



Gary Ditto's Newsletter

Summer 2009

The Kensington Farmer's Market

By Antoinette Kranenburg

On a sunny Saturday a man enjoys a morning walk on Plyers Mill Road, fresh beet greens peeking out of his shopping bag. Crossing the tracks to Kensington's historic train station, a mother exclaims to her daughter "the fish is so amazing!" She is heading to the Kensington Farmer's Market, which is held year-round, every Saturday morning from 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon at the MARC Train Station at 10417 Howard Avenue.

Over a dozen vendors at the market offer a wide variety of high quality products, including seafood, meats, breads and pastries, perennials, herbs, cut flowers, chocolate, olive oils, hand made soaps and quilted goods. Music and song drifts across Howard Avenue adding to the conviviality—an old time music group performs from 10 to 11 a.m., courtesy of the Kensington Historical Society.

The beets came from Rabbit Hill Farm, a vegetable stand that is one of the market's original vendors. The market was started eighteen years ago, sponsored by the Town of Kensington. Since finding its train station location the market has expanded and continues to grow.

Salt River Lobster joined the market six years ago, selling its sought-after seafood year round. Twenty-seven years ago Maine lobsterman Mike McConnell brought down a hundred pounds of lobster fresh from the waters of Maine to NIH in Bethesda, prompted by a friend who worked there. He sold out within an hour and a business was born. The selection now includes a wide variety of fresh fish, shellfish, shrimp and smoked fish, all less than twenty-four hours from the wholesaler.

The flowers and plants at the Farmhouse Flowers and Plants stand are grown locally in Brookville. A customer from Garrett Park says she has been coming for years and years. "The lilies last for two weeks!" she enthuses.

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The Kensington Farmer's Market - continued

Years ago a friend at Kensington Orchids suggested NASA retiree Steve Pataki join the market and sell the perennials he loves growing in his home greenhouse and garden plot. His wife Kati brings her quilted crafts. She says "people are very nice, they stop and talk and you see the kids grow up."

A more recent market addition is Krishon Chocolates. Owner Eric Johnson makes his chocolates by hand. He uses free-range eggs, single bean chocolate from Madagascar and even churns the butter himself. This summer he is introducing a chocolate based BBQ sauce.

All Things Olive sells olive oils and vinegars from small farms in Northern and Central California. "You can buy it here or in San Luis Obispo!" Keith Voight smiles.

Falcon Ridge Orchard is at the market during fruit season, June through November. The bright red and sour pie cherries are in season just three weeks. They are the real thing, "not the red glop out of the can," says vendor Nancy McBride.

Michelle Burns of Mystic Water Soap is drawn to crafts that are being lost. She learned soap making while living in Italy years ago. She makes her soaps by hand from her original formulas. And says all contain olive oil. A range of body and facial care products complement the selection.

Kensington Farmer's Market Vendors:

* All Things Olive – award winning California extra virgin, savory citrus flavored and herb infused olive oils and wine vinegars.

* Clan Stewart Farm - offers lamb, beef, pork, no-nitrate bacon, assorted pork and goat sausages. The seventh generation family farm in Pennsylvania practices sustainable agriculture and raises its animals naturally and humanely on pasture, without the use of hormones or prophylactic antibiotics.

* Falcon Ridge Orchard – apples, Asian pears, cherries, peaches, seedless grapes, blackberries, blueberries and red raspberries from a family-owned orchard in the rolling hills of northern Carroll County.

* Farmhouse Flowers & Plants – cut flowers, bouquets, annual, perennial and herb plants.

* Great Harvest Bread Co. – whole grain, stone ground breads, muffins, scones and cookies.

* Kim Kaplan – heirloom and native plants.

* Krishon Chocolate –hand made artisanal chocolates and more.

* Mystic Water Soap –handmade soaps and scented body care products using infused oils, goat's milk, herbs, sea salt and colored clays from around the world.

* Pataki Plants – assorted perennials, quilted place mats and more.

* Rabbit Hill Farm –a wide range of produce and fruit.

