



THE LITTLE ACORN

THE DARNESTOWN CIVIC ASSOCIATION
darnestowncivic.org

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Summer 2026

President's Corner



Notes from the President

The Darnestown Civic Association (DCA) has been closely involved in the Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) School Boundary Study over the past year, and I want to share a quick update with the community. This was truly a Darnestown-wide effort. The DCA partnered closely with the Darnestown Elementary School (DES) PTA, gathered feedback through community surveys, and helped organize a strong letter-writing campaign so families could make their voices heard directly with MCPS and the Board of Education.

While residents had different opinions on which specific middle and high schools they preferred, we heard a very consistent theme: parents want to keep kids together as they move from middle school to high school. In our community survey, which received 181 responses, 72% supported a path where students stay with the same peer group. That makes a lot of sense—those friendships and connections matter, both in and out of the classroom. The DCA advocated directly to the Superintendent and Board of Education to consider options that would allow our kids to maintain their cohort from middle school through high school.

Unfortunately, that was not the County's final decision. Starting in fall 2027, students from DES will attend Kingsview Middle School (DES currently articulates to Lakelands Park Middle School) and then go on to Poolesville High School (DES students currently attend Northwest High School). This change will affect several groups of students, including incoming 6th graders and current 7th graders (who will shift

What's Happening in Darnestown

Further details can be found in this issue.

Sundays through Aug. 2, 2026

5:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Darnestown Adult Softball League Games

Cliff Bland Park

See page 4 for details

September 17, 2026

7:30 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

Darnestown Civic Association Town Hall

Location to be announced in August

Go to www.darnestowncivic.org for more information

November 1, 2026

Deadline for the Winter issue of *The Little Acorn*

Email ideas, questions or articles to

acorn@darnestowncivic.org

to Kingsview), as well as incoming 9th graders and current 10th graders (who will move to Poolesville). Darnestown students will be the only group moving from Kingsview Middle School to Poolesville High School, while most of their middle school classmates will continue on to Northwest.

Throughout the process, a number of alternative options were discussed that could have kept middle school and high school pathways more closely aligned while still working within MCPS capacity goals. While those didn't end up being the final outcome, the conversations were thoughtful, data-driven, and shaped by real community input. I think they helped clearly highlight what matters most to Darnestown families.

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Community News

Continued from page 2

As these changes move forward—and with an elementary school boundary study on the horizon—the DCA will continue advocating on behalf of our community. A big focus right now is helping students through the transition, especially rising high schoolers, where many families have asked for some added flexibility to stay at Northwest if possible. I know there are a range of perspectives across Darnestown, but at the end of the day, we all want the same thing: for our kids to have a stable, supportive, and high-quality school experience

Welcome to Darnestown Aspire Veterinary Hospital

Dr. Matheny opened Aspire Veterinary Hospital in April at 14112 Darnestown Road (formerly a bank) in the Village Center. She grew up in Rockville, Maryland and was excited to find a location in Darnestown. Dr. Matheny earned her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree at Virginia Tech and has multiple other specialty certifications.

Services include wellness and sick care, surgery, dentistry, geriatric care, acupuncture, pain management, and a digital imaging suite that can take X-rays while patients are laying down or standing up. Other features include outdoor exams rooms, aquatic treadmills, comfort kennels, non-slip flooring and a drive-thru option.

Visit their website: www.aspirevethospital.com, give them a call at 301-366-0040, or drop by for a hospital tour anytime between 12:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m., Monday–Friday.

Remembering a Cherished Community Member Daniel S. Shaheen 1936-2026

As many of you might already know, former Darnestown Elementary School principal (1980-1989) Daniel S. Shaheen passed away peacefully on February 18, 2026 following a lengthy illness.

Daniel was born May 22, 1936 in Detroit, Michigan. He attended St. Charles Borromeo Catholic School in Detroit until graduation, after which he enlisted in the U.S. Army, attended the University of Miami (B.A.) and Appalachian State University (M.Ed.). After graduation from Appalachian State, Dan worked for Montgomery County Public Schools as a teacher, reading specialist, and principal at several elementary schools including Bannockburn, Darnestown, and Carderock Springs, retiring after 35 years. After retirement, he worked for the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C. as principal at St. Mary of the Mills School in Laurel, MD and St. Bartholomew School in Bethesda, MD. For over 25 years Dan also worked as a high school football official for the Washington District Football Officials Association, serving as president for several years.

Dan was a loving and supportive husband of 60 years to his lovely wife Joanne, devoted father to his three children John Daniel, Mark, and MaryBeth, and doting grandfather to his nine grandchildren Ryan, Caitlin Maggie, Erin, Timmy, Conor, Danny,



Emma, and Katie, all of whom he adored. He enjoyed traveling the world with his wife and meeting new people along the way. He also loved to cook and eat Lebanese food,

passing that love to his children and grandchildren. Most of all, Dan loved his family and spending time with his grandchildren, rivaled only by his love for and devotion to the University of Miami Hurricanes Football team (a subject that brought great shame to some members of the family). He was a man of many opinions, which he was happy to share whether you wanted to hear them or not. Tops among them: his grandchildren could do no wrong, the coaches of most of his favorite teams had no idea what they were doing, and just about anything was better if you added sausage.

Thank you, Dan, for your service to our country, your devotion to your family, and your strong, caring leadership at Darnestown Elementary School. The Darnestown community will always remember you.

Community News (continued)

2026 Scholarship Winners Announcement

By the Darnestown Civic Association Scholarship Committee

The Darnestown Civic Association is excited and proud to announce the winners of the annual DCA and Bruce Deppa Scholarships. All applicants were graduating seniors within the DCA boundaries.

The DCA Scholarship which supports the applicant who demonstrated civic engagement, was awarded to **Maddie McQueen**.

The Bruce Deppa Scholarship, which supports the applicant who embodies all things Darnestown, was awarded to **Celia Watkins**.

The DCA Scholarship program seeks to further the DCA's mission of supporting and enhancing the lives of Darnestown residents, specifically the youth. Once again, the applicant pool proved that Darnestown's future is bright! Congratulations Maddie and Celia. The Darnestown community wishes you lots of success as you begin your new journey!



Celia Watkins, recipient of the Bruce Deppa Scholarship, and Maddie McQueen, recipient of the DCA Scholarship

DCA Scholarship Essay

By Maddie McQueen

Darnestown has shaped my life long before I was born. 45 years ago, my grandparents immigrated from Peru and Guatemala in search of better opportunities. They built their lives in Darnestown, raised five children here, and found a community that supported them as they built a strong future for their family. One of those children was my mother, who loved this community so deeply that she chose to raise me here, too.

