

# Kensington Around Town January/February 2024



The 2024

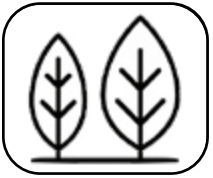
## KENSINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY CALENDAR

The Kensington Historical Society, Inc. was founded in June 1977 to safeguard and promote the cultural and architectural heritage of the Town of Kensington. The Society furthers its mission by maintaining a library of publications, newspaper clippings and photographs to preserve a record of the Town's cultural history. The Society also presents educational programs, encourages the maintenance and restoration of Kensington's historic structures, hosts social events, sponsors community concerts, and publishes a yearly calendar to honor some feature of historic Kensington.

This special color calendar prepared by the [Kensington Historical Society](#) commemorates the 130th anniversary of the Town's incorporation on April 6, 1894. The beauty of Kensington has grown with each succeeding year. We hope the photographs speak for themselves and show the beauty that is the Town of Kensington at 130 years young.

The calendars can be found at the [Kensington Row Bookshop](#) at 3786 Howard Avenue for \$10. Of course they are free with membership!

# Greenscape/Sustainable Kensington



## Our Watershed and being “Saltwise”

The Town of Kensington lies within the Potomac River watershed of the larger Chesapeake Bay watershed. The Potomac River watershed covers over 14,000 square miles in four states and Washington, DC.

The river runs more than 380 miles from the Fairfax Stone, at the source of the North Branch of the river in West Virginia, to Point Lookout in Maryland.



On average, 7 billion gallons of water a day flow through the Potomac River in Washington, DC. The Washington area draws around 500 million gallons a day for drinking water and around 80% of the more than 6.5 million people living in the Potomac watershed rely on drinking water provided from public water providers, including WSSC.

Healthy watersheds improve water quality. Pollutants are filtered out by natural landscape and floodplains, support nutrient cycling and retain sediment. Land cover and soil in watersheds can hold vast amounts of carbon, offsetting greenhouse gas emissions. Intact healthy floodplains and stream valleys are much more adaptable to extreme weather events and are more resistant to invasive species. Economic benefits of a healthy watershed include reduced costs of water treatments and infrastructure costs, increased recreational job opportunities and reduced flood mitigation costs.

Kensington’s subwatershed drains 1,077 acres in the Lower Rock Creek watershed and was rated poor by the Montgomery County Department of Environmental

Protection in 2018. The headwaters of the Kensington Branch are near Einstein High School with its downstream end near the intersection of Beach Drive and Kensington Parkway. Our watershed is marked as a priority area for restoration activities. The main stream, called Silver Creek, parallels Kensington Parkway for about 1½ miles and has been a focus of attention by the Kensington Weed Warrior Team.

### Take Local Action - be “Saltwise”

The snow and ice that winter storms bring help replenish ground water, but all the salt used to keep us safe on sidewalks and roads runs into our watershed impacting water quality and harming aquatic life. Salt also damages vegetation, roadways, and vehicles. We can be smart about our personal use of salt by shoveling first, using less salt, and sweeping up any leftover salt after the storm and reusing it. As a “saltwise” guide, one coffee mug of salt is adequate for 10 squares of sidewalk pavement, or a 20 foot driveway.

The town does not maintain state or county roads but large piles of salt left on these roads after a storm can be reported for clean-up at 240-777-0311, or call 311 from within Montgomery County.

The Town of Kensington manages 8.5 miles of town roads and uses a “saltwise” approach — safety is the priority while salt use is kept at a minimum. The Town’s Public Works Crew do not pretreat roads with brine, rather, any salt treatments (rock salt and/or magnesium chloride) are applied only



# Watershed con't

as necessary for the actual conditions. This real-time action by town staff prevents resources being wasted on unnecessary treatments when forecasts change, as well as timely action for our safety, including spot treatments for steep slopes, when conditions are worse than expected.

This is a very effective “saltwise” strategy!

Weed Warriors, who work to save trees and remove non-native invasive plants in our watershed, took a break over the holidays but we are planning lots of work days for 2024!

