

To: Board of County Commissioners for Charles County
Board of Appeals for Charles County

From: Michele Turner
Date: February 14, 2013

It was my unfortunate experience to be a spectator at the February 12, 2013 Board of Appeals Hearing for Charles County in reference to case number 1299. Richard and Carol Turner for "Ricks Place".

After carefully listening to the guest speakers and reading the Report to the Board of Appeals and trying to comprehend everyone's opinion I arrived at one major conclusion: It's not about the business "Ricks Place" and the traffic that is generated from this business, it's about an ongoing animosity amongst neighbors. I have had the opportunity of visiting Petzold Drive on numerous occasions. I have visited Petzold Drive on different months of the year and different times of the day and night.

I can honestly say I never witnessed any speeding on Petzold Drive. No one ever attempted to run me off of the road on Petzold Drive. Nor have I witnessed any tractor trailers on this road. The condition of the road was only discussed by the negative speakers. All of course were not true statements.

The road has always been maintained in good condition. This was stated in the "Report to the Board of Appeals" on page eight. Quote: "The road appeared to be in good condition when observed by Planning staff during the site visit".

The guest speakers who addressed the conditions of the road on Petzold Drive and the safety of the road have never contributed to the maintenance of the road.

The testimony given by Mr. Paul Elbert was the exact truth. Mr. Elbert, Mr. Gene Mori and Richard Turner were the only three individuals who have spent countless hours, their own equipment, money and hard work to maintain Petzold Drive. Which deprived all three of these individuals quality family time. This is very disturbing considering there are currently sixteen lots located on Petzold Drive.

On page nine of the "Report to the Board of Appeals" it was stated: "In several reports, the Commission has identified a need for local livestock processing facilities to accommodate the increase in livestock production. "

In today's society and economic hardship that many families are experiencing and will continue to experience it is a travesty to think that some disgruntled neighbors would even entertain the thought of deliberately hurting someone's livelihood and their family business.

If anyone had a legitimate complaint I believe that it would have been Ms Kim Pinkleton. Ms. Pinkleton is infact Richard and Carol Turners next door neighbor. During Ms. Pinkletons testimony she made positive comments about "Ricks Place". Ms. Pinkleton stated she had no problems with "Ricks Place". However, what Ms. Pinkleton does have is a problem with are the disgruntled neighbors on Petzold Drive taken pictures of her teenage daughter as she is driving on Petzold Drive. This is very unsettling.

As stated in the "Report to the Board of Appeals" The Turners have complied, and passed the necessary requirements set forth by: USDA (report 5-4-12), Food Processing Plant Inspection Report by the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's Office of Food Protection and Consumer Health Services dated 10-23-12. Letter dated 11-28-11 from Charles County Department of Health Division of Environmental Health Services. There were no violations described on the list of Violations and Observations on the report and the facility was noted as "Approved". To participate in the Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry program for the 2012-2013 season.

Yearly inspections conducted by the USDA-FSIS has reported no violations. Which to me, would seem detrimental in owning and operating a family owned business since 2002

Above and beyond the neighbors so called concerns over the road "Petzold Drive," "Ricks Place" has a large involvement with many organizations throughout Charles County. One I feel that is of utmost importance is "Feeding the Hungry Program". "Ricks Place" has been involved with this program for several years. The overwhelming amount of families in Charles County as well as surrounding counties that heavily rely on this program is astronomical. Families who are encountering and will continue to encounter financial hardship rely on this type of program. It is detrimental to the community and their families to continue to rely on "Ricks Place" for assistance.

Since the opening of "Ricks Place" in 2002 it has been nothing short of a safe, friendly, clean environment. Not to mention the respect that the Charles County community has for "Ricks Place" and their family.

In closing I can only hope that you will find that it is detrimental to allow "Ricks Place" to continue to have a positive impact on the community. I have the confidence that a positive decision will be made in the best interest of "Ricks Place".

Cc: Richard and Carol Turner Owners and Operators of "Ricks Place"



**Community Support
Systems, Inc.**

2012 - 2013

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Brandywine, Maryland*

Food Pantries:

*St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Baden
Faith United Methodist Church,
Accokeek*

Shared Senior Living Home
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*Community Support Systems, Inc. is a
private, non-profit 501 (c)(3)
organization.*

CSS is:

*Maryland Charity Campaign # 9101
Combined Federal Campaign # 78555
United Way # 8411.*



COMMUNITY SUPPORT SYSTEMS, INC.

A Caring Agency Serving Southern Prince George's & Northern Charles Counties.