I've had the unique experience of attending the same elementary school my own mother attended as a student. At Darnestown Elementary School, I remember the frequent use of the phrase "Character Counts" and learning about its 6 pillars: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship. To me, these weren't just words taped to a classroom wall; they were values that ultimately showed me the kind of person I wanted to be.

Inspired by those values, I wanted to create meaningful change within my own community. I founded the club Smiles For Kids. This club is dedicated to partnering with organizations around the DMV to serve pediatric hospital patients. Through great community involvement, I've had the privilege of leading fundraisers and donation drives, which were able to raise thousands of dollars worth of materials for patients and families. One of the most rewarding parts of this experience was seeing members of the Darnestown community come together in support of a cause larger than themselves. It showed me how powerful

a connected and compassionate community can be when we are willing to support one another.

Beyond larger initiatives, I've also tried to contribute to Darnestown through everyday acts of kindness and connection. I started teaching piano lessons to younger children in the community. I've had the honor of helping to empower these young minds with confidence in their musical abilities and themselves as well. My siblings and I also enjoy creating moments of joy during the summer. Since we live close to the Darnestown Swim and Racquet Club, we'll pass out free ice cream and popsicles to cars that drive by on hot days. We also host lemonade stands and pass out handmade bracelets to brighten people's day. One hobby I took on as a young girl was painting rocks with encouraging messages. I would place them in common areas around Darnestown, in hopes that someone who needed a little motivation or joy would see the rock and know that someone was thinking of and caring about them. Though some of these actions may seem small, their impacts have been just as great.

This community is more than just the place I live. Darnestown gave my grandparents a place to build a future, gave my mother a place to call home, and gave me the values that now guide the way I serve others. For that, I will always strive to give back to the community that first gave so much to my family.

Community News (continued)

Darnestown Softball First Pitch!

First pitch for the softball season was on April 19, 2026 and for the first time since the 2005 season, we made it through seven weeks of game play without a rainout! For the first pitch, the lead-off batter for Jones Lane was Jonny Layne who took the first pitch from Western Darnestown's Peter Moyer with Lauren Swan defending 3rd-base, George Bussey covering shortstop, and Jeff Crouch catching. Bondy-Haddonfield-Ridgefield's Paul "Crash" Goetz officiated the first game and Matt Legge, Jones Lane, coached 3rd-base.

Below are the team standings as of July 1. Game play continues through August 2nd. If you would like to know more about the Darnestown Softball league, contact Dave Bivans at softball@darnestowncivic.org.



TEAM	Wins	Losses	Games Behind
Jones Lane	5	2	--
Central Darnestown Swingers	5	2	---
Bondy-Haddonfield-Ridgefield	3	4	2.0
Western Darnestown	1	6	4.0

Safety Update



On Tuesday, June 23, Montgomery County Police Officer Currie and Officer Beardsley, joined the DCA Town Hall to provide a local public safety update and answer resident's questions.

In addition to discussing recent crime trends in our area (there's not a lot actually), they shared several free resources available to Darnestown residents:

- Theft Prevention Tips to help reduce the risk of vehicle and property theft.
- Non Emergency Police Assistance for reporting concerns that don't require a 911 response (see list of contact numbers below).
- Crime Solvers information for anonymously

reporting criminal activity. www.montgomerycountymd.gov/government/departments-agencies/montgomery-county-police-department/how-do-i/crime-solvers

- Free Home Security Surveys, where an officer will visit your home, evaluate your property's security, and offer personalized recommendations to help make your home safer. To schedule a free Home Security Survey, contact your Community Services Officer www.montgomerycountymd.gov/government/departments-agencies/montgomery-county-police-department/districts/find-my-police-district.

We encourage neighbors to take advantage of these valuable services. A few simple steps can go a long way toward preventing crime and keeping our community safe.

Rockville District Station 240-773-6070

Non-Emergency Dispatch 301-279-8000

Auto Traffic Enforcement 866-818-3844

Central Processing (CPU) 240-777-9795

Commissioner's Office 301-610-7217

MCPD Warrants Division 240-773-5360

MCPD Records Division 240-773-5330

Check and Fraud 240-773-6330

MC Sheriff's Office 240-777-7000

Rockville City PD 240-314-8900

MD State Police 301-424-2101

Crisis Center 240-777-4000

311 (for Non-Police issues) 240-777-0311

Congratulations Darnestown's 2026 Graduates!



Sean Apgar

*Our Lady of Good Counsel
High School*

Sean will be attending Wake Forest University to double major in biochemistry & molecular biology and Spanish.



Danny Barrow

*Our Lady of Good Counsel
High School*

Danny will be attending Virginia Tech to study accounting.



Adelaide Colleran

Northwest High School

Addy will be attending the University of Florida to study finance.



Antonio Conte

Northwest High School

Antonio will be attending Shepherd University to study business administration.



Benjamin Goodie

University of Denver

Benjamin graduated with a BS in Property Development and Construction.



Kendall Gould

Northwest High School

Kendall will be attending the University of Delaware to study psychology.



Jackson Gresham

*Our Lady of Good Counsel
High School*

Jackson will be attending Lehigh University to study sports medicine and play soccer.



Corey Gross

University of Maryland

Corey is graduating with a BS degree in Computer Science and a minor in Business Administration. He will begin his career with Northrop Grumman upon graduation.



Owen Hall

Quince Orchard High School

Owen will be attending the University of Virginia to study business, which is referred to as "commerce" at UVA.



Timmy Hanson

Our Lady of Good Counsel

Timmy will be attending San Diego State University to study civil engineering.



Isabelle Karst

Northwest High School

Isabelle will be attending the University of Virginia to study marketing.



Ahilan Kurlekar

Poolesville High School

Ahilan will be attending the College of William and Mary to major in international relations as part of a joint degree program with the University of St. Andrews.



Emma Lucas

Northwest High School

Emma will be attending Montgomery College in the fall to explore her options in General Studies.



Maggie McIntrye

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Maggie is graduating magna cum laude with a BS in Business Information Technology and a BS in Entrepreneurship, Innovation, and Technology Management. She will be working as an analyst at the Leidos Corporation in Reston, VA.



Lucy McNulty

Northwest High School

Lucy will be attending the University of Notre Dame to study physics.



Madeleine McQueen

Quince Orchard School

Madeleine will be attending Brigham Young University to study biology (pre-med).



