

THE BEACHCOMBER

November/December 2021

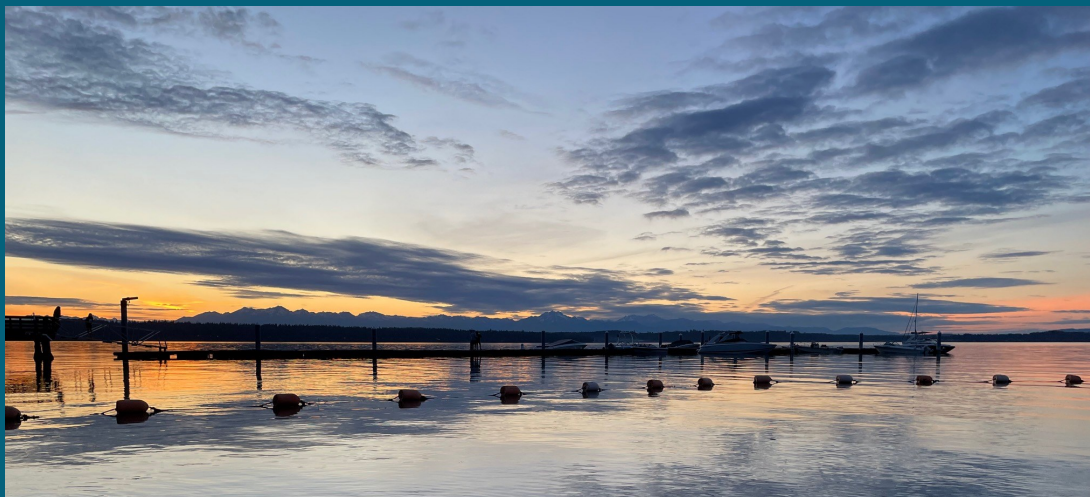


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President’s Message

Scott Young, President

HMC Board of Directors

Aloha Herron Islanders!

You’ve probably noticed the Beachcomber looks quite a bit different! I think Meghan did a great job of reformatting and beautifying our newsletter. It’s a perfect example of how fresh ideas and a little creativity go a long way toward keeping things interesting.

We’ve been having some strong winds for the past month causing some minor damage around the island. We’re likely to see more. If you’re unable to check your property and your trusted neighbor is unavailable, feel free to send me a text or email and I will gladly check it for you. I’m sure the other Board members feel the same. Our contact information is in the directory and on the website.

The Board’s technology update goals are slowly moving forward. I won’t bore you with a lot of *cost vs. benefit* or *limited technology* excuses. We’re trying to make decisions that are best for the majority without hurting the minority. History has shown us when governments move too fast, they tend to make things worse, so please be patient.

We now have the ability to send Emergency Text notifications to all members who subscribe. Texts will only go out if there’s a problem with the ferry, roads, or water system or if there’s a fire; another text will go out when the problem is resolved. Text the word “Join” to **(844) 567-3582** if you want to receive them. See the October 22nd email from HMC Management for further details. Thanks to Jane Wooster for researching and testing numerous options and finally finding one that’s affordable and timely.

The Board has accomplished another one of our goals! We formed the Ferry Committee at our November Board meeting. Their immediate focus will be preparation for the 2022 drydock. Their long-term project will be research into the next ferry. How much longer will our ferry last before it needs another expensive overhaul?

President's Message continued from page 1

How much will it cost to replace it? It's possible to keep the Charlie Wells running indefinitely, but there will be a day when we outgrow it. Imagine if you still had your first car: how much money would you have spent on it over the years to keep it a reliable daily driver? How much time would it have spent in the shop over the years? Would it be safe? Could you still find parts for it? The committee needs to consider these questions about the future of our ferry. If you would like to be a part of this committee, please contact Dave Hancock.

We've been trying get caught up with answering member input. If you've sent something and not had a response, don't hesitate to ask again. We don't want anyone falling through the cracks.

Happy Holidays!

