



Volume 45, Number 3

THE DARNESTOWN CIVIC ASSOCIATION

September 2009

www.darnestowncivic.org

Civic Association News and Notes

Notes from the President

by Lisa Patterson-Troike

I am excited to come back for a fourth term as President. The slate of officers has changed a bit this year as we welcome Susan Allaway as our Recording Secretary and Dick Jurgena as our Three-Year Trustee. Bob Thompson has moved up to Vice President and Guy Armantrout as Treasurer. Scott Mostrom and Dan Dean will continue as Trustees for one and two years, respectively. We are fortunate to have the same group of committee volunteers continue in their current positions. There are several new challenges for Darnestown in this next year, and we have more ideas and goals to accomplish than we have volunteers. I encourage anyone that wishes to actively participate to contact me or come out to a meeting.

Thanks to all of you who braved the weather to attend our DCA Office Open House on June 20th. The weather was not very cooperative, it was either raining or sunny with 98% humidity, but we had a good showing nonetheless. Special thanks goes out to Art Slesinger and Steve Ellis for an expert paint job, myself for picking such beautiful carpet and Carolyn Thompson for the delicious appetizers that were made using none other than the Darnestown Cook Book. Don't have one? Let us know, they are still only \$15 each.

Looking for a way to meet other Darnestownians? Come to our annual Hoedown at Smokey Glen Farm on November 13th for a casual evening of dinner, dancing, and hayrides. Don't dance? Don't worry, you will still have the time of your life! A flyer with all the specifics is inside this issue.

Next
DCA Town Meeting
Thursday, September 17th
7:30 p.m.
Darnestown Presbyterian Church
Route 28 at Turkey Foot Road

Inside this issue...

- ▶ The Surrey is moving to Darnestown! See *Village News* and *Surrey* articles, (p. 3–4)
- ▶ MoCo Emergency Preparedness (p. 4)
- ▶ Little Acorn Softball
 - The retiring commish recaps the league's 19-year history (p. 13)
 - Berryville-Seneca wins the 2009 Championship (p. 16)
- ▶ **IT'S HOEDOWN TIME!** See p. 17 for details and registration
- ▶ DCA Membership List... Are you current on your dues? (p. 18)



- D E A D L I N E -

All items for inclusion in the next issue of The Little Acorn are due to the Editor no later than November 1, 2009

The deadlines will remain firm.

Articles for *The Little Acorn* may be mailed to 14100 Darnestown Road, Darnestown, MD 20874 OR E-mailed to acorneditor@comcast.net. **Please follow-up by phone or email if you do not receive confirmation from the editor that your submission has been received.**

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

ALL NEWS IS WELCOME!

THE LITTLE ACORN STAFF

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Darnestown Heritage Park: Chris Collins, Scott Mostrom
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Directory: Sarah Scherer
Environment: Tim Wilson
Flag Program: Jim Clifford
Historical Society Representative: Greg Clemmer
Library: Elizabeth Cookson
Master Plan: Gerry Foley
Membership: Joe Jurgena
Parliamentarian: Bruce Deppa
Safety: Alan Noznesky, Kevin Keegan
Social: Lisa Patterson-Troike
Softball: Steve Ellis
Opinion Survey: Brian McCollom
Utility Reliability: Art Slesinger
Welcome: Lara Wibeto
Wildlife: Bruce Deppa
Zoning & Dev. Review: Pam DuBois, Steve Ellis

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

Inquiries concerning the Darnestown Civic Association should be directed to Lisa Patterson-Troike (301-548-0999; lisaapatterson@aol.com) or mailed to DCA, 14100 Darnestown Road, Darnestown, MD 20874.

MUSIC LESSONS

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| TJ Callahan | Guitar (summer) | 301-379-5646 |
| Brandon Corydon* | Guitar | 301-221-0456 |
| Jennifer Suess | Voice | 301-977-2605 |
| Michael Waddell | Trombone/Horn | 301-990-6770 |
| Stefanie Zaner | Clarinet | 240-678-8319 |

NOTARY SERVICES

| | |
|---------------|--------------|
| Laura Bivans | 301-977-4734 |
| Bruce Deppa | 301-963-0567 |
| Tina Kalil | 301-948-5364 |
| Elisa Lane | 301-990-2993 |
| Frank Mielenz | 301-987-7190 |

Darnestown Directory

by Sarah Scherer

Welcome to our new Darnestown neighbors!

Eugenio & Sarah Cerutti
13300 Pulver Place
Darnestown, MD 20878
301-330-7308

Shaheen Mozaffari and Christina Jamison
13516 Straw Bale Lane
Darnestown, MD 20878

Jim Seaman
13604 Darnestown Rd
Darnestown, MD 20878
301-233-3330

Please update your telephone listing for Charles & Nancy Moles to 301-330-0175

Thanks to all of you for keeping me up to date with neighborhood changes. We will be starting work on the 2010 Darnestown Directory in the coming months, so please forward any corrections or changes for you and your neighbors. You can reach me at 240-683-8533 or sarahscherer@comcast.net if you have any changes or additions.

Membership Committee

by Jean Jurgena

A list of 2008-2009 paid DCA members is included in this issue. As noted in the June issue of the Acorn the Membership year has been changed. The new membership letter from the DCA president will be mailed this fall and future memberships will be effective January 1–December 31. Only paid members are allowed to vote on issues at Town Meetings.

If you have questions regarding your membership, please contact me at 301-840-1187 or e-mail jmurgena@hotmail.com.

Darnestown Flag Program

With Labor Day just around the corner, Jim Clifford would like to remind everyone, especially those residing on Darnestown Road, to please prune your trees and shrubs around the flag placement areas. Doing so will not only help the flags be seen, but also hopefully prevent the flags from getting caught on branches and tearing.

If you find a flag that's been damaged or a bracket that needs repair, please call Jim Clifford at 301-605-6464. Thanks for your assistance!

Welcome Committee

by Lara Wibeto

This issue's Welcome Committee focus is on-line community networking for new Darnestownians to re-familiarize or to get to know our interesting community and surrounding areas.

My first suggested site to visit is the Gaithersburg Area Newcomers Club at www.geocities.com/gancmd/. You will find free and fun social activities with other new residents, plus links to our area newspapers, The Gazette and Washington Post.

Another excellent website is www.washingtonian.com where is listed just about every topic of concern to someone new in our area such as rankings of professionals in various fields, restaurant reviews, job listings, real estate offerings, cultural events, excellently written articles of local interest, and the best of what our area offers.

Another website of special interest to families with children is www.gocitykids.parents.com which is a site that offers useful information about family friendly activities and places throughout our community, with the added bonus of free or discounted children's activities and gear.

A great website for retirees or soon to be retired newcomers is www.boomerater.com which has information of interest to the baby boomer set regarding an extensive variety of topics.

Another search engine that I found easy to navigate and well organized is the website www.when.com which directs visitors to local establishments and events, including buttons for making restaurant reservations and for directly purchasing tickets for movies, theater productions, concerts, etc.

To learn more about Darnestown or how to become more involved in our community, please attend an upcoming Darnestown Civic Association meeting or visit our website at www.darnestowncivic.org. I hope these websites are helpful as you and your families settle into your new homes and neighborhoods. Please take a few minutes to learn about our area by while you are surfing the web. Thank you.

I warmly welcome you to our quaint, wonderful Darnestown community. Please notify me if you have not yet received a welcome basket. I will be happy to deliver one to you. I can be contacted by telephone at 301-926-4028 or by e-mail at lwibeto@verizon.net.

Village News

by Steve Ellis

There is excitement in Darnestown as evident in *The Surrey* article by Pam DuBois (next page). She and her husband, Eric Smart, have horses and are seriously involved in the equestrian community in the county. Darnestown is quite fortunate to land this appropriate rural village business and the board is very pleased that the Village can accommodate their location here, which is much closer to the majority of their clientele than the Potomac location. The Surrey owners have signed a 5-year lease with an additional 5-year option

with Mr. Petrucci. The store will occupy about 2,400 sq. ft. in 2 of the 3 spaces available on the main floor.