Charlotte Osborn

Northwest High School

Charlotte will be attending James Madison University to explore her options in General Studies.



Kyle Osborn

Northwest High School

Kyle will be attending the University of Pittsburgh to explore his options in General Studies.



Andrew Photinakis

Rochester Institute of Technology

Andrew earned his BS degree in Computer Science with cum laude honors. This summer, Andrew will be working as a Software Development Engineer intern for Amazon Web Services, and will return to RIT to complete his MS in Computer Science.



Lauryn Popera

*Our Lady of Good Counsel
High School*

Lauryn will be attending the University of South Carolina—Honors College to study political science.



Jillian Roth

North Carolina State University

Jillian is graduating with a BA in psychology and a minor in history.



Cleo Rust

*Watkins Mill High School –
IB Program*

Cleo will be attending the George Washington University to major in English, with a first year in Paris as part of the Paris Scholar Program.



Jordan Hunter Schiff

College of Charleston

Jordan is graduating with a BA in History. He will begin his professional career as the Manager of Finance with The Ethos Athletic Club of Charleston.



Madeleine Schully

Quince Orchard High School

Maddie will be attending the University of Pittsburgh (Honors College) to major in Biochemistry and minor in studio arts.



Wyatt Swick

Northwest High School

Wyatt will be attending Louisiana State University to explore his options in General Studies.



Sofia Tartaglione

*Butler Montessori,
Fairhaven High School*

Sofia will be attending Stevenson University to major in creative writing.



Charlie Thomas

University of South Carolina

Charlie has graduated cum laude with a BS in Hospitality Management.



Kate Thomas

Whitmore High School

Kate will continue as a working student and staff member at Beyond A Bay, Inc.



Tim Thomas

University of South Carolina

Tim has graduated cum laude with a BS in Sports Management.



Natasha Troike

University of Richmond

Natasha has graduated summa cum laude with a BA in Psychology and Leadership Studies and a minor in Data Science and Statistics. She will pursue her Master's degree in Forensic Psychology at John Jay College of Criminal Justice in NYC this fall.



Alyssa Vuocolo

Northwest High School

Alyssa will be attending Montgomery College in the fall to study art.



Sienna Vuocolo

Northwest High School

Sienna will be attending George Washington University to study astronomy and astrophysics.



Celia Watkins

Our Lady of Good Counsel High School

Celia will be attending Georgetown University to study business and continue her swimming career.



Caleigh Wilson

*Pamplin College of Business
Virginia Polytechnic
Institute and University*

Caleigh is graduating with a Master's Degree in Accounting and Information Systems. She will begin her post-graduate career working for Cherry Bekaert as a first-year tax associate beginning in August.



Max Yuen

*Butler Montessori,
Fairhaven High School*

Max will be attending Northeastern and is part of the London Scholars Program. He will study business and plans to explore specialty options in that field.

Congratulations
Darnestown's
2026
Graduates!

DCA 2026 Membership

This membership listing should be effective through May 2026. 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 Convenience Store
BBDASH Contracting
Melissa Bernstien Homes,
RLAH - Christine's
International Real Estate
Birchwood Holiday Lighting
and Lawn care
Bretton Woods
Brezovec & Associates
Jose Carbajal
Carpet & Flooring Inc.
Clark Tree Service
Darnestown Shell
Darnestown Smiles
Darnestown Swim & Racquet
Club
Valerie Fuster, Realtor
Georgetown Hill Early School
Johnson Chimney Service
Johnson Roofing Service
Lowe-Tilson Insurance &
Associates, Inc.
Noah Preferred Properties
ohDEER of Montgomery
County
Pleasant Hills Farm
Preferred Insurance Solutions
Miguel Saba, Realtor
Seneca Studio
Smokey Glen Farm
Stiles Dentistry
Swimlabs Swim School
Train with DMV
The Tyra Law Firm, LLC
United Service Specialists
Valley Mill Camp
Windridge Winery

ACORN

Matt & Heather Ahrens
Susan Allaway
The Apgar Family
Connie & Mike Barnhart
Jim Weiss & Rosetta Cavallo
Scott & Kendra Damiecki
E Worth & Karen Edwards
LeeAnne Gelletly & David
Clark

Maria Gomez & Mauricio
Canargo
Andrea Grant & Sandy Merber
Helmanis Family
Paul & Holly Klee
John & Susan Krimigis
Brian & Tracy Lang
Phil Levinton & Robin Gross
Brad & Liz Long
Christina & Edward O'Day
Mary Ann Pelleymounter
Robert B. Quackenbush
Rob & Reece Scheer
Seneca Academy
Fran Soistman
Ross Williams
Dieter & Cynthia Willkomm
Larry & Faye Zoeller

SPONSOR

Joan Abell & William Bowman
Guy Armantrout & Susan Keyes
Dave & Laura Bivans
Tina Bosse & David Schwab
Steve & Caroline Boukedes
Jeff & Tara Bryson
David & Janet Buchanan
Chris & Karrie Cerone
Dan & Monica Dean
Cliff Dean
Mark & Tara Deane
Luanne Deppa
Margery Edmundson
Nancy El-Hibri
Louise Evans
Valerie & Phil Fuster
Larry & Marilee Giebel
Elizabeth Girard
The Glass-Royal Family
Jeffrey & Sandy Goodman
Jim & Pam Grant
Amy & Len Gross
Mindy Willer & Paul
Hobelmann
The Howard Family
Stephen & Stella Hsu
Takeo & Hiroko Ikegami
Barbara & Gary Kahn
Nancy & Jon Kaplan
Susan Kick

Terry Killen
Kaspars & Dagnisa Kreslins
Gerry & Bonnie Kunkel
Mark & Barbara Lichtenstein
Richard Mead & Loretta Favret
Robert & Ashley Moir
Rick & Reine Moore
Joel Myklebust
Shane & Rebecca Neff
Amad Osman
Patterson-Troike Family
Scott & Barbara Plumer
Roschewski Family
Tim & Katie Sanders
Cary Silverman & Robin Lang
Eric Smart & Pam DuBois
Paul & Ursula Rivers; Jessica
Stephens
Terry & Linda Sweeney
Betty Sweet
Rob & Janet Swisher
Doug & Bridgette Theurer
Jerry & Verna Van Wert
James & Nea Wheeler
Shida & Shawn Ziglari

