



# Newsletter

Volume 4, Issue 1

Spring 2006

## ANNUAL MEETING HELD New Officers Elected to Lead Chapter

The Annual meeting of the Harwood Civic Association was held January 9, 2006 in the media center of Southern High School. The business portion of the meeting preceded the Traffic Forum follow up meeting. At the meeting elections were held per the HCA by-laws electing new board members and officers.

Newly elected to the board is David Green. Michael S. Lofton and James R. Fitzpatrick were re-elected to an additional three term as board members. Officers of the organization are as follows:

President, Michael S. Lofton  
Vice President, James R. Fitzpatrick  
Secretary, Jan Lehman  
Treasurer, Thomas Harley

Continuing board members include Alice Murray, Michael Stricker, Tom Tucker, and Jon Stairs.

## A Letter from Al Lord on the Proposed Golf Course

Dear Neighbor:

Before I tell you what we are up to at 670 Polling House Road, let me thank Mike Lofton for giving me the opportunity to communicate with you through the Harwood Community Association Newsletter. It has been a little more than two months since the January 10 meeting at Southern High School and while there is little physical evidence of golf course progress some things are happening. I still hope to complete the golf course before the end of the 2007 golf season.

We will conduct at least one more community meeting at the behest of the Maryland Department of the Environment when the focus will be on water. We will explain the effect golf course water usage will have on the aquifers used by the community as well as the effect water runoff from the golf course will have on local streams. We will probably also discuss whatever wetland issues which may arise. These matters were very much on the minds of our citizenry at the January meeting. The date of the meeting is in the hands of MDE who are now reviewing our application data. I hope the meeting is sometime in the next 6 weeks. In January I promised to hold the meeting at a time convenient to the majority of interested parties, either late afternoon or early evening. It would be helpful if you could somehow communicate your time preference to Mike Lofton, perhaps by E Mail.

Another concern raised at our January meeting was golf course related traffic. Our current estimates of play at 'the Mannor' aggregates about 3,000 golf rounds over the 6-7 month golf season, on average perhaps 20 cars if all players arrive separately—they won't. I share your anxiety about traffic and the related possible change in the character of the community. Anne Arundell Mannor traffic should be a non issue.

For me the most important development is the selection of a name for the course—Anne Arundell Mannor (one of several 17th and 18th century spellings). The name honors the lovely Ms. Arundell and the 10,000 acre land patented in

*Story continued on page 3*

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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## Letter from the President -

In response to a request from the Harwood Civic Association, the Maryland State Highway Administration conducted an analysis of Maryland RT 2 safety concerns. Their findings are reported in a letter reprinted in this issue of the HCA Newsletter. The HCA Board of Directors will continue to aggressively monitor these improvements and seek expedited implementation. Individual letters, e-mails and phone calls to our State Delegates and Senators will be helpful. Please let them know your thoughts

Sincerely,

Mike Lofton, President

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## **HARWOOD CIVIC ASSOCIATION**

### **Financial Report**

thru March 17, 2006

1. Balance as of January 01, 2006	\$4096.19
2. New Income	
a. Membership Dues	\$2020.00
b. Admission Fees	0.00
c. Gifts & Donations	<u>5.00</u>
Total Income YTD	\$2025.00
3. New Expenses	
a. Postage	\$ 267.08
b. Printing	1177.07
c. Food & Supplies	0.00
d. Donations	100.00
e. AA Chamber of Cmce	<u>0.00</u>
Total Expenses YTD	\$1544.15
4. Balance as of March 15, 2006	\$4577.04

#### **Notes:**

In comparison to this time last year we are right on schedule with our membership renewals. (Special thanks to Jan and her efforts with the membership drive/postcard follow-up.) Even though we are on track with the current membership we are always looking for ways to boost new membership. So please bring forth any suggestions. As a reminder, the majority of the income occurs within the first part of the year and most expenses occur in the latter part of the year. The budget as approved by the board is currently on target.

## **Golf Course Continued from Page 1**

1669 by her husband, Cecil Calvert the second of six Lords Baltimore to rule the Province of Maryland between 1632 and 1776. Anne Arundell Mannor was Maryland's largest and most fruitful land patent created to enhance the coffers of Cecil and his heirs through land rent, sale and taxation.

As many of you are aware our area has a rich history dating just 25 years after Captain John Smith's Jamestown adventures with Pocahontas and her dad Powhattan in 1607. Our golf course will have a strong local history theme and I continue to research the property comprising the golf course.

