

CROWN PRINTS



VOLUME 47/No. 15 August 4, 2025 The Twice-Monthly Newsletter of the Village of Kings Contrivance

KC ANNUAL FREE POOL PARTY THURSDAY, AUGUST 7 6:30-9PM @ DICKINSON POOL

Enjoy food, music, games & giveaways



This is a free event but registration is required.

Please call 410-381-9600 for ticket availability

Must be a Kings Contrivance resident living on CA assessed property.

SUNDAE MAKING & ROCK DECORATING TUESDAY, AUGUST 12 1-3PM @ AMHERST HOUSE



Make your own sundae and decorate a rock to take home!

Enjoy sweet treats while you demonstrate your decorating skills! All ages welcome.

- ◇ Tickets are \$3 per person; all supplies included.
- ◇ Tickets now available at Amherst House.

ANNUAL FREE 50+ LUNCH

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26 @ AMHERST HOUSE from 11:30am-1:30pm
Songs, Hits and the Academy Awards: 1934-1969

Please check availability by calling 410-381-9600.

Must be a Kings Contrivance resident living on CA assessed property.



LADIES' NIGHT BINGO FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 7:30PM @ AMHERST HOUSE

Bring your friends and join us for this adult-only evening of BINGO! Win fun prizes and gift cards!! Tickets are \$16 per person & include 12 BINGO cards; 12 games will be played. Extra cards will be available for purchase. Light refreshments included.

*Register by calling 410-381-9600 or stop by Amherst House.

*Seats are limited! Get your tickets by Sept. 5 for a chance to win a \$25 Corner Stable gift card.

FALL FLEA MARKET SCARECROW MAKING PUMPKIN DECORATING SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 9AM-NOON

Time to clean out your garage! The Annual **Fall Flea Market** will be held in the parking lot behind Amherst House on September 20.

CA resident rate: one space for \$15, two for \$20. Non-resident rate: \$20 each. No vendors please!

Sign up at Amherst House today!

Rain date: September 27.



Make a Scarecrow

(free - bring old clothes)

Decorate Pumpkins

(\$2 each—all supplies included)



Stop by the **KC CARES** table for free native perennials - while supplies last! Experienced native gardeners will be on hand to answer landscaping questions.

MORE FALL EVENTS @ AMHERST HOUSE

October 7: **Balance and Fall Prevention**
Coffee & Presentation

October 11: **Free Shredding**
(CA Assessed, KC residents only)
Fall Community Clean-Up

October 24: **Halloween Happenings**
See a free show by Daisy the Clown!
Trick-or-Treat @ the Village Center

November 21: Family Fun Bingo!



BLOCK PARTY GRANTS

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

A MESSAGE FROM KC CARES KC VILLAGE ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP BAMBOO IN THE LANDSCAPE



Often planted in past years for privacy and fast growth, bamboo has become a serious headache for property owners. Out-of-control patches of invasive running bamboo are spreading throughout Kings Contrivance, with hundreds more in our county. You can see them crossing property lines along our CA pathways and along county highways. Dense bamboo growths push out wildlife and kill native plants and trees, while providing ideal breeding habitat for the aggressive daytime-biting Asian tiger mosquito. Fast-growing rhizomes spread underground and damage sewer pipes, sidewalks, foundations, and other infrastructure. Along waterways, pieces of these rhizomes break off and establish new growth downstream. Removing bamboo is difficult and expensive—often requiring repeated cutting, root excavation, and sometimes chemical treatments.

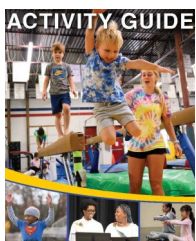
What can you do? Don't plant bamboo; take steps to remove it if you have it; and vocally support CA efforts to remove it in Open Space and replant with natives. Learn more at:

extension.umd.edu/resource/containing-and-removing-bamboo

Sign up for the Columbia CARES newsletter for local weekly environmental news and opportunities by emailing:

KCvillageCARES@gmail.com

HO CO REC AND PARKS 2025 FALL ACTIVITY GUIDE NOW ONLINE



Recreation & Parks' Fall 2025 Activity Guide is now available online! From sport, dance and cooking classes, to a plethora of seasonal events and activities to do when school's out, there is something for everyone in the 2025 Fall Guide.

Online registration for Howard County residents begins Wednesday, August 6th at 6:00 p.m. (in-person, mail-in and over-the-phone begins the morning of the 7th), followed by online registration for non-county residents on August 13th at 6:00 p.m.

View the guide at:

howardcountymd.gov/recreation-parks/resource/2025-fall-activity-guide

Never miss an event!

Do you receive two issues of our newsletter each month? Visit **VillageofKC.org** and scroll to the bottom to sign up to receive both issues of the *Crown Prints* via email each month, this issue and our digital only issue.