P.O. Box 206, Aquasco, MD 20608

Phone: (301) 372-1491 Fax: (301) 372-1569 Email: CSS1995@aol.com

www.CommunitySupportSystems.org

Charles County Board of Appeals
Attention: Carrol Everett
200 Baltimore St
La Plata, MD 20646

February 14, 2013

Re: Special Exception – Evidence to Consider for Turner Case

Dear Board of Appeals,

We are writing in support of Rick's Place. For many years, Richard Turner has been processing deer meat, and the packaged venison has been distributed through our food pantries to the many low-income people in our community who are in danger of food insecurity. Without Rick's Place processing facility, this important source of lean and healthful protein would not be available. Our agency, Community Support Systems, Inc., has operated a food pantry program since 1995, so we know firsthand that the need is great. Our food pantries in Baden and Accokeek are open a total of three mornings weekly, and in FY2012, our food pantries had 9,469 visits!

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Claudia Raskin
Claudia R. Raskin,
Executive Director



Carruth & Son, Inc.

Ready Mix Concrete

P.O. Box 870
Bryantown, Maryland 20617
(301) 274-4577
(301) 884-2293
(301) 870-3560 (Wash)

February 19, 2013

Charles County Government
Board of Appeals
P.O. Box 2150
La Plata, MD 20646



Attention: Fred Mower, Chairman

RE: Turner Hearing 2/12/13

Dear Mr. Mower,

I have known the Turner's for many years and use their services to process the deer my family and I harvest each year. They run a clean and efficient operation. When I read the article in the Maryland Independent I thought the Board should know that over the years we have furnished them several loads of millings (ground asphalt). This product was always dumped on Petzold Drive and spread by Mr. Turner. I would hope the Board would approve this variance as the Turner's provide a much needed service for the community. I do not believe they should have to shoulder full responsibility for the road. It seems to me somewhere in the past the County dropped the ball through the permit process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charles D. Carruth".

Charles D. Carruth, CEO

Dear Board of Appeals, (FOR DOCKET 1299 SLAUGHTERHOUSE)

I am Carol Turner co-owner of Ricks Place (*SLAUGHTERHOUSE) I did not have a chance to say all I needed at the hearing .

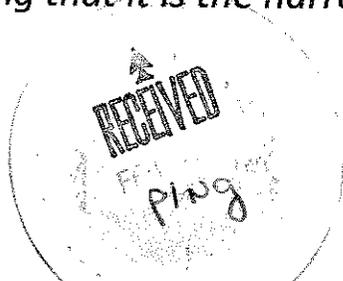
As you know Rick and I have had a business since 2002. We have always been classified as CUSTOM EXEMPT(which means we do not sell any products) Our state inspector can verify this(LEE McChan) he has been with us since the start. The USDA FSIS report from the USDA inspects us under this title(COPY ENCLOSED) . The county says DEER PROCESSOR .

At the first appeal hearing as you know our lawyers intentions was trying to argue to make a ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT in the county definitions for us because there was no definition for us(CUSTOM EXEMPT). Which I still don't understand that if what you do is not listed you are put under the nearest definition they can find? Any way we are now a SLAUGHTERHOUSE... We accepted that.

We have AC zoned land and our right of way(PETZOLD DRIVE) is zoned AC.

As you obviously can see this whole ordeal seems to have nothing to do with how our business is conducted, sanitation, health questions or anything, it is all about this road!! Check County records Im sure prior to summer of 2011 probably not any complaints,.

I would ask you each before the hearing to DRIVE IN YOUR OWN PERSONAL VEHICLE DOWN PETZOLD DRIVE---(FIFTY FOOT RIGHT OF WAY)... It is a very rural area with a very long dirt/gravel road. Yes it has pot holes , and mud when it rains and dust when it is dry. Notice at the beginning that it is the narrowest point., and flattest part so water



has no where to go. This WILL NOT change wether Ricks Place is there or not.

Rick and I also had a surveyor(MR. CROWDER) survey this part of the road last year 2012 (copy Enclosed). Along with a couple other neighbors we were going to make it wider and put millings down AGAIN.! When this survey was done it actually showed that quite a bit of some of these neighbors property was in the right of way. So part of this right of way has electrical outlets, flowers, shrubs, pavement, and even a paved pad for a huge camper (with the camper on it) .(these are the OPPOSING NEIGHBORS. Well within 24 hours of the survey the stakes were pulled up from the survey and Im sure the county probably received complaints that day about us(only assumption). This money for the survey was paid out of Rick and I pocket \$900.