Until next time... ●



Island Manager Report

Jane Wooster, Island Manager
November 13, 2021

Volunteers

Thank you to those that have worked on Policy Committee since 2018. The committee have reviewed every policy, made updates, and ensured all are in the same format. They recently concluded review of the last two outstanding policies and at this point they have completed the mission. They were diligent and did a great job working through all of this. The committee members were Mike & Judy Gage, Jane Morgan, Kathy Deuster and Merry Kogut.

Roads

Grading of the roads will be rescheduled due to a family emergency with the contractor.

Ferry

Per the Ferry Access Policy and HMC Rules the ferry captains have complete authority to enforce all rules and policies and ensure safety. In addition, the policy states:

HMC requires that a confirmed notification be made to the captain in advance to transport any combination (in-tow) of any length, and/or single vehicles longer than 25 feet. The notification must be confirmed by the captain. The captain's phone number is 253-691-1457. The captain cannot guarantee that you will be able to board the ferry at the time requested.

Over just the last month the captains and crew have been subjected to verbal abuse and loud yelling regarding: where members are parked; turning in mirrors on cars; complaining when the captain had to act quickly to get driver attention to avoid an accident when a large truck began sliding down the ramp; not calling in for notification of a trailer; yelling and calling the captain a liar regarding a Rules issue from the past.

WELCOME, NEW ISLANDERS!

We're glad you're here!



ARE YOU ON "THE LIST"?

HMC now has 453 Member email addresses on our notification list!

If you want to get the latest on windstorms, power outages, water line breakages, or other news, or even be notified when the latest edition of the Beachcomber is published, please send an email to office@herronisland.org and request that your email address be added.

This will be used for HMC purposes only.

HOLIDAY OFFICE
CLOSURES

The HMC office will be closed
for the holidays:

Thur, Nov. 25th
Fri, Nov. 26th
Fri, Dec. 24th



The Beachcomber will return
in January for a new edition...

Island Manager Report continued from page 2

The captains have discretion to decide not to load drivers who refuse to observe the Herron Island rules.

Your ferry crew do an amazing job keeping the ferry and riders safe. They need your support vs. your scorn. As with anyone, yelling, making accusations and terrible behavior causes the crew distress all while they must continue safely working through the day and night.

If you have questions or concerns regarding the ferry, please contact me: hmcmanager@herronisland.org

Legal Liaison: There are 17 delinquencies; 9 with the attorney’s office

Departments/Committees – no reports this month

Parks: Tracy Anspach; **Roads/Water Maintenance:** Dan Marten; **Emergency Preparedness:** Ken Higgins; **Rules:** Mike Fassio, no complaints; **Small Boat Docks:** Sherri Anderson ●



Home Improvement Tips

Whether you are trenching, digging, removing vegetation, or other roadside work; starting new projects, improving existing fences, walls, or ongoing use of HMC right of way; please note: HMC right of way very often extends *wider* than the road as it appears; most HMC roads are 40-50 feet wide, and the roads were deeded to HMC as part of the original plat of the island. **Please contact HMC prior to disturbing the roads and right of way**—this will allow HMC to better assist you in determining your needs, as well as save the association fees that may be involved when HMC Management must follow up when there are property questions.

For example: if a construction project requires a trench, you must apply for an HMC Encroachment Permit. The project must be approved by HMC; a \$1,000 deposit must be submitted to HMC; and the permit must be signed off before work may begin. The deposit will be returned after HMC approves the restoration of the road.

Under the Encroachment Permit, HMC water lines must also be marked by calling NW Water at (360) 876-0958. (This is at member expense and may take up to a month to complete, depending on NW Water’s schedule.)

In addition, any project that will be encroaching by digging or trenching on the road—**or even simply placing a real estate sign on your property**—may run the risk of disturbing underground utilities, especially around the water box area. Members will be held liable for any damage to HMC water meters or surrounding pipe, so before you dig, make sure to first call 811 (utility locators) before you dig to mark electrical or other utilities; there is no charge for this service.

Please email hmcmanager@herronisland.org with any questions, project notifications, or concerns regarding digging or encroachment on HMC property. ●



HMC Emergency Text Notification NOW AVAILABLE!

HMC has set up an emergency text notification with “Text-Em-All”.

