path to ending all types of homelessness, with a specificallystated goal of ending homelessness amongst our veterans by 2015. Since the plan's unveiling, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA), and their federal partners have engaged in unprecedented collaborations and partnerships with state and local partners to work toward meeting this goal. With the most currently available data showing a respectable 25% decrease in veteran homelessness from January, 2010 (~76k) to January, 2013 (~58k), a significant need for progress remains.

With recent increases in federal funding for the initiative and the implementation of a more refined approach, agencies like HUD and the VA have stepped up their efforts to help achieve the goal of ending veteran homelessness by 2015. A recent addition to our community, the *Darnestown Safe Haven House*, is determined to contribute to the success of that very cause.

A Safe Haven is a form of transitional supportive housing that serves hard-to-reach homeless persons, often with chronic mental illnesses and/or a history of substance abuse. Safe Havens utilize a "Housing First" model designed to combat homelessness by making long term housing immediately available to the homeless population. This, along with intensive case management, creates stability in the lives of the homeless, allowing for subsequent improvements to more readily transpire. At the core of this program is the belief that meaningful and positive change cannot occur in an individual's life until he or she is housed.

Operated by the Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless (MCCH), the *Darnestown Safe Haven House* is the first Safe Haven program in Montgomery County exclusively serving homeless veterans. The program provides up to seven male veteran residents at one time with supportive services designed to help them develop the independent living skills necessary to sustain long term housing stability. In addition to the temporary housing and support services provided by MCCH, two critical elements to the success of this

program are VA case management and HUD-VA Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) vouchers.

VA case managers are responsible for ensuring the veteran remains stably housed and is connected to any necessary clinical services. HUD-VASH is a jointly administered permanent supportive housing program providing disabled veterans with Section 8 housing vouchers. According to MCCH, all residents of the Darnestown Safe Haven House have been approved, or are engaged in the approval process, for these HUD-VASH vouchers. With the average length of stay estimated to be six months, the Darnestown Safe Haven House is essentially a stepping stone for homeless veterans on their path toward permanent housing.

MCCH has been operating Safe Haven programs in Montgomery County for over 20 years, with current locations in Gaithersburg, Kensington, Laytonsville, Rockville, and Takoma Park. MCCH credits the Safe Haven program's track record of success to its reintegration approach of elementary life skills for the homeless. Often taken for granted by most as routine daily requirements, skills as simple as maintaining a schedule, paying bills, performing chores, and cooking for oneself are often lacking in the homeless. MCCH believes that addressing these basic yet common behaviors first provides the homeless greater opportunities to permanently remain off the streets and out of shelters.

Significant contributors of homelessness among veterans are combat related physical and mental health issues and disabilities, along with lack of income due to limited education and lack of transferable skills from military to civilian life. Darnestown has a rich history of supporting the men and women who have served in the Armed Forces. In keeping with that tradition, Darnestown's citizens can be proud to provide our homeless veterans with the necessary support to overcome injuries and trauma sustained in defense of this nation. Our hope is that the Darnestown Safe Haven House can serve as a model around the country for this effort.

For more information on this and other related programs, please see the following resources:

Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless: <a href="www.mcch.net">www.mcch.net</a>
Department of Housing and Urban Development: <a href="www.hud.gov">www.hud.gov</a>
Department of Veterans Affairs: <a href="www.va.gov">www.va.gov</a>

#### Your Community Pool – Darnestown Swim and Racquet Club

By Janet Swisher

Our summer season is in full swing at the Darnestown Swim and Racquet Club. The Opening Day Celebration was a huge hit for both the adults and children. What a wonderful way to start off the summer!

DSRC is offering a new summer camp, Aqua Ventures run by an adult professional camp counselor with years of experience designing, organizing, and managing youth camp operations. DSRC Summer Camp will be full of aquatic and multi sport adventures. Fitness is an essential part of a healthy childhood and we thrive on having an active body and mind. Campers will learn healthy habits as well as improve on their small and large motor skills. There will be a wide variety of agility courses, speed, relays, tournaments and much more!

Campers ranging from age 6 to 12 will enjoy tennis, swim, crafts and other outdoor activities. DSRC Summer Camp will run daily, Monday-Friday — 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (with the opportunity for morning and aftercare). Exclusive to DSRC members only! Cost is \$235 per child per week. Or \$120 per camper for half day 9:00 a. m. to 12:30 p.m. Visit the dsrclub.com website for registration or more information.

Come out and support your local swim team. Our DEMON swim team competes in the MCSL B division. Be sure to check out the dsrclub.com calendar for swim meet events so you can cheer and support your local team. The Demon Grill is a great way to feed a hungry appetite during the meets, and there is always plenty of Demon sportswear to purchase.

DSRC Tennis continues to offer exciting programs, events, and activities for both adults and children. Our junior program will successfully develop players for high school and college. The turnout for all of our adult activities continues to grow, as many former players return to the game. In addition, our new Tennis Director, Brad Jones, hosts a number of daily programs built around learning the game, perfecting your current game, and/or fitness fun. Check out our <a href="https://www.dsrclub.com">www.dsrclub.com</a> website for the entire detailed tennis program.



Be sure to join our fun and exciting social programs for all ages. Mark your calendar for these special events for members only!

