



THE DARNESTOWN CIVIC ASSOCIATION
www.darnestowncivic.org

Volume 56 Number 1
March 2019

School Boundary Study Including DES's Assignment to Lakelands Park MS and Northwest HS

By Scott Mostrom

The Montgomery County Board of Education has recently adopted a resolution to conduct a study to evaluate the boundaries for Northwest, Seneca Valley, and Clarksburg High Schools, as well as the current middle schools that feed into those high schools. This study has been initiated, in part, because of the increased student capacity in the new Seneca Valley High School, currently under construction.

What does this mean to Darnestown? In short, while the boundaries and students that feed into Darnestown Elementary School will not change, the middle school and high school that the DES kids are assigned to could change from the current path of Lakelands Park Middle School and Northwest High School.

This is an important issue to Darnestown parents, kids, and homeowners, and the DCA wants to make sure everyone has the correct information so we've laid out the key details below. We also want to know how you feel in order to allow us to represent the Darnestown community to the MCPS Superintendent of Schools and Board of Education throughout the decision process. We *strongly encourage* you to give us your opinions and concerns by completing a short survey. A link to the survey and updated information can be found at darnestowncivic.org.

See the details on page 2.

What's Happening in Darnestown

March 12 | 7:00 pm

NWHS – Boundary Options Presentation 1*

March 12 | 6:30 pm

Seneca Academy – Parenting Series – Navigating Parenting Pitfalls*

March 21 | 7:30 pm

St. Nicholas Episcopal Church –
DCA Town Meeting*

April 8 | 7:00 pm

NWHS – Boundary Options Presentation 2*

April 14 | 5:00 pm

Darnestown Park – Softball – Opening Day*

April 27 | 6:00 pm

Glenview Mansion, Rockville – PRAI gala

May 8 | 6:30 pm

Seneca Academy – Parenting Series –
Parenting in the Digital Age*

May 28 | 6:00 pm

Smokey Glen – DCA Spring Social

**More information inside.*

**DCA Town Meeting
March 21, 2019 | 7:30 pm
St. Nicholas Episcopal Church**

**Remember: you can view *The Little Acorn*
online with pictures in full color and with
clickable links at darnestowncivic.org.**

Why are they doing the boundary study?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To adjust for projected capacities in Northwest, Seneca Valley, and Clarksburg High Schools. • Projections by the end of the current 6-year planning period are that Clarksburg HS and Northwest HS will exceed capacity by 800 and 700 students respectively, while the new Seneca Valley High School will have excess capacity for 1300 students.
What is included in the boundary study?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School boundaries for Northwest, Clarksburg, and Seneca Valley High Schools. • School boundaries for middle schools that feed into those high schools (Lakelands Park, Kingsview, Roberto Clemente, Martin Luther King, Neelsville, Rocky Hill, and Hallie West Middle Schools).
What is not included in the boundary study?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elementary school boundaries ... they will not change. • Elementary schools assigned to Quince Orchard, Watkins Mill, and Damascus High Schools are not included. For example, Jones Lane Elementary will continue to feed into Lakelands Park and Quince Orchard.
What are the possible high school options for Darnestown Elementary kids?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northwest, Seneca Valley, or Clarksburg; based on geography it would <i>seem</i> Northwest and Seneca Valley are the likely viable candidates. • Quince Orchard is NOT an option as part of this evaluation.
What are the possible middle school options for Darnestown Elementary kids?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potentially any of the middle schools included in the study; based on geography it would <i>seem</i> Lakelands Park, Kingsview, or possibly Roberto Clemente are the likely viable candidates. • Ridgeview MS is NOT an option as part of this evaluation.
What are the criteria being used to make recommendations and decisions?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demographics of student population • Geography • Stability of Assignments Over Time • Facility Utilization
What the key dates for recommendations and decisions?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March 11th – First round of options presented (formal presentation meeting March 12th from 7–9 @ Northwest HS Auditorium) • April 8 – Second round of options presented (formal presentation meeting April 8th from 7–9 @ Northwest HS Auditorium) • October – Final recommendations from the Superintendent to the Board of Education • November – Final decision by Board of Education in November
When will this take effect?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beginning of the 2020–2021 school year
Where can I find more details?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/UpcountyHSBoundaryStudy.aspx – this includes information on school population projections, special programs offered, and more detail on the boundary study process.
How can I give input?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The County link above includes a form for questions/input • Following each round of options, various community input channels will be available, including online surveys. • Please let the DCA know how you feel by visiting darnestowncivic.org.

