



THE LITTLE ACORN

THE DARNESTOWN CIVIC ASSOCIATION
darnestowncivic.org

Volume 60 Number 2
June 2023

President's Corner

Notes from the President

By Scott Mostrom



Occasionally I'll get asked the question, "Hey, what's new in Darnestown?" Some of you might get that from your friends outside of Darnestown as well. So, I thought

I'd take this time to give a little state of the union, at least from my perspective as President of the Darnestown Civic Association (DCA).

When you boil it down, the DCA really has two main thrusts. The first is to protect and promote improvements to the quality of life for our residential and business members. We do that through advocacy with our county and state governments, education to our residents, and by providing a vehicle for you to directly communicate with those in government who make the decisions. Our second thrust is social engagement and fostering our spirit of community, which we do through *The Little Acorn*, our social events throughout the year, email outreach, and even the American flags along Darnestown Road in the summer. All of these efforts often go hand-in-hand.

When I began as President 4 years ago, the term "Thrive" (Thrive Montgomery 2050, the first full revision of the Montgomery County General Plan) had not even come up yet. It did very soon afterwards and was a central part of our work through 2022. Thrive was approved by the County Council, and thanks to all our neighbors who petitioned and the DCA's lobbying efforts, we were able to remove Darnestown as a

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What's Happening in Darnestown

Further details can be found in this issue.

June 15, 2023 | 7:30 p.m.

DCA Town Meeting and Executive Board Elections for 2023-24 (see page 2)

Details and a link to the meeting can be found at www.darnestowncivic.org

August 1, 2023

Deadline for the September issue of *The Little Acorn*

Email ideas, questions or articles to acorn@darnestowncivic.org

September 16, 2023

Mollys Walk and Roll

Bretton Woods Recreation Center

<https://www.wizathon.com/mollys-asap-walknroll/>

See page 12 for more details

September 30, 2023 | 4:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Comfort Cases 2023 Annual BBQ Benefit

www.comfortcases.org/benefit/

See page 11 for more details

* * * * *

SAVE THE DATE!

**Darnestown's
52nd Annual Hoedown
is Friday, October 6th**

Go to www.darnestowncivic.org for details

**Remember: You can view the *The Little Acorn* online in full color and with clickable links.
Go to darnestowncivic.org.**

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‘named center of activity.’ That was important because it helped remove us from the General Plan as an area “where existing and future compact growth should be concentrated.” There are no Thrive-related initiatives in the current Council’s agenda, but we will continue to remain vigilant for new laws and zoning text amendments that might impact our existing development density.

While we want to protect our current zoning, we also understand that a thriving village center with more retail options is important to our residents, as is supporting our existing local businesses. If there are more options in our town center, it helps everyone. One of the biggest challenges to businesses in our village center is the restrictive septic regulations. I think all of us would like a restaurant, a bakery, a sit-down coffee shop, or an ice cream parlor, but establishing a successful restaurant is complex and the septic regulations make it even more challenging. Pam DuBois is leading the DCA’s initiative to support both existing businesses in our Village Center and attract the types of businesses that are both desirable yet viable and still within the bounds of septic. Networking opportunities for all the home-based businesses is also on the agenda. This will be a focus of our June Town Hall, with Marilyn Balcombe, our District 2 County Council representative and former President / CEO of the Gaithersburg-Germantown Chamber of Commerce, lined up as a guest speaker.

Another major focus of the DCA is roads. We have aligned with local, state, national, and global efforts to form Vision Zero Darnestown, a project of the DCA’s Roads Task Force, dedicated to improve safety on our roads and increase safe, healthy, and equitable mobility for all. To help focus their efforts the DCA put out a survey in the summer of 2021 and over 400 households shared their top concerns about our roads. With twelve Darnestown volunteers, the Roads Task Force has been involved in several initiatives to date (a good summary

is the December 2022 article in *The Little Acorn*, on page 2. darnestowncivic.org/little-acorn/).

The Task Force has also worked closely on the Complete Streets Design Guide, Rustic Roads Master Plan, Growth and Infrastructure Plans, and Master Plan of Highway and Transitways. Signal and marking improvements have been requested at the Seneca/Rt. 28 intersection and the Task Force is working to improve, among other intersections, the Seneca/Esworthy intersection and Turkey Foot/Rt. 28 intersection. Some of you may have noticed some recent activity at the Seneca/Esworthy intersection. Initial studies of the intersection have begun and the FY 22-23 budget for the County’s Vision Zero includes initial funding for a roundabout. However, this will not happen until sometime next year and there is plenty of time for input from residents and surrounding neighbors on the final approach and execution to improve that intersection.

On the social engagement side of things, I think I take the greatest pride in all the new things we’ve done that the DCA had never done before. We’re not afraid to step outside of the box and so far it’s been incredibly successful. We’ve kept many of the existing traditions—Annual Hoedown and Tree Lightning—but have added the Menorah Lighting, Farmers & Artists Markets, Food Truck Thursday, Easter Egg Roll, Nature Hikes, Veterans Day Breakfast, Darnestown Cleanup Day and, the kids’ favorite, Santa’s Tour of Darnestown. We’re also in our fourth year of the DCA and Bruce Deppa Scholarships, awarding \$1,000 to two graduating Darnestown high school seniors. Next time you see Stephanie Kunkle, our Social Chair, please thank her—she’s the driving force behind all of these.

Amber Colleran has continued to improve the layout and content of *The Little Acorn* and, while it remains our primary tool for communication, we did identify that the DCA needs to provide more frequent, consistent communication. We also realize that we need to keep you better informed of our advocacy work and

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DCA June Town Meeting

Thursday, June 15, 2023 | 7:30 p.m.

DCA Scholarship Awards Announced

DCA Executive Board Vote

Use the QR code to register or go to
<https://bit.ly/DCAJune2023> code



We Welcome Your Submissions to *The Little Acorn*

Deadline for the next issue:

August 1, 2023

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

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the other initiatives we're taking on in between the quarterly *Acorns*. We're very fortunate to announce that Kellie Hodges has stepped up to be our Communications Lead and has started a bi-weekly email newsletter (another DCA first). She'll also work with our webmasters Ben Jamieson and Neil Agate to make more of that content available on our website. To join the newsletter and keep up-to-date please visit www.darnestowncivic.org.

Thanks to the dedication of Pam DuBois, our Membership Chair, our household membership has been increasing over the past several years and the business member program has become a huge success. Gretchen Brown, our Treasurer, diligently manages our Finances and was instrumental in the effort to move us out of our office space this past year. While we were sad to leave our office, there had become less of a need for a physical office and the DCA was able to considerably reduce its annual expenses

Many of you have requested that we get Darnestown under one zip code. Well, Jeff Goodman had raised that in a few of our Town Halls then and stepped up to drive that effort on behalf of the DCA. There are many hurdles ahead before we know if that can happen, but Jeff is leading the way. I also want to acknowledge the leadership of the other Board officers I haven't mentioned—Paul Klee (Vice President), Matt Quinn (Secretary & Safety Committee Chair), Scott Damiecki (Trustee), and Will Lowe (Trustee). While I know I can't give a shout out to every single volunteer, I do want to thank them all—it's their efforts that make Darnestown the best place to live. We need more volunteers so please reach out if there's an area that interests you.

Finally, to our paid members, thank you! We cannot do our work for Darnestown without your support. We encourage your thoughts and feedback, so don't hesitate to reach out to dca@darnestowncivic.org. If you're not a member we encourage you to join us at www.darnestowncivic.org/membership.

Community News

Opening Day Déjà Vu and Some!

By Dave Bivans

Like last year, Darnestown was blessed with a dry and pleasant (but not so sunny) Opening Day April 23rd to begin the 33rd season of DCA adult co-ed softball. Like last year, Game 1 featured Western Darnestown facing Jones Lane, and in a close battle until the last couple of innings the game could have gone either way. But, similar to last year, Jones Lane finished on top with a 14-to-9 score. While Game 2 paired defending champion Bondy-Haddonfield-Ridgefield (BHR) against the Central Darnestown Swingers (CDS) like last year, at least this year the game was played and was also close with the score tied at 9 in the bottom of the fifth before BHR broke it open with several long balls and extra base hits. CDS couldn't match the scoring and fell to BHR 18-to-10.

