



GREATER PATAPSCO COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.

PO Box 31, Granite, MD 21163

Issue #387

GPCA Newsletter

March 2019

Next Meeting: Monday, March 11, 7:30 p.m.

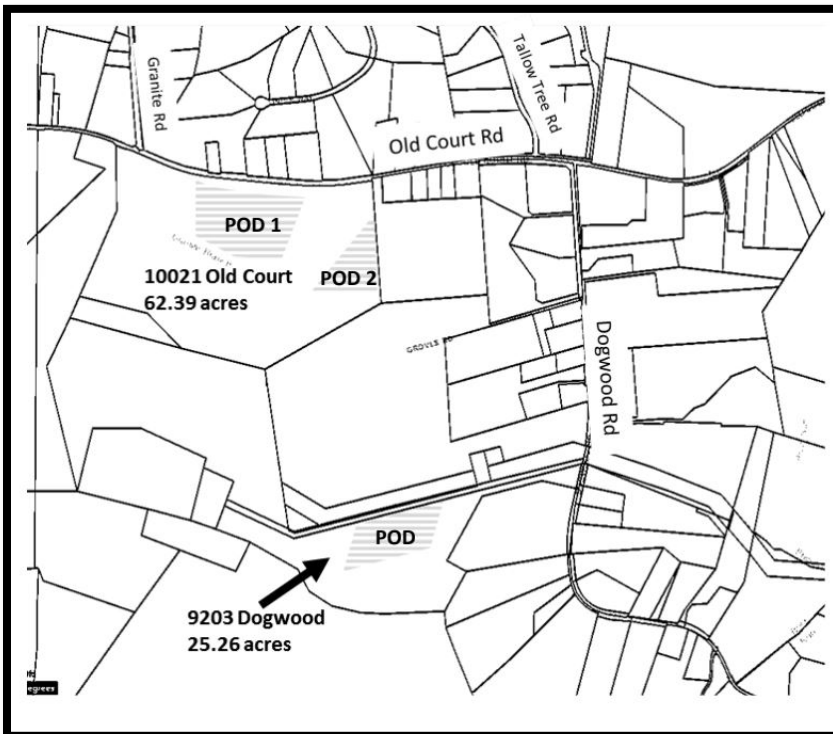
Guest Speaker Kejuana Walton, MD Insurance Administration, Consumer Education and Advocacy Unit.

GPCA General Meetings are held the second Monday of each month, except July & August, at the Granite Presbyterian Church, 10637 Old Court Rd., Woodstock, MD 21163. Everyone is invited to attend.

View our Website at www.gpca.net

Letter to GPCA from Summit Solar

The GPCA President, Cathy Wolfson, received this letter from Summit Ridge Energy.



Dear Greater Patapsco Community Association Members,

We are reaching out to you today about two solar projects to be located near your community at 10021 Old Court Road (2 MWac) and 9203 Dogwood Road (0.9 MWac), interconnecting into Baltimore Gas and Electric's (BGE) nearby transmission lines. My company, Summit Ridge Energy (SRE), has acquired the projects from Alder Energy and will be constructing the projects and owning/operating them over the long-term. The team at Summit Ridge Energy has deployed hundreds of megawatts of solar throughout the United States, including Maryland, and we are confident that in finalizing the design of the projects, we've been able to protect against uncommon adverse impacts while maximizing the supply of, and benefits from, low-cost, clean renewable energy to approximately 525 residences in the local community. In addition to the inherent benefits of clean energy, we are confident this project will benefit the local community by reducing soil erosion, runoff, and potential flooding, providing local jobs, and increasing tax revenue to Baltimore County.

[Continued on Page 3]

Locations of solar facilities slated for construction by Summit Ridge Energy on or about March 15, 2019. Owner of both sites is prohibited from development of any kind so long as the facilities are operational. Approximately 10 acres fenced with chain link to accommodate the 2 separate "pods" of 6,000 +/-panels on Old Court. Approximately 5 acres will be fenced to accommodate the 3,000 +/-panel pod on Dogwood. The fencing facing residents and viewable from roadways to be buffered with landscaping. Baltimore County My Neighborhood map adapted for purpose of demonstration by Cathy Wolfson

What's inside?

