



THE DRUM

A PUBLICATION OF THE GREATER KINGSVILLE CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

This year has been very busy with challenges and changes that are affecting the greater Kingsville community.

The power line proposal is one of great concern (see on this page) and there also have been bills proposed in the Baltimore County Council dealing with solar farms, councilmanic redistricting, speed bump approval, and how any changes to the URDL might be approved. We are truly blessed to have the commitment and action of our Fifth District Councilman and Kingsville resident, David Marks. Councilman Marks has proposed increasing the distance of future solar 'farms' from existing dwellings among other changes that would be in the community interest.

The Gunpowder State Park staff has been making and suggesting changes to various aspects of the park. There is a desire for increasing mountain biking activity here and increasing parking for staff has already been done. Our concern is that any changes should be done with a great deal of respect to the mill setting and the existing structures. As most know, the buildings date to the 18th and early 19th Century. The Mill is on the

National Register of Historic Places, and is amazingly intact despite its existence in an increasingly busy corridor.

And still another change that will affect our community is the Maryland Transportation Authority project at I-95 and Raphael Road. The State will have a very large facility here. They have been willing to work with the GKCA and residents to minimize visual impact. This is the project that would have been constructed much closer to Upper Falls if not for the years-long effort of Councilman Marks and others to 'swap' County property for State-owned property.

A particularly painful sight has been the massive removal of trees along Harford Road to provide better sight distance for access and egress at the Hindu Buddha Mandir-Nepali Cultural Center of Baltimore. Our hands have been quite tied on this one, sadly.

Lastly, we are very thrilled to report that the GKCA will have an updated website this fall, thanks to the effort of resident and graphic designer Chelsey Armstrong.

Members of our community have been fantastic in attending meetings about many of these issues and

THE PROPOSED POWER LINES

Of the numerous issues of community concern in 2025, this one has taken a front seat. In a nutshell, Brandon Shores power generating plant, located in Maryland, is the last coal-powered plant in the state. A goal of closing the plant would involve the addition of massive new high-voltage transmission lines and substations. As a result, a huge power line is planned to go right through Kingsville. There are presently 12 separate power lines through our area; the new plan would double that, as well as doubling the number of poles. There has been tremendous community opposition to these plans, and at a community input meeting earlier this summer there was 100% opposition. We'll be discussing this at the September meeting.

**Semi-Annual Meeting—
Wed., Sept. 17, 7 p.m.
Kingsville Volunteer Fire
Company. All are welcome!**

Please join us as we discuss numerous items of community interest and concern, including election of next years' GKCA Board. And we want to hear from you! Elected officials will be invited.

2025 PARADE

We heard over and over again on Independence Day this year that this was the finest weather we've ever had for the parade. Couldn't help that day feeling that Bill Button was looking down on all of us and smiling.

For the past four years, we remain incredibly indebted to the parade co-chairs—longtime GKCA board member and Kingsville Volunteer Fire Company member Tom Kneeshaw and former KVFC president and dedicated community member, Bob Chaney. And, of course, the parade would not even happen if not for the many volunteers—on the parade committee, the folks who set up and take down, distribute parade books, seek supporters who advertise in the parade booklet, and obviously the participants in the parade who are willing and even eager to march, not knowing ahead of time what the weather will be that day!

It's a national holiday when almost everyone's off from work, with a number of exceptions—those who are involved on parade day when the rest of us can simply enjoy the event—and then the true heroes...police and fire fighters, medical professionals, and our servicemen and women. Thanks to all of them for their sacrifices. We certainly have been blessed!

AWARD WINNERS

Category 2 – Band/Musical Entry
Bud Huson American Pride Award

for Best Band/Musical Entry
Aberdeen High School Band directed
by Kaitlyn Wittman

Category 3 – Antique Vehicles

1st Place – *Howard Phelps* - 1960 B
Model Mack Tanker
2nd Place – *Friends of Jerusalem Mill*
- *Classic Car Club*
3rd Place – *Rev. Louis Noplos* - 1969
Ford Mustang Mach 1

Category 5 – Equestrian Group

1st Place – *Skillman Stables*
2nd Place – *Hawks Hollow Farm*
3rd Place – *Maryland Miniatures*

Category 7 – Young Set

1st Place – *Kingsville Volunteer Fire*
Company Cadets
2nd Place – *Bonnie Parker* - Harford
Co. Junior Miss Fire Prevention
3rd Place – *Kaitlyn Itzoe* - Harford
Co. Miss Fire Prevention

Category 8 – Commercial Entries or Floats

1st Place – *Beachmont Corn Maze*
2nd Place – *Farmer's Daughter*
3rd Place – *Upper Falls Dance*
Academy

Category 9 – Non-Commercial

Floats

1st Place – *Friends of Maryland State*
Parks

Category 10 – Fire Apparatus

Melvin C Neuman Award for Best
Appearing Company – *Kingsville*
Volunteer Fire Company
Best Appearing Engine – *White*
Marsh Volunteer Fire Company
Best Appearing Truck – *Fallston*
Volunteer Fire and Ambulance Co.
Best Appearing Ambulance – *Long*
Green Volunteer Fire Company
Best Appearing Antique Fire
Apparatus - *Piper Family* - Antique
Fire Trucks

Category 11 – Recreational Vehicle

1st Place – *Lynette Barber* - Jeep
Wrangler
2nd Place – *Johnny Brooks, Jr.*

Best Interpretation of the Theme

1st Place – *Skillman Stables*
2nd Place – *Friends of Maryland*
State Parks
3rd Place – *On A High Note Show*
Choir

**Mary Frances Shepperd Award
for Best Entry in Parade**
Beachmont Corn Maze

Proposed slate of 2025-26 GKCA Officers and Directors:

Sally Wagner	Amee Gingham	Doug Behr
<i>President</i>	<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Director</i>
Donna Kuhn	Charlie Wolpoff	Tom Kneeshaw
<i>Vice President</i>	<i>Past President</i>	<i>Director</i>
Bruce Morgan	Jack Amhrein	Jamie Taylor
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Director</i>	<i>Director</i>