Community Interest

Presidents' Corner

By Christopher Collins

With the fluctuating February temperatures, one could almost think that spring was just around the corner. In actuality, our March 21st Town Meeting is readily approaching. As you may recall, the resolution from our September Town Meeting was to conduct the 2019 election of officers at the March Town Meeting. You may also recall that elections are regularly held at the June Town Meeting. With great discussion among the Executive Board and the Nominating Committee, a decision was reached to return the elections to the June Town Meeting. This shift in the previously announced date for elections will allow DCA to place our election schedule back on track as prescribed by the bylaws and to also allow the Nominating Committee ample time to secure nominations for the elected officer positions. So for those citizens who would like to be part of the Darnestown Board and active Committees, here is your opportunity to step up and get involved.

It was with great pleasure that on January 24th, a warm and festive celebration was had at Rockland Farms in honor of our recent Past President Lisa Patterson-Troiike. With a large gathering of Darnestownians on hand, good food and freshly squeezed and fermented grapes, Lisa's achievements and contributions were recognized. My sincere thanks to all of those who gathered, and the hospitality extended to us by Rockland Farms staff.

Spring Social at Smokey Glen

Mark your calendars for May 28th! The annual DCA Spring Social will be held at 6 pm with all the usual activities and delicious food. Buy your tickets online at darnestowncivic.org. DCA members' tickets are discounted, so don't forget to pay your dues while you're there.

Annual DCA Membership Drive

By Guy Armantrout

DCA is an all-volunteer organization with the mission to:

"Promote and protect the general welfare and community interests of the Darnestown community and members of the Darnestown Civic Association"

We do this by:

- A. Taking essential steps to protect the quality of life in Darnestown and its environs
 - Monitoring of issues that impact Darnestown
 - Advocate for Darnestown with the County government
 - Maintain DCA "Contingency Legal Fund"
- B. Promoting improvements to the quality of life in Darnestown
 - Community socials, softball program, American flags, and Wreaths Across America
 - Promote community development that enhances quality of life
- C. Educating and informing the community regarding issues of community interest
 - Little Acorn, Town Meetings, DCA web site, e-mail, and letter communications
- D. Representing the rights and interests of DCA members
 - Zoning oversight, zoning violations resolution
 - Intervention with County government and law enforcement

We need your support—with your time, interest, involvement—and your annual dues!

You should have received our annual membership letter mailed in late January—please support us with your on-line membership renewal at www.darnestowncivic.org or your mail-in membership form and check. And **THANK YOU** to all of you who have already joined for 2019!

Traffic Accident Claims Beloved Resident

A Memorial service was held on January 26th for longtime Quail Run resident Nancy Soulen, 87. On a rainy evening rush hour on Friday, December 14, she was struck and badly injured crossing MD Rt. 28 at the Ancient Oak intersection. She died of her injuries two days later.

Many of her neighbors knew her by her appearance walking each day, all seasons and rain or shine, to and from the bus stop at Ancient Oak and Rt. 28. Distinguished by her white hair and slow gait, she always carried a sheaf of papers from her home in Quail Run to the bus stop. In November, while visiting a friend, we spotted a flashlight beam which I took to be an evening dog walker, but it was Nancy cresting the top of Ancient Oak. She accepted a ride to her home, and we learned a bit about her. She told us that she lived alone, didn't have a car, and that each day she took the bus, transfers and all, to her long-time job as Senior Legal Advisor at National Institute of Drug Abuse on Executive Boulevard in Rockville. It was the briefest of encounters, but I came nearly awestruck at her determined energy and sharp mind.

Her passing made the local news and it was there that I learned that in addition to her dedication, Nancy Soulen was long on accomplishment. *Part of her staff bio at NIH/NIDA Office of Science Policy and Communications states:*

Ms. Soulen has served as Senior Advisor on law, legislation and regulations in the Science Policy Branch of NIDA's Office of Science Policy and Communications since August 1990... She received undergraduate degrees in Zoology and sociology/ anthropology from Wellesley College, her J.D degree from Georgetown University School of Law, and graduate training in medicine and public health. She worked for 6 years in biomedical research at Harvard, is a member of the New York Bar, with 8 years of practice in the private sector as Assistant Legislative Counsel, Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association (PMA); Associate General Counsel, Washington Office of the Council of State Governments; and

Senior Attorney, American Pharmaceutical Association (APhA). She has 42 years of Federal Employment including serving as Attorney Advisor, HHS, OGC; Staff Attorney, ADAMHA/NIDA; and Legal Advisor.

Eulogies at her funeral remembered a funny, razor-sharp character who marched to her own drummer, wasn't ready yet to retire, and who touched those who knew her with light and love, and, when in bloom, with delightful daffodils from the ample supply about her yard and garden. Nancy Soulen was truly an inspiration and will be missed.