FRIEND

Richard Adamson
Isaac & Fay Adato
Glenn & Pamela Arons
Pam & Bob Baer
John & Karen Barkley
David Boulton & Celia
Kingsbury
Peter Boyd & Ellen Klosson
Christine & Chris Brady
Benjamin & Christina Buchta
James & Joan Carlberg
Robert & Lucille Carroll
Brad & Carol Carter
Ron Chesemore
Janice Coe & Keith Sinner
Jim & Jeanne Coley
Tony & Kim Conte
Gary & Christina Coppeler
Kristen & Steve Crook
Mike & Bonnie Crough
Jacob H. & Gerritdina de Bruin
Steve & Carole DeMinco
Sue Dingess

Joseph & Carmen DiPietro
Keith & Marilyn Donson
Rich & Janice Edwing
Buddy Ey & Leslie Tripp
The Flieger & Wilkinson
Household
Pat Foley
Lorice Frost
James Garner
Paul & Beth Gaukler
Boris & Karmen Ghazarian
Robert Gilman
Bobbie Goldstein
Sue & Michael Gottlieb
Jane & Ryan Hall
Peter & Summer Hardinge
William Harral
William & Kimberly Herrington
The Hill Family
Lewis Hixson
Erik & Kellie Hodges Family
Mary Horwitz & Cagle Fair
Jerry & Elvira Hroblak
Paul & Jean Irwin
Leticia Maria Mirwald
Eric & Kristin Jodts
Bob & Bonnie Johnson
Peter Johnson & Andi Dennison
Steve & Bernadette Jolles
Glory Joseph
Perry & Florence Kasule-Payne
Keith & Christina Kiedrow
Mike & Jackie King
Kirk Kley
Linda & Jack Knowles
The Kopp Family
Mark & Nancy Labus
Michael & Debra Loftus
Lubenetskis
Nancy Magurn
Mark Marshall
Keith & Terri McAllister
Ken & Kara McNulty
Hector Medina & Veronika Ruf
Bob & Jennifer Miller
Richard Moore
Michael & Susan Moses
Mark & Vicki Mostrom
Scott & Melissa Mostrom
Tim & Caitlin Mueller

DCA 2026 Membership (continued)

Donna & Gerry Murphy
Dean & Jean Noah
Cindy & Scott Norcross
Audra O'Neil
Frank & Suzanne Osborn
Carol & Ray Palfrey
Pranav & Niyati Pandya
Nick & Vanda Petrucci
Charles & Smriti Popenoe
Bob & Angie Randall
Craig & Michelle Rathbone
Mark & Heather Reichardt
Mary & Jim Rill
Caitlin & Dave Rogers
Kelley Rogers
Susanna Sammons & James
Lykins
James & Kathleen Savitz
Megan & Matt Carofano
Aleks & Jay Schiff
Carol & Rick Schnatz
Jeffrey Schriver
Hratch Semerjian & Margaret
Tamburello
Jeff & Merikay Smith
Brad & Theresa Stone
Mark Sweet
Andy & Christina Swick
Chris Tobin & Thalia Tobin
Josephine Trenchard
Susan & Ali Vafa
Mike & Jenny Verkouteren
Stephen & Deborah Waechter
Jay Wallace & Ursula Kattner
Laura & Mike Wallerstedt
Jeff & Kristin Wharton
Stacey & Derek Woodward
Charles & Donna Yanjanin
Scott & Tracy Youngman

BASIC

Joseph & Mary Adamiik
David & Margaret Andreadis
Dorothy M. Bailey
Barry & Caitlin Bannister
Kim Barrow
William G Becker
David Flinchum & Jennifer
Beitler-Flinchum
Kevin & Ivi Bradley
Nick & Myrtis Brame; Nikea &
Nicholas
Miles & Marie-Claire Braun

Wayne & Kate Briere
Roy & Sharon Brooks
Lee & Betty Brown
Paul & Holly Buehler
Nicki Bunting
Cyndi & Larry Cain
Mark & Katie Calis
Erik Carlson & Michelle
Altman
Richard Chiapparoli
Larry & Susan Ciolorito
Paul & Stephanie Coffin
Michael & Veronica Cooper
Frank & Janet Cornelius
Robert Cornelsen
Scott & Julie Cress
Randy & Liz Crow
Madeline & Steven D'Alessio
Karen & David Danoff
Julia Davis
Jim & Pam Del Vecchio
Thomas & Antoinette DeRosa
Anil & Sarla Dhingra
Stephanie & Brian Dickel
Katherine Dodson
Margaret (Pat) Dolan
Maureen Dufresne
Carol & Steve Dutil
Diane Marie Epstein
Dave & Beth Erdman
Ronald & Nancy Farhood
Tom & Mary Catherine Fuerst
Kris Fletcher
Ingrid Fraley & Hugh Fisher
Chelsea & Scott Friedberg
Dee & Joe Gazda
Paul & Lisa Goetz
Kelly & Daniel Gowetski
Tom & Kelly Greenawalt
Henry & Patty Hairston
Rich & Diane Harris
Margaret Hart
Roy & Alice Healander
Karl & Anna Heineman
Thekla Hellwig
Henson Family
Anthony & Maryann Huffert
Marc & Jodi Hyer
Said & Feri Jahanmir
Craig Jakubowics
Kathy & Bandele Jeffrey-Coker
Alberto & Marianella Jimenez
de Lucio

Christine A. Josset
Isabelle & Kevin Juhring
John & Tina Kalil
Rob & Carol Kasunic
Jerry & Tara Kavadias
Nancy Keshishian
Nannette King
Tom Kochuba
Tim & Kathy Kurkjian
Bonnie & Brendan Lane
Le Lemon
Bill & Julie LeWarne
The Liebler Family
James & Randa Locke
Natalia Lorinkova
South & Joanne Lynn
Tamara Lyons
Tom Mariani
Jennifer Martinez
John & Toby Mattingly
Mike & Marti McAllister
Sandy McDougall & Family
Peggy McEwan
Joyce McMillen
David & Lemmietta McNeilly
Terrence & Beth McShane
Pamela Mendelsohn
Arjun & Anurita Mendhiratta
Cheryle Milburn
Kevan & Jackie Miller
Charles & Nancy Moles
Barton & Gail Moorstein
Eric & Corinne Nelson
Phil & Cathy Newman
Doug & Nancy Norr
Victor & Carol Omelchenko
Jim & Dori O'Sullivan
Roger & Linda Oxley
Aisaya Oyekola
Matthew & Jennifer Patner
Steven Paul & Sandra Brodie
Dereck & Sharlene Paul
Edwin & Martha Pechous
Kathleen Petro & Martin
Riskam
James & Brenda Pettry
Robert & Mariana Phifer
Dan & Wendy Pinchas
Pincoski Family
Martha Popovic
Susan & David Quackenbush
Matthew M. Quinn
Katie Rapp