Week 2 was also a repeat of the 2022 season with a rainout! While we were in need of rain, it sure would be nice if it could limit itself to weekdays between dusk and dawn! The season will continue each Sunday afternoon/evening through early August with days off for DCA Softball holidays (Mothers Day, Memorial Day weekend, Fathers Day, Independence Day “week-



FIRST PITCH: Jeff Luther (JL) delivers the ball to George Bussey (WD) with Jen Legge (JL) catching with Dave Bivans (CDS) umpiring.

end” (July 2)). Come on out to Darnestown's Local Park (just west of Harris Teeter on MD-28/Darnestown Road) to enjoy the fun playing and/or adding to the crowd rousing cheer.

Please contact Dave Bivans (softball@darnestowncivic.org) if you're interested in playing, would like a copy of the schedule, or need additional information. Teams are always looking for new players to fill in for vacations and retiring players.

Community News (continued)

Busy and Fun Spring Social Season

By Stephanie Kunkle



Children participate in the egg roll event at the annual Easter Egg Roll

we partnered with the Darnestown Presbyterian Church (DPC) and held the Second Annual Darnestown Easter Egg Roll on March 26th. Over 2,000 Easter eggs were hunted! The beautiful sunny afternoon was filled with lots of treats, crafts, photo ops, and fun! We already can't wait to do it again next year.

On Saturday April 22nd in conjunction with Earth Day, we held the very first Darnestown Clean Up Day. With volunteers cleaning up areas of Darnestown, we were able to fill a truckload of trash that was once littering our streets. Thank you to all who volunteered to make Darnestown a beautiful place to live. Due to the success of the

event, we hope to plan another Darnestown Clean Up Day this Fall. Stay tuned.

A week later on April 29th, we continued to welcome in spring (although slightly rainy) with the Darnestown Artist's and Farmer's Market. We were thrilled to have many vendors offering an array of exciting food, products, and services to share with their neighbors. Our next market will be Saturday, September 9th and we would love to see you all there.

Finally, we ended the busy spring with the first Almost Summer Celebration on Thursday, May 25th in the parking lot of the Darnestown Swim and Racquet Club. The weather could not have been more perfect to celebrate our great community. We had 4 food trucks attend—Corned Beef King, El Cumpa, Phowheels and Kona Ice. Darnestown
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Stephen and Morgan Probus help clean Heritage Park

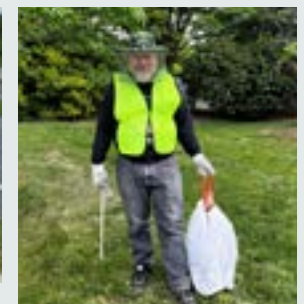
Way to Clean Up Darnestown!



Jane and Mia Silbert



Darnestown residents filled an entire truck full of garbage at the first annual clean up day. Thank you to all who participated!



Keith McAlister



The Probus Family



Ryan Colleran



Brady Brown and Jack Kunkle

Community News (continued)

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nestown's Rockabilly MikeyC and Mike Kuster rocked out with jams for over 3 hours. Neighbors brought their chairs, blankets and coolers and enjoyed eating, dancing, and socializing together before an active summer begins. It was nice to see all ages attend in full force that night. The Transitional Kindergarten of Georgetown Hill made a sweet impact that evening by hosting a lemonade stand to raise money for Alex's Lemonade Stand to help fight childhood cancer. Celebrating, supporting, and giving back that evening was the overall vibe. And let's be honest that is Darnestown in an "acorn shell."

Thank you all for the support and attendance of these social events!

Volunteer Drivers Needed

Gaithersburg Meals on Wheels has a continuing need for drivers to deliver hot and cold meals at lunchtime to the elderly and shut-ins in the Gaithersburg area. Meals are prepared at Asbury Methodist Village, 333 Russell Ave., and picked up by drivers between 10:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Monday-Friday. Containers are provided for carrying the meals, and delivery takes about one hour, with eight to 12 clients on each route. Volunteers are asked to drive either once a week, or once every other week. Children are welcome to accompany parents. Training is provided. Please call 301-216-4200, or Lisa Koenig at 301-869-0190 or lisamkoenig1@gmail.com.

Hike Butler Montessori's Campus Year-Round on Weekends

15951 Germantown Rd, Darnestown, MD 20874

We welcome our Darnestown neighbors to explore our campus and trails on weekends. We recommend that visitors park their cars outside the campus gate to avoid being locked in. Enjoy!

2023 Executive Board Elections

In preparation for the June Town Hall meeting and in accordance with the bylaws, a nominating committee has been established to prepare a list of candidates for the DCA Executive Board.

The final slate of officers will be provided to the community through the bi-weekly email newsletter in advance of the June Town Hall meeting.

The DCA is always looking for additional leaders from our community to provide their insight and support for the Association. If you have lived in Darnestown for at least 3 years and are interested in taking a more active role in the Civic Association, please let us know by reaching out to dca@darnestowncivic.org.

Join the DCA!

You can register for a DCA membership online by going to darnestowncivic.org or by scanning the QR code here.



Meet Our New Business Member

Miguel Saba, Compass Potomac Real Estate



Miguel Saba is a Darnestown neighbor & parent, Vice President of the Compass Potomac Real Estate office. Buying and selling houses can be very stressful, so he aims to take away the pain points of the home sale process. He does this with Compass Concierge, a program designed to pay all upfront preparation costs of moving. This includes movers,

painters, storage pods, you name it. No additional fees, just a way to help you focus your family and life, while we handle all things real estate.

For more information, go to www.miguelsaba.com or Google "Miguel Saba Realtor" for 60+ 5-star reviews!

Contact him at 202-774-7838 or miguel@miguelsaba.com for help planning how to buy or sell your next home.

Congratulations Darnestown's 2023 Graduates!



Tommy Conroy
Northwest High School

Tommy will be attending Towson University to explore options in general studies.



Gianluca Conte
Northwest High School

Gianluca will be attending McDaniel College to study Business Administration and will play Collegiate soccer.



Alexandra Edwing
Drew University, Madison, NJ

Alexandra is graduating with a double major Bachelor of Arts in Political Science/French Language and Culture. In the fall, Alex will be moving to France for a teaching position through TAPIF (Teaching Assistant Program in France)



Bailea Edwing
*Montgomery College,
Germantown Campus*

Bailea is graduating with an Associate's Degree focusing in Social Sciences. She will be joining a 9-month work-internship program in the fall.



Deanna Edwing
University of Delaware

Deanna is graduating with a Master's of Science in Marine Studies with a concentration in Oceanography. Her next plans are to begin her Ph.D. program or work as a Physical Scientist for the Federal Government.



Kelsea Edwing
University of Delaware

Kelsea is graduating with a Master's of Science in Marine Studies with a concentration in Oceanography. Her next plans are to begin her Ph.D. program in Oceanography or to work as a physical scientist for NOAA or NASA.



Caroline Filler
Our Lady of Good Counsel

Caroline will be attending The University of South Carolina to study Business



Allie Gottlieb
Northwest High School

Allie will be attending The University of Georgia to study Political Science and Communications (double major).



Elaina Hagan
Marymount University

Elaina is graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice and a minor in Law. She also played Lacrosse all 4 years at Marymount University and is currently coaching lacrosse. She plans on attending Law School next year.



Abby Hanson

Northwest High School

Abby will be attending University of Wisconsin-Madison to major in Data Science.



Max Heineman

Our Lady of Good Counsel

Max will be attending Frostburg State University on a football scholarship and will be majoring in Business.



Lilli Heineman

Mount St. Mary's University

Lilli is graduating with a degree in Criminal Justice & Environmental Science. She will work at Calleva after graduation but will attend grad school in the fall to become a park ranger.



