Kensington
Around Town
October/November 2012

CALENDAR

Town Offices Closed
Mon., Nov. 12th
Veterans Day

Town Council Meeting
Mon., Nov. 19th 7pm

Town Offices Closed
Thurs., Nov. 22nd
Thanksgiving

Town Offices Closed
Fri., Nov. 23rd
American Indian Heritage Day

Christmas Tree & Menorah Lighting
Sun., Dec. 9th 5:30pm
Town Hall

Town Council Meeting
Mon., Dec. 10th 7pm

For up to date information:
www.tok.md.gov

Leaf Collection Schedule
Pages 6—7

Autumn Glory Town Picnic

The Town would like to thank everyone who joined us last month for the Autumn Glory Town Picnic. This was a great event that we were all happy to see return after a four year hiatus, and look forward to reestablishing the yearly picnic tradition again next year. A special thank you to Judy Beach-Uhlman, Barrie Carr, Tracey Furman, Susan Gerson, Stowe Teti, and Detta Voesar for planning the picnic.

Curb and Leash Law

The Town would like to remind all residents that you are required to curb and leash your dog while within public recreation areas, specifically Town Parks. The Town does have the authority to issue citations to those that violate the leash and curbing code, which may warrant a $45 fine. Wheaton Dog Park is available for you to take your pets where they may exercise off-leash.

11710 Orebaugh Avenue

Section 7-502. Owners Responsible for Curbing of Animals

(a) Pet owners shall clean up and properly dispose of their pet’s excrement when it is deposited on public property where people walk or congregate or on private property other than that of the owner.

(b) It shall be unlawful for any person to allow his or her dog to be on school grounds or public recreation areas when people are present unless such a dog is on a leash and under the immediate control of a responsible person.

(c) A violation of this Section shall be a Class G municipal infraction subject to the penalty prescribed in Chapter X of this Code.
I attended the **Town Picnic** on Sunday, September 23rd and had a great time with about 175 guests. Special thank you to all of the volunteers – especially Barrie Carr, Judy Beach-Ulman, Stowe Teti, Susan Gerson, Katie Rangos, Al Lacey, Detta Voesar, Tracey Furman and staff member Jason Swain. Thank you to Curtis at the Mid-Atlantic Professional DJ Association for the donation of their music services. Also thank you to the KVFD for their entertainment and fire trucks for the kids; as well as St. Paul’s Methodist Church for use of their kitchen to keep the food.

The new **tree lights** along Antique Row look fantastic; phase two will include Armory, Fawcett and Montgomery Avenues next fall.

On October 14th I had the honor of attending the opening of the **St. Paul’s Pumpkin Patch**, in which proceeds will be used to help the hungry in our 20895 community and their overseas ministries.

I was a host at the 40th Anniversary Celebration for **Interfaith Works**; area restaurants donated different soups for a soup kitchen theme event; proceeds are also going towards the hungry in our community.

Earlier in October I attended the annual **MML Fall Conference** in Hagerstown; the most beneficial and interesting session was that of Social Networking; If you have not joined, please become a fan of **Kensington’s Facebook page**: https://www.facebook.com/#!/ExploreKensingtonMD?fref=ts.

Special thank you to Town resident **Harley Higgins** who continues to volunteer and provide extremely useful and important TOK history information to the Council and Staff.

The Town Council continues to explore the option of creating a **shelter like facility** at Town Hall for emergencies such as storms and power outages; the cost of a generator to provide air conditioning and heat, as well as lighting, would be a major expense.

The **Sector Plan** was approved last spring and the Zoning Text Amendment (ZTA) allowing partial credit for development near the MARC Train Station was approved last month; as well as the Sectional Map Amendment for the Sector Plan; this completes the final steps after a long 5 year process; we now begin the task of finalizing the Design Guidelines, led by Council Members Furman and Barch, in addition to attracting interested builders and developers to Kensington; key areas ready for change will be Metropolitan Avenue and west of Connecticut Avenue, between Plyers Mill and Farragut Avenues.