Raymonds
Jerry & Nancy Reed
Richard & Winnie Ricker
Carlene Roggin
Jill & Doug Ross
John & Terry Sabin
Robin & Sarah Salomon
Doug & Sallie Santangelo
Jerry & Janet Scanlan
Tom & Sarah Scherer
Lothar Schuettler & Gretchen
Carroll
Joseph & Sharon Scopin
The Scyphers Family
Geza Serenyi
Maryann & Bill Sharp
Helen Sherman
Robert W Sherrin
John & Cindy Slaughter
Nicholas Smith
Gary Solamon
Dettie Stack
Bill & Katharine Sutliff
Lauren & John Swan-Wang
James Taylor & Samantha
Connolly
Michael & Virginia Tony
Clark & Jane Torell
Mr. & Mrs Quoc Tran
Noel & Nel Tyra
Carl & Kelly Tyree
Syd & Jing Ulvick
Daniela von Estorff &
Tom Rowe
Steven & Ernette Wagner
Ed & Kathy Wall
Lisa & Dean Watts
Linda & David Weiss
Tim & Gina Whitney
Tim Wiegand
Bud & Jackie Wildman
Laura Wilkes
John & Judy Wilkinson
Cindy Williams & Greg Foels
Jim & Margaret Wilson
Linda Winpisinger
Rob & Diane Woods
Katie & Dave Young
Ryan & Rumi Young
Lawrence & Christine
Youngblut
Terrence Zic
Robert & Linda Zweibel

Organizations

Darne Bloomers Garden Club

By Tracy Lang

In February, the Darne Bloomers Garden Club hosted Joseph Richardson, of Richardson and Associates Landscape Architecture, at Bretton Woods Recreation Club. Joseph started by clarifying the difference between landscape architecture and landscape design, noting that landscape architects are trained in grading, drainage, and construction techniques, in to design principles and horticulture. He described the firm's stepwise process, which starts with initial inspiration and consultation and continues through: site analysis and assessment; schematic design and development of hardscape followed by planting, lighting, and irrigation; and guidance for maintenance and care of the finished product. In addition, he shared photos of two stunning projects completed in Potomac: a classic design featuring a lush green garden and a glass pavilion; and a spare, modern design featuring Yoshino cherry trees. Trends for 2026 include: ecological resilience and regenerative water management; outdoor living rooms; productive landscapes including vegetables, fruits, and herbs; health and wellness (saunas and cold plunges, yoga platforms); smart technology (integrated lighting systems, weather-responsive irrigation); and outdoor recreation spaces. At our request, Joseph also listed some of his favorite landscaping plants, including Annabelle and Endless Summer hydrangeas, Visions in Pink astilbe, white liriopé, hornbeam hedges, and Natchez crape myrtles.

In March, local rising chef, Ryan Jones, delivered a very informative presentation on cooking with herbs, including a demonstration and numerous recipes. Ryan, whose background includes education in both science and the culinary arts, shared his love of cooking with us and provided all the details a gardener could wish for on herbs: growing conditions (proper drainage, sunlight, and air circulation); which herbs are sun-loving (basil, rosemary, thyme, and dill) vs. shade-loving (parsley, mint, chives, oregano); and recommended herb-gardening activities through the seasons. For the cooks in the club, he discussed the differences between soft herbs (basil, mint, parsley, dill, cilantro, and chives) vs. hard herbs (rosemary, thyme, sage, oregano, and sage) along with suggested uses and storage tips; techniques for cutting or tearing different herbs; and tips on selecting herbs when

cooking, including suggested pairing partners. He concluded his presentation by preparing a basil soda for the group (easily converted to a French 75 with the addition of gin!). To accompany Ryan's presentation, committee members prepared basil-infused olive oil, compound chive butter, and basil lemonade and soda for us to sample at our tables.



April Arrangements

The Darne Bloomers assembled in April for our annual service project, creating bedside bouquets in mint julep cups for local assisted living centers. This year the committee was inspired by tulips, sourcing a gorgeous selection of tulips in all colors, shapes, and sizes from member Amy Kurtenbach.

In addition, the group prepared a presentation on the history of tulips and gardening with tulips. Did you know that tulips are native to the Near East (Turkey) and Central Asia (e.g., Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan), where they grow in the mountainous regions? Have you read about Tulip Mania (three crazy years in the Netherlands in the mid 1600s that began with a spectacular tulip resulting from a genetic mutation, during which tulip bulbs were traded for gold, and which ended in a crash on a single day of trading)? In honor of tulips, the banquet table was graced with an assortment of gorgeous arrangements in tulipiere vases, most provided by member Lisa Ruf. Each arrangement was completed with a signed notecard (decorated with tulips) and delivered to seniors at The Village at Rockville Retirement Community as well as the Nightingale House and Darnestown Gardens residential care facilities.

For our annual May luncheon, the Darne Bloomers will meet at Surreybrooke Gardens in Middletown, MD, where members will tour the grounds and enjoy a catered luncheon. The Darne Bloomers Garden Club meet 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!

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Organizations (continued)

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Darnestown Swim and Racquet Club



Membership at the Darnestown Swim and Racquet Club offers families access to a close-knit, member-owned community centered on recreation and connection. While membership is currently in high demand and managed

through a waitlist, those who join enjoy a full season of amenities including swimming, tennis, pickleball, and social programming, all designed for all ages.

From active play to youth development, the club delivers a well-rounded experience. Pickleball—one of the fastest-growing sports—is available for all skill levels, offering an easy-to-learn, social, and fitness-friendly activity. Younger members can take part in Camp Green-Zone, a multi-sport summer camp featuring swimming, games, crafts, and themed weekly sessions for children ages 5–12. The club also fields a competitive swim team, giving kids the opportunity to build skills, teamwork, and confidence throughout the summer season.

This summer is especially meaningful as the club celebrates its 50th anniversary—a milestone that highlights decades of community, tradition, and family memories. Members can look forward to special events and festivities throughout the season, honoring the club's history while bringing together past and present members to celebrate everything that makes the Darnestown Swim and Racquet Club such a cherished place.

See you on the deck!

Please visit dsrclub.com/
for more information or contact gm@dsrclub.com

DSRC Turns 50

For our 50th Anniversary Summer Party, we invite members past and present to help us bring the history of the club to life by submitting photos, team pictures, newspaper clippings, trophies, ribbons, memorabilia, or any special keepsakes from 1976 through today.