- New Member Happy Hour: Saturday, June 7<sup>th</sup> Time: 6PM to 7PM
- Beer and a Band (Adult Social): Saturday, June 7<sup>th</sup> Time: 7PM to 11:30PM
- All Members School's Out Party: Friday, June 13<sup>th</sup> Time: 2PM to 4PM
- Highlighter Party (Teen Social): Thursday, June 27<sup>th</sup> Time: 9PM to 10:30PM
- Movie/Raft Night: Thursday, June 26th Time: 9:00PM to 10:30PM
- Luau (Adult Social): Saturday, July 12<sup>th</sup> Time: 6:30PM to 11PM
- End of the Year Party: Monday, September 1<sup>nd</sup> Time: 12 noon to 2PM
- Darnestoberfest (Adult Social): Saturday, September 27<sup>th</sup> Time: 6:30PM to 11PM

Believe it or not, we have a limited number of available memberships! If you or anyone you know are interested in joining please visit us online at www.dsrclub.com If you have questions, please contact our Club Manager Dave Hardy davidhardy27@hotmail.com or 301-330-1340, or our Membership Director Bonnie Lane at BonnieLLane@yahoo.com or 240-683-8206. Dave or Bonnie will be happy to answer any questions you may have. We will be continuing our "refer a friend" program. Any member who brings in a friend or neighbor as a new member will receive a \$100 check from the Club in return for their recommendation.





## Homesteading Corner! (



Country Cleaning – The Old-Fashioned Way



**Carpet Cleaner** 

Country living, children, dogs and other pets... and light-colored carpet. *Ugh*. There are hundreds of commercial spot cleaners on the market today, but here is an easy, frugal recipe that works just as well! **Remember always to test a small spot first, just in case it stains.** 

#### **Ingredients**

- White vinegar
- Baking Soda
- Optional: Lemon essential oil
- Old towels or rags

#### Instructions

- If using lemon essential oil, mix it with baking soda, then sprinkle mixture on spot
- Allow to sit from an hour to overnight. If not using essential oil, just sprinkle plain baking soda over stain
- 3. Mix a 1:1 ratio of vinegar and water in a spray bottle
- Generously spray this mixture on baking soda and allow to fizz
- 5. Lay towel or rag over wet spot and press to absorb moisture
- 6. Depending on the severity and age of stain, several applications may be required

#### **All-Purpose Citrus Cleaner**

#### Ingredients

- 1 or 2 quart sized mason jars
- A spray bottle
- 1-2 quarts White vinegar
- Orange, grapefruit, lemon, or lime peels (any combination of these will work, too)
- Optional: 3-4 drops lemon, grapefruit, or orange essential oil



#### **Instructions**

- Stuff quart jar(s) about half full of citrus peels
- 2. Fill jars the rest of the way up with white vinegar
- 3. Cover tightly with a lid and shake
- 4. Write the date so you don't forget!
- 5. Steep peels and vinegar 2-3 weeks (The longer it sits, the more potent it will get!)
- 6. Remove peels and strain through a fine strainer
- 7. Dilute 1:1 with water (one part citrus vinegar to one part water) and place in a spray bottle
- 8. Optional: add 3-4 drops essential oil to boost its cleaning power
- use as you would your plain vinegar cleaner: on sinks, countertops, bathtubs, toilets, floors, etc

For more great homesteading ideas, please visit: www.theprairiehomestead.com



# Spring Social



By Lisa Patterson-Troike

Rain and clouds gave way to blue skies just minutes before the start of the 2014 DCA Spring Social at Smokey Glen Farm on May 7<sup>th</sup>. Over 100 Darnestownians enjoyed a delicious dinner with BBQ chicken and beef with all the sides: potato, pasta and garden salads, green beans, bread, and freshly smoked blueberry, Cherry and apple pies! It was wonderful to see both adults and Children enjoying the hay rides, mini golf, and playground. The vistas from the red barn were beautiful. Freshly cut grass fields, blooming trees and smiling faces all added to the glorious gathering. The DCA and Smokey Glen Farm are proud partners working together to bring the Spring Social to you every year! See you next year! ©





How do you like our new,

darker print?

Let us know your thoughts at

wsgooch@comcast.net





## **School News & Events**

#### Darnestown Elementary

By Janet Swisher

School's out for the summer! It was hard for both the school staff and student body to watch the DES 5<sup>th</sup> graders count down their days at Darnestown Elementary, but graduation went off without a hitch and all were proud of their accomplishments through the years.

Our PTA started the year strong with its new website, on-line membership drive, and new directory application. With DES PTA fundraising dollars, we have purchased a mobile computer lab, new piano, new music stands & cart, lunchroom bins, and two portable Bose speaker systems. In addition, we have ordered the hardscape installation for the courtyard classroom. The PTA also supported many programs including: artist in residence, American Folk Musician and Storyteller, Slim Harrison, the DES PTA Science Fair Expo and Science Assemblies, the DES PTA Music & Arts Night, and Author's Workshops with Priscilla Cummings.

This spring, our students entertained us with a choral concert, instrumental concert, music and arts night, and the DES Variety Show. Each audience was filled with smiles and the appreciation of our students' talents and energy. Well done everyone who participated!

## National PTA Honors Life Achievement Winner Kelley Rogers Honored for Years of Service to PTA

The National PTA is proud to announce Kelley Rogers as the latest recipient of National PTA's Life Achievement Award, the highest honor given to PTA members and leaders. The National PTA Life Achievement Award recognizes a person who lives out his or her commitment to children on a daily basis and tirelessly advocates for children's education, health, and well-being.

Kelley Rogers moved to Darnestown with her family over ten years ago. When her oldest child (Emma Rogers) entered Darnestown Elementary School as a Kindergartener in 2003, Mrs. Rogers immediately joined the PTA. Her second child (Carter Rogers) became a student of Darnestown Elementary School in 2005. Mrs. Rogers has consistently been a key part of



David, Kelley, John, Carter, and Emma Rogers

the PTA. She has served on the PTA Board as a Montgomery County Council PTA Delegate serving on the Capital Improvements Taskforce, Executive President from 2007-2010, Parliamentarian, and most recently, Treasurer.