Phebe Koundinya

Northwest High School

Phebe will be attending The American University to study Political Science and CLEG (Communications, Law, Economics, and Government).



Martin Lorink

Northwest High School

Martin will be attending the Engineering School of Bucknell University on a 3-year Army ROTC scholarship.



Natalie Lumsden

Quince Orchard High School

Natalie will be attending The University of Tampa to study Psychology & Social Work.



Alexandra Nagy

Our Lady of Good Counsel

Alexandra will be attending Fairfield University to study Marketing.



Luke O'Day

Georgetown Preparatory School

Luka will be attending William & Mary to study business and play collegiate football.



Ankit Patel

University of Maryland at College Park

Ankit is graduating with a degree in Computer Science.



Christina Photinakis
James Madison University

Christina is graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. She has accepted a position at Medstar Washington Hospital Center as an Emergency Room nurse.



Kylie Hanna Schiff
Katherine Thomas School

Kylie will be attending Coastal Carolina University to explore options in General Studies.



Sophia Shin
Northwest High School

Sophia will be attending University of California Los Angeles to explore options in General Studies.



Michaela C. Staab
University of Maryland

Michaela is graduating Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Bioengineering. *(Bioengineering Capstone-Student Choice Award, Quest Honors Program, University Honors Program)*



Anika Subramanya
Northwest High School

Anika will be attending University of Maryland Scholars Program in the fall.



Melissa Szwed
Northwest High School

Melissa will be attending University of Maryland to major in Physics.



Jack Thomas
United States Naval Academy

Jack has graduated with Distinction, earning a Bachelor of Science in Robotics and Systems Control Engineering. He will be a Cryptologic Warfare Officer, stationed at Fort Meade.



Michael David Tzou
Towson University

Michael is graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and a History minor. He is eager to pursue a federal government position in the State Department and is currently in the application process.

“It’s your turn to choose and define what success means to you. Now, others will try to define it for you, but yours is the only voice that matters.”

— Octavia Spencer

DCA 2023 Membership

This membership listing should be effective through April 2023. Members who have joined since then or were mistakenly left off will be captured in the September issue of *The Little Acorn*.

Business

6-Twelve Convenient Mart
Allstate
Jennifer M. Beitler DDS
Melissa Bernstein Homes
Bretton Woods
Jose Carbajal Lawn & Landscaping, LLC
Carpet & Flooring LLC
Clark Tree Services
Darnestown Shell
Darnestown Smiles
Darnestown Swim & Racquet Club
DB&C Home Restorations
Valerie Fuster, Realtor Long & Foster Real Estate Inc.
Georgetown Hill Early School
Johnson Chimney Service
Kerrana Kangen Water
Lowe-Tillson Insurance & Associates
Noahs Preferred Properties ohDEER
Pleasant Hills Farm
Preferred Insurance Solutions, LLC
Real Computer Solutions
Miguel Saba, Realtor Compass Real Estate
Seneca Studio
Smokey Glen Farm
Stiles Denistry
The Surrey
SwimLabs Swim School
The Tyra Law Firm, LLC
United Service Specialists
Valley Mill Camp
Wilniq Auto Body & Mechanical Repairs
Windridge Vineyards

Acorn

Matt & Heather Ahrens
Graham & Susan Allaway
William Amick
Connie & Mike Barnhart
Jason & Jay Burkhardt
Kate Carey
Michael Centrella
Michael & Aubrey Ciatto
John & Lisa Cohen
Peter Cooke
Donald Crehan

Scott & Kendra Damiecki
Edward Fowlkes, Jr.
Mary & Jeff Goodie
Andrea J. Grant
Paul Helmbrecht
Gary Kahn
Paul & Holly Klee
Peter & Mary Lalos
Tracy & Brian Lang
David & Sandy Lennhoff
Philip Levinton & Robin Gross
Phil & Jocelyn Mostrom
Scott & Melissa Mostrom
Paul & Mary Pegnato
Charles & Tina Petzold
Robert Purcell
Roopa & Arun Rajan
Craig & Michelle Rathbone
Kevin & Linda Ricci
Fran & Joe Rothenberg
Rob & Reece Scheer
Seneca Academy
Larry & Allison Spaccasi
Jessica Stephens, Paul & Ursula Rivers
St. Nicholas Episcopal Church
Steven Swartz
Andy Swick
Susie Warner & Justin Kaufman
Weiss, James & Rosetta Cavallo
Mrs. Richard A. Weller
Dieter Willkomm
Paul & Cathy Witchie

Sponsor

Joan Abell & William Bowman
Guy Armantrout & Susan Keyes
Andrea Barnhart & Caroleene Paul
Dave & Laura Bivans
Roy & Sharon Brooks
Jeff & Tara Bryson
David & Janet Buchanan
Heidi Clemmer & Greg Sullivan
Chris & Mary Collins
Cliff Dean & Janice Raburn
Dan & Monica Dean
Donna & Sean Delaney
Luanne Deppa
Denise Dombay
Eric Smart & Pam DuBois
Margery Edmundson
Louise Evans

Robert & Josephine Gilman
Steve & Elizabeth Girard
Mark & Darci Glass-Royal
Maria Gomez & Mauricio Camargo
Ansis Helmanis
William & Kimberly Herrington
Marcos Hsu
Stephen & Stella Hsu
Susan Kick
Sandy & Terry Killen
Mike King
Kaspars Kreslins
Kunkle Family
Barbara Lichtenstein
Brad & Liz Long
Cathleen Cherry-Mann & Graylin Mann
John Mattingly
Mike & Marti McAllister
Beth & Terry McShane
Rick & Reine Moore
Michael Moses
Joel & Barbara Myklebust
Rebecca & \ Shane Neff
Shane & Rebecca Neff
Kevin & Beth O'Connell
Simon & Oksana Ohayon
Lisa Patterson & Rob Troike
John Pennington
Scott & Barbara Plumer
Matthew & Sue Quinn
Ed & Sue Rall, Jan Larowe
Priscella Rippeon
Michael & Linda Roberts
John Rosa
Hunteroos (Black Rock Road)
Cary Silverman & Robin Lang
Sarah & Joshua Stauder
Linda & Terry Sweeney
Betty Sweet
Rob & Janet Swisher
Doug & Bridgette Theurer
Chris & Sheila Thomas
Jerry Van Wert
Stephen Waechter
Bill & Laura Warshauer
Shawn & Shida Ziglari
Beth & Elihu Zimet

Friend

Richard H. Adamson
Isaac & Fay Adato
Edward Adelman

Neil & Kathy Agate
Leo Eskin & Kathy Alexander
The Apgar Family
Jahn & Karen Barkley
Mike & Neely Barnes
Christopher J Bogdan
Tina Bosse & David Schwab
Celia Kingsbury
Peter Boyd & Ellen Klosson
Benjamin & Christina Buchta
Susan Burgan
Cyndi & Larry Cain
Jim & Joan Carlberg
Rob & Lucy Carroll
Chris & Karrie Cerone
Ron Cheshmore & Sue Tayman
Debabrata & Sukanya Chowdhury
Steve & Bobbi Christiansen
Chuck & Adriana Clapper
Jay Clogg
Janice Coe & Keith Sinner
Kevin & Amber Colleran
Carolyn & Tom Conlan
Aimee & Greg Conroy
Kimberly Conte
Sam & Kathleen Coriell
Frank & Janet Cornelius
Luke Cowart
Mike & Bonnie Crough
Karen & David Danoff
The Dayhoff Family
Mark & Tara Deane
Gene & Ann Del Tatto
Steve & Carole DeMinco
Carlos & Caroline Diez
Sue Dingess
DiPietro Family
Katherine Dodson
John & Kathryn Donegan
Keith Donson
Chris Engleman
Brian & Robin Filler
Ken & Fran Finkelstein
Tom & MaryCatherine Fuerst
Kris Fletcher
David & Jennifer Flinchum
Pat Foley
Cliff & Lorice Frost
Jim & Karen Garner
Paul & Beth Gaukler
Lynn & Lewis Gertz
Jeff & Sandy Goodman
Sue & Michael Gottlieb

