

# CROWN PRINTS



VOLUME 48/No. 05/March 5, 2026 The Twice-Monthly Newsletter of the Village of Kings Contrivance

## VILLAGE ELECTIONS 2026 TIMELINE

- March 21** Nomination petitions for KC Village Board (four seats available, two-year term) must be received at Amherst House by 1pm. Candidates may submit a 150-word statement by **March 25 @ 5pm**. Nomination packets are available at Amherst House, at [VillageofKC.org](http://VillageofKC.org) and via email - [Kings@VillageofKC.org](mailto:Kings@VillageofKC.org).
- April 9** Absentee ballots available at Amherst House and in the *Crown Prints*.
- April 15** Candidates' Night @ 7pm (held only if election is contested)
- April 23** Absentee ballots must be returned to Amherst House by 5pm.
- April 24 & 25 Election Days @ Amherst House**  
**Friday 5-7pm, Saturday 9am-1pm**

### KIDS VOTE TOO!

Children under 18 residing in the village are encouraged to vote as well! Young voters will vote to decide which animal the Kings Contrivance Community Association will adopt from the Maryland Zoo.

## COMMUNITY YARD SALE SATURDAY, APRIL 25 9AM-NOON

Our popular Community Yard Sale will take place in the Amherst House parking lot on April 25; Village Election Day! Clean out your basement and grab a spot! The cost for CA-assessed residents is \$15 for one space or \$20 for two spaces; \$20 per space for non-CA. Maximum of two spaces.

**No vendors/crafters permitted!**  
*Rain date is May 2.*

Spaces are available Monday, March 9 and sell out quickly! Please call **410-381-9600** or come in to Amherst House to reserve your spot.

SAVE THE DATE  
**COFFEE AND CONVERSATION**  
**TUESDAY, APRIL 21 @10:30AM**  
**AMHERST HOUSE**  
**"Do You Know Someone Living With Dementia?"**  
Presented by Gilchrist

## COLUMBIA CLEANS DAY & FREE SHREDDING SATURDAY, MARCH 21 10AM-1PM @ AMHERST HOUSE

 Help keep the village beautiful. Join us as we pick up litter in the Open Space and along major roads in our village. Registration begins at 10AM at Amherst House. Safety vests, bags & rubber gloves are provided. Community service certificates will be available.

 Stop by our **FREE SHREDDING** event in the Amherst House parking lot. For Kings Contrivance residents living on CA-assessed property only. Bring personal papers for on-site shredding; no commercial/business materials will be accepted. Max 10 boxes or bags. Paper clips, staples, hanging file folders, non-plastic binders & files are acceptable; no binder clips.

**Call 410-381-9600 for more info.**

## ENVIRONMENTAL TOWN HALL JOIN KC CARES @ AMHERST HOUSE TUESDAY, MARCH 10 @ 7PM

 Do you have questions about water, wildlife & woodlands? Land management & development? Energy, data centers & renewables? Come get answers and join KC CARES in welcoming:

- Christiana Rigby, HoCo Councilwoman
- Nick Mooneyhan, HoCo Director Rec & Parks
- Lindsay DeMarzo, HoCo Community Sustainability
- Danielle Tyeryar, CA Sustainability Manager

All are welcome; registration required—use the QR Code or email [KCvillageCares@gmail.com](mailto:KCvillageCares@gmail.com)

## FREE GARDENING PRESENTATION TUESDAY, MARCH 24 from 7-8PM Propagating Perennial Plants

Join us for this **FREE** gardening talk via *Zoom*, given by a Howard County Master Gardener.

 Have you been shocked by the price of perennials recently? Would you like to multiply your favorite plant? This beginner class is for you! In this talk you will learn which of your own plants are easiest to propagate and which method works best for each type of plant.

Visit: [zoom.us/join](https://zoom.us/join)  
Zoom Meeting ID: **874 4136 0730**  
Passcode: **772138**

## PROPOSED ARCHITECTURAL GUIDELINE CHANGES

The Kings Contrivance Village Board is proposing updates to the Architectural Guidelines. The goal of the Guidelines is to keep our community an attractive and desirable place to live. The Guidelines do not have the legal force of the covenants. They are an interpretation of the covenants and guide the Resident Architectural Committee in its recommendations to the Architectural Committee. The last time the Guidelines were updated was 2023.

The proposed changes include edits to existing Guidelines. To review the complete proposed document, visit our website, [VillageofKC.org](http://VillageofKC.org), and click on "Covenants". On the document, the proposed changes are highlighted in yellow. If you would like to review a hard copy, one is available at the front desk of Amherst House.

The Village Board wants to know what residents think of the proposed changes. Written comments can be emailed to [Kings@VillageofKC.org](mailto:Kings@VillageofKC.org) or submitted to the village office. Comments must be received by Monday, April 6, 2026, and the proposed changes will be reviewed by the Village Board at their regular meeting on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at 7:30pm.