* Richards Farm – family farm offers a variety of vegetables and melons picked the day before.

* Salt River Lobster – lobster, shrimp, fish, shellfish, smoked products.

* Sub*Urban Trading Co. – baked goods including scones and turnovers.

The Path to Positive Parenting Starts at PEP

The Parent Encouragement Program (PEP), a Kensington-based non-profit founded in 1982, offers parenting education, skills training, and support for parents of infants through teenagers.

Over the summer PEP offers One-Night Summer Hot Topic Workshops. Topics include Stop the Yelling, Start the Cooperation; Consequences: Effective Discipline Without Punishment; Planning for Safe Teen Driving; Raising "I Can" Kids; Putting an End to Whining; and Eating, Sleeping & Toilet Training Issues.

For the complete schedule, visit PEP online at www.PEPparent.org. All classes take place at PEP, 10100 Connecticut Ave., Kensington. Workshop cost: \$30/person; \$55/couple; PEP member discounts available. To register, call 301-929-8824.



Summer Reading Fun at Kensington Park Library

Summer reading is fun and also helps children maintain their ability. Children's Librarian Linda Swanson says that if children don't read they can lose as much as a grade over the summer.

Children of all ages are invited to join Summer Reading 2009 anytime before August 1. Read at least one book after June 29 and receive a Money Mailers Coupon sheet. Read at least one more book between August 3 and 22 and receive a certificate, a coupon for a free book at Barnes and Noble, and a surprise gift!



Kensington Curves is Moving.

Kensington Curves will open in its new space on Decatur Avenue August 1. Curves is a one-stop fitness and weight loss facility for women. Owner Marsha Shapiro is happy to have fifty percent more space at the new location. That means room for two new machines, allowing her to complete the exercise circuit. There will be a large stretching area, one more dressing room, and extended hours from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m., seven days a week. The new address for Kensington Curves is 3704 Decatur Avenue, Kensington. Phone: 301-962-9494. Website: www.KensingtonCurves.com.

MOMS Club Meets July 29th

Kensington Park MOMS Club invites moms to its monthly meeting Wednesday, July 29th at 10:15 a.m. at Cedarbrook Swim Club, 10150 Cedar Lane, Kensington. The MOMS club is open to moms whose children are zoned to attend Garrett Park ES and Kensington Parkwood ES. Activities include trips to parks, lunch and coffee get-togethers, playgroups and more. Please visit www.kensingtonparkmoms.com or e-mail kpmomsclub@yahoo.com for more information about the club, this meeting, and August's meeting.

The Kensington 8K, Saturday, September 26, 2009

Volunteer Course Marshals Needed

The Kensington 8k has grown in size and stature since its start in 1993, but has kept Kensington's unique small-town feel. The 8k is a challenging race combining long hills and flats. It is a great training run for the experienced runner, a touchstone event for the intermediate and weekly runner. Families and younger runners really enjoy the non-competitive 2 mile and 1k fun runs.

This year's proceeds will support Kensington Parkwood Elementary, North Bethesda Middle School and Walter Johnson High School. The volunteer organizers are parents and supporters with ties to these wonderful public schools. Students, teachers, administrators and staff, come out on race day, join the fun and embrace the community spirit that is the Kensington 8K! More information and online registration at www.kensington8k.org. To volunteer as a course marshal, please e-mail to gd@garyditto.com.

Phil's & Three Brothers.

Lawnmowers and weed trimmers have been getting a workout this year! Phil's & Three Brothers LLC on Brookville Road services and repairs all outdoor power equipment and works on all major brands. Phil's offers pick up and delivery and caters to the needs of industrial, commercial and residential customers. 9153 Brookville Rd, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Phone 301-587-5415

Anytime Fitness Now Open!

Anytime Fitness is Kensington's new 24 hour co-ed fitness facility. The owners are Kensington residents and envision a neighborhood fitness club where you feel comfortable the moment you walk in the door. The focus is on achieving YOUR fitness goals no matter your fitness level. The club offers state of the art equipment, group classes, personal training and secure access 24 hours, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, with convenient free parking. Anytime Fitness, 4265 Howard Avenue, Kensington. Phone: 240-242-3053
Email: info@kensingtonfitness.com
Website: <http://kensingtonfitness.com>

Gary Ditto's Newsletter welcomes ideas and news items from community members. The writers and editors are from Kensington Communications. Antoinette Kranenburg was the lead writer for this issue.



