

CROWN PRINTS



VOLUME 47/No. 09/May 8, 2025 The Twice-Monthly Newsletter of the Village of Kings Contrivance



WELCOME NEW KC RESIDENTS! SATURDAY, MAY 17 from 10:30am-noon



Are you new to the Village of Kings Contrivance? Join us for a **free Open House** at Amherst House (7251 Eden Brook Drive). Meet other new residents and enjoy pastries & coffee, crafts for the kids, and learn about your new neighborhood! KC CARES, our environmental committee, will be on hand to answer gardening questions and to give out **free native plants**! Please let us know if you are interested in attending by emailing Events@VillageofKC.org or calling us at 410-381-9600.

VILLAGE ELECTIONS 2025



Kings Contrivance Village elections took place on April 25 and 26, 2025 and 163 votes were cast. The results are as follows:

For Village Board, two seats open

- ♦ Barb Seely 156 votes
- ♦ Carol Huegel 135 votes

Barb and Carol were elected to two-year terms on the village board.

For Columbia Council Rep, one seat open

- ♦ Wesley Fuhrman 158 votes

Wesley was elected to a two-year term on the Columbia Council.

Thank you to all of the KC residents who voted in our village election!

KC KIDS VOTED TOO!



Eighteen kids participated in this year's kids' vote and the winner is Bea! Bea submitted **Chicken Nugget** as the name for the penguin that Kings Contrivance adopted from the Maryland Zoo in Baltimore last year. Congratulations!

Special thanks to our hard-working Election Committee and election day volunteers: Mahfuzur Rahman (chair), Isaac Cole, Deanna Lee, Maureen Cogan, Kim Haag, Terry Losonski and Guy Guzzone



Thank you also to KC CARES for hosting "Take Back Your Yard" event during our village elections! Residents learned how to enjoy their yards and have a beautiful garden despite deer, mosquitos and ticks. KC CARES gave away native plants, mosquito buckets and tick tubes.

FREE PRESENTATIONS@ AMHERST HOUSE

Join us this June for refreshments and conversation at Amherst House. All events are free, but registration is required. Please note the registration information for each event. We look forward to seeing you!

WILLS, TRUSTS & ESTATE PLANNING BASICS Thursday, June 12 @ Amherst House 7:30-8:30PM



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.

To register, please call 410-381-9600 or email: Events@VillageofKC.org

HOW TO MAKE YOUR HOME MORE ENERGY EFFICIENT, GREENER, AND HEALTHIER Tuesday, June 17 @ Amherst House 10:30-11:30am



Come to Amherst House and learn about no cost, energy efficient weatherization programs, as well as the Community Solar and Rooftop Solar Cooperative. Presented by Civic Works.

To register, please call 410-381-9600

JIM ROUSE'S VISION:

A GARDEN FOR THE GROWING OF PEOPLE Wednesday, June 25 @ Amherst House 10:30-11:30am



Hear the inspiring story of visionary James Rouse and his dream for the ideal planned community of Columbia. Presented by Beverly White-Seals, President of the Community Foundation of Howard County.

To register, please email: JNeal@CFHoCo.org

THANK YOU BARB SEELY!



Our deepest gratitude to Barb Seely for her remarkable 35 years of dedicated service on the Kings Contrivance Board of Directors. She is an inspiration to all of us with her leadership and constant commitment to our residents. Thank you Barb for your time, your wisdom, and your heart. We are truly grateful for everything you've done for our village for so many years!

CONGRATULATIONS KC CARES!

Thank you to *Pearl Seidman and KC CARES* for spearheading the expansion of the Feed the Green Bin food scrap program to Huntington and Dickinson in our village. Their efforts were recognized at the county's 2025 GreenFest with a **Green Community Leadership Award** for demonstrating exceptional environmental stewardship. As one of the newer additions to the food scrap program, KC residents set out more food scrap weight on a weekly basis than most of the more established participating neighborhoods. Our residents' commitment to reducing waste sent to the landfill sets a powerful example for other communities. Thank you Pearl and KC CARES for all of your hard work and congrats on your award!

A MESSAGE FROM KC CARES KC VILLAGE ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP Wood Chips for Paths and Play



Use wood chips to create shady garden paths and soak up water, avoid compaction, and prevent mud in walkways and under play structures.

Applying a 6 to 9-inch layer of fresh wood chips will result in lovely rich soil within a few years – ready for planting after the play area is no longer needed. Wood chips last longer than mulch and are free and delivered at no cost by arborists. Contact arborists directly or through **getChipDrop.com**. Check to confirm no significant tree diseases, logs, or poison ivy are in the mix!

