

CROWN PRINTS



VOLUME 47/No. 01/January 9, 2025 The Twice-Monthly Newsletter of the Village of Kings Contrivance



HAPPY NEW YEAR TO OUR KC RESIDENTS!



MASTER GARDENER EVENTS

Join us this winter for a series of **FREE** gardening talks via *Zoom*. Enjoy these informative presentations given by Howard County Master Gardeners. Registration not required.

Tuesday, January 21 from 7-8:30pm
Celebrating the Joy of Maryland Spring Flowers



Come learn how to grow Maryland spring flowers, why they are so special, and about our native pollinators that depend on them.

Visit: <https://zoom.us/join>

Zoom Meeting ID: **823 3440 2900**

Passcode: **418479**

Tuesday, February 25 from 7-8:30pm
Four Keys to Happy Houseplants



Learn how to provide the right light, water, and growing conditions to make sure your indoor plants are happy and healthy. Learn to repot and propagate your plants, as well as sustainable plant care.

Visit: <https://zoom.us/join>

Zoom Meeting ID: **879 0146 0268**

Passcode: **785932**

FREE WEBINAR

The Magical, Vital Vernal Pool: Biodiversity in our Backyards

TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 6:30-7:30PM

Join us for a fascinating discussion with Howard County Conservancy Board Member, Mark Southerland. Learn about vernal pools, the threats they face, and actions that can be taken to support local biodiversity. Hosted by KC CARES.

Visit: <https://zoom.us/join>

Zoom Meeting ID: **828 8556 6285**

Passcode: **418762**

MONDAY, MARCH 31 10AM-NOON
Vernal Pool Walk in Kings Contrivance

As a follow up to the Vernal Pool presentation, KC CARES will host an in-person Vernal Pool Walk led by Mark Southerland. Register for the walk by emailing KCVillageCARES@gmail.com.

FAMILY FUN BINGO!

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24

7:30-9:00PM @ AMHERST HOUSE



Family Fun BINGO is back! Bring your family and friends of all ages to Amherst House on Friday, January 24 from 7:30-9:00pm. Join us for a night of fun and prizes! Bingo cards are 6 for \$1. Drinks are \$1. Snacks are free. *There's no need to register*, just show up for a fun family night out.



LADIES' NIGHT BINGO

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21

7:30PM @ AMHERST HOUSE

Bring your friends and join us for this adult-only evening of refreshments & BINGO with fun prizes! Tickets are \$10 per person & include 12 BINGO cards; 12 games will be played. Extra cards will be available for purchase. To register, please call 410-381-9600 or stop by Amherst House.

*Seats are limited! Get your tickets by February 14 for a chance to win a \$25 Corner Stable gift card.

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

WILLS, TRUSTS AND ESTATE PLANNING BASICS

TUESDAY, MARCH 4

10:30-11:30AM @ AMHERST HOUSE

Join us at Amherst House for a workshop on wills, trusts and estate planning basics, presented by KC resident and attorney, Andrew Swanekamp. A question and answer session will follow the presentation.

This is a **free presentation**, but registration is required. Please call 410-381-9600 or email Events@VillageofKC.org to register.

Coffee and pastries will be served.



DON'T FORGET...
PHOTOS FROM OUR SANTA EVENTS
ARE AVAILABLE FOR PICKUP AT
AMHERST HOUSE.

A MESSAGE FROM KC CARES KC VILLAGE ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP

Why Feeding Deer is Bad for Them

**DO NOT
FEED**



DEER

Now that it's winter and green foliage is scarce, local deer are browsing twigs, bark, mushrooms, and even lawn grass. Deer can survive on these high-fiber and low-carb foods thanks to a digestive system adapted to seasonal food availability. During the winter, their system is populated by bacteria that can extract

nutrients from these low-nutrition foods.

Having less nutrition in winter is so natural that having extra nutrition is actually dangerous. Deer's winter bacteria cannot process corn, alfalfa, and other high-calorie foods. Eating these in the winter leads to rapid fermentation of starches, causing a painful condition called rumen acidosis. This results in abdominal cramping, dehydration, weakness, breathing difficulties, and even death. So, as tempting as it is to feed deer in winter, it is not actually a kindness to them.

