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Gary & Diana Ditto's Newsletter

Fall 2010

Some Enchanted Evening... A Benefit for Noyes Children's Library.

Friday, November 5, 8 p.m. - 11 p.m.
Spanish Ballroom, Glen Echo Park
7300 Macarthur Blvd, Glen Echo, MD 20812

A magical night of dancing and dining will benefit the Noyes Children's Library Foundation.

Congressman Christopher Van Hollen and Grammy award-winning musicians Cathy Fink and Marcy Marxer are Honorary Chairs for this wonderful Fundraising Gala in support of the historic Noyes Children's Library, the first library ever created in the Washington area, serving the community since 1893.

Come and enjoy dancing, or watching the dancing, in the storybook setting of the Spanish Ballroom.

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Noyes Library Benefit- *continued*

Added highlights will be an elegant light buffet with dessert and wine, plus a silent auction of fabulous one-of-a-kind items — this will be a night to remember!

Partygoers will be treated to the best of ballroom dancing, with demonstrations, instruction for the beginners and nearly-beginners, and lots of opportunities to waltz, enjoy other slow dances, and try out more rhythms and steps, all led by “Mad Hot Ballroom” star Alex Tchassov and partner Sally Blenkey-Tchassova, to the music of DC’s Radio King Orchestra.

This memorable event helps the Noyes Children’s Library, because Noyes Children’s Library Foundation has agreed to provide all the funds that Montgomery County would have saved by closing the library on July 1. The total the Foundation needs to raise is about \$70,000 per year.

Proceeds from the Gala will go directly to efforts to save the historic Noyes Children’s Library, located in Kensington, Maryland. Tickets cost \$75 per person.

To purchase tickets or make a donation, please go to:

www.noyeslibraryfoundation.org
info@noyeslibraryfoundation.org
or call 301-949-3446.



“Dancing Owls” by Tyler McGillivray

Life in the Library

“Nothing bad about it!” smiles Susan Modak, describing her work as children’s librarian. That morning, she had led 27 children and almost as many adults — parents, grandparents and caregivers — in two programs about mice.

“We had a wonderful time. We danced, we sang, and we read books about mice.” Afterward, one little girl spontaneously came over and gave her a hug, which gave her whole day a new feeling.

Modak has been a children’s librarian since her own children were small. She loves children and children’s books, and loves interacting with parents and watching children grow. She has been with Noyes Children’s Library for over 2 years and joined the staff of the Kensington Park Library in July of this year.

“Each library has its own personality,” she comments. She especially enjoys that the Kensington area has lots of readers and is a community that loves books.

Noyes has been busy. Early this summer more people started coming, afraid that it might be their last chance. And they keep coming back.

Noyes is open 9 to 5 on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Its next program of Books, Songs, and Fingerplays is Wednesday, November 17 at 9:30 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. Please register online at www.Montgomerycounty.md.gov/library or call 240-773-9570

Adult caregivers and their 2-5 year-olds can drop in at the Kensington Park Library for Preschool Storytime. Join them for stories, songs, stretches, fingerplays and rhymes on Wednesday at 10:15 a.m., on November 3 and 10, and December 1 and 15. The library also offers many more special events.

Pancake Breakfast at St. Paul’s

Saturday, November 6, 8:00 – 10:30 a.m.

From September through June on the first Saturday of the month, the United Methodist Men host a pancake breakfast. The all-you-can-eat menu features scrambled eggs, sausage, applesauce, fresh fruit, and pancakes and includes a special pancake of the month.

Proceeds support church and community projects. St Paul’s is located at 10401 Armory Avenue, Kensington. Please visit www.stpaulsk.org or call 301-933-7933.



More Ways To Help Save Noyes Library—

and have a great time while you do!