President's Message...2

SWCC ...3

Membership...4

Our Advertisers... 5 through 7

President's Message

Snow in January AND February postponed our annual election of officers and directors until our March 11 meeting (weather permitting!). Hopefully, we can reschedule our guest speaker Kevin Brittingham, Baltimore County's Water Monitoring Supervisor for our June 10 meeting.

Much is being made of whether the county's 2020 operating and capital budgets can be fully funded. New County Executive Olszewski appears to have inherited an \$81 million-dollar budget shortfall that will make it difficult to fulfill campaign promises that include full funding of education. What do you think? Would you be willing to pay higher property and income taxes to keep--or better yet, improve--the status quo in Baltimore County? Neither tax has been increased in 31 and 27 years respectively. Would you support charging developers impact fees for infrastructure improvements and school construction if the Maryland General Assembly passes that legislation this year? The cost of a new high school is upwards of \$100-million on county owned property. How much development would it take to reap a return on their investment AND make a meaningful contribution to infrastructure and school construction? Do you have ideas on how to fund or cut the budget? Executive Olszewski encourages us to share them at ideas@baltimorecountymd.gov

Speaking of schools, the former site of St. Paul Regional School at 6946 Dogwood Road will be opening as Watershed Public Charter School, the county's only operating public charter school. Beginning in fall 2019 the school will open with 176 seats for kindergarten through third grade. In each of the next 5 years, the school will add a grade to expand to eighth grade. Admission is by lottery if applications exceed the number of seats, and is open to Baltimore county residents only. Tuition is free and paid with state and county school funds. According to their Website, WPCS emphasizes nature, the arts, and curricular integration of these values. Charter schools must meet the same federal and state standards. For more information on this alternative to districted elementary schools visit <https://info.watershedpcs.org/>

Director Carol Moorefield and I attended a presentation hosted by First District Councilman Tom Quirk to further discuss the Planned Unit Development (PUD) of 182 townhouses on Johnnycake Rd just west of the apartments at Fairfield and Johnnycake. Board members of Chadwick, Fairbrook, Park View Trail, and Stonegate at Patapsco community associations and GPCA were hosted by Pastor Karen Bethea of Set the Captives Free Outreach at their facility in Security Square Mall. The landowners' representative restated their plans and proposed that the required public benefit to develop be a contribution to the county's Open Space Fund. That suggestion was not met with enthusiasm and was countered with negative impacts the proposal would have on schools and traffic.

Pastor Bethea condemned density of the proposed design and suggested it was another way to exploit people of color with poor educational opportunities and provided no foundation for community interaction, such as a grocery store. Another meeting is proposed in advance of the required public community input meeting (CIM) hosted by the county's department of planning.

Thanks for all YOU contribute to our community!

Best regards, Cathy Wolfson

We Will Remember

We extend our deepest sympathy to John and Marie Cignatta on the passing of their daughter, Alicia Marie Cignatta,

and to Dwight E. Hartman, Jr., on the passing of Doris Jane, his beloved wife of 64 years.

GPCA Annual Cleanup

At this time Baltimore County has suspended the provision of dumpsters required for our annual volunteer event to rid our roadsides of garbage, tires, discarded furniture, and a host of other debris tossed thoughtlessly and deliberately in our neighborhood by those with no respect for the environment or us. We look to county officials to see the value of our efforts and restore this cooperative service in the immediate future.

Letter from Summit Solar

[Continued from Front Page]

The projects are quiet, barely audible outside the fence line, and are designed with low profile, ground-mounted solar panels that will be no taller than a field of corn (~6-7 feet). Finally, the solar farm project will have no long-term negative impact, and when it is decommissioned at the end of its useful life, the land will be returned to its current state.

SRE will be starting construction on both projects in the coming weeks. Construction is expected to begin in Mid-March and will be completed by the end of July. Initially, construction activities will consist of grading (clearing the brush and installing soil erosion measures to prevent any run off from the project area in a rain event). Access roads will also be installed early on. Once the site is cleared, a security fence will be installed surrounding the site. Around the beginning of April, a pneumatic pile driving machine will begin driving 6-inch by 9-inch posts into the ground. Racking attachments will then be installed on top of the posts to support the solar panels.

