

Smoke Signal



MOYAONE
ASSOCIATION
NEWSLETTER

THE MOYAONE RESERVE • LISTED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

VOLUME LXIV

NOVEMBER 2024

NO. 11

President's Report, November 2024

I continue to be awestruck by the number of volunteer hours various community members lavish on our neighborhood. Board members, committee chairs, and key volunteers surely put in hundreds of hours over the course of the year. I cannot thank you all enough for your donation of time, talent, and, in some cases, treasure. This investment in the community is part of what makes the Moyaone Reserve such a special place to live.

Another reason we have such a special place to live is our partnership with the National Park Service. Please join me in welcoming the newly appointed NPS National Capital Regional Director Jennifer Nersesian. Her new position begins December 1.

Please mark your calendars! **Saturday, December 7 at 3 pm** is our annual membership meeting to vote on the proposed FY2025 budget. Details of the meeting, including proxy forms, May meeting minutes, meeting agenda, and the proposed budget, will be emailed out before Thanksgiving. Proposed additions to the agenda should be submitted to the Moyaone Board President (president@moyaone.org) BEFORE the December 7 meeting.

Also, just a reminder that Board Meetings are held regularly the first Wednesday of each month. The Community Center doors open at 6:30 pm for social time; business starts promptly at 7 pm.

All are welcome to attend. (Well, truth in advertising, January 1 is the first Wednesday in 2025. This meeting MAY get postponed. Stay tuned...)

MOYAONE MEMBERSHIP MEETING to VOTE on the 2025 BUDGET

*Saturday, December 7 at 3 pm
Wagner Community Center
2311 Bryan Point Road*

PLUS holiday treats to follow the business meeting

Moyaone Association Board of Directors

President — Paola Addamiano-Carts
President@Moyaone.org

Vice President — Mike Nelson
VicePresident@Moyaone.org

Secretary — Karen Heys
Secretary@Moyaone.org

Comptroller — Linda Witkin
Comptroller@Moyaone.org

Director-at-Large — Holly Wagner
DirectorAtLarge@Moyaone.org

DECEMBER 4 BOARD MEETING

6:30 pm social with light refreshments
7 pm business

Wagner Center, 2311 Bryan Point Road

Preparedness Corner:

Emergency Response and the Moyaone

Any emergency incident requires the timely response of first responders and their related vehicles and emergency equipment. In the Moyaone, as in many rural areas, we have a variety of challenges that can delay timely emergency response. Some of these hurdles include **Timely and Clear Communication; Location Identification; Road Condition and Accessibility; Distance from Hydrants;** and transient obstructions such as snow, fallen trees, and/or parked cars.

Communication

911: If you are experiencing or witness to an emergency situation please call 911. If you are unsure if the situation is really an “emergency,” call 911. Some emergency incidents in and around the Moyaone have been made more complex by delayed activation of the public safety system. All first responder agencies in Prince George’s, Charles, Fairfax, and any county anywhere will never fault anyone for calling 911 with a legitimate issue no matter how small it may seem to you. Let the 911 system determine what type of response, if any, is needed. Do not call your local firehouse or a neighbor first. And, please, if you are in need of medical assistance, call 911 before driving to a firehouse or hospital. The ambulance might not be at the firehouse and the hospital you think you should go to might be very busy or not have the appropriate medical team on site. The entire first responder system — fire, police, EMS and hospitals — is linked.

NOTE: If you call 911 from a cell phone in and around the Moyaone your call may be initially handled by Fairfax, Charles, or Prince George’s county. All of these 911 centers can and will transfer you to the correct center and send the right resources. See LOCATION below.

Location, Location, Location

- When you call 911 to report an emergency, give as accurate a location as possible. For example, “2311 Bryan Point Road in Accokeek, Maryland” is better than “The Moyaone Commons” or the “Moyaone Pool.” Not all responding units have been here. The dispatchers may have no idea but can use an address to direct help to you.
- Is your house address visible? Do you have a reflective sign that is free from vegetation etc.? The Accokeek Volunteer Fire Department (AVFD) sells, at cost, reflective address signs. Contact alex@accokeekvfd.org
- If first responders cannot find you, they cannot help.