As the opposing neighbors expressed they have fixed incomes some are elderly and they do not have the equipment to take care of the road. So if Mr Paul Elbert(he takes care of it now) decides to move(and HAS put a contract on another piece of property) Why wouldn't you accept upgrades and road maintenance from Rick or anyone else ?? Police should not be involved when someone is helping to maintain the road. It is absurd. Rick and a few other neighbors went out of their way to help when the culvert pipe that was midway on Petzold blew out and the people in the back 11 houses were stranded. This pipe left a whole in the road over 22 feet wide. . Since it was not a county road a few neighbors got together along with Rick and repaired this as quick as possible. .I am not even going to mention how much millings, money and time Rick has put into this road never asking anything in return... As always he has felt if you can contribute something towards the

maintenance that was fine and if you couldn't that was fine. Many of the neighbors can and will verify this.

We all share this road and we all have to give a little to make it work because some how all these houses were put on this road with absolutely NO road maintenance agreement! We do not have a problem with helping with the road. But neighbors should not be arguing with those who want to take care of it. Speed bumps are even ok, not speed mountains.

I know this whole entire place use to be a family farm, and I can understand as development occurs it can be difficult seeing this especially when it was within the family.

But I have to mention that with all the anonymous calls to MDA, MDE, EPA, police calls, newspaper articles with assumptions, and papers passed out in the public with false accusations that don't even pertain to our business but towards us personally have accomplished nothing .! With every inspector, agency, police officer and article we have received such wonderful support from everyone .I am tired of having pictures taken of me and my family especially MY KIDS and I also know of other people on Petzold feel the same. And these people doing this need to stop.

Also on Petzold Drive there are four home based business, (PAINT BUSINESS, CONSTRUCTION BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPGHY BUSINESS,, ELECTRICAL BUSINESS. I will not mention any names but I will let you know they are all within the first seven houses on Petzold Drive.

I do not disregard the neighbors, their kids. etc. WE RESPECT this dirt road and the pedestrians just like any other road that vehicles travel . Which means just because it is dirt/gravel road we still MUST be cautious because it is used by all sorts of vehicles wether from Ricks Place or not.

Judge Wells is the one who actually raised the speed limit to 15 MPH, It use to be 10MPH. The actual speed limit BY LAW is 25MPH in subdivisions. He also said in court "WE have two communities now rural urban, and those who are not we do not dismiss one to cater to the other we must find a way to make them work together. " And any one who was in court with us that day can verify that.

Also the director of Planning and Growth Management ,Peter Alluto stated in this article recently in the Md. Independent, (COPY INCLUDED) The AVERAGE number of vehicle TRIPS per day per home is 9.56 based on field data.

So 16 houses x 9.56 trips(not entering ENTERING AND EXITING but TRIPS)=153 trips average per day.. 153x 7days per week =1071 trips per week. 1071 x 4 weeks per month = 4284 trips per month AVERAGE.. This is per house hold for the residents does not include UPS, VanGO, Fed Ex, Verizon , Trash Companies, Smeco, Relatives or friends visiting,or any other vehichles that are coming to these families homes having parties for birthdays, anniversaries,showers, Christmas , thanksgiving or whatever the celebration may be for.

And it is a fact two of the opposing neighbors The Lawrence residence, Snellings residence have two accesses to their property so even though

they have a Petzold Address they are not actually included in the plats as part of the subdivision.

Rick and I should not be DEPRIVED our agriculture rights on our land that is the sole reason we bought this piece of property. We wanted agriculture land. So

All Rick and I want is to continue to work and help the farmers and deer hunters in the area so they have somewhere local to deal with and hopefully a peaceful neighborhood again. Thank you, Carol Turner

FEBRUARY 17, 2012

Herbert R. Crowder, Inc.

Surveyors, Engineers, Planners

Two Oak Avenue
La Plata, Maryland 20646

301-870-2271
301-932-0060

INVOICE

Invoice # 15784
February 21, 2012
Page 1

Turner, Richard
13800 Petzold Drive
Waldorf, MD 20601

Client ID: 20169
Project #: C016220430 C016-22-043 Petzold Sub, Lot 5
Stake each side 50' right-of-way for
1,000 feet from Route 232

INVOICE FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES:
.....

HRCI #12017

Surveying Services:

Charge

Computer & Operator
2-man Survey Crew

300.00
600.00

** Invoice Total **

\$ 900.00

Invoices due when rendered. All balances over
30 days are subject to late charge of 1.5%
(18% APR) per month.

