



Our Mission: To promote, protect  
& enhance the trails in  
Anne Arundel County.

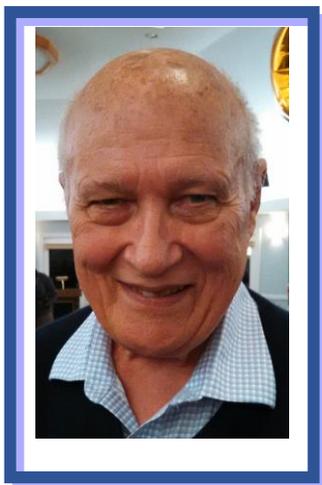
# Trail Talk

March 2021, Issue 115

*Please check our website and Facebook page for  
additional stories and pictures.*

**Friends of Anne Arundel County Trails, Inc.**  
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*Sam Shepherd, County Trails Historian*



The Friends are sad to announce the passing of our beloved Board Historian, Sam Shepherd. Sam conscientiously kept our history up to date for over 14 years, proud to relate our accomplishments to a willing public. In honor of his commitment to the mission of the Friends, a memorial brick will be placed in the Legacy Garden at Jonas and Anne Catharine Green Park. His family has designated the Friends of Anne Arundel County Trails as a recipient for memorial donations. The Friends have established a designated memorial fund.



## 2021 Race for the Trails

Friends of Anne Arundel County Trails, Inc.  
Anne Arundel County Department of Recreation and Parks

Due to current Coronavirus restrictions, the 2021 Race for the Trails will be a virtual race run individually. This will be a ten mile race, held on the BWI Trail around Thurgood Marshall BWI Airport, as in prior years. However, the race will be run individually on any date between Saturday, February 13 and Saturday, March 6, 2021. Runners will track their own times and submit the information for posting by the Friends of Anne Arundel County Trails.

The race will start at a prominent marker located immediately north of Lindale Middle School, located at 415 Andover Road, Linthicum Heights, Maryland. Participants will have the option of running counterclockwise on the BWI Trail to the five mile marker, located near the southwest corner of the airport, turning and returning to the starting point, or continuing to the ten mile marker located near the long term parking areas northeast of the airport. Finishers at either location can photograph themselves at the finish markers, record their time and submit them by email. Finishers at the ten mile marker can then continue on the BWI Trail the approximately 1/2 mile remaining to return to the starting point of the race.

Virtual Race Dates: February 13 - March 6, 2021

Race venue: Ten mile measured course on BWI Trail

Register at: [ACTIVE.com](https://www.active.com)

Registration Open: January 30 - March 5, 2021

Registration Fees:

Regular:	\$25.00
Student (Age 19 and under)	\$20.00

Long-sleeved race tee shirts are available at extra charge

[www.friendsofaatrails.org](http://www.friendsofaatrails.org)

## Jonas and Anne Catharine Green Park

Do you know the history behind Jonas and Anne Catharine Green Park? Do you know why the park was named as such? Well, in the next few months, **Trail Talk** will be discussing this tiny park and why it has a unique place in our county's history. So, let's start at the beginning:

Back in 1938, the property for what was to become known as Jonas Green Park, was first acquired by the State Roads Commission from the Severn Land Company and used as a roadside park. The parcel provided a site for the Ritchie Highway's Severn River drawbridge, funneling the Baltimore and Annapolis traffic into the state capitol. Management was transferred to the Department of Chesapeake Bay Affairs on October 9, 1967. Chesapeake Bay Affairs was formerly the Department of Tidewater Fisheries, which would later be absorbed into the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) when that department was created in 1969.

Sometime after the creation of the DNR, the park was transferred to the Maryland Park Service. It makes its first appearance as a Maryland Park Service "maintained property" in the 1973 DNR annual report, where it is described as a "Roadside Picnic Area." The park was administered and maintained by Sandy Point State Park for much of this period. It was believed to be Maryland's smallest state park. During the budget cuts in 1990-1991, it was one of the parks closed by the state. But this is not the end of the story!

## How did the park get its name?

According to a news article published by the Baltimore Sun on July 5, 1953, Governor Theodore Roosevelt McKeldin, Sr. named the park "Jonas Green Park" to honor the 225<sup>th</sup> anniversary edition of the Maryland Gazette, one of the oldest newspapers in the country. But this, too, is not the end of the story.

There will be more to this saga in the April edition of Trail Talk! Find out about the park's development and who Anne Catharine is and why she is so important to our local, state and national history.

Diane R. Evans, Editor and Board Member,  
Friends of Anne Arundel County Trails