The expansion of the Darnestown Elementary School campus is largely attributed to Mrs. Rogers' commitment to passionately advocating for the education and well-being of children. Mrs. Rogers campaigned tirelessly to gain capital funding approval from the Montgomery County Board of Education. Amanda Karst, the current PTA Executive President at Darnestown Elementary School says, "Kelley Rogers has helped [Darnestown Elementary School] become the amazing school it is today. She is the ultimate example of service and dedication. She continues to give back to the school. She will be greatly missed once her youngest son (David Rogers) graduates this year."

On behalf of Otha E. Thornton, Jr., PTA National President, Mrs. Karst was pleased to present Mrs. Rogers with a National PTA Life Achievement Award at a reception on May 6th. "This is the highest recognition bestowed by the PTA, and it is given only to those who have demonstrated exemplary service in support of children," says Thornton.

PTA promotes the collaboration of families, schools, and communities throughout the country, and encourages everyone who cares about kids to speak up with a powerful voice on their behalf. Thornton said of Rogers, "You possess such a mighty voice, and I cannot thank you enough for the work you have done and undoubtedly will continue to do."

Congratulations Kelley Rogers and thank you again for your years of extraordinary contributions to the lives of children in Darnestown!

#### **More DES News!**

#### Debbie Miller's Retirement Celebration

By Carol Hill and Julia Selwood

Congratulations to Debbie Miller (Sekuler)! She is retiring after 24 years teaching at Darnestown Elementary School (DES). "I have worked with an incredible group of educators and have been challenged to continue to learn. The parents have been very supportive of my classroom programs over the years, and I have enjoyed having the opportunity to teach your wonderful children," said Debbie, who will miss the DES community.

Debbie attended Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) from kindergarten through the She graduated from James twelfth grade. Madison University where she majored in Speech & Language Disorders and Psychology. Debbie began her career working with multiple handicapped adolescents at the Maryland School for the Deaf. In the fall of 1980, she began her MCPS career as a sign language interpreter and tutor at Lucy Barnsley Elementary School. It was there that she received certification to teach Early Childhood Education and taught third grade for one year. After a one year at Highland View Elementary, Debbie moved to Darnestown Elementary School where she taught kindergarten, second grade, Reading Initiative, and is now concluding her career teaching third grade.

Debbie has two beautiful grown children: Emma 32 and Sean 29. After retirement, Debbie is looking forward to traveling with her husband, Peter, and to volunteering her time to many worthwhile organizations in order to 'pay back' those groups who have given so much to her and to her family. Debbie plans to continue tutoring students in math and reading. She has gained great satisfaction and success from her tutoring endeavor over the past 13 years.

Please join us on **Thursday, June 5, 2014** from 4:00 P.M. – 5:30 P.M. in the new DES courtyard for a retirement celebration hosted by the DES





Parent Teacher Association to pay tribute to Debbie's remarkable career. It certainly will be gratifying for Debbie to see current and former students and their families at this special event.

For further information please contact Amanda Karst at <u>DarnestownPTA@gmail.com</u> or at 301-330-5435.



Community to honor

#### Debbie Miller (Sekuler)

For 24 years of dedicated teaching at

Darnestown Elementary
School

*Thursday, June 5<sup>th</sup> 4:00 – 5:30 PM* 



#### Seneca Academy

By Brooke Carroll, PhD Head of School

Seneca Academy welcomes 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*. Held from 9am to 1:30PM (with before-care starting at 8am and aftercare going until 5PM), this camp allows campers to explore animals from around the world through stories, art, and games. We will even have live animals at Seneca Academy!!

Our older campers (rising 1<sup>st</sup> graders through rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders) have several activity camps to choose from including *Art, Computer Programming, Mad Science®, Computer Game Design, Cooking, and Film Making/Theater.* In addition, we have daily "field trip" adventure camps where campers take the school bus on trips around the county. There are opportunities for half-day or full-day activity and adventure camps. Before-care starts at 8am and aftercare goes until 5PM.

Camp begins June 16<sup>th</sup> and runs through July 25<sup>th</sup>. More information and applications can be found on our website <a href="www.SenecaAcademy.org">www.SenecaAcademy.org</a> or by calling our office at 301-869-3728. Hope to see you at camp!

#### Mary of Nazareth

By Heather Long

Mary of Nazareth School Supports World T.E.A.M. Sports

On Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, The Katie Fitzgerald Center at Mary of Nazareth School was honored to provide a rest stop for the 2014 Face of America Bicycle Ride. The ride started over a decade ago and is one of the largest annual noncompetitive bicycle rides in the Washington, D.C. region. With nearly 600 riders, including more than 150 injured veterans, the Face of America

participants could choose between two challenges. They could ride the popular two-day journey from the Pentagon to the historic battlefields of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania or a one day metric century loop that began and ended in Gettysburg. Created by World T.E.A.M Sports, and presented by Capital One Bank, N.A., the ride honors our service members who were wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan in the current War on Terror, as well as the 9/11 first responders.

Mary of Nazareth School is eternally grateful to all our military heroes who have made significant sacrifices to help keep our country safe. For more information on the nonprofit organization, World T.E.A.M Sports, and the Face of America Bicycle Ride, please visit:

www.worldteamsports.org/events/face-of-america



Bilateral above-the-knee amputee, actor and active duty colonel in the United States Army, Gregory Gadson, takes time for a picture with Mary of Nazareth School students, Brian Saum (1st grade) and Mackenzie Saum (4th grade).





## Congratulations Graduating Seniors!



#### Emily Agate

Poolesville High School, 2014 Emily will be attending Clemson University to study Business.

#### Briana Boothe

Quince Orchard High School, 2014 Briana will be attending the University of South Carolina to study Journalism.

#### Colin H. Jones

Quince Orchard High School, 2014 Colin will be attending the University of South Carolina to study International Business.

