

Vol. 81
May 1, 2025



<https://ccc-cultivatingcommunityconnections.net>

Contents

Page 1:

- Benefits of Working With Other Communities

Page 2:

- Recognizing that Our Differences Are Our Strengths

Page 3:

- Useful Environmental Resources

Please visit our web site at:

<https://ccc-cultivatingcommunityconnections.net>

Contact Us At:

CultivatingCommunityConnections@gmail.com

C-Cultivating
C-Community
C-Connections

* Encouraging Community Involvement
* Linking Communities to Resources

Uniting community members to transform our neighborhoods is at the heart of what we do.



Movers and Shakers (Prince George's County)

Working together has real benefits to citizens' associations and Home Owners Associations (HOAs).

Each and every organization that advocates for the residents in a particular geographical location, has a mandate to work with County, State, and Federal agencies to resolve issues in their area. Our Movers and Shakers team members are examples of exemplary community leaders who have spent years unselfishly advocating for their communities. In doing so, each has developed their own strategies for getting agencies, at all levels of government, to provide the level of service that is promised. Until now, each community leader felt they were working in isolation. They were aware of other community groups, but had no meaningful contact with other leaders and, therefore, no way of knowing if issues their community faced were unique to them or part of a larger issue.

Movers and Shakers brought leaders from a dozen North Prince George's County communities together 5 years ago. Right away, we saw the benefit of working together. The group bonded over their shared concerns and everyone appreciated being able to discuss what worked and what didn't when working with various agencies. It didn't take long before we were able to identify systemic problems that were having a real impact on all of our communities. Where, in the past, individuals had been fighting alone for change, Movers and Shakers were now able to look to each other and analyze who had established a contact within a certain agency and how Movers and Shakers could connect with that person to work in partnership for solutions.

The results have been significant and, at times, surprising. When meeting with a contact in one agency, we were told how a large source of revenue was being lost. We were then able to connect with another governmental official to bring this to their attention. The problem was fixed and a loophole was closed. In another case, as reported in our last newsletter, Movers and Shakers investigated 3-1-1 Service Requests submitted in 2024. We analyzed the responses for each agency and saw how one agency was not responding appropriately. We have brought this to the attention of higher-ups and we'll continue to work with all agencies and County Council to find solutions that benefit everyone. None of this would have been possible without community leaders becoming a team, representing a larger constituency group than any single community leader could claim to represent.

Movers and Shakers is now ready to reach out to other communities. If you are interested in forming a regional group with other community leaders, contact us. We are eager to help.



Recognizing That Our Differences Are Our Strengths

“Every man, every woman who has to take up the service of government, must ask themselves two questions: ‘Do I love my people in order to serve them better?’ [and] ‘Am I humble and do I listen to everybody, to diverse opinions, in order to choose the best path?’” Pope Francis

What Do You Think?

Cultivating Community Connections would like to know about the people in your community that are making a difference. Tell us who they are and what they are doing. Email us at:
CultivatingCommunityConn@gmail.com

Our Leadership Team

Carol Jenkins- founder

Jeff Jenkins- co-founder

In memory of Melissa Daston-
Movers and Shakers past president

Carol Relitz- web administrator

Thank you for supporting CCC's efforts to strengthen communities.

Each leader on Movers and Shakers' team has a different style and brings different strengths that greatly benefit our group. It has been eye-opening to realize how much each person's abilities contribute to our overall success. Because this variety of skills isn't always valued in other group dynamics, particularly when dealing with those that are strong-minded leaders, we thought it might be useful to list some of the attributes that members of Movers and Shakers contribute to the group. See how many of these same attributes are in other circles you work with. Are all of the people getting the recognition they deserve? Or are only the loudest contributors getting recognized?

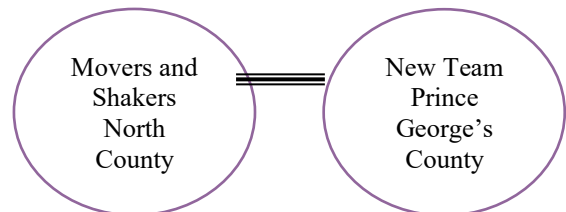
When looking at the list, it should become obvious that all of these useful skills won't be in one individual. This is another reason, Movers and Shakers are stronger together.

We are grateful for all of the Movers and Shakers. It doesn't take a lot of people to have an impact.

- Persistent
- Unselfish- focused on the greater good.
- Creativity in connecting the dots, finding other ways around obstacles
- Able to cut through the rhetoric to get to the heart of an issue
- Able to ask questions in a way that gets the most useful, accurate response
- Understands data and data analysis
- Willing and able to speak at government meetings and hearings
- Technical and governmental writing expertise
- Diplomacy
- Great communicator
- Excels at building relationships that are non-confrontational
- Brings out the best in others
- Very organized, detail oriented
- Willing to let others shine
- Publicity, marketing
- Technology expertise
- Quiet, but what they say is worth its weight in gold.

Building Your Own Team

Movers and Shakers is embarking on a new initiative to connect with more communities throughout Prince George's County. The goal will be to help other organizations build teams similar to Movers and Shakers while building a bridge between the new and existing team.



If you know of a group that works hard for their community, and you'd like to connect with us to explore areas of common interest, email us at: CultivatingCommunityConn@gmail.com Let's talk and see how, together, we can make progress for all residents in Prince George's County.

Accentuate the Positive to Bring Out the Best in Others

You gotta accentuate the positive
 Eliminate the negative
 And latch on to the affirmative
 Don't mess with Mr. In-Between

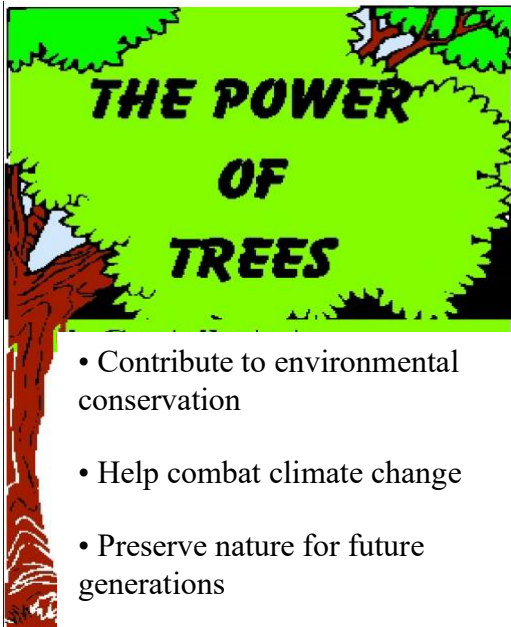
Too many HOA and Civic Groups would do well to follow the advice (at least the first 3 lines) of the song lyrics. When a community member has a suggestion, instead of saying why it won't work, look for some part that can work and start there. If you can't find a starting place immediately, take time to think it through.

Some helpful information from environmental contributor, Carol Relitz



SUMMER TIME, AND THE COMPOSTING'S EASY...

[Summer Time Link](#)



Adopt A Tree

If a drought again this year, use any water left in sink or while washing car, etc and go outside and take care of your Adopted Tree!

Protecting
our Planet
Starts with You!



Spring
Into Sustainability



Parsley for Butterflies?
Attract ...
Swallowtail Butterflies

[Parsley for Butterflies](#)
link

Please check our web site for future newsletters and other updates:

<https://ccc-cultivatingcommunityconnections.net>