Road and Driveway Condition/Size

Maintenance of shared roads is a partnership. The Moyaone Roads Chair provides guidance and direction as warranted. Dirt roads require care and present a challenge year round to all first responders. If there are washouts, fallen trees upon a road, ice, or mud from poor drainage, emergency response may be delayed. Blowing leaves out of drainages can help.

The width of roads and driveways in the Moyaone presents real challenges to all first responders but especially to fire and EMS. Our fire trucks and ambulances are wide, heavy, and in some cases long. If you see delivery trucks, oil or propane trucks, or utility trucks having trouble navigating a

road or driveway you can be assured fire department vehicles will have as much and possibly more trouble getting to where they need to go.

Parked cars, staged building materials, or encroaching vegetation can all hamper emergency response.

We have had several structure fires over the past decade in the Moyaone where the width of the roads hampered emergency response. A parked car in one fire blocked firefighter access.

AVFD continues to offer free site visits to evaluate access to your home. Please contact me if you would like us to come out. We can offer our professional assessment and make suggestions to improve access.

Talk to your neighbors as well and find out if you might have shared access issues that can be resolved collectively. Improving emergency access can be achieved while preserving and respecting both private property and environmental values.

Seconds and minutes count in an emergency. Take a few moments to think about how emergency responders can access your neighborhood and your home.

Accokeek Volunteer Fire Department Update

Operational Updates: AVFD was awarded a nearly \$700,000 federal grant to acquire a new fire engine. The total cost of the engine is nearly \$1,000,000. We expect delivery in late 2024 or early 2025. We are also working on buying both a new ambulance and a water tanker. Donations are welcome through PayPal or here: <https://accokeekvfd.org/>. We do not have all the funds to fully pay for these vehicles and rely on your support.

Smoke Alarms: A gentle reminder to evaluate your home smoke/fire/carbon monoxide alarms. Place smoke alarms on every level, in every bedroom and hallway to bedrooms. If your smoke alarms are over ten years old — please replace them. The date of manufacture is located on all detectors. Smoke alarms have saved lives in the Moyaone.

There are many options available today and AVFD can assist in evaluating your home’s needs. Please consider having your alarm system monitored remotely so that there will be rapid notification to the 911 system of an emergency.

Kitchen Safety

The US Fire Administration reports that **Cooking** is, by far, the leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries. And the leading cause of kitchen fires is due to unattended equipment, i.e., a pot on the stove.

Electrical Safety

As we enter the winter and holiday season, it is a great time to think about electrical safety. Power strips should not be linked together and space heaters should never be plugged into power strips. If you have electrical safety concerns, please contact an electrician.

Chimney/Wood Stove/Fireplace Safety: As the weather turns cooler, please have your chimneys inspected/cleaned by competent professionals. Burn only dry wood and have a

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Preparedness Corner: — Continued from p. 2

preparedness plan — extinguishers, smoke/heat detectors, etc. Dispose of hot ashes carefully.

Chainsaw Safety: If a tree falls ... To begin, chainsaws are dangerous! If you feel uncomfortable using one, please don't! Hire a licensed tree company. We can offer basic chainsaw safety classes for those who are interested. Please reach out directly with questions/interest. If you are not 100% confident in your ability to safely use a chainsaw, don't! In the past few years, there have been at least three trips to the emergency room for chainsaw-related injuries in the Moyaone. Those involved were lucky to have not been more seriously hurt.

Wildland Fire Preparedness: While the threat of wildland fire in our area is relatively low, there is some risk. The fire community has learned from recent fires that hardening your home and keeping the 5 feet closest to your house clear of flammable materials greatly improves the chance of surviving a fire. Maintaining defensible space is the law within 100 feet of a home in wildfire-prone areas (not in Maryland), and is highly recommended elsewhere. If a garage, shed, your neighbor's house, or the property line is closer than 100 feet, it is especially important to "harden" the home itself to reduce vulnerability to radiant heat, and to work together with your neighbors to reduce risk — a great way to build community while protecting assets. For more on the risk we face please see FEMA's interactive National Risk pages here: <https://hazards.fema.gov/nri/map>

In Maryland, the busiest wildfire seasons typically occur in the spring and the fall of the year. These are the transition times for natural cover fuels. In spring, with the absence of moist deciduous vegetation and forest canopy shade, the sun warms the forest floor, pre-heating the fuels. In fall, an abundance of new fuel accumulates with leaf fall. Given adequate rainfall amounts throughout the state, wildfires are mostly suppressed on initial attack and can be intense but of short duration. However, unusually hot and dry conditions or drought can turn a mild fire season into a serious problem that often requires extended attack operations to completely suppress wildfires.

