

# Land Marks

Protecting Land Forever

## Largest Conservation Easement Settles in Somerset County

**THIS ARTICLE IS REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION OF LOWER SHORE LAND TRUST**

As they say, patience is a virtue and persistence pays off. Kate Patton, Executive Director of the Lower Shore Land Trust (LSLT), began working on a large conservation project in Somerset County nearly a decade ago with landowner Larry Leese. This project is the largest single easement protected by LSLT!

Thanks to her hard work and Larry’s unwavering patience, over 1,066 acres has been permanently protected. On July 9th, LSLT and the Maryland Environmental Trust (MET) finalized a conservation easement funded through a grant secured by Ducks Unlimited (DU) from the North American Wetland Conservation Act (NAWCA) to protect habitat for the American black duck. The black duck has been in precipitous decline over the past few decades leading to its designation as a species of conservation concern. The easement permanently protects approximately 36 acres of agricultural land, 330 acres of forest, 700 acres of



*View of marshland on the Leese Property in Somerset County.*

emergent tidal wetlands, and thousands of linear feet of shoreline on Marumsco Creek and Pocomoke Sound.

“Even in Maryland, a state known for its land protection programs, a thousand-plus acre easement is a rarity. LSLT is grateful for the opportunity to work with conservation-minded landowners like Mr. Leese and our federal, state, and local partners to preserve important habitats and our iconic landscapes” said Jared Parks, LSLT’s Land Programs Manager.

Partnerships are often the only means to successfully complete large conservation projects. “The Maryland Environmental Trust is pleased to have worked with Mr. Leese and the project’s lead partners, LSLT and DU, to protect this incredible piece of Somerset County. It was a pleasure to work with a dedicated landowner and to have years of work yield the fabulous result of hundreds of acres of important waterfowl habitat protected,” said Ann Carlson, MET’s Acting Conservation Easement Program Manager.

*Continued on page 8*



*Mr. Leese, pictured between LSLT’s Deputy Director Josh Hastings and Executive Director Kate Patton, accepts an original photograph by LSLT board member Doug Stephens after the easement settlement.*



# Director's Note

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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I hope this newsletter finds you and your loved ones healthy and well. It has been a tumultuous year for each and every one of us. We are reminded now more than ever of the strength and importance of community and collective responsibility.

COVID-19 was just beginning to upend our world as MET went to press with our Spring Landmarks issue in March of this year. MET, like most other organizations across the state – and indeed, the country – transitioned to a remote working model that is still in practice to this day. Carrying out the work of a land trust from a social distance has been a challenge to say the least. Save for a few exceptions, our fieldwork has been paused. Yet, our Board of Trustees continues to guide the organization via video conferences, and our staff carry on their work diligently from home.

Despite these trying times we find ourselves in, MET remains resolute in our commitment to protecting and preserving Maryland's landscapes. As such, it is with an especially poignant sense of gratitude that I share with you our accomplishments from this year. So far in 2020, MET – with the help of our valued nonprofit land trust partners – has protected over 1,200 acres through new conservation easements. One of these projects, the new easement granted by Larry Leese and chronicled in this edition of Landmarks, highlights the truly collaborative nature of our conservation work that we take such pride in.

In the spirit of learning to work remotely, MET's Stewardship Program is piloting new technology that utilizes satellite imagery from the past and present to monitor our easements across the state. As of this year, MET now maintains more than 1,200 easements, over half of which are co-held with our many partners.

In another impressive milestone, Forever Maryland Foundation celebrated its first anniversary of operation this September. MET was instrumental in establishing this new nonprofit, which now manages on MET's behalf our Keep Maryland Beautiful Grants program. In 2020, MET and Forever Maryland, along with partners at the Maryland Department of Transportation and the Department of Housing and Community Development, set another record-breaking year of grant-giving to community organizations working for the betterment of local environments throughout the state. Please take a moment to read about their commendable work in this edition of Landmarks.