Finally, solar panel installation is expected to begin in early May. BGE will also be upgrading their system to allow for the projects to interconnect and its expected that you will see their work in the May-June time frame. The projects' electrical wiring and high voltage equipment will be installed in April and May, to be ready to interconnect with BGE's equipment at the street in June. The majority of the wiring will be buried underground where it cannot be seen or damaged. The projects will be mechanically complete by the end of June and July will be used to commission and test the systems. The project areas will also be restored with native grasses and the equipment will be demobilized. After the system has been proven safe and in working order the client takes ownership and receives the revenue of the sold electricity.

It is our goal to create sustainable solar energy in a way that is environmentally responsible and mutually beneficial to the landowner and local community. However, we understand that any new project in the community may raise questions or concerns. The purpose of this letter is to inform you

of the project and make you aware of what you might see during construction. We will attend your April 8 general meeting and invite you to come learn about the benefits of these projects. In the meantime, please contact me directly at (484) 554-3453 or send me an e-mail at kneary@srenergy.com with any questions or concerns.

Kind Regards,

Kerri Neary, Vice President Execution

Summit Ridge Energy

**From the Small Watershed Community
Committee**

Trees Combat Soil Erosion

I've been wandering the yard, looking for signs of spring. The witch hazel is in full bloom and lessens my dismay at the amount of soil erosion and the swamp like conditions from the 60 inches of rain over the last 10 months. The runoff from Hernwood Road and St Paul Avenue seems to have increased exponentially in the last year. Our driveway is now the conduit for the sump pump and stormwater runoff from the street to flow into the yard and fill "Lake St Paul" next door.

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Website gives suggestions for native trees to plant to reduce water runoff. The site has an extensive list of native trees to fit a variety of conditions. If you decide to plant a tree(s), DNR offers a \$25 coupon to cover a portion of the cost of a tree from their recommended tree list (found at <https://trees.maryland.gov/recommended-tree-list>).

The tree must be purchased from a participating nursery. The nurseries closest to the GPCA community are: Glyndon Gardens, LLC, 205 Hanover Pike, Reisterstown 410 833-2791; Foard Bros, Inc., Valley View Farms, 11035 York Road, Cockeysville 410 527-0700; Poor Boys, Inc 7721 Old Harford Rd, Baltimore 410 668-7599; Green Fields Nursery 5424 Falls Rd, Baltimore 410 323-3444 and Herring Run Nursery 6131 Hillen Rd, Baltimore, 410 354-1577. The participating nurseries fund \$5 of the \$25 coupon.

Membership News

As of March 20, 2019 GPCA, has 49 renewing members and 9 new members.

Renewing Joint Members: August, Ewald & Shirley; Cookson, John & Donna; Daschbach, Brian & Michele; Diemer, Maribeth & Robert Teller; Higgs, Jim & Jean; Hocutt, Bob & Winona; Maranto, Vince & Victoria; Moorefield, Carol & Barbara Warnock; Thomas, Charles & Evora; Wolfson, Cathy & Carl; Wolinski, Doug & Stacy

New Joint Members: Jones, Royce & Shelia Abrams; Patrick, Pamela & Marisol

Renewing Single Members: Dressler, Charles; Grzanna, Carmelita; Maranto, Denise; Warfield, Frank

New Single Members: Harrison, Morgan; The City Ranch

Mark Your Calendar

March 11 Kejuana Walton, MD Insurance Administration, Consumer Education and Advocacy Unit. Topic: Homeowners Insurance, know what's covered and not covered when it comes to weather related damage

March 19 Annual Granite Historical Society Meeting at Granite Presbyterian Church lower level 7:00 PM. John Brantley presents a history of Woodstock Jesuit College (current site of Woodstock Job Corps Center).

April 8 Kerri Neary of Summit Ridge Energy. Topic: Development of two Solar Facilities at 10021 Old Court and 9203 Dogwood Road

May 13 Sarah Smith, Baltimore County Public Library. Topic: Digital and print media, downloadable books and other material plus summer activities at the library

GPCA Dollar\$ and Cent\$:

GPCA's Gross Profit is: \$2,610.15 less Expenses of \$1,276.70 = a Net Income of \$1,333.45 for the period Jan 1 to Feb 20, 2019

Election of Officers Rescheduled Again for March 11 Meeting

The slate of Officers and Directors submitted by the nominating committee--Marty Kelley, chair, Zulma Ortiz, and Terilynn Murray (abstained) includes:

President – Vacant

Vice President – Butch Oakman

Treasurer – Maribeth Diemer

Secretary – Denise Maranto

Director - Maurice Dixon - Remainder of vacated term ending January 2020

Director – George Jones - 3-year term ending 2022

Nomination of other candidates will be taken from the floor. Candidates must be members of GPCA for a minimum of 6 months immediately preceding the election. Officers are elected for a 1-year term and directors for 3-year terms. The President may serve two consecutive terms and may again be eligible after a 1-year lapse.