DCA 2023 Membership (continued)

Jim Grant	Matt & Julie Pietras	Pam & Bob Baer	Elizabeth Garagusi
Tom Greenawalt	The Pincoski Family	Dorothy M. Bailey	Joe & Pooja Gardemal
Amy Gross	Jeff Popera	Matthew & Joyce Baker	Joe & Dee Gazda
Peter & Summer Hardinge	Stephen & Lindsay Probus	Dara Ballow-Giffen & David Giffen	Patrick Gleichmann & Yooyoung Lee
Doug & Mitzi Harlor	Paul Quattrociochi	Ed & Kim Barrow	Henry & Patty Hairston
John Hart	Devereaux Raskauskas	Jenn & Kraig Bauer	Bill Halpern & Naomi Weiss
Roy Healander	Nicole Reap	Will & Jane Becker	Becky Hanley
Ansis & Lisa Helmanis	Mark & Heather Reichardt	Marc Blass	Bill Hardy
Paul Hobelman	Jane & Tim Riggott	Michel Bonard	William Harral
Steve Holmes	Jim & Mary Rill	Vincent & Martha Drake	Mike & Mary Harrigan
Mary Horwitz & Cagle Fair	Stephen Robinson	Nick & Myrtis Brame	Diane Sylvia Harris
Takao & Hiroko Imegami	Caitlin & David Rogers	Miles & Marie-Claire Braun	Rich & Diane Harris
Paul & Jean Irwin	Carlene W Roggin	Anthony Brazell	Karl & Anna Heineman
Giuseppe Izzi	Marty Roth	Joseph & Nancy Briggs	Thekla Hellwig
Warren Jacobs	Brenda & James Rouse	Matt Brodd	Kyle & Michelle Henson
Said Jahanmir	Tom Ruder & Marisa Kahn	Nicki Bunting	Erik & Kellie Hodges
Eric & Kristin Jodts	Larry Ruhland	Aubrey Bursch & Jonathan McIntyre	Gerald Hroblak
Krista Johnson	Susanna Sammons & James Lykins	Erik & Laura Carlson	Anthony & Maryann Huffert
Peter Johnson	Tim & Katie Sanders	Peter & Lisa Carothers	Craig Jakubowics
PJ Joshi	Jim & Kathleen Savitz	Carrillo Rivera Cambas Family	Ben Jamieson
Dick & Jean Jurgena	Aleksandra & Jay Schiff	Valentin Chiscop	Robert Janku
Tina & John Kalil	Hratch Semerjian	Lowell F Christy	SangHee Jeong & Mattia Bonsignori
Rob & Carol Kasunic	Don & Mary Sherman	Larry & Sue Ciorolorito	Ellen Jimerson
Keith & Christina Kiedrow	Eric Shults	Graeme & Sarah Clark	Bonnie & Bob Johnson
Kevin & Krista Kirk	Peter & Martha Sklavos	Paul Coffin	Steve & Bernadette Jolles
(Gigi) Ghislaine Sissoko	Jeffrey Smith	Peirce & Mel Cook	Mr & Mrs Kevin Juhring
Brent & Nooshin Kostkowski	Randy & Vicki Smith	Michael Cooper	Kelli & Rich Kahalas
Shank & Laura Koundinya	Gerald & Roberta Solis	Robert Cornelsen	Nihad Kaibni
Lisa Kristiansen	Carl Spongberg	Julie & Scott Cress	Emily & Kevin Kane
Gerry & Bonnie Kunkel	Brad & Theresa Stone	Kristen Crook	Jerry & Tara Kavadias
Mark & Nancy Labus	Ruth & Mark Sweet	Randy Crow	Nancy Keshishian
Irene Lavorini	Chris Tobin	Madeline & Steven D'Alessio	Nannette King
Marjorie Leach	Winter & Corrie Troxel	Farhad Dastvan	Ed Kingman
Jason & Denise Levis	Peter & Veronica Tunon	Michael Davis	George Kinoshita
Mary Lindberg	Carl & Kelly Tyree	Greg H Deaver	Jack & Linda Knowles
Barbara & Greg Linteris	Bala & Anupama Udayakumar	Jacob DeBruin	Holger Kray
Bruce Lloyd	Bragi Valgeirsson & Ana Maria Castro	Chelsea Cook	Tim & Kathy Kurkjian
James & Randa Locke	Jay Wallace & Ursula Kattner	Jim Del Vecchio	Melissa Landrum
Keith & Terri McAllister	Kevin Warne	Peggy Dennis	Brendan & Bonnie Lane
Kathleen McConnell & Kathy McConnell	James & Nea Wheeler	Thomas & Antoinette DeRosa	John & Nancy Larue
Bob & Jennifer Miller	Vicki & Jay Wheeler	Anil & Sarala Dhingra	Ted & Elizabeth Leasure
Jamie & Joel Miller	Timothy Wiegand	Joe & Karen DiPeppe	Kenneth Lebsock
Richard Moore	Bud & Jackie Wildman	Margaret (Pat) Dolan	Laura Ledgard
Steve & Jennifer Moss	Laura Wilkes	Carol Dutil	Marc & Rebecca Lenzi
Mark & Vicki Mostrom	Stacey & Derek Woodward	Rich & Janice Edwing	Bill & Julie LeWarne
Timothy & Caitlin Mueller	Scott & Tracy Youngman	Diane Marie Epstein	Allison Linnell
Jon & Lauren Mullen	Karen & Matt Zappone	Dave & Beth Erdman	Taina Litwak
Doug & Nancy Norr		Tracy Evans & Rob Gibson	Michael Loftus
Carol & Ray Palfrey		Robert Fenimore	Natalia & Nikolay Lorinkov
Joanna Watson and Diane Palmieri	Basic	Jared & Victoria Fisher	The Lubenetskis
Pranav & Niyati Pandya	Tanner & Julie Acker	Keith & Megan Fisher	Harald Ludwig
Nitesh & Setul Patel	Matt Davis & Patricia Albrecht	Bill & Liesel Flaig	South T. Lynn
Nicholas Petruccelli	Camilla Andersen	Amy Fox	Tassey & Tom Mariani
Rachel Petruccelli	Frankie & Apostol Vassilev	Ingrid Fraley & Hugh Fisher	Don & Helene Marion
Deno & Mary Photinakis	Margaret Andreadis	James Frid	Nicholas Markoff
	Paul & Peg Arnold		

DCA 2023 Membership (continued)