Please be sure to join us for the annual **Christmas Tree and Menorah Lighting** on Sunday, December 9th at 5:30pm; hot cider, carolers and a visit from Santa Claus should not be missed—additional info on page 8.
**From Town Manager Daily**

- Leaf collection has started and the PW crew will be working through early December to collect leaves. Additional info is available on pages 6 and 7.
- You might have noticed a new Ford F-550 being used around Town. The Town purchased the new truck in September to replace our 1995 and 1998 dump trucks. The dump trucks will be sold by government auction.
- The Town has finalized our agreement with the State Highway Administration for the purchase of salt for this winter season.
- The Town’s auditor, Linton Shafer Warfield & Garrett, recently completed our yearly audit. The Audit Committee will review the report in December.
- The Town incurred minimal damage in the wake of Hurricane Sandy, however we did have to remove three trees that uprooted.
- The fence along the back parking lot of Town Hall was replaced in October.
- The Town is looking to replace the roof at Town Hall as we have a number of leaks.

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**Town Permits**

- 10339 Kensington Parkway Sign
- 10605 Concord Street Building Permit
- 10318 Fawcett Street Bond
- 3511 Plyers Mill Ct. Washington Gas
- 3790 Armory Avenue Washington Gas
- 10035 Frederick Avenue Addition
- 10718 St. Paul Street Fence & Retaining Wall
September 24, 2012—Mayor Fosselman, Council Members Furman, McMullen, and Thompson, Town Manager Daily, Clerk-Treasurer Engels, and Assistant Town Manager Hoffman were present. Council Member Barch was necessarily absent. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a Moment of Silence observed for Roger Ashland.

From the Mayor & Town Council - The Mayor reported he testified at the County Council in favor of the ZTA 12-06 Amendments; attended the PHED Committee Meeting on ZTA 12-06; attended the Planning Board Meeting approving the Sector Plan Sectional Map Amendment; decorative street lights will be professionally installed by the end of next month; thanked volunteers and sponsors for the 8K Race; the on-site meeting for the tennis court will be at 9:30 a.m. this Saturday at St. Paul Park; and thanked Delegate Carr for being one of the sponsors for the Marriage Equality Event and thanked all that supported the event which raised $18,000.

Council Member McMullen thanked the Town Crew along with volunteers and sponsors for the 8K Race; and he suggested the trash and recycling schedule be reviewed since some Residents have indicated they would rather have more recycling than trash collections.

Council Member Thompson reported he has been placing traffic cones on Lexington, St. Paul, and Perry to deter cut through traffic, he is still waiting for the police agreement to be finalized; and attended the Marriage Equality Event at Town Hall.

Council Member Furman reported she attended the Planning Board Meeting on the Sector Plan Sectional Map Amendment, attended 3rd Thursday Event, which is growing thanks to Elisenda Sola-Sole and Maier Warner; the Design Guidelines Task Force met, the next meeting will be announced as soon as a date is set; attended the Marriage Equality Event which was a great event; and thanked the Town on behalf of St. Paul’s Church for use of the park for the pumpkin patch.

Delegate Carr along with his Legislative Aide, Jennifer Smith, were present. Delegate Carr discussed possible state legislation to be introduced by the Montgomery County Delegation to restore a single polling location for residents in Town, to allow camera monitoring of time limit restrictions, and to allow wine tastings.

Delegate Carr stated he has drafted a bill, MC 1-13, to allow the Board of Elections to restore the Town to a single polling location; the Bill effects the Board of Education elections; and a hearing will be held in Rockville on December 3rd. Peter Bartram spoke in support of restoring a single polling location.