#### Allison Long

Stone Ridge Academy of the Sacred Heart, 2014 Allison will be attending Elon University to study Business.

#### Lauren Michnick

Washington and Lee University, 2014
Lauren will be graduating with a double major in Politics and Philosophy. This summer, she will be working as an intern for the Department of Commerce in Washington DC. In the fall Lauren plans to return to the Washington and Lee University School of Law in Lexington, Virginia.



#### Sean Nelson

Northwest High School, 2014 Sean will be attending Brigham Young University to study Engineering.

#### Blake Priddy

Bullis High School, 2014 Blake will be attending the University of Tennessee to study Business with a concentration in Supply Chain Management.

#### Jacenda Sandoval

Northwest High School, 2014 Jacenda will be attending Montgomery College in Rockville to study business. Her ultimate goal is to become a make-up artist for film and camera.

#### Tyler Shapiro

Quince Orchard High School, 2014 Tyler will be attending Tufts University to study Biomedical Engineering.

#### Gregory Song

Richard Montgomery IB Program, 2014 Gregory will be attending Columbia University in NYC to study Financial Economics and Investment Banking.

#### Chase Weaverling

Poolesville High School, 2014 Chase will be attending the University of Virginia to study Engineering.



## Church News!



#### St. Nicholas Episcopal Church

By Rev. Ken Howard

There have been several changes at St. Nick's over the last few months, and good things are in store for the future, too!

Our 10:00 AM Morning Communion Service continues to grow. Our youngest ones love our Children in Church area, where they can visit for guiet play as often as they feel the need during the service. Meanwhile, our Godly Play Sunday school is popular with the Pre-K through 4th grade set, and we may be opening a second section.

Our new 6:00 PM "Holy Ground" Evening Communion Service got off to a great start during Lent and will continue to be offered through the Easter Season and beyond. It has an "ancient yet casual" vibe to it that many find appealing.

Our Deacon, the Rev. Terri Murphy, has accepted a fulltime job at her "other parish," Ascension, Silver Spring, where she will be the Assistant Rector.

Meanwhile, we have called the Rev. Shivaun Wilkinson to become our part-time Missioner for Parish Engagement. One of her primary goals in this position will be to help our congregation more effectively engage the community around us. She also will be working closely with our children and youth programs.

We also have a seminarian this year, Ernesto "Jar" Pasalo, Jr., from the great state of Hawaii, who plays a mean guitar and an even meaner ukulele.

We will be hosting parish cookouts and other summer activities all summer long, and we hope to offer a weeklong End of Summer Vacation Bible School the last week before fall classes begin. Please call for details!

#### **Contact Information**

15575 Germantown Road Germantown, MD 20874 240-631-2800 www.saintnicks.com office@saintnicks.com





Rev. Ken Howard

#### ATTENTION ALL **HOUSES OF WORSHIP!**

If you've got news, updates, or special events to share, please email the Editor at

#### wsgooch@comcast.net

by August 1, 2014 for inclusion in the next Little Acorn!

#### Fairhaven United Methodist Church

By Jean Sansonetti

Community Kids are Invited to a Workshop of Wonders.

Starting July 28th, Fairhaven United Methodist Church will be transformed into a Workshop of Wonders for the annual Vacation Bible School. This year children will discover how the ordinary becomes extraordinary with God. They will build new friendships and use their imagination and creativity to expand their understanding. Caring and experienced adults and teens will lead groups of children from pre-K to rising 6th graders in activities like science, recreation, music, and storytelling sessions use presentations that make it fun and entertaining to meet people from the Bible. Those fascinating people used what they had to produce something amazing with God. The young builders will also learn they can join together to make a difference in the world through the VBS outreach project.

More information about Bible School can be found on our website. Let your children experience the Workshop of Wonders adventure by signing up at the website http://2014.cokesburyvbs.com/FairhavenVBS.

Please join us on Sundays for our worship opportunities:

- 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School and Middle & High School Sunday School
- 10:30 AM Worship Service
- 11:30 AM Coffee Hour
- 6:00 Youth Group

#### **Contact Information**

12801 Darnestown Road Darnestown, MD 20874 301-330-5433 www.fairhavenumc.net



Rev. Esther Holimon

#### Darne Bloomers Garden Club



By Merikay Smith with photos by Susan Allaway

#### **April in Paris for Darne Bloomers**

"Bonjour! Bien venue! Bon Apetit!" We spent a lovely April morning in Paris thanks to our hosts Carol Carter, Nettie Koepenick, Dave McClung, Elizabeth Weaver and myself. "Springtime in Paris" was set within a Parisian Flower Market with French cuisine, Cafe Paris music, and slide show of Paris and Monet's garden,--all here in Darnestown! Eiffel tower décor and framed Parisian scenes added to the ambience. Imagine freshly cooked crepes, quiche, ham and French cheese croissants, French pastries, fruit trifle, and Madelines accompanied by Mimosas-champagne with orange juice. Truly, the combination was "très magnifique!" After our social and business meeting we created a hands-on project under the direction of Master Gardener Joan O'Rourke, a wellknown local garden guru. She gave us tips on planting a spring container as we assembled our own attractive planters. Our hosts, particularly Nettie Koepenick and Elizabeth Weaver, had purchased in advance the containers, plants, potting mix, trellis canes and finials a hefty undertaking. We left humming "La Vie En Rose" as we carried home a bit of Parisian spring.

