



# THE DRUM

*A publication of The Greater Kingsville Civic Association, Inc.*

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Serving as president of a civic association doesn't seem to come with a lot of perks. Thus far, no one from the *New York Times* has called to interview me. When I drive home from work, I am not surrounded by a 70-car motorcade; it's just me and my Honda. And I'm pretty sure no one is going to name a library after me.

But there is one perk that is really nice. I get to associate with the other board members—all Kingsville residents, dedicated to preserving what is best about our community while welcoming with open arms positive change and new neighbors.

I remember a couple years ago attending the memorial service for a prior president, Ila Christenbury. She was one of the first board members I met soon after my wife, Sue, and I moved to Kingsville. And she left us much too soon. There was something special about her that was put into words at her funeral: "Ila never met a stranger". When people who knew her heard that, they all reflexively nodded, thinking, yes, that was her. She exuded warmth and friendliness, accepting everyone she met with open arms.

She was special in that way, but also emblematic of the Kingsville neighborly spirit. I have found everyone with whom I have served on the board, each in their own way, to be a joy to work with. Serving with past and present board members such as Robin, Doug, Tom, Mike, Pat, Mary Jo, Zach, Bruce, Sally, Donna...the list goes on... has been a real pleasure. From them I have learned so much about Kingsville. Their enthusiasm for the work the board does is infectious. And most importantly, each board meeting feels like nothing more than neighbors helping neighbors.

I guess this is just my way of saying that if you have the opportunity to volunteer to serve on the board, or contribute your time to the association in some other way, you will find it to be a very rewarding experience. I wish you and your family all the best in the remaining days of summer.

—Charlie Wolpoff

## QUADRENNIAL REZONING

Every four years, Baltimore County addresses Comprehensive Rezoning—a process where planning, preservation, business, and development desires come together, hopefully to make for a better county. In a rural area like ours that lies precariously between a Perry Hall/White Marsh that seems unrecognizable compared to its appearance in the 1960s, and Fallston, which is witnessing its own tremendous growth, including a push for apartments, the GKCA and others are doing our best to preserve what we have here.

As most of you know, our location beyond the Urban-Rural Demarcation Line (URDL) is our

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**Semi-Annual Meeting—  
Wed., Sept. 20, 7 p.m.  
Kingsville Volunteer Fire  
Company. All are welcome!**

Please join us as we discuss items of community interest and concern, including the quadrennial Baltimore County rezoning and election of next years' GKCA Board. Elected officials will be invited.

## 2023 PARADE

**W**e heard comments that it was one of the best Kingsville Parades ever. It seems to get better every year, in large part thanks to the strong footing provided by our now retired long-time chair, Linda Alexander, and also thanks to the now two-year service of co-chairs Bob Chaney and Tom Kneeshaw. Bob has long been a leader in the Kingsville Volunteer Fire Company, having served as president—and in countless other roles, and Tom is assistant treasurer in the KVFC, as well as being on the board of the GKCA, also having served as president. How these men have consistently been willing leaders in our community is an inspiration. Tremendous thanks to both of them!

And of course, they did not do it singlehandedly. Thanks as always for the work of many volunteers before, during, and after the parade, and to all of the participants. Please know how much we desire the help of additional volunteers, and we hope that there are people who would be interested in being part of the Parade in 2024.