— Allan Luke

Mini Cell Tower Update

By Art Slesinger

The proposed zoning text amendment for 5G antennas in residential areas died with the last Council session. It will need to start again with the same issues of number, height and location of the 5000 antennas the cell phone companies desire to install in Montgomery County. This program, mandated by the FCC, aims to give the country improved web connectivity so the US stays competitive with other nations. However, the real need for this in residential communities is questioned by some. The biggest impact will be felt in developments with underground utilities and few available pole resources.

We will be following the text amendment process and push to find solutions to avoid massive alterations to the community.



Hope you made it to the tree lighting! It was a beautiful community evening with laughs, fun and s'mores. Don't miss out next year!

Wreaths Across America

By Tim Mueller

While the weather was wet and dreary, inside Darnestown Elementary School, the warmth was robust at the 2nd Annual Wreaths Across America Ceremony at Darnestown Presbyterian Church. In December every year, wreaths are laid at more than 1,600 locations across the United States on National Wreaths Across America Day. Many are familiar with the images of the wreaths on the graves in Arlington National Cemetery, but this same honor is bestowed on the veterans found in the Darnestown Presbyterian Church Cemetery. Bill and Sue Gooch coordinated the event with support from many members of the community including the Independent Civilians Motorcycle Club, the Darnestown Presbyterian Church, and Darnestown's Boy Scouts and Brownies. The Pritchard Music



Academy provided patriotic music throughout a moving ceremony which included representatives from each branch of the Armed Forces. The large attendance at the event not only exhibited a commitment to our national heroes, but also ensured that each of the 85 US Veterans buried in the Darnestown Presbyterian Church Cemetery had a wreath laid at their grave during the event.

This incredible community event would not have been possible without the generous support of our neighbors as well as individuals beyond Darnestown. Included in the pictures from the remarkable event, you'll also find a picture of a group of ladies from the Gamma Alpha Eta Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. who chose Darnestown Presbyterian as their wreath donation recipient! We look forward to remembering those who served during next year's event.



We Need You

The DCA Nominating Committee (Gary Kahn, Rob Swisher, and Dick Jurgena) is looking for candidates who would like to be considered for positions on the 2019–2020 Executive Board. Coming up for election in June will be our President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and one Trustee. All persons elected or appointed to the



Executive Board must be members in good standing of the Association, and must currently live in Darnestown. Candidates for Trustee must have been residents of Darnestown for at least five years. Candidates for President and Vice President should ideally have some previous organizational experience in activities similar to Darnestown Civic Association. If you have an interest, please let us know what position you would like to be considered for and send us your contact information to: **president@darnestowncivic.org**. We would like to know of your interest no later than April 15, 2019.

Darnestown Softball

By Dave Bivans

The start of the Darnestown co-ed adult softball season is rapidly approaching. Spring training is scheduled for April 7th, with Opening Day the following Sunday, April 14th. We will have a 12-game season, running to August 4, 2019. All games are played at the Darnestown Local Park on Darnestown Road just west of the Harris Teeter beginning around 5:00 pm on Sundays.

All teams have room for more players and spectators are welcome. Please contact Dave Bivans at 301-977-4734 or dnlbivans34@verizon.net if you are interested in joining in or need additional information. All are welcome!

Whatever It Takes Gala



Three and a half years ago, Darnestown resident Autumn Metzger's three children developed an autoimmune disease that was triggered by a strep throat infection. After much research, it is now known that this condition is not so rare and

it, along with similar disorders, is popping up more and more in both adults and children locally and nationally. The autoimmune reaction causes the body to attack the brain, causing depression, anxiety and obsessive-compulsive disorder, and was featured on 20/20 this past summer.

Autumn has teamed up with a local charity, Pediatric Research & Advocacy Initiative, to hold a fundraising gala to support research into this condition. The gala will be a red-carpet event with gourmet food, wine and local beer followed by dancing, and will be held on April 27, 2019 at the Glenview Mansion in Rockville, MD. Tickets are \$150. For more information and to purchase tickets, go to PRAIKIDS.org/PRAI-GALA/.

Darnestown Comes Together to Thank Lisa Patterson-Troike

By Rachel Petruccelli

On Thursday, January 24th, the Darnestown community gathered at Rocklands Winery for a special evening to celebrate and honor Lisa Patterson-Troike and her service to the Darnestown community. Despite the freezing temperatures, it was a warm and cozy evening, sipping wine and telling stories of Lisa's adventures into community leadership here in Darnestown. Personally, I was



inspired as a fairly new Darnestown transplant, just as Lisa was 20 years ago, that if you simply get involved at any capacity, you can make a lasting impact. Lisa reminded us that one person *does* make a difference. Lisa, thank you for your incredible 18 years of service!



Seneca Academy Parenting Series

Seneca Academy continues with its parenting series that is *free-of-charge* and open to the whole community.

Navigating Parenting Pitfalls March 12, 2019 (6:30–8:00 pm)

Presented by Dr. Michelle Parker, Head of School at Seneca Academy and a child psychologist.

