

Kensington Around Town



**November
December
2023**



Please join us for the 3rd annual Light Up KTown



Friday, December 1, 2023 • 6:30 - 7:30PM
Howard Avenue Park | 3716 Howard Avenue

To kick off the holiday season, please join us for hot adult beverages, hot cider and hot chocolate, s'mores by the fire pits, music, and merry making!

The lighting ceremony will begin at 6:45 pm. There will be a brief announcement for Town residents about the home decorating award contest categories and rules. Get in the spirit and enter by 12/16 to win the Griswold, Winter Wonderland, It's a Wonderful Life or Traffic Stopper decorating awards! We will also be voting on the best storefront decoration of our cherished Kensington business community.

Thank you to our KTown Light Up sponsors Kyle Richards of Compass Real Estate, and SW7.

For more information about the contest categories and rules, please visit:

[KtownLadies.org/event-details/ktown-house-business-decorating-contest-registration](https://ktownladies.org/event-details/ktown-house-business-decorating-contest-registration).

Thank you to Kyle Richards and the KTown Ladies for sponsoring the House Decorating Contest.



KENSINGTON

ANTIQUE ROW

ON HOWARD AVENUE

**Holiday
Open House**

**Friday, December 1st,
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.**

Fall Leaf Pick-up Schedule

The Town will begin its annual leaf collection Monday, November 6, which runs through Friday, December 15. There are no scheduled collection zones, as the Public Works Crew will monitor each street on a daily basis.

Please gather leaves **INSIDE THE CURB** as shown with a green check.

Please **DO NOT** put leaf piles in the streets. **DO NOT** include grass clippings, mulch, twigs, or small branches within leaf piles, as this may damage our leaf vacuum. If your leaf pile contains any materials besides leaves, the Crew will not collect your pile, and you will be responsible for bagging the leaves on your own.



YES!

THANK YOU!

NO!

No leaf piles in streets
No branches or trash



Upcoming Events

NOVEMBER

24th Noyes @StoryWalk

Through Nov 12 • Dawn to Dusk

Town Council Meeting

Wed, Nov 8 • 7pm-8:30pm

Thanksgiving Town Dance

Wed, Nov 22 • 7-11pm

For all Town events visit:

TOK.md.gov/events



DECEMBER

Light Up KTown | Fri, December 1 | 6:30-7:30pm

Antique Row Holiday Open House | Fri, December 1 | 7-9pm

Pancake Breakfast | Sat, December 2 | 8-10:30am

Christmas Tree Lighting | Sun, December 3 | 5:30 pm

Menorah Lighting | Thu, December 7 | 5-6pm

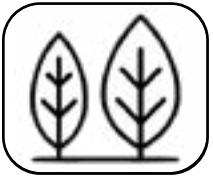
KVFD Breakfast with Santa | Sat, December 9 | 8:30-12:30

Caroling Around the Fountain | Thu, December 21 | 7-8pm

Ugly Sweater Party BabyCat | Fri, December 22 | 6-11pm



Greenscape Committee



Stormwater: keep it clean, slow it down, soak it in!

The Greenscape Committee's primary focus recently has been on our trees. We hope you have noticed the many new trees planted throughout town that replaced those lost to storm damage, utilities management, and disease as well as the work done by the Weed Warriors in our parks. Storms are becoming ever more intense and frequent, and trees are a crucial component for stormwater management. Leaf canopies prevent erosion from falling rain, provide a large surface area for water to collect on and evaporate from, roots take up water and help water infiltrate into the soil. When stormwater cannot soak into the ground and runs directly from hard surfaces on our buildings, roads, sidewalks and driveways into storm drains it carries dead leaves and other organic matter, heavy metals, pathogens, and trash directly into our watershed and from Silver Creek to the Potomac and the Chesapeake Bay.

