



Gary Ditto's Newsletter

May-June 2009

Fine Food Around Town

By Antoinette Kranenburg

Introducing the K-Town Grill

The paper came off the windows in April, and the K-Town Grill is now open for business at 3784 Howard Avenue.

Owner Tina Asmar's approach is to offer "Good food at a good price"-- Angus beef, hormone and antibiotic free chicken, freshly home made fries. On the menu are hamburgers, turkey burger, chicken strips, quesadillas, salads, and more. The basic diner style menu will grow as the business grows, with lunch specials and perhaps a Sunday brunch eventually.

Transforming the previous deli into the K-Town Grill involved a lot more work than Asmar would have predicted last May when she got the business. Asmar wanted everything in place before opening and wanted to do it well. It took a structural engineer, new plumbing, the new grill and hood, permits and "many hoops to dance through."

The K-Town Grill sparkles with fresh paint, new floors. Asmar is "really into cars" and cars are the theme of the decor. The store sign is the repainted hood of a Beemer.

The K-town Grill is open Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and offers free delivery during the daytime. Phone: 240-430-2691. Web site: soon to be launched: www.ktowngrill.com.

Old Town Market

The bright blue awning reads Old Town Market - Espresso Bar, Soups, Sandwiches, Ice Cream. A sandwich board at the entry lists the day's soups. On the sidewalk tables and chairs invite you to linger and enjoy the spring weather. Though people might still say "the old Seven Eleven" to explain where it is, that does not describe Kensington's Old Town Market.

^—continued on next page



Direct Line: (301) 215-6834



Bethesda Gateway Office:
(301) 907-7600

Fine Food Around Town- *continued*

Owner Suzy Cooper - formerly Suzy Maday- grew up in Parkwood where her family still lives, attended Walter Johnson High School and lives in Kensington with husband Rob and two young children. She saw a great opportunity to “make it into Kensington’s own little neighborhood market.”

She decided to first focus on good food, sprung for an espresso machine, and old fashioned soft serve ice cream. The biggest hit are the great soups, all fresh, never frozen. The menu changes daily and word is getting around. When one soup runs out, it is replaced with a different flavor. Two vegetarian soup choices are always on offer.

Baguettes and cookies are baked fresh and cupcakes are baked from scratch after her own recipe (“butter, no Crisco”). New items are gradually being added to the repertoire, the latest: fresh H&H New York Bagels.

The market offers a nice selection of gluten free, vegan groceries, soups and dinners. Milk comes from Kreider’s Dairy, a green Lancaster County dairy. Cooper explains enthusiastically how well Kreider’s cares for its dairy cows. The cows kick themselves off the milking system and then back themselves into a massaging system. The milk keeps two weeks longer than usual, because it is cooled directly from the cow.

The market is in the process of petitioning for a beer and wine license. Micro brews and artisan cheeses are in the future and eventually a new look.

The Old Town Market is open Monday through Friday 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Saturday 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Sunday 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. 10251 Kensington Parkway, Kensington. Phone 301-942-2294

The General Store

The General Store restaurant opened in late January at 6 Post Office Road. The quaint historic building dates from the 1880’s and was a general store. It sits at the corner of winding Capitol View Avenue and Old Post Office Road, at the edge of the Forest Glen and Capitol View Park neighborhoods.

Chef Gillian Clark and partner Robin Smith owned the now-closed Colorado Kitchen in the District. At the General Store they offer a Southern menu of sandwiches, casseroles, fried chicken and more for carry-out and sit-down service. Breakfast sandwiches are available till 11:30 a.m. Beef stew, macaroni and cheese, fish tacos, chili, curried tuna salad, and pie are some of the menu items.

Copies of Clark’s book “Out of the Frying Pan: A Chef’s Memoir of Hot Kitchens, Single Motherhood and the Family Meal” were displayed on a side table.

The place has a cheerful old time feel, with wood floors, yellow walls and blue trim. On a recent afternoon, customers were placing carry-out orders at the counter or enjoying their fried chicken with collard greens and cornbread seated in the cozy booths. Someone put a quarter in the working Nickel odeon. Vintage ads, soda pop bottle labels and concert posters decorate the walls and are fun conversation starters.

The restaurant serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner, Tuesday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. and 1:30 to 10:00 p.m. on Saturday. Sunday brunch is 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and dinner from 5:30 to 9:00 p.m. Phone 301-562-8787.

Web site www.myspace.com/thebluebuilding

sub * urban trading co.

sub * urban trading co. opened last August at 10301 Kensington Parkway, Kensington, around the corner from the Old Town Market and near Johnson’s. The beautiful, spacious store is open daily -- Tuesday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Sunday and Monday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The phone number is 301-962-4046 and the web site is www.suburbantradingco.com.

Under the motto “real good food,” owner Andre Cavallaro offers a wide range of organic foods including fresh fruits and vegetables, locally grown organic meats and milk, as well as organic ice cream, cheeses, fish, and poultry. A ready-to-eat section offers fresh salads. The bakery case displays freshly made pastries, cookies, cake, and breads.

During the summer, sub * urban sells its pastries and coffee at Kensington Farmer’s Market. Cavallaro is planting his own organic vegetable garden thanks to Kensington resident Gloria Capron who donated a piece of her property. The addition of a new bistro is in the works.