Please reach out for more information and to have your property evaluated or with any questions for the AFVD.

Community Hazard Assessment and Risk Reduction

If you are interested in helping conduct a community hazard assessment and follow on risk reduction plan please reach out.

Links:

<https://www.ready.gov/home-fires>

[Fire Safety Information for Residents - California Fire Safe Council \(cafiresafecouncil.org\)](https://www.fire-safety.com)

<https://www.nsc.org/community-safety/safety-topics/emergency-preparedness/fire-safety>

— Alex Naar, CEM

Moyaone Resident and AVFD Officer
alex@accokeekvfd.org

Pulse of the Pool

Thanks to the 2024 Pool Committee members for making this past pool season possible. The 2024 Pool Committee is comprised of the following community members: Crystal Garcia, Linda Gorsuch, Ben Grenoble, Rhonda Hanson, John Mitchell, Mike Nelson, PJ Park, Hsin-I Russell, Tina Shotwell, and Nancy Weiman. We each represent the pool's many stakeholders, including in no particular order, the Accokeek Swim Team (Go Gators!), the pool's management and lifeguards, the Board of Directors of the Moyaone Association, Association members, and the 2024 pool members themselves.

We could not end the season without HUGE THANKS to a few very special and dear neighbors. Nancy Weiman, Rhonda Hanson, and John Mitchell stepped up and took over the pool's operations and maintenance after the abrupt departure of a few key Committee members early this year. Additional kudos to Nancy for securing two moveable lifeguard chair stands donated to us at a cost savings of \$6,000. Thanks too to John Hollyfield and Marc Cruz for assisting with the technical and industrial aspects of the pool's pump room.

Did you know that on average it costs \$90,000 to hire a pool management company to run a community pool? And that does not include expenses such as chemicals, insurance, water delivery, and repairs and maintenance?

This winter we will be developing well-defined policies regarding pool usage by neighboring organizations, facility rental, guests/parties, lessons and instructor requirements, and AST members under 7 years, to be implemented in the 2025 season. Even though the pool is closed, your friends and neighbors on the Board and its Committees are volunteering their free time and working all year round on planning, improvements, and the budget. Save the date and join us for the Moyaone Association's Budget meeting on Saturday, December 7, at 3 pm at the Wagner Community Center, 2311 Bryan Point Road.

If you have any suggestions or see areas for improvement, please reach out to any Board or Pool Committee member to arrange a time to discuss. We are also recruiting 2025 Pool Committee members. The Pool Committee meets the third Tuesday monthly at 5:30 pm between the months of February and October. If you are interested in joining the 2025 Pool Committee and helping to formulate these policies, please email russelhc@yahoo.com, or moyaonepool@gmail.com with your area of interest.

CLARIFICATION:

The article about the Accokeek Volunteer Fire Department in the October 2024 *Smoke Signals* suggested funding for new emergency vehicles was in the bank. Major funding sources have been identified, but AVFD does not have all the funds to fully pay for these vehicles and relies on your support.



Accokeek Artists' Activities

On October 19, several Accokeek Artists Alliance (AAA) members had a great time at AAA's **Nature Journal Workshop** held on our own beautiful Piscataway Park boardwalk (see photo above). Everyone's leap into nature journaling was amazing.

Next up: We are eagerly preparing for our popular **Winter Market!** Please join us at the Wagner Center (2311 Bryan Point Road) for a tantalizing display of local art, which will include many holiday gift ideas. Hours are 3–6 pm on Friday, November 22, and 11 am–6 pm on Saturday, November 23. The event will feature a fun Silent Auction of original local art that will end at 5:30 pm on Saturday. There will also be a reception on Saturday, from 4 to 6 pm, where we hope to see everybody!

Looking further ahead, AAA is planning a **'Sip and Share'** general meeting on January 19, 2025, at the Wagner Center from 2 until 4 pm. We are also planning to repeat the popular Valentine's Day art exchange on February 8. We are now excited to have a Shibori workshop (that's a Japanese dying technique) planned for June. We welcome new members, who can join via the website at accokeekartistsalliance.com.