As we recount the year through the pages of this newsletter, I hope you all will be heartened by the good work that continues to be accomplished by our staff, partners and volunteers in spite of tremendous uncertainty and anxiety. Just as preserving Maryland's natural bounty is a feat of many, so too is overcoming this global pandemic. This year, we are especially grateful for your support of our efforts. We hope that you have been able to find some refuge in the outdoors amidst these months of quarantine. Rest assured that, come what may, we here at MET will continue to safeguard Maryland's landscapes so that these places of healing and connection may continue to exist in perpetuity.

Stay safe and well!  
 John Turgeon

**LandMarks is published on  
 behalf of MET by the Forever  
 Maryland Foundation**

## Senior Editors

John Turgeon, Director, MET

Wendy Stringfellow, President,  
 Forever Maryland Foundation

# Tree Planting for Bay on Tranquility Farm



*Volunteers for Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) planting trees at Tranquility Farm.*

In fall 2019, plans to add tree cover to bare pastureland came to fruition on Tranquility Farm in St. Mary's County. The farm is protected by a conservation easement granted in 2002 by Mrs. Lee Mills Petty to MET and the Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust. The easement covers woodlands and farmland adjacent to historic Sotterley Plantation, protecting 298 acres in the viewshed of Sotterley and the Patuxent River. Originally a dairy farm, the property has been more recently been managed as an angus beef cattle and sheep operation, and as the site of the Hollywood Oyster Company, an aquaculture operation utilizing cages located on the Patuxent River bottom to grow oysters.

Recognizing the value of trees for habitat, as well as nutrient and carbon absorption, the Petty family was interested in converting some of the extensive pasture area to forest. According to Tal Petty, "the family wanted to create more habitat and increase the overall green footprint of the farm. And of course, cows like shade!" Tal, who was previously featured in a Spring 2015 *MET LandMarks* article, engaged fisheries staff at the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) to help locate tree planting assistance. CBF's Rob Schnabel is a long-time cooperator with MET, using CBF's extensive volunteer and other resources to plant buffers on farm properties throughout Maryland. Rob approached MET for information about the property, and staff was eager to cooperate, providing map and easement information. CBF rounded up volunteers from southern Maryland, who dug holes and planted approximately five acres of trees on field edges (see photo of CBF staffer with his kids). According to Rob, "Tranquility Farm is a model farm for water quality, both on



*Volunteers from southern Maryland dug holes and planted approximately five acres of trees on Tranquility Farm.*

the land and in the water. A majority of the farm is in grass for grazing cattle and the new trees will provide another layer of conservation, providing wildlife habitat, added buffer for water quality while sequestering carbon. Meanwhile, its oysters help filter nearby creeks and the Patuxent River." Landowners on the western shore with acreage they'd like to plant in forested buffers are encouraged to reach out to MET's Stewardship Manager ([jon.chapman@maryland.gov](mailto:jon.chapman@maryland.gov)), or to Rob directly ([rschnabel@cbf.org](mailto:rschnabel@cbf.org)). If interested in participating in a planting event, email [mdrestoration@cbf.org](mailto:mdrestoration@cbf.org).

# Irvine Nature Center

REPURPOSING FALLOW LAND FOR NATURE EDUCATION



*Children walk through a meadow at Irvine Nature Center.*

Irvine Nature Center is a unique educational resource for Baltimore County and Central Maryland. It serves families, school children, youth groups, and senior centers. It is located at 11201 Garrison Forest Road in Owings Mills, and is part of the renaissance of this portion of the historic Caves Valley National Historic District.