Please send submissions to social@dsrclub.com.

Thank you for helping us celebrate 50 years of memories, community, and summer fun!

Troop 1094 Celebrates Its Newest Eagle Scouts:

Brandon Hall, Ryan Draisen, John Paul Lukas, and Alex Draisen

Scouting America's Troop 1094 is proud to celebrate four outstanding Scouts who have reached the rank of Eagle Scout: Brandon Hall, Ryan Draisen, John Paul Lukas, and Alex Draisen. Through years of dedication, leadership, and service, each has demonstrated the values of Scouting and left a lasting impact on both the troop and the town of Darnestown.

Brandon Hall joined the troop in July 2021, shortly before summer camp, after enjoying his earlier experience in Cub Scouts and being encouraged by friends. He finds the most meaningful moments in Scouting are



Brandon Hall

often the quiet ones, especially during high adventure trips. At Philmont, he recalls looking out over the landscape and recognizing how far he had made it, while another memorable moment came when a rainbow appeared over camp after dinner in the mountains. For his Eagle Scout project, Brandon renovated Karn Park, an experience that highlighted the importance of preparation and organization, skills that he described as "they feel natural and are very important skills to have everywhere," which he expects to carry with him throughout life.

Ryan Draisen joined Troop 1094 in the spring of 2020 after completing Cub Scouts with Pack 436. For his



Ryan Draisen

Eagle Scout project, Ryan led the planting of a stormwater retention pond at Darnestown Presbyterian Church, making sure to use native plants. Additionally, his project involved the construction of a protective deer fence, which he knew would help ensure their survival. Reflecting on the experience, he shared, "I learned so much about planning and how to manage multiple perspectives at the same time to make the best possible

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Organizations (continued)

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outcome.” In addition to project management, Ryan emphasized the importance of communication as one of the most valuable skills he developed in Scouting, from writing effective emails to engaging respectfully with others.

John Paul “JP” Lukas began scouting in 2015 with Cub Scout Pack 1280 and joined Scout Troop 1094 in 2021. JP has enjoyed attending summer camp with Troop 1094 at Camp Liberty, and has earned 30 merit badges to date. JP’s most enjoyable and memorable experiences in Scouting have been going on five separate high adventure trips with Troop 1094, including trips to New Mexico, Florida, West Virginia, and Minnesota. According to JP, the high adventure trips



John Paul “JP” Lukas

teach self-reliance and are great fun, hanging out with friends and appreciating nature’s beauty. For his Eagle Scout project, JP chose to install a new deer-proof fence for the City of Rockville in Dawson Farm Park to protect the native species in the area. He could not have completed the project without all of the support from Troop 1094 leadership, his family, and his fellow Scouts. JP stated that his Eagle Project taught him how

to be a more effective manager and the importance of planning ahead.

Alex Draisen joined Troop 1094 in 5th grade after continuing on from Cub Scouts, drawn by his love of the outdoors. One of his favorite memories in the troop



Alex Draisen

was paddling to an island at Raystown—an annual trip the troop takes to Raystown Lake, PA—and watching the sunset, a moment that perfectly reflects the sense of adventure he felt through his scouting journey. For his Eagle Project, Alex built two raised garden beds, a sandbox, and a wooden fence cover for the Shaare Torah religious school program. Through

this experience, he gained valuable insight into planning and leadership, noting that the process strengthened his ability to organize and guide others effectively. Looking ahead, Alex plans to carry these leadership skills with him beyond Scouting and into future endeavors.

Brandon, Ryan, JP, and Alex all took on meaningful projects that benefited their community while also developing skills that will guide them into the future. Troop 1094 proudly congratulates its newest Eagle Scouts on this significant achievement, recognizing what they have accomplished and the leaders they have become.

Schools

Butler Montessori’s First Graduates Are Off to College—Here’s Where

*Butler Montessori, serving infants
to high school students.*



At Butler Montessori, we’re celebrating a major milestone: the first graduating class of our Fairhaven high school program. These students are heading to colleges and universities, including the University of Maryland, Northeastern, Catholic University, Goucher College, and the University of Pittsburgh—bringing with them not only strong academic preparation, but confidence, independence, and a clear sense of self. As 12th grader Sofia shared, “Fairhaven isn’t just a school, it’s an experience, it’s a community.”

That experience shapes who students become. From leading projects to speaking at graduation, students build skills that last well beyond high school. “I built

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Schools (continued)

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my public speaking skills... it was terrifying, but I did it!” Sofia reflected, while 11th grader Phrog shared, “I’ve really improved in self advocacy here... that is a skill I will need in the future.”

If you’re interested in learning more about Butler Montessori’s Middle and High School programs, we invite you to schedule a tour at www.butlerschool.org.

Darnestown Elementary School

By, Parker Silverman

Darnestown had a wonderful and exciting school year with new events, staff, and students, but today I would like to focus on something different. The amazing teacher Mrs. Souder retired at the end of the 2025-26 school year. She was one of the most loved teachers and is one of the teachers that has been working there the longest. Mrs. Souder taught for 36 years! She spent ten years at Ashburton ES, three years at Ritchie Park ES, three years at Waters Landing ES, and twenty years at Darnestown Elementary School!

I interviewed her to see what she thought about different aspects of her teaching career. Let’s see what she said. Her favorite memories at DES were working with her partner and fellow kindergarten teacher, Mrs. McKenna, and laughing with her at the funny things kindergarteners say and do. She loved all of her years of teaching except for the Covid year. I know she’s not alone on that! She looks forward to sleeping in, traveling, reading, volunteering, and spending more time with her family. Over all the years she has worked through teaching, there have been many major changes in teaching kindergarten. Here are some of them- there weren’t any Chromebooks or Boxlight boards, there was more playtime for kids, and she had to use a projector and film strip (a strip containing different images that will slide across the screen instead of videos). Some hard memories were 9/11, the DC sniper, and Covid.

Many things have changed in schools over the last thirty years, but kindergarten is still an exciting time with learning so much and making new friends. Leaving off on a good note, have a great summer! We will return to

school in August, and I will share what is going on at Darnestown Elementary School.

Kindergarten Registration

Darnestown Elementary Kindergarten registration is now open! Students who are 5 years of age are eligible to register. Please visit montgomeryschoolsmd.org/info/enroll/kindergarten or call Darnestown ES at 301-284-4260.