Moyaone Halloween Party 2024

The party was a great success due to the help of a tremendous number of volunteers. Special thanks to Laurel Drive residents who turned their road into a dedicated trick or treat run. Please send any feedback, suggestions, or kudos with an eye towards 2025 to karen@karenheys.com

Save the Date! *Saturday afternoon, December 14*
Merry Moyaone: A Celebration with activities, food, and singing for the holidays! Hosted by the Dirt Road Damsels, currently recruiting Sopranos for the Spring Season. Contact Kathleen Gotzmer for additional information: (301) 609-0570.



12th Annual Moyaone Thanksgiving Day 5K Turkey Trot

November 28 • 8:30 am

Meet at the Moyaone Commons
2311 Bryan Point Road

Walk or run with your family, neighbors, friends, guests, dogs

Join us for a cup of apple cider before heading home.

Fair weather only If raining, Trot will not be held.

Click here to download a jpg of the Turkey Trot Trail Map: https://bit.ly/moyaone_tt_2024

Or scan this QR code:



Piscataway Park Accokeek Creek Site Gate Closure

Many of us who enjoy an early morning walk along the Accokeek Creek Site boardwalk have been disappointed to find it locked on recent mornings. The official opening time is now 9 am, which seems very late to many early risers among us. If you would like to add your voice for an earlier opening time you can express it by going to the National Parks Service website <https://www.nps.gov/pisc/index.htm> and scroll down to the "Contact Us" link and use the email link to send a message.



"Uprooted." Watercolor art by Moyaone artist Frances Taylor.

BRUNCH

Back by popular demand: Jan and Bill Parker will be hosting a **plant-based Potluck Brunch** on Sunday, November 10 from 11 am to 2 pm at their home at 2310 Rockwood Road. Come one, come all! Questions? Email jpsundog@yahoo.com.



Photo from Oh My Veggies

Dear Herby,

I just started dating a vegan, and would like to take them out to a really special restaurant over the holidays. A restaurant that caters specifically to vegans or has an extensive vegan menu is what I'm after. What might you recommend within an hour of the Moyaone?

Sincerely,
Out To Win Their Heart

Dear Heart Winner,

Pleased to help you impress your new friend! Here is a short list of some favorite high-end "date" restaurants in DC — any of which has the potential to make them very happy. In alphabetical order:

- [Elizabeth's](#) — 1341 L St. NW. This celebrated vegan restaurant — formerly "Elizabeth's Gone Raw" (no longer all raw) — serves an unforgettable, innovative six-course prix fixe menu three nights a week and will soon announce their to-die-for New Year's Eve menu.
- [Equinox](#) — 900 19th St. NW. Owned and operated by chef Todd Gray, the outstanding tasting menu and Sunday brunch are both vegan. See also this year's [Thanksgiving menu](#).
- [MITA](#) — 804 V St. NW. Four and six course all-vegan Latin prix fixe menus, an extensive tasting menu AND a special [Thanksgiving carry-out menu](#) are all featured at this newest addition to the DC vegan restaurant scene.
- [Oyster Oyster](#) — 1440 8th St. NW. The *Washington Post* called this Michelin-starred restaurant "meatless and marvelous." The prix fixe menu may be ordered vegetarian or vegan.
- [Willard Hotel Afternoon Tea](#) — 1401 Pennsylvania Ave. SW. Perhaps the best kept vegan secret in the area — both the Willard and St. Regis hotels will prepare a 100% plant-based afternoon tea and sandwich menu with advance notice — for dining in or carrying-out.

There are other favorites, of course. Look to upcoming *Smoke Signal* editions for more leads. The [Happy Cow app](#) is a great resource for finding restaurants with vegan and vegetarian options worldwide. And do let us know how your special date turns out — we would love to hear!

Herby

Questions? Comments? Drop an email to moyaoneveg@gmail.com.

Looking for a Change This Thanksgiving?

And some delicious dishes that are kind to the earth and animals? We have compiled some great options — whether you want to join some like-minded people in a Thanksgiving celebration, dine at an upscale restaurant, order a feast to serve at home, or browse some great plant-based recipes to cook yourself at home.