**Be a Lifesaver
CPR/AED Training Class
March 24, 2019**

Granite Presbyterian Church invites the community to participate in a training class in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of an automated external defibrillator (CPR/AED). The class provides instruction needed to perform CPR on adults as well as children and infants, and includes training on the use of an AED device.

The class uses the American Heart Association's practice-while-watching technique that enables instructors to observe the students, provide feedback, and guide the students' learning of skills. This course is for anyone with limited or no medical training who wants to learn invaluable skills that they can use anywhere to help save a life and achieve CPR/AED certification.

[Continued Next Page]

CPR/AED Training Class [Continued]

The course is taught by representatives of Baltimore County Fire & Medical Training, Inc (BCFMT). American Heart Association cards will be issued upon successful completion of the course. The cards are good for 2 years.

Class will take place in the Social Hall on the ground floor of GPC at 10637 Old Court Road, Granite, MD 21163, at 12:00 PM for 90 minutes. Park in the rear parking lot.

Cost is \$40/person; payment can be made by check, credit card, cash, or PayPal. Checks should be made payable to BCFMT

You must pre-register to attend class and class size is limited to 24 people. To register please contact GPC Church Office 410 461-5746 (if no answer please leave a message with name and contact information so that a confirmation call can be returned); or email request to CPR_AED2019@aol.com.

Warm Spirit Massage

Swedish

Deep
Tissue



Pregnancy

Hot
Stone

Jean Berg
10224 Davis Ave Woodstock, Md 21163
410-461-5522

Benefits of Massage

- Improves Circulation
- Promotes Joint Flexibility
- Helps Reduce Stress & Anxiety
- Strengthens Immune System
- Relieves Muscle Tension, Spasms & Stiffness
- Improves Body & Mind Awareness
- Relaxation

GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE

MD STATE LICENSE ~ AMTA MEMBER ~ BOARD CERTIFIED

CHESAPEAKE TREE & OUTSIDE SERVICES, LLC

chop

chop We Are Your Neighbor

410-944-9170 OR 410-655-4801

Free Estimates

Tree & Stump Removal

Pruning/Trimming

Cabling for Limb & Crotch Support

Crane & Bucket Truck Service

Excellent Clean Up

Tree Preservationists
Residential & Commercial

24 Hr. Emergency Service

Emergencies: 443-324-9600 or 410-365-3900

Licensed & Insured: MD Lic. # 001018

Visit our web site @

www.chesapeaketreeservices.com

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD MECHANIC

LENNY'S AUTOMOTIVE

Honesty, Quality Workmanship,
Fair Pricing and Personal Service
is what we stand for!

FALL INTO WINTER SPECIALS

OIL + FILTER
SERVICE
SPECIAL

\$35.00 + TAX

up to 5 qts 5W30 or 5W20

5% OFF

AIR FILTERS
CABIN FILTERS
STANDARD STYLE
WIPER BLADES

**10% OFF
ALL BRAKE
REPAIRS**

TIRE ROTATION
AND INSPECT BRAKES
\$24.00

**SAFETY AND MAINTENANCE INSPECTION
FREE
WITH EVERY SERVICE!**

Mention the GPCA to receive discounts listed above

CALL TODAY

443.426.0711



FULL DUPLEX SYSTEMS

9807 Old Court Road
Windsor Mill, MD 21244

*Tax Return Preparation • Tax & Estate Planning
Small Business Accounting Services & Support*

Contact John Brantley at

410-922-1908 to arrange an Appointment or

Email to taxes@fullduplex.com

*Many Taxpayers Will be Pleasantly Surprised with
2018 Tax Reform, Others Most Certainly Will Not*

Masemore Services

PROFESSIONAL LAWN MOWING

Call

Masemore Services

410-922-1744 or 410-371-5463

Other services

Shrub trimming Loader services
Hauling Ground tree services
Mulching Bed planting
All aspects of outdoor maintenance.



