



Special to Dorchester Banner
 Fred Pomeroy presents Libby Nagel a Good Citizenship Award on behalf of the Dorchester Citizens for Planned Growth.

Libby Nagel recognized for Good Stewardship by DCPG

Dorchester Banner

CAMBRIDGE — At their annual general membership meeting on Jan. 31 Dorchester Citizens for Planned Growth (DCPG) awarded their recognition of a “lifetime devoted to stewardship of the natural and cultural resources of Dorchester County” to Libby Nagel of the Salem area. The gift accompanying the award was a framed photo of the wild Hibiscus flower known as “Marsh Mallow” from the studio of renowned local nature photographer David Harp. The photo was framed courtesy of downtown Cambridge framing craftsman Mark Hubbard.

In her remarks accepting the award Ms. Nagel told of her love of the land starting from childhood days spent riding the fender of her father’s (the late Henry Handley) tractor while he planted the spring crops. Since inheriting several county farms following her Dad’s death in 2000, Libby has set a goal of protecting and preserving the family land so that “future generations will be able to experience this area as it was 200 years ago.” To that end, she has worked with the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources,

and the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation to establish various conservation and agricultural easements on her property. Previously, in 2006, she received an “Outstanding Agricultural Practices Award” from the Chesapeake Bay Program for her commitment to the health and restoration of the Chesapeake Watershed.

Many county residents will remember Ms. Nagel as the organizer of Dorchester Citizens for Safe Energy, a grassroots citizens effort which won the support of the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy and the Dorchester County government in questioning the need for mega-energy electric transmission lines to cross the Dorchester countryside in order to transport power to the Northeast power grid in New Jersey. Ultimately, the so-called MAPP project was delayed because of a lack of proven need and electricity demand. There are currently no plans to restart this project.

In addition to the DCPG award, Senator Addie Eckardt and Delegate Johnny Mautz were on hand to present Ms. Nagel with proclamations of recognition for her good stewardship from the Maryland General Assembly.