



GPCA

GREATER PATAPSCO COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.

PO Box 31, Granite, MD 21163

Issue #359

GPCA Newsletter

September 2016

Next Meeting: Monday, September 12th, 7:30 p.m.

GPCA General Meetings are held the second Monday of each month, except July & August, at the Granite Presbyterian church. Everyone is invited to attend.

Check us out on the web at www.gpca.net

GPCA Community Picnic Saturday, October 1st 2:00 pm “til dusk

**Invite your neighbors
Come to the picnic at Pahl’s Farm.**

Activities to include:

Moonbounce for the kids

Antique Cars Granite’s own DJ

Cake Walk Hayrides



GPCA will supply grill, charcoal, condiments, ice, beverages, beer, wine, paper products & utensils.

You bring meat to grill, a potluck dish or dessert to share, lawn chairs and a cake to contribute to the Cake Walk

Location: Pahl Farm

2730 Melrose Avenue, Granite

**More information: Call or email any Officer or Board member
(see back page of a newsletter or www.gpca.net for contact information)**

NOTICE: There will not be an October newsletter.

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From The President

Hello to everyone and I hope you are enjoying the hot and humid summer so far. During our two months off, some resolutions have been reached regarding the Day Care on Dogwood Rd., and The Patapsco Glen Development project. We will be discussing the two topics at our September General meeting with the people that were closely involved in hearing process and negotiation with the involved parties.

The officers and board of directors were informed by our newsletter editor (Marie Cignatta) that she will be stepping down as our editor, effective September 2016 so this will be her last newsletter. On behalf of GPCA, I would like to thank her for a job well done. If I know Marie she will probably continue being active in our community efforts. At the time of this article, the Officers and Board of Directors are working with a person that is interested in being our new newsletter editor. I will let you know more details as things progress.

I would like to thank Senator Delores Kelley for being our guest speaker back in June it was great to see her and hear what she had to say. Enjoy the rest of the summer and I will see you at September's meeting.

Volunteer Opportunity Available!

Are you looking for a chance to make a contribution to the mission of GPCA? GPCA is looking for a person to collate, work with the newsletter folding crew and deliver the newsletters to the Ellicott City Post Office on the first Tuesday of each month.

Marie Cignatta, our editor since January 2016 is stepping down effective September 6, 2016. If you have any questions about the tasks that are involved, please email Marie (mcig123@yahoo.com) for information. If you are ready to volunteer contact any officer or board member. Thanks!

Follow GPCA on Facebook: www.facebook.com/pages/Greater-Patapsco-Community-Association/411421142275406

So It Didn't Go the Way You Wanted

Frustration comes when expectations and experience clash. That moment when you get in the car to go to the store, put the key in the ignition...and the battery is dead. Few of us calmly accept that. Now our plans have been changed. Suddenly altered, when we are already on a schedule that we are running behind. Having really too many things to do in a day, but the inability to accept our own limitations. Screaming at the inanimate car or bursting into tears is like crying over spilled milk. What needs to be done next is to call AAA or a neighbor to give you a jump and hope to heck the 20 minute drive to the store is long enough to restart the car and come back home. You should take your cables with you.

The nice thing about getting old (while few and far between) is that you accrue enough of these moments to stop being surprised when things do not go as planned. When an "all stop" occurs in the middle of a list of things to do, you say, "of course it did." Our life here on Offutt Ridge Farm has an interruption in plans almost every day. Between the horses, alpacas, chickens and ducks coupled with the foxes, raccoons, deer, possums, rats, and helicopters overhead, there is no 'of course' about any planned activity. The only 'of course' is that plans will be interrupted. Did I mention weather? Add that in. And of course equipment failures. From mowers and tractors and cars and truck to manure spreader and front end loaders, everything has the ability to break or break down.

Planning generates expectations. You plant a garden expecting to get produce. But you have to balance that expectation with what it takes to protect your plants and the effort required to nurture them. When the cat digs up your transplants, when the ducks crawl under the gate to groom your lettuce, you just have to get better at protecting the plants. When the weather dries out the soil, you need to carry water or drag a mile of hose from an unfortunately placed hydrant. You can't quit because it is hot, you cannot avoid the work because it is difficult. You also (newsflash organic people) may even have to use pesticides to get something out of all that effort. (Relax; some pesticides are on the approved 2 page long list of chemicals certified organic growers use, which really defies the concept of 'organic' after all).