Katherine Wood

[Greenscape Committee & Sustainable Kensington](#)

# Kensington Town Archives

## Kensington Town Archives Development Update

The Kensington Town Archives, opening to the public later this year, will be a community-focused research center dedicated to preserving and sharing local history. As the Town's first professional archivist, I am committed to creating a welcoming physical research space that caters to researchers of all backgrounds and interests. Currently, I am in the initial phase of a multi-step process to bring this vision to life and will share periodic updates in this publication.

In this first phase of development, my top priorities are room renovations and collection assessment. In addition to fresh paint and flooring, a humidity and temperature monitoring system will be installed to establish optimal conditions to preserve historical documents vulnerable to chemical degradation and mold. All materials will be placed in archival folders and boxes for long-term preservation, while brittle or damaged items of value, such as a set of maps and blueprints from the 1890s, will be set aside for conservation. As I review the full collection, I am creating a basic digital inventory that will eventually become a searchable reference database. This essential resource will vastly improve the speed and efficiency of research, while allowing us to strategically build our historic collections.

While these developments are underway, the archives are unable to receive new donations or fulfill information requests. This temporary inconvenience will ensure that our collections are made accessible to the public as soon as possible. If you would like to support the archive's progress, consider joining the Kensington Historical Society and look for volunteer opportunities to be announced in this journal. I appreciate the community's support and look forward to inviting the public to enjoy our collections soon.

Lisa W. Carney

*Archivist*



Brittle original house blueprint found in collections.

Photo courtesy of Lisa Carney.



Kensington Historical Society is pleased to announce the following board members and officers who will serve in the coming year.

**President – Kate DeWitt** – Kate is relatively new to Kensington although she has lived in MOCO for many years. Her career was in the financial industry including positions as bank president and CEO as well as managing failed banks for the government. She

has served on well over a dozen for-profit and non-profit national, state and local boards, committees and commissions. She also represents KHS on the board of Montgomery Preservation Inc and is active on the Sustainable Kensington committee.

**Vice President - Olwen Logan** - Olwen moved here from southeastern Connecticut in late 2018. She has enjoyed a variety of careers in audit, accounting, PR, journalism and marketing, working for several multinational companies, a small-town newspaper, and a fine arts college. Her overriding passion, however, is community news and she is still publishing the online, local newspaper for the town in CT where she used to live! Once settled in Kensington, that deep interest in everything local -- both past and present -- led her rapidly to KHS and she now looks forward to active participation in the organization.

**Treasurer - Maria Marzullo** - Maria and her family moved to Kensington 23 years ago, drawn to the small town feel and beautiful historic homes. She enjoyed bringing her sons to the Labor Day Parade every year. After many years working in the telecommunications/internet industry, she served on many community boards and is looking forward to her role as treasurer for The Kensington Historical Society.

**Secretary – Katherine Wood** - Katherine has lived in Kensington for 7 years. Now retired from her scientific career, she enjoys supporting all the educational and social events that KHS sponsors. She is especially keen on good stewardship of all our green spaces and also serves on the Town of Kensington Greenscape and Sustainable Kensington committees.

**At Large - Yvonne Gurney** - Von has lived in Kensington for over forty years and thinks of the KHS as an integral part of the Town's life and appreciates the KHS role as a service organization providing access to old pictures, oral histories and more as well as the sponsorship of community events, author book talks and social celebrations too.

**Immediate Past President – Paul Sexton** – Paul is an investment advisor with Edward Jones and he and his family live in Kensington.

**Outgoing Board Members:** A very big thank you to Tracey Furman and Leslie Olson whose terms of office were up at the end of the year. We appreciate all your contributions to KHS.