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR



Here's your chance to nominate a KC resident who has done an outstanding job improving life in Kings Contrivance. Nomination forms are available at Amherst House and on our website, **VillageofKC.org** at the top of the home page. Email completed form to Kings@VillageofKC.org or drop it off at Amherst House.

ENJOY COLUMBIA'S OUTDOOR POOLS

Check which pools are busy! Visit:

ColumbiaPools.org



KC Village Pool Hours

August 11-24

Dickinson (closed Thursdays)

⇒ Mon, Tues, Wed, Sun: noon-7pm

⇒ Fri & Sat: noon-8pm

⇒ Closed August 25-28

⇒ Open Labor Day weekend! Aug 29-Sept 1
Friday-Sunday noon-7pm Monday noon-6pm

Macgill's Common (closed Tuesdays)

⇒ Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sun: noon-7pm

Last day for Macgill's Common Pool: August 24

Huntington

Closed for the season August 10

LAST FREE CONCERT IN THE KINGS CONTRIVANCE VILLAGE CENTER!



Thursday, August 21

6-8pm in the Courtyard

Gayle Harrod Band - Blues, Soul, R&B

CUL-DE-SAC MAINTENANCE

It's that time of the year again when residents ask, "Who is responsible for maintenance of the cul-de-sac islands?"

Although the cul-de-sac islands are owned by the county, the regular mowing of the center islands is the responsibility of all residents whose homes face or driveways open onto the island. Sometimes it seems like this burden falls onto one or two neighbors who do "all the heavy lifting." So, if your cul-de-sac hasn't formalized a maintenance plan, now is the time to do so! We encourage you to work together to find one that works given the abilities and interests of your neighbors.



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 August 27, 2025. Please submit complete applications by August 18, 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**

KEEP YOUR HOME BEAUTIFUL and IN COMPLIANCE

- ◇ Keep your exterior maintained by:
Replacing rotten wood, cleaning mold & mildew, and fixing peeling paint.
- ◇ Perform yard maintenance including:
Mowing, weeding gardens & landscaped areas, stacking firewood neatly behind and within sidelines of your house, removing old papers, pots, debris, etc.
- ◇ Remember to apply for Exterior Alterations:
See the Covenant Section of our website for the Exterior Alteration Application.



Report non-emergency issues to Howard County using the **Tell HoCo mobile app**. report issues pertaining to potholes, signs, graffiti, sidewalks, roadways, guardrails, parks, trees, sewers, dead animals or water.

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**.

UPCOMING AGENDA ITEM BOARD MEETING AUGUST 20

CA's Sustainability Team will present plans to remove the large stand of bamboo at the large Tot Lot (KC24) between Cape Ann & Deer Chase.

MAKING OUR NEIGHBORHOODS SAFER



This summer marks the first full implementation of Howard County Police Dept's innovative centralized Crime Analysis Unit, which is modernizing their approach to public safety. Officers now have real-time insights into crime trends and offender behavior, helping guide patrol planning and resource deployment.

These data-informed, people-driven strategies are making neighborhoods safer and more responsive. Residents can explore trends in their own communities through the new interactive crime map and daily bulletins on the HCPD website. Visit: **howardcountymd.gov/police**

DONATE SCHOOL SUPPLIES — BACKPACKS NEEDED!



Drop off school supplies in the Amherst House lobby until August 16. The *Prepare For Success* program collects and distributes school supplies to Howard County students in need. Donate **new** school supplies such as backpacks, highlighters, pencils, glue sticks, notebooks, lined paper, folders, colored pencil, pencil boxes or binders. You can also make a tax-deductible donation for students in need. For info or to donate, scan the QR code or visit: **PrepareForSuccess.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 Niziol	301-498-4461	mobyk@aol.com

Columbia Council Representative

Wesley Fuhrman wesley.fuhrman@ca-board.org

Aging Well in Columbia Advocacy Committee

Janet Cornick

Watershed Advisory Committee Representative

Kate Reilly katerei42@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**.

Coverage for the life you want to live

- Home Insurance
- Life Insurance
- Business Insurance



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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 and a sound system. For more info, call 410-381-9600 or email: 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 WITH HOME REPAIRS?

Rebuilding Together Howard County was formed to mobilize volunteers and to provide free home repairs to low-income families in Howard County. The program is committed to improving the lives of the elderly, individuals with disabilities, veterans, families with children and all HoCo homeowners who can no longer afford to keep up with repairs. For more information or to apply, please call 410-381-3338 or visit: RebuildingTogetherHowardCounty.org

COUNTY CONSTRUCTION REPORT

Learn about the HoCo Department of Public Works' (DPW) projects currently underway, visit:

HowardCountymd.gov/public-works

Searchable by project category and street name, you'll find additional project details, including news releases about the project. You can also contact DPW's Office at 410-313-3440.

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, visit

211MD.org