Suntrust Bank has taken over the original lease from the Montgomery County Teachers Federal Credit Union. The bank is working on the necessary permits, and hopefully will be operational in late autumn. Great sign! The DCA is contemplating transferring its accounts there.

Fixing up the office is moving slowly. We could use donations of: legal size swinging file envelopes, a small clean (used) fridge, some type (preferably flat) of map cabinet(s)/storage that can accommodate up to 3' x 3' at minimum and have several compartments. We also need donations of time by some of our members who were active in the 1970s—you know who you are! We have five boxes of collected papers, etc., from that period that need to be culled. We would do this at the new office.

There are a few other things going on, but best to wait for the next issue.

The Surrey is Coming to Darnestown

by Pam DuBois

Ever drive through the Potomac Village and shop at The Surrey (formerly located several storefronts down from Hunter's Inn)? As luck would have it, the Potomac community just lost a treasured retailer and the beneficiary is Darnestown! The Surrey, which sells an assortment of saddlery, gifts and outdoor-type clothing, is hoping to reopen the store in early September at 14120 Darnestown Road. The Surrey will open its doors in the newly constructed building behind the 6-12 in the Village.

For those of you who are not familiar with The Surrey, the late Lyn Carroll, an avid fox hunter, opened in the store back in 1953 with her friend, Anita Bogley. They operated the store in the back of Lyn's husband's real estate office in the building now occupied by the Chevy Chase Bank. The Surrey is recognized as Maryland's oldest tack shop and the first tack shop to be owned by a woman. The ownership lineage of The Surrey continued to be under the stewardship of a woman when it was purchased by Lyne Morgan in 2004.

Lyne is a native to Montgomery County and first started working at The Surrey when she was 14 years old. Lyne, along with her husband, David Phillips, own

Fair Play Farm on Sugarland Lane in Poolesville so they are not strangers to the Darnestown community.

Lyne is pleased to report that the same staff will be helping her operate The Surrey at its new location. The store carries brands like Barbour, known for the oilskin coats, Mary Hadley pottery, hand painted glass from Kathleen Balough, and is a full service saddlery. Lyne hopes the store will be a gathering place and education center for the local equestrian community. She looks forward to having various experts talk about their products and how they can make for happier and healthier equines. A valued feature at The Surrey's former location, the community bulletin board for equestrian activities and horses for sale, will be a continued tradition in Darnestown.

Once the store is open, longtime patron of The Surrey and renowned local equestrian enthusiast, Mr. Austin Kiplinger, is planning a grand opening party. Lyne would very much like to meet her new Darnestown neighbors and welcomes everyone to participate in the festivities. In addition, Lyne will be hosting special shopping days for the local community as well as fund raisers for Great and Small Therapeutic Riding Center and Days End Horse Rescue and the like. Don't miss out... See you at The Surrey this fall!

Montgomery County Emergency Preparedness—Get the Word

by Art Slesinger and Bob Thompson

The county has many ways to “get the word out” when trouble strikes. Radio announcements, television, and reverse 911 phone calls are all options. A reverse 911 calling system (i.e. the county automatically calls and tells you the problem) is not the first choice of the county at this time. It may be used as it can quickly identify a geographic area of concern. The County Public Information Office is attempting to rationalize the many departments that handle emergent situations and the several modes of communication. Bottom line, your cell phone or PDA are the most immediate and reliable means. The best way you can be informed is go to the county web site and register your cell phone or PDA to get automatic messages about weather, traffic, shelter in place suggestions or other emergencies.

Go to <https://alert.montgomerycountymd.gov/index.php>. You will be able to register your cell phone or PDA (or e-mail account) to automatically received these notices. If you have a strong need to know, this is the way the county intends to inform you!

To contact the authors, email Art Slesinger at art.slesinger@comcast.net or Bob Thompson at bob.thompson@comcast.net.

Aging Septic Tank Systems... What's Your Story? [2nd Rerun]

by Bruce Deppa

We are again re-running this article from the March and June editions of The Little Acorn because we have only heard from 12 Darnestown residents about their septic system contractor experiences, some good, and some bad. We really want to collect more info than that. I had several long telephone conversations, and received some detailed e-mail accounts, but I know that with nearly 2,000 homes in Darnestown, there have been a LOT more than 12 septic system repair/replacement stories! So get a 2nd cup of coffee and type up a quick e-mail or call me and let's talk. We want to build a septic repair database, not just a dataspot. PLEASE NOTE: No residents' names will be made public in conjunction with this survey without specific permission.

Instead of public sewers, almost every house in Darnestown is served by its own septic tank and absorption field. As the years go by, such systems eventually reach a point where they need some serious and expensive attention, especially in our area of high-clay-content soils. This usually happens after 20 to 30 years, and there are lots of variables, better-documented on the internet than I can do in this space. What I haven't found is much information about homeowners' experiences with septic system repair contractors.

Septic system service ranges from simply pumping out the tank to replacing the entire system. Since the system is almost entirely out of sight, its true condition is usually very difficult to determine, and accurate diagnosis of any system problem is even more difficult. This situation puts the homeowner in a tenuous position during discussion with a contractor.

The Civic Association can shed some light on this situation by collecting and organizing data about specific septic system repair experiences in our area. If we can build a simple database of info about septic system failures and good and bad experiences with septic system contractors, and make that data available to the community, it could be helpful to those of us who have yet to face this problem.

If you have such an experience to share, please contact me by phone (240-876-3244) or e-mail (brucedepa@comcast.net).

Update from the Montgomery County Upcounty Citizens Advisory Board

by Bob Thompson

VP Biden and County Exec. Ike Leggett Talk about County's Experience in Using Recovery Funds; Leggett Commends Biden for Reaching Out to Communities

Vice President Joseph Biden, Jr., recently spoke by phone with Montgomery County Executive Isaiah Leggett and a number of other county executives and mayors from around the country to learn more about issues and challenges local jurisdictions are facing as they implement the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). Leggett stated that the recovery funds have been vital in helping to stabilize the State's budget during the severe economic downturn, including State education aid flowing to the County. Other recovery funds going directly to the County will help retain or create jobs and assist individuals who are most severely impacted by the recession. "I commend Vice President Biden for proactively reaching out to local governments to help maximize the positive role they can play in implementing ARRA and helping the economy recover more quickly from its severe downturn," said Leggett. "The Obama administration's commitment to providing recovery funds to State and local jurisdictions is paying off, and Montgomery County is grateful to be a beneficiary. ARRA has already saved or retained jobs for Montgomery County Public Schools and Montgomery College, playing a critical fiscal stabilization role. My administration is working diligently to obtain additional ARRA grant funding and to quickly get that money into the economy." Under ARRA, Montgomery County expects to receive \$37 million in formula grants and has applied for an additional \$85 million in competitive grants. The County's independent agencies (Montgomery County Public Schools, Montgomery College, Housing Opportunities Commission, and Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission) expect to receive \$106 million in formula grants and have applied for more than \$86 million in competitive grants. Under ARRA's new tax advantaged financing tools for local governments, the County has been allocated \$35.5 million for Recovery

Zone Facility Bonds, which can be used to finance a qualified business property in a recovery zone, and \$23.7 million for Recovery Zone Economic Development Bonds, which promote development in recovery zones. Thus far, Montgomery County has signed the following contracts with businesses and organizations to implement ARRA-funded projects and programs:

- **Department of Transportation** – two contracts totaling \$6.9 million for highway related work.
- **Department of Housing and Community Affairs** – two contracts totaling \$2 million to provide weatherization services.
- **Department of Economic Development** – two contracts totaling \$1.2 million for job training services and summer employment programs
- **Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission** – one contract totaling \$300,000 for design of a sewer lining system.
- **Housing Opportunities Commission** – three contracts totaling \$436,000 for renovation and rehabilitation of public housing.
- **Montgomery County Public Schools** – reports 442 jobs supported with \$55 million in fiscal year 2010 fiscal stabilization funds, and two purchase orders totaling \$36,338 for school lunch equipment.
- **Montgomery College** – reports an unspecified number of jobs supported with \$2.7 million in fiscal year 2010 fiscal stabilization funds.