Vegan Thanksgiving Celebrations

[Vegetarian Society of DC \(VSDC\)](#) is celebrating with three events on Thanksgiving Day (November 28):

- [Thanksgiving Day Meetup](#) at GreenFare Organic Cafe, Noon–2 pm
- [Thanksgiving Potluck](#), 1–3 pm
- [Thanksgiving gathering at ELife](#), 1–3 pm

[Poplar Spring Animal Sanctuary's](#) annual Thanksgiving with the Turkeys is on Saturday, November 23, Noon–4 pm. This enormous vegan potluck is on the grounds of their beautiful 400-acre sanctuary in Poolesville, MD. Tickets can be purchased on [Eventbrite](#).

Dining Out, Dining In

Several local restaurants offer special Thanksgiving fare this year. In addition to those mentioned in Dear Herbie's Q&A in this issue of *Smoke Signals*, [DC Vegan's Thanksgiving Catering Menu](#) lets you bring home a mouth-watering selection of mains, sides, and desserts for 4–6 or 8–10 people. Order either an entire feast or a la carte. Pick up on Thanksgiving Day only.

Collections of Vegan Thanksgiving Recipes

- [Bon Appetit - 53 Vegan Thanksgiving Recipes and No Jokes About Tofurkey](#)
- [Food and Wine - 36 Vegan Thanksgiving Recipes for a Plant-Based Feast](#)
- [Country Living Magazine - 40 Best Vegan Thanksgiving Recipes](#)
- [Sam Turnbull's Vegan Thanksgiving Recipes - The Ultimate Guide!](#)
- [Love and Lemons - 40 Vegan Thanksgiving Recipes](#)
- [Oh My Veggies - A Vegetarian Thanksgiving Menu](#)
- [Forks Over Knives - 100+ Family-Pleasing Thanksgiving Recipes](#)
- [Minimalist Baker - The Best Vegan Thanksgiving Recipes](#)

A Night For Asheville 11/15

Featuring DAVID MATTERS, Lynn Hollyfield, Mina and the Magic, and Jared Mitchell



David Matters is a singer, songwriter and multi-instrumentalist based out of Asheville, NC. He is also the frontman of the band, *Life Like Water*. His music has been described as earthy, hypnotic, uplifting, and even mystical. It has also been called a blending of worlds, "Something like Xavier Rudd meets Radiohead with a banjo and ngoni!"

With a focus on trance-inducing rhythms, heartfelt lyrics and melodies that contain flavors of Africa and the Middle East, the music of David Matters is a feast for the ears.

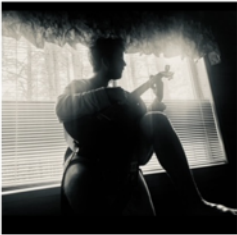


Lynn Hollyfield is a singer-songwriter who plays her way into your soul with a style that's an infusion of contemporary folk and blues with a little bit of jazz.

Mina and the Magic is an awkwardly honest and vulnerable singer who blends storytelling, covers, and freeform improvising in the style of lo-fi folk. Mina's music can be found on Spotify.



Jared Mitchell has spent a lot of time in Asheville drawing inspiration from it's rich musical culture and endless natural beauty. He is a classically trained pianist but in recent years he has been writing songs for the guitar.



DOORS @ 6pm , Show 7-10pm
\$20 suggested donation

15488 Old Marshall Hall Rd
Accokeek, Md 20607

BYOB, All Ages, RSVP to
minameister@gmail.com
Venmo @mina-karimi
Instagram @ minaandthemagic

Please be sure to RSVP as this is an indoor show with limited space: minameister@gmail.com

Lynn Hollyfield & Friends 11/17, 4-6PM
Community Concert & Potluck

Lynn Hollyfield Keely Hollyfield Dave Abe Steve Wolf Jimmy Brink Michelle Swan
with Special Guests-Chris Aills & Kristin Gray
Moyaone Community Building, 2311 Bryan Point Road, Accokeek, MD
Potluck following the Music-bring a dish to share.
Suggested Donation: \$20

Community Concert and Potluck

November 17, Sunday, 4–6 pm. Moyaone Community Building, 2311 Bryan Point Road, Accokeek

We're bringing the music back home for this Community Concert. Come join us for a wonderful concert followed by a Potluck. Joining Lynn Hollyfield will be daughter Keely, Dave Abe, Steve Wolf, Jimmy Brink, and Michelle Swan, with special guests Chris Aills and Kristin Gray (pictured below).