We will celebrate the conclusion of our 25<sup>th</sup> year as a garden club with a visit to River Farm, the National Horticultural Society's headquarters on the Potomac River near Mt. Vernon. The Darne Bloomers will be escorted on a tour of River Farm's 25 acres, originally part of George Washington's farm. Since we learned in our March meeting about the advantages of replacing lawn with native plants, we can take inspiration from four acres along the river, formerly turf, which are now full of blooming native plants. This meadow surrounds several black walnut trees from the time of George Washington and is planted with more than 100 species of native wildflowers and grasses. In addition to this immense meadow with paths to the Potomac overlook, River Farm has formal gardens and a children's garden. River Farm is open year-round Monday through Friday from 9 am to 5 PM. and April through September, it is also open on Saturdays from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. For www.ahs.org/about-river-farm/virtual-tour more see:

Following our tour we will enjoy lunch at Chart House in Old Town Alexandria. Thanks to our hosts: Bonnie Allen, Faith Frankel, Debbie Wetzler, Gail Plamondon and Priscilla Rippeon.









## The History of July 4th

Variously known as the Fourth of July and Independence Day, July 4<sup>th</sup> has been a federal holiday in the United States since 1941, but the tradition of Independence Day celebrations goes back to the 18<sup>th</sup> century and the American Revolution (1775-83). In June 1776, representatives of the 13 colonies then fighting in the revolutionary struggle weighed a resolution that would declare their independence from Great Britain. On July 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence, and two days later its delegates adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted by Thomas Jefferson. From 1776 until the present day, July 4th has been celebrated as the birth of American independence, with festivities ranging from fireworks, parades, and concerts to more casual family gatherings and barbecues.

#### The Birth of American Independence

When the initial battles in the Revolutionary War broke out in April 1775, few colonists desired complete independence from Great Britain, and those who did were considered radical. By the middle of the following year, however, many more colonists had come to favor independence, thanks to growing hostility against Britain and the spread of revolutionary sentiments such as those expressed in Thomas Paine's bestselling pamphlet "Common Sense," published in early 1776. On June 7th, when the Continental Congress met at the Pennsylvania State House (later Independence Hall) in Philadelphia, the Virginia delegate Richard Henry Lee introduced a motion calling for the colonies' independence. Amid heated debate, Congress postponed the vote on Lee's resolution, but appointed a five-man committee including Thomas Jefferson of Virginia, John Adams of Massachusetts, Roger Sherman of Connecticut, Benjamin Franklin of Pennsylvania, and Robert R. Livingston of New York - to draft a formal statement justifying the break with Great Britain.

On July 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Continental Congress voted in favor of Lee's resolution for independence in a near-unanimous vote (the New York delegation abstained, but later voted affirmatively). On that day, John Adams wrote to his wife Abigail that July 2<sup>nd</sup> "will be celebrated, by succeeding Generations, as the great anniversary Festival" and that the celebration should include "Pomp and Parade...Games, Sports, Guns, Bells, Bonfires and Illuminations from one End of this Continent to the other." On July 4<sup>th</sup>, the Congress formally adopted the Declaration of Independence, which had been written



largely by Jefferson. Though the vote for actual independence took place on July  $2^{nd}$ , from then on the  $4^{th}$  became the day that was celebrated as the birth of American independence.

#### **Early Fourth of July Celebrations**

In the pre-Revolutionary years, colonists had held annual celebrations of the king's birthday, which traditionally included the ringing of bells, bonfires, processions and speechmaking. By contrast, during the summer of 1776 some colonists celebrated the birth of independence by holding mock funerals for King George III, as a way of symbolizing the end of the monarchy's hold on America and the triumph of liberty. Festivities including concerts, bonfires, parades and the firing of cannons and muskets usually accompanied the first public readings of the Declaration of Independence, beginning immediately after its adoption. Philadelphia held the first annual commemoration of independence on July 4, 1777, while Congress was still occupied with the ongoing war. George Washington issued double rations of rum to all his soldiers to mark the anniversary of independence in 1778, and in 1781, several months before the key American victory at Yorktown, Massachusetts became the first state to make July 4<sup>th</sup> an official state holiday. After the Revolutionary War, Americans continued to commemorate Independence Day every year, in celebrations that allowed the new nation's emerging political leaders to address citizens and create a feeling of unity. By the last decade of the 18th century, the two major political parties, Federalists and Democratic-Republicans, began holding separate Independence Day celebrations in many large cities.

#### July 4<sup>th</sup> Becomes a National Holiday

The tradition of patriotic celebration became even more widespread after the War of 1812, in which the United States again faced Great Britain. In 1870, the U.S. Congress made July 4<sup>th</sup> a federal holiday; in 1941, the provision was expanded to grant a paid holiday to all federal employees. Over the years, the political importance of the holiday would decline, but Independence Day has remained an important national holiday and a symbol of patriotism.



## Community Interest 5



#### It's a Darne' Good Cookbook

DCA cookbooks are now \$10! This is a great deal considering some retailers sell them for over \$20. The recipes and artwork are all contributions from our residents. They make a great hostess and/or birthday gift. Contact me at lisaapatterson@aol.com to get yours today!

## Break Out the Grill

**Fabulous Marinades for Summer Meals** Pages 141-142

#### **Forever Marinade**

This marinade keeps forever!

½ cup salad oil 34 cup soy sauce ¼ cup Worcestershire sauce 1 tsp. salt

1 tbsp. coarsely ground black pepper ½ cup red wine vinegar

1 ½ tsp. parsley flakes

1/3 cup lemon juice

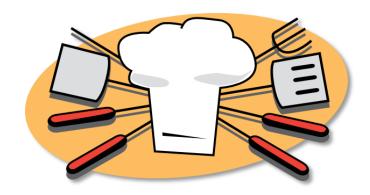
Garlic powder to taste

Whisk all ingredients together.

- Marinate eat at least 3 to 4 hours.
- Grill to desired tenderness.







#### Saos Sate Ketab

Hot and spicy, if you please!