The question becomes, then, is the best way to avoid frustration, anger and tears it can produce to just NOT plan anything? To freefall (continued on page 3)

(So It Didn't Go the Way You Want -(continued from page 2)
 through every day punching buttons on an electronic game? Or to accept all kinds of failures without changing approach? Obviously, I do not think so or I would have stopped trying a decade ago. When the first coop got wiped out by a fox overnight, when the first horse colicked so severely I had to put her down, when my hands closed up so I could no longer sign, when my kidneys failed and I spent 10 days in the hospital.

At each of those steps, you say, am I going to continue to have chickens? (yes) Am I going to get another horse because I may have to go through this again? (yes). Am I going to try to fix my hands for better function? (yes). But when it comes to the kidneys, I cannot really fix them and I am not going to replace them. I am going to do the best I can with what I have left. Which does mean modifying expectations and making different kinds of plans.

It is possible to relax with that. But it does raise the bar for the healthier people around me. It does mean I do not accept victim mentality of blaming everything around me for my situation. I am guessing most people will confront some kind of health issue in their life. I am sure almost everyone does not have everything they want. There used to be a saying "Bloom where you are planted." Another one was, "When life gives you lemons, make lemonade." I feel like many people have lost that philosophy, of making the best of what you have. Instead there is just a whole lot of whining going on.

I grew up on peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and Kool-Aid, not Lunchables and Capri Sun. I had cats and a sand box (that needed a lid). I dreamed of ponies tied up at the back fence of our Levittown-like house on a ¼ of an acre in town. Three channels on TV and we could not get ABC most of the time. Dad had control of the TV. That would seem like an impoverished childhood now, but I just wonder if by enriching our children's' early lives if we impoverish their futures? Raising children is not about entertaining them, but teaching them how to do for themselves, how to make something out of nothing so later in life they are not waiting for people to wait on them and supply them with what they 'need' (want).

We cannot control so many things in our lives and around us, but we can control our expectations and our reaction to fails. To survive, we have to stop blaming circumstances and just change them, or change our view of what we have. "Count your many blessings...count them one by one." **Brenda Creighton**

Summary of decision on the 9420 Dogwood Rd Daycare Special Exception Update:

On August 3rd, 2016, the Administrative Law Judge for Baltimore Co. rendered a decision on the above special exception request to change from a Class A family daycare to a Class B daycare allowing a residential home on the same property. The judge ruled in favor of the covenant agreement between the GPCA and the Arthur and Sharon Jackson. A brief summary of the agreement follows:

The daycare hours have been limited to weekdays and bank holidays that fall on a weekday. There will be no weekend or overnight sessions. The total number of children allowed outside at one time is limited to 16. The total number of children allowed on the property at one time is 25 subject to Baltimore Co. Health department approval.

There will be no signage on the property advertising the daycare other than directional signs for turning traffic. If the property is sold to a 3rd party unrelated to the Jacksons the class B and residential special exceptions are revoked.

The GPCA community is please to have worked with the Jacksons to reach an agreement amendable to both parties. We wish the Jacksons success with their venture. If you would like to read the agreement in its entirety it will be posted on the GPCA website.

Maribeth Diemer

Special Thanks

to Paul Dorsey for printing the newsletter and to Marty Kelley, Alice Kloetzli, Kathy Skullney, and Marcia Brown for volunteering to fold the newsletter.

Veterinary Assistant/Receptionist Needed:

There is a part-time vet tech/office assistant position available at Randallstown Animal Hospital. If you are interested please fax a resume to 410-521-6779 or email it to randallstownvet@gmail.com.