Tips: Get chips dumped near where you want to spread them. Use a wheelbarrow and wide snow shovel to move them. Leave 6" space around the trunks of trees: do not mulch against trunks. Repeat every 3-4 years as chips break down if you want to maintain coverage.

⇒ Learn more: <https://youtu.be/NXL9n2KNm1E>

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

SUMMER BLOCK PARTY

\$50 GRANTS NOW AVAILABLE!

Get to know your neighbors—host a block party this summer! Call or come into Amherst House to sign up. Be sure to invite all of your neighbors. After the party, bring in your receipts for food, soft drinks, paper goods, etc. and be reimbursed up to \$50.



YOU ARE INVITED TO THE GRAND OPENING OF WAYOVER WAY PLAY AREA WEDNESDAY, MAY 14 @ 4PM

Join Columbia Association at the Grand Opening of the first play area completed under the CA Play Area Cluster Program - the **Wayover Way Play Area (KC Tot Lot 21)**.

Ribbon cutting by CA President, Sean MacInnes. The best parking is at the Atholton Shopping Center at 10400 Shaker Drive. It's a short walk along the path from there.

- Rain date: Tuesday, May 20 @ 4pm

TIME FOR FUN IN THE SUN!



Enjoy all 23 CA outdoor pools this summer! For a complete schedule, membership info, as well as how to obtain a Columbia Card, call 410-730-1801 or visit: **ColumbiaPools.org**

*A Columbia Card allows access to CA facilities at a reduced, pay-as-you-go rate.

Memorial Day Weekend
May 24th - 26th
All CA outdoor pools will be open
from noon-7pm

MEMORIAL DAY AMHERST HOUSE SCHEDULE



The village office will be closed on Saturday, May 24 and Monday, May 26. We will reopen at 10am on Tuesday, May 27.

TRASH & RECYCLING SCHEDULE

Memorial Day week, May 26-May 30, is on a "slide" schedule. All trash and recycling collections scheduled will "slide" and be made one day later.

Alpha Ridge Landfill will be closed on May 26.



SUMMER IS HERE! MARK YOUR CALENDARS FREE SUMMER CONCERTS in Howard County

- ⇒ ColumbiaVillageCenters.com
- ⇒ LakefrontLive.org
- ⇒ MerriweatherDistrict.com
- ⇒ HowardCountyMD.gov/summerconcerts
- ⇒ ClarksvilleCommons.com/gather



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 May 28, 2025. Please submit complete applications by May 19, 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**

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.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW RAC MEMBER

Thank you to KC resident Alice Jackson for volunteering as a member of the Resident Architectural Committee (RAC). Alice was appointed at the last Board meeting. Welcome aboard; we look forward to working with you.



HOWARD COUNTY PROPERTY TAX CREDITS

Howard County provides a variety of Real Property Tax Credits designed to meet the needs of County taxpayers and to promote specific activity that is beneficial to the County as a whole. Visit:

howardcountymd.gov/finance/tax-credits and use The Tax Credit Calculator to see if your household is eligible for one of the many property tax credits offered by Howard County.

⇒ Columbia Association also offers credits based on Howard County credits received. Contact them at 410-715-3137.

VILLAGE BOARD

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 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.

HOWARD COUNTY POLICE SUMMER CAMPS

Calling all Howard County youth, HCPD is NOW accepting applications for its BEARTRAX (rising 6th graders), Youth Police Academy (15-18 year olds) and P.L.E.D.G.E. (Pride, Leadership, Education, Diversity, Growth, Evaluation) Summer Leadership Camp (rising 9th graders) programs.

To learn more about each of these camps, including summer camp dates and for an application, visit

Howardcountymd.gov/police/youth-programs

While applications are due by May 30th, spots are limited, so be sure to apply today!

FREE POLLINATOR FEST HOWARD COUNTY CONSERVANCY 10520 Old Frederick Road, Woodstock JUNE 7 from 10am-1pm



Meet your favorite pollinators! Learn about bees, butterflies, moths, birds and more, encounter live insects, and fun for all ages. Enjoy hands-on pollinator themed crafts and games, seed giveaways, live music, food and more! Free event, but please register. Visit: HowardNature.org

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 Nizio	301-498-4461	mobyk@aol.com

Columbia Council Representative

Wesley Fuhrman

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.

If you have a home where the back or side yard borders a street, it is your responsibility to maintain the area between the sidewalk and the street. Even if the area is outside of your fence, it is yours to maintain.