All parents experience parenting pitfalls! Learning how to effectively navigate these bumps in the road will help you and your child develop problem-solving skills and lead to a more positive family experience. In this workshop we will:

- Develop a framework for resolving conflict through collaborative problem-solving.
- Apply collaborative problem solving to everyday dilemmas such as tantrums; back talk; morning, bedtime, & homework conflicts; sibling squabbles, etc.
- Explore strategies to help you navigate common disagreements with your co-parent.

Save the date for the future workshop, “Parenting in the Digital Age,” which will take place on May 8th at 6:30 pm.

For more information or to RSVP visit: <https://www.senecaacademy.org/parenting-series/>.

Local History

A Letter from 1817 Uncovers a Deep Family History

By Allan Luke

In December’s The Little Acorn, we appealed to readers to contribute any stories or pictures of artifacts, etc., that they might have that would be of interest to present or future Darnestownians. We are grateful to the Lynn family, reaching out via patriarch South Trimble Lynn. They’ve been Darnestown residents since 1965, and their family history could fill many Acorn history columns.

South called to tell me that he had an *original letter dated 1817*. It was from Zadok Magruder, grandson of Revolutionary War fighter of the same name whose name lives on today at Magruder High School. Written by Zadok, 22, to his brother Johnathan Wilson Magruder, the letter itself is whimsical and inconsequential. It begins with Zadok recounting a walk from Seneca Mills (by Poole’s store) to the Claggett farm (on Deakin’s Lane), then meanders in and out of musings about the hardships of farming, wormy corn, ways of keeping

oneself occupied, a local trial, the novelty of women lawyers, and Potomac river fishing.

The Magruder letter is in a collection of family history, rivaled by two antiques—an infant’s rocking cradle and a pair of saddle holsters for pistols used in the Revolution. Both were used by the same ancestor, Captain David Lynn. Kept in Darnestown at “Southland Farms at Rose Hill,” they keep company with hundreds of articles, pictures, oil paintings and framed mementos of family history. South, now 91, said, “I have history hanging all over the house”.

(Some of) South’s Story

Born in 1927, South Lynn’s boyhood was spent in the usual ways growing up in Washington, DC. South joined the Navy on his 17th birthday in 1944, signing up for the war’s duration plus 6 months. Complaining to his Captain that he didn’t join the Navy to run a stateside pool hall (his first Navy job), the Captain said he’d “take care of it.” True to his word, the next week saw South on a troop train

Continued on Page 8

headed west to board the *Hawaiian Shipper*, headed to Saipan in the Mariana Islands.

Most soldiers and sailors and airmen have many reminiscences. My favorite is of South's time in the radio shack handling wartime message traffic. On August 12, 1945, he received a bulletin from the Army News Service, who reported that the US Secretary of State Byrnes had accepted Japan's surrender on behalf of the Allied Powers—the trouble was, Japan wouldn't surrender for three more days. South eagerly spread the word that he and his buddies would not be going to fight on the Japanese mainland three days earlier than was true. A link to pictures of this bulletin, South's 1817 letter, heirlooms, war photos and other references from this article may be found at darnestowncivic.org.

South finished high school in DC after the war and earned a B.S. in Business and Public Administration at the University of Maryland in 1952. Working seven months at a flooring company, South figured he could do as well as his boss, so started his own Universal Floors, Inc. in 1953, becoming a thriving flooring contractor located in Washington, DC. Early 1960's floor work introduced South to our area, compelling him to buy land and build a home, though his skeptical wife thought that Darnestown was too far out in the boonies. Mostly retired now, he spends time at home with Joanne, wife of 62 years, and visits frequently with his three children and their families. South is very keen on the computer and still devotes time to historical study. He is one of a very few living Americans whose great-grandfather fought in the American Revolution and their grandfather in the Civil War.

(Some of) South Lynn's Kin

Extensive genealogical work on the Lynn family was done by South's mother, Margaret Trimble Lynn. An excellent website displays some of her work, <http://www.judgedavidlynn.org>. This article is drawn from it, talking with South and his family, and other sources. This Darnestown family history runs deep and this article short, so here's a short list of some of South Lynn's forebears and their life and times:

Judge David Lynn (born 1698? Ireland; died 1779 or 1786 Montgomery Co., MD) The original Lynn immigrant, best known for being one of 12 judges memorialized on Frederick County courthouse as

“immortal.” Why? Because their judicial opinion issued November 23, 1765 repudiated the British “Stamp Act” just three weeks after it took effect. This was *“the first official action taken in this country against the Crown of England. Thus, Judge Lynn was one of the first to strike a blow towards establishing American Independence.”*

In his honor, Frederick County still celebrates a half-day bank holiday every November 23rd, called Repudiation Day! Earlier in 1751, Judge Lynn was commissioned by the Maryland General Assembly to lay out the city of Georgetown, then in Frederick County, Maryland.