¼ cup melted butter ½ cup soy sauce 2 tbsp. lemon juice 1 tsp. crushed red pepper

- Combine all ingredients in saucepan.
- Bring to a boil.
- Reduce heat and simmer for 2 minutes.
- Let cool.
- Use sauce to marinate your favorite shish kabob meat and vegetables.

~~~~

Baste with extra sauce as they cook.

## **Teriyaki Sauce Marinade**

Must prepare ahead!

½ cup orange juice

½ cup teriyaki sauce

3 tbsp. olive oil

½ tsp. oregano

½ tsp. pepper

3 cloves garlic, minced

- Mix all ingredients together.
- Marinate meat in refrigerator for several hours for best results.





## Community Interest

## Darnestown Community Market at Nick's Pizza and Subs

By Sam Schroeder – General Manager

The Darnestown Community Market is a mini Craft Fair/Farmers' Market created for the residents of Darnestown and the surrounding areas. We began the Market both to promote local businesses and to create a destination for the community to socialize and enjoy some neighborly camaraderie.

The first Market was held on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, and it was a huge success. Sunny and 70 degrees made for a perfect day! Subsequent, equally successful Markets were held on April 5<sup>th</sup> and May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Vendors brought their watercolor paintings, sketches in pencil and charcoal, antique clocks, handmade greeting cards, and even some delicious fudge and baked goods! We will be expanding the vendors to include handmade jewelry, fresh local produce, and hopefully some local bands will be playing soon as well! All vendors are carefully selected from a wide variety of local talent, and all selected-vendors are welcome to set up their tables for free! If you are interested in being a vendor at future Markets, I'd love to hear from you. Please give me a call at 301-963-0000!



Fran Asbeck with Ashfaq and Asia Shah





The first Market on March 22<sup>nd</sup> included the unveiling of the Nick's Pizza BBQ Menu, including pulled pork, brisket, and baby back ribs, all smoked for 6 hours for superior tenderness and flavor. Nick's also began its seafood menu that day, including steamed shrimp and snow crab legs, blackened mahi, and a crispy flounder sandwich.

The Darnestown Community Markets will be held throughout the summer on the first Saturday of every month: June 7<sup>th</sup>, July 5<sup>th</sup>, and August 2<sup>nd</sup>. You can "like" Nicks Pizza & Subs on Facebook to keep up-to-date on future Markets and other events and specials.



GM Sam Schroeder Making BBQ

On Market days, all kids get a FREE mini cone of Nick's new soft-serve ice cream, too!

I would like to personally thank the community of Darnestown for accepting us as your neighborhood pizza shop and embracing the new Darnestown Community Market. We will continually adapt our menu to suit the needs of our neighborhood, and we look forward to being part of this charming community for years to come.

## Darnestown S Community Market



Ingrid Gooch and Sue Moses



Peter Plank









Don Buck

## Community Interest O



#### **Local Bikers Rally to Support US Veterans** By Bill Gooch

The Honor Flight's First 2014 "Super Saturday" of the year was held on Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at the World War II Memorial in Washington, DC.

Several local bikers and Darnestown citizens rallied in the parking lot of the Harris Teeter that morning for a hot cup of coffee and some community fellowship before heading downtown to greet the arriving veterans. It was a COLD and WINDY day to be standing in the HT parking lot at 7:00 AM, and it was colder and windier still to be cruising downtown on our motorcycles, despite our leathers! But we felt that our veterans had gone through FAR worse for us, so we could certainly endure a few hours of cold and wind burn for them.

Hundreds of WWII veterans from as far away as Michigan and California arrived in five separate Honor Flight busses on this single morning! This was a doubly meaningful event, as it was the inaugural trip of the newly formed Honor Flight Capital Region, which serves DC area veterans.

World War II veterans ranging in age from 86 to 98 years old carefully disembarked the busses and entered their memorial on wheelchairs provided by the Honor Flight Some of them were so overwhelmed by the outpouring of appreciation and respect that they were rendered speechless. Most of them were anxious to share their stories about their experiences at Iwo Jima, Pearl Harbor, the Philippines, and the D-Day invasion of the Normandy Beaches in France. Many tears were shed... some by the elderly WWII veterans, some by their guardians and grown children, but mostly by us... the patriot bikers of the Darnestown community and beyond.





We will be making several runs throughout the season, which ends in November 2014. As the season progresses, we'd love to see you in the parking lot of Harris Teeter for a cup of coffee and some good oldfashioned neighborly fellowship! And of course, you are always welcome to join us downtown at the WWII Memorial! Both bikers and cagers (people in cars) are welcome. We'll even let you ride on one of the bikes with us if you're game! Feel free to ask DCA President **Lisa Patterson** about that!!

#### **Additional Information**

Honor Flight Network: www.honorflight.org Patriot Guard Riders: www.patriotguard.org Little Acorn Editor (for run updates): wsgooch@comcast.net



## Community Interest



#### **Darnestown Volunteers** Support a Fallen Veteran's Family

On April 26<sup>th</sup>, Boy Scouts from Darnestown Troop 1094, community volunteers, and local veterans teamed up with the Home Builders Care Foundation (HBCF), Rebuilding Together Montgomery County (RTMC), and local home improvement companies to complete a month-long home repair project for the family of a local soldier who was killed in Afghanistan.

U.S. Army Captain Brian "Bubba" Bunting died in Kandahar, Afghanistan on February 24, 2009 when an improvised explosive device (IED) detonated near his vehicle. A Potomac native, Captain Bunting had just returned to Afghanistan after a brief trip home to visit his wife Nicki and their one-year old son Conner when he was killed. Four days after learning of her husband's death, Nicki found out she was pregnant with their second child. Captain and Mrs. Bunting's second son, Cooper, was born in the fall of 2009, nine months after his father's death.



Captain Bunting at West Point



Captain Bunting, Nicki, and Conner, at the airport when he was leaving for Afghanistan in February 2009

Recognizing the family's immeasurable sacrifices and an opportunity to help them, neighbor and Navy veteran, Chris Thomas teamed with his boyhood friend and developer/builder, Ted Smart. Together the pair got HBCF and RTMC to sponsor the event and found local companies willing to donate the services and materials for much needed home repairs. Originally envisioned as a Boy Scout project for Darnestown Troop 1094 lead by Scout Master Russell Johnson, Commander Thomas got other neighbors to volunteer alongside the Scouts, and the community project really came together.