What can we do to help? Keeping dead leaves out of stormwater is one way with proven benefits to the homeowner, the environment and our watershed. Using the leaves as mulch in your own yard is ideal for improving soil health, providing food, nesting materials and habitat for insects, reptiles, mammals and birds. Similarly, mulching leaves directly into the lawn as you mow is great for your lawn. If you compost at home, leaves provide the carbon-rich "browns" for a balanced and healthy compost pile. If you have more leaves than you can manage, one of the benefits of living in the Town of Kensington is the weekly leaf pick-up that begins in late fall. The collected leaves are composted by Montgomery County. During fall season here are a few more ways you can help keep our stormwater clean:

- Rake leaves from hard surfaces, such as garden paths and sidewalks, and compost naturally in your garden beds
- Sweep or blow grass cuttings from hard surfaces and place on lawn or compost
- Pick up litter and keep street gutters free of leaves and twigs
- Adopt a storm drain and remove litter, leaves, and twigs from the opening
- Pick up pet waste in biodegradable bags and dispose of in the trash
- Do not pile leaves in the street for town leaf collection

These small efforts do make a difference in reducing stormwater pollution!

Katherine Wood | Greenscape Committee

Prevent Theft From Your Vehicle



Remove all valuables from seats, dashboard and floor.

**Phone • Purse • Wallet • Backpack • Electronics
Money • Briefcase • Computer • Keys**



**Vehicle doors locked • Valuables out of sight
Park in well-lit areas if possible**

Kensington Historical Society



The Kensington Historical Society was certainly busy this year with a successful Saturday Concert season, a vibrant Speaker Series and, of course, the exciting celebration of the 150th Anniversary of The Met Line culminating in the excursion ride.

In January 2024 the KHS speaker series will kick-off with an introduction on how to take advantage of the state and county historic preservation tax credits. If you live in the Historic District and own property, commercial or residential identified as historic or non-historic, you don't want to miss this meeting.

As a culmination of the 150th anniversary celebration we are awaiting the final program from Montgomery Municipal Cable which will be a compilation of all the events they filmed throughout the year up and down the Met Line. This program will be available to all municipalities and historic societies who were involved in this unique event as well as being provided to various other organizations like the educational system, libraries and such, so it can be used in curriculum or for enjoyment. MMC is a great partner of the Town and KHS, but this was a special effort by them for which we are very grateful.

The article elsewhere in this Journal describes the work that's being done by the Town in the Town Archives and announces the hiring of the Town Archivist. KHS couldn't be more pleased to see the Town make this commitment to ensure the future of the Archives. Longtime KHS members who started the archives effort can be assured that their legacy is honored and the work will continue.

Thank you, Town of Kensington.

Kensington Historical Society 2024 Membership Renewal

It's time to renew your KHS membership, so if you....

- Live in the Historic District
- Support Historic Preservation
- Enjoy the Saturday Summer Concert Series in the Howard Ave Park
- Visited the yearly Train Show
- Attended one of KHS's Speaker Series Events
- Participated in a 150th Metropolitan Branch of the B&O Railroad Celebration event

You should renew your membership **TODAY!** KensingtonHistory.org/become-a-member

Building & Town Permits

Please be reminded that both a Town and County permit are needed for any interior or exterior structural changes, with the exception of landscaping and general repairs. Historic District properties will also require a Historic Area Work Permit (HAWP). Please contact the Town staff at 301-949-2424 with any questions.

3518 Perry Avenue - Washington Gas
10209 Summit Avenue - Addition
3612 Dupont Avenue - Dumpster

3514 Decatur Avenue - New Construction
10590 Metropolitan Ave-Illuminated Wall Sign
10620 Connecticut Avenue - ROW
3805 Calvert Place - Addition
10602 Lexington Court - Addition
10701 St. Paul Street - Dumpster
3924 Prospect Street - ROW
10541 Connecticut Avenue - ROW
10520 Wheatley Street - Addition
10408 Montgomery Ave - Interior Alteration

Kensington Town Archives



The Town of Kensington is excited to update Town residents on recent events in the Archives. As you know, the Town has embarked on a long-term project to create a professional environment for the Archives which will ensure that the records of our Town history will be preserved for the future.

The best news is that the Town Archivist, Lisa Carney, started work the first week of October. Lisa has her Masters in Library and Information Science (the master's degree program for archivists) from UMD as well as a PhD in Spanish Language, Literature and Culture! She will bring all the skills and experience needed to the Kensington Archives. A meet-the-archivist event will be scheduled soon. Lisa will be available in the archives (now first floor meeting room) from 10:00 – 2:00 Monday thru Thursday. Her email is archives@tok.md.gov.