Work currently in progress involves refurbishing the 200 year old farmhouse using original materials and rebuilding the two old tobacco barns on the property. As noted earlier, we have submitted our permit application to MDE several weeks ago and expect to file the grading permit application in a matter of days.

Again, thanks for the opportunity to write to you directly and let you know what we are up to. I look forward to our next public meeting where we should be able to answer those questions left unanswered from our last meeting.

Regards,  
Al Lord

## **COSTA BILL FAILS IN COMMITTEE**

State Delegate Robert Costa proposed a legislative bill in favor of granting standing to community organizations. The bill entitled Local Governments - Zoning Regulations and Building Permits - Appeals - Neighborhood Associations was given an unfavorable rating by the Environmental Committee and will not proceed any further in this year's General Assembly.

The bill, if passed, would have given organizations like the Harwood Civic Association the right to challenge zoning changes and permits in county and state approval proceedings and the courts. Currently, standing is given only to adjacent property owners and those who have property within a limited distance of the contested development. HCA Vice President James R. Fitzpatrick testified in favor of the bill along with members of several other community and civic organizations. Developers and county officials testified against bill citing anticipated delays to projects and legal fees if standing was granted. Delegate Costa said, "I continue to be committed to giving concerned citizens an active voice in these decisions."

## **BIG BARN, BIG NEWS**

What's going on with the big barns north of Southern High? James & Sarah Suchoski, currently of Crownsville, but soon to be Harwood residents, are building Baywood Farms. Baywood will be a full service boarding and training facility with stalls for 48 horses. Sarah has been a therapeutic riding instructor for the last 12 years and plans to continue at Baywood. The Suchoskis have created a large number of separate fields to practice "rotational grazing". This will prevent fields from becoming void of grass. An Open House will be announced near the time of the planned grand Opening in early June. A waiting list is already forming. For more information contact Sarah at 410-721-8885

## **CONGRATULATIONS TO**

- Former HCA President Joan Turek who was recently recognized by the Sierra Club for her contributions to the environmental awareness.
- Southern High School Girls Basketball Team Winners of a Regional High School Basketball Championship.

## **HCA NEEDS YOU**

We want to thank all of you who renewed your membership for 2006. The larger our membership, the more power we have to influence events that affect our quality of life.

Recently we sent out letters to our members who had not yet renewed. If you haven't already done so, please take a moment to fill out the envelope you received in the mail. If you can volunteer as well for one of our committees, please do that as well. Thank you.



# **HARWOOD**

**The Web Site**

Visit, Learn, Enjoy, Stay Informed

**[www.harwoodcivic.org](http://www.harwoodcivic.org)**

## MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION RESPONSE TO THE JANUARY TRAFFIC FORUM

Dear Mr. Lofton:

As per your request, this email represents a summary of our findings for various intersections along the MD 2 corridor. As a result of the night meeting with the citizens and the community on September 28, 2005, a corridor analysis was conducted in this area. The results were presented at the Harwood Civic Association meeting on January 9, 2006 at Southern High School. Safety is of vital importance to State Highway Administration (SHA) and your concerns are greatly appreciated.

SHA follows the nationally accepted "Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices" (MUTCD) as the guide for when and how various traffic control devices should be installed. A detailed traffic engineering study was performed at various intersections along the MD 2 .

In our evaluation, we determined that installing a traffic signal at any of these locations is not recommended at this time except at the intersection at MD 2 and Harwood Road/Old Solomon's Island Road (discussed later in this letter). Our analysis revealed that the criteria for installing a traffic signal at other intersections were not met. Though traffic volumes along MD 2 make it difficult for motorists to find gaps to enter from the side streets, the traffic volumes along the side streets are not heavy enough to justify signalization. In a signal warrant analysis, numerous factors are evaluated including traffic volumes, delay, accident history, and pedestrian volumes. The study was performed when Southern High School was in session in October 2005 and December 2005.

A traffic signal will be installed at MD 2 and Harwood Road. This signal will be warranted due to the new development at the southwest quadrant of the intersection that will house the new post office. The developer of this Harwood Convenience Center will be responsible for the installation of the signal. This signal will be a benefit to both Southern High School as well as the intersection at Polling House Road by providing gaps in the MD 2 traffic stream.