Irvine was founded by Olivia Irvine Dodge in 1975 in an old barn on the grounds of St. Timothy's School on Greenspring Avenue in Stevenson. Its purpose was "to teach children about the vulnerability of the planet." Irvine began to outgrow the old barn and 25 acres of surrounding fields, therefore the board began looking for more space in the late 1990's. They came across the Rosewood Center, a controversial former mental and rehabilitation institution run by the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. Rosewood was located near Owings Mills, an up and coming planned suburban growth area. The Irvine Center acquired 116 acres of open space for its new campus which entailed land from the late 19th and early 20th centuries that had been used to teach youth with developmental disabilities to farm and garden.



*Children investigating the natural world on a forest path.*



The new facilities provided space for a 17,200 square foot green exhibit hall, classrooms, outdoor classroom, amphitheater and miles of trails. In October 2015, Irvine further expanded its campus to 210 acres after it received a large gift from the Charles T. Bauer Charitable Foundation, which enabled Irvine to purchase an additional 93 acres of neighboring land, now named Bauer Preserve. The center bought the land from neighbors Jonathan and Bonnie Farber, who had donated conservation easements on the land to MET in 1980, and had begun wetland and reforestation projects to restore the former farmland to natural cover.

The new expanded campus has a diverse array of Piedmont habitats, including open wetlands, upland forest, meadow, forested wetlands and farmland, and also includes headwater streams of the Jones Falls and Gwynns Falls watersheds. If interested in learning about educational opportunities and other activities please check out Irvine's web site at [www.ExploreNature.org](http://www.ExploreNature.org).



*MET volunteers learning about native American crop cultivation.*



**FOREVER  
MARYLAND**

**ENHANCING  
AND ADVANCING  
LAND  
CONSERVATION  
IN MARYLAND**

**ADVOCACY**

**OUTREACH**

**EDUCATION**

**MET is excited to announce its support of the Forever Maryland Foundation. This innovative and bold venture started operating in September 2019 to advance land conservation in Maryland through outreach, education and advocacy.**

# \$307,500 in KMB Grants Awarded in 2020

**E**ighty Keep Maryland Beautiful grants totaling \$307,500 were awarded to environmental education, community cleanup and beautification projects through the Keep Maryland Beautiful program. These annual grants are funded by Maryland Environmental Trust, the Forever Maryland Foundation, the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DCHD) and the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT). Recipients included schools, nonprofit groups, municipalities and land trusts in 20 counties and Baltimore City. Many of these grants focus on developing and supporting communities, families, youth and students who take personal responsibility for the health of their communities, protecting nature in their backyards and seeking ways to help reduce or resolve environmental challenges.

“I’ve seen firsthand how Keep Maryland Beautiful grants inspire deeper connections between Marylanders and the environment, which is especially crucial during this time of COVID-19,” said Mary Burke, Chair of MET’s Board of Trustees. “Plus more trees, less litter, and more flowers can really make a difference to where we live, work and play. A big thanks goes to our partners for their critical support of MET’s oldest grant program.”

“It’s amazing to see what an impact a Keep Maryland Beautiful grant can have on a neighborhood,” said Forever Maryland Foundation Chair, Steve Quarles. “These projects bring people together in a shared effort to prepare the next generation of environmental stewards and celebrate the beauty outside our very doorsteps.”

## On March 20, 2020 the following were awarded:

One **Aileen Hughes** award totaling \$5,000, awarded to an individual representing a Maryland land trust for outstanding leadership, partnership and innovation in a conservation project. The grant is awarded to the Maryland land trust in recognition of the individual’s efforts and good work.



*KMB grant recipient Mountain Laurel Garden Club organized a rain garden planting event with volunteers from the Maryland Conservation Corps, DNR, and Garden Club members at the Sang Run State Park.*

The grant is given annually to honor the late Aileen Hughes, a true leader in the conservation movement.

Ten **Citizen Stewardship** awards totaling \$12,500, given in honor of **Bill James**, who drafted the legislation that founded Maryland Environmental Trust, and **Margaret Rosch Jones**, former executive director of the Keep Maryland Beautiful program. These grants are awarded to schools, nonprofits and other community organizations whose missions are centered upon directly engaging community members in environmental education and stewardship. These grants also support organizations that demonstrate active engagement as defenders of the environment by developing innovative solutions to local environmental problems.