Captain David Lynn (born 1758 Rock Creek, MD; died 1835 Cumberland, MD) South's great grandfather joined the Continental Army's “Flying Camp,” at age 18 and rose to Captain of the 7th Maryland Regulars. Fighting at Germantown, PA (1777), Monmouth, NJ (1778), and Cowpens, SC (1781), he was also present (presumably with the holsters but not the cradle) at Cornwallis' surrender to Washington at Yorktown in October 1781. Moving after the war to Cumberland, MD, he built “Rose Hill,” a magnificent mansion on a bluff overlooking the Potomac River, later demolished to help make Interstate 68. In 1794–95, he represented Allegany County in the Maryland General Assembly, and was a commissioner who helped in apportioning Western Maryland lands given by the state to its Revolutionary War veterans.

George Washington's diary entry notes his being entertained by Captain Lynn, his old friend and war ally, at Lynn's first home in Cumberland when Washington traveled west to help suppress the Whiskey Rebellion in 1794. Lynn, his brother, John, and George Washington are all original members of *Society of the Cincinnati*, USA's oldest hereditary and most august patriotic club. Today, members can trace direct ancestry to a male ancestor officer who fought three years or more in the Continental Army or Navy. In 18th century primogeniture style, membership is passed down to the eldest son after the members' death. South now holds *Society of the Cincinnati* membership for the Lynn family.

Captain David Lynn III (born 1837 Cumberland, MD; died 1904 Hyattsville, MD) South's grandfather, and son of the Revolutionary War fighter of the same name, is said to have “gone South” by swimming the Potomac to Virginia with

his two brothers at the start of the Civil War. He rose to Captain [what else?] of the 18th and 19th Virginia Cavalry. Captured by Yankees, he spent most of the war years imprisoned in Ohio. Paroled after signing the oath of allegiance in 1864, he was forbidden to go home by a policy that discriminated against border state rebels, so the three brothers went to Colorado and worked as cowboys. He appeared in West Virginia census records in 1870 living with his mother-in-law and family, eventually returning his family to Cumberland and Rose Hill. Later coming east to the DC area, he worked in government, once as a C & O Canal toll collector.

David Lynn (born 1873, died 1961, both in Washington, DC) South's father is David Lynn, the seventh Architect of the Capitol—there have been 11 in U.S. history so far. Before that post, he was a bicycle policeman at the Capitol, then worked his way up in the office of Architect of the Capitol, eventually being appointed Architect of the Capitol by President Calvin Coolidge in 1923. In a government career spanning more than 50 years, he came up from laborer to engineer to executive. Serving as Architect of the Capitol through the war years until 1954, he retired with over 31 years in office, the second longest serving at that post. During his term, the U.S. Supreme Court and Library of Congress buildings were constructed, among many others.

The Kennedy Farm— South Lynn's Historical Adventure

History-making continues in the Captain's family. In 1973, South and three friends purchased the Kennedy Farm in Washington County, MD, the place that was used by **John Brown and his raiders** to hide and plan their ill-fated raid on Harper's Ferry, WV on October 16, 1859.

Before being purchased by Lynn's group, the house itself fell into disuse and had several ownership changes, eventually being purchased by the Improved Benevolent Protective Order of Elks of the World (Black Elks) for their National Shrine and a memorial to John Brown. During their ownership, they built a large auditorium where many big-name acts appeared, including Ray Charles, Aretha Franklin, Marvin Gaye, James Brown, Little Richard, Chuck Berry, B.B. King, Eartha Kitt, Otis Redding, Etta James, the Coasters, and the Drifters.

Who knew these stunning acts had performed in rural Washington County?

Since South's time of ownership, Kennedy Farm has been designated a National Historic Landmark. Extensively restored with private and public funds to its appearance during Brown's stay, preservation and improvements continue "mostly turned over to Sprigg now," says South. A Spartan enterprise, it's held together by the love, money and interest of a very few history-loving folks. South's son, Sprigg, is there frequently to maintain the grounds and continue preservation work. Folks interested in a visit may call him at (301) 370-6851 to arrange a private tour. Like his father, he is really into history, and hopes to one day turn the property into a living history farm depicting local life and culture in the antebellum 1850s. Please remember to visit **darnestowncivic.org** for some great images of Kennedy Farm and other content presented in this column.

A last point—this article was my idea, not South's. He is proud of his family's past, but not boastful. Meeting with him while preparing this, he specifically told me that he was not the type to try to be in newspapers or anything... though we both agreed that history was worth knowing, which brings us full circle to our last Acorn appeal for residents to pass along interesting history of their family, land, heirlooms, stories, etc. The inbox is always open at **history@darnestowncivic.org**.