Delegate Carr stated legislation for camera monitoring would give municipalities and local governments in Montgomery County the option of automated enforcement for time restrictions and be modeled after legislation
passed for Baltimore City for truck heights. Alan Simon expressed concerns over reliability of stop sign cameras; Delegate Carr clarified the legislation was only for time restrictions; Peter Bartram stated cameras are needed at intersections for pedestrian safety; and Lori Simmons and Al Lacey commented that people are not stopping at the stop signs at the Howard and Montgomery, along with Knowles and Armory intersections. The Mayor stated Phase II of the intersection improvements at Howard and Montgomery Avenue need to be done to slow traffic which will be added to the next agenda for discussion.

Delegate Carr stated Rob Cooper, owner of Old Town Market, has requested wine tastings; he explained a state law would have to be passed to allow wine tastings and requested guidance from the Town on drafting a bill. Rob Cooper spoke in support of wine tastings and also requested reconsideration of allowing singles or refrigeration. Council Member Thompson will work with Mr. Cooper to determine options for a bill. Lori Simmons spoke in support of wine tastings.

Resolutions to support legislation for a single polling location, camera monitoring, and wine tastings will be put on the October 22nd agenda.

Public Appearances – Peter Bartram suggested pedestrian crosswalk signs in Town be changed to include more effective state law language; and Leslie Olson questioned whether there were any new updates on safety measures for Metropolitan Avenue. The Mayor stated the Town will continue to pursue options with SHA to improve safety on Metropolitan Avenue.

From the Town Manager and Staff -The damaged backstop at St. Paul Park was discussed. The Council suggested getting feedback from residents during the on-site tennis court meeting to see if there is sufficient use of the backstop.

Ordinances, Resolutions, and Regulations – Resolution R-23-2012 authorizing an agreement between the Town and SHA to permit the Town to obtain salt from SHA during snow emergencies was discussed. The Council concurred to approve the Resolution but suggested the Town Manager wait to sign it until the Mayor contacts SHA to see if any other agreement can be reached since the Town currently maintains the median on Connecticut Avenue for SHA in exchange for salt during storms.

Resolution R-24-2012 Proclaiming November as Municipal Government Works Month in Kensington was discussed.

Council Actions:
Council Member Thompson moved to approve the minutes from the September 10, 2012 Town Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member McMullen moved to adopt Resolution R-23-2012 to authorize the Town Manager to sign an agreement between the Town and the Maryland State Highway Administration, in substantially the form attached, to permit the Town to obtain salt from SHA during snow emergencies. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Thompson moved to adopt Resolution R-24-2012 proclaiming November to be Municipal Government Works Month in Kensington. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Thompson moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.
The Town began its 2012 Leafing Schedule on Monday, October 29th. The Town has been divided into three zones that are depicted on page 7 of the Journal to help you determine when you should expect to see your leaves collected. The Public Works Crew will begin each day in the designated zone for that week and will move to the other two zones each day, if time permits. Therefore, it is possible that your leaves will be collected outside of your designated week. The zones are specified to allow for you to gauge when best to begin raking your leaves to the curb for pickup.

If you wish to bag your leaves, please place them in a standard yard-waste bag prior to our weekly brush collection on Tuesdays. If you decide to use a container to place your leaves out for brush pickup, please clearly mark the container as yard trim. Do not place your leaves in plastic trash bags.

Finally, we ask that you do not rake the leaves directly into the street, but rather, to the curb. Do not park adjacent to the piles of leaves as this makes it very difficult for the crew to get to them.

If you have any questions, please contact the Town staff at 301-949-2424.

Let’s hear it for Third Thursday! With our encouragement, merchants on Howard and Armory Avenues stepped it up a notch to make Third Thursday a successful event in the Town of Kensington. The newest store, Gala, showed its creative wares with a glass-blowing demonstration next to Frankly Pizza. The Kensington Row Bookshop hosted a book author and a chess challenge. There was live music by Greg Dillon on the street and 20 merchants opened their doors late to offer events and discounts for the evening. We posted new Kensington Third Thursday Night Out stickers in the storefronts of each merchant that participated in Third Thursday, and hope to include more new stores each month.