Spring at Seneca Academy

This spring, our teachers and students created magical experiences in and out of the classrooms on a daily basis. We played, hiked through the woods, stomped in puddles, had visits from community helpers, learned about cultures around the world, designed wind-powered cars, volunteered at Comfort Cases, created original artwork, sang and played songs together, toured a creamery, explored different genres of literature, conversed in Spanish, practiced writing in cursive, grew plants from seeds, presented research based on the United Nations Sustainability Goals, and SO much more!

Looking Ahead to Fall

We are now enrolling for 2026-2027 for the following programs:

- Parent’s Day Out (two, three, or five days per week for children who will be two by Sept. 1. Potty training is not required. Limited before/after care is available.)
- Preschool Threes (two-, three-, or five-day options with before/after care available.)
- Prekindergarten Fours (four- or five-day options, as well as a five-day 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.)

For more information, please visit [www.Seneca Academy.org](http://www.SenecaAcademy.org). or email info@senecaacademy.org.

Churches



Darnestown Presbyterian Church

By Larry Ciorlito

Worship/Live-Stream. We worship **Sundays at 10:30 a.m.**, and we warmly welcome visitors to our child-friendly services! Check us out on YouTube and our webpage at **darnestownpc.org**.

Help Us Make Music! Music is central to our worship, and our vocal and bell choirs welcome everyone. Our new Choir Director, Karin Mollard, joined us in May, and this is a great time to see if you'd like to participate!

Our Annual Bazaar is This November. The Darnestown Presbyterian Women's Bazaar is coming again in early November. As always, we'll feature crafts, home décor, holiday gifts, books, jewelry, and home baked goods and jams- plus, hot food in our Café. Proceeds from the Bazaar support multiple local charities—please come, enjoy, and support this Darnestown institution!

Bible Study. On two Thursdays/month we gather to study God's word. See our webpage to see what we're currently studying and our schedule for the month.



Fairhaven United Methodist Church

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

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. Our Gospel, Sanctuary and Handbell choirs offer special music

throughout the year. Holy Communion is celebrated on the 1st Sunday of every month and at other special Sundays. The Zoom link can be requested from our church administrator, **fairhavenumc@gmail.com**.

Pleasant View Historic Site Holds Reopening Celebration



On June 20th, the Fairhaven Methodist Church celebrated the reopening of the 158-year-old Pleasant View Historic Site

on Darnestown Road. The site is a powerful piece of local Black history brought back to life. Those in attendance were able to explore the newly restored schoolhouse, church, and social hall—spaces that once served as the heart of this historic community. The day was filled with history, connection, and celebration.

Our Lady of the Visitation Catholic Church



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

Summer is finally here. Get to the beach.
Get some sun. **GET TO CHURCH** on Sundays!
Our Mass schedule remains:

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m., and 5:00 p.m.

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday:
12:05 p.m. and 6:05 p.m.

Tuesday and Thursday:
8:30 a.m. and 12:05 p.m.

Saturday: 9:05 a.m.

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 Road, Darnestown
301-990-1700
6-12beerwinemart@gmail.com

BBDASH Contracting | Home Improvement, DIY Helper, Fine Wood Working

13005 Darnestown Road, Darnestown
301-938-2859
bbdashcontracting@comcast.net

Melissa Bernstein Homes, RLAH—Christine's International Real Estate | Realtor

726 Turtle Pond Land, Gaithersburg
301-908-4007
www.melissabernstein.com

Birchwood Holiday Lighting and Lawn care | Landscape Services

13424 Haddonfield Lane, Darnestown
301-275-5417
kricci2@verizon.net

Bretton Woods | Recreation Center

15700 River Road, Darnestown
301-948-3357
www.bwrc.org

Brezovek & Associates | Financial Advisor

15120 Water Oak Dr., Darnestown
301-320-1483
mbrezovek@ampf.com

Jose Carbajal | Lawn & Landscaping, Tree removal, Snow removal, Firewood

14111 Esworthy Road, 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 Court, Darnestown
240-560-8733
daniel@clarktrees.com

Darnestown Shell | Gas, Convenience, Auto Repairs

14020 Darnestown Road, Darnestown
301-840-8515
darnestownshell@gmail.com

Darnestown Smiles | Family Dentistry

14128 Darnestown Road, Darnestown
240-477-8251
mail@darnestownsmiles.com

Darnestown Swim & Racquet Club | Swim, Tennis, Summer Camp & Disc Golf Club

15004 Spring Meadows Drive, Darnestown
301-330-1340
GM@dsrclub.com

Valerie Fuster, Realtor | Long & Foster Real Estate Inc.

10121 River Road, Potomac
301-980-3083 Direct 301-299-6000 Office
Valerie@LNF.com
www.valfuster.com

Georgetown Hill Early School | Preschool

15120-B Turkey Foot Road, Darnestown
301-527-1761
www.georgetownhill.com
darnestown@georgetownhill.com

Johnson Chimney Service | Chimney Repair & Restoration

14115 Seneca Road, Darnestown
301-949-1780
www.johnsonchimney.com/us/
walter@johnsonchimney.com

Johnson Roofing Service | Residential & Commercial Roofing Solutions

14115 Seneca Road, Darnestown
301-949-1700
www.johnsonroofingservice.com/
info@johnsonroofingservice.com

Lowe-Tillson Insurance & Associates, Inc. | Full-Service Insurance Agency

2403 Research Boulevard, Ste. 350, Rockville
301-258-7773
www.lowetillson.com
service@lowetillson.com

Noahs' Preferred Properties | Real Estate Management

313 Main Street, 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 Cut Flower Farm

14820 Kelly Farm Drive, Darnestown
240-281-2110
www.pleasanthillsfarm.com
amy@pleasanthillsfarm.com

Preferred Insurance Solutions, LLC | Auto, Home and Business Insurance

20030 Century Boulevard, Ste. 201,
Germantown
301-428-3344
ins@preferredinsurancesolutions.com

Miguel Saba Realtor | Compass Real Estate

12435 Park Potomac Avenue Ste R-1, Potomac
240-775-0509
miguel@miguelsaba.com
www.miguelsaba.com

Seneca Studio | Original Handcrafted Furnishings

240-812-1792
Senecastudio.com
lukasz@senecastudio.com

Smokey Glen Farm | Event Facilities and BBQs

16407 Riffleford Road, Darnestown
301-948-1518
jsweet@smokeyglenfarm.com

Stiles Dentistry | Dentist

333 Main Street, Gaithersburg
301-947-6900
smile@stilesdentistry.com

SwimLabs Swim School | Swim School

353 Muddy Branch Road, Gaithersburg
240-801-4518
ddombay@swimlabs.com

Train with DMV | Personal Training & Group Classes

15504 Quail Run Drive, Darnestown
571-630-4088
trainwithdmv@gmail.com

The Tyra Law Firm, LLC | Estate Planning Law Office

199 East Montgomery Avenue, Suite 100,
Rockville
301-315-0811
neiltyra@tyralawfirm.com

United Service Specialists | HVAC Services

7559 Rickenbacker Drive, Gaithersburg
dispatch@calluss.com

Valley Mill Camp | Camp

15101 Seneca Road, Darnestown
301-948-0220
www.valleymill.com
evelyn@valleymill.com

Windridge Vineyards | Vineyard

15700 Darnestown Road, Darnestown
301-607-4399
robert@windridgefarm.com

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

Churches

Darnestown Presbyterian Church

15120 Turkey Foot Rd
Darnestown, MD 20878
301-948-9127
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 • welcome@gicf.church