Work on the Bunting's home began the first weekend in April when the local remodeling company, Tabor Design Build, started working on structural problems. Work continued through the month with Fine Earth Landscaping replacing the Bunting's front walkway and King Valley Painting and Drywall doing the finishing touches on the professional work. Originally asked to provide just the estimates for the needed work, Tabor Design Build, Fine Earth Landscaping, and King Valley Painting and Drywall all indicated they'd do the work for free – they donated their time and material to complete thousands of dollars' worth of work on the Bunting's home. Additionally, TW Perry, Jim Carpenter and Company, Gazebo Gardens, and Rentals Unlimited donated thousands of dollars of equipment and material to complete the necessary repairs.

The project culminated April 26<sup>th</sup>, National Rebuilding Day, an effort coordinated by Rebuilding Together that unites volunteers to provide much needed repairs to families' homes in communities across America. The finishing touches, done by Scouts from Darnestown's Boy Scout Troop 1094 along with other community volunteers, included mulching gardens, planting grass, clearing brush, and other yard chores.



Wonderful Volunteers



John Tabor (Tabor), Christina Johnson (RTMC), Nicki, Chris T., and Ted Smart



Tabor Team 1



Boy Scout Dylan Daugherty







## Community Interest





## Those Who Serve

By Madeline D'Alessio home.dalessio@gmail.com

Capt. Ryan Swisher (US Army) is scheduled to be deployed to Afghanistan in June 2014.

Capt. Swisher is a Company Commander with the 3rd Cavalry Regiment. This is his second deployment to Afghanistan where he served as a combat platoon leader with the 25th Infantry in 2009.



**Captain Ryan Swisher** Commander, Roughrider Troop Tiger Squadron 3rd Cavalry Regiment, III Corps United States Forces Command (FORSCOM)



## The Flags Are Back!

**By Tim Sanders** 

Memorial Day marks the first holiday of the year for the "Darnestown Flags" to return and proudly fly over our great community. Each year more than 60 American flags are raised and lowered along Darnestown Road for every national holiday through Veteran's Day. This is the DCA's way of recognizing the important role Darnestown played America's history, as well as the sacrifices our service men and women continue make every day in protecting this great country.

So when you're driving under those stars and stripes, remind yourself how fortunate we are to live in such a remarkable town and country. And if you happen to catch him in the act, feel free to give the Darnestown Flag Man a honk to show your appreciation!

## SHARE THE ACORN

A colorful, electronic version of the Acorn can be found on the DCA website at

#### www.darnestowncivic.org

Share the news from our fair community with friends and family around the country!







## Service Providers

Thank you to everyone who emailed with updates and changes to this important list! Please continue to send all corrections and additions to the Editor at

#### wsgooch@comcast.net

for inclusion in the next Acorn!

| BABY SITTERS             |                  |                              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--------------------------|------------------|------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Marian de Almeida        | age 21           | 240-252-1776                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Alex de Almeida          | age 19           | 240-252-1776                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Briana Boothe            | age 17           | 301-775-2887                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rachel Cone              | age 15           | 301-330-1154                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Chris Helmey             | age 19           | 301-519-3814                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Jordan Helmey            | age 21           | 301-519-3814                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Kiersten Helmey          | age 16           | 301-519-3814                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Zoe Kaplan               | 3/1996           | 301-977-8027                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Geri McCarthy            | Adult            | 301-926-7886                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mackenzie Meyers         |                  | 301-990-6660                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sydney Meyers            |                  | 301-990-6660                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Betsi Micholas           | age 15           | 301-990-0221                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Blake Micholas           | age 14           | 301-990-0221                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Drew Micholas            | age 15           | 301-990-0221                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Chloe Rourke             | age 15           | 240-671-8764                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sydney Rourke            | age 14           | 240-671-8764                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Emily Pohl               | age 15           | 301-467-8801                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Kerry Pullano            | age 14           | 301-525-8658                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Logan Staton             | age 14           | 240-912-7765                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| George Vargas            | age 16           | 301-208-6614                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Julia Vargas             | age 13           | 301-208-6614                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Kelsey Warren            | age 17           | 301-216-1919                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                          | MOTHERS' HELPERS |                              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Emily Pohl               | age 15           | 301-467-8801                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                          | ,                |                              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Lavina Divana            | NOTARY SERVICES  | 204 077 4724                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Laura Bivans             |                  | 301-977-4734                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Tina Kalil<br>Flisa Lane |                  | 301-948-5364<br>301-990-2993 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Elisa Lane               |                  | 301-990-2993                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

| PET SITTERS/HOUSE SITTERS |               |              |  |  |  |  |
|---------------------------|---------------|--------------|--|--|--|--|
| Marian de Almeida         | age 21        | 240-252-1776 |  |  |  |  |
| Alex de Almeida           | age 18        | 240-252-1776 |  |  |  |  |
| Briana Boothe             | age 17        | 301-775-2887 |  |  |  |  |
| Gwynne Cafaro             | age 15        | 301-963-7178 |  |  |  |  |
| Rachel Cone               | age 15        | 301-330-1154 |  |  |  |  |