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

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

Members serve three-year terms without compensation, meeting certain Monday evenings of every month and occasionally on Saturdays. Members are expected to serve on at least one subcommittee, which meets approximately one evening every month on its own schedule.

We work with a wide range of social, land use, infrastructure, and public safety issues. We are committed to rational development planning and protection of the Agricultural Reserve. This is particularly relevant to Darnestown, as our community is immediately adjacent to it and the rural village nature reflected in planning and zoning is directly influenced by the Agricultural Reserve. As a representative of Darnestown, I am committed to communicating issues of importance to our community up to the County government, and carry news and information back to our community.

Additionally the Board is staffed by the Upcounty Regional Services team. The Director, Catherine Matthews, can be contacted at 240-777-8040 or via e-mail at catherine.matthews@montgomerycountymd.gov.

To contact Bob Thompson, please call 240-683-0103 or email bob.thompson@comcast.net.

Utility Reliability Committee

by Art Slesinger

As reported last quarter, the Darnestown electrical feeder, number 15238, was indeed listed as one of the 13 most unreliable in the PEPCO system. As detailed in the obligatory report to the Public Services Commission, PEPCO has committed to “installing one sectionalizing switch, one automatic circuit recloser, eight lightning arrestors, one animal guard. Perform tree trimming as required.” Most of this has already been done and appears to be effective as we have had few interruptions of late. Even the weekend outage of July 25–26th was limited to only parts of Darnestown which probably would have been a wider outage if not for new switching capability. Just to see the relative numbers, our feeder had 3.27 interruptions per year compared to 2.26 for the rest of PEPCO’s system. The duration of these interruptions was 396 minutes compared to 339 of interruption for the average PEPCO system. Note this excludes the June 4th storm event, which impacted everyone in the area. These numbers are twice as high as the Allegheny Power customers west of us, so PEPCO has room to improve.

The good news is that PEPCO is considering installing an automated system that will detect where a fault is without operator assistance, and open and close the appropriate sectionalizing switches to contain the fault. The project is still being considered by PEPCO and it is not guaranteed that we will be one of the earlier pilot feeders. We are told to be optimistic and by fall should know the good news.

With respect to Verizon, progress has been poor. The December 2008 agreement between the parties (Verizon, PSC, CWA, etc.) was rejected by the Commission itself. Hence the agreement that gave Verizon some small financial incentives to react promptly to out of service complaints is gone. Since this negotiation has been going on since late 2006, there is little reason to be optimistic. Verizon is not looking to remain in the copper telephone line market and it will be up to the PSC to control Verizon's exit or prohibit it entirely until lower cost, reliable alternatives are in place. Those suffering should use the PSC web site to file a formal complaint if Verizon has been slow or incapable of correcting the issue.

Top Fifteen Reasons to Pick Up Roadside Litter

by Charles Popenoe

1. Good way to get exercise, or to do while you exercise.
2. It's a good way to meet your neighbors.
3. You will really get to know the land and nature around your house.
4. Take control of a local issue rather than hoping for "someone" to take care of it for you.
5. Next time you drive by you'll admire your work.
6. When others see you at work, it will encourage some to help, and would-be litterers may think twice.
7. Increases the land area that you keep beautiful beyond your property lines.
8. Good activity with children of any age—it's fun and they might even learn something!
9. You may find accidentally discarded "treasures"!
10. Takes advantage of the trash removal service we already pay for.
11. You can learn the (bad) habits of litterers. (I already know they prefer fast food, cheap beer and cigarettes).

12. It's a simple way to make yourself feel really great!
13. I am convinced a clean, cared-for roadside deters would-be litterers.
14. Sets a baseline of "clean" so it's not only easy to keep clean, but also to notice a major littering incident and perhaps report it if warranted (240-777-DUMP).
15. Creates clean and beautiful roadsides you and your neighbors will be proud of.

Send your ideas and thoughts to Charles Popenoe at chas@charlespopenoe.com.

Those Who Serve...

by Madeline Dalessio



This new column is dedicated to those from Darnestown who are serving our country in the United States Military. I have started with the people whom I know have children serving. If you would like to include your child, spouse or self, please contact me for future columns (dalessio@comcast.net).

First Lieutenant Ryan Swisher earned a four year ROTC scholarship to the University of Colorado. He graduated and was commissioned in 2007. He is an Army Ranger and Airborne Infantry Platoon Leader stationed at Ford Operating Base Wilderness in Afghanistan.

Missy Bateman is in basic training with the 1-48th Infantry Battalion at Ft. Leonardwood, Missouri. She just became an Expert Marksman. She'll be training in Geospatial Engineering at Ft. Belvoir in Virginia starting in September.

Second Lieutenant Lars Hinrichson, a 2008 graduate of the US Air Force Academy, is training to be a T-38 Jet Pilot at the Air Force Base in Columbus, Mississippi.

Second Lieutenant Simon Youngblut, a 2008 graduate of West Point, is in the Signal Corps' 82nd Airborne in Ft. Bragg, North Carolina.

Darne Bloomers Garden Club

by Sandy Hribar

Aren't we all wondering how it can possibly be September already? As we all begin to gear up for our own fall schedules, the Darne Bloomers Garden Club is looking forward to its new club year which begins this September. As I look through the interesting programs we have planned for this year, I thought it might be timely to say a few words about our club which is a proud member of the Darnestown community.

Since the club's founding in 1988, its objective has been to encourage interest in all phases of home gardening and to promote better horticultural practices, civic beauty and conservation of natural resources. Our members have varied interests and experiences but are drawn together by their dedication to gardening and that shared friendship.

Our monthly programs provide an opportunity to learn about new trends and available local resources. This past year's programs included lectures and demonstrations on the following topics: Keeping Bees, The Art of Biologically Correct Pruning, Elegant Arrangements for Holiday Entertaining, Creating a Holiday Topiary, Organic Gardening, Designing a Potager, Winter Container Gardening, and Organic Gardening with Household Products. Our May luncheon meeting included a house and garden tour of the historic Glen Burnie House and the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley in Winchester, Virginia.

This coming year, we plan to learn more about composting, conifers, bird and butterfly gardens, meadow gardening, and some new developments in the diagnosis and treatment of Lyme disease. Other exciting program ideas are also in the making, so I know it will be another interesting and fun year!

Darne Bloomers Looking for New Members

We are looking for new members who would like to meet others in our community with a shared interest in gardening and learning about new practices and resources – and those who enjoy having fun doing so! We meet at the Darnestown Presbyterian Church on the second Thursday of each month from September through May from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. If you are

interested, or think you may be interested, please contact me, Sandy Hribar, at 301-258-5249 so I can welcome you to come to one of our meetings and see for yourself!

A Note from the Editor...

For the past seven years, Darnestown residents have enjoyed the wonderful *Darne Bloomers* articles written by Nettie Koepenick. Nettie has such a wealth of practical gardening knowledge and a real knack for sharing it in the most colorful of ways. Our *Little Acorn* newsletter has been a richer publication because of her contributions. As Nettie passes the trowel to her successor author of the *Darne Bloomers* articles, we offer our thanks for her many contributions over the years.

An Ancient Oak

by Steve Ellis

What a blow! This beloved magnificent white oak tree leafed out in May, 2008, but before the leaves were fully developed 80 percent turned brown and died within the month.

The consensus of an arborist and other knowledgeable people is that the cause was a drought of the previous 2 growing seasons. No fungal or other diseases were detected. It has happened to other older Oaks in the region. The age estimations were around 200 years, but a neighbor counted the rings with a magnifying glass – 160 years old.