• **Cafe 1894** has opened its doors for Thursday evening dining to benefit Noyes. Café 1894, at 10417 Armory Avenue, Kensington, is donating 20% of all Thursday-evening proceeds to the Noyes Children’s Library Foundation. Come on out from 5:30-9:30 p.m. on Thursdays and help keep Noyes open! Visit www.cafe1894.com

• Become a **Facebook Fan of Save-Noyes-Library.**

Find out the latest news and enjoy a lovely watercolor of the Library when you visit the page

Come to Noyes Dance Parties—

For Children, Families, and Singles of All Ages

Families — or you coming by yourself— will have a great time dancing the afternoon away with storybook characters, local children’s dance groups, balloons, photo ops, and face painting, with concessions and Noyes t-shirts available for sale. The cost is \$10 per person with a maximum charge of \$25 per family (non-walkers free). At the Kensington Town Hall, 3710 Mitchell Street, Kensington.

Mark your calendar:

- **Saturday, November 27**, 3 to 5 p.m., Dance off that Thanksgiving Dinner!
- **Saturday, December 27**, 3 to 5 p.m., Holiday jams!
- **Saturday, January 22**, 3 to 5 p.m., A jazzy start to the New Year!



Meet PEP —

The Parent Encouragement Program

Speaking of supporting children and families, Kensington is lucky to be home to one of the most renowned parenting education centers in the United States..

Founded in 1982 in the basement of Linda Jessup's home with four volunteers and ten parents, PEP, the Parent Encouragement Program, has grown to providing parenting talks and classes for over 2,000 parents each year — most of them right here. PEP rents its office and classroom space from the Kensington Baptist Church at 10100 Connecticut Avenue.

PEP's courses and workshops take place in Kensington and eight other locations throughout the year. PEP's newest location is a course for parents of preschoolers jointly sponsored with the Judy Center of the Montgomery County Public Schools in Gaithersburg, teaching low-income parents in Spanish.

Check out the PEP website (www.PEPparent.org) for upcoming Kensington classes on Setting Limits, Overcoming Morning Mayhem, and proven ideas for handling Allowances. Learn more about PEP and its terrific lineup of classes and parent support, year-round. And don't miss noted parenting author Po Bronson's appearance for PEP on Thurs. Nov 18th (see the announcement below).

NurtureShock: New Thinking About Children

Thursday, November 18, 7:30-9:30 p.m.
Landon School, 6101 Wilson Lane, Bethesda

Bestselling author Po Bronson speaks to parents on why so many of society's current strategies for nurturing children are in fact backfiring — and what to do instead. Learn his startling findings in all areas of parenting research. Bronson's book *NurtureShock* was on 30 "Best of 2009" book lists and in Amazon's 2009 top 100 bestsellers. Presented by the Parent Encouragement Program (PEP). For more information, visit www.PEPparent.org. To order tickets, call 301-929-8824. \$25 per person; \$45 per couple



The SCRAP-DC Arts Project

Kensington artist Karen Klein has teamed up with Oregon nonprofit SCRAPaction and plans to divert tons of 'scrap' from the local waste-stream and make it available to artists. SCRAP-DC is setting up donation drop-off points, hosting gatherings of crafters and artists to create with donated supplies, and coordinating its own art show. There will be activities for children, such as field trips, birthday parties, and summer camp.

For information visit www.scrapaction.org, look for SCRAP-DC on Facebook, e-mail karen@scrapaction.org or call 301.946.7604.

E-Mail Updates from the Ditto Group—

Sign up for either or both of these updates:

- Our Monthly Sold Reports, sent via e-mail
- Our weekly "Open House" e-mail

You choose what to sign up for and you can always unsubscribe. Sign up on our home page:

www.thedittogroup.com.

For dates and news of more events, be sure to visit the *Community Activities Calendar* on the web site:

www.thedittogroup.com

Gary and Diana Ditto's Newsletter welcomes ideas and news items from community members. The editor is Antoinette Kranenburg of Kensington, assisted by Cherry Wunderlich.

