

Published  
Since 1983

# Gary & Diana Ditto's Newsletter

Summer 2019

## The Kensington Volunteer Fire Department Shows Up for Us!

The Kensington Volunteer Fire Department (KVFD) is there for our community in so many ways, from the commonplace to the extraordinary.

One afternoon a couple of years ago, Ambulance 705 responded to the report of someone in cardiac arrest. They arrived on the scene to find the man blue in the face and not breathing. They initiated CPR and he was defibrillated. Then Medic 723 and Paramedic Engine 725 arrived and followed ALS (Advanced Life Support) protocols. Spontaneous circulation returned. They then transported the man to a local hospital.

The A705 crew that day were FF M. Mathieu, EMT C. Persaud, Prob. Hernandez, and Admin H Mekhonen. They were later honored for their actions.

Nothing meant as much to them, they later said, as seeing this same man walk in to Station 5 one Sunday afternoon, healthy and smiling. In lay terms, this man had been brought back from the dead. He had come to express his gratitude to KVFD Station 5—he thanked them for saving his life.

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125th Anniversary Community  
Celebration ... and more..



John Kelly, Jean Adams, Joe Yao, Melinda Kelly, David Contois, Kevin Tighe

**THE DITTO GROUP**  
experience • knowledge • community



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— KVFD continued

Good to know:

### **KVFD Loan Closet**

Do you know that the Kensington Volunteer Fire Department (KVFD) has a loan closet?

The loan closet is run by the KVFD Auxiliary and serves the public from all over Montgomery County. It is open Mondays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Available for loan are full-size wheel chairs (not electric), transport wheelchairs, bedside commodes, metal walkers, Rollators (sit-down walkers), canes, knee rollers (for after foot surgeries), and toilet toppers.

Crutches are no longer available, since hospitals provide these when you leave. Neither are hospital beds for health reasons. Call (301) 929-8000 to find out more.

### **KVFD Cookout Fundraiser**

August 24, 2019, 12 — 3 p.m.

Station 5 Firehouse, Rain or Shine.

10620 Connecticut Avenue, Kensington

Support our Kensington Volunteer Fire Department and enjoy hot dogs and burgers, served with chips and salads. KVFD firefighters will be doing demonstrations. The suggested donation is \$10 per adult and \$5 per child under twelve. Help the KVFD get a new ambulance!

### **Community Celebration of the Town's Incorporation Held at Kensington Cabin Park**

A great big thank you to the Kensington Historical Society, the Town, Kensington Parkwood Elementary School Music Department, the Friends of Old Time Music, Kensington CAN, the Friends of Warner Circle, Boy Scout Troop 439, the KVFD, and everyone who came out to volunteer and enjoy this wonderful anniversary celebration



Thank you to the Kensington Parkwood Music Groups: Singers, Junior Singers, Chamber Strings, and Chamber Winds for your wonderful performances.

The playground was in full swing with children on the swings, the slides, and the climbing structures, while parents chatted nearby. Toddlers explored the play train, which has a great whistle that makes a very satisfying train sound when pushed.

The Friends of Old Time Music played one great tune after another -- Mark Lynch on mandolin, Andy Porter on fiddle, Fred Cherney on banjo, Shelley Echols on bass, and Piera Weiss on fiddle and guitar. The rhythms got feet tapping, heads nodding, and children dancing.



By the creek, two young friends had clambered down to a log across the creek. They sat in the dappled shade, chatting and blowing soap bubbles.



### **Kensington Fitness Festival**

Sunday, July 28, 1 — 4 p.m.

SPIRIT Club Fitness Center,

10417-B Metropolitan Avenue, Kensington

Come out for a fun-filled day of fitness at the SPIRIT Club Fitness Center. There will be free refreshments, thanks to local restaurants, plus information about healthy eating and active living, activities for children, a raffle, and many ways to have fun and get fit.

Starting at 1:15 p.m. there will be volleyball, soccer, basketball, and workout stations with battle ropes, pull-ups, and obstacle courses, and, indoors, demo classes including FUNctional Fitness with SPIRIT Club, and Yoga & Stretching with SPIRIT Club.

This exciting event is benefits the Spirit Club Foundation, a local nonprofit dedicated to helping people of all abilities have access to adapted high-quality exercise and fitness opportunities.

The Foundation offers scholarships to persons with developmental disabilities, and now also offers scholarships for programs that serve persons with other disabilities, aging adults with dementia, and persons with mental health/substance abuse challenges.

Become a sponsor and empower people with disabilities to have greater access to health and fitness opportunities! For information please contact Steve Allen at [sallen@spiritclubfoundation.org](mailto:sallen@spiritclubfoundation.org) or 240-204-1144.

The mission of SPIRIT Club is to offer a universal design for fitness that empowers people of all abilities to exercise successfully in a socially integrated setting. For inspiration, great photos, video clips, and all about SPIRIT club, please visit [www.spirit-club.com](http://www.spirit-club.com).