PAID

Zoning code debate tackles accessibility, safety, child care

By PAUL S. WARNER
Staff writer

Accessibility, safety and child care zoning rules were hot topics at Tuesday's La Plata Planning Commission meeting.

The commission has had discussions over the last several months about revising the zoning code to make it more readable and to eliminate inconsistencies.

Senior Planner Theresa Dent and Director of Planning and Community Development David Jenkins presented research to the commission that showed that rules on road accessibility and second access points vary by jurisdiction.

However, in general, if streets decrease in width, experts recommend greater connectivity, Dent said.

Dent said that streets have become narrower in recent years because of new stormwater management regulations.

Dent cited one report that states that grid systems decrease emergency vehicle response times on average by 30 seconds, to a five-minute response time.

Commission member Garyton Echols Jr. said, "So there's really no magic number?"

Jenkins said that the numbers vary by local jurisdiction.

Echols asked whether the county has any "magic number" for when second points of access are required.

Jenkins said that the county has an Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance that requires major subdivisions to submit a traffic study.

The county's zoning ordinance requires that if a subdivision projects to generate

second point of access.

In a follow-up email, Charles County Director of Planning & Growth Management Peter Aluotto wrote that it takes approximately 100 single family homes before it is determined that 1,000 vehicle trips will occur in a subdivision.

The average number of vehicle trips per day per home is 9.56 based on field data, Aluotto wrote.

The county also has separate calculations for townhouses, apartments and condominiums, Aluotto wrote.

Jenkins said that the town's transportation element in the town comprehensive plan states that the town should prioritize connectivity between neighborhoods.

The fire code that the town abides by also requires that roads have a width of 20 feet.

Jenkins said the town also uses a technical review team that includes input from La Plata Police Chief Cassin B. Gittings and La Plata Volunteer Fire Department Chief Matthew Gilroy.

"What this tells us is we're essentially doing this right," Commission Vice Chairman Richard Gilpin said. "We're consistently applying the same standards across the board. We're looking at multiple access points when necessary, as well as the flow within the neighborhoods. It looks like we aren't just blindly following a rule."

Chairwoman Debra Posey said she agreed there is no magic number.

"We will have to do our due diligence as each project comes forward," she added.

The commission members also agreed to have the research passed onto Gittings and Gilroy.

zoning laws also sparked discussion among the commission members.

Echols said that his feeling about the reason for the town's push to adopt zoning laws for child care in 1990 was that the county did not have many child care centers at that time, but now there are several child care centers in the town.

Posey said she thought one of the main issues in the code was there were inconsistencies.

Dent said that one reference in the code states that child care centers are permitted with conditions, while another reference states that child care centers are permitted only by requesting a special exception from the town's Board of Appeals.

"If we can look at the consensus here, I don't know why we can't write the ordinance in that way," Gilpin said.

Echols said that neighborhoods with single-family homes still should have the right to speak through the Board of Appeals' special exception process, but that the commission should not apply a "blanket rule" to child care centers.

Posey asked for planning staff's recommendation for how the child care zoning laws should read.

Jenkins said that planning staff would prepare a recommendation.

Gilpin recommended that planning staff look at the minutes of the meeting where the child care ordinance was adopted to see the reasoning behind the apparent inconsistency.

Jenkins said that any update to the zoning ordinance will undergo a legal review to ensure that the zoning rules are consistent

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Gift
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TA, MD

Page 20 of 2

Dear Ladies & Gentlemen of THE BOARD OF APPEALS,

I am Rick Turner, Owner OF "RICKS PLACE" (THE SLAUGHTERHOUSE).

The only thing I ask of you is to please read my daughter Lacey's letter to you and it will explain everything.

Thank You,

Richard J. Turner



2/18/2013



Board of Appeals
Charles County, MD
Docket #1299

I am writing to you concerning the "Slaughter House" called Rick's Place. I am Lacey, Rick's daughter.

I never would have thought that in all of my life one business would cause so much controversy. It seems as if Rick's Place is the blame for everybody's problems on this road when in reality it's not. Rick Turner, my father, has done nothing wrong in a lot of people's eyes. He works hard every day to try to make a living to support his family. It is sad to see my parents and other family members face harassment on a daily basis from our neighbors. Within a blink of an eye everybody turned against my family. Why? I or my family will never know.

Many assumptions have been made about Rick's Place. A majority of people are going by others words and not taking the chance to actually visit Ricks Place. Ricks Place has been operating for 10 years now. 10 years later everybody begins to have problems with it. The property that Ricks Place is on used to be a farm where many horse shows took place and where people could board their horses. When the farm was sold our house was built. When there was a business here many years ago nobody had a problem with it, but now that there is another business here the opposing neighbors have every problem with it.