Sandy McDougall	Edwin Pechous	Frederick Schuyler	Heru & Sally Mboye
Troy & Amy McEachron	Kathleen Petro	Sharon & Joseph Scopin	Katherine Noel & Neil Tyra
Peggy McEwan	James & Brenda Pettry	Scyphers Family	Syd & Jing Ulvick
Joyce McMillen	Robert Phifer	Geza P. & Margaret K. Serenyi	Jim Veirs
Ken & Kara McNulty	Dan & Wendy Pinchas	Bill Sharp	Erwin & Andree Villiger
Pamela & Steven Mendelsohn	Peter & Gail Plamondon	Bob & Linda Shaver	Steven Wagner
Arjun & Anurita Mendhiratta	Veneta Polyanova	Stanley Sherman	Edward & Kathy Wall
Mark Menzel	Martha Popovic	Nadia & Larry Skisicm	Joe & Erica Walther
Dennis & Autumn Metzger	Philip & Patricia Poulos	Nicholas Smith	Jeffrey & Natalie Watkins
Carolyn & Rene Miranda	Chris Engleman	Gary Solamon	Michael Watson
Charles Moles	Katie Rapp	Robert & Mary Sonken	Robert & Elizabeth Weaver
Brian & Kathryn Montague	Jeanne Rathsack	Erica Spencer	Tom & Michele Weaverling
Barton & Gail Moorstein	Nilou 7 Marc Razeghi	Tammy St. Laurent & Mark Kennedy	Linda Weiss
Arwah Nayar	Jerry & Nancy Reed	Mary Staab	Carole & William Rust
Phil & Cathy Newman	Richard & Winnie Ricker	Dettie Stack	Tom & Michelle Wentz
Tinh & Susan Nguyen	Tomas & Suvimol Riojas	Jeanette J Staton	Cindy Williams
Tram & Alex Cook	Hilary & Humberto Collado	Kevin Stewart	Danee Wilson
Cindy & Scott Norcross	Carlos & Angela Robledo	Rick & Lida Stifel	Jim & Margaret Wilson
Khin & Tom Nyein	Diane & Dan Romney	Mike & Kate Sufczynski	Karen Wilson
Victor Omelchenko	Chris & Elizabeth Rorick	William & Katherine Sutliff	Linda Winpisinger
Audra Oneil	Doug Ross	Manju Swaroop	Carl & Fe Wlotzko
Jennifer Orodeckis	Doug Santangelo	Chuck & Linda Szollosy	Rob & Diane Woods
Frank Osborn	Hem & Ann Satsangi	Arlene Szwed	Ryan & Rumi Young
Roger & Linda Oxley	Vijay Sazawal	Joseph Teter	Larry & Christine Youngblut
Matthew & Jennifer Patner	Jerry Scanlan	Scott Tompkins & Rhonda Yates	Abe Zeitoun
Derreck & Sharlene Paul	Marjorie Scheiber	Clark & Jane Torell	Terry & Patty Zic
Steven Paul & Sandy Brodie	Tom & Sarah Scherer	Mr. & Mrs. Quoc Tran	Robert Zweibel
Todd & Sandy Pearce	Rick Schnatz	Tom Tran	
Harry Pearre	Gary & Joyce Schumacher		

Charity Events

Comfort Cases' 2023 Annual BBQ Benefit

By Jenn Moss

Saturday, September 30, 2023

Comfort Cases warmly welcomes you to join our 2023 Annual BBQ Benefit: Fostering Focus on the Future! Our fall fundraising festivities, benefiting youth in foster care, will be held at The Comus Farm in Dickerson, MD on Saturday, September 30, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Our semi-→FARM'al evening will include awards, scholarship presentations, auctions, dinner, entertainment, and many more special surprises.

Comfort Cases was founded by the Scheer Family here in Darnestown with the goal of eliminating trash bags being carried by children in foster care in lieu of suitcases. Since being founded 10 years ago, Comfort Cases, filled with meaningful items of comfort and ne-



cessity, have reached the arms of more than 200,000 children and youth (ages newborn to 21) in foster care in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the United Kingdom.

To take part in our 2023 Annual BBQ

Benefit, commit to becoming a sponsor or secure your tickets (with limited availability) today by visiting: www.comfortcases.org/benefit.

Contact the 2023 Chair, Jenn Moss, at jmoss@comfortcases.org with questions or ideas.

Together, we will bring dignity and hope to youth in foster care!

Charity Events (continued)

Molly's ASAP Walk and Roll

By Molly Lichtenstein

Hello! The time of year has come again. Time to raise money for ASAP! My name is Molly Lichtenstein. I am 30 years old, that's nuts! When I was 16, I was diagnosed with Chiari and Syringomyelia after a soccer injury would not heal. Chiari Malformation (Arnold-Chiari)—is a serious neurological disorder where the bottom part of the brain, the cerebellum, descends out of the skull and crowds the spinal cord, putting pressure on both the brain and spine, causing many symptoms. Syringomyelia is a chronic progressive disease in which longitudinal cavities form, a syrinx, in the cervical region of the spinal cord. This characteristically results in wasting of the muscles in the hands and a loss of sensation.

After my first surgery at 16, I realized there was a huge lack of awareness in the medical community and the general public. From that day on, my life has changed, I have participated in and organized walks for the benefit of Chiari and Syringomyelia since 2009. Last year was INCREDIBLE!! With help from so many people, and despite the challenges that covid threw at us, we had an awesome walk, golf tournament, tennis round robin, and an AMAZING AUCTION! WE raised a total of \$50,808!!! This is absolutely incredible! Your support humbles me!

Since my first surgery in 2009, I have had 63 brain and spine surgeries, and I have been diagnosed with many other underlying issues: Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome, Hydrocephalus, 4th nerve palsy, and tethered cord syndrome. Every year, for the last 14 years, that number has continued to climb. I want it to STOP at 63 and never get any higher! I know that short sighted with my degenerative issues, but I want to make a difference. When I repeat about it being

a tough year, it is not for sympathy, but for education. You see, I was under the impression that I would have surgery and be good as new... That was over 60 surgeries ago. I have learned a lot since then and fight with myself constantly about "my path." "We plan, God laughs!" is a slogan I truly live by. Through "failure" after "failure," I have learned that it is all part of the journey, part of MY journey. I don't understand the reasons, but I am confident that part of my "grand plan" is to raise money for research and awareness of the illnesses that have taken so much from my family and me. But, the same illnesses have also given me so much. I have learned to stop and smell the "mums," so to speak. I have learned to appreciate everyday situations and I want to make a change. The past year has been challenging, but it has shown me that I can genuinely do ANYTHING with Molly's Army of Angels surrounding me! Thank you for your continued support and love through this crazy thing we call life!

We will hold our walk this year on September 16th, 2023, at Bretton Woods Recreation Center. We have some fun new events—Camp Chiari Kids featuring colored chalk to add a bit more purple and blue to our lives and a few other fun activities, a ladybug release in honor of or in memory of a loved one, an auction, an amazing lunch from the grills made by none other than Darnestown's Men's night group, and much more!

I am passionate about furthering research in Chiari and Syringomyelia, and I look forward to "Walking and Rolling" for a cure! If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me!

To register go to: www.wizathon.com/mollys-asap-walknroll/?p=register&action=register_start and choose a team or make your own!

To donate go to: www.wizathon.com/mollys-asap-walknroll/?p=display&action=team_Page&id=8208

Thank you so much for your continued support!

Organizations

Darne Bloomers Garden Club

By Tracy Lang

In February, the Darne Bloomers Garden Club gathered at Bretton Woods Recreation Club for a floral arranging demonstration by Sidra Forman of Sidra Forman Flowers. Sidra is a florist, chef, gardener, and artist who creates flowers for weddings and celebrations. Using foraged foliage and flowers sourced from the Dutch Auction, Sidra

created a striking arrangement in a galvanized metal cache pot around a large branch of leather leaf viburnum with a graceful arch. She added foraged foliage from nandina and Pieris shrubs, and completed the arrangement with flowers, including peonies, ranunculus, scabiosa (pincushion flower), anemone, and more, in shades of deep purple and pink, light rose, peach, dusty lavender, and white. While arranging, she spoke about the city garden tended by her

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Organizations (continued)

Continued from 12

and her husband, which is a source of flowers, fruits, and vegetables, as well as their Home Restaurant and related cooking projects. The arrangement was raffled off to one happy Darne Bloomer at the end of the meeting.

For our March meeting, Lisa Ruf and Carol Gimmel gave a presentation on creating living wreaths using a large wire wreath frame lined with moss, a jute liner, and potting soil, and “planted” with greens and flowers. For the demonstration, fillers of creeping Jenny, dusty miller, ivy, sedum, and herbs were used, as well as thrillers of potted impatiens and cut hellebore blooms from Carol’s garden. Members were provided with a sheet of instructions, including tips and tricks (e.g., dip cut ivy in root hormone before planting



Sidra’s arrangement from the February meeting.

directly in the soil), and a kit to take home to create their own wreaths with plants and flowers of their choice. The wreaths may be created with sun- or shade-loving flowers and plants and can be replenished throughout the summer as needed.