The Granite Rose Tea Parlour Needs You!

Interested in being part of a local Granite business that continues to grow and gets great reviews from its customers? If so, read on. The tea parlour is looking for individuals with the interest and schedule flexibility to help us handle the demands of our increasing reservations. We need a hand in tea preparation, waiting on and clearing tables, baking and menu item preparation, guest food service preparation, washing dishes, and/or linen laundering. Experience would be helpful but not required – just a desire to enjoy helping our customers have a pleasant experience.

Call us at 410-465-9116 – we would love to talk to you about how you can help!

Heatmor

Stainless Steel Outdoor Furnaces



**FINANCING
AVAILABLE**

*The Longest Lasting, Most Durable Stainless
Steel Outdoor Furnace in the Industry.
Experience the **Q**uality.*

Coal Burners Are Available Too

Tomar Eco Industries, Inc.
Woodstock, MD
410-718-8342



HERNWOOD CONSTRUCTION

Thinking about new HOME PROJECT?
Call Hernwood Construction for ALL your HOME IMPROVEMENT NEEDS!

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| ★ Energy Efficient Windows & Doors | ★ Basements |
| ★ Gutter Replacement & Gutter Guards | ★ Additions |
| ★ Roofing ~ New or Needed Upkeep | ★ Kitchens & Baths |
| ★ All types of WOOD & CONCRETE work | ★ Sheds & Garages |

Local General Contractor since 1986 ~ 5th generation carpenter

MHIC #42339 ★ (410) 461-6708 office (410) 428-6156 cell

 follow us on facebook & see some of our work!



**Mathena
Septic Tank
Service & Portable
Toilet Rentals, Inc.**

SEPTIC SYSTEMS CLEANED, PUMPED,
REPAIRED & INSTALLED
SEPTIC INSPECTIONS



410.461.5265

▪ PORTABLE TOILET RENTALS ▪
www.mathenaseptic.com | www.mathenaportables.com
Family owned and operated for over 42 years.




Licensed Arborist For Over 20 Years!



**DAVID DELL
TREE SERVICE**

443.266.7364
 dwdell26@yahoo.com
 MD Licensed Tree Expert #667
 Insured

COMPLETE TREE CARE
 Tree Removal
 Tree Pruning & Shubbery
 Cabling & Bracing
 Stump Removal
 Lot Clearing & Bobcat Services

**GREAT PRICES FOR GREAT WORK
WE MAKE IT HAPPEN!**

FREE ESTIMATES



GPCA

CALISTO PATAPOO COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.

P.O. Box 31
Granite, MD 21163

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

UPCOMING DATES TO NOTE:

- Mardi Gras – March 5, 2019
- International Women’s Day – March 8
- Daylight Savings Time begins – March 10
- St. Patrick’s Day – March 17
- Spring (Vernal) Equinox – March 20
- Purim begins – March 21

GPCA Membership Application
We Need Your Voice!

Please Print:

Name

Address

Phone

Email

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

___ I’m new in the community or ___ Renewal

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

GPCA Officers and Board of Directors

President: Cathy Wolfson 410-245-8708, oakknob@comcast.net
Vice President: George Jones 410-655-8307
Secretary: Denise Maranto 443-695-5409
denise.maranto@gmail.com
Treasurer: Maribeth Diemer 410-461-4988
maribeth-13@att.net
Directors:
 Butch Oakman 443-314-6415 oakelectric@comcast.net
 Murf Morefield caldron@verizon.net
 Director position open
Editor: Reed Hellman editorgpcanewsletter@gmail.com

GPCA ADVERTISING/ARTICLE/LETTER POLICY

GPCA reserves the right to accept, edit or refuse advertising.
To place an ad: Send the ad copy by email as a **pdf attachment to the Treasurer and 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 must indicate ad size and months to be published. **No payment received = no ad placement.**
Rates and ad sizes: 1/8 page = \$15; ¼ page = \$30; ½ 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. Hard copy ads appear in black and white.
For articles and letters: 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. The submission of any ad or article to the GPCA means you agree GPCA reserves the rights to accept, reject, edit, or hold submission for a future newsletter.