Holy Cross Church Celebrates Golden Anniversary



The Holy Cross community is celebrating fifty years in the community! The year-long celebration started on Sunday, September 19, with a noon Mass of Thanksgiving to commemorate the Golden Anniversary of the parish. The celebration will culminate in 2011 with the 50th anniversary of the Holy Cross School.

The parish was honored to have Archbishop Donald Wuerl as the principal celebrant. He was joined by Parish Pastor Monsignor R. Cary Hill, as well as Monsignor Vincent Gatto, who was the pastor from 1982 to 2005.

After Mass, families gathered in Lewis Hall for a beautiful reception. They enjoyed the singing of Holy Cross School's choir, led by Fine Arts Director Karen Rappaport. Archbishop Wuerl blessed the newly renovated church social hall and school cafeteria, which was completed earlier this year.

Holy Cross Church was founded in 1960, when a small group of families from Garrett Park Estates wrote to then Archbishop O'Boyle requesting a new parish for the surrounding community. The Sisters of the Holy Cross generously donated about 12 acres of land for the purpose of building a church and school. In gratitude, the new parish was named Holy Cross.

Under the leadership of Monsignor Louis Quinn, Founding Pastor of Holy Cross, an advisory board was formed to provide assistance and direction for the development and building of the church and school. This advisory board was likely the first Parish Council in the United States.

Today, there are approximately 800 families in the parish. The Holy Cross School serves over 200 children in grades Pre-Kindergarten through 8th grade. The school will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2011.

The school will host an Open House on Thursday, November 11th from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. for prospective students and parents. For more information, please contact the school office by calling 301-949-1699.

Kensington Cabin Update

The Kensington Cabin is one step closer to receiving a historic designation. On October 15 the Montgomery County Planning Board voted unanimously to support putting the Kensington Cabin on the Locational Atlas and recommending historic designation to the County Council. The Kensington Historical Society nominated the cabin. The final step will be a public hearing held by the County Council.

This picturesque log building stands near Kensington Parkway in the Town of Kensington, and has been home and host to many classes and events over the years. To learn more, visit www.kensingtonhistory.org.



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Gary & Diana Ditto Active Listings for Sale



11104 Kenilworth Avenue
 Kensington/Garrett Park
 List Price - \$1,000,000 "As-Is"



9816 Kensington Parkway
 Kensington/Rock Creek Hills
 List Price - \$799,000



Under Contract
 4016 Everett Street
 Kensington/Chevy Chase View
 List Price - \$729,000



9703 Stoneybrook Drive
 Kensington/Rock Creek Hills
 List Price - \$719,000



5 Orleans Terrace
 Kensington/White Flint Park
 List Price - \$695,000



10111 Meadowneck Court
 Silver Spring/Capitol View Park
 List Price - \$659,000



9729 W. Bexhill Drive
 Kensington/Rock Creek Hills
 List Price - \$645,000



9847 Campbell Drive
 Kensington/Rock Creek Hills
 List Price - \$639,950



2 Campbell Court
 Kensington/Rock Creek Hills
 List Price - \$619,000



Under Contract
 4508 Clearbrook Lane
 Kensington/Martin's Add CCView
 List Price - \$559,000



10010 Frederick Avenue
 Kensington/Kensington
 List Price - \$550,000



10123 Cedar Lane
 Kensington/Chevy Chase View
 List Price - \$535,000 "As-Is"



10101 Day Avenue
 Silver Spring/Capitol View Park
 List Price - \$529,000



Under Contract
 10902 Kenilworth Avenue
 Kensington/Garrett Park
 List Price - \$500,000



5020 Druid Drive
 Kensington/Garrett Park Est.
 List Price - \$469,000



508 New York Avenue
 Takoma Park/Takoma Park
 List Price - \$399,000



10201 Grant Avenue
 Silver Spring/Capitol View Park
 List Price - \$299,000



3007 Jennings Road
 Kensington/Oakland Terrace
 List Price - \$220,000 "As-Is"



3333 University Blvd. # 508
 Kensington/The Waterford
 FOR RENT - \$1,795