In April, John Purcell of Unfold Bio Inc., an indoor agriculture and seed company focused on the vertical farming industry, gave a dynamic, wide-ranging, and very informative presentation on Farming of the Future. Topics discussed included ways to balance consumer demand for a variety of fresh produce with year-round availability at a reasonable cost with grower challenges including rising costs, labor shortages, and tight operating margins. John also discussed current trends in consumer interests (organic, local, sustainable, and pesticide-free produce) and production (innovation, automation, and Controlled Environment Agriculture, which involves moving production systems indoors to avoid plant stresses), as well as modern breeding tools. Bowery Farming in Baltimore was mentioned as a local vertical farming company that provides produce to Giant and Safeway.

For the year-end May meeting, the Darne Bloomers traveled to Frederick for a private garden tour and luncheon at High Glen Gardens. The Darne Bloomers Garden Club meets the second Thursday of every month from September through May, typically at Bretton Woods Recreation Club. If you are interested in visiting with us or becoming a member, please email us at darnebloomers@gmail.com.

You are welcome to visit our website at www.darnebloomers.com. Happy Gardening!

DC National Rowing Club’s First Home Regatta at Riley’s Lock

By Kellie Hodges

Did you see the rowing crews racing at Riley’s Lock at the end of April? That was our home team, DC National Rowing Club, against National Cathedral and St. Albans, at our very first home race!

It was an overcast early morning, fog on the river, the regatta tents set up, food, drinks and camaraderie in the parking lot near the creek. The cheering section was spread out along the Potomac River banks. The best view of the finish line was from the historic walking bridge. Spectators could watch the athletes, tense and quiet, row from the boathouse, down the creek, under the bridge and out onto the river. Then row 1500 meters up the Potomac to the starting point buoys.

The 60’, 8 person boats are silent until the coxswain gives instruction through the headset, guiding each rower in speed, pace and wattage while also steering the boat. Backs to the finish line, the athlete’s intensity roars to life! Oars rhythmically powering through the water, deep breaths exploding, coxswain shouting instructions and drawing every ounce of power out of the boat. Of course, parents screaming encouragement from the water’s edge!

The first home race was a big success. Said Coach Julian Canha, “Hosting our first race was a big milestone for the club and one that we will look to build on going forward.” Congratulations to DCNRC who won 8 of the 11 exciting races! St. Albans and National Cathedral have been among the strongest scholastic teams, both in the DC area and nationally for many years which made it an extra meaningful race.

DCNRC is a co-ed, competitive rowing club open to high school rowers in the Washington DC area. The team practices 6 days a week, 3 seasons every year, here at the edge of Darnestown on the Potomac River.

Spring season ends in June with the Youth National Championship in Sarasota FL, so cheer them on when you see these rowers! Competitive Summer Season and Beginner Camps starts June 14th and are open to all levels, ages 13-18. www.DCNationalRowing.org

Row fast DCNRC!

Organizations (continued)



Open for the Summer! Swim, Racquet Sports, Camp, Social

By Aleks Schiff

Opening Day of Summer 2023 was a success! Now we look forward to another full and active season! Our summer programming is fully active—Summer Camp, Swim Team, Tennis and Pickleball, and many Social Events. And our membership is full!

Membership support was wonderful for our Spring Clean-up Day, and the whole Club is summer-ready with new chairs, umbrellas, and pavilion & court updates.

Tennis & Pickleball seasons are under way, and our Jr Tennis program kicked off May 1st. We now have 6 designated Pickleball courts that are very active!

Demon Swim Team had a very successful registration for a strong team this summer in Division B. Camp GreenZone has booked up quickly again this year and is packed full of engaging programming for the kids with our Camp Director, Alyssa. And our Social Events team has some great events planned throughout the year for all ages.



We are a year-round active community with tennis, pickleball, swim, camp, and social events throughout the year. Memberships are on a waitlist so don't delay and join it now at www.dsclub.com.

Connect with us for the latest updates!

Facebook: [@DarnestownSwimRacquetClub](https://www.facebook.com/DarnestownSwimRacquetClub)

Instagram: [@DSRClub](https://www.instagram.com/DSRClub) • Email: GM@dsclub.com

15004 Spring Meadows Drive, Darnestown, MD
301-330-1340

Girl Scout Troop 33217

Girl Scout Troop 33217 has been very active since forming as a new troop this last year! The troop is composed of seven lively 2nd and 3rd grade girls attending a variety of schools in Darnestown and is co-lead by

two dedicated moms who are committed to providing a fun, educational, and rewarding community-focused girl scout experience. The girls collaboratively chose the Arrow Troop crest to represent their troop's guiding principles of action and moving forward, and have been making good on that commitment.

Most recently the girls returned from their camping trip where they learned how to face fears, challenge themselves, gain new skills and encourage their fellow Brownies. They had fun on the high ropes course, team building games, exploring nature and all the age-old elements of camping, which was a first time experience for some! Unfortunately, zip lining activities were cut short by mother nature, but they are all anxious to return and complete this exciting experience.

In early April the girls also had the unique and special experience of bowling at the White House! The troop was able to enjoy some pizza and treats while trying their hand at a few rounds of bowling at the Truman Bowling Alley in the basement of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Executive



Office Building. Although there was no official competition and scores will not be disclosed, it's fair to say the girls held up solidly against the moms. The experience was one of a kind, and the girls were very appreciative to have the privilege.

The girls are also extremely proud of the success they had with their first endeavor in Girl Scout Cookie sales! In total the girls sold 2,065 boxes with final sales of \$10,525!! This success was achieved through the commitment and tireless efforts of all the girls both online and in-person, and it was a learning experience for all involved. Whether you bought cookies from the troop while you were out running errands at a store, on one of their websites, at school or at work, **Thank you to all of our neighbors, friends and family for supporting our troop!** We hope to see you again next year.

As if all of this wasn't enough, the troop has also had fun making hand-made valentines for seniors, visiting an animal shelter, planting herbs and flowers, learning from first responders, improving their robotics and coding skills, and testing their balance at ice-skating. The troop is looking forward to an upcoming yoga experience, bridging ceremony and many many more opportunities to grow creatively and intellectually together and to support the unique and individual interests of all girls. For more

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Organizations (continued)

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information on Girl Scout Troop 33217, please email the co-leaders at troop.33217@gmail.com.



P.E.O. is a Philanthropic Educational Organization founded in 1869. P.E.O. has evolved into one of the largest nonsectarian, community-based organizations with nearly 6,000 chapters and almost a quarter of a million members in the 50 states, District of Columbia, and six Canadian Provinces. In Maryland there are 1,275 members in 41 Chapters. P.E.O. Chapter AD originated in Darnestown in 1991 but we have members who live in Germantown, Rockville, Damascus and Gaithersburg.

One of our six projects is the STAR scholarship which is a \$2,500 scholarship for an exceptional woman in her final year of high school and plans to attend an accredited postsecondary education institution in the U.S. or Canada in the next academic year. The candidate will need to be recommended by Chapter AD. It is recommended that the process be started in the Sum-

mer so that the application can be submitted between August 15 through October 15th.

Another project is the Educational Loan Fund (ELF) which has a maximum value of \$12,000 for a bachelor program, \$15,000 for a master's program and \$20,000 for a doctoral program.

Another project is the Program for Continuing Education (PCE) for women whose education has been interrupted and find it necessary to return to school to support themselves and/or their families. It is a one-time, need-based grant awarded for academic, technical, or online courses. In 2023 the maximum award is \$5,000.

Another project is the Scholar Award (PSA) is a highly competitive merit-based award for women pursuing doctoral level or post graduate study or research. The maximum value is \$20,000. Applications must be submitted between August 15th and October 15th.

If you know of a possible candidate for any of the above projects please contact randalocke@gmail.com and/or view the website: www.peointernational.org.

Chapter AD meets the second Saturday of every month at 10:00 a.m. and usually has a monthly social that includes members and friends. Membership in P.E.O. is open to women 18 years of age and older. The P.E.O. sisterhood has no political or religious affiliation.