Clyde Griffith owned the property on the south side of Darnestown Road between Jones Lane and Wye Oak that became the Ancient Oak subdivision. Several houses and lots along the south side of Rt. 28 were not part of this farm. The first houses in this neighborhood were built in 1963. The farmhouse was located on what is now Ancient Oak Drive and near the large older trees. The oldest ancient oak (hollow inside) blew over in a storm in 1967 and was on the adjacent Anderson property. There remain 3 large oaks across the street. God bless 'em.

We obtained 6 bids to take the limbs down, chip anything smaller in diameter than 3 inches, and leave the lower 30-some feet of the trunk. The tree master was fascinating to watch. His name is Lee Shoemaker, and he spent his teenage years at the end of Scarlet Oak.

Located a mill owner who purchased the 22,000 lb. log (no interior rot), and will put it to good use other than firewood. The deal paid for 42 percent of the cost of

bringing down the tree. It also yielded about five cords for us; four other Darnestown neighbors harvested various amounts. For the final larger pieces, I invited Edgar Pollen to cut and take the remainder. He, I and his friend cut and loaded 2 truckloads for his firewood buddy to sell in Frederick and Montgomery Counties. Edgar gave my neighbor Roger Anderson and I a valuable lesson on sharpening a chain saw blade. We are still saddened to have lost this beautiful tree.

Quince Orchard Library

On June 20th, the Quince Orchard Library hosted the 8th Annual Community Day, and despite the torrential rain, it was a big success! Hundreds of people showed up for the monthly Friends of the Library booksale, the Navy Brass Quartet, live rock music, a magic show, a tour of a firetruck, ambulance, and cement mixer, plus many more kid-friendly activities, such as face painting, crafts, cotton candy, and Guitar Hero for the older kids.

The Summer Reading Program has been a great success, with various programs throughout the summer, including a Shadow Puppet performance, the ever-popular Maryland Science Center's amazing chemistry program, a Jazz Quartet show, a visit from the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair (including bunnies!), and more.

Coming up, on October 24th at 2 pm, the Quince Orchard Library will host Dr. William Phillips from NIST, who in 1997 shared the Nobel Prize in Physics. He will speak on some of today's most exciting science innovations, including experimental demonstrations and down-to-earth explanations. No registration is required to attend.

The Quince Orchard Library has a new redesign for the Teen Zone - come check it out! Also, Teen Read Week is from October 17-24 - the library will be handing out bookmarks and lists of great teen reads. On October 20th at 4 pm, magician Mike Rose will show his sleight-of-hand tricks and tips in a program specifically for teens. No registration is required.

From Our Schools...

The Barnesville School

by Nicole Campbell

The Barnesville School is excited to be kicking off this fall with a variety of fun events! We'll kickoff our school year with a Back to School Picnic and we'll be participating again in Poolesville Day's parade!

In addition, we'll be welcoming local author Melanie Choukas-Bradley, who will come to speak as part of our Klingenstein Lecture Series about her book, *City of Trees* and talk about tree identification and Sugarloaf Mountain. This event will be held on October 15th at 7pm. This event is open to anyone and we encourage members of the community and local book clubs to consider attending! Books will also be available for purchase at the event.

Barnesville will also be hosting a number of Open House events this year for prospective students: November 11th, 9am, December 11th, 9:30am, and January 12th, 9:30am. Interested families are encouraged to attend or to set up an appointment with our Admissions Office for a private tour!

A couple other events we have include our Barnesville Basement—our community yard sale open to everyone, which will be held October 24th and 25th—mark your calendars!!! We'll also be hosting The Lymphoma Research Ride for the 3rd year on October 11th—it is a non-competitive bike ride where survivors, family, friends, individuals, community teams and corporate teams ride in honor and in memory of those whose lives have been touched by lymphoma. For more information, please visit www.lymphoma.org.

Nicole Campbell, Director of Communications and Marketing, The Barnesville School, can be reached by email at ncampbell@barnesvilleschool.org.

Darnestown Elementary School

by Kristen Crook

Summer went by too quickly for Darnestown students! They are back in the swing of things and ready for a new year.

While many event dates are still being scheduled as of this writing, two key dates already scheduled for September are:

- September 10th, 6–9 p.m. Back-To-School Night
- September 15th, 5:30–7:30 p.m. Back-To-School Picnic

This fall, instead of the usual gift wrap fundraiser, the PTA has decided to hold a read-a-thon to raise funds for the many programs it holds throughout the year. This is a fun way to get the kids reading AND raise money for school. We hope parents and students will be excited about this idea.

They say no news is good news. This is our hope for our new expansion. It is still in the feasibility stage with nothing new to report. Let's keep our fingers crossed!

Once again, we will be collecting school supplies to benefit our adopted school, Gaithersburg Elementary. Keep these students in mind while shopping for your kids. Our donations are much needed and greatly appreciated. A collection box will be set-up during Back-To-School night. Here's to a great year!

Mary of Nazareth

by Christine Priznar

Welcome New Faculty! Mary of Nazareth School is pleased to welcome the following new teachers: Mrs. Anna Savage, who will be an eighth grade homeroom teacher and will teach social studies and Mrs. Kathy Roe who will teach math to grades 4 to 8.

Second Grade Reenacts the Renaissance

Last May the second grade students at Mary of Nazareth School had the opportunity to use what they learned about medieval life into action. After studying medieval times in history and reading and writing about life in those days, the students enjoyed a Renaissance Fair of their own. Prior to their fair, the students took a field trip to The Medieval Times, where they watched jousting and ate with their hands, as would have happened during that time in history. Back a school, the students had a guest speaker to talk about medieval weaponry and enjoyed imitation sword fighting and jousting. Students learned about the roles of knave and knights as well as the classes and functions of lords and ladies. During the fair, the students went to stations where they made money pouches, sundial watches, and practiced calligraphy.

Contact Christine Priznar by email at cpriznar@maryofnazareth.org.

Northwest High School

by Tracy Callahan

Northwest High School has a new Principal, Ms. E. Lancellotti Dempsey, beginning this Fall. Ms. Dempsey served as Principal at Shady Grove Middle School in Gaithersburg since 2002, Assistant Principal at John F. Kennedy High School in Silver Spring for the 2001-02 school year, and Assistant Principal at Julius West Middle School in Rockville, from 1997 to 2001. Dempsey graduated from the University of Maryland, College Park, with a bachelor's degree in elementary education (1974), and earned a master's

degree in curriculum and instruction from Western Maryland College (1995).

Northwest had been without a permanent principal since Sylvia Morrison was appointed Director of the County school system's instructional programs department last month. Morrison had been Principal at NWHS since 2002.

Class of 2012 Student Government Officers

Class officers for the 2009-2010 school year are as follows:

| | |
|----------------------|---------------|
| President..... | Emily Gubish |
| Vice-President..... | Allison Baer |
| Secretary..... | Sarah Agate |
| Treasurer..... | Megan Krisko |
| Parliamentarian..... | Lily Doerfler |
| Historian..... | Katie Crowley |

NWHS News and Awards Last Spring

NWHS has a motto: "Learning is a lifelong process. Make your education a priority." This year's awards assembly began by congratulating Suzanne Borwnzweig, Director of the Ulysses Signature Program, for earning her doctorate, and thereby leading by example.

One of the awards given is named for NWHS' first PTSA President and Darnestown resident. The Janet Parrish Student Service Award continues to be funded by her family long after her youngest child has graduated.

