



About Town

The Kensington Historical Society Newsletter

SUNDAY, APRIL 29th 3:00

NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLING BOOK AUTHOR TO SPEAK AT KHS

Mr. John A. Farrell will discuss his latest book "RICHARD NIXON -The Life". His book won the PEN America Award for the best biography of the year, and the New York Historical Society book prize for the best volume of American history published in 2017. It received widespread national media attention because it sheds new light on Nixon's life including previously unknown history about Nixon's efforts to secretly scuttle Lyndon Johnson's Vietnam peace initiative in 1968. Mr. Farrell is a consummate historian and storyteller. Please join us for a special afternoon that'll give you new insights into the man you thought you knew. Mr. Farrell is a Kensington resident and a member of the Kensington Historical Society. Please join us for coffee, cookies and conversation at 3:00 pm, followed by the program at 3:30. The meeting will be held in the Town Hall Lower Level, 3710 Mitchell Street.



KENSINGTON CABIN PROJECT WINS AWARD from MPI!!

This year's prize for the **Rehabilitation of a Historic Resource for Public Use** went to the Montgomery County Parks Department, for rehabilitating the 1934 Kensington Cabin, on Kensington Parkway!

Every fall Montgomery Preservation Incorporated (MPI), an umbrella organization for preservation and history organizations, asks for nominations for outstanding projects. The nominations are reviewed, sites visited, and interviews taken. These 9 or 10 best projects in Montgomery County are then presented awards in the spring. This year the awards ceremony was held in the Ballroom at the National Park Seminary in Forest Glen. Save Our Seminary (SOS) co-hosted the event. County Executive Ike Leggett spoke at the event which Councilmember Marc Elrich also attended. Special thanks went to Parks Project Manager Michelle Grace, and to Miche Booz, the project architect. Also in attendance to receive the award were: Javier Garcete, Joey Lampl, Scott Whipple, Jen

Gurney, Jayne Plank, Julie O'Malley, John Robinson, Barry Peoples, and Jerry McCoy.

Mark your calendar and join the party for the official Ribbon-Cutting at the KENSINGTON CABIN PARK on September 15th. More details will follow with updates on www.kensingtonhistory.org.

DONATIONS TO THE ARCHIVES

Thank you!

Early plat map showing Kensington properties and subdivisions, donated by Conor Crimmins

"We All Scream: The Fall of the Gifford's Ice Cream Empire," donated by author Andrew Gifford.

"Sarah Herring Sorin: Arizona's First Woman Lawyer", donated by author Jacquelyn Gayle Kasper. Ms. Kasper also sent copies of related papers from the Arizona Historical Society. Sarah's sister, Mary Greer Herring, was married to Cornelius Clum, the editor of Kensington's early newspaper, *The Montgomery Press*, established in 1895. Mrs. Sorin came by train twice to visit the Clums, most notably at the time she won her case as the first woman to appear alone to plead a case before the US Supreme Court (November 6, 1913). She won her case.

Display Case renewal by Steve Cohen. KHS Vice President Cohen restored a shop counter display case which had previously been donated to KHS by Ted Rosche. Steve also built a stand for it, and it now holds rotating displays in the Town Hall ground floor lobby.

WE NEED A COMPUTER WIZ

Why? To upload information to our website - once a month. (about 2 to 3 hours)

Please contact info@kensingtonhistory.org.

KHS HOLIDAY PARTY

The 2017 Holliday Party was a very special event continuing our celebration of the 40th Anniversary of KHS.

We are very grateful to Carola Alvarez and Marcelo Cabrol for opening their historic home to the Society, and to all who attended and our invaluable volunteers.

ANOTHER MILESTONE FOR NOYES LIBRARY

One of Kensington's local gems, the Noyes Library celebrates its 125th Anniversary this year! Activities included the April 14th Gala, with dining, dancing, and a silent auction. The community joined in by packing the Town Hall for the event. Co-Chairs Sheila Dinn and Diana Ditto announce a newly received State Grant for \$100,000, and Kensington Mayor Tracey Furman announced a gift from the Town of \$25,000. Past Montgomery County Library Director Ms. Parker and County Executive Ike Leggett attended, as well as several County Council members.