**Events and Activities:** Many hard-working volunteers make KHS events happen. Some of the key individuals are:

**Programming – Patti Poss**

**Calendar – Detta Voessar**

**Social events – Katherine Wood**

**Concerts – Mike Landis and Joette Alkire**

**Communications – Jill Gallagher**

**Archives – Mary Buckingham**

We would like to also say thank-you again to our many community partners like Town of Kensington, Baby Cat Brewery, KCAN members and Potomac Sweets (especially for the donation of the lovely cookies at the excursion train) et al. All of our recorded events are done by Montgomery Municipal Cable who does a great job capturing the event and then editing the tape into a wonderful program that then becomes available to Kensington and the wider community.

KHS welcomes participation of all interested residents in committee or event work. If you've enjoyed

# KHS con't

one (or more) of our events and have ideas for other activities that you think would be interesting please contact us through the KHS WEB site.

## 2024 Events:

We are working on several events for the new year and will be announcing them shortly. Save the Date – January 23, 2024 Speaker Program – Preserving Kensington's Historic District; Preservation in Montgomery County - led by TOK resident Helen Wilkes. The program will be held in-person with zoom. (program rescheduled from earlier in January due to weather).

We have other special programming including several speaker events planned for the spring and early summer and look forward to seeing you at one (or all!) of them. It won't be long before the concert series starts in June so we have that to look forward to on Saturday mornings.

Happy New Year. KHS looks forward to bringing our Town history to you. Join/renew membership with KHS now and get the 2024 calendar – Beautiful Kensington – with your membership. You can renew at [Kensingtonhistory.org](http://Kensingtonhistory.org). Thank you for your support. Your support makes all our programming possible.

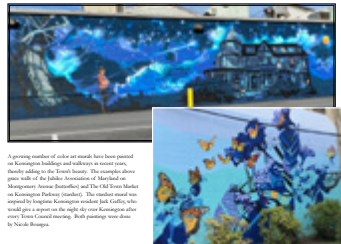
January 2024



Several structures that were completed are long but few Kensington were incorporated in 1894 have become local landmarks. The Warner mansion, shown above, was built for Richard Warner, the founder of Kensington, as a summer residence. The Warner Library for Young Children, shown below, is a small building across the street from the Warner mansion. It was completed in 1915 and was designed a library specifically for youngsters in 1915. Both landmarks are scheduled to undergo repairs which will further enhance their beauty.

Photo Credit: Town of Kensington

March 2024



A growing number of color art murals have been painted on Kensington buildings and vehicles in recent years, thereby adding to the town's beauty. The murals above were painted by the Junior Association of Maryland in Kensington, Kensington Historical Society and The Old Town Market in Kensington (Pawnee). The murals were also supported by Kensington residents and the City of Kensington who would give a grant on the night of the Kensington after every Town Council meeting. Both murals were done by Nicole Boudreau.

Photo Credit: Town of Kensington, Nicole Boudreau

July 2024



During the month of July, the vibrant colors and architecture of the historic "Baker and Central Avenue Park" located across the street from the town hall and all of its shops and homes is made to make people feel like they are participating in the Summer Concert Series.

Photo Credit: Town of Kensington

October 2024



These photographs of trees opening their autumn doors and the vibrant colors of the flowers in the garden are the work of the Kensington Historical Society and the Kensington Parkway group for themselves.

Photo Credit: Town of Kensington, Young Gary

# Donate Blood to NIH

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) Blood Bank depends on people like you to donate blood for patients in the Clinical Center. Blood donations dip during this time of year but the need remains the same! Support our patients by donating blood! There is an URGENT need for group O, group A, and B negative blood donors! Please donate blood Today!

[CC.nih.gov/blooddonor](http://CC.nih.gov/blooddonor)

Walk-in donors are welcome or call 301-496-1048 to schedule an appointment!

NIH BLOOD BANK

Blood Donations 301-496-1048

Platelet Donations 301-496-4321

Research Donations 301-496-0092







Thank you to all the homes and businesses who participated in the third annual Light Up Ktown Home and Business Holiday Decorating Contest sponsored by KTown Ladies and Kyle Richards, Realtor at Compass. Thank you for spreading light and cheer throughout the Town with your festive displays. Congratulations to the winners!