Lisa's responsibilities will include establishing all necessary policies and procedures for collection management. In addition, she is over-seeing the design and renovation of the new Archives facility and prepping the current collections for reinstallation in the space. Readying the collection will be very involved as everything will need to be processed and organized so that our collection will be well preserved and accessible to historians, researchers and interested residents. While the current collections are being organized, we will work to develop a collections policy to guide the growth of the Archives.

The Archives room in Town Hall has been emptied of all the archives material which has been moved to temporary work space. Next, the room was cleared out of all furniture and fixtures so that renovation of the room can be done from the ground up. It is important for an archives facility to be housed in a location where there is appropriate environment control and that the equipment and work space conform to archival standards. A thorough assessment is being done of the environment to determine what remediation and renovation needs to be done. While the work is going on all the archives collection will be accessible in its temporary space.

The purpose of the Town Archives is to preserve its collections but also engage with the community so that the interesting material about our Town is shared with the public through engagement with all Town organizations and initiatives.

The Archivist cannot do this alone. We plan to build a volunteer core of those interested in the Archives to work with Lisa on managing the collection. Additionally, we plan to have a cadre of interns in the UMB MLIS programs work on projects with us.

This initiative would not be possible without the commitment of the Town of Kensington and the vision of key individuals and the Kensington Historical Society. The efforts to collect and store information about our Town set the stage for this exciting phase of the Archives history. We appreciate all that dedication and work and plan to honor that when the Archives is formally reopened.



The Town is once again a **Toys-For-Tots** drop-off location this holiday season. Inside Town Hall, you'll find a donation box for new, unwrapped toys.

*Donation hours are Monday through Friday 8 am - 4 pm
Wednesday, November 1 through Thursday, December 14
Kensington Town Hall, 3710 Mitchell Street*

Toy donations will also be accepted during:

Christmas Tree Lighting | Sunday, December 3 • 5:30 pm
Menorah Lighting | Thursday, December 7 | 6pm

Sustainable Kensington



Kensington Awarded Bronze-level Certification from Sustainable Maryland

We are proud to announce that the Town of Kensington was awarded Bronze Certification by Sustainable Maryland. This award recognizes tangible actions in specific categories which lead to creating a sustainable community. Visit [TOK.md.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/KTown-Sustainable-MD-Award.pdf](https://tok.md.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/KTown-Sustainable-MD-Award.pdf) to

read the press release announcing the award.

The Sustainable Kensington team, chaired by Council members Nate Engle and Ann Lichter, formed in late 2022 and immediately took to the task of documenting what had been done to date in Town that met the Sustainable Maryland requirements as well as identifying additional actions we could pursue as a community. For example, we were able to document how the Town supports shopping locally at our Farmer's Market, encourages composting and removal of pet waste, and recently established electric vehicle charging stations. The Sustainable Kensington team was also able to support new efforts, such as measuring out municipal carbon footprint and creating the Weed Warriors effort to save the tree canopy along Silver Creek, and include those in our Bronze Certification application. In six short months, through the diligent efforts of committee members and Town staff Alex Marini and Matt Hoffman the very detailed application was completed and submitted

There are 157 incorporated towns and cities in Maryland. Of those entities, 54%, or 89, of those entities participate in the Sustainable Maryland Program. Of those 89 there are 41 municipalities that have received certification from Sustainable Maryland. Of those - 31 have achieved Bronze Certification. Kensington is in good company with our neighbors in Takoma Park, Glen Echo, Rockville, Poolesville and Gaithersburg.

What comes next? Well – we believe that Kensington can achieve Silver (the highest) Certification and will compile the results of all our forthcoming efforts to achieve that goal. The Sustainable Kensington team has established a three-year Action Plan that identifies priorities, informed by the community-wide survey we conducted in February 2023.

Now is the time to join a project team working on issues that are important to YOU! So, think about sharing your time and talent with one of our project teams.