The Montgomery Planning Department describes the history of the library in their staff report:

The Noyes Children's Library (formerly Noyes Library) is a small historic library in Kensington, Maryland. The Library was founded in 1893 by Crosby Noyes and Brainard Warner as a result of their interest in the movement in metropolitan areas to create small membership-based community libraries. The Noyes Library is the first community-funded library in the Washington, D.C. region, which predates the Library of Congress by four years.

The building was used for various events including town meetings, and the Presbyterian Church meetings before its members were able to erect their own building. In 1951, the Board of Trustees of the Noyes Library Association agreed to incorporate the library into the newly founded Montgomery County Public Library System, where the Library would be eligible to receive County funds, rather than remain independent. In the late 1960's, against the wishes of the community, the Noyes Library was closed when the Kensington Park Library was built. The Kensington Park Library merged the collections of the smaller community libraries of Kensington, Rocking Horse, Garrett Park and Noyes. As a result of many protests and appeals from the community, Noyes reopened as the Noyes Children's Library (formerly Noyes Library) in 1972.

In 1991, due to County budget cuts, the library was scheduled to be closed. However, County residents came together once more to keep the historic library open for future generations. The library's supporters formed the Noyes

Children's Library Foundation, a private partnership which raised funds to enable the Library to stay open. Today, the Noyes Children's Library is part of the Montgomery County Public Library System. It is the only library in Montgomery County, and one of only eight public libraries in the United States, that is dedicated solely to children. The mission of the library is to develop child-focused programs that could be used in other County library children's rooms, to work with special needs children, to reach out to children who cannot easily attend the usual library branch programs, and to work with groups of parents and other adults involved in services to children.

More information can be found here: <http://www.noyeslibraryfoundation.org/>.

Their website details the programs and ambitious plan for renovations. There is also information regarding donation opportunities.

KHS GIVES A NOD TO NOYES

The Historical Society has produced a display reflecting the joy of Noyes, including photos in the main lobby of the Town Hall.

All KHS displays are produced with materials from the Kensington Historical Society Archives. They also include items from the Isabelle Barr Toy Collection. For those not familiar with this collection, it was used in Mrs. Barr's Barbelle Creative Center for Children, which closed in the 70 's.

The collection was given to the Town and displayed until the lobby renovations overtook that space. The KHS now houses the collection in their archive and uses items for occasional displays in the lobby and also in the Kensington Park Library. Thanks to Sigrid Doherty, Mary Buckingham and Barbara Scharman for their endeavors.

THANKS TO OUR STUDENT VOLUNTEERS!!

Every Friday from 4 to 6, two high school Juniors are devoting their time to the KHS. They have been researching the Town Minutes to compile a listing of Town officials back to 1894. Our thanks to Isabella DeClue and Churmane Mangal.

For other volunteer opportunities, view the Volunteer tab under "Support Us" on our website.

UPCOMING KENSINGTON EVENTS

APRIL 22nd, 11 to 4 pm on Howard Avenue. DAY OF THE BOOK FESTIVAL. Visit our table on Howsrd Avenue, east of Fawcett Street, toward the Train Station. www.dayofthebook.com.

APRIL 29th, 3 pm at the Town Hall. KHS will present John A. Farrell, discoursing on his latest book. See the front page.

MAY 6th, 10 to 4 pm on Howard Avenue. KENSINGTON CAR SHOW, Classic and Contemporary. www.kensingtoncarshow.com

JUNE 2nd, 10 to 11 AM at the Howard Avenue Park across from the Farmers' Market at the Train Station, First KHS SATURDAY CONCERT of the season! Kensington Park Elementary School Chorus (and friends). A full schedule of concerts presented by KHS every Saturday through September 29th will be posted on www.kensingtonhistory.org.

TOWN HALL MAP ROOM

At the main entrance of the Town Hall there is a room to the right. It was turned into a Victorian Parlor as an example of the early community surrounding the Town Hall. That refurbishing project took it from a drab office area to a pleasant sitting room which was created by then Mayor Jayne Plank and the Woman's Clubs of Kensington. After roughly 40 yrs, the current Mayor Tracey Furman and Council decided the room needed a redo. They have created a new space, still to be used for meetings and gatherings by the Town officials and the community. The Historical Society has helped gather some historic maps that are being added to decorate the room...hence the name, The Map Room. Please stop in and enjoy the maps.