The best way to support our deer is to balance a healthy and stable deer population with a healthy understory of native shrubs and plants.

To learn more about KC CARES, sign up for our weekly environmental newsletter, and join our efforts, contact KCvillageCARES@gmail.com.

TAX TIPS

1. **File early** to avoid identity thieves who use stolen social security numbers to file tax returns.
2. **Check out your preparer.** Make sure your preparer is properly licensed by going to DLLR's website: DLLR.State.MD.US/PQ/
3. **Avoid refund anticipation loans.** Fees and interest will be deducted from your refund.
4. **Stay alert for IRS imposters.** The IRS does not call taxpayers who owe back taxes. Hang up if the caller asks for immediate payment.

FREE TAX PREP!

Low and moderate income taxpayers can obtain **free** tax prep from:

- ⇒ AARP - locations around the county. Visit Aarp.org/money/taxes/aarp_taxaide/
- ⇒ Making Change—a HoCo non-profit. For info, visit: MakingChangeCenter.org or call 443-518-7650.



If you have questions or concerns about CA Open Space, please contact **Columbia Association Open Space** directly. You can report issues in Open Space such as trees across a CA pathway or tot lot problems. Call **410-312-6330** or email: Open.Space@ColumbiaAssociation.org

AMHERST HOUSE SCHEDULE



Amherst House will be closed on Saturday, January 18th and Monday, January 20th in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The offices will reopen on Tuesday, January 21st at 10am.

- Trash & recycling pick-up will be on a regular schedule the week of Jan. 20th. It is not a *slide week*.

ELECTION COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED



Village elections are approaching and we need volunteers to serve on the Election Committee. Committee members oversee the voting process to include issuing, receiving and counting the ballots cast on election days. This year's elections will be held on Friday, April 25th from 5pm to 7pm and on Saturday, April 26th from 9am to 1pm. Are you interested in serving on the committee? Contact Beverley Meyers at 410-381-9600.

CA POOLS: SUMMER 2025

**NOW
HIRING**

- Pool managers
- Lifeguards
- Swim lesson instructors

Work poolside all season with a great team, free training and flexible hours! You don't have to live in Columbia to join the team.

APPLY HERE:

ColumbiaAssociation.org/about-us/careers/aquatics/

Or CALL CA AQUATICS: **410-312-6332**

All CA Team Members receive a FREE Fit & Play membership!

SIDEWALK MAINTAINANCE

Please remember...if your property has a sidewalk along the *SIDE OR REAR* property line (even if the sidewalk area is behind a fence) it is your responsibility to mow the grass, rake the leaves and **shovel snow** in this area. You are responsible for maintaining the sidewalk and grassy areas so that it is safe for public use. It's the law!
Howard County code, Section 18.402(a) and (h).



CAREAPP

Find resources for access to healthcare, education, employment, food, health, housing and more. Visit FindHCResources.org for all of the ways CAREAPP can help you. You can also download the App by searching **CAREAPP Howard County** in your phone's app store (available for both android and iPhone).

RECEIVE THE CROWN PRINTS BY EMAIL! SEND A REQUEST TO: Info@VillageofKC.org

COVENANT CORNER

The Resident Architectural Committee (RAC) meets via Zoom on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:30PM.

The next meeting is January 22, 2025. Please submit complete applications by January 13, 2025 @ 10am.

Find the Exterior Alteration application on our website: VillageofKC.org under the Covenants tab. Bring your completed application to Amherst House, drop it in the secure mailbox hanging on the front of Amherst House, or email it to:

Covenants@VillageofKC.org

RECYCLE HOLIDAY TREES



Prepare your tree for recycling by removing all ornaments, garlands, lights, tinsel, plastic bags, or any other artificial materials. You can recycle your tree on your normal recycling day through January 17. Trees will not be collected on trash days.

YARD TRIM COLLECTION

Reminder! Now that KC Village is eligible for the Feed the Green Bin program, yard trim collection is year round! For trash & recycling info, call 410-313-6444 or visit HowardCountyRecycles.org

ROAD TO KINDERGARTEN



Do you have a child who will be 5 years old by September 1, 2025? Howard County Public School System is holding three information sessions in January about the Road to Kindergarten. Learn details of the Kindergarten program, expectations for school readiness, how to register and much more. Questions? Learn more — call **410-313-5693** or visit HCPSS.org/enroll/kindergarten

VILLAGE BOARD HIGHLIGHTS



If you have concerns you would like the Village Board to address, attend a Board meeting. Board Meetings are held on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 7:30PM. Meetings are held in-person at Amherst House.