Cafe 1894 in Old Town Kensington

Cafe 1894, introduced in an earlier issue of this newsletter, has wonderful lunchtime choices Tuesday through Sunday, as well as delicious Saturday and Sunday breakfast, and Saturday evening dinners. Cafe 1894 also can host your private party. Located at 10417 Armory Avenue, Cafe 1894 has an informative web site with hours, menus, reviews, directions, and more.

www.cafe1894.com



KHCA Cookout/Picnic June 13

Come meet your neighbors at The Kensington Heights Citizen Associations cookout and picnic at the Kensington Heights Park Saturday June 13, 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. The cookout follows the "Adopt a Home" beautification work day earlier that day. Rain date: Sunday June 14th.



Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, June 6th

St. Paul's United Methodist Church will hold its monthly all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast from 8:00 - 10:30 a.m.. This will be the last pancake breakfast until September. Proceeds will be given to the church Library. Cost: \$5 adults, \$2 children under 12, \$15 family maximum. As a special treat, blueberry pancakes will be served in addition to the regular pancakes. Location: Heavener Hall, corner of Fawcett & Mitchell Streets, Old Town Kensington. For info call 301-933-7933.

Now Playing at Cedar Lane Stage:
Moliere's Tartuffe

Performance Dates: May 21, 22, 23, 29, 30
Thur. Fri. & Sat. at 8 p.m. * Sunday at 2 p.m.
TARTUFFE is a comedy—The show is fast paced, the writing is brilliant, and Moliere's comments on his seventeenth century French society resonate across to our twenty-first century American culture. Cedar Lane Stage, c/o CLUUC, 9601 Cedar Lane, Bethesda, MD 20814 Phone: 301-949-3685. Web site: www.cedarlanestage.org.



Spotlight on Yardbuilders, LLC

Yardbuilders LLC is a full service landscaping company that offers the full range of landscape design, building and maintenance, from stonework to tree removal and lawn weed control. John Keegan launched Yardbuilders LLC three years ago after many years managing a prominent design/build firm. With his wife Dinora he provides meticulous, sophisticated, and doting care to their customer's landscapes. "You will find us honest, efficient, and communicative as we shepherd your dreams to fruition." John Keegan phone: 301-933-1891, cell: 301-366-5363, email: Keegan4@verizon.net.

Gary Ditto's Newsletter welcomes ideas and news items from community members. The writers and editors are from Kensington Communications. Antoinette Kranenburg helped with this issue.

Welcome!

JAMES DAVID SHANAHAN JEFFREYS

Born May 8, 2009

9 pounds 6 ounces

Congratulations to the proud parents!

Artful Garden Party, Saturday June 6

The Kensington Historical Society invites you to its Artful Garden Party - June 6th (Rain date June 7). Come and share house histories and meet neighbors, new and old! The Montgomery Arts Association (sponsors of the Labor Day Paint the Town Art Show) will have local artists exhibiting - artwork with a Kensington theme. The artists may be willing to part with some of their work, so bring your checkbooks. (Local artists can participate through the Montgomery Arts Association (VSurlesGraphics@comcast.net) Details at www.kensingtonhistory.org.

Events at the Kensington Park Library,

4201 Knowles Ave, Kensington, MD 20895. Phone 240-773-9515

Teddy Bear Picnic, Saturday, June 6, 2009, 11:00 a.m. Have fun at our annual teddy bear picnic. The Library provide the stories, punch, films, and cookies. You provide a blanket, bag lunch and teddy bear. Ages 3 up.



Summer Reading Kickoff with Magician Mike Rose

Saturday, June 20, 2009, 2:00 p.m. Kensington Park Library

"Creative Magic & Stuff" kicks off the "Be Creative@Your Library" Summer Reading program. Amazing magician Mike Rose presents an interactive program featuring comedy, magic, stunts, and sleight of hand. For all ages.

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 - HOUSES FOR SALE AND UNDER CONTRACT



9705 E. Bexhill Dr., Kensington
FOR SALE
 \$1,125,000



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



9611 Culver St., Kensington
FOR SALE
 List Price \$899,000



9702 Hillridge Dr., Kensington
UNDER CONTRACT
 List Price \$839,500



9704 Hillridge Dr., Kensington
UNDER CONTRACT
 List Price \$795,000



9833 LaDuke Dr., Kensington
UNDER CONTRACT
 List Price \$759,000



11125 Powder Horn Dr., Potomac
UNDER CONTRACT
 List Price - \$759,000



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



4622 Woodfield Rd., Bethesda
FOR SALE
 \$739,000



9707 Cedar Lane, Bethesda
FOR SALE
 \$735,000



8912 Spring Valley Rd., Chevy Chase
FOR SALE
 \$675,000



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



3601 East-West Hwy, Chevy Chase
UNDER CONTRACT
 List Price - \$629,000



3414 Wake Dr., Kensington
UNDER CONTRACT
 List Price - \$559,000



10104 Grant Ave., Silver Spring
FOR SALE
 \$519,000



2135 Clark Pl., Silver Spring
UNDER CONTRACT
 List Price - \$495,000



10307 Greenfield St., Kensington
UNDER CONTRACT
 List Price - \$465,000



10215 Day Ave., Silver Spring
FOR SALE
 \$419,000



2517 Holman Ave., Silver Spring
FOR SALE
 \$349,000

RECENTLY SOLD
 9707 Old Spring Rd - May 8 - \$875,000
 4405 Clearbrook La - Apr 30 - \$687,000
 10103 Frederick Ave - Apr 30 - \$640,000
 4304 Ambler Dr - Apr 30 - \$532,000
 10918 Drumm Ave - May 8 - \$460,000