The following Darnestown students earned awards at Northwest's Student Recognition Assembly in May:

Anna D'Alessio – President's Education Award, MD Distinguished Scholar, Governor's Merit Award, Rosette Nominee

Arianna Dastvan – MD Distinguished Scholar, President's Education Award, Principal's Leadership Award

Kevin Egner – AP Scholar with Honors, President's Education Award

Sean Gordon – AP Scholar with Distinction

Nick Gummo – US Marine Corps Athletic/Citizen Award, President's Education Award, MD Distinguished Scholar, Governor's Merit Award, AP Scholar with Honors, Principal's Leadership Award

Kelsey Hudler – Meritorious Service Award

Edward Kriesneski – National Hispanic Scholar, President’s Education Award, MD Distinguished Scholar, AP Scholar with Distinction, Principal’s Leadership Award

Cody Lang – President’s Education Award, MD Distinguished Scholar, Governor’s Merit Award, English Scholar Award, Outstanding Senior in French Award, Rosette Award

David Lockman – President’s Education Award

Donna Motabar – President’s Education Award, MD Distinguished Scholar, Governor’s Merit Award, AP Scholar with Distinction

Kyle Neumann – MD Distinguished Scholar, President’s Education Award

Bob Norr – President’s Education Award

Dereck Paul – Renaissance Scholarship, NAACP National Achievement Scholarship, President’s Education Award, MD Distinguished Scholar, AP Scholar, Principal’s Leadership Award

Karina Perez-Ayalde – National Hispanic Scholar, President’s Education Award, MD Distinguished Scholar, Governor’s Merit Award, AP Scholar

Joseph Santangelo – President’s Education Award, MD Distinguished Scholar, Governor’s Merit Award, AP Scholar

Joshua Santangelo – President’s Education Award, MD Distinguished Scholar, Governor’s Merit Award, PSAT NMSQT Commended Student, World Languages Award

Matt Wallerstedt – Physical Education Department Award

Mick Wallerstedt – President’s Education Award

Josh Wheeler – AP Scholar, President’s Education Award

Stefanie Zaner – President’s Education Award, MD Distinguished Scholar, Governor’s Merit Award, Straight As throughout high school, Perfect attendance K-12

Seneca Academy/The Circle School

by Brooke Carroll

What is the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program and why is Seneca Academy adding it to their programs? The International Baccalaureate (IB) is a

nonprofit educational foundation that was founded in 1968. It offers 3 programs (the Primary Years Programme, The Middle Years Programme, and the Diploma Programme) for students aged 3 to 19 to “help develop the intellectual, personal, emotional and social skills to live, learn and work in a rapidly globalizing world.” The IB currently works with 2,648 schools in 136 countries reaching over 720,000 students!

The IB Primary Years Programme (PYP) is for preschool and elementary students (ages 3-12). We believe that the IB PYP goals and objectives match quite closely with the mission and programs already offered at Seneca Academy. Incorporating the IB PYP will not change the Seneca Academy mission or philosophy. We will continue to be the same nurturing, engaging, challenging school we have always been. We will teach our existing project-based, developmentally appropriate curriculum. What will change is the way our curriculum is delivered in order to provide a more inquiry based program that encourages students to expand their thinking and make conceptual connections as they gain understanding of the world.

The IB PYP program offers us a framework that will guide the delivery of our instruction. This framework, which encompasses learner outcomes, academic knowledge, attitudes, concepts, and skills, provides a conduit through which our own fully developed curriculum can be delivered. The IB also offers excellent professional development opportunities for our teachers, providing continuity and consistency in program delivery and perspectives.

An example of a specific aspect of the IB PYP program is the Learner Profile. This describes the type of student produced by IB schools.

Seneca Academy IB learners strive to be:

| | |
|---------------|-------------|
| Inquirers | Open-minded |
| Knowledgeable | Caring |
| Thinkers | Risk-takers |
| Communicators | Balanced |
| Principled | Reflective |

Complete information about the IB and its programs can be found on their website www.ibo.org. The following excerpts give an overview in their words of the program being offered at Seneca Academy.

“The International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (PYP) is a transdisciplinary programme of international education designed to foster the development of the whole child.

The International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (PYP) is designed for students aged 3 to 12. It focuses on the total growth of the developing child, touching hearts as well as minds and encompassing social, physical, emotional and cultural needs in addition to academic development.

The PYP draws on research and best practice from a range of national systems with a wealth of knowledge and experience from international schools to create a relevant, engaging, challenging and significant educational framework for all children.”

We are excited to partner with this prestigious and successful organization and appreciate the support they provide. If you have any questions, you may find more information on our website www.senecaacademy.org or you may call us anytime!

Brooke Carroll can be reached by phone (301-869-3728) or email (BCarroll@senecaacademy.org).

Thomas Jefferson Preparatory

by Susie Gooch and Michelle Wentz

With the 2009–2010 school year, Thomas Jefferson Preparatory is thrilled to be entering its third year in operation. Our students did exceptionally well on the 2008–09 CATs, (standardized California Achievement Tests), receiving exemplary scores above and beyond their current grade levels. The TJP Faculty is extremely proud of the superior work our students consistently accomplish.

TJP finished off the 2008-09 school year with quite a bang! The students’ drama production of *Annie* went exceptionally well, and all parents and visitors thoroughly enjoyed it. Performing the play at school in the All-Purpose Room, as opposed to a strange theater, lent quite a homey, comfortable atmosphere to the production. As the year approached its end, each class enjoyed a variety of remarkable field trips and hands-on experiments that finished off our curriculum for the year, including but not limited to a production of *The Civil War* at Ford’s Theatre and a visit to the National Geographic Discovery Museum & Theater! These special events provided a welcome break from schoolwork and mandatory standardized testing.

TJP has many things planned for the 2009–10 school year, as well. For our international trip, we’ll be off to Germany and the Alps, which as in the past, is always open to the Darnestown community. We’d love to have you join us! We have many very creative field

trips in the works, and we’ll be putting on another drama production. (What a fantastic venue for students to express themselves, overcome shyness, and just have fun!) We’ll also be offering an after-school Technology Club designed to teach students proper computer skills, including correct keyboarding skills and all components of Microsoft Office. This club will be open to Darnestown families as well, so please call us for more information if you are interested in enrolling your child: 301-330-7550.

As we enter our third year, we are excited and pleased to become an even stronger part of the Darnestown community. As always, we’d like to thank our wonderful hosts at Fairhaven United Methodist Church for allowing us to operate on their campus. With all grades from 1st–8th complete at TJP, we are looking to the future to build and expand our program and our infrastructure. The TJP faculty and staff truly enjoy being part of something so vitally significant as a school built slowly, but surely, by our students, our parents, and our Darnestown community. Stay tuned for more about Thomas Jefferson Preparatory School!

The authors can be reached by email: Susie Gooch at wsgooch@comcast.net; Michelle Wentz at mtwentztz@comcast.net.

St. Nicholas Episcopal Church

by Reverend Ken Howard

St. Nicholas Church celebrates the start of its first program year in its new church building with a Kick-Off Weekend on Saturday and Sunday, September 12th and 13th.

Kick-Off Weekend begins on Saturday with a Community Tailgate Picnic from 4 to 7pm. Bring some sandwiches and drinks, drop your tailgate, and make some new friends.

On Sunday, Kick-Off weekend continues with a Parish Open House after both our 9am and 5pm services. Check out our beautiful new church building, enjoy the service, sign up the kids for Sunday School and Youth Group, and find out more about our programs for all ages. Make our home your home!

Finally, mark your calendars for our Blessing of the Animals service on St. Francis Sunday, October 6. Check our SaintNicks.com website for our Fall Calendar.

Regular Sunday services continue at 9am and 5pm.

For more information, contact the Rev. Ken Howard, Rector, at 240-631-2800 or rector@saintnicks.com.

The Little Acorn Softball League: Historical Overview

by Steve Ellis, Retiring Commissioner

What follows is a rough historical account of the last 19 years of our adult softball league. The precursor to

the league began in 1989 with a few games played among the 3 teams that were in the formation stage.

This softball article was the first to appear in the Acorn. It was from the June 1990 issue.



Getting ready for a Sunday night practice are softball players, left to right: Gerry Foley, Steve Ellis, Vic Micit, Frank Cornelius and John Marszalek.

SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

The GDCA, through *The Little Acorn*, is sponsoring an annual softball tournament within the Darnestown area. A plaque or trophy with an engraved plate will bear the name of the winning team and year.