Our Lady of the Visitation Parish

Father Stefan Yap
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
senecachurch.org

St. Nicholas Episcopal Church

Rev. Beth O'Callaghan
15575 Germantown Rd
Darnestown, MD 20874
240-631-2800 • www.Saintnicks.com

Organizations

Boy Scout Troop 1094

sm@troop1094.org

Cub Scout Pack 436

[www.troopwebhostcs.org/
Pack436NorthPotomac/](http://www.troopwebhostcs.org/Pack436NorthPotomac/)

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

Schools

Butler Montessori School

15951 Germantown Rd
Darnestown, MD 20874
301-977-6600

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

Little Seneca Bilingual Montessori

14010 Darnestown RD,
Darnestown, MD 20878
Tel. 301-500-6345
littlesenecamontessori.com
[littlesenecamontessori@
gmail.com](mailto:littlesenecamontessori@gmail.com)

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

Seneca Academy (Circle School)

15601 Germantown Rd
Darnestown, MD 20874
301-869-3728

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 November 1, 2026. 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

Laney Mostrom (2009)
240-380-6536

Abby Zappone (2009)
240-474-1586

Notary Services

Tina Kalil
301-943-9840

Elisa Lane
301-990-2993

House/Pet Sitters

Liv Gabri (2009)
240-353-7079

Kirabo Payne (2009)
202-257-9378

Ian Scale (2001)
240-334-8800

The Little Acorn

Editor: Amber Colleran (acorn@darnestowncivic.org)
Publisher: Darnestown Civic Association

Darnestown Civic Association

President: Scott Mostrom (president@darnestowncivic.org)
Vice President: Paul Klee (vicepresident@darnestowncivic.org)
Treasurer: Amy Kurtenbach (treasurer@darnestowncivic.org)
Secretary: Elizabeth Rorick (secretary@darnestowncivic.org)
Trustees: Kellie Hodges (trustee@darnestowncivic.org)
Stephanie Kunkle (trustee@darnestowncivic.org)
Will Lowe (trustee@darnestowncivic.org)

Committee Chairs

Compliance: Michael Gottlieb (compliance@darnestowncivic.org)
Communications Lead: Kellie Hodges (communications@darnestowncivic.org)
Darnestown Village: Pam DuBois (village@darnestowncivic.org)
Database: Scott Mostrom (database@darnestowncivic.org)
Flag Program: Tim Sanders (flag@darnestowncivic.org)
History: Allan Luke (history@darnestowncivic.org)
Membership: Steve Kurtenbach (membership@darnestowncivic.org)
Roads Task Force: Michael Centrella (rtf@darnestowncivic.org)
Safety Committee: Barry Bannister (safety@darnestowncivic.org)
Seneca Forest Project: James Wheeler (deer@darnestowncivic.org)
Social Events: Caitlin Bannister (social@darnestowncivic.org)
Softball: Dave Bivans (softball@darnestowncivic.org)
Strategic Planning: (strategicplanning@darnestowncivic.org)
Website: Ben Jamieson (website@darnestowncivic.org)
Neil Agate (website@darnestowncivic.org)
Welcome: Pam DuBois (welcome@darnestowncivic.org)
Maya Miloski (welcome@darnestowncivic.org)
Melissa Mostrom (welcome@darnestowncivic.org)
Zoning: Pam DuBois (zoning@darnestowncivic.org)

Welcome Steve Kurtenbach, and Barry Bannister !

The DCA is excited to welcome Steve Kurtenbach as the new Membership Chair, and Barry Bannister as the new Safety Chair!

Welcome to 2026-2027 Executive Board

Thank you to everyone who attended the June Town Hall and participated in the election of the Darnestown Civic Association Executive Board.

We are pleased to announce that the proposed slate was unanimously approved and will continue serving the community for the 2026-2027 term.

President: Scott Mostrom
Vice President: Paul Klee
Treasurer: Amy Kurtenbach
Secretary: Beth Rorick
Trustee: Kellie Hodges
Trustee: Steve Kurtenbach
Trustee: Stephanie Kunkle

These are all returning volunteers who generously donate their time, talents and energy to help keep Darnestown informed, connected and thriving. Their continued leadership provides valuable experience and continuity as the DCA works on behalf of our community.

Please join us in thanking Scott, Paul, Amy Beth, Steve, and Stephanie for their commitment to serving Darnestown. We appreciate all they do and look forward to another great year together!

To learn more about the volunteer opportunities or future board service, contact us at dca@darnestowncivic.org

DCA Membership Renewal/Application Form

Membership Category, please check one:

☐ Basic \$35 ☐ Friend \$50 ☐ Sponsor \$100 ☐ Acorn \$150 ☐ Business \$250

First Name _____

Last Name _____

Spouse/Partner First Name _____

Spouse/Partner Last Name _____

Business Name _____

Please indicate how you would like to have your name(s) appear in the annual membership listing:
(if you leave the line blank we will use your first and last names, to opt out see below)

Street Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone Number(s) _____

1st E-Mail Address _____

2nd E-mail Address _____

Make Check Payable to:
Darnestown Civic Association

Mail to:
14100 Darnestown RD
STE G
Darnestown, MD 20874

The following section allows you to opt-out of having information related to your members published by the DCA. If you would like your information listed in *The Little Acorn* or in a DCA Directory you can skip this section.

The DCA publishes a list of our paid members in *The Little Acorn*, please check below if you do not want your information provided:

☐ DO NOT publish my name in *The Little Acorn* membership listing.

The DCA occasionally publishes a directory for its membership, please check below if you do not want your information provided:

☐ DO NOT publish my name and contact information in the DCA directory.

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





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