### AWARD WINNERS

#### **Category 2 – Band/Musical Entry Bud Huson American Pride Award for Best Band/Musical Entry**

*First Prize (tie)—*

Havre de Grace High School Band  
directed by Joshua Dill

*First Prize (tie)—*

Aberdeen High School Band  
directed by Kaitlyn Wittman

#### **Category 3 – Antique Vehicles**

*First Prize—*

Piper Family – Antique Fire  
Trucks

*Second Prize (tie)—*

Walter Sperl – 1970 Daytona  
Yellow Stingray Convertible

*Second Prize (tie)—*

Friends of Jerusalem Mill

#### **Category 5 – Equestrian Group**

*First Prize—*

Hawks Hollow Farm

*Second Prize—*

Skillman Stables

#### **Category 6 – Family, Group, or Individual**

*Firest Prize—*

Fresh McKenzie Farm Family

*Second Prize—*

Shining Stars Senior Tap Group

*Third Prize—*

Johnny Brooks, Jr

#### **Category 7 – Young Set**

*First Prize—*

Cub Scout Pack 247 – Perry Hall

*Second Prize (tie)—*

St. Michael Lutheran Church

*Second Prize (tie)—*

Crab Kickers

#### **Category 8 – Commercial Entries or Floats**

*First Prize (tie)—*

Beachmont Corm Maze

*First Prize (tie)—*

Chesapeake Landscapes LLC

*Second Prize—*

Daniel Watson – 1972 K5 Blazer

#### **Category 9 – Non-Commercial Floats**

*First Prize—*

Redeemer Classical Christian  
School

*Second Prize—*

Fork & Waugh United Methodist  
Churches

#### **Category 10 – Fire Apparatus**

*Best Appearing Engine—*

Bel Air Volunteer Fire Company

*2nd Best Appearing Engine—*

Joppa Magnolia Volunteer Fire  
Company

*Best Appearing Truck —*

Fallston Volunteer Fire &  
Ambulance Company

*Best Appearing Ambulance—*

Fallston Volunteer Fire &  
Ambulance Company

*Melvin C Neuman Award for Best  
Appearing Company—*

White Marsh Volunteer Fire  
Company

#### **Category 11 – Recreational Vehicle**

*First Prize—*

Gunpowder Tree Farm

*Second Prize—*

Lynette Barber – Jeep Wrangler

*Third Prize—*

Jaelynn Ballard, Jared Ballard,

Natalie Perry – 4 Wheelers

#### **Best Interpretation of the Theme**

*First Prize—*

Hawks Hollow Farm

*Second Prize—*

Fork & Waugh United Methodist  
Churches

*Third Prize—*

Redeemer Classical Christian  
School

#### **Mary Frances Shepperd Award for Best Entry in Parade**

Hawks Hollow Farm

## SPEEDING ON BELAIR ROAD

**A**t the last general meeting of Longfield Estates HOA I was requested to pursue an effort to address the dangerous traffic conditions on Belair Road in Kingsville, mostly in the area immediately south of the triangle down to Cheryl Avenue. As many of you know, it is particularly challenging and dangerous to enter or exit Longfield Drive, Goettner Road, the shopping centers, auto service facilities and the funeral home. Our residents have been involved in collisions, one involving serious injury at the intersection with Longfield Road. Those of us who live in and travel through this section of roadway are well aware of the excessive speeds well above the posted 40 MPH limit. GKCA also requested that I pursue this. Nextdoor Kingsville has seen an abundance of postings and replies regarding this exact topic with there being total agreement about the excessive speeding in this area and the desire to have it addressed in the name of safety for all who travel this stretch of roadway.

On 12/21/2022 I emailed our Councilman, David Marks, regarding this and he immediately forwarded my concerns onto MD SHA requesting they be addressed. SHA promised a traffic study within 45 days and did, in fact, perform that study. The methodology, extent of that study and the results I have been provided from SHA have left me stunned.

The study consisted of a *single day, two hours total, from 11:30am to 1:30pm* from positions at the funeral home and at Cheryl Avenue. Only 200 vehicles were clocked on radar. The conclusion by SHA... *"A speed study revealed that the 85th percentile speed of this section of the road is close to the posted speed. The 85th percentile speed refers to the speed at which **85 percent of motorists drive at or below a given speed** (emphasis added). This speed is often used to determine when a posted speed limit should be changed. The 85th percentile speeds recorded on this section of the road indicate that the majority of motorists consider this speed to be reasonable and realistic for this section of the roadway during normal driving conditions with free-flow operations, particularly during non-peak hours".....* Basically concluding that only 30 out of 200 vehicles were exceeding the posted 40 MPH. I'm a bit skeptical of not only the results but of the dubious methodology. **In fact, it's hard to believe that ANY of the vehicles were traveling at 40MPH or below.** I believe most of us would agree.