Sign up to be notified of:

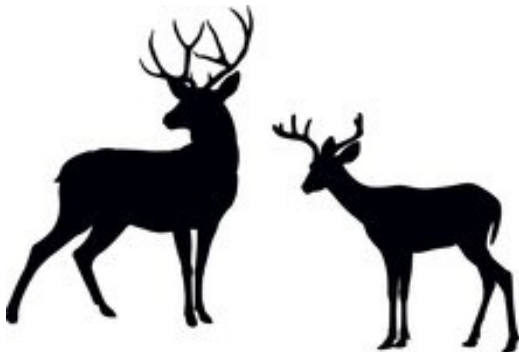
- Notification of Emergency Infrastructure Failures for the Ferry System/
Water Department/Roads/Fire
- Notification when Failure(s) are resolved

Important Note: Please do not respond to texts; return texts are not monitored

Email broadcast messages will continue to be sent in conjunction and will allow additional detail that text may not.

TO JOIN:

- Text the word "JOIN" to (844) 567-3582
- You will receive a text reading “SYSTEM MSG: You have signed up and will now receive text alerts from HMC Management.”
- Text the word "STOP" to prevent future messages
- If you accidentally opt out of texts, text the word "UNSTOP" to (844) 567-3582 ●



This Month’s Emergency Preparedness Committee’s Safety Tip:

GENERATOR SAFETY

Now is a good time to check your generator before the season of long power outages.



- Check/change the oil, and make sure your fuel is fresh
- Use portable generators outdoors in well-ventilated areas away from all doors, windows and vents
- Install/check carbon monoxide alarms in your home
- Do not use a generator in a wet area (can cause shock or electrocution)
- Use heavy-duty extension cords when connecting appliances to the generator
- Do not fuel your generator when it is running (spilling gas on a hot engine can cause a fire)

PARKING LOT FLOODING

Both the mainland ferry and North Beach parking lots can flood this time of year. Flooding is caused by a combination of high tides and windstorms. On occasion, the water has been high enough to reach the mailboxes in the mainland lot!

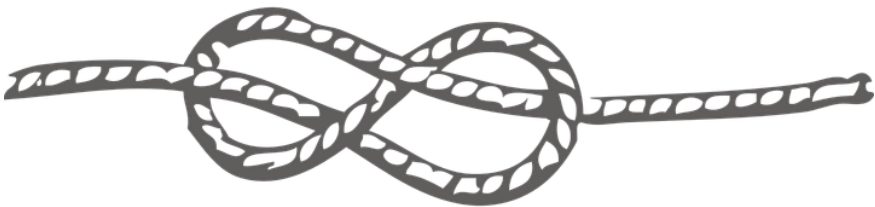
Please consider checking tide tables and weather reports before parking in either the North Beach or Mainland Ferry lot areas.



Is Your Auto Decal Current?

With the first half assessment billed and effective as of October 1st, everyone should have their new auto decal affixed to the lower driver's side corner on the windshield of their car. These decals are required by the Ferry Access Policy to ensure that only members in good standing are able to access the ferry. Each decal has an expiration date and your vehicle's license number which must match the plate on your car. Only vehicles owned and registered in the name of the member or authorized renter can receive an auto decal. Swapping of decals or sharing with non-members is not permitted.

NOTE: If you have an expired decal on your vehicle and wish to board the ferry—and the deckhand's electronic record shows you to be a member in good standing—you will be permitted to board, but you will be charged the guest rate until the current decal is affixed. We realize that this may be an inconvenience for some, but please don't take it out on the ferry crew. They are just doing their job at the instructions of the HMC Board. It is in everyone's best interest that the Ferry Access Policy be followed. Please do your part and make sure your decal is current before you arrive at the ferry dock. The complete Ferry Access Policy can be found on the homepage of the HMC website: www.herronisland.org. ●



Schedule of Membership Billings

General Assessments: Assessments for the general fund are billed semi-annually.

- 1st half: Billed and Due October 1
- 2nd half: Billed and Due April 1

Water Assessments: Assessments for water-related services are billed quarterly.