NEW DEVELOPMENT COMES TO KENSINGTON:

The Montgomery County Planning Department and County Council passed the Kensington Sector Plan in 2012. This resulted in many changes to the previous zoning. These new regulations are now in place. The Town does not have zoning rights (the County's prevail), but they do have a Development Review Board (DRB) that reviews projects and discusses them with the applicants. Proposed projects are also presented at Town Meetings for Town Council and public comment. See: www.TOK.MD.gov for Town Meeting Agendas and Town Committee minutes).

Current projects that are ongoing or proposed: Knowles and Detrick Ave northwest corner: Knowles Station (previously Hawkins), under construction, 3 stores and a wine bar. Metropolitan Avenue, Solera Senior Living, Independent, assisted living, and memory care: will connect to the St. Paul Street historic buildings. They are going through the Historic Preservation Commission Historic Area Work Permit (HAWP) process as well as the Montgomery County Planning Board review. Knowles Avenue, 3906 & 3910, Independent Senior Living.

Possible projects just presented: Corner of Plyers Mill and Connecticut (Currently rented by Hawkins). Summit Avenue and Knowles northeast corner.

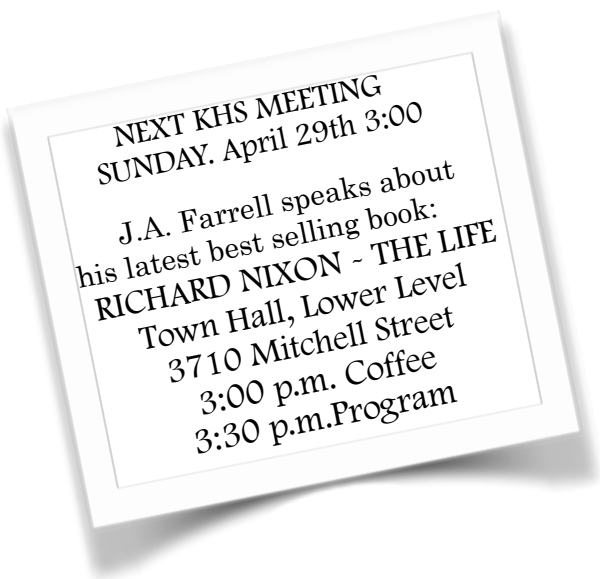
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Thanks for all your support HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERS, SPONSORS, and the TOWN of KENSINGTON!
BENEFACTORS: The DITTO GROUP, KENSINGTON PARK SENIOR LIVING, KENSINGTON SERVICE CENTER, KENSINGTON STROSNIDERS.
PATRONS: Donut King, JennyCakes Bakery, Kensington Pharmacy, Knowles Printing Services; McEnearney Realtors(Mark Hudson & Kathy Byars).
SUPPORTERS: Ayoub N & H Carpet & Rugs, Blissful Giraffe Boutique, Edward Jones/Paul Sexton - Financial Advisor, Pete Fosselman, Frankly...Pizza, GALA Artisan Jewelry & Gifts,, David Gregg's Tree Service & Garden Maintenance, JennyCakes Bakery, Johnson's Florist & Garden Center, Jubilee Association of MD, Robert J. Kelly DDS & Associates, Kensington Day Spa & Nails, Kensington Row Bookshop, Logan's Automotive, Long & Foster Realty (Kyle Richards, Realtor), Moose, Green & Korom, PA, OAK (Gayle Herrmann & Cladia Milerg), Precious Pals, Sage Eclectic Consignment,Sweet Hairafter (Denise Sharpe),Textile & Rug Museum, Walk in Vintage, Wisteria Antiques & Collectibles, Susan I. Wranik Associates, LLC .

Kensington Historical Society
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Kensington, MD 20895

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TIME TO RENEW!! CHECK YOUR LABEL FOR "PAID THROUGH" DATE

KENSINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM for 2017

INDIVIDUAL Membership \$ 20
FAMILY Membership \$ 30

Business (Small & Non-Profit) \$75
Corporate \$100
Lifetime \$500

- I want to join KHS and help support local history.
 Renew Membership (See label above for "paid through date.")

Annual dues January 1st through December 31st

NAME(S): _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____

PHONE: _____

I/we have lived in Kensington since _____ I am interested in the following committees: (Please circle)

Programs Membership Newsletter Socials Archives Concerts
Grants Oral Histories Preservation

(Please send this completed form to KHS, PO. Box 453, Kensington, MD 20895)