Some of the areas of focus identified in the survey results and included in our Action Plan are:

- Watershed protection (Silver Creek, Rock Creek)
- Storm-water management improvements
- Habitat creation for all living creatures by looking to become a Bee City, establishing insect hotels and pollinator habitats as well as linking up with other programs such as Bay Wise and the National Wildlife Federation.
- Improve Municipal energy use by means such as solar panels on Town Hall and becoming a resilience hub
- Bike and pedestrian plan implementation (linked with the Town's Pedestrian and Bicycling Access and Safety Working Group)
- Further develop the sustainable resource center for use by all Town residents and business owners
- Reduce waste and expand composting options

Sustainable Kensington

These project areas will be led by members of the Sustainable Kensington Committee. If you are interested, please contact Nate Engle at council.engle@tok.md.gov and Ann Lichter at council.lichter@tok.md.gov and they will connect you with the right individuals so you can get more details. If you do not see a project that aligns with your interests, let us know and we can discuss how we might address it. We are a multi-generational group and want to have the project teams represent all sectors of Kensington. We would like to see schools, places of worship, businesses and housing communities participate. Please join us. We can make a difference!

Sustainable Kensington Committee Members

Ken Amaditz
Kate DeWitt
Nate Engle
Karen Fadely Craig

Amy Johnson
Benjamin Levy
Ann Lichter
Olwen Logan

Carolyn Morrissey
Penny Veerhoff
Daphne Wegner
Katherine Wood

Pictured: Carolyn Morrissey, Mayor Tracey Furman, Council Members Ann Lichter and Nate Engle



Sustainable Kensington Volunteer



Volunteer Spotlight: Daphne Wegner, Sustainable Kensington

Daphne Wegner, a senior at Walter Johnson High School, is an active participant in the Town's Sustainable Kensington Committee. We caught up with Daphne to learn more about what inspired her to get involved.

What made you decide to join the Sustainable Kensington Committee?

I'm interested in government, and I wanted to be part of the town, and I also care about the environment. I thought that working on these issues in my town could be the fastest and easiest way to make changes. I get to see the impact in my own community.

What has been rewarding about being involved in your Town?

Being able to help out. For example, I helped create a survey that went out to the town and I saw everyone get the survey and fill it out, and we used it to collect data to decide what actions we will take in the town.

What's been different about being part of a Town Committee?

Lots of communication - emailing, and coming up with ideas, sharing ideas. It's different than a classroom setting. In the classroom you aren't really asked about your ideas that much, but in a committee, you're sitting at a table and you have to share your opinions and listen to everyone else's opinions, and also have a say in what we will do.

What would you like other students to know about participating in a Town Committee?

I think they need to know they have the option to help and work in their town. It's not something that just adults can do, students can do it too. A lot of kids don't realize they have the ability to make change in their community.

What do you think you will take away from this experience?

I'm capable of doing so much more than I thought I could. I can do a lot to help a town committee. I've also gained a lot of professional skills, for example working with adults and with a group.

Volunteer! The Town has several committees that are seeking volunteers:

- Sustainable Kensington
- Pedestrian and Bicycling Access & Safety Working Group
- Greenscape Committee
- Kensington Racial Justice Committee

If you'd like to learn more about these or other volunteer opportunities in the Town, please email: Town@tok.md.gov.



Kensington Art Walk

Two new installations were added to Kensington's Art Walk in October, making a total of 22 art stops throughout Town. Let your phone guide you as you walk, bike, or drive to each work of art. Visit: TOK.md.gov/kensington-art-walk-tour.

Artist and local resident, Nicole Bourgea just completed her 8th mural in the Town. 'Stardust', located on the back outer wall of Old Town Market is a memorial to Jack Gaffey, a beloved fixture of the Kensington community. Jack's friends and family tell many sweet stories, including his tradition of standing up at the end of every Town Council Meeting to report on the night sky over Kensington. He had a love for mathematical equations and was especially fond of Euler's number, (digits go on forever in a series that never ends or repeats.) When you visit, you'll find these numbers tucked into the mural.



Artist Jason Swain just completed his 9th carving "The Flinn Park Guards". Carved from the trunk of a Norway Maple that died in 2022, the red fox and raccoon are common neighborhood wildlife that make occasional appearances around Town. This friendly pair is keeping watch over Flinn Park.