For more details, follow the KTown Ladies on our website and on social media:

[KTownLadies.org](http://KTownLadies.org); Facebook: [@KTownLadiesGuild](https://www.facebook.com/KTownLadiesGuild); Instagram: [@ktownladies](https://www.instagram.com/ktownladies).



**Trophies**

## 2023 Holiday Decorating Winners



**The Traffic Stopper Award**

Austin and Sarah Renzi Sander  
3802 Washington Street



**It's A Wonderful Life Award**

Val and Martha Deale  
3941 Washington Street



**The Winter Wonderland Award**

Kerry and Edward Rupp  
3813 Calvert Place



**The Griswold Award**

Daniel Martin and Melissa Joy  
10310 Freeman Place



**First Place Business Winner**

Silver Spring Animal Hospital  
10501 Metropolitan Ave



**Hon. Mention Business Winner**

McEneaney Associates  
3804 Howard Avenue

# In Memory of Will Veerhoff

On Thanksgiving Day, the Town of Kensington lost lifelong resident and friend to many, William "Will" Veerhoff. Spirited and warm, Will was a staple of our community and a beacon of light shining on those fortunate enough to meet him.

Will was born on November 10, 1990, alongside his twin brother, Jamie. They attended Kensington Parkwood ES, North Bethesda MS, and Walter Johnson HS, walking the stage with their peers in the WJHS Class of 2009.

Will loved his many Kensington neighbors and events, especially the Labor Day Parade, the annual Car Show, and more recently, the Juneteenth celebrations. Ever the jokester and social butterfly, Will could be found at any party or community gathering greeting friends ("hey cuckoo head") and sharing hugs and smiles, which were always welcomed by all. When he and Jamie moved to the Waterford Condominium on University Boulevard in 2018, Will relished the opportunity to greet all passersby from their second floor balcony.

Outside of the home, Will enjoyed playing basketball, starting with Special Olympics when he was 9 until his final Unified basketball game in February, 2023. Although he was only 4'10" tall, he could really shoot the ball, and he never needed the rim lowered. Over the years, he was active in Special Olympics recreational basketball and bowling, WJ Best Buddies, KEEN, Camp JCC, SPIRIT Club, ArtStream, Jubilee Association of Maryland, Down Syndrome Network of Montgomery County, and Compass, Inc.

Will is survived by Jamie, their mother Penny, brothers Steve, Brian, and Alex, a niece, and four nephews. There was a service on January 13 at St. Columba's Episcopal Church.

Donations in his memory can be made to [Hopkinsmedicine.org/kimmel-cancer-center/make-a-gift](https://Hopkinsmedicine.org/kimmel-cancer-center/make-a-gift) or any local non-profit with which Will was associated.





# Scouts Plant a Tree



A few months ago, the Den Leader for Pack 478, a local cub scout troop, contacted the Town about planting a tree in one of our parks to meet their adventure requirement. We partnered with Stadler Nurseries, who generously agreed to share the cost of a tree with the Town, and assist the cub scouts with the planting.

On November 11, Pack 478 (pictured below) helped Stadler's crew plant a linden tree near the walking path at St. Paul Park. The group of first graders eagerly helped dig the hole and spread top soil once the tree was planted.

Many thanks to Pack 478 and Stadler Nurseries for planting a beautiful tree and contributing to the Town's status of Tree City!



# Beach Drive Road Closure



Montgomery Parks will be closing a section of Beach Drive to vehicles between Knowles Avenue and Cedar Lane from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. for several days in late January and early February as part of its Park Police-based deer management operations. Large electronic signs will be placed at both ends of this section of Beach Drive to alert drivers. Park Police will be on-site during the closures.

The anticipated dates for the closure are listed below. Please note, the dates may change due to unforeseen circumstances such as potential inclement weather or scheduling conflicts.