Our Facebook postings are quite popular as we now have almost 300 fans following our Explore Kensington page. Our most popular posting in October was for Third Thursday with 171 views. We continue to get more hits on our website, reaching a record 66,813 in September! Merchants are now reaching out to us to post events through Explore Kensington.

We also had the opportunity to appear at a recent meeting of the Mayor and Council to share this progress and the growing enthusiasm among the Town’s merchants.

What’s in store for the holiday season? We are going to create a holiday shopping guide for Kensington merchants. We are asking storeowners to send us a picture of their finest goods to put in an Eblast in November and again in December, to coordinate with Third Thursday.
ZONE 1 Oct. 29th—Nov. 2nd; Nov. 19th—Nov. 23rd

ZONE 2 Nov. 5th—Nov. 9th; Nov. 26th—Nov. 30th

ZONE 3 Nov. 12th—Nov. 16th; Dec. 3rd—Dec. 7th
Kensington’s Third Thursday Night Out
Thursday, November 15 from 5-8pm

Please join the businesses of Kensington for an exciting night out where the merchants keep their doors open late to offer you entertainment, promotions and fun!

Kensington Chess Master, Allan Savage, will play 3-4 opponents at once between 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm at the Kensington Row Bookshop between. Those interested in challenging Allan, are welcome to play for free.

www.savagechess.com/

Go to www.ExploreKensington.com to see all that’s happening in the month of November.

Town Christmas Tree & Menorah Lighting
Please join the Town on Sunday, December 9th for the lighting of our Town Christmas Tree and Menorah. The festivities begin at 5:30 pm with the official lightings at 6:00 pm. There will be warm cider and cookies, along with caroling from the Kensington Arts Theatre and a visit from the Kensington Volunteer Fire Department and Santa Claus at 6:00 pm.

When It Snows . . .
The Town requires all of its residents and businesses to clear a path on the sidewalk in front of their properties within 24 hours of each snow fall. If a path has not been cleared within 24 hours, a notice will be sent to the resident or business reminding them it needs to be done. If a path still has not been cleared within 24 hours of the notice, a citation will be issued—$65 for residential and $195 for businesses. Businesses are reminded NOT to pile the snow at sidewalk corners or block pedestrian right-of-ways.

Exceptions: residential sidewalks located on Conn., Summit and Knowles Avenues will be cleared by the Town.

If you are traveling during the winter months, please make arrangements before leaving to have someone clear your sidewalk.

EXPLOREKENSINGTON.COM

Kensington Farmers Market
The Kensington Farmers Market is one of the few markets open during the winter. Sixteen of our summer season vendors are staying this winter and we expect 2 new winter only vendors to start in the next few weeks. We will continue sending weekly vendor updates on Kensington and look forward to seeing all of you this winter.
Thanksgiving: A Personal Reflection

For many years, Thanksgiving has been spent around a very bountiful table; at my parents home, my own house with Alberta, or now most recently with my friends in Pennsylvania. It is not about the food which I partake of; rather, drawing together in fellowship with family and close friends. A sharing of fellowship, love for one another and a bond much deeper, stronger and giving thanks for every blessing which my Creator and Lord has bestowed graciously upon me.

As I share with others my heart, spirit, laughter and love I am also mindful of reaching out and giving of what God has given me to bring to the folks who perhaps might be lacking in one way or another. As this season of warmth and caring comes again this year I reach my soul, spirit, love and life forward to those in an extended community and say in whole-hearted love; God care about you deeply and so do I!

~
Richard H. Rice
Town Poet Laureate
THIRD THURSDAY! THIRD THURSDAY! THIRD THURSDAY! THIRD THURSDAY!

Please join the businesses along Howard Avenue the Third Thursday of each month for great specials.

Thursday, November 15th! Thursday, November 15th! Thursday, November 15th! Thursday, November 15th!

For more information, please visit: www.facebook.com/KtownThirdThursday