KENSINGTON ART WALK

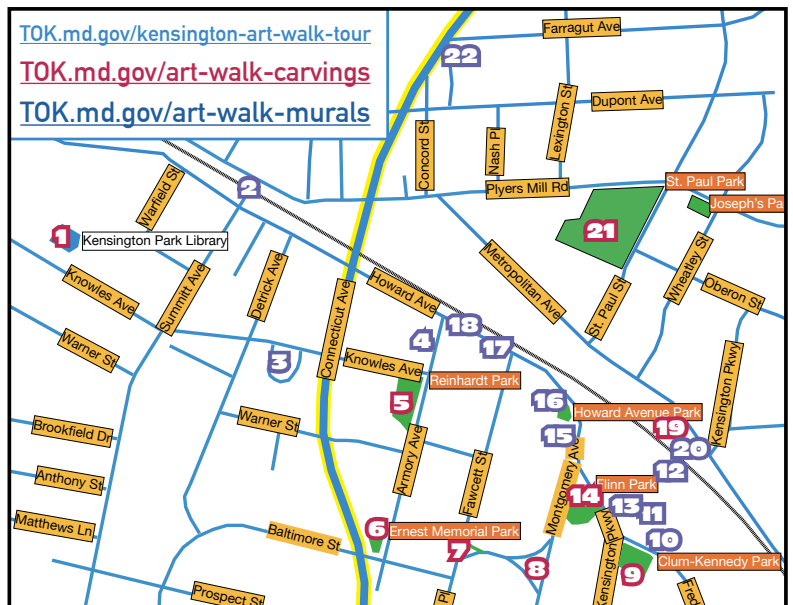
MURALS & CARVINGS

- 1 WIZARD OF OZ | Kensington Park Library | 4201 Knowles Ave
- 2 HOLD YOUR LIGHT | Summitt Avenue Bridge | Near 4000 Howard Ave
- 3 SILVER CREEK | Silver Creek Apartment | 3910 Knowles Ave
- 4 SAFEWAY WINDOW ART | Safeway Garage Entrance | 10417 Armory Ave
- 5 DAVID GREGG | Reinhardt Park | 10400 Armory Ave
- 6 ERNEST THE EAGLE | Ernest Memorial Park | 10301 Connecticut Ave
- 7 HAWK ISLAND | Hawk Island | Fawcett St & Carroll Pl
- 8 CROSBY THE OWL | Noyes Library | 10237 Carroll Pl
- 9 NEIGHBORHOOD BIRDS | Clum-Kennedy Park | 10207 Kensington Pkwy
- 10 EYES OPEN | Frederick Avenue Bridge | Near 10251 Frederick Ave
- 11 STARDUST | Old Town Market - rear | 10251 Kensington Pkwy
- 12 BABYCAT | BabyCat Brewery | 10241 Kensington Pkwy
- 13 SUMMER DAYS | Old Town Market | 10251 Kensington Pkwy
- 14 FLINN PARK GUARDS | Flinn Park | 10310 Kensington Pkwy
- 15 BUTTERFLY | Jubilee Association of America | 10408 Montgomery Ave
- 16 1894 | M&T Bank | 10420 Montgomery Ave
- 17 MUSICAL | GIGS Studio | 3762 Howard Ave
- 18 BOOK PLANTS | Kensington Row Bookshop | 3786 Howard Ave
- 19 HOWLING DOG | Kensington Dog Run | 10450 Metropolitan Ave
- 20 DOG COLUMNS | Dog Run Park | 10450 Metropolitan Ave
- 21 BEAR BENCH | St. Paul Park | 3500 Payers Mill Rd
- 22 GIRAFFE | Blick Building | 3720 Farragut Ave

TOK.md.gov/kensington-art-walk-tour

TOK.md.gov/art-walk-carvings

TOK.md.gov/art-walk-murals



Town Council Summary



Monday, August 14, 2023, Town Council Meeting Summary

- Approved the Organizational and Town Meeting Minutes of July 10, 2023.
- Discussed providing additional comments to the Montgomery County Sign Review Board for the proposed Holy Cross Health sign at 10605 Concord Street. The Town will request that the sign comply with the County's height restriction of twenty-six feet (26') for the placement of the proposed sign.
- Approved **Resolution No. R-14-2023** – Authorizing a Contract with EMCOR Services Combustioneer for the replacement of two Reznor Duct Heaters within the Drill Hall at the Kensington Town Hall.