Restored Kennedy Farm. Photo by Acroterion.

Organizations

Darne Bloomers Garden Club

By Lisa Ann Ruf

The Darne Bloomers Garden Club is enjoying yet another successful year under the leadership of President, Carol Gimmel! The year started in September with the Darne Bloomers learning “All About Hydrangea” at Potomac Petals and Plants. Our October meeting was centered on the “Farm to Vase” movement with a field trip to local flower growers, M&M Plants in Comus. Potomac Garden Center hosted the Club with a Hands-On Workshop where Garden Swags for mailboxes were designed.

The calendar year ended with a trip to Longwood Gardens. This tour and dinner centered on the unbelievably creative and always well-executed holiday plant, flower and light displays. It was a truly magical day and evening for the Club.



Longwood gardens in December

Our club member, Lisa Carothers, led a presentation in January where the Club was educated on “The Life and Gardens of Beatrix Farrand.” Valentine’s Day happened to be our Club’s meeting date and we celebrated by making a Kokedama at

Good Earth Garden Market. March’s meeting will be a lecture from an area landscape designer.

Interested in visiting our Club? Check out our website, www.darnebloomers.com, for updated meeting dates, times and programs. Here’s hoping for an early spring!



Summer 2019 Membership & Camp Discounts, Online Payments!

By Aleks Schiff

Becoming a member is now more affordable than ever! We are continuing to offer great membership promotions for 2019. Share this good news with your friends and neighbors who may be considering joining. With our **online payments**, it is easy to join. Check our website for the latest offers.

The Club has many great member activities like **Tennis & Pickleball** programs for adults and kids and our active **Demon Swim Team**, competing in D Division in 2019. Our great Social programing has a new and exciting 2019 calendar of events; exercise classes like Masters Swimming, Water Aerobics, and Yoga, and our member Camp Green Zone.

Our popular **Camp Green Zone** is returning for the 5th season, offering online payments and creative member **Discount Packages** with swim/tennis/camp combos, Early Bird Registration Discount, Sibling Discount, and a CIT Program. Registration is open—**Early Bird Discount Ends April 1st!** www.dsclub.com/summer-camp.

All our 2019 information is on our website! See you at the Opening Day Party on **Saturday, May 25.**



School News

Darnestown Elementary School

By Deb Tupa

It's been a fun and busy winter at DES! There's been just enough snow to give us a break here and there, but so far we haven't used up all of our snow days.

Darnestown Elementary started off December with the much anticipated **Colonial Day**. Our gym is converted into a Colonial town and 5th graders pretend to be living in Colonial Times. Thanks to Mrs. Mostrom and Mrs. Rose and all the volunteers for a wonderful day!



DES also hosted **Muffins for Mustangs** in early December and were able to raise money for Dine with Dignity. Spirit week followed and many fun outfits, hats, jerseys and spirit wear were seen throughout the school.

January saw the 4th and 5th graders performing in the **Instrumental Music Concert** and the **Choral Concert**, "Birdsongs". So much talent showcased... Don't miss the spring concerts!

Our most popular events, **Bingo Night** and the **Science Expo**, were a huge success in February. We hold Bingo Night at LPMS and the Staff Raffle is always the best part. The Science Expo was held in the gym and hosted many talented, young scientists. No matter what your project, you always earn a gold medal.

We are looking forward to an Ice Skating Event at Cabin John on Friday, March 1 from 6:30–8:30 pm and the **Sock Hop Dance** on Friday, March 22 from 6:30–8:30 pm.

Butler Montessori

Brrrrr! It's cold outside, but our thoughts are summer warm here at **Butler Camp**. We're bursting with sunshine excitement to see your children this summer :-)

Why choose Butler Camp?

For more than 25 years, we've created magical summers for campers ages 3–16.

Butler Camp is like the classic camps you remember growing up—games, swimming, singing, campfires, s'mores, sports, adventures, hiking, and horses!

Learn more about our programs and register today at www.ButlerCamp.org. Limited spaces available for summer 2019. Siblings automatically receive 5% off. Refer a friend and receive another \$50 off!



Seneca Academy—35 Years of Preserving the Wonder of Childhood

By Dr. Michelle Parker

This winter, our students could be found building snowmen and snow forts together, studying states of matter as they watched bubbles freeze during the polar vortex, searching our outdoor habitat for animal tracks in the snow, photographing outdoor snowscapes, and sledding down hills with their teachers (check out a video of this on our Facebook page!) Seneca Academy is a truly magical place for students to play, learn, and be immersed in a sense of wonder!

Continued on Page 12

We are continuing to accept applications for our Preschool 3's, 4's, and Elementary programs and will begin to accept applications for our very popular 2-year-old program, Parent's Day Out, in April. Please visit our website, www.SenecaAcademy.org, for more information or call us to schedule a tour.