Sixty-one **Clean Up & Green Up Maryland** awards totaling \$250,000. This grant was established in 2017 to help community groups and nonprofit organizations statewide with neighborhood beautification activities that include litter removal, greening activities, community education, and citizen stewardship statewide.

Ten **Janice Hollmann Grant** awards totaling \$40,000, given to Maryland land trusts to increase capacity, support community programming and innovation and foster stronger, better connected land trusts. All grants require a 100 percent match from the land trust of in-kind services and privately raised funds. The grant is given in memory of Janice Hollmann, who exemplified citizen leadership of local land trusts in Maryland.

# 2020 KMB GRANT RECIPIENTS

## *Allegany County*

County United Way, Inc.  
Historic Frostburg, a Maryland  
Main Street Community, Inc.

## *Anne Arundel County*

Annapolis Arts District  
Annapolis Green, Inc.  
Anne Arundel Community College  
Arundel Rivers Federation  
Bahama Beach Improvement Association  
Downtown Annapolis Partnership  
Piney Orchard Community Association  
Saunders Point Citizens Association, Inc.  
Scenic Rivers Land Trust  
Severna Park Elementary School

## *Baltimore City*

40 West Assistance and Referral Center, Inc.  
Baltimore City Department of Public Works  
Baltimore Green Space



Baltimore Green Space - Katie Lautar  
Charles Village Community Benefits  
District Management Authority  
Eastside Community Garden  
Friends of Wyman Park Dell  
Fusion Partnerships, Inc.  
(Whitelock Community Farm)  
HEBCAC  
Loyola University Maryland  
Mount Clare Community Council, Inc.  
No One Left Unhelped, Inc.  
Strong City Baltimore (BLISS Meadows)  
The 6th Branch  
Volunteering Untapped, Inc.

## *Baltimore County*

Back River Foundation, Inc.  
Greater Patapsco Community  
Association, Inc.  
NeighborSpace of Baltimore County  
Reisterstown Improvement Association  
Sussex Community Association, Inc.

## *Calvert County*

All Saints Episcopal Church  
Calvert County Parks & Recreation  
Town of North Beach

## *Caroline County*

Downtown Denton Main Street, Inc.  
Friends of Martinak State Park, Inc.  
Town of Federalsburg

## *Carroll County*

City of Westminster  
Taneytown Main Street  
Town of Mount Airy  
Town of Manchester

## *Cecil County*

Cecil County Parks and Recreation  
Department

## *Charles County*

Beyond the Classroom, Inc.  
Conservancy for Charles County, Inc.

## *Frederick County*

Downtown Frederick Partnership  
Town of Emmitsburg  
Town of New Market  
Town of Thurmont

## *Garrett County*

Deep Creek Watershed Foundation  
Sky Valley Association, Inc.

## *Harford County*

Bel Air Downtown Alliance  
Harford Land Trust  
Havre de Grace Alliance  
Havre de Grace Maritime Museum  
Environmental Center  
Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway

## *Howard County*

Ellicott City Historic District Partnership  
Howard County Conservancy

## *Kent County*

Galena Tree and Park Committee  
Main Street Historic Chestertown

## *Montgomery County*

Old Takoma Business Association/  
Main Street Takoma  
Charles Koiner Center for Urban  
Farming (CKC Farming)  
Montgomery Parks Foundation  
Silver Creek Middle School

## *Prince George's County*

Alice Ferguson Foundation  
City of Bowie  
City of Laurel Department of Economic  
and Community Development  
(Laurel Main Street)  
Echoes of Nature  
Town of Cottage City, MD

