

# CROWN PRINTS



VOLUME 47/No. 03/February 6, 2025 The Twice-Monthly Newsletter of the Village of Kings Contrivance

## MASTER GARDENER TALK

Join us this winter for a **FREE gardening talk** via *Zoom*. This informative presentation will be given by Howard County Master Gardeners. Registration not required.

**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.

Please register for the walk by emailing [KCVillageCARES@gmail.com](mailto:KCVillageCARES@gmail.com).

## AMHERST HOUSE SCHEDULE

Amherst House will be closed on Saturday, February 15th and Monday, February 17th in honor of Presidents' Day.



Trash & recycling pick-up will be on a regular schedule the week of February 17th. Alpha Ridge Landfill will follow its normal schedule.



**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](mailto:Events@VillageofKC.org) to register.

*Coffee and pastries will be served.*



***SAVE THE DATE***  
**Spring Village Events**

- April 5: **Columbia Cleans Day** 10am-1pm  
**FREE Shredding** 10am-1pm  
@ Amherst House
- April 16: **Candidates' Night** 7pm  
(only held if election is contested)  
@ Amherst House
- April 25: **Village Elections** 5-7pm  
@Amherst House
- April 26: **Village Elections** 9am-1pm  
**Spring Flea Market** 9am-noon  
**KC CARES: Take Back Your Yard**  
Gardening successfully with deer,  
ticks & mosquitoes 9-11:30am  
@Amherst House

**THE CROWN PRINTS WELCOMES  
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

**A MESSAGE FROM KC CARES  
KC VILLAGE ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP**

**Why Feeding Deer is Bad for Them**



Bird flu has spread to wild bird species and mammals around the world, including Maryland. Luckily, songbirds are less susceptible to catching and spreading bird flu than raptors, waterfowl, and domestic poultry.

Given their lower risk, there is currently no recommendation for most people to remove bird feeders that serve songbirds. However, if you keep chickens or other backyard poultry, you should keep wild birds away from them, so taking down feeders for wild birds may be the best choice for you.

People who are regularly exposed to wild birds, such as rehabilitators or farm workers, need to take many precautions. The rest of us should avoid direct contact with sick or dead wild animals and materials that may be contaminated by these animals, like bedding. As always, it is important to follow good hygiene practices, including regular cleaning of feeders and frequent hand-washing after caring with animals.

Additional information can be found at: <https://www.allaboutbirds.org/news/avian-influenza-outbreak-should-you-take-down-your-bird-feeders/>

To learn more about KC CARES, sign up for our weekly environmental newsletter, and join our efforts, contact [KCvillageCARES@gmail.com](mailto:KCvillageCARES@gmail.com).



**2025 Howard County  
Resource Guide  
Now Available**



The Department of Community Resources and Services (DCRS) Office on Aging and Independence (OAI) annual Howard County Resource Guide contains up-to-date information about health and wellness, financial planning, legal services, housing options and more to help county residents age well and plan for their future. Find the 2025 Resource Guide online at [HowardCountyMD.gov/aging](http://HowardCountyMD.gov/aging) or pick up a hard copy at Amherst House.

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](mailto:Open.Space@ColumbiaAssociation.org)**



**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 25 from 5pm to 7pm and on Saturday, April 26 from 9am to 1pm. Are you interested in serving on the committee? Please contact Beverley Meyers at 410-381-9600.

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO RUN FOR  
THE KC VILLAGE BOARD?**



Anyone who is interested in running **for a Village Board seat (2-year term)** must complete a nomination petition. The petitions will be available on March 1 through email, on our website and at Amherst House. Petitions must be returned by 5pm on March 21. Elections will be held at Amherst House on April 25 & 26, 2025.

Questions? Call Beverley Meyers at 410-381-9600.

**BLOOD DRIVE  
FEBRUARY 14 from 9AM-3PM  
SUPREME SPORTS CLUB**



In collaboration with the American Red Cross, Columbia Association is hosting a blood drive. The need for blood doesn't stop for winter activities or inclement weather. That's why we need donors like you now!