Mary of Nazareth

By Sara Jamison

Breakfast with St. Nick

The entire school building was transformed by the Home and School Association into a winter wonderland for families and children to enjoy.

In addition to a hot breakfast prepared by Mary of Nazareth parent volunteers, children could write their wish lists and deliver them personally to Santa. We are deeply grateful to all members of the HSA, as it brings all members of the school community together for a morning of fellowship and festivity.



8th Grade Students NYC Trip

Mary of Nazareth's graduating class of 2019 had a wonderful time on the 8th grade trip to New York City. The group toured the 9/11 Museum and Ground Zero, Madame Tussaud's wax museum, and finished with a night tour on the top of Rockefeller Center. The next day, students enjoyed seeing a Christmas show at Radio City Music Hall. The final part of the trip was celebrating Mass together in St. Patrick's Cathedral. Congratulations to the 8th grade class.

Holiday Season Community Service

This Christmas season, our students and families worked to bring joy to their neighbors through several service projects including: Toys for Tots, Christmas cards, Soles 4 Souls, Box of Joy, and Share the Warmth.

Church News

Darnestown Presbyterian Church Construction Continues

By Larry Ciolorito

DPC's first major construction project in 50 years remains on track, blessed by relatively calm weather and no major surprises as construction crews laid the foundation of the new transept and chancel. The accompanying photo shows part of the footprint of the new church, as it expands to the south and links with our education building to the east.



Easter services at Darnestown Elementary School

While we continue to hold a single 11:00 am worship service while worshipping at DES, we will expand to our traditional services on Easter, at 8:30 am and 11:00 am. We will also hold a potluck brunch between services. Everyone is welcome! Please check out our webpage for continuing updates: <http://www.darnestownpc.org/>.

We Welcome Your Submissions to the Acorn

Deadline for the next issue:

May 1, 2019

Email ideas, questions or articles to:
Acorn@darnestowncivic.org

Our Lady of the Visitation Parish 2019 Lenten Services

Ash Wednesday

March 6 – 6:00 am,
12:00 pm, 6:00 pm
Liturgy of the Eucharist
with Distribution of Ashes

Weekday Liturgy

Friday, March 8, M/T/W
through Wednesday, April 17
9:15 am in the Parish Barn

Lenten Scripture Study

Tuesday Mornings,
March 5 through April 16
10:00 am in the Parish Barn

Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation

Wednesdays, March 13
through April 17
6:30–8:00 pm in the Church

Stations of the Cross

Fridays, March 8
through April 12
7:00 pm in the Church

Passion / Palm Sunday

April 14, 2019
Solemn Entrance/Long Form
of Passion – 5:00 pm
Family Liturgy/Short Form
of Passion/Procession –
9:00 am
Simple Entrance/Long Form
of Passion – 11:00 am

Sacred Triduum Schedule

Holy Thursday

April 18, 2019 – 7:00 pm
Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday

April 19, 2019 – 7:00 pm
Celebration of the
Lord's Passion

Holy Saturday

April 20, 2019 – 8:00 pm
The Easter Vigil in the
Holy Night

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

April 21, 2019 – 9:00 am,
11:00 am Sacred Liturgy

St. Nicholas Episcopal Church

Worship Service—Sundays at 10:00 am

Sunday School (PreK–5th Grade)
Sundays 10:15–11:20 am

Upcoming Special Services

March 3 – Jazz Mass and Pancake Breakfast
at 10:00 am

March 6 – Ash Wednesday
Ashes Drive-through 6:00–9:00 am
St. Nick's Parking Lot

Monday Nights from March 10–April 8 –
Lenten Soup Supper & Study from 7:00–9:00 pm

Holy Week Services:

- Palm & Passion Sunday – April 14 at 10:00 am
- Maundy Thursday, April 18 at 7:30 pm
Agape Meal and Eucharist
- Good Friday Liturgy, April 19 at 7:30 pm
- Easter Day Service at 10:00 am followed by an
Easter Egg Hunt, Sunday, April 21

*Experience God's Love and a Loving Community
A Place to Belong ~ A Place to Become*

Business Directory

The generosity of these local businesses help pay for the printing and distribution of *The Little Acorn*.
Please consider patronizing them.

Clark Tree Service

Expert Tree Care
5 Finnegan Farm
Darnestown
240-560-Tree (8733)
daniel@clarktrees.com

Darnestown Shell

Auto repair and Fuel
10420 Darnestown Road
Darnestown
301-840-8515
darnestownshell@gmail.com

Preferred Insurance Solutions

*Auto, Home and
Business Insurance*
20030 Century Boulevard
Suite 201
Germantown
301-428-3344
ins@preferredinsurance
solutions.com

Service Providers

To be included on this list in the next issue of *The Little Acorn*, please email your contact information including your year of birth to the editor at Acorn@darnestowncivic.org before May 1, 2019. Of course, for those over 21, you may be listed as an adult. This will help keep our list up-to-date. We reserve this listing for those who are members of the DCA. A great reason to join! Please note that sitters and mother's helpers must be under 21 to be listed.