## *Somerset County*

Crisfield Arts & Entertainment District  
Keep Somerset Beautiful

## *St. Mary's County*

University of Maryland Extension -  
St. Mary's County

## *Talbot County*

Eastern Shore Land Conservancy  
Mid-Shore Community Foundation  
ShoreRivers

## *Washington County*

Antietam-Conococheague  
Watershed Alliance

## *Worcester County*

Lower Shore Land Trust  
Maryland Coastal Bays Foundation, Inc.  
Town of Berlin

**KEEP MARYLAND BEAUTIFUL  
GRANTS APPLICATIONS NOW  
BEING ACCEPTED!**

**OCT. 1, 2020 – NOV. 12, 2020**

If you are interested in applying for  
a KMB grant please visit Forever  
Maryland's grant's webpage at  
[www.forevermaryland.org/grants-page](http://www.forevermaryland.org/grants-page)

# Somerset County Easement (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)



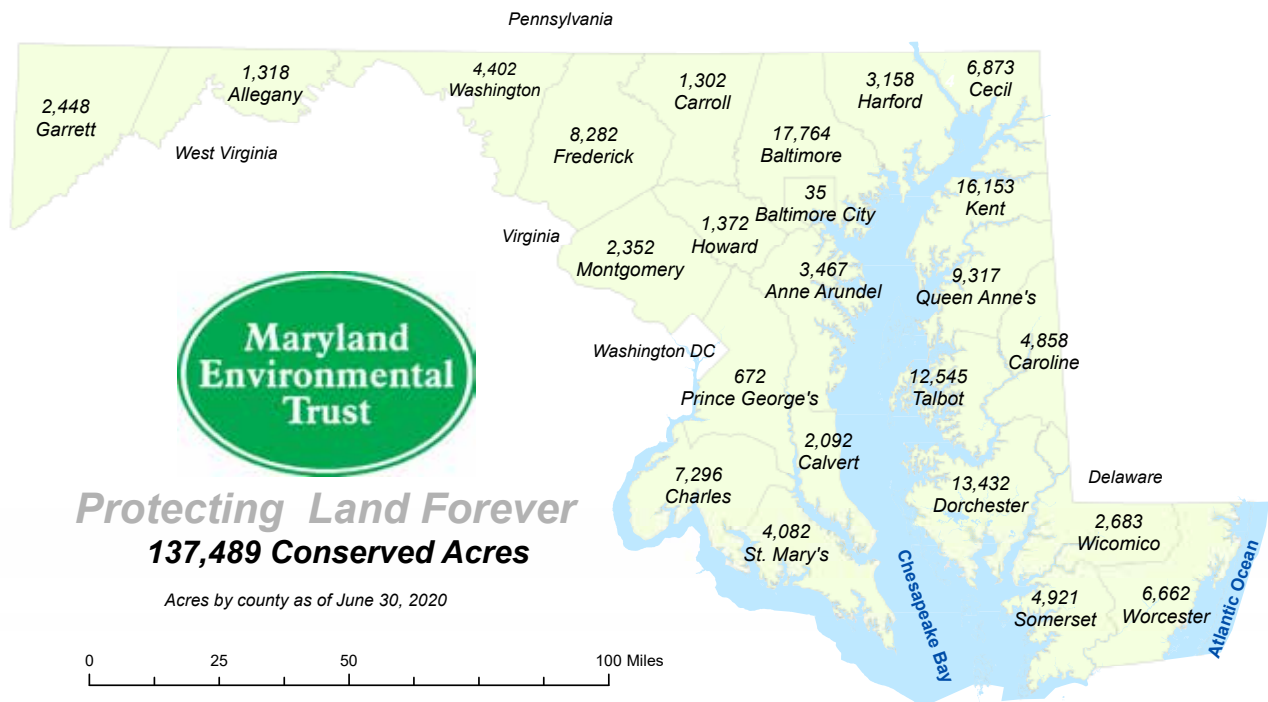
View of marshland on the Leese Property in Somerset County.