The first games are scheduled on Sunday, June 3 at the Darnestown Local Park. Games will continue every Sunday evening through June until the winning team is determined.

Some specifics:

- Eligible players must be either Darnestown property owners or other residents 30 years and over. This is to encourage participation by folks in their 30s, 40s, 50s, etc.
- The game will be co-rec (male-female), slow pitch and males will bat opposite handed.
- No more than 6 players of one sex on the field at any one time.

Ladies, we need you!

- Teams are organized by neighborhood or area.

Notice was given in the Darnestown column in the *Gazette* and fliers were sent out in some areas. We're hoping to have at least four participating teams this year. The teams will have formed by the time you read this, but there still may be room on a roster for you. Call Vicki Kenehan at 948-2135 for information.

We apologize to those younger players in their late teens and 20s who were excluded from this "seniors" tournament. If sufficient interest develops in this age group, we encourage you to start organizing for a game this year, next year or in the future. Parents and other community members would be interested in helping you.

The following softballers should be recognized for trying (and hopefully succeeding) to get this annual tournament off the ground: Bob Cangelosi, Frank Cornelius, Sue Hughes, Vicki Kenehan, John Marszalek, Vic Micit, Dave and Mary Jo Raff, Tom Snyder. Incidentally, organized softball lobbying was a major force in getting the yearly start of the daylight savings time changed from the last Sunday in April to the first Sunday in April!

Steve Ellis

| Year | Teams | Captains | W-L | Runs | Season Article & Notes |
|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------|---------|--|
| 1990 | Ridgefield et.al. | Denean Bradecamp, Bob Bradecamp | 3-1 | 28-23 | Season article: Steve Ellis |
| | Highlands (HL) | Vicki Kenehan | 2-2 | 34-27 | |
| | Ancient Oak+ | Michael Klyn | 1-3 | 17-29 | |
| 1991 | Bondy-Ridgefield-Haddonfield (BHR) | Denean Bradecamp, Bob Bradecamp | 6-0 | 63-? | Season article: Steve Ellis Main umpire Vic Micit. Initiation of "umpire decisions open for discussion, not argument;" Home plate rule to avoid collisions. Idea from Steve Waechter. |
| | HL & Darnestown Hills | Gary Held | 4-2 | 39-? | |
| | Ancient Oak/Mt. View/Quail Run (AMQ) | Michael Klyn | 2-4 | 30-? | |
| | Western Darnestown/Esworthy | John Marszalek | 0-6 | 22-? | |
| <p>On January 31, 1991, during the Desert Storm conflict, the plane of Pilot Captain Thomas Clifford Bland, Jr., went down into the Persian Gulf. Cliff Bland grew up in Darnestown. The Darnestown Local Park's recreational facilities were dedicated in his honor at a ceremony at the Park on May 19, 1991. There is a reference plaque on a stone near the pavilion.</p> | | | | | |
| 1992 | BHR | Hetz Wochholz, Sue Hughes | 6-0 | 54-? | Season article: Steve Ellis Men 50+ can bat regular (the <i>Schindler-Marszalek-Cornelius</i> rule). V. Micit & F. Cornelius main umpires. Councilman Bruce Adams plays in one game for AMQ. |
| | AMQ | Michael Klyn | 3-3 | 56-? | |
| | HL | Steve Waechter | 3-3 | 31-? | |
| | WD/Esworthy | John Marszalek | 0-6 | 18-? | |
| 1993 | BHR | Hetz Wochholz | 5-1 | 76-27 | Season article: John Marszalek 11" ball for women. |
| | AMQ | Michael Klyn | 4-2 | 43-38 | |
| | WD | John Marszalek | 2-4 | 19-71 | |
| | HL | Steve Waechter | 1-5 | 43-46 | |
| 1994 | BHR | Hetz Wochholz | 6-0 | Unknown | Season article: John Marszalek Field permit \$11. |
| | AMQ | Michael Klyn | 3-3 | | |
| | HL | Steve Waechter | 2-4 | | |
| | WD | John Marszalek | 1-5 | | |
| 1995 | BHR | Mike Wallerstedt | 4-2 | 47-37 | Season article: Steve Ellis Playoff game: BHR (12) vs. AMQ (6) |
| | AMQ | Michael Klyn | 4-2 | 54-30 | |
| | HL | Bob McGuire | 3-3 | 54-45 | |
| | WD | John Marszalek | 1-5 | 17-60 | |
| 1996 | AMQ | Michael Klyn | 5-1 | 78-33 | Season article: Steve Ellis Tie is an option rule. |
| | HL | Bob McGuire | 4-2 | 55-33 | |
| | WD | John Marszalek | 2-4 | 24-59 | |
| | BHR | Mike Wallerstedt | 1-5 | 23-49 | |
| 1997 | AMQ | Michael Klyn | 5-0-1 | 73-36 | Season article: Steve Ellis |
| | HL | Bob McGuire | 3-3 | 54-46 | |
| | WD | John Marszalek, Gene Sullenger | 2-4 | 34-50 | |
| | BHR | Dave Peoples, Kevin Ricci | 1-4-1 | 24-53 | |
| 1998 | AMQ | Michael Klyn | 5-1 | 45-36 | Season article: Steve Ellis BHR wins post-season tournament. |
| | BHR | Jon Kaplan, Mathias Neumann | 4-2 | 53-41 | |
| | HL | Bob McGuire | 3-3 | 59-44 | |
| | WD | Dennis Stiles | 0-6 | 26-62 | |
| 1999 | BHR | Jon Kaplan, Mathias Neumann | 5-1 | 65-56 | Season article: Jon Kaplan Outfield line drawn to allow break for hitters. Idea in part by Kathy Neumann and initiated by Michael Klyn. Termed the Klyn Ms Advantage rule. First organized league picnic. Main organizer Mathias Neumann. |
| | AMQ | Michael Klyn | 4-2 | 67-49 | |
| | HL | Bob McGuire | 2-4 | 68-64 | |
| | WD | Dennis Stiles, Pete Plamondon | 1-5 | 46-77 | |