There are many things to consider before making the final decisions about this business. Nothing will ever be settled. Besides Ricks Place, there are 5 other businesses on this road. If Ricks Place was to be shut down, something will have to be done about the other operations because you cannot shut one down and then allow the rest to operate.

Safety was among the larger topics discussed about at the hearing. In the first 6 houses there are 5 kids. One cannot walk yet, the others are all in grades 7-9. I hope that the children were taught better not to play in the road. When you have a yard that's half an acre there is no need to. Roads are not made for playing in; they are made for driving on. If a car is coming, get off the road, don't keep playing in it then complain about passing vehicles. My brother is among one of the youngest on this road and he was taught not to play in the road. Pedestrians always have the right of way, and that's how it's always been, but don't tell your kids to play in a road just to prove a point. It was also stated that there are "armed hunters" driving in and out the road. Come on now, they are hunters, not maniacs. I would never even think of our customers as armed hunters. One of our opposing neighbors is even a hunter himself.

The ROAD was the major issue that everybody heard about. The dirt road was never installed properly; everybody knows that. There are several pot holes, erosion from water and it is narrow. Whose fault it that? Not Ricks Place. Our business should not take the blame of the road. Like stated before, there are other businesses and houses on this road. The speed limit posted is 15mph by the judge's order. "There are vehicles driving down the road 40mph," one of the opposing neighbors stated. There is no way a person could even go 30mph on the road. You would TEAR your car or truck up. My father has put several loads of millings on the road and has maintained it until all of this mess started. Even at the very back where the business is located there are several potholes. The road needs constant maintenance and only 3 out of 19 houses ever helped do that.

Ever since all of this started, the opposing neighbors have gone out of their way to watch our every move they could. I, as a minor, have had my picture taken multiple times just trying to drive to my house. My brother, who is 9 years old, has also had to have his picture taken getting off the bus. Every other day my parents would receive complaints from the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency), or the USDA (United States Department of Agriculture). Every time the agencies came out, they found NOTHING. It was frustrating to see my parents go through that every single week. The opposing neighbors would go out of their way to find something wrong with us. They are worried about us polluting the Zekiah Swamp or runoff into other water sources. Our waste is disposed in a holding tank. Let's not forget that the USDA comes and check us out every couple months. The nearest water source is at least a mile or so into the woods and I doubt we would make it a priority to "deliver" waste into it. If opposing neighbors really want to see how we operate and dispose of our waste, then they should make it their priority to come back here and see how we operate rather than make assumptions.

Many minor events have happened on Petzold Drive since all of this has started about 2 years ago which the opposing neighbors have failed to share with you. They mentioned something about building "speed bumps" on the road to help slow down the traffic. These things were not speed bumps, they were Speed Mountains. The way they were built they would not have just slowed down the traffic, they would stop the traffic. Damage was done to a few cars and some were not even able to get over them. The cop cars that came back here for complaints that were made could not even get their squad over them. Everybody on Petzold Drive has a 50 ft right of way and has a say onto what is done to the road. We had the right to take them down, and which we did. They were not necessary. There are also metal posts along side of the road in some areas to separate people's yards and the road. Some of our 50 ft right of way is in their yard so they have no right to be there. Some people think they own more of their property then they really do. Besides all of these action taken, neighbors, customers, and family members were called names, cursed at, stopped in the middle of the road, and even called and complained on. Among those people were my sister, and some other family members. The opposing neighbors do not own the road. Why they feel they have to patrol it? I don't know and others can't figure out. They do not have the right to stop vehicles and ask where they are going, or to take pictures of them. It's a road. You do not jump in front of a moving car just for your own satisfaction.

Opposing neighbors also stated that this road used to be so peaceful and quiet, it was before all of this started. Things are never going to be the same for me, or my parents with opposing neighbors on this road.

There is traffic on this road, but not as described. You're lucky if you even get the chance to pass another vehicle on the road. Traffic does not cause potholes, the freezing and thawing of the ground do. There are 19 houses on this road and each house at least has 2-3 vehicles ~~day~~. Once the car passes a person's house out front, they have no clue where that car is going unless they follow it. There are several houses past theirs that the car can go to but assumptions are made that they all go to Rick's Place. The opposing neighbors cannot control who can come and go as they please. **NOBODY OWNS THE ROAD.** The two closest houses to us have not a single problem with the business operating. It's everybody out front who seems to have the issues.