What's Happening in the Area

At the **Howard County Conservancy:**

Sept. 22 *Fall Equinox Twilight Hike and Campfire: S'mores and More!* Thur. 5-7pm \$10/car

Oct. 2 *Fall Festival*, crafts and food for sale; no pets please. Sat. 11am– 3pm \$10/car

More Information? Call 410-465-8877

www.hcconservancy.org

At the **Carrie Murray Nature Center**

Please register on-line for the following events:

Sept. 10 *Nature Needle Felting Workshop*

Sat. 11am -2pm \$

Sept. 16 *Full Moon Owl Prowl* Sat. 7pm– 9pm

Sept. 17 *Carrie Murray Creations* 10am-3pm
\$2/person

Carrie Murray Nature Center is now open on the second Sunday of each month- April through November the hours are noon to 3pm.

More Information? 410-396-0808

www.carriemurraynaturecenter.org

At the **Soldiers Delight Natural Environmental Area (NEA)**

Sept. 10 *Turkey Vulture Birthday* 12pm-3pm Sat. \$5

Sept. 11, 18 & 25 *Feathered Friends*

12pm-1pm Sunday FREE Call to register.

Sept. 10 *Night Photography* 7pm-10pm Rain or Shine!
Tripod and camera required. Bring flashlight and dress for weather! FREE Sat.

Sept. 10 *Stargazing* 8pm– 11pm Rain or Shine!
Sat. FREE

Sept. 11 *Storytelling Hour* 1pm-2pm Sun. FREE

Sept. 17 *Friends in Focus* 12pm-2pm Shine Only!
Sat. \$15/photographer; spectators FREE Call to register.

Sept. 20 *Deer Detectives* 1pm-2pm Rain or Shine! \$2/
person call 410-922-3044 to register.

Sept. 24 *Migrating Monarchs* 1pm-2:30pm Shine Only!
\$2/person Register now– space is limited to 10. Call 410-922-3044

For more information or to check out the complete listing of activities www.soldiersdelight.org or call 410-922-3044.

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Membership Report

Maribeth Diemer, Treasurer

GPCA needs your help. Please take a moment and send in your annual dues. The newsletters go out to over 1,500 households. However, only 192 households have renewed their membership or become new members. The newsletter is GPCA's largest expense and we need everyone to share in the cost. **Thank you!**

Local Job Opening:

The Granite Rose Tea Parlour is looking for someone to help out with weekly food preparations on Wednesdays and possibly Saturdays. If interested call us at 410-465-9116.



Deadline for advertisements and articles is the 20th of the month prior to publication. Next deadline is Oct. 20th!



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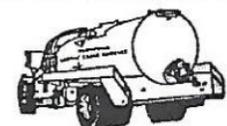
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GPCA

GRANITE PATAPSCO COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.

P.O. Box 31
Granite, MD 21163

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

UPCOMING DATES TO NOTE:
General Meeting – MONDAY, Sept. 12th
Subject- Daycare and Patapsco Glen Updates
GPCA picnic, SATURDAY, Oct. 1st

Please print

GPCA Membership Application

Name

Address

Phone

Email

Yearly membership dues:
Joint - \$30 Individual - \$20

I'm new in the community.

**Mail completed application and check to:
GPCA, PO Box 31, Granite, MD 21163**

GPCA Officers and Board of Directors

President: Butch Oakman 443-314-6415 oakelectric@comcast.net
Vice President: George Jones 410-655-8307 tessier100@hotmail.com
Secretary: Denise Maranto 443-695-5409 denise.maranto@gmail.com
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EDITOR POSITION VACANT as of SEPTEMBER 6th.

GPCA ADVERTISING/ARTICLE/LETTER POLICY

GPCA reserves the right to accept or refuse advertising.
To place an ad: Send the ad copy by email as a pdf attachment where possible to the Editor by the 20th of the month prior to publishing. Include information on the size desired.
Payments for ads: Make check payable to GPCA and send to GPCA, P.O. Box 31, Woodstock, MD 21163 **prior to publication deadline.** Checks should indicate ad size and months to be published. **No payment received = no ad placement.**
Rates and ad sizes: 1/8 page = \$15; 1/4 page = \$30; 1/2 page = \$50; full page = \$80. Personal ads up to one column inch: \$3 for GPCA members and \$5 for non-members. Ads should avoid excessive dark areas that do not copy well.
For articles and letters: These submissions to the newsletter become the property of GPCA unless otherwise agreed upon. Deadline for these is the 20th of the month previous to publication. GPCA reserves the right to accept, reject, edit, or hold for a subsequent newsletter any submission.