### A MESSAGE FROM KC CARES KC VILLAGE ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP SLOW THE SPRING RAIN RUNOFF



Spring is here and with it the rains that nourish the budding trees and flowers. But the rains also create erosion and runoff that carries soil, fertilizers, pesticides, and other pollutants into nearby streams, rivers, & the Chesapeake Bay. We can do our part to protect our waterways by creating yards that minimize runoff and reduce potential contaminants.

- Plant native perennials instead of grass – these have deeper root systems that soak up water and prevent soil erosion
- Install a rain garden using native plants to allow water to soak into the ground
- Plant dense native garden beds around the perimeter of your yard and in bare areas to prevent runoff into storm drains
- Maintain a chemical-free landscape avoiding fertilizers and pesticides, especially near waterways
- Direct downspout outlets into garden beds to slow erosion and encourage absorption

Questions? Visit:

[mda.maryland.gov/resource\\_conservation/documents/tip3.pdf](http://mda.maryland.gov/resource_conservation/documents/tip3.pdf)

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

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

#### JOIN KC CARES AT AMHERST HOUSE ON ELECTION DAY FOR THEIR EVENT:

#### **GARDENS FOR WILDLIFE!**

BRING IN THE BIRDS! THE FROGS!  
THE BUTTERFLIES!

**SATURDAY, APRIL 25**

**9-11:30AM @ AMHERST HOUSE**

Come talk with experienced wildlife gardeners for help and advice.

Free wren houses! Free microponds!

Free native plants!

### HOWARD COUNTY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



Looking for ways to give back?  
Make a difference in your community!  
HoCo welcomes new volunteers for tons of  
rewarding opportunities.  
[HoCoVolunteer.org](http://HoCoVolunteer.org)

### AGE WISELY!

#### HOWARD COUNTY DEPT. OF AGING and MARYLAND ACCESS POINT (MAP) PRESENT LUNCH-N-LEARNS @ THE LOAN CLOSET

7125 Riverwood Drive, Columbia

*Bring your bag lunch; beverages & dessert provided.*

All sessions 12:00-1:00 pm on Tuesdays

**March 24:** *Living with Serious Illness:*

*Demystifying hospice & palliative care*

Get equipped to make the right choices.

**April 21:** *Planning Ahead for Health-Care Choices*

How to make your wishes known with an advance directive.

Questions? Contact: Kim Flash, LCSW,  
MAP Specialist @ 410-313-3668

### CA POOLS: HIRING FOR SUMMER



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

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

### Are you receiving both issues of our newsletter each month?

The *Crown Prints*, the newsletter for KC Village, is issued twice per month. The first issue of each month is direct mail like this one and the second issue is available by email only.

Sign up to receive the email version of all issues of the *Crown Prints* to your inbox by visiting [VillageofKC.org](http://VillageofKC.org) and scrolling to the bottom of the home page.

All issues are posted on our website, Facebook and Instagram.

## 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 March 25, 2026. Please submit complete applications by March 16, 2026 @ 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**

Our covenant advisor does not inspect a property unless an inquiry is received at our office. Inquiries may be anonymous. *Please provide an exact address for the property in question.* If you have questions or observations about a property in the village, please call the village office at 410-381-9600.

## 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 hybrid.

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.

◇ If you have an issue or concern that can't wait for a Board Meeting, contact Beverley Meyers, the Village Manager. Call 410-381-9600 or email Kings@VillageofKC.org

### UPCOMING AGENDA

#### Wednesday, March 18

- Draft Budget FY2027
- Columbia Association will discuss the Cluster Play Area program, which involves the replacement of the KC-06 West Window Way and KC-11 Many Flowers play areas.



## IT'S TIME TO REGISTER FOR KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten is mandatory in MD. State law requires that children entering kindergarten in the fall of 2026 must be 5 years old on or before Sept 1, 2026. Parents or guardians are to register students at the school currently serving the address where the child's parent or guardian resides. Parents may check the School Locator and School Transportation link on the school system website, HCPSS.org, or call the Public Information Office at 410-313-6600.



## VILLAGE CENTER NEWS

### Aurora Nail Bar

(in the former Glamour Salon space)

### Nina's Cookie Explosion

(in the former Subway space)

### OPENING IN 2026!

## \$200 CUL~DE~SAC GRANT



Does your cul-de-sac need sprucing up? We have \$200 grants to be used to beautify your cul-de-sac. To qualify, you must live on Columbia assessed property in Kings Contrivance. For more info, call 410-381-9600 or email Kings@VillageofKC.org.

## CA OPEN SPACE: ISSUES?QUESTIONS?

Contact CA directly at 410-312-6330 or email

Open.Space@ColumbiaAssociation.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.