Churches

Darnestown Presbyterian Church

By Larry Ciorlito



Why Not Join a Choir? Music is a centerpiece of our Sunday worship services, and our vocal and bell choirs practice weekly in preparation. We welcome everyone who

wishes to perform with us—no tryouts necessary! Why not join us in this fun and rewarding endeavor?

Summer Schedule Starts June 24th. Starting on June 24th our Sunday worship schedule will move from 10:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., followed by fellowship over coffee, juice, and light treats. We love to see visitors and first-time attendees—why not visit us this summer?

In-Person Worship and Live-Streaming Each Sunday. We continue in-person worship each Sunday morning, and we love to see visitors! We simultane-

ously live-stream on YouTube (search for “Darnestown Presbyterian Church” and *subscribe!*), and check our church website for worship times and other updates: www.darnestownpc.org/.

Fairhaven United Methodist Church

12801 Darnestown Road, Gaithersburg, MD
www.fairhavenummaryland.com



Hybrid Worship Sunday Mornings at 10:30 a.m. Join us for worship in the sanctuary or via Zoom.

Our service is fully interactive for those at home and at the church. Special music throughout the summer is offered by soloists and small ensembles. Holy Communion is celebrated on the 1st Sunday of every month and at other special celebrations throughout

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Churches (continued)

Continued from 15

the year. The Zoom link can be requested from our church administrator, fairhavenmc@gmail.com.

Vacation Bible School—Compassion Camp— July 26-28, 2023

Compassion Camp™ “is a program where kids and families explore what it means to have compassion for others, ourselves, and the world.” Each day we’ll explore themes of compassion as they relate to the day’s scripture through music, arts and crafts, movement, games, and more! Together we will examine different places in our lives where we can cultivate compassion.

Fairhaven’s Compassion Camp™ will take place July 26th, 27th, and 28th from 6:00-8:00 p.m. A lite supper will be provided. While the content is designed with children ages PreK-5th grade in mind, we hope that children and families of all ages will join us.

Register on our website fairhavenmcmaryland.com

Our Lady of the Visitation Catholic Church

14139 Seneca Road, Darnestown, MD 20874
www.olvp.org • 301-948-5536



All are welcome to attend Mass on Summer Weekends.

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.

Daily Masses are celebrated:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday

12:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday and Thursday: 8:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Saturday: 9:00 a.m.

Schools

Butler Montessori

*An AMI-accredited school serving children
ages 6 weeks to 18 years old*

High School Now Open: Enrolling 9th-Grade Students for Fall 2023!

Butler Montessori’s Fairhaven High School Program, currently enrolling 9th-grade students, balances purposeful academic work with unique experiential components of career exploration, community service, and cultural exchange. These opportunities provide students with experiences to grow their passions, explore new fields of interest, and gain valuable adult skills. Students will have the opportunity to work with experts in their fields, learn in a real-world context, and contribute to the wider community around them. The program, currently accepting 9th-grade applicants, will expand to 10th grade in the fall of 2024. Interested in learning more? Email Emma Rodwin at emma@butlerschool.org.

Harriet Tubman Statue Visits Butler

We were honored to be the first stop in the DC area of “The Journey to Freedom” statue by Wesley Wofford.



It is currently located at Button Farm Living History Center in Germantown. The nine-foot-tall likeness of the famed emancipator, Harriet Tubman, moved via flatbed through the Main Building parking circle, and the Intermediate (ages 12–15) and Elementary (ages 6–12) children were given a presentation by Mr. Anthony Cohen from Button Farm.

“It is a 2,500-pound bronze beauty that has been traveling the country for the past few years and inspiring people about the life and legacy of probably America’s best-known freedom fighter,” —Underground Railroad Historian, Anthony Cohen

Darnestown Elementary School PTA’s 2nd Annual Charity Golf Tournament

By Jenn Moss

While getting into the SWING of fundraising, a ‘HOLE’ lot of fun was had doing a ‘HOLE’ lot of good

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Schools (continued)

Continued from 16

during Darnestown Elementary School PTA's 2nd Annual Charity Golf Tournament. Held on Monday, May 22, at Bretton Woods Golf Course, the proceeds will benefit the DES PTA's programs and Comfort Cases.

Beyond the impact on DES PTA's ongoing offerings to the community, the funds raised from the tournament will ensure through Comfort Cases that new items of comfort and necessity reach the arms of children in foster care in a backpack eliminating the trash bag youth in foster care often carry in lieu of a suitcase.

Comfort Cases' mission is to inspire communities to bring dignity and hope to youth in foster care. Comfort Cases is a national nonprofit founded in 2013 by The Scheer Family in Darnestown, headquartered in Rockville. (Learn more at: www.comfortcases.org)

Thank you to the Planning Committee, Event Co-Chairs, Sponsors, Title Sponsor, Mustang Mulligan Sponsors, Food Sponsor, Awards Sponsor, 'Hole' Lot of Good Sponsors, Sign Sponsor, Photographer, PGA Pro for Hire, Yard Sign Designer and Venue. Without all of you this would not have been possible.



A beau-TEE-ful day of golf at the DES PTA's annual golf outing.

Georgetown Hill Early School

By Nicole Reap

Can you believe that summer is almost upon us? Do you have plans for little ones to keep them engaged and having fun this summer? At Georgetown Hill, we love to explore all that summer has to offer! Join us for play-based learning, nature exploration, water activities, music and movement, sports and fitness, and forming new friendships! Our themes for the summer include "At The Seashore, Journey Around the World," and "Exploration in Nature." You can sign up for one week or the whole summer! Each week, we will be



immersed in fun topics with a different focus each day.

Monday: Super Science, Tuesday: Cooking. Wednesday: Music and Dance, Thursday: Art, Friday: Games and Sports

We are also enrolling for the 2023-24 school year, with only a few spots available. For more information call the Darnestown campus at 301-527-1761.

Seneca Academy

Spring at Seneca

Seneca Academy has finished our fortieth year in fabulous fashion! Our fifth and sixth graders have just completed their capstone projects of the IB PYP: Exhibition. Students embarked on independent research projects exploring topics related to the UN Sustainable Development Goals and presented their findings to community members in the form of a 15+ minute oral presentation as well as digital and visual displays. Bravo! Students in our preschool and elementary were also busy spending time outdoors exploring, planting, building, going on field trips, or just having a blast at recess.

Summer at Seneca

We still have spots in our summer preschool program for rising three-year-olds through rising kindergartners! Come join us "around the world" for up to seven weeks as we play, create, learn, grow, and have fun exploring a new continent each week! Visit <https://www.senecaacademy.org/summer-at-seneca> for more information and to register.

Looking Ahead to Fall

We are now enrolling for 2023-2024 for the following programs:

- Parent's Day Out (two days per week for children who will be two by Sept. 1. Potty training is not required.)
- Preschool Threes (two-, three-, or five-day options with before/after care available.)
- Pre-K Fours (four- or five-morning options as well as an extended day class, which is popular with older fours/young fives. Before/after care is available.)
- Kindergarten - Fifth Grade (Limited openings. Before/after care is available.)

To learn more, please visit www.SenecaAcademy.org or make an appointment to tour our beautiful campus through July. Please email info@senecaacademy.org to schedule!

Business Directory

Looking for a local business? The generosity of these local businesses helps to pay for the printing and distribution of *The Little Acorn*. You can also access this listing at www.darnestowncivic.org under the **Community Information** tab.