⇒ The Monday before each meeting, the meeting agenda is posted on VillageofKC.org and on Facebook (Kings Contrivance Village). If you would like to receive the agenda by email, please contact Kings@VillageofKC.org.

UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS



January 15, 2025 Board Meeting
Neighborhood overview from Howard County police.



FEBRUARY 5, 2025 BOARD MEETING
Village Center update from Kimco leasing agent.

HAMMOND HIGH SCHOOL WINTER DANCE CONCERT JAN 16 and JAN 17 @ 7PM Hammond High Auditorium

Featuring the Hammond Dance Companies and Dance Classes!

There will be a special performance featuring Lake Elkhorn Middle School dancers on January 17th.

General admission tickets are \$6.00 and can be purchased in advance at:

Hcpss.booktix.com/dept/hahsdance



Mission statement: The association represents the community of Kings Contrivance by advocating for residents, enforcing covenants, and building a sense of community.

Board of Directors

Barbara Seely, Chair	410-381-6447	bseely@comcast.net
Melissa Hogle	410-880-1830	mhogle712@gmail.com
Carol Huegel	240-319-0841	huegel.kcboard@gmail.com
Madeleine Borowski	443-537-9389	madeleine.borowski@gmail.com
Vivian Feen	443-794-4106	vivianfeen1@gmail.com
Fred Niziol	301-498-4461	mobyk@aol.com

Columbia Council Representative

Paul Rader paul.rader@ca-board.org

Aging Well in Columbia Advocacy Committee

Janet Cornick

Watershed Advisory Committee Representative

Kate Reilly katerel42@gmail.com

KC CARES Environmental Group

KCVillageCares@gmail.com

Kings Contrivance Community Association

7251 Eden Brook Drive
Columbia, Maryland 21046

Phone: 410-381-9600

Email: Kings@VillageofKC.org

Facebook: Kings Contrivance Village

Free Notary Services available; please call for hours.



Amherst House Hours

Monday-Friday

10am-5pm

Saturday

10am-1pm (rental tours by appt.)

Interested in booking a social or business rental at Amherst House? Looking for space to teach a class? Call 410-381-9600 or email: Facility@VillageofKC.org.

BULK PICKUP

HoCo offers free bulk pickup!
Schedule a **bulk pickup**; call
410-313-6444.

Before calling for bulk pickup,
consider donation! Many charities
& non-profits accept reusable
items from building materials to
clothing to furniture.

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CHILD CARE INFO FAIR SATURDAY, JAN. 25, 10AM-1PM EAST COLUMBIA 50+ CENTER 6610 Cradlerock Way, Columbia, MD



The 2025 Howard County Child Care Information Fair will provide parents and guardians with "one stop shopping" for information on child care, pre-school, school-aged and summer programs. Admission is free; For info, contact HoCo Office of Children at 410-313-1940 or email: **Children@HowardCountyMD.gov**.



MEETING SPACE AVAILABLE AT AMHERST HOUSE

Need a small or large space to conduct a meeting? KCCA is here for you!

Amherst House is perfect for your needs. We have a small conference room, as well as a larger space, to accommodate your group. Both rooms have streaming capability. For more info, call 410-381-9600 or email: **Kings@VillageofKC.org**

QUICK REFERENCE NUMBERS

- Howard County Police Non-Emergency
(noise complaints, non-licensed cars on the street)
♦ **410-313-2200**
- Howard County Highways: Maintenance
(sidewalks, street signs, trees, ponds, grass cutting)
♦ **410-313-7450**
- HoCo Cable TV Authority (questions/complaints)
♦ **410-313-3318**
- Howard County Senior Assistance
♦ **410-313-7212**
- Howard County Rec and Parks
♦ **410-313-4640**
- Howard County Bulk Pickup/Trash/Recycle
♦ **410-313-6444**

WOULD YOU LIKE TO TEACH A CLASS AT AMHERST HOUSE?

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Call 410-381-9600 for info.

General Liability Insurance required.