



THE DRUM

A PUBLICATION OF THE GREATER KINGSVILLE CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

If anyone not familiar with our community wants to truly understand the nature and character of Kingsville and its residents, they should attend our 4th of July parade. Many observers have said this year's parade—our 43rd—was the best ever. If true, that's really saying something. Every year, the members of the parade committee and other volunteers put their heart and soul into preparing and holding this annual celebration of our country's birth. The Kingsville parade is a tribute not just to the United States of America—this year's theme was "Faithful and True to the Red White and Blue"—but also to the population of a rural Baltimore County town which reflects many of the virtues that make this nation great.

We see those virtues exhibited by the numerous individuals who, year after year, donate countless hours of work to make the parade possible. Without them, there wouldn't

be a parade. We also perceive the virtue of generosity in the sponsors, advertisers and donors who defray the approximately \$14,000 cost of holding the parade. Their kindness allows the Parade committee not to charge an entry fee to entrants wishing to participate.

And each year those participants display talent, creativity, hard work, and a love of country. This year, there were 80 entries, including 8 marching bands, including high school bands. They were all impressive.

Arguably the most exhilarating moment of each parade is the fly over by the Fairchild Republic A-10C Thunderbolts, affectionately known as "Warthogs". This fly over has been possible only because of the resourcefulness of the parade committee, as well as the thoughtfulness and generosity of the 175th Air Wing, 104th Fighter Squadron from the Maryland Air National Guard. We are forever grateful for their willingness to provide Kingsville

MASTER PLAN 2030

The Baltimore County master plan is intended to guide the County Executive, the County Council, and County departments in promoting responsible development in an equitable and environmentally sensitive manner that promotes adequate open space to help secure a sustainable future for the residents of Baltimore County.

Your input is critical to ensuring the Master Plan 2030 reflects the vision and needs of everyone who lives, works and visits Baltimore County. As input is gathered, consistent themes become evident and are incorporated into the plan, as well as the decision making process. Visit our Master Plan 2030 Hub to

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**Semi-Annual Meeting—
Wed., Sept. 15, 7 p.m.
Kingsville Volunteer Fire
Company. All are welcome!**

Please join us as we discuss items of community interest and concern, including the 2030 Baltimore County Master Plan and election of next years' GKCA Board. Elected officials will be invited.

2024 PARADE

In the eyes of many folks that we heard from, the parade this year was the best ever! Another day with terrific weather, but an additional observation was from an attendee who also went to another local parade that day. She said how impressive it was that there were essentially no gaps between marching units along the parade route. The other parade had gaps of up to a quarter mile, and the parade took hours! It's a real tribute to the workers in charge of getting the marching units to depart the KVFC parking lot!

Once again, as has been the case for the past three years, the parade has been chaired by the GKCA's own board member, Tom Kneeshaw, and by Bob Chaney, former president of the Kingsville Volunteer Fire Company. We're so grateful for their long-term dedication. 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 entering the Parade in 2025. We'd love to see more equestrian and antique

vehicle participants and we know this means a sacrifice of time on the holiday, but what a wonderful way to honor our country express gratitude for our freedoms!

AWARD WINNERS

Category 2—Band/Musical Entry

Bud Huson American Pride Award for Best Band/Musical Entry
Edgewood Ram Marching Band
directed by Evan Schutz

Category 3—Antique Vehicles

1st Place – *Howard Phelps - 1960 B Model Mack Tanker*
2nd Place – *Rob Taylor - 1970 Mustang Mach 1*
3rd Place – *Blue Ribbon Vintage Truck Club*

Category 5—Equestrian Group

1st Place – *Hawks Hollow Farm*
2nd Place – *Mule Shack*
3rd Place – *Willow Rock Warriors*

Category 6—Family, Group, or Individual

1st Place – *Friends of Maryland State Parks*
2nd Place – *Greyson Ely - 2024 Harford County Little Fire Chief*

Category 7—Young Set

1st Place – *Cub Scout Pack 247 – Perry Hall*
2nd Place – *Crab Kickers*

3rd Place – *Trash Panda Dumpsters*

Category 8—Commercial Entries or Floats

1st Place – *Beachmont Corn Maze*
2nd Place – *Chesapeake Landscapes LLC*
3rd Place – *Tim's Automotive and Towing*

Category 10—Fire Apparatus

Melvin C Neuman Award for Best Appearing Company – *Fallston Volunteer Fire & Ambulance Co.*
Best Appearing Engine – *Joppa Magnolia Volunteer Fire Company*
2nd Best Appearing Engine – *Jarrettsville Volunteer Fire Company*
Best Appearing Truck – *Baltimore County Fire Department - Station 8 - Fullerton*
Best Appearing Ambulance – *White Marsh Volunteer Fire Company*

