



The **FREEDOM INFORMER**

www.freedomareacitizens.org

March 2003

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Reservoir Watershed Management Agreement Signed

On February 24, 2003, Carroll County signed the Watershed Management Agreement, reaffirming a promise to Baltimore City and the state to protect the water in the Liberty Reservoir. The signing of the agreement opens a new chapter in Carroll County's history. It is one of cooperation with surrounding jurisdictions and environmental protection. Present at the signing were all three Carroll County Commissioners, Julia Walsh Gouge, Perry Jones, and Dean Minnich, Baltimore City Mayor Martin O'Malley, and Baltimore County Executive Jim Smith.



Commissioner Gouge received several ovations at the event, as this was the culmination of years of effort on her part to protect the Freedom District's water supply. The act of signing shows the commitment of the new Board of Commissioners to protect the environment, to work cooperatively with the surrounding metropolitan area, to listen to the voices of their citizenry, and to promote smart growth in Carroll. Zoning Administrator and FACC member Neil Ridgely states, "These commissioners have sent a strong signal to their citizens and the other Regional government partners that they place the protection of water among the top of their priorities."

Although the act of signing is complete, there is still more work to be done. At the heart of the Agreement are the "Action Strategies" that the County must develop. These "Action Strategies" include specific management actions in categories such as water quality monitoring, point source management (where water flows from pipes), and public awareness. In the past, the Agreement and related "Action Strategies" have led to the improvement of waters feeding into Liberty Reservoir. Once the new "Action Strategies" are in place, Carroll should see a practical implementation of the Watershed Management Agreement.

Watershed Management Agreement that was signed this February. Baltimore City and Carroll County agreed in 1945 that Liberty Reservoir would be built as a water supply to Baltimore. Construction of the 3,100-acre reservoir was complete in 1954. Then, in the 1970's, Liberty Reservoir suffered from pollution. In 1979, Carroll County signed the first Watershed Management Agreement. In 1984, Commissioner John Armacost signed an updated and strengthened agreement. These original agreements provided for reducing pollution, water quality monitoring, and public awareness of matters affecting reservoir water quality. Commissioner Gouge reaffirmed this agreement in 1990. At this

The culmination of a number of events brought us to the

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• Don't miss our next meeting on March 18th See Page 2 for Details

• Renew your FACC membership on Page 3

• Water Restrictions Remain in South Carroll



"Piney Run became the center of attention at FACC's 'Save the Lake' rally and the Watershea Management Agreement became a hotly debatea issue in the 2002 elections.'

Don't Miss the next FACC General Membership Meeting!

Our Guest speaker will be the Carroll County Planning Director, Mr. Steve Horn. Steve came back to Carroll County after a short stopover in Frederick County.

The meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 18th, and will start at 7:00 pm in the Community Room at Carrolltown Center, across the hall from the Freedom Christian Church.

Watershed Signing Continued from Page 1

point, the major purpose of the Agreement was to assure safe and ample drinking water for the area.

In 1996, a second reaffirmation was proposed. Carroll County refused to sign it because it limited urban development within the watershed area. Because of the rapid development of Carroll, the county was facing a diminished water supply. The Freedom District relies on Liberty Reservoir for much of its water. Baltimore would not allow Freedom to increase its draw from the reservoir unless the Watershed Management Agreement was signed. In 2000, the Commissioners

targeted Piney Run Lake as a water source, rather than signing the Agreement. Citizens opposed this source because it would limit the recreational use of the lake and leave no alternative water source for future Carroll generations. More importantly, the Commissioners lacked evidence that Piney Run was the best water alternative, and failed to inform citizens of other options. Despite the outcry from Carroll citizens and groups like FACC, the Commissioners continued to plan for the Piney Run Water Treatment Plant. Piney Run became the center of attention at FACC's "Save the Lake" rally and the Watershed Management Agreement

became a hotly debated issue in the 2002 elections.

After the 2002 elections, Carroll had a new Board of Commissioners. As one of their first acts, the Commissioners stopped work on the Piney Run Water Treatment Plant and announced they would sign the Watershed Management Agreement. By signing the agreement last month, the Commissioners have increased Carroll's potential water sources: a series of wells in South Carroll, additional water from Liberty Reservoir, and expansion or renovation of the existing Liberty Water Treatment Plant. ❖

FACC Elects Three to Board of Directors

The Freedom Area Citizens' Council (FACC) elected Nicole Musgrave-Burdette, Kimberly Madeja and Doug Metz to their board of directors. Ms. Musgrave-Burdette is an attorney and compliance manager for Monumental Life Insurance, Ms. Madeja, a self-employed computer consultant and Mr. Metz, a banking consultant and freelance writer.