*“This portion of Somerset County and the natural resources it supports have always been important to me, so I spent years piecing this property together to protect what I could.”*

- LARRY LEESE, LANDOWNER

Though DU, LSLT, and MET took the lead on this project, it could not have been completed without the generous support of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Rural Legacy Program, the U.S. Department of the Navy, Wicomico County, and the Chesapeake Conservancy who all contributed funding for other projects to match the NAWCA grant funds. Additionally, US Fish and Wildlife Service staff co-wrote the NAWCA grant proposal with DU. In total this partnership has supported the preservation of nearly 1,510 acres in Somerset and Wicomico counties.

Of the easement Mr. Leese said, “This portion of Somerset County and the natural resources it supports have always been important to me, so I spent years piecing this property together to protect what I could. Though it was a long process, I greatly appreciate the hard work of Ducks Unlimited, Lower Shore Land Trust, Maryland Environmental Trust, and all the other partners who helped me realize my vision.”





*“Nature and all its benefits must be available to all citizens, regardless of their race or privilege.”*

## STATEMENT BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF MARYLAND ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST:

We acknowledge the trauma, anger and frustration that recent events have created for all of us, in particular communities of color who deal with racism every day and are experiencing a disproportionate impact from COVID-19. Our work and commitment to the people of our state is informed by our core values and principles of conservation established by the Maryland legislature over 50 years ago: nature and all its benefits must be available to all citizens, regardless of their race or privilege. Racism has no place in our society. The Maryland Environmental Trust is committed to building an inclusive program and conservation effort that accelerates the pace of conservation to benefit people from all walks of life. We appreciate your partnership.



## WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER

In response to the COVID-19 virus, Governor Larry Hogan in March of this year issued an order to move the Executive Branch of the State of Maryland to an “Elevated Level II” operational status, which requires all units to implement a mandatory telework policy. This policy remains in effect. Accordingly MET’s office is closed to the public. Our staff is working remotely but is available via phone and e-mail. Meetings are scheduled for participation by videoconference or conference call. The best way to contact staff is by e-mail. E-mail addresses for MET staff can be found at [dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/contact.aspx](mailto:dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/contact.aspx). During this period, some MET staff may conduct field work on an intermittent and time sensitive basis as long as social distancing guidelines and approved protocols for state employees conducting field work are followed. Our work continues, albeit somewhat differently for the time being. Thank you for your continued support and stay well!

## VOLUNTEER UPDATES

Thanks to our awesome volunteers, MET reported a second consecutive successful year of easement monitoring. Our volunteers completed 127 monitoring visits which is notable as our monitoring season came to an abrupt stop in March due to the pandemic.

This year, we are taking a somewhat different approach to our monitoring. We are currently working with DNR leadership to follow CDC guidance and modify our volunteer procedures. Our goal is to keep everyone safe and healthy while conducting monitoring visits during the COVID 19 pandemic.

If you have questions about our conservation easement monitoring or volunteer opportunities, please contact Wendy Hershey at [wendy.hershey1@maryland.gov](mailto:wendy.hershey1@maryland.gov) or 410-697-9522.

# New Faces at MET



## MEGAN BENJAMIN

Megan Benjamin is a Planner in Baltimore County. She graduated from St. Mary's College of Maryland and earned a Master's degree in Geography and Environmental Planning from Towson University. She began her career as an Americorps Volunteer through

the Maine Conservation Corps, working with a land trust/watershed organization in the mid-coast region of Maine. She has worked for several environmental non-profits in program management and administration. While in graduate school, Megan interned at the Critical Area Commission and served as Volunteer Coordinator at Maryland Environmental Trust (MET). She was later hired as the Western Region Planner at MET, a role she served at for 12 years with the addition of the Central Region during that time. Megan is now with Baltimore County's Department of Planning as a Planner and Land Preservation Specialist.