- 1st quarter: Billed and Due November 1
- 2nd quarter: Billed and Due February 1
- 3rd quarter: Billed and Due May 1
- 4th quarter: Billed and Due August 1

Special Assessments: These are billed and due on the first day of the month as designated by the Board of Directors.

Miscellaneous Billings: These are other items billed to your Member account, such as charged ferry fees for contractors. They are billed and due on the first day of the month following the month in which the item was processed.

NOTE: Bills that are not received or postmarked by the 25th of the month they are due are late and subject to a late fee, charged to your Member account. ●

Herron Island BOOSTERS



FUTURE EVENTS*

Sat, Nov. 27
9am-10am:
[Yoga w/ Joyce Major](#)
11am-1pm:
[HI Merch Sale](#)

Fri, Dec. 3
9:00am:
[Wreath/Swag-Making Workshop](#)

Sat, Jan. 8
6:00pm:
[Potluck/BOOSTERS Business Meeting](#)
@ The Community Center

**Dates subject to change. Join our email list today to be notified of any updates!*

Monthly Message

Greetings to all,

We were, of course, very disappointed to not be able to have our traditional Thanksgiving feast (potluck/raffle/auction) again this year. It is always a wonderful event, but we need to be able to keep everyone safe, and could not do so under the current COVID situation. Please remember your neighbors or friends in need—and share your Thanksgiving blessings with someone, if you can do so.

A couple notes on our upcoming events:

On **Saturday, November 27**, Joyce Major will be leading a **Yoga** session at the Community Center. All you need is a mat to join in! Later in the morning we will be hosting a **Herron Island Merchandise Sale**. This is a great time to shop for gifts! If you have reserved a 2022 Herron Island calendar, you can also pick them up at this time. Please make a note, though: checks or cash only accepted, so come prepared...

Friday, December 3 we will be holding our festive **Wreath-Making Workshop**. This 'party' lasts as long as people are working, but don't show up too late—we need time to clean up the community center when we are finished!

Continued on page 6

2022 HERRON ISLAND CALENDARS The Perfect Holiday Gift!

2022 HI Calendar: \$15.00

Please call and arrange to pick yours up on the island.
Mailing available upon request; cost of postage will be added to price.

Contact:
Robin Kelly
Robin.kelly712@gmail.com
253-884-1883

Cash or checks made out to "Herron Island Boosters"*

Get yours today, before they run out!

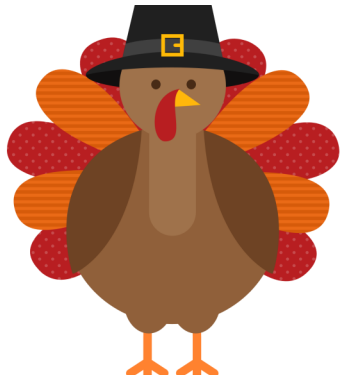


Monthly Message continued from page 5

This has become a traditional Boosters get-together and a great chance to meet your neighbors. We hope you can join us for a chance to make something unique and beautiful for your home—or perhaps for the home of a friend!

Saturday, January 8 is our tentative date for our next **Potluck and Boosters Meeting**. Two positions will be open on the officers' slate. Please think about putting your name in for consideration...

We are hoping to gradually get back to having more of our Boosters activities, providing that we can do so safely. Hope to see you at the first get-together of 2022. It's always fun to start a new year with good ideas and enthusiasm! ●



GET THE LATEST SCOOP!

If you want to get the most up-to-date info on Booster-sponsored events, meetings, or volunteer opportunities, get on our email list!

Please send an email to robin.kelly712@gmail.com and request that your email address be added.

This will be used for BOOSTERS purposes only.

HOLIDAY WREATH-MAKING PARTY

WHEN: Friday, December 3 at 9:00am
WHERE: Herron Island Community Center
WHO: All members, kids of all ages, visiting friends—no creative talent is required, just enthusiasm!
SUGGESTIONS OF WHAT TO BRING:

- Gloves
- Wire cutters
- Hot glue gun
- Green garden wire
- Hand foliage cutters for shaping materials
- Various decorations for your wreaths (ribbons, etc.)
- Metal wreath hoops (can be purchased at Michaels)
- Misc. greenery, interesting branch limbs, and pine cones to use and/or share
- Ornaments (plastic only) to donate to the Boosters, used to decorate the island



We also encourage folks to bring a plate of finger-food snacks to share.