As mentioned earlier, our analysis regarding MD 2 and Polling House Road intersection revealed that the criteria for installing a traffic signal were not met. Though the traffic volumes along MD 2 are significant and create delay for the side street approaches, the side street volume is not heavy enough to meet our warranting criteria for signalization. Again, we anticipate that the gaps will increase eventually due to the proximity of the future traffic signal that will be installed at MD 2 and Harwood Road/Old Solomon's Island Road. Additionally, the number of reported accidents in the last 4 years does not suggest a safety concern at any of the studied intersections.

None of the intersections fall into SHA's list of high accident locations for 2005. The sight distance for motorists making turns from Polling House Road and MD 2 is adequate. The pavement condition appears to be good. Hence, we believe that the intersection is operating well with no safety or operational problems according to SHA's standards and guidelines. However, we will install advanced street name and intersection warning signs approaching the intersection along both the northbound and southbound approaches. Also, a roundabout (traffic circles) analysis was performed for MD 2 at Polling House Road and MD 2 at Harwood Road. The analysis revealed that it is not feasible to construct roundabout as it would increase the delay at the intersections.

Regarding concerns about speeding at Southern High School, a standard school speed limit sign with flashing lights (Hazard Identification Beacon (HIB)) will be installed along both the approaches of the school. The sign will read, "Speed Limit 35 When Flashing." The sign will flash during the hours of ingress and egress from the school. Additionally, an overhead advanced traffic signal ahead warning sign with flashers will be installed for the new traffic signal at MD 2 and Harwood Road. This will warn motorists of the approaching signal. Regarding the speeding issue at MD 2 and Southern High School, you will be happy to know that the Anne Arundel County Police have been actively patrolling in this area and will continue to make this corridor one of their priorities. The report that they gave at the meeting indicated that they made over 3000 traffic stops in 2005 along this corridor; an average of 8 per day.

Regarding concerns about installing a 4-way stop at MD 2 and Owensville Sudley Road, a detailed All Way Stop Control Analysis was performed at the intersection. A 4-way stop would cause an inordinate amount of delay for vehicles along MD 2 while providing a minimal improvement in the delay experienced by the vehicles along Owensville Sudley Road. Overall intersection level of service would be "F" (which is worst). Hence installing a 4-way stop is not feasible. Additionally, the passing sight distance at the intersection is adequate according to MUTCD standards and guidelines. It is observed that the passing zone along MD 2 north of Owensville Sudley Road allows passing only in northbound direction and would be eliminated as it does not meet the standards. Also, we are installing a large arrow two-direction warning sign on the west side of MD 2 facing westbound Owensville Sudley Road that would indicate a T-type intersection.

Regarding MD 2 at MD 255, SHA is studying the concept development for installing a left turn lane along southbound MD 2 to make left turns onto MD 255. According to the SHA guidelines, a left turn lane along southbound MD 2 at MD 255 is justified which lead to the concept development of the project. The recommended improvements include minor widening of the existing

*Continued Page 5*

## SUPPORT OUR CORPORATE MEMBERS

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*Harwood Road and Route 2*  
Kenneth Muller, Proprietor

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### **MD DOT *Continued from page 4***

pavement, relocation of traffic control signs and re-stripping the intersection to create a left turn bay for southbound MD 2 traffic turning onto MD 255. The project has been funded for Project Design and based upon priority, it will be considered for construction, although it has to compete with other projects through out Maryland.

Also, various other improvements are being considered along the MD 2 corridor that includes installing shoulder bypass lanes and acceleration lanes. There is currently no funding for these types of improvements, however we are currently investigating further to develop cost estimates and priorities for these locations. In the mean time, installation of advanced street name signs, intersection warning signs, and elimination of sections of the passing zone will be completed by our maintenance forces. We expect this work to be complete within 90 to 120 days.

We hope our comments are helpful in explaining your concerns. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or my Traffic Engineering Manager for Anne Arundel County, Mr. Scott Sumner. We may be reached at 410-841-1003 or 1-800-331-5603.