The positive is that the SHA has agreed to add signage on the northbound side to warn motorists

of left turning vehicles into Longfield Drive, to trim the trees obstructing the 40 MPH sign at Cheryl Avenue, and to add a 40 MPH speed limit sign just below the triangle on the south bound side. They have also sent email to BCoPD regarding our concerns. My suggestion for moving the southbound 50 MPH sign that is at Longfield Drive to a location 100 yards further south on Belair Road was rejected as was my request for the "speed recording trailer".

I do appreciate SHA's immediate responses to my questions but it seems that since they are done with their study that leaves us to pursue action through the BCoPD in the form of speed enforcement. We can also consider a sit down with SHA for other measures later once an abundance of speeding tickets are written and the study is then called into question.

I am seeking feedback to me from all concerned Kingsville residents that I could forward onto MD SHA and BCoPD. Kindly email me so I can copy and print/forward your comments.

Thanks to Councilman Marks for helping us get this issue directly to SHA.

—Bruce Morgan,  
[bruceatlas@comcast.net](mailto:bruceatlas@comcast.net)

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## PLEASE JOIN OR RENEW MEMBERSHIP IN THE GKCA

**P**lease continue to support the GKCA as we strive to maintain our community's quality of life and preserve the cherished character of our area. As

you know, we work hard to keep Kingsville the special place that it is, and are an integral part of activities like the parade and tree lighting, as well. Please join our efforts!



## COME TO THE LAST FRIENDS OF JERUSALEM MILL SUMMER CONCERT!

The Friends have put together yet another successful concert season... but there's a "Bonus Free Concert" on September 17. The Chesapeake Concert Band will perform from 2 to 4 p.m., weather

permitting. Please come to enjoy a late, late summer afternoon in a perfect rural setting, and to meet up with friends, neighbors, and family. Most folks choose to bring chairs or blankets.

See you there!

## KINGSVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY UPCOMING ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

The KVFC will host its 11th annual tournament on Friday October 13th at Rocky Point Golf Course. Registration begins at 8:15am and the tournament begins with a shotgun start at 9:00am. The event will end with an awards luncheon immediately following the tournament.

Throughout each year, the KVFC holds numerous events. What a tremendous part of our community our fire company has been. We have been truly blessed to have these incredibly dedicated volunteers protecting our property—and very lives—for almost seventy years. They need and deserve our support. Please look

frequently on their website to be part of activities that interest you, and please continue to support them financially. They have been

## QUADRENNIAL REZONING

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Section of the county designated for city water and sewerage. But we still face challenges to this relatively quiet way of life. Over many decades, members of the GKCA board have heard citizens' continuing concerns about encroaching development. One way to help maintain what we have is to deny more permissive zoning. The most lenient rural zoning category in Baltimore County is RC5, and that is what most of Kingsville is zoned. Decades ago, there were only a few other rural zoning category options, but within the past several years, the County's Office

of Planning has created more middle-ground zoning options.

***Our councilman, David Marks, will be discussing these options at our September 20 meeting, and it's strongly suggested that all***

The following is the proposed slate of GKCA Officers and Directors for 2023-24. The slate will be voted on at our September 20 meeting.

### OFFICERS

Charlie Wolpoff

*President*

Zach Canfield

*Vice President*

Bruce Morgan

*Treasurer*

Doug Behr

*Secretary*

Tom Kneeshaw

*Past President*

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mary Jo Button

*Director*

Pat Garner

*Director*

Donna Kuhn

*Director*

Sally Wagner

*Director*