AFTER-PARTY: Take a bag of Christmas ornaments to hang on the roadside tree limbs, signs, or huckleberry bushes near your property!

This is always a fun get-together. Hope you can join us for the chance to make something creative and beautiful for your island home—or even for the home of a friend!

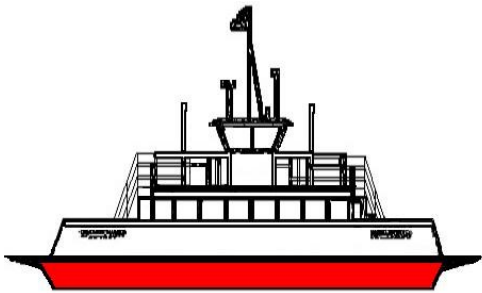
CONTACT:
Dana Gruber / Cynthia Estlund
253-363-5213 / 253-632-9941
walogcabin@yahoo.com

****COVID social distancing and masks will be observed****

Happy Holidays!

Ferry Corner

A trip on the *Charlie Wells* is a special thing for Herron Islanders and their guests! Please do your part to make it a safe one by following the tips outlined below.



- **Fill out guest passes completely.** Incomplete passes will not be taken, causing the holder to wait for boarding—potentially on the next ferry run!
- **One car on the ramp** at a time. Speed limit on ramp is 5 mph. Do not leave ramp until motioned aboard by the crew.
- **Stay off the phone.** We appreciate your full attention as you board the ferry. Pay special attention as you drive down the ramp onto the ferry or when turning to load on an outside lane. The crew will point to the lane you should be in and guide by indicating if you need to move a little left or right.
- **Turn off the engine** and set parking brake once loaded.
- **Do not start your engine** until guided by the crew.
- **Turn off all vehicle lights** while on the pier, ramp, or ferry, while loading or unloading. Lights make it difficult for the crew to see!

The ferry is governed by the United States Coast Guard and the Master of the Vessel (the Captain) is in charge at all times. If you are not paying attention to the rules and guidance in the policies, or the signs on the ferry, the crew will direct you to pay attention. There is no time to challenge the crew; if you wish to report a problem please email the Island Manager at HMCManager@herronisland.org.

The ferry crew’s instructions must be followed at all times. At the captain’s sole discretion, driver or passenger behavior may prevent them from boarding the ferry or cause them to be removed from the ferry. The captain may choose to contact the Sheriff’s Department for assistance.

Alcohol, cigarettes, vapes, and similar products may not be used on the ramps or on board the ferry. Vehicle drivers and passengers must remain inside their vehicle while vehicles are loading or unloading from the ferry. They must return to their vehicles prior to docking. The same rule applies to motorcycle riders and passengers.

The ultimate responsibility for safely loading your vehicle is in your hands. Please review the last page of the ferry schedule for additional rules required for all passengers.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation! ●

TIPS FOR SMOOTH SAILING

- **Call ahead** if you are planning to use the ferry for a trailer, boat, or large vehicle!
- **Plan ahead** and arrive at the dock at least 5 minutes before the scheduled time of departure.
- **Walks-ons** are not allowed on the dock or ramp while cars are being loaded. Watch crew for permission to board.
- **Bring exact payment.** Only service and delivery people may charge fares.
- **All visiting parties must have a ferry guest pass***—vendors, service people, guests, and visitors alike. Be sure to fill it out completely before boarding!