## MEGAN D'ARCY

Megan D'Arcy's life's work has focused on land conservation, resource stewardship, and an understanding that the relationships between people and their environment can influence culture and positively shape the future. She spent the last 15 years of her career in

the land trust community with an intense focus on working with landowners to navigate complexities associated with conservation easement stewardship and the preservation of agricultural land. In 2009, Megan moved to the beautiful Eastern Shore of Maryland for a position with Eastern Shore Land Conservancy. Her accomplishments include building a robust land protection and easement stewardship program with a portfolio consisting of 299 properties on 58,000 acres of land throughout a six county region. Most recently, Ms. D'Arcy accepted a position with the Rural Maryland Council, an independent state agency located within the Maryland Department of Agriculture. The mission of the Council is to improve the quality of life for people living in rural Maryland. Megan's collegiate background includes a BA in cultural anthropology from Kutztown University and a master's degree in resource management from The University of Pennsylvania. She enjoys life to the fullest living in Easton with her husband Dan and two wonderful children, Wyatt & Ben.



## LORI LYNCH

Lori Lynch is a Professor and Chair of the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at the University of Maryland. She examines various issues related to land preservation and land conservation as well as providing advice to farmland program managers and

legislative bodies. She has worked with policy managers at the county, state and federal level on issues such as the compensation, taxation, change in land values due to conservation easements, characteristics of landowners in preservation programs, and post-preservation activities on conserved properties. Her PhD was from the University of California, Berkeley, and her MS was from University of California, Davis.



## TOM PREVAS

Tom Prevas is a leader in environmental litigation and regulatory compliance with experience in contract, tort, enforcement and construction litigation involving solid waste, hazardous waste, petroleum, bio solids, wastewater, land contamination

and climate change. Tom has also done extensive work in brownfields redevelopment and cleanup under CERCLA, RCRA and state voluntary cleanup and brownfields programs. He has served as environmental counsel to the largest brownfield redevelopment project in Maryland—the redevelopment of the former Bethlehem Steel site- and speaks nationally on effective reuse and development of brownfields. Tom has expertise in overseeing large and complex projects involving traditional energy, renewable energy and infrastructure matters; on federal preemption of state environmental laws; and his experience extends to natural gas pipelines and electric transmission as well. Tom has advised clients on NEPA compliance and effective public engagement and has also counseled clients on how to bring a NEPA (or state equivalent) challenge. He is an adjunct law professor at the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law in the Environmental Certificate Program, and teaches state and local environmental law. He has written on the use and admissibility of expert evidence, particularly in the environmental, land use and property valuation contexts, and counsel's clients on OFAC/trade sanctions compliance.

# 2021 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING DATES

**February 1**  
**May 3**  
**June 7**  
**September 13**  
**November 1**



## SUSANNE ZILBERFARB

Susanne Zilberfarb is the current Executive Director of the Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation, Inc. Susanne comes to MAEF from the Delaware Soybean Board, where she was executive director for 14 years, and the Maryland Soybean Board, where she was a communications contractor from 1994

to 2017 and then executive director from 2017 to 2019. During her time with the boards, she fundraised and locally coordinated the Mid-Atlantic Farmers Feed Us program, an online ag education campaign; she co-created and directed the popular My Maryland Farmers website and social media campaign; she facilitated the establishment of the Atlantic Soybean Council, a regional soybean research organization; and she aligned the boards' programs and budgets with their strategic plans. She was recognized by Gov. Bob Ehrlich for her contributions to promoting the biodiesel industry. Susanne and her parents, John and Ann Richards, and her nephew, Shawn Richards, operate Sheepfield Farm just south of Leonardtown in St. Mary's County, raising cut flowers and lawn ornaments that "baa."

**The Board of Trustees meets the first Monday of the month on the months listed above.**

The board meetings begin at 4:00 pm and are held at 100 Community Place, Third Floor, MHT Board Room 3.218, Crownsville, Maryland, unless notified otherwise. These are public meetings. Please contact MET if you plan to attend.