For more information about Montgomery Parks Deer Management Program please visit: [Montgomeryparks.org/caring-for-our-parks/wildlife/montgomery-parks-deer-population-management](https://montgomeryparks.org/caring-for-our-parks/wildlife/montgomery-parks-deer-population-management)

## Dates of closure:

Monday, January 22, 2024

Wednesday, January 24, 2024

Monday, February 5, 2024

Wednesday, February 7, 2024







## MAKE KENSINGTON YOUR #1 DESTINATION FOR YOUR FAVORITE VALENTINE!

### TREATS

[Baskin Robbins](#)  
[Donut King](#)  
[Dunkin'](#)  
[Java Nation](#)  
[La Gelateria](#)  
[Playa Bowls](#)  
[Potomac Sweets](#)  
[Starbucks](#)



### GIFTS

[HomeWorks](#)  
[OAK](#)  
[Olive & Loom](#)  
[Pink Dot Styles](#)  
[Pets Are Home](#)  
[Strosniders Hardware](#)  
[Sunflowers](#)  
[SW7](#)



### ART/MUSIC

[Adah Rose Gallery](#)  
[Chesapeake Framing](#)  
[Girls Who Paint](#)  
[Kensington Framing](#)  
[Love People Records](#)  
[Nicole Bourgea](#)  
[Red Studio Gallery](#)  
[Weisser Glass Studio](#)



### BOOKS

[Bergstrom Press & Books](#)  
[Bonjour Books DC](#)  
[Kensington Row Bookshop](#)  
[This is the Place](#)



### DINING

[Frankly Pizza](#)  
[Knowles Station Wine & Co](#)  
[Stella Point Grill](#)  
[Talía's Cuzina](#)  
[The Dish & Dram](#)



### ANTIQUES

[Antiques & Uniques](#)  
[Chase Love & Retro Fits](#)  
[Georgina's G&G Antiques](#)  
[Goldsborough Glynn](#)  
[Jill & Company](#)  
[Joyful Heart Reclaimed](#)  
[Kensington Clock](#)  
[Look Again Resale](#)  
[M.O.B. Vintage](#)  
[Modern Mobler](#)  
[Player 1 Services](#)  
[Retro Mama's Kitchen](#)  
[Sally Shaffer Antiques](#)  
[Split Personality Antiques](#)  
[Starr's Antiques](#)  
[Sticky Mickey Sports](#)  
[Urban Thrift](#)  
[West Howard Antiques](#)



### JEWELRY

[Kensington Jewelers](#)  
[Raffie Jeweler](#)



### FLOWERS

[Johnson's Florist](#)  
[Hoover-Fisher](#)  
[Petals to the Metal](#)  
[Safeway](#)



### SPAS

[A&L Nails](#)  
[Alight Spa](#)  
[Avanti Salon & Spa](#)  
[Envy Nails & Spa](#)  
[Kensington Day Spa](#)  
[Sweat Shop Massage](#)  
[Tailored Relaxation](#)



### WINE/BEER

[BabyCat Brewery](#)  
[Kensington Market](#)  
[Old Town Market](#)



# Town Minutes Summary



## Wednesday, November 8, 2023, Town Council Meeting Summary

- Approved the Town Meeting Minutes of October 11, 2023.
- Acknowledged receipt of the [Audit Committee's Report](#) for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023, [FY23](#).
- Held a Variance Hearing for 3419 Dupont Avenue in accordance with Section 5-109, "Fences, Walls and Retaining Walls", of the Town Code.
- *A Resolution in support of the Variance request will be prepared for the December 13, 2023, Council Meeting.*
- **Resolution No. R-19-2023** was removed from the Agenda.
- Approved **Resolution No. R-20-2023** – Accepting a Monetary Contribution in the amount of \$100,000 from Knowles Manor Senior Housing, LLC, to be used for Traffic and Parking Enforcement within the Town of Kensington.
- Approved **Resolution No. R-21-2023** – Amending the existing Parking Restrictions at the Metropolitan Avenue Parking lot, 10450 Metropolitan Avenue, by Prohibiting Parking for more than Four (4) Hours total within any Twenty-Four (24) Hour period, in one or a combination of the restricted spaces, except by Permit.
- Approved **Resolution No. R-22-2023** – Proclaiming November to be Municipal Government Works Month in Kensington, Maryland.