Suggested Donation: \$20

Potluck following the music — bring something to share!



CCYO to Perform Two Concerts at the Historic Port Tobacco Courthouse

The Charles County Youth Orchestra (CCYO) will perform an exciting fall concert of orchestral and chamber music works on Saturday, November 16 at 7 pm at the historic Port Tobacco Courthouse, 8430 Commerce St., Port Tobacco, MD. CCYO will perform Vivaldi's *Concerto for Four Violins*, Haydn's first *Piano Trio* as well as orchestral works by Pachelbel, Handel, and Tchaikovsky. CCYO director, Dr. Osman Kivrak, will

perform a *Concerto for Mandolin* by Antonio Vivaldi.

And on December 7, at noon, again at the Port Tobacco Courthouse, CCYO will perform a Holiday Concert of festive carols as well as the *Hallelujah Chorus* from *Handel's Messiah*.

Both concerts are free and open to the public.

For more information, please contact Dr. Osman Kivrak, Director, Charles County Youth Orchestra (301 375-7109; charlescountyyouthorchestra.org).

Many Thanks from the Alice Ferguson Foundation

We are truly grateful for the unwavering support from our neighbors in the Moyaone Community. To the dedicated individuals who volunteered at the annual Potomac Cleanup and helped around Hard Bargain Farm, thank you. To the families who participated in our summer camp adventures, thank you. To our friends who joined us at this year's *sold-out* Pinot on the Potomac, thank you. Your generosity enables us to inspire and engage thousands of students, teachers, and community members to discover the joy of nature each year. From all of us at the Alice Ferguson Foundation, we appreciate you!

Become a Member of the Alice Ferguson Foundation

Join our member community, featuring five tiers with exclusive discounts and access to visit our beautiful property. Hard Bargain Farm is the perfect place to spend quality time in the great outdoors and make unforgettable family memories that will last a lifetime.

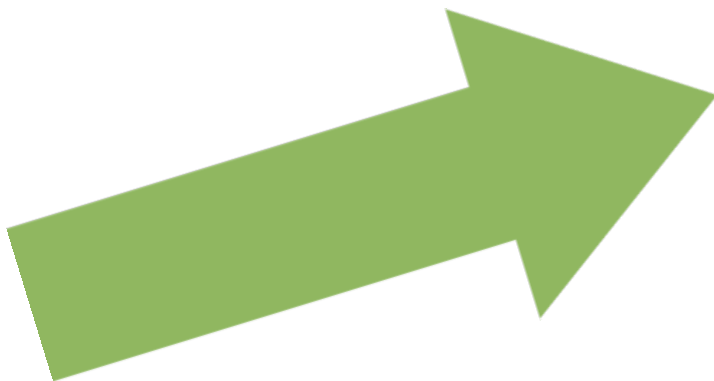
NEW FOR 2025! Our Outdoor Experience Package features unique experiences in nature every season — cow milking, night hikes, birding, and more!

Scan the QR code or visit fergusonfoundation.org/membership to join the AFF family!



All current members have been mailed an invitation to our Annual Holiday Member Party on Sunday, December 15.

Alice Ferguson Foundation, 2001 Bryan Point Road
fergusonfoundation.org



at Piscataway Park

December 7
3 - 7 pm

Step into a winter wonderland and experience the enchanting magic of Piscataway Park at the Accokeek Foundation's annual Winter's Eve Festival! From sunset storytelling to cozy bonfires, this family-friendly celebration brings the park to life after dark, offering a unique way to welcome winter's beauty.

Admission is free, with a suggested donation supporting the Accokeek Foundation's mission to inspire care for our shared landscape and heritage.

www.accokeek.org

Accokeek Foundation at Piscataway Park
3400 Bryan Point Road | Accokeek, MD

Save the Date!

Annual Moyaone
Weihnachtsmarkt

Dec 21st, 2024
1-6pm

2311 Bryan Point Road

[https://lunactias.wixsite.com/
weihnachtsmarkt](https://lunactias.wixsite.com/weihnachtsmarkt)