You're Cordially Invited to

RaPpFest 2009

Hosted by the Rapp Family and Friends

Saturday, July 25, 2009 from 12 noon to 8 p.m.
at The Rapp's, 10007 Connecticut Avenue, Kensington
Phone 301-942-6727

The Rapp Family cordially invites you to the 2009 RaPpFest Benefit BBQ & Concert for the Lombardi Cancer Center at Georgetown University in remembrance of William Anthony Rapp III.

Fun for all ages—Live Music by Mike Corbett, Danny Scull, Stefano Young, Ben Waters, Jeremy Cohen, Sean Chyun, Danny Leibowitz, Jim Terranova, including a special guest, and others.

Plus: a Tent, Stage, Beverages, Burgers and Dogs, Silent Auction, and T-Shirts.

And right across the street at the Forsberg's, Kidville with face painting, moon bounce, cotton candy, and more.

Our goal is to beat the \$10,000 raised at RaPpFest 2008.

Hope to see you on the 25th!

Need a reference for an electrician, plumber, yard person, or any home maintenance job?

If so, please call me. I have a list of contractors that I have worked with over the years and I also have access to a vendor group established by Long & Foster Realtors.

— *Gary H. Ditto*

New E-Mail Updates from Gary Ditto—

Sign up for either or both of these updates:

- Our Monthly Sold Reports for 20895, 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.garyditto.com.

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

www.garyditto.com





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GARY H DITTO - RECENT ACTIVITY



3947 Baltimore St., Kensington
UNDER CONTRACT
 List Price \$1,050,000



9611 Culver St., Kensington
UNDER CONTRACT
 List Price \$899,000



4407 Woodfield Rd, Kensington
UNDER CONTRACT
 \$819,000



5 Orleans Ter., Kensington
FOR SALE
 \$750,000



3018 Greencastle Rd., Burtonsville
FOR SALE
 List Price \$749,000



4622 Woodfield Rd., Bethesda
FOR SALE
 \$729,000



9707 Cedar Lane, Bethesda
UNDER CONTRACT
 \$728,000



8912 Spring Valley Rd., Chevy Chase
UNDER CONTRACT
 \$675,000



9836 Campbell Drive
UNDER CONTRACT
 \$654,000



4001 Glenridge St., Kensington
FOR SALE
 \$629,000



9800 Parkwood Drive, Bethesda
UNDER CONTRACT
 \$599,000



10104 Grant Ave., Silver Spring
UNDER CONTRACT
 \$519,000



15137 Winesap Drive, N. Potomac
FOR SALE
 \$480,000



10215 Day Ave., Silver Spring
UNDER CONTRACT
 \$419,000



2517 Holman Ave., Silver Spring
FOR SALE
 \$329,000



RECENT SALES BY GARY H. DITTO

- 9702 Hillridge Drive, Kensington ~ May 20, 2009 \$832,500
- 9704 Hillridge Drive, Kensington ~ June 12, 2009 \$785,000
- 11125 Powder Horn Drive, Potomac ~ June 12, 2009 \$759,000
- 9914 E. Bexhill Drive (*), Kensington ~ May 8, 2009 \$742,000
- 9833 La Duke Drive, Kensington ~ June 29, 2009 \$733,000
- 3601 East-West Highway, Chevy Chase ~ June 22, 2009 \$586,000
- 3414 Wake Drive, Kensington ~ June 19, 2009 \$559,000
- 4304 Ambler Drive, Kensington ~ April 30, 2009 \$ 532,000
- 2135 Clark Place, Silver Spring ~ May 20, 2009 \$475,000
- 10307 Greenfield Street, Kensington ~ June 30, 2009 \$459,000

(* Denotes a Gary Ditto Sale)