## Monday, November 20, 2023, Special Town Council Meeting Summary

- Approved **Resolution No. R-19-2023** – Authorizing a Contract Agreement with Brudis & Associates, Inc., to conduct a Downstream Storm Drain Study and provide Engineering Support Services to recommend improvements within the C-line storm drain network, specific to inlets C4-A and C10-A.

## Wednesday, December 13, 2023, Town Council Meeting Summary

- Held a Closed Session meeting pursuant to State Government Article §3-305(b)(3) and §3-305(b)(7), "Closed Session", to consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related to the acquisition; and to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice.
- Approved Resolution No. R-23-2023 – A Resolution approving a Variance at 3419 Dupont Avenue to allow a six-foot (6') entry gate within the front plane of the southwest corner of the property line in accordance with Section 5-109, "Fences, Walls, and Retaining Walls" of the Town Code.
- Approved **Resolution No. R-24-2023** – Authorizing a Contract with Bartlett Tree Experts for Soil Care Fertilization and Tree Pest Management for certain trees within Town Parks and the Public Right-of-Way.

## Wednesday, January 10, 2024, Town Council Meeting Summary

- Held a Closed Session meeting pursuant to State Government Article §3-305(b)(3) and §3-305(b)(7), "Closed Session", to consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related to the acquisition; and to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice.
- Approved the Town Meeting Minutes of November 8, 2023.
- Approved the Special Town Meeting Minutes of November 20, 2023.
- Approved the Closed Session Town Meeting Minutes of December 13, 2023.



# Town Minutes con't

- Approved the Town Meeting Minutes of December 13, 2023.
- Approved **Resolution No. R-01-2024** – A Resolution Authorizing a Contract Agreement with AB Consultants, Inc., to conduct a Storm Drain Survey to identify the location of inlets and invert elevations within the C-line storm drain network, specific to the scope of work identified within EXHIBIT A.

Visit [TOK.md.gov/ordinances-resolutions](http://TOK.md.gov/ordinances-resolutions) to view ordinances and resolutions.

## 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.

**3418 Oberon Street - Washington Gas**

**10221 Montgomery Avenue - Pergola**

**10730 Connecticut Avenue - Limited Duration Sign**

**3740 University Boulevard - Limited Duration Sign**

**3512 Decatur Avenue - New Construction**

**10520 Wheatley Street - Addition**

**10613 Concord Street - Limited Duration Sign**

**3930 Washington Street - Addition**

**10302 Fawcett Street - Fence**

**3512 Decatur Avenue - Pepco**

**3514 Decatur Avenue - Pepco**

**3515 Farragut Avenue - Addition**

**3701 Farragut Avenue - Washington Gas**

**3745 University Boulevard - Washington Gas**

**3740 University Boulevard - Limited Duration Sign**

**10613 Concord Street - Limited Duration Sign**

## What to Do With All That Snow



The Town requires all of our residents and businesses to clear a path on the sidewalk in front of their property 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 that the sidewalk needs to be cleared. If a path has not been cleared within 24 hours of the notice, a municipal infraction will be issued—\$65 for residential and \$195 for businesses. Please do not pile snow blocking pedestrian walkways at intersections.

Exceptions: residential sidewalks located on Connecticut, Knowles and Summit Avenues, and the 3400 & 3500 block of University Boulevard will be cleared by the Town.

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

To:



**BEST**  
— OF —  
Bethesda

**Finalist**  
— 2024 —

Bethesda Magazine's  
**'Best of Bethesda'**  
Readers Picks Finalist 2024!  
**Kensington Farmers' Market**  
**VOTED #2 out of 25**  
Farmers' Markets  
in Montgomery County!

**KENSINGTON FARMERS' MARKET**  
**OPEN YEAR ROUND | SATURDAYS • 9AM - 1PM**  
**HOWARD AVENUE TRAIN STATION**

**EXPLOREKENSINGTON.COM/FARMERS-MARKET**