| Chris Helmey              | age 19        | 301-519-3814 |  |  |  |  |
| Jordan Helmey             | age 21        | 301-519-3814 |  |  |  |  |
| Kiersten Helmey           | age 16        | 301-519-3814 |  |  |  |  |
| Ben Kaplan                | 9/1998        | 301-997-8027 |  |  |  |  |
| Zoe Kaplan                | 3/1996        | 301-997-8027 |  |  |  |  |
| Mackenzie Meyers          |               | 301-990-6660 |  |  |  |  |
| Sydney Meyers             |               | 301-990-6660 |  |  |  |  |
| Mac O'Rourke              | age 13        | 301-947-5487 |  |  |  |  |
| Emily Pohl                | age 16        | 301-467-8801 |  |  |  |  |
| Kerry Pullano             | age 14        | 301-525-8658 |  |  |  |  |
| George Vargas             | age 16        | 301-208-6614 |  |  |  |  |
| Julia Vargas              | age 13        | 301-208-6614 |  |  |  |  |
|                           |               |              |  |  |  |  |
| MUSIC LESSONS             |               |              |  |  |  |  |
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| Brandon Corydon           | Guitar        | 301-221-0456 |  |  |  |  |
| Justin Fakler             | Guitar        | 301-814-5111 |  |  |  |  |
| Jennifer Suess            | Voice         | 301-977-2605 |  |  |  |  |
| David Tony                | Drums         | 301-990-6550 |  |  |  |  |
| Michael Waddell           | Trombone/Horn | 301-990-6770 |  |  |  |  |
| Stefanie Zaner            | Clarinet      | 240-678-8319 |  |  |  |  |
|                           |               |              |  |  |  |  |





DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT LITTLE ACORN

August 1, 2014

Deadlines will remain firm!

Please send articles to

wsgooch@comcast.net



## Membership Report

By Jean Jurgena



The following is a list of Darnestown residents who have paid their dues for 2014 as of May  $1^{st}$ . If you have any questions please contact me at 301-674-1741 or email at <u>imjurgena@hotmail.com</u>.

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Michael & Jamie Brezovec
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Heidi Clemmer Hank & Susan Cole Chris & Mary Collins

Bobby, Lita & Muniram Deonarine

John & Louise Evans
Michael & Sue Gottlieb
Oakley & Francie Johnson

Ellen Klein

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Selig Merber & Andrea Grant
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Brian Murphy, Invisible Fence of MoCo

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Dean & Jodi Noah

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Ralph & Judy Wright

Zhuhua Xu & Xiaohui He

Steven & Carla Yegher

Mary Ellen York

Larry & Christine Youngblut

Robert & Debra Zaner

Matthew & Karen Zappone

Sohrab Zarrabian & Maryam Zavar

Abe Zeitoun

Shawn & Shida Ziglari

Juan & Donna Zumbado Robert & Linda Zweibel

## Did you know...



## Father's Day

On July 19, 1910, the governor of Washington State proclaimed the nation's first "Father's Day." However, it was not until 1972, 58 years after President Woodrow Wilson made Mother's Day official, that the day became a nationwide holiday in the United States.

Don't forget Father's Day – June 15<sup>th</sup>







## Darnestown Directory



Every two years, the DCA publishes a community directory of residents' names, addresses and phone numbers, and mails directory the to every residential address in our database.

The 2013 edition is currently available! To obtain a copy of the Directory, call Sarah Scherer at 240-683-8533 or email her at sarahscherer@comcast.net. Directories are only available while supplies last.

Organizations, Clubs, Groups, PTAs, etc., provide much of the social interaction that give any area its sense of community.

#### Below is a list of these groups:

#### **Barnesville School**

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

#### **Boy Scout Troop 1094**

Scout Master Michael Joyce (301-977-0526) sm@troop1094.org

#### **Butler Montessori**

15951 Germantown Road Laura Manack, Head of School (301-977-6600)

#### **Circle School/Seneca Academy**

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

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

Becky Hanley, President (301-330-5437) Barbara Andreassen Membership (301-330-4485)

#### **Darnestown Civic Association**

14132B Darnestown Road Darnestown, MD 20874 Lisa Patterson-Troike, 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 Dave Hardy, General Manager, davidhardy27@hotmail.com (301-330-9616)

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

Membership, (Vacant)

#### **Jones Lane Elementary School**

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

#### **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**

15831 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 Mrs. Monifa McKnight, Principal (301-840-4770)

#### **Trout Unlimited**

Seneca Valley Chapter, #369 website: www.senecavalleytu.org Charles August, Secretary csaugust@comcast.net (240-401-8669)

#### www.darnestowncivic.org





## Darnestown Civic Association 2014 Membership Form



### Darnestown Civic Association – 2014 Membership Form

Make check payable to Darnestown Civic Association (DCA), and mail to:

| Darnestown Civic Association, 15711 Pagano Lane, Darnestown, MD 20874                                      |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Dues \$35 Friend \$50 Sponsor \$100Acorn \$150 (For this level check: Wine or Cookbook)                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Name:                                                                                                      |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Address:                                                                                                   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                                                                                                            |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                                                                                                            |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary Phone #: Primary E-Mail:                                                                           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Include e-mail address only if you would like to receive                                                   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| mass e-mails from DCA regarding important community happenings and alerts                                  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ☐ New Home/address in Darnestown ☐ Moved to existing address in Darnestown                                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Not sure if you have paid already?                                                                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Contact the Membership Chairman or Jean Jurgena - Membership Database Chair listed on page 2 of this issue |  |  |  |  |  |  |







#### **Darnestown Civic Association, Inc.**

14132B Darnestown Road Darnestown, MD 20874

Email: dca@darnestowncivic.org Website: www.darnestowncivic.org PRSRT STD U.S. Postage PAID Suburban MD Permit No. 4889