Easements sometimes require advance notification and/or written approval for certain activities. Please see MET's website for information and application. If you are unsure whether notification or approval is required, contact MET's stewardship staff to help make that determination. Activities that might require approval or notification include:

- Constructing any new buildings or structures
- Renovating or enlarging existing structures
- Conveying property (provide contact information on new owner)
- Subdividing property
- Recording any other encumbrances on property (e.g. right-of-ways, ingress/egress, other easements)
- Entering wetlands mitigation or restoration programs
- Changing use of property (e.g. from forested lands to agricultural lands)
- Making a boundary line adjustment
- Harvesting timber

For complex matters, it may take a minimum of 30 days for MET to review and approve the proposed activities. Please contact Jon Chapman, Stewardship Program Manager, at 410-697-9519 to discuss your plans. All requests should be made in writing at least three weeks prior to the scheduled board meeting. Thank you!

## ROYDEN N. POWELL III RETIRES FROM MET BOARD

MET would like to thank Royden Powell for his hard work and years of dedicated service at MET. Mr. Powell joined the Board of Trustees in 2016. He served as a member of the Board's Agricultural Advisory Committee, later serving as Chair of the Easement/Stewardship Committee and as the Vice Chair of the MET Board. MET staff and Trustees wish Royden all the very best in his retirement. Mr. Powell has been a valued member of the Board the past four years.

Mr. Powell served the public in conservation programs for nearly 30 years in state and local governments. He served as supervisor for the Queen Anne's County Soil Conservation District for 11 years before joining the Maryland Department of Agriculture where he served as Chief of Resource Conservation, and Assistant Secretary of the Office of Resource Conservation.



## DR. SCOTT BARAO STEPS DOWN FROM MET BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MET would like to thank Dr. Barao for his year of service as a member of the Board of Trustees. He was elected to the Board in May of 2019. Scott continues his work as the Executive Director of the Jorgensen Family Foundation, a nonprofit agricultural research and education foundation based in Frederick County. MET wishes him the best in his future endeavors.





Protecting Land Forever

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This newsletter is printed on 100% recycled paper using soy-based inks.

# Thank You to Our Recent Contributors

(January 1 - June 30, 2020)

Whether you make an unrestricted contribution, donate to our stewardship fund, or support a special project or program, your gift to MET is appreciated and essential to our future. Please consider a tax-deductible contribution to MET this year. With your support, we can continue to protect Maryland's diverse natural, scenic, and historic resources. Thank you for your support!

### Conservation Champion \$10,000+

The estate of Alverta and Louisa Dillon  
The estate of Sarah Griggs  
The estate of Virginia T. Merryman

### Environmental Benefactor \$5,000-\$9,999

The Perry J. Bolton Trust

### Open Space Guardian \$1,000-\$4,999

Theodore and Joan Hoffman in memory of John Hutson  
Mr. and Mrs. James Riepe  
Ms. Jennifer Stanley

### Habitat Hero \$500-\$999

Ms. Harriet Iglehart

### Land Supporter \$100-\$499

Chet Anderson  
John Beckly  
Mr. Joseph Davies  
Mr. Alex Fisher and Betsy Gorman in honor of James W. Constable  
Nikki and Sam Forry  
Mr. William Trimble Jr.

### Friend \$10-\$99

Mr. Nathaniel Chu  
Sara Louise Hessler in honor of Jennifer Forrence and Louis Whitcomb  
Karen Stahler in memory of Dan H. Shifflett, Jr.

### Thank You to Our Recent Easement Grantors

American Battlefield Trust  
Blue Mountain Farm, LLC  
Jennifer A. Debnam, William H. Langenfelder and Kristen L. Nickerson  
Shell Point Farm & Forest, LLC

### Open Space Legacy Society

Dr. and Mrs. Gary P. Carver  
Ms. Constance J. Lieder  
The Honorable S. Jay Plager  
Mr. and Mrs. Alan Schmaljohn