It is sad to see people that we once called friends treat us the way we do. We have even **PROCESSED DEER AND BEEF FOR ONE OF OUR OPPOSING NEIHBORS.** What satisfaction our neighbors are getting out of this whole situation I don't know. It seems that all they are trying to do is make us

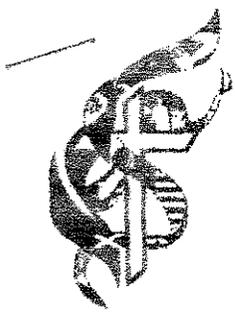
seem like an out of control slaughterhouse which is the opposite of what we are. We have processed deer, beef and pigs for many people. We are family operated and owned. We also donate processed deer through a program called FHFH.

My parents, Richard and Carol Turner, have worked hard since I can remember for everything they own today. They put everything that they have into making this business. Running this "Slaughterhouse" is not just a job to my parents, it is a passion that they have been doing for years to help out the community.

Before making the final decision, please consider the things talked about above. Without Ricks Place we have nothing and that's the truth. It's where people know they can come and be themselves. They know they can get quality work done at its finest. I feel that just because a few people have a problem with what we do, we should not have to pay for it. We have been operating for 10 years, and it's something we hope we can continue doing.

Sincerely,
Lacey Turner
Resident of Petzold Drive

our copy



Oxon Hill United Methodist Church
6400 Livingston Road, Oxon Hill, Maryland 20745-2909
301-839-4748

Rev. Dr. Miguel A. Balderas, Pastor

TO:
BOARD
of Appeals
AISO

July 25, 2012

Mr. Reuben Collins, Jr., Vice President
Charles County Commissioners
P.O. Box 2150
County Government Building
200 Baltimore Street
LaPlata, MD 20646-2150

Dear Sir:

This letter is being sent to you in support of Rick's Place Meat Processor that is located in Waldorf, Maryland. Their generous contribution of venison meat to our Bread/Food Ministry is very appreciated. We service many needy households, even though we are located in Prince George's County we service households from Charles County, as well as other surrounding areas.

In ensuring that we do all we can to feed the needy and the most at risk (children and senior citizens), this organization should be allowed to continue to operate.

Sincerely,

Rev. Dr. Miguel A. Balderas
Pastor



cc: Rick's Place

Tayo Ay Hindi Ganap, Subalit Tayo Ay Dakilang Pamilya ng Dios! Nagsasaya sa Ika 200 Taon Ng Anibersaryo!
We Are Not Perfect, But We Are A Great Family! Celebrating 200 Years!
¡No somos perfectos, pero somos una gran familia! ¡Celebrando 200 años!



Community Support
Systems, Inc.

2012 - 2013

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COMMUNITY SUPPORT SYSTEMS, INC.

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P.O. Box 206, Aquasco, MD 20608

Phone: (301) 372-1491 Fax: (301) 372-1569 Email: CSS1995@aol.com

www.CommunitySupportSystems.org

TO Board of
Appeals also

Charles County Commissioners
Attn: Rubin Collins

Dear Charles County Commissioners,

We are writing in support of Ricks Place. Our agency, Community Support Systems, operates Food Pantries in Baden and Accokeek that are open a total of three mornings weekly. These pantries are a primary source of food for the many people in-need in the surrounding underserved communities (in both Prince George's and Charles Counties). During the deer hunting season, Ricks Place plays an important role in providing freshly frozen venison for our clients. The Farmers and Hunters Association has their extra deer butchered at Ricks, and it is then donated to us. We are able to get all the venison we can use during the season. The meat is always fresh, cut into family size portions and wrapped, frozen and labeled. It is an important source of lean, healthy protein for our clients and is very much appreciated. In FY 2012 CSS Food Pantries had 9,469 visits!

We consider Ricks Place a critical resource in the effort to insure food security for the many people in real need that seek out our services.

Sincerely,


Claudia R. Raskin, M.Ed.
Director



Helping hunters return to their God-given heritage as food providers

TO Board of
Appeals
also

Friday, July 20, 2012

Dear Charles County Commissioners,

Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry (FHFH) of Maryland has worked with Rick's Place as a participating meat processor since 2005. Last season, Rick's Place received a total of 117 donated deer providing approximately 23,400 meals to the hungry of the Southern MD Region. Over the last 7 years of participation with FHFH, Rick's has received a total of 768 donated deer providing over 153,000 meals to the hungry. Feeding agencies that receive meat from Rick's include the Southern MD Food Bank, St. Peters Church, Teen Challenge, CSS Food Pantries, and the ICAC. FHFH hopes continued participation with Rick's Place for this coming season will allow increasingly critical meat to be donated to the feeding agencies of the Charles County area.