## MEMBER PROFILE: DAVID M. GREEN

David M. Green, the newest board member of the Harwood Civic Association hails from Devon in the United Kingdom, but he has been in the U.S. since 1983. He is the owner of Survey Associates, a family business that specializes in difficult and historic land surveys. Many of the parcels of land his company retraces were established before the Declaration of Independence. Recreating the original boundaries of land changed by weather, climate, and development requires a variety of research and physical techniques. His skill at successfully establishing the original boundaries of properties has made him a frequent expert witness for court cases involving surveying. He serves on the board of Professional Land Surveyors and is a consultant for the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

The Green family moved to Harwood when their current neighbors told them of a place for sale nearby. Since the children of both families often played together, the Greens considered purchasing the land. The beauty of Harwood persuaded them to make the move. "Harwood is very similar to England. Many of the roads in Southern Anne Arundel County were laid out by the colonials who came from what is now the U.K. We moved to the area because it reminded us so much of England. And the history here is quite rich. For instance, there is a beaver pond near my house that is mentioned in a deed written in 1750. The pond is still in existence, along with beautiful old trees," Green said. "I joined the Harwood Civic Association because I want to help the area stay rural. I believe we can best do this through citizen involvement."

### POST OFFICE UPDATE: A Letter from Kenneth Muller

Ground breaking for the new Harwood Market, Post Office and Carwash is now become at long last a reality. All permits have been issued for the demolition and construction. I owe a debt of gratitude for the support the Harwood Community has shown for this project.

One of the areas which may concern residents is the amount and quality of waste water generated by the carwash which is ultimately discharged into the septic system. The discharge for the Autec 400 carwash is calculated upon a 30 vehicle per day average. The total volume of water consumed/discharged per day (using a reclaim system) would be 150 gallons, 30 vehicles x 3.5 gallons per vehicle.

As far as the chemical discharge, There are no hazardous components to be concerned with. All of the chemicals are 100% Biodegradable and have no impact upon the environment. The TOTAL discharge concentration would be less than .036%. This information has been reviewed by both the Anne Arundel County Health Department as well as MDE and approved. In addition to using Biodegradable Chemicals and a Reclaim System the waste water is monitored daily by my staff and monthly by a third party chemical lab which conducts an independent sampling of the waste water.

I hope this information is beneficial for a better understanding of how today's modern car washes operate. My commitment to the community is to provide a new Market and Post Office you will be proud of. Your continued support now and when we are operational is welcomed.

Sincerely,  
*Kenneth Muller*

### SCENIC AND HISTORIC ROADS BILL TO PROTECT COUNTRYSIDE PASSES COUNCIL APPROVAL

Bill 4-06 adopted by the Anne Arundel County Council on February 6, 2006 concerning Scenic and Historic Roads adds another tool to help preserve the rural character of much of South County. Specific activities identified in the bill may not be located on scenic or historic roads as designated by the bill. Prohibited uses are: Country clubs, private clubs, service and non-profit charitable organizations; schools (private academic and public charter); airports and airfields; child care centers other than as a home occupation; conference and retreat facilities; Renaissance festival; heliport; rubble and land-clearing debris landfills; religious facilities with 300 or more onsite parking spaces; bulk agricultural storage facilities. A copy of bill 4-06 with a map identifying designated roads is available at

<http://www.aacounty.org/CountyCouncil/Resources/04-06.pdf>

According to Dist 7 Councilman Ed Reilly, "the bill will help preserve the rural integrity of South County and maintain safety by discouraging traffic along the narrow, winding paths that were designed for wagons and carriages, not dump trucks and sport utility vehicles."

Mike S. Lofton, President of the Harwood Civic Association testified on behalf of the organization in favor of the bill.

Roads falling under this protection in the Harwood area include South River Club House Road, Bayfields Road, Cumberstone Road, Polling House Road, South Polling House Road, Owensville-Sudley Road, Mill Swamp Road, Wayson Road, and Queen Anne Bridge Road.

## HCA JOINS THE RELAY FOR LIFE

The Harwood Civic Association proudly announces its participation in and invites you to join in the

### Relay For Life®

One day. One night. One community. South County Relay For Life® is about celebration, remembrance, and hope. By participating, you honor cancer survivors, pay tribute to the lives we've lost to the disease, and raise money to help fight it – all right here in our community. Get involved! You won't want to miss one moment of this important and inspirational event!

Survivors' Reception	6/16/2006 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Opening Ceremony	6/16/2006 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Whoa-Man Competition	6/16/2006 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Luminaria	6/16/2006 9:30 pm - 10:00 pm

With cancer affecting so many families in Harwood, we wanted to join with others in South County who are working to make a difference in the lives of all who face cancer of any type.