**Our ferry guest pass system is part of our current Ferry Access Policy ([found on the website here](#)) and was put in place for all of our security. Please make sure your guest has a valid—signed—guest pass to ensure they are able to ride the ferry. Blank guest passes are available to members at the office, by mail, and on the ferry.*

HMC Contact Info

Island Manager Jane Wooster HMCManager@herronisland.org

HMC Board of Directors

Scott Young	President	President@herronisland.org
Dave Hancock	Vice-President	VicePresident@herronisland.org
Sherry Hayman	Treasurer	Treasurer@herronisland.org
Karen Ducharme	Secretary	Secretary@herronisland.org
Jim Davies	Member-at-Large	BoardMember@herronisland.org

Additional Contacts

Sherry Hayman	Finance Committee	
Dan Marten	Roads Committee	HMCRoads@herronisland.org
Mike Fassio	Rules Committee	HMCRules@herronisland.org
Tracy Anspach	Parks Committee	
Ken Higgins	Emergency Preparedness	
Sherri Anderson	Small Boat Docks	
Carolyn Snyder	Office Manager	Office@herronisland.org
Meghan Sanford	Beachcomber	Beachcomber@herronisland.org
HMC Reception	HMC Calendar	Reception@herronisland.org
Josh Roppo	Webmaster	Webmaster@herronisland.org

Misc. Contact Info

Member Input email: MemberInput@herronisland.org
Emergency: 911
Ferry Cell: (253) 691-1457
**Cell phone to be used for scheduling heavy loads, big vehicles or having something in tow, and for information regarding ferry services.*

Office Hours

Monday	closed
Tuesday	8:30am-4:30pm
Wednesday	closed
Thursday	8:30am-4:30pm
Friday*	8:30am-4:30pm
Saturday	closed
Sunday	closed

Office Info

Phone: (253) 884-9350
Fax: (253) 884-5047
Email: office@herronisland.org

**Closes at 2:00pm on Fridays before Board meetings.*

www.herronisland.org

THE BEACHCOMBER PUBLICATION

Submissions

- HMC Board Meetings: 2nd Saturday of every month
- Beachcomber Submissions Due: Wednesdays after each Board Meeting, by 5:00pm

Paid ads to be arranged with the HMC office prior to publication.
Please include your name and phone number with your submission to beachcomber@herronisland.org.

Published monthly, except Feb/Oct/Dec

Feedback? Photography? Questions?

Are you a Committee Chair who wants to advertise an upcoming meeting or work party?
Did you take a great island picture you're just dying to share?
Or do you just want to give a little feedback and tell us how we're doing?
WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!
beachcomber@herronisland.org

Find these documents on our website:

[Ferry Schedule](#)
[2021 Cancellations](#)

SUMMER FERRY SCHEDULE - APRIL 1 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30													
MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY	
IS	ML	IS	ML	IS	ML	IS	ML	IS	ML	IS	ML	IS	ML
6:15	7:00	6:15	7:00	6:15	7:00	6:15	7:00	6:15	7:00				
7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00
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5:30	6:00	5:30	6:00	5:30	6:00	5:30	6:00	***	***	5:30	6:00	5:30	6:00
6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00
								7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00
								8:30	9:00				
*** ferry will not operate during these times to allow for mandatory crew breaks. This includes shuttle runs.													
HOLIDAY SCHEDULES - SUMMER													
Memorial Day, Independence Day and Labor Day run on the Sunday schedule.													

WINTER FERRY SCHEDULE - OCTOBER 1 THROUGH MARCH 31													
MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY	
IS	ML	IS	ML	IS	ML	IS	ML	IS	ML	IS	ML	IS	ML
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								8:30	9:00				
HOLIDAY SCHEDULES - WINTER													
Thanksgiving		8:30am - 9:00am		11:30am - noon		6:30pm - 7:00pm							
Christmas Day		8:30am - 9:00am				6:30pm - 7:00pm							
New Years Day		8:30am - 9:00am		11:30am - noon		6:30pm - 7:00pm							

NOTE: Check for low tide ferry cancellations. They are posted on the HMC website.
Reservations must be made with the ferry when towing or a vehicle exceeds 25 feet prior to arrival.
Ferry Cell Phone: 253-691-1457

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

If you wish to file a Civil Rights complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint form, found online at:

www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html

It can also be found at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested on the form.

Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at:

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Director, Office of Adjudication
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410

Or fax to (202) 690-7442 or email to program.intake@usda.gov.