"We are proud to have elected these fine individuals to our board and look forward to their

beneficial leadership contributions", said Ross Dangel, FACC's Chairman. The FACC publishes the *Banner* newspaper and the *Informer* newsletter and is a non-profit community organization, which defines, evaluates and advocates regarding issues that affect the Freedom area. General membership meetings are held the third (3rd) Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm in the Freedom Christian Church at Carrolltown Mall.

The FACC board of directors now consists of 14 people. In addition to the three (3) new directors, FACC officers are Mike Naused, Vice Chairman, Nimrod Davis, 2nd Vice Chairman, Cathy Dodson, Treasurer, Ken Plante, Secretary (acting). The balance of the FACC board are: John, Culleton, John Dozsa, Tom McCarron, Richard Nacewicz, Cathy Naused and Dale Reid. More information can be found on our website at www.freedomareacitizens.org



Contributions of Articles or Information for The Freedom Informer can be sent to the attention of the editor at: FACC, P.O. Box 142, Sykesville, MD 21784.

Renew Your Membership Today

The 2003-2004 Membership drive is now underway and it is time to renew your \$10 annual membership in the Freedom Area Citizens' Council, if you haven't done so already. Please use the form below for your renewal.

We also encourage you to talk to friends and neighbors about joining the FACC. Together we can make a difference! The FACC is proud to have had an important part in bringing about several important changes in our community over the past year including:

- The election of two new Commissioners who truly care about the Freedom area

- Formal abandonment of the Piney Run Water Treatment Plant plan; officially "Saving the Lake"
- Signing of the Watershed Management agreement; the first step in getting more water for Freedom
- Creation of the Carroll County Council of Governments and Growth Task Force
- Pursuit of new wells on the Springfield property to augment our available water supply
- The Commissioner Candidate Forum
- The District 9B Delegate Forum
- Sen. Robert Kittleman & Del. Susan Krebs
- Schools Superintendent, Dr. Charles Ecker
- Commissioners Gouge, Minnich & Jones (April 2003)

We are also happy to have hosted important events and speakers at our regular monthly membership meetings including:

We appreciate your continued support, with which we are able to underwrite scholarships, publish the *Banner* newspaper, the *Informer* newsletter and support other charitable works in our community. ☒

Look on Page 4 to check if you have renewed for 2003

FACC MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

Are you a member of a Homeowners Association: ___ If so, which HOA? _____

I would be interested in offering assistance regarding:

- Legal Affairs
- Membership
- Media Relationships
- Schools
- Newsletter/Publication
- Government
- Other _____

FACC is a non-profit community organization and a member of the South Carroll Business Association.

Signature _____ Date _____

Annual Membership Fee: \$10.00 per household.

Please make checks payable to FACC. Mail to: FACC, P.O. Box 142, Sykesville, MD 21784

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.freedomareacitizens.org

Commissioners Maintain Water Use Restrictions in Southern Carroll County

While the Governor has lifted the Drought Emergency status across the state, areas served by the Baltimore City water system are still enacting Level I restrictions. As water levels in Baltimore City's reservoir system remain below normal, the Board of County Commissioners has decided to maintain these restrictions in the southern portion of Carroll County, for those who are on public water served by the Baltimore City water system.

Level One restrictions include:

- Watering of lawns is prohibited
- Washing paved surfaces (such as streets, roads, sidewalks, driveways, garages, parking areas, tennis courts, and patios) is prohibited


- Use of sprinklers and other automatic watering devices is prohibited for purposes of irrigation, watering of gardens, landscaped areas, trees, shrubs, and other outdoor plants. Handheld containers and hoses with automatic shut off may be used.



- Use of water for non-commercial washing or cleaning of mobile equipment,

including automobiles, trucks, trailers, and boats, is prohibited.

Southern Carroll County is on an even-odd system. Those on public water in the area are permitted to use water on even-numbered days of the month if their house number is an even number, and on odd days if their house number is an odd number. Citizens living within the boundaries of an incorporated town must adhere to that town's current restrictions, and are advised to contact their town government regarding the scope of those restrictions.

For questions regarding the status of the drought, or drought restrictions, please contact the Department of Public Works, 410-386-2035. 

FACC

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It's Time to Renew Your FACC Membership!

- Thank You, you have already renewed
- You have not yet renewed