Sincerely,

Matt Wilson
FHFH Program Director

Steve White
SOMD FHFH Coordinator

From: Susan Luke <msfunkhouser@verizon.net>
To: ricksplace9 <ricksplace9@aol.com>
Subject: Ricks Place Letter
Date: Thu, Jul 19, 2012 5:06 pm

To: Board
of Appeals
ALSO

July 19, 2012

I am writing this letter pertaining to the business of "Ricks Place" of Waldorf, Maryland. We have used Rick's Place the past 4 years for deer processing. We are very pleased with the excellent job, courtesy and professional business manners from Rick and Carol Turner.

We also distribute the unwanted venison meat that hunters leave at Rick's Place to Teen Challenge in District Heights. The men at teen challenge are more than appreciative of the meat donation. Teen Challenge operates strictly on donations from the public. Without these donations from Rick's Place the men will have a winter without meat for their meals. Rick and Carol donate the extra unwanted venison to Teen Challenge and my husband and I deliver the meat. It is so very important that these men receive a good source of protein during their stay at Teen Challenge for their recovery program.

Teen Challenge is not the only program that benefits from the donations from Rick's Place. With the very large percent of our area who are homeless and find it necessary to live in shelters the donations that Rick and Carol make are a necessity to these men, women and children.

Closing Rick's Place, as you can see, would not only be detrimental to the hunters and farmers of the area but also for all the people who are suffering in Waldorf and the surrounding area. All of the men, women and children who find it necessary to depend on the donations of food and especially meat/venison from others will suffer greatly if Rick and Carol are not permitted to stay in business.

All people who patronize Rick and Carol Turner's business for food processing and especially the less fortunate of our area population who depend on their donations will be affected by their closure. Please consider all of the people who will be affected, especially the organizations who depend on donations and the homeless among us.

Thank you for considering the examples I have mentioned in this letter.

Sincerely,

Matt and Susan Funkhouser

From Southern Maryland RC&D

NEWS

RC&D Matches 100% for Outreach Grant to Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry!

By
Feb 3, 2010 - 3:18:20 PM

The Southern Maryland Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) Board, Inc. is pleased to announce that at our Winter Board Meeting held January 21, 2010, the Board voted to offer Southern Maryland Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry (FHFH) a \$5,000.00 match to supplement the grant received from the National Association of RC&D Councils awarded in December 2009. Funds made available by this match will be used to pay for the processing of deer meat that will provide an additional 17,000 meals to under-served families in Southern Maryland.

[Click here for more information about this partnership](#)

[Or check out Jeff Newman's article from January 29 in the Calvert Recorder highlighting our partnership with FHFH by clicking here.](#)

RC&D presented the \$5,000 match award to Southern Maryland FHFH on Friday, February 12 at the St. Mary's County Soil Conservation District Cooperators' Dinner. Steve White, Coordinator for the Southern Maryland Chapter of FHFH, received the check and gave a presentation about FHFH's efforts locally and nationally.



Rick Turner, Rick's Place Processing (Charles County), shows the boxes marked FHFH in his freezer that are ready for distribution.

Please forgive me for not providing this testimony on Tuesday, 12 February 2013, regarding Case # 1299, Rick's Place Zoning Board of Appeals meeting, as I was a bit intimidated by the crowd. As a civil engineer, and resident of Charles County, I am compelled to testify on this matter in order to hopefully provide a somewhat unbiased assessment of this hearing. I say somewhat unbiased opinion in that I have used Mr. and Mrs. Turner's services (aka Rick's Place), and I can say nothing but good things of these hard working individuals. They provide a clean and needed service for hunters and farmers requiring meat processing.

First, I want to thank all of you for the opportunity to provide testimony regarding this issue. During the meeting on Tuesday, it was obvious that a number of the residences on Petzold Drive were not just complaining about the operation of Mr. & Mrs. Turner's Deer Processing business (aka slaughter house) but, the preponderance of the testimony centered around the volume of traffic utilizing the gravel (dirt) road. It was inferred that people utilizing Rick's Place were the sole reason for the deterioration of the gravel road. I contend just the opposite, as it is the people that live on the road are the major cause of the problem.