We invite you to become a team member and spend as much or as little time on the track walking during the event. You can help us exceed our modest goal of \$500 from the community. Imagine if you could reach that amount through your own efforts and imagine further if our team consisted of 20 people who accomplished that goal!

If you cannot be on site for even part of the event, then consider making a generous donation by way of one of our team members: Michael Stricker, Captain,  
Michael Lofton  
James Stricker  
James Fitzpatrick

It's easy to participate. Online you can simply go to [www.harwoodcivic.com](http://www.harwoodcivic.com) and click on the Relay for Life link. You can also go directly to the Relay for Life Web-site at <http://www.acsevents.org/southcountyrelay/> and click on donations. Then enter any of the four names above. You will be taken to sites where you can donate or join the team. When you join, you create a personal website and there are tools to email friends for donations, all of which can be done online!!

You may also send checks made out to The American Cancer Society to The HCA P.O. Box 162, Harwood, MD 20776. We will forward them on as part of our community effort. Please note Team Harwood Civic on the check.

Teams are asked to come up with 3 items to donate to a fundraising auction the night of the event. If you have something you might like to donate to the auction, please contact Mike Stricker at (410) 867-0389. And be sure to attend the event and visit our booth!

## CANDIDATE FORUM

On October 11, 2006 from 7 to 9 p.m. the Harwood Civic Association is partnering with the Davidsonville Area Civic Association, The South River Federation, SACReD, and the Holland Point Citizens Association to host a Candidate Forum for this fall's 2006 General Election. The event will be held in the Southern High School Auditorium.

The Forum will feature candidates for:

- County Executive
- Maryland legislature from Districts 30 and 33b
- AA County Council Dist 7

Please hold the date & time. More details will follow.

## The Londontowne Symphony Orchestra Calendar of Events—2005/06 Second Season

**Sunday, April 2, 2006** (note this concert is at 3pm)

William Schachter, Guest Conductor

- Gould, An American Salute
- Borodin, Polovetsian Dances
- Anderson, Bugler's Holiday
- Puccini, O mio babino Caro, Hilary Ryon, Soloist
- Gershwin, Isn't it a Pity?, Hilary Ryon, Soloist
- Tchaikovsky, Capriccio Italienne

Please note, for this performance ONLY tickets are \$20.00

**Friday, June 16, 2006**

Brenda Leach, Guest Conductor

- Copland, Suite from Rodeo
- Mendelssohn, Violin Concerto, Vitali Briskin, Solo Violin
- Tchaikovsky, Symphony #5

All Performances are held at Southern High School

Tickets - all tickets are sold at the door

- Adults \$15.00
- Season Subscription is \$40.00

There is ample free parking at Southern High School, and the facility is handicapped accessible

## HCA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### THE MARLBOROUGH HUNT RACES AT ROEDOWN FARM

SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 2006 12:00 NOON WAYSON'S ROAD AREA

### HCA BOARD MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14, 2006 7:30 P.M.

OWENSVILLE RECREATION CENTER

### RELAY FOR LIFE

FRIDAY, JUNE 16, 5:00 P.M. TO SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 8:00 A.M.

SOUTH RIVER HIGH SCHOOL FIELD, EDGEWATER, MD

### HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY

SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 8:00 A.M. AND SATURDAY JULY 15 8:00 A.M.

SUDLEY CONVENIENCE CENTER

### PATUXENT RIVER SOJOURN 2006

SATURDAY, JUNE 15 THROUGH TUESDAY, JUNE 20

CONTACT KATE DOWLING 410 377-6270 KAYAKING AND CANOEING THE RIVER. THIS EVENT HAS A FEE FOR MEALS, CAMPSITE, AND EDUCATION ACTIVITIES.

### CANDIDATE FORUM

OCTOBER 11, 7:00 P.M. SOUTHERN HIGH SCHOOL

## THE HARWOOD CIVIC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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P.O. Box 162, Harwood, MD 20776.

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Letters and submissions published as space allows.

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**Jan Lehman**, Secretary (410) 741-1698

**Thomas Harley**, Treasurer (301) 627-4080

**David Greene** (401) 111-1111

Newly Elected Member

**Alice Murray** (410) 867-4610

Government Affairs and Land Use

**Jon Stairs**, (410) 867-9622

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**Michael Stricker** (410) 867-0389

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**Thomas Tucker**, (410) 798-1689

Events Committee



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