6-Twelve | Convenient Mart
14100 Darnestown Rd,
Darnestown
301-990-1700
6-12beerwinemart@gmail.com

Allstate | Insurance & Financial Services
14100 Darnestown Road, Ste. D,
Darnestown
301-670-4150
derekkaplan@allstate.com

Ameriprise Financial—Brezovek & Associates | Financial Advisor
15120 Water Oak Dr., Darnestown
301-320-1483
mbrezovec@ampf.com

Jennifer M Beitler, DDS PC | Dentist
9601 Blackwell Road Ste. 240,
Rockville
301-972-0260
info@jenniferbeitlerdds.com

Melissa Bernstein Homes, RLAH, Berkshire Hathaway | Realtor
4600 N. Park Ave., Chevy Chase
301-908-4007
www.melissabernstein.com

BK Lang Contracting Co Inc. | Residential Roofing
15721 Pagano Ln., Darnestown
301-775-7635
bklang@comcast.net

Bretton Woods | Recreation Center
15700 River Road, Darnestown
301-948-3357
www.bwrc.org

Jose Carbajal | Lawn & Landscaping, Tree removal, Snow removal, Firewood
14111 Esworthy Rd, Darnestown
jose.lawnandlandscaping@gmail.com

Carpet & Flooring LLC | Carpet & Flooring Services
14115 Seneca Road, Darnestown
240-477-7260
majid@carpetandflooringcenter.com

Clark Tree Services | Tree Service
5 Finegan Ct, Darnestown
240-560-8733
daniel@clarktrees.com

Darnestown Shell | Gas, Convenience, Auto Repairs
14020 Darnestown Rd, Darnestown
301-840-8515
darnestownshell@gmail.com

Darnestown Smiles | Family Dentistry
14128 Darnestown Rd, Darnestown
240-477-8251
mail@darnestownsmiles.com

Darnestown Swim & Racquet Club | Swim, Tennis, Summer Camp & Disc Golf Club
15004 Spring Meadows Dr,
Darnestown
301-330-1340
GM@dsrclub.com

DB&C Home Restorations | Kitchen & Bath Remodeling & Home Improvements
14905 Braemar Crescent Way,
Darnestown
301-641-0718
Lorraine@dbchomerestorations.com

Valerie Fuster, Realtor | Long & Foster Real Estate Inc.
10121 River Road, Potomac
301-299-6000
vfuster@icloud.com
valfuster.com

Georgetown Hill Early School | Preschool
15120-B Turkey Foot Road
301-527-1761
www.georgetownhill.com
darnestown@georgetownhill.com

Johnson Chimney Service | Chimney Repair & Restoration
14115 Seneca Rd, Darnestown
301-949-1780
www.johnsonchimney.com/us/
walter@johnsonchimney.com

Kerrana Kangen | Alkaline Ionized Water
14115 Seneca Rd, Darnestown
301-518-9455
www.kerranakangen.com
joni@kerranakangen.com

Lowe-Tillson Insurance & Associates, Inc. | Full-Service Insurance Agency
2403 Research Blvd. Ste. 350,
Rockville
301-258-7773
www.lowetillson.com
service@lowetillson.com

Noahs' Preferred Properties | Real Estate Management
313 Main St, Kentlands
301-674-0990
jnoah@noahsproperties.com

ohDEER | Organic Deer, Tick & Mosquito Control
833-ohDEERMoCo | 833-643-3376
MoCoMD@oh-DEER.com
www.oh-DEER.com/MoCo
@ohDEERMoCo

Pleasant Hills Farm | Specialty Flower Farm
14820 Kelley Farm Drive
240-281-2110
www.pleasanthillsfarm.com

Preferred Insurance Solutions, LLC | Auto, Home and Business Insurance
20030 Century Blvd, Ste. 201,
Germantown
301-428-3344
ins@preferredinsurancesolutions.com

Real Computer Solutions, Inc. | IT and Technology Support
1 Research Ct, Ste. 450, Rockville
301-330-REAL (7325)
www.realcomputersolutions.com

Seneca Studio | Original Handcrafted Furnishings
240-812-1792
Senecastudio.com
lukasz@senecastudio.com

Smokey Glen Farm | Event Facilities and BBQs
16407 Riffleford Rd, Darnestown
301-948-1518
jsweet@smokeyglenfarm.com

Stiles Dentistry | Dentist
333 Main St, Gaithersburg
301-947-6900
smile@stilesdentistry.com

The Surrey Inc. | Gifts & Riding Clothing & Equipment
14120 Darnestown Rd, Darnestown
301-299-8225
thesurreyinc@aol.com

SwimLabs Swim School | Swim School
353 Muddy Branch Rd,
Gaithersburg
240-801-4518
ddombay@swimlabs.com

Tabor Design Build | Home Improvements
15740 Crabbs Branch Way,
Rockville
301-417-6570
www.tabordesignbuild.com

The Tyra Law Firm, LLC | Estate Planning Law Office
199 East Montgomery Ave, Suite 100,
Rockville
301-315-0811
neiltyra@tyralawfirm.com

United Service Specialists | HVAC Services
7559 Rickenbacker Dr,
Gaithersburg
dispatch@calluss.com

Valley Mill Camp | Camp
15101 Seneca Rd, Darnestown
301-948-0220
www.valleymill.com
evelyn@valleymill.com

Wilniq Auto Body & Mechanical Repairs | Auto Body Shop
14125 Seneca Rd, Darnestown
301-545-1800
www.wilniq.com
autobody@wilniq.com

Windridge Vineyards | Vineyard
15700 Darnestown Rd, Darnestown
301-607-4399
robert@windridgefarm.com

Interested in joining this list?
Please use our online
application form at
darnestowncivic.org.

Darnestown Schools, Organizations & Churches

If you are a Darnestown school, organization or church and would like your name added to this list, please send your information to acorn@darnestowncivic.org

Organizations

Boy Scout Troop 1094
sm@troop1094.org

**Darne Bloomers
Garden Club**
www.Darnebloomers.com

**Darnestown Civic
Association**
14100G Darnestown Rd
Darnestown, MD 20874
www.Darnestowncivic.org

Girl Scout Troop 33217
troop.33217@gmail.com

P.E.O. International
www.peointernational.org

Churches

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

**Fairhaven United Methodist
Church**
Rev. Kenneth Hawes
12801 Darnestown Rd
Darnestown, MD 20874
301-330-5433

**Gaithersburg International
Christian Fellowship**
13101 Darnestown Rd
Gaithersburg, MD 20878
301-869-8343
welcoming@gicf.church

**Our Lady of the Visitation
Parish**
Father Greg Shaffer
14139 Seneca Rd
Darnestown MD 20874
301-948-5536
www.Olvp.org
parishoffice@olvp.org

Seneca Community Church
Rev. Kenneth N. Nelson
13900 Berryville Rd
Darnestown, MD 20874
301-869-9326

**St. Nicholas Episcopal
Church**
Rev. Beth O'Callaghan
15575 Germantown Rd
Darnestown, MD 20874
240-631-2800
www.Saintnicks.com

Schools

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

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

**Darnestown Elementary
School**
15030 Turkey Foot Rd
Darnestown, MD 20878
301-548-4260

**Georgetown Hill Early
School**
15120-B Turkey Foot Road
Darnestown, MD 20878
301-527-1761
www.georgetownhill.com

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

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

Mary of Nazareth School
14131 Seneca Rd
Darnestown, MD 20874
301-869-0940
www.Maryofnazareth.org

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

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

The Little Acorn

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Darnestown Civic Association

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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 acorn@darnestowncivic.org before August 1, 2023. Please let us know if you no longer want to be listed. Of course, for those over 21, you may be listed as an adult. We reserve this listing for those who are members of the DCA. A great reason to join! Note that babysitters and mother's helpers must be under 21 to be listed.

Babysitters & Mother's Helpers

Esther Clark (2007) 240-328-9842
Rachel Clark (2005) 240-618-5809
Jennifer Juhring (2004) 240-575-0009
Ashley Mostrom (2003) 240-277-8526
Georgia Mostrom (2007) 240-480-8622
Melissa Szwed (2004) 301-519-0645

House/Pet Sitters

Liv Gabri (2009) 240-353-7079
Kirabo Payne (2009) 202-257-9378
Jonas Skucas (2005) 301-525-2501

Notary Services

Tina Kalil 301-943-9840
Elisa Lane 301-990-2993



Darnestown Civic Association, Inc.

14100G Darnestown Road

Darnestown, MD 20874

Email: dca@darnestowncivic.org

Website: darnestowncivic.org

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