Wednesday, September 13, 2023, Town Council Meeting Summary

- Approved the Town Meeting Minutes of August 14, 2023.
- Approved the Closed Session Minutes of August 21, 2023.
- Acknowledged a Closed Work Session was held on Monday, August 21, 2023, to discuss amending an existing covenant with the property located at 10401 Connecticut Avenue; and to draft a lease agreement with 10509 Summit Avenue for 48 public parking spaces at the proposed Flats at Knowles Station development project.
- Supported the American Society of Breast Surgeons Foundation 5K Race scheduled for October 8, 2023, providing the course is revised to limit the number of street closures.
- The Town staff will work with the race director to revise the course, and the Town will notify residents of the street closures.
- Discussed the proposed Lease Agreement with 10509 Summit Avenue, LLC, with the Town Attorney for 48 public parking spaces at the proposed Flats at Knowles Station development project.
- A resolution will be presented at the October 11, 2023, Council Meeting.

Wednesday, October 11, 2023, Town Council Meeting Summary

- Approved the Town Meeting Minutes of September 13, 2023.
- Discussed providing additional comments to the Montgomery County Sign Review Board for the proposed Holy Cross Health sign at 10605 Concord Street. The Town will support the placement of the existing sign at the County's height restriction of twenty-six feet (26'), and defer to the Sign Review Board to determine if the requested height of forty-seven feet (47') would be permitted.
- Discussed the proposed Lease Agreement with 10509 Summit Avenue, LLC, with the Town Attorney for 48 public parking spaces at the proposed Flats at Knowles Station development project.
- The resolution will be presented at the November 8, 2023, Council Meeting.
- Approved **Resolution No. R-16-2023** – Authorizing an MOU for non-exclusive use of Reinhardt Park with the Brookewood School for Girls.
- Approved **Resolution No. R-17-2023** – Authorizing the Town Manager to establish 'No Parking' along the north side of the 3800 block of Plyers Mill Road.
- Approved **Resolution No. R-18-2023** - Authorizing the extension of the existing refuse and recycling contract with Ecology Services Refuse & Recycling, LLC, for the term of one-year, per the Contract Agreement.
- Resolution No. R-19-2023 was removed from the Agenda.

Shop Kensington This Holiday Season

GIFTS FOR ALL

Antiques • Books
Collectibles • Vintage
New Gifts • Art
Pet Treats • Toys
Cards • Clothing
Accessories • Candles
Home Décor • Jewelry
Sweets • Tools
& so much more!

**SHOP
SMALL
EXPLORE
BIG**

GIFT CARDS

Dining • Shopping
Grocery • Sweets
Yoga • Fitness
Martial Arts • Car Wash
Art Classes • Theater
Music Lessons
Pedicures • Hair Styling
Spa Treatments

Explore it all @ ExploreKensington.com

New Businesses in Kensington!

DINING

Artha Rini Indonesian Restaurant
10562 Metropolitan Ave

Instagram @artharini_indonesianrestaurant

Karlee's Deli and Market
3750 Howard Avenue
KarleesDeliandMarket.com

Stella Point Grill
3739 University Blvd
StellaPointGrille.com

SERVICES

Designed Happy
10524 Detrick Ave
DesignedHappy.com

SHOPPING

West Howard Antiques & Estate
Sales 4140 Howard Ave
WestHowardEstates.com

Chase Love Retro Fits
3758 Howard Ave
Instagram @chaseloveretrofits

Explore
KENSINGTON
Unique Shopping, Dining, Arts & Events

Kensington Around Town

November/December 2023



3710 Mitchell Street Office: 301.949.2424
Kensington, MD 20895 TOK.md.gov

To:

KENSINGTON



FARMERS' MARKET



OPEN YEAR ROUND!

Every Saturday
9am-1pm

Howard Avenue
Train Station

21+ Vendors

Pets Welcome!

ExploreKensington.com/farmers-market