Category 11—Recreational Vehicle

1st Place – *Johnny Brooks, Jr*
2nd Place – *Lynette Barber – Jeep Wrangler*
3rd Place – *Gunpowder Tree Farm*

Best Interpretation of the Theme

1st Place – *Hawks Hollow Farm*
2nd Place – *Friends of Maryland State Parks*

Mary Frances Shepperd Award for Best Entry in Parade



Free Range Blue performing at Summer Music in the Meadow

CONCERTS AT THE MILL—2024

Another of our cherished area activities resumed this year, giving us hope that normalcy might be returning—summer Music in the Meadow concerts at Jerusalem Mill, the restored 18th Century mill village. These Sunday evening performances are always very well attended—but there's always room for more!

This year, performers included

Melting Pot, Charlie Zahm, Free Range Blue, Appaloosa, Great Train Robbery, and She Major.

Concerts are held June through August and cost \$10 per person for Friends of Jerusalem Mill members and \$15 for non-members. Food is generally available, and attendees are welcome to bring their own food and drink.

PLEASE JOIN OR RENEW MEMBERSHIP IN THE GKCA

It's that time of year again!

It seems as each year passes we get even busier, but thankfully, we continue to see some fruit of our efforts. The GKCA has been involved in some very positive legislative changes and resolved many community concerns. As always, there is a delicate balance between the changes that we know will occur and our very persistent efforts to protect our precious environmental and aesthetic assets. We must be vigilant in safeguarding our existing community's well and septic resources and always seek new methods of preserving the scenic and historic character that defines us.

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

MASTER PLAN 2030

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sign up for email updates by selecting "Join" at the top of the hub page. <https://masterplan2030-bc-gis.hub.arcgis.com>

Principles

Master Plan 2030 will be built around the following principles: Equity—Being inclusive in our decision-making, ensuring equitable distribution of resources and creating

opportunity for all.

Sustainability—Ensuring the long-term sustainability of the County's public and internal government infrastructure and safeguarding the County's ecology and climate.

BALTIMORE COUNTY NEW COVID 19 RESPONSE

As jurisdictions across Maryland and nationwide continue to experience rapidly increasing COVID-19 cases amid the contagious Delta variant, Baltimore County Executive Johnny Olszewski today declared a local state of emergency to expand Baltimore County's ability to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Olszewski previously declared a local state of emergency on March 13, 2020, which remained in effect until July 9, 2021.

"Government has an obligation to do all we can to protect the health, safety and wellbeing of our residents. While we've made undeniable progress in our fight against this deadly virus, the rapid emergence of the Delta variant has made it clear that we need access to every tool in our toolbox to be able to respond to it," Olszewski said. "We remain committed to doing whatever is necessary to keep our residents as safe as possible and to ensure that when our children go back to school next week they can remain where they belong: inside the classroom."

Baltimore County has been a leader in efficiently and effectively delivering vaccines to residents, with 74 percent of County residents aged 12 and older having received at least one dose.

However, since July 30, 2021, the 7-day case rate in Baltimore County has increased 376 percent, pushing Baltimore County within the CDC's "substantial" transmission zone

(50-99 cases per 100,000 residents) as vaccination rates vary from community to community.

The new local State of Emergency issued today will give Baltimore County the ability to quickly adopt emergency public health measures to protect the safety and wellbeing of residents, assist the County in requesting additional resources from the state and federal governments to support response and recovery efforts, and quickly procure materials and supply necessary for protecting public health.

The Baltimore County Council will hold a vote to consider continuation of the County's state of emergency beyond August 31 in the coming days.

"Despite our best efforts to combat COVID-19 and vaccinate our residents, the continued spread of the Delta variant is deeply concerning and I applaud the County Executive's

leadership in declaring this local state of emergency," Council Chairman Julian Jones said. "I am certain my colleagues will agree that we must take every step to protect our residents by ensuring our government has all the tools to protect the public's health, and I will convene an emergency council meeting to extend the local state of emergency within the next week."

All residents are encouraged to take the proper precautions to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

To find a COVID-19 vaccine clinic, please visit baltimorecountymd.gov/vaccine or by contacting your local urgent care, pharmacy, or your primary care provider.

—from Baltimore County's
News webpage

The following is the proposed slate of GKCA Officers and Directors for 2024-25. The slate will be voted on at our September meeting.

OFFICERS

Pat Garner

President

Sally Wagner

Vice President

Tom Kneeshaw

Treasurer

Doug Behr

Secretary

Charlie Wolpoff

Past President

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Donna Kuhn

Director

Mary Jo Button

Director

Bruce Morgan

Director

Zach Canfield

Director