## Spotlight on:

### Mid-Atlantic Military Antiques

Tim Frank is a military historian, and a collector and dealer of military antiques. Frank began collecting when he was 10 years old. His father would take him to museums and estate sales. His grandfather gave him his World War II service medals. From then on he was hooked on history.

Mid-Atlantic Military Antiques is Frank's antiques and research business. His expertise ranges from the Civil War through Vietnam and the present.

Frank urges veterans to write down the stories behind the artifacts they have kept. "I always encourage veterans to talk to all their family members, because you never know if a child or grandchild might have an interest."

It is important to keep the citations with the military medals. Without the citation the history of their family member's service is lost. Frank points out that only the person who was awarded a military medal may wear that medal.

As a historian and collector, Frank is interested in buying whatever families do not want to keep.

**Photo: Tim Frank dropping off an antique Navy ship wheel at**



Before throwing anything away or having an estate sale, Frank advises families to have a professional look at the artifacts.

"You might have an historical treasure and not even realize it!"

Visit [www.midatlanticmilitaryantiques.com](http://www.midatlanticmilitaryantiques.com) for more information or call 703-447-7243.

Some of Frank's items, such as insignia, medals, and patches, are available at Goldsborough Glynn Classic Furnishings & Finds, 3746 Howard Ave, Kensington, MD.

### Opera in the Circle

Saturday, July 20 2019, 6 – 8 p.m.

Warner Circle Park, 10231 Carroll Place, Kensington

Bring your friends and family for an evening of opera outdoors at Warner Circle Park. The Friends of Warner Circle are the hosts of this special evening of arias and duets from well-loved operas. This event is free and will happen rain or shine. Don't forget your chairs, blankets, and picnic!

### Coming up in Kensington:

July 20 — Opera in the Park

July 27 — Movie Night at St. Paul Park: *Moana*

July 28 — Kensington Fitness Festival

August 24 — KVFD Cook-out

August 31- September 2 — Paint the Town, Art Show

September 2 — 52nd Annual Labor Day Parade

September 7 & 8 — Kensington Model Train Show

### *Women Heroes of the U.S. Army*

By Kensington Author Ann McCallum

In *Women Heroes of the U.S. Army*, Kensington resident Ann McCallum chronicles the critical role women have played in strengthening the U.S. Army from the birth of the nation to today.

Meet the author:

July 11, 7 p.m. Book talk and signing at Politics and Prose, 5015 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, DC.

July 14, 2:00 p.m. Short film and book event at the Women in Military Service for America Memorial, Memorial Avenue & Schley Drive, Arlington, VA. A panel of VIP's featured in the book *Women Heroes of the U.S. Army*, including two general officers, Chief Warrant Officer 5 Mary Hostetler, and the granddaughter of Grace Banker, who was chief telephone operator stationed behind enemy lines during WWI. A book and DVD signing follows. All proceeds will benefit the Women's Memorial.

### Summer Concert Series

Saturdays, 10 to 11 a.m.

Howard Avenue Park

July 13 Janine Wilson Band

July 20 SmithJackson

July 27 Rick Franklin

August 3 — Dede Wyland & the Do-Rights

August 10 — 2nd Story Bank

August 17 — Spencer J

August 24 — Peach Run

August 31 — GP Jams

September 7 — Esther Haynes & Keith Grimes

September 14 — Ruthie Logsdon

Presented by the Kensington Historical Society.

[www.kensingtonhistory.org](http://www.kensingtonhistory.org)

Gary and Diana Ditto's Newsletter welcomes ideas and news items from community members. We are grateful to John Kelly and the Kensington Volunteer Fire Department. The editor is Antoinette Kranenburg of Kensington, assisted by Cherry Wunderlich.

**QUESTION: Would you like to receive the Ditto Group's newsletter by email?**

Send your request to [gary@thedittogroup.com](mailto:gary@thedittogroup.com).



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**The Ditto Group Real Estate Activity**



**9524 East Bexhill Dr  
Kensington/Rock Creek Hills  
Under Contract - \$1,295,000**



**10112 Kensington Pkwy  
Kensington/Kensington  
Active - \$695,000**



**3703 Farragut Ave  
Kensington/Kensington  
Active - \$695,000**



**2501 Campbell Pl  
Kensington/Rock Creek Hills  
Active - \$650,000**



**10904 Devin Pl.  
Kensington/Kensington  
Heights  
Under Contract - \$369,000**



**11300 Mitscher St  
Kensington/Rock Creek Palisades  
Under Contract - \$599,000**



**3005 Oak Dr  
Kensington/Kensington View  
Under Contract - \$675,000**



**4000 Saul Rd  
Kensington/Byeforde  
Sold - \$725,000**



**3926 Kincaid Ter \*  
Kensington/ N. Kensington  
Sold - \$809,000**



**4511 Gretna St  
Bethesda/Parkview  
Sold - \$749,000**



**4014 Dunnel Ln  
Kensington/Byeforde  
Sold - \$775,000**



**10113 Parkwood Terr  
Bethesda/Parkwood  
Sold - \$759,000**

**\* = we represented the buyer**