| Year | Teams | Captains | W-L | Runs | Season Article & Notes |
|------|------------------------|--|-------|--------|--|
| 2000 | BHR | Jon Kaplan, Mathias Neumann | 7-1-1 | 81-41 | Season article: Jon Kaplan Decision to play each team three times. Increasing number of umpires. |
| | AMQ | Michael Klyn | 5-3-1 | 52-66 | |
| | HL | Bob McGuire | 3-6 | 52-69 | |
| | WD | Dennis Stiles, Pete Plamondon | 2-7 | 54-63 | |
| 2001 | BHR | Jon Kaplan, Mathias Neumann | 8-1 | 88-51 | Season article: Jon Kaplan Two captains for each team mandatory. |
| | HL | Bob McGuire, Steve Waechter | 4-5 | 64-65 | |
| | AMQ | Michael Klyn, Kevin Keegan | 3-5 | 47-54 | |
| | WD | Brian Lang, Pete Plamondon | 2-6 | 47-76 | |
| 2002 | BHR | Jon Kaplan, Mathias Neumann | 6-2 | 97-51 | Season article: Steve Ellis Shared title between BHR and AMQ. Play each team twice. |
| | AMQ | Michael Klyn, Kevin Keegan | 6-2 | 89-74 | |
| | HL | Bob McGuire, Steve Waechter | 4-3-1 | 60-83 | |
| | WD | Brian Lang, Pete Plamondon | 3-4-1 | 75-73 | |
| | Rollinmead (RM) | Derek Widmayer, Joe Gazda | 0-8 | 51-91 | |
| 2003 | BHR | Tom Wheeler, Hong McGill | 7-1 | 77-38 | Season article: Steve Ellis Looking for a way out, Steve Ellis forms Executive Committee with Lang, McGuire, Neumann. |
| | AMQ | Michael Klyn, Kevin Keegan | 4-4 | 65-87 | |
| | WD | Brian Lang, Jim Rill | 3-4-1 | 58-54 | |
| | RM | Derek Widmayer, Joe Gazda | 3-5 | 61-66 | |
| | HL | Lynn Yohn, Dave Bivans | 2-5-1 | 60-83 | |
| 2004 | WD | Brian Lang, Jim Rill | 6-2 | 62-48 | Season article: Steve Ellis & Joe Gazda Field permit \$31. 1-1 count in 4 th inning instituted. Joe Gazda begins compiling and sending league stats to captains each week. Tom Wheeler begins equipment and umpire coordination. |
| | RM | Derek Widmayer, Joe Gazda | 5-2-1 | 74-58 | |
| | HL | Lynn Yohn, Dave Bivans | 3-5 | 64-73 | |
| | BHR | Tom Wheeler, Hong McGill | 3-5 | 55-57 | |
| | AMQ | Michael Klyn, Kevin Keegan | 2-5-1 | 52-71 | |
| 2005 | WD | Brian Lang, Jim Rill, Jim Seaman | 9-1 | 74-29 | Season article: Steve Ellis Dave Bivans begins ball and field duties. Joe Gazda maintains stats and schedule. |
| | BHR | Tom Wheeler, Hong McGill | 6-3-1 | 89-63 | |
| | AMQ | Michael Klyn, Kevin Keegan, Linda O'Sullivan | 6-4 | 102-87 | |
| | HL | Dave Bivans, Lynn Yohn | 4-5-1 | 83-79 | |
| | RM | Derek Widmayer, Joe Gazda | 2-8 | 52-86 | |
| | Berryville/Seneca (BS) | Larry Skicism, Dave Andreatis | 2-8 | 50-106 | |
| 2006 | AMQ | Michael Klyn, Kevin Keegan, Linda O'Sullivan | 8-1-1 | 102-48 | Season article: Tom Wheeler Problems with getting all the games completed. |
| | BHR | Tom Wheeler, Hong McGill | 6-3-1 | 139-62 | |
| | HL | Dave Bivans | 5-4 | 82-84 | |
| | WD | Brian Lang, Jim Rill | 4-4 | 56-77 | |
| | RM | Derek Widmayer, Joe Gazda | 2-7 | 56-90 | |
| | BS | Larry Skicism, Dave Andreatis, Scott Mostrom | 1-7 | 50-106 | |
| 2007 | BHR | Tom Wheeler, Hong McGill | 8-2 | 119-64 | Season article: Tracy and Brian Lang Outfield line set at 180 feet. Park permit \$48. Trophy placed in the Harris Teeter. |
| | RM | Derek Widmayer, Joe Gazda | 6-2-2 | 91-70 | |
| | BS | Larry Skicism, Scott Mostrom | 5-3-2 | 83-82 | |
| | AMQ | Michael Klyn, Linda O'Sullivan, Joe McIntyre | 5-4-1 | 86-82 | |
| | WD | Jim Rill, Steve Williams | 2-8 | 45-75 | |
| | HL | Dave Bivans, Bob McGuire | 1-8-1 | 40-93 | |
| 2008 | BHR | Tom Wheeler, Steve Groff | 9-0 | 115-57 | Season article: Tom Wheeler Keegan fries. |
| | AMQ | Michael Klyn, Joe McIntyre, Linda O'Sullivan | 5-4 | 93-84 | |
| | HL | Dave Bivans, Bob McGuire | 3-4-2 | 71-77 | |
| | WD | Jim Rill, Steve Williams | 3-5-1 | 80-92 | |
| | BS | Larry Skicism, Scott Mostrom, Gene Sullenger | 2-5 | 45-62 | |
| | RM | Derek Widmayer, Joe Gazda | 2-6-1 | 58-90 | |

In 2009, the field permit rose to \$117. Rollinmead combined with AMQ; the team's new name is the Ancient Rollin Mountain Quails.

Thanks to so many involved and the Darnestown Civic Association. If I start naming people, where do I stop? A special appreciation to the long term dedication of my team's captain Michael Klyn, who has helped make our team have so much fun, and, of course, to Dave Bivans for accepting the role of Commissioner.

The 2009 Softball Season

by Dave Bivans—Highlanders!

Berryville-Seneca—Little Acorn Softball's 2009 League Champs!

With one game played in late-April, a decisive 12 to 5 Western Darnestown (WD) defeat of the Ancient-Rollin'-Mountain-Quails (ARMQ), the 2009 Darnestown softball season arrived. Unfortunately, it would be five more weeks before any other team could dust off their caps and gloves, and lace up their cleats (rubber only!) on account of the several wet and non-play weekends this past spring. As you may recognize, a few changes were afoot for this 2009 Darnestown softball league season.

Firstly, based on difficulty in establishing a more extensive roster, the Rollinmead team joined the Ancient-Mountain-Quails this year. Pre-season prognosticators had RM's core contingent of key players re-invigorating AMQ's stalwart veterans creating ARMQ as the "team to beat." As it turned out, they were right, but with a spin—the new ARMQ battled many close games but managed to come out on top only once! Certainly by next year ARMQ will devise an alternative

game-plan that fully capitalizes on their extensive talent, and experience!!

The upstart team of the year turned out to be Berryville-Seneca (BS). In their fifth season, with a record of 6 wins and 2 losses, BS claimed their first league title! This was quite a reversal of last year's difficult fifth place finish (3-6). A Berryville-Seneca plaque will emblazon a new Championship trophy to be displayed in Darnestown's Harris Teeter's display case. The original trophy will be hung in the hallway at the DCA office."

Finally, but actually formally initiated at the pre-season coach's meeting, this was Steve Ellis' 20th, and final season as league commissioner. Steve has been preparing for this transition for several years now, gradually relinquishing many of the duties and responsibilities he managed for our neighborhood softball league, from field permits and game schedules, to rules development and umpiring, and as was often the case (to include this edition as well), writing articles of field heroics and theatrics for *The Little Acorn*. As commissioner-elect I will be taking over for Steve this fall, and want to thank Steve for his many dedicated years of service to the League, as well as the Darnestown community. I look forward to continue working with our large, and always open, volunteer base to keep the league vibrant, fair, and fun.

Congratulations to BS coaches Larry Skiscim, Scott Mostrom, Gene Sullenger, the entire BS squad on their championship season, and to all the leagues players, coaches, and supporting fans for another successful softball season. Looking forward to seeing everyone, and even more new faces, at spring training next April!

To contact Dave Bivans, send an email to dnlbivans34@verizon.net.

| Little Acorn League Stats – 2009 | | | | |
|---|-------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Neighborhood Team | Wins | Losses | Runs For | Runs Against |
| Berryville-Seneca | 6 | 2 | 62 | 49 |
| Western Darnestown | 5 | 3 | 74 | 69 |
| Bondy-Haddonfield-Ridgefield | 4 | 4 | 83 | 68 |
| Highlanders | 4 | 4 | 72 | 84 |
| Ancient Rollin' Mountain Quails | 1 | 7 | 57 | 78 |

Time to dig out your cowboy boots and
make your reservations...

It's Hoedown Time!

Join your friends and neighbors for an evening of square and line dancing
at the 2009 DCA Hoedown. You don't have to be any good at this... it's just a really FUN evening!
Dinner, dancing, beverages, desserts, and hayrides are all included.

STILL ONLY \$30 PER PERSON!!!

Friday, November 13, 2009
6:30 P.M. to MIDNIGHT

At Smokey Glen Farm
Main Pavilion, Riffle Ford Road
Right here in Darnestown!

Back by popular demand:
Darnestown's favorite caller, Mac McCall

Serving Smokey Glen Farm's famous complete BarBQ chicken and BarBQ spare ribs
buffet dinner, starting with seafood bisque and ending with delicious smoked fruit pies.
Included are sodas, apple cider, beer, wine, bar beverages, and coffee

ADULTS ONLY!

Reservations with payment must be received by November 1st!