Please follow my logic. If Rick's Place processes 500 deer (an approximate number) during deer season, then the people that utilize the road must travel 2 times up, and down the road (one trip for drop off, and one trip for pick-up of the processed deer; that equates to 1000 trips up and back) (i.e. $500 \times 2 = 1000$ trips during the hunting season) By the way, approximately 60 percent of those deer are killed (aka harvested) during the three week period known as shotgun season starting on the Saturday after Thanksgiving (statistics provided by Maryland DNR).

There are sixteen (16) residences on Petzold Drive (according to the testimony provided on Tuesday), and if you assume that there are 2.5 vehicles (includes SUV's, trailers, campers, RV's, etc.) per residence, and that those vehicles travel just once per day out, and back in, then in one year's time, you get 14,600 trips conducted by the residents. (i.e., $2.5 \text{ vehicles} \times 16 \text{ residences} \times 365 \text{ days in a year} = 14,600 \text{ trips}$). You can also say that they only use the road on Monday thru Friday, and that would reduce the number of trips to 10,400 trips (i.e., $2.5 \text{ vehicles} \times 5 \text{ days per week} \times 52 \text{ weeks per year} \times 16 \text{ residences} = 10,400 \text{ trips}$). Let us not forget the other potential deliveries and pick-ups - i.e., school busses, FedEx, UPS, and Postal Service).

In simple math, the traffic associated with Rick's Place is less than 10 percent (actually 9.6 percent) of the problem. (i.e., $1000 \text{ trips for Ricks Place} / 10,400 \text{ trips for the residences} \times 100 = 9.6 \text{ percent}$). Therefore, 90.4 percent of the problem associated with the deterioration of the road is caused by the residences and other uses of the road - not just from Rick's Place).

It was also apparent from the meeting, that only a small number of people actually perform maintenance on the gravel road. It would seem prudent that instead of complaining about the traffic, and pointing fingers at only 9.4 percent of the problem that all the residents contribute to, that they band together to resolve the problem as a whole. Not all residences on Petzold Drive opposed this case of Rick's Place, and while a few that did oppose the operation, a large number of people support Mr. and Mrs. Turner's operation, as evident by the applause from the audience during the testimony.

I was reminded of the famous words from poet John Lydgate, later adapted by President Lincoln - and appearing in various permutations: "You can please some of the people all of the time, you can please all of the people some of the time, but you can't please all of the people all of the time".

I am also reminded of President Lincoln when he wrote: "I believe each individual is naturally entitled to do as he pleases with himself and the fruits of his labor so far as in no way does he interfere with any other man's rights." These are powerful words, from a well-respected President, I ask that you use the same thought, and seek Lincoln's wisdom, and God's blessing as you deliberate on this matter.

Respectfully, Peter W. Charney, 3426 Williamsburg Drive, Waldorf, MD 20601

Russell Farms

Mr. & Mrs. Walter Russell

23635 Bayside Rd.

Leonardtwn, MD 20650

301-475-3478

February 15, 2013

Clerk to the Board of Appeals
Planning Division
P.O. Box 2150
La Plata, MD 20646

Dear Charles County Board of Appeals,

We would like to express our support for Mr. Richard Turners request to operate a processing facility on his farm. Over the years, Mr. Turner has processed several beef for us. He has done an exceptional job and provides a vital service to the Southern Maryland agriculture community.

Thank you for consideration in this matter.

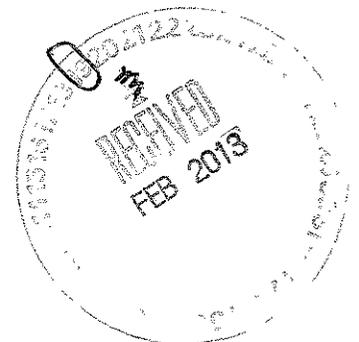
Sincerely,

Walter F. Russell, Jr.

Walter F. Russell Jr.

Betty L. Russell

Betty L. Russell



Fairfield Farm
Mr. Charles A. Sasscer, Jr
P.O. Box 87
Park Hall, MD 20667
301-862-2411

February 15, 2013

Clerk to the Board of Appeals
Planning Division
P.O. Box 2150
La Plata, MD 20646

Dear Charles County Board of Appeals,

I would like to express my support for Mr. Richard Turner's request to operate a processing facility on his farm. Mr. Turner has provided a valuable service to the 4-H community. Over the years, Mr. Turner has processed beef and goats for the people who purchased my children's animals at the St. Mary's County fair auction. He did a very professional job. This has helped us to keep some of those buyers coming back to the auction every year. He has made it convenient for them to have the meat processed locally.

Thank you for consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,



Charles A. Sasscer, Jr.