Donors will receive a free \$15 gift card to merchant of their choice. Register at:

[RedCrossBlood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=carefirstcolumbia](http://RedCrossBlood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=carefirstcolumbia)  
or by calling 1-800-RedCross

**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).*

**You can report snowy and icy sidewalks  
on the Tell HoCo app or at:  
[HowardCountyMD.gov/Tell-HoCo](http://HowardCountyMD.gov/Tell-HoCo)**

**CA POOLS: HIRING FOR SUMMER**

Pool Managers - Lifeguards - Swim Instructors



APPLY HERE:  
**[ColumbiaAssociation.org/about-us/careers/aquatics/](http://ColumbiaAssociation.org/about-us/careers/aquatics/)**

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

RECEIVE THE CROWN PRINTS BY EMAIL! SEND A REQUEST TO: [Info@VillageofKC.org](mailto: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 February 26, 2025. Please submit complete applications by February 18, 2025 @ 10am.**

Find the Exterior Alteration application on our website: [VillageofKC.org](http://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](mailto:Covenants@VillageofKC.org)

### THINKING AHEAD TO SPRING?



As you think about spring projects, don't forget to apply before making any changes or improvements to the outside of your home, including color changes, fences, and gardens. Find our **Exterior Alteration Application** on our website under "Covenants."

[VillageofKC.org](http://VillageofKC.org)



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

## 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](http://VillageofKC.org) and on Facebook (Kings Contrivance Village). If you would like to receive the agenda by email, please contact [Kings@VillageofKC.org](mailto:Kings@VillageofKC.org).

**Hammond H.S. Boosters  
Friday Night Fever  
Fundraiser  
March 28, 2025  
7-11pm**



All you can eat and drink, dancing, casino games, 50/50 and silent auction.  
Scan for info or to buy tickets.



## BE THE DIFFERENCE—LEARN CPR



When a person goes into sudden cardiac arrest, their survival depends on immediately getting CPR from someone nearby. By learning how to administer CPR, you can help save a life and be the difference. The Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services offers FREE individual, group, and virtual CPR trainings.

To register for a class, call 410-313-2016 or visit:

[HowardCountyMD.gov/fire-and-rescue-services/cpr-training](http://HowardCountyMD.gov/fire-and-rescue-services/cpr-training)

*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	<a href="mailto:bseely@comcast.net">bseely@comcast.net</a>
Melissa Hogle	410-880-1830	<a href="mailto:mhogle712@gmail.com">mhogle712@gmail.com</a>
Carol Huegel	240-319-0841	<a href="mailto:huegel.kcboard@gmail.com">huegel.kcboard@gmail.com</a>
Madeleine Borowski	443-537-9389	<a href="mailto:madeleine.borowski@gmail.com">madeleine.borowski@gmail.com</a>
Vivian Feen	443-794-4106	<a href="mailto:vivianfeen1@gmail.com">vivianfeen1@gmail.com</a>
Fred Niziol	301-498-4461	<a href="mailto:mobyk@aol.com">mobyk@aol.com</a>

### Columbia Council Representative

Paul Rader [paul.rader@ca-board.org](mailto:paul.rader@ca-board.org)

### Aging Well in Columbia Advocacy Committee

Janet Cornick

### Watershed Advisory Committee Representative

Kate Reilly [katerei42@gmail.com](mailto:katerei42@gmail.com)

### KC CARES Environmental Group

[KCVillageCares@gmail.com](mailto:KCVillageCares@gmail.com)

### Kings Contrivance Community Association

7251 Eden Brook Drive  
Columbia, Maryland 21046

Phone: 410-381-9600

Email: [Kings@VillageofKC.org](mailto: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](mailto:Facility@VillageofKC.org).





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[hursttutoring2@gmail.com](mailto:hursttutoring2@gmail.com)  
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**The printed version is delivered once a month to over 5,000 village homes via USPS.**

**MEETING SPACE AVAILABLE  
 AT AMHERST HOUSE**

*Need a small or large space to conduct a meeting?*  
 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](mailto:Kings@VillageofKC.org)

**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.

**NEED HELP?  
 CALL 2-1-1**

2-1-1 Maryland provides simple access to health & human services information. 2-1-1 connects people with help for employment, utility assistance, food, housing, health care & family resources such as child and elder care. Specialists answer calls 24/7.  
 For more info, you can visit  
**211MD.org**

**STREET LIGHTS OUT?**

BGE has a website for reporting street lights that are out, on all day, damaged, etc. If possible, provide the light pole number:  
**BGE.streetlightoutages.com**

You can also report street light issues by calling: **1-800-685-0123**  
 Report lights out & other issues on state roads (numbered routes) at: **1-800-635-5119**