Baby Sitters & Mothers' Helpers

Melissa Szwed (2004)
301-519-0645

Pet Sitters/ House Sitters

Maureen McAllister
301-802-4993
maureen.mca8@gmail.com

Chicken Sitters

Fiona O'Connell (2004)
443-616-6704

Tutors

Farnez Eivazi | Math
301-717-8346
efarnaz@gmail.com

Maureen McAllister
Stats & Research Methods
301-802-4993
maureen.mca8@gmail.com

Notary Services

Laura Bivans
301-977-4734

Tina Kalil
301-943-9840

Elisa Lane
301-990-2993

Darnestown Schools, Organizations & Churches

Schools

Butler Montessori School
15951 Germantown Road
Darnestown, MD 20874
301-977-6600

Circle School/Seneca Academy
15601 Germantown Road
Darnestown, MD 20874
301-869-3728

Darnestown Elementary School
15030 Turkeyfoot Road
Darnestown, MD 20878
301-284-4260

Jones Lane Elementary School
15110 Jones Lane
Darnestown, MD 20878
301-840-8160

Lakelands Park Middle School
1200 Main Street
Gaithersburg, MD 20878
301-670-1400

Mary of Nazareth School
14131 Seneca Road
Darnestown, MD 20874
301-869-0940
maryofnazareth.org

Northwest High School
12501 Richter Farm Road
Germantown, MD 20874
301-601-4660

Quince Orchard High School
15800 Quince Orchard Road
Gaithersburg, MD 20878
301-840-4686

Organizations

Boy Scout Troop 1094
sm@troop1094.org

Darne Bloomers Garden Club
darnebloomers.com

Darnestown Civic Association
14132B Darnestown Road
Darnestown, MD 20874
darnestowncivic.org

**Darnestown Swim
and Racquet Club**
15004 Spring Meadows Drive
Darnestown, MD 20885
301-330-1340
www.dsclub.com
gm@dsclub.com

Churches

**Darnestown
Presbyterian Church**
15120 Turkey Foot Road
Darnestown, MD 20878
301-948-9127
darnestownpc.org
dpchurch@comcast.net

**Fairhaven United
Methodist Church**
Rev. Esther Holiman
12801 Darnestown Road
Darnestown, MD 20874
301-330-5433

**Our Lady of the
Visitation Parish**
Rev. Dr. Raymond L. Fecteau
14139 Seneca Road
Darnestown MD 20874
301-948-5536
olvp.org
parishoffice@olvp.org

St. Nicholas Episcopal Church
Rev. Beth O'Callaghan
15575 Germantown Road
Darnestown, MD 20874
240-631-2800
saintnicks.com

The Little Acorn

Editor: acorn@darnestowncivic.org
Publisher: Darnestown Civic Association
Proofreader: Sarah Scherer

Darnestown Civic Association

President: president@darnestowncivic.org
Vice President: Chris Collins | vicepresident@darnestowncivic.org
Treasurer: Guy Armantrout | treasurer@darnestowncivic.org
Secretary: Susan Allaway | secretary@darnestowncivic.org
Trustee: Karen Hinrichsen | trustee@darnestowncivic.org

Committee Chairs

Compliance: Michael Gottlieb | compliance@darnestowncivic.org
Darnestown Village: Chris Collins | village@darnestowncivic.org
Database: Jean Jurgena | database@darnestowncivic.org
Flag Program: Tim Sanders | flag@darnestowncivic.org
History: Allan Luke | history@darnestowncivic.org
Membership: Elizabeth Weaver | membership@darnestowncivic.org
Safety Committee: Dick Jurgena | safety@darnestowncivic.org
Kevin Keegan
Seneca Forest Project: Karen Hinrichsen | deer@darnestowncivic.org
Social Events: Rachel Petruccelli | social@darnestowncivic.org
Softball: Dave Bivans | softball@darnestowncivic.org
Website: Guy Armantrout | website@darnestowncivic.org
Neil Agate
Zoning: Tim Mueller | zoning@darnestowncivic.org

DCA Membership Renewal / Application Form

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

Darnestown Civic Association
12600 Viewside Drive
Darnestown, MD 20878

Please check one: ☐ Dues \$35 ☐ Friend \$50 ☐ Sponsor \$100 ☐ Acorn \$150 ☐ Business \$250

Name: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

**** Email addresses are only used for DCA notifications and not shared with anyone ****



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