****No refunds** Payment will not be accepted at the door**

"DARNE GOOD COOKBOOKS" WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT THE HOEDOWN

Please clip and submit this form along with your check (payable to DCA) by 11/1/09 to:
Lisa Patterson-Troike, 13925 Esworthy Road, Darnestown, MD 20874
Direct any questions to Lisa via email (lisaapatterson@aol.com) or phone (301-548-0999)

Full names of those in your group: _____

Phone #: _____ # of Reservations: _____ @ \$30.⁰⁰ each: Enclosed: \$ _____

(Please list full names of those in your party. Nametags will be awaiting you at the door and will serve as your ticket.)

Darnestown Civic Association

Member List (2008–09)

Sponsors

| | | |
|---|--|----------------------------------|
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| Paul & Stephanie Coffin | Michael & Beverly Klyn | Patrick & Kristin Sweeney |
| Darnestown Shell | Peter & Mary Lalos | Betty Sweet |
| Charles Davis | Juntao Liu Wenmei Li | John & Joni Theis |
| Cliff Dean & Janice Raburn | Brad & Liz Long | Bob & Carolyn Thompson |
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Eileen Gerohristodoulos
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Robert & Linda Zweibel

Gaithersburg Area Newcomers Club

by Lynda Slesinger

Expand Social Connections and Make New Friends!

The Gaithersburg Area Newcomers Club is a local area social club which welcomes new residents and those in life transition (lifestyle changes, retirement, etc.). We offer an extensive variety of fun social activities.

For more information or to receive a newsletter, contact DCA Member Lynda Slesinger at 301-990-1067.

Information for Newcomers

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

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

The fiscal year of the DCA is July 1 through June 30, and annual dues billing statements are mailed out at the end of June each year, although dues may be paid any time during a given year. Current officers of the DCA are listed on Page 2 of *The Little Acorn*.

Mailing Address:

Darnestown Civic Association
14100 Darnestown Road
Darnestown, MD 20874

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

The Little Acorn newsletter is published quarterly, in March, June, September and December. Its name derives from its origin as a tiny newsletter in the Ancient Oak subdivision more than 20 years ago. Now it is mailed (3rd class) to every residential address that we have in our DCA data base. Volunteers, based on information from membership remittance form and our Welcome

Committee, maintain this name and address file. The newsletter should arrive in your mailbox early in each of the above months. If you don't receive an issue, please contact the editor or any DCA officer. Publication of *The Little Acorn* is entirely a volunteer effort except for the printing and mailing.

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

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

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

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

Barnesville School

21830 Peach Tree Road
Barnesville, MD 20838
301-972-0341
Jaralyn Hough, Head of School

Boy Scout Troop 1094

Scoutmaster Bud Wildman (301-990-8318)

Brownies and Junior Girl Scouts

Cathy Sharpe (301-519-9520)

Butler School

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

Circle School/Seneca Academy

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

Darne Bloomers Garden Club

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

Darnestown Civic Association

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

Darnestown Elementary School

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

Darnestown Swim and Racquet Club

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

Friends of the Library-Quince Orchard Chapter

Membership, Elizabeth Cookson
301-869-6326

Jones Lane Elementary School

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

Kehilat Shalom

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

Lakelands Park Middle School

1200 Main Street, Gaithersburg, MD 20878
Jerome Lynch, Principal
301-670-1400

Mary of Nazareth School

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

Quince Orchard Community Library

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

Northwest High School

12501 Richter Farm Road, Germantown, MD 20874
Sylvia Morrison, Principal
301-601-4660

Quince Orchard High School

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

Ridgeview Middle School

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

Thomas Jefferson Preparatory

12801 Darnestown Road, Darnestown, MD 20878
Susie Gooch, Head of School
301-330-7550

Trout Unlimited

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

Places of Worship

Additions to the places of worship listed here are most welcome. Please send relevant contact information to acorneditor@comcast.net.

If your not-for-profit organization is hosting an event open to the public, and you'd like help getting the word out, send a paragraph with the relevant details to acorneditor@comcast.net before deadline, and we'll be glad to include it in the next issue of *The Little Acorn*.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

Kentlands Ward, 16 Kent Gardens Circle
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878
301-972-4638
240-631-0796

Darnestown Presbyterian Church

Rt. 28 & Turkey Foot Road, Darnestown, MD 20878
301-948-9127
www.darnestownpc.org

Dawsonville Mennonite Church

16500 Whites Ferry Road, Poolesville, Maryland
301-874-8672

Fairhaven United Methodist Church

12801 Darnestown Road, Darnestown, MD 20878
301-330-5433

First Church of Christ, Scientist

300 E Diamond Avenue, Gaithersburg, Md. 20877
301-977-6544

Gaithersburg Chinese Alliance Church

13101 Darnestown Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20878
301-869-8343
www.gcacmd.org

Germantown Baptist Church

1740 Riffle Ford Road, Germantown, MD 20874
301-428-3622
www.germantownbaptist.org

Kehilat Shalom

9915 Apple Ridge Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20886
301-869-7699
mail@KehilatShalom.org
www.KehilatShalom.org

Or Chadash

4800 Kings Valley Road, Damascus MD 20872
301-482-1025

Our Lady of the Visitation Parish

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

Poplar Grove Baptist Church

14625 Jones Lane, North Potomac, MD 20878
301-330-5054
www.poplargrovebaptistchurch.org

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

11900 Darnestown Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20878
301-869-3666
www.poplutheran.org

St. Nicholas Episcopal Church

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

Seneca Community Church

13900 Berryville Road, Germantown, MD 20874
301-869-9326

Shaare Torah

1409 Main Street, Gaithersburg, MD 20878
301-869-9842

Sugarloaf Congregation of Unitarian Universalists

16913 Germantown Road
Germantown, MD 20874-3013
301-540-0575
www.scuu.org

Temple Beth Ami

14330 Travilah Road, Rockville, MD 20852
301-340-6818
www.bethami.org

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Rockville

100 Welsh Park Drive
Rockville, MD 20850
301-762-7666; www.uucr.org

Some Darne~good~and~tasty ideas for those late~summer veggies...

Escaloped Eggplant

Our testers give this a gold star!

- 1 medium eggplant, cut into ½-inch slices
- 1 large onion, sliced
- 1 large tomato, sliced
- ¾ cup butter, melted
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon basil leaves, crushed
- ¼ pound mozzarella cheese, sliced
- ½ cup dried bread crumbs
- 2 tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese

1. In medium-size casserole, arrange one layer of eggplant.
2. Place a slice of tomato and onion on top of each slice of eggplant.
3. Drizzle ¼ cup of melted butter over layers; sprinkle with salt and basil.
4. Cover and bake at 450 degrees for 20 minutes.
5. Uncover and top with mozzarella cheese.
6. Stir bread crumbs with remaining melted butter and sprinkle over top of casserole. Top with Parmesan cheese.
7. Bake for another 10 minutes or until cheese is bubbly.

Temperature: 450 degrees
Sara Wade

Time: 30 minutes
Yield: 2-4 servings

Summer Squash Casserole

An end-of-the-summer recipe to use your garden squash.

- 1 medium onion, thinly sliced
- 3 tablespoons butter
- 16 medium summer squash, sliced
- ¾ cup sour cream
- 1 ½ cups Cheddar cheese, grated
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 egg yolks, beaten
- 3 tablespoons chopped chives
- ½ cup crispy cooked bacon, crumbled
- Bread crumbs
- 1/8 teaspoon paprika, optional

1. In large skillet, sauté onion in butter.
2. Add squash and simmer until tender and drain.
3. In same skillet, add sour cream, cheese and salt, stirring over low heat until cheese melts; remove from heat.
4. Add egg yolks, chives and bacon.
5. Pour into lightly greased casserole and cover with bread crumbs.
6. Sprinkle with paprika for color and bake for 20 minutes.

Temperature: 350 degrees
Ann (Doodie) Sullivan

Time: 20 minutes
Yield: 8-10 servings

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Darnestown, MD 20874

dca@darnestowncivic.org

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