

Published
Since 1983

Gary & Diana Ditto's Newsletter

Summer 2023

150th Anniversary of the Metropolitan Branch of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad



Kensington Station 22x30 Watercolor by Debra Halprin www.Halprinart.com

On May 25, 1873, the Metropolitan Branch of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad arrived in what was then called Knowles Station.

The Town of Kensington and The Kensington Historical Society are joining forces with Heritage Montgomery and Montgomery Preservation to celebrate the pivotal event with multiple special events. Educational, interesting, entertaining, creative, playful, virtual, in-person – there is something for everyone. Come out to celebrate and meet your neighbors.

Inside this issue: KHS Corn to Commuters Talk...Toasting the MET...Noyes StoryWalk®...Train Excursion on The Met...The British Players Blood Brothers... Progressive Values: Libertarian Solutions...Model Train Displays...and more.

THE DITTO GROUP
experience • knowledge • community

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Toasting the MET

Sunday, May 28, Noon - 5 p.m.

BabyCat Brewery

10241 Kensington Parkway



It is a party for all ages! There will be live music by DC artist **Josh Cantwell** (known for his guitar work and unique voice) with a mix of classic rock, folk, and bluegrass, plus a trivia quiz, children's activities, a caboose photo op, and a Kensington history display.

BabyCat is brewing a special beer for the day. New members who join Kensington Historical Society in May or at the event get one free beer!

Noyes Train StoryWalk®

Sunday, May 14 - Thursday, June 15

Clum Kennedy Park

10298 Frederick Avenue



The Noyes StoryWalk® celebrates with *Steam Train, Dream Train*, by Sherri Duskey Rinker, beautifully illustrated by Tom Lichtenheld. The train crew is a lively collection of animals! For updates visit www.noyeslibraryfoundation.org.

2nd Annual Juneteenth Celebration

St Paul Park, Saturday, June 17, Noon - 4:00 p.m.

Observed as a federal holiday since 2021, Juneteenth commemorates the date in 1865 when some of the last enslaved people in the Confederacy were notified of their freedom following the Civil War.

Come out for a family friendly event with activities for all ages, that brings together a multiracial coalition of organizers, historians, re-enactors, civic and faith leaders, local and Black-owned businesses, musicians, and supporters to proudly mark Juneteenth. Bring your lawn chairs! (Rain date June 18th)



PAW Needs Foster Parents for Rescue Dogs

PAW is an all-volunteer Maryland-based 501(c)3 that rescues dogs and cats from high kill shelters, but we can only rescue pets when we have foster parents.

Fostering can last several weeks and is a wonderful family activity. We place animals only in the metro-DC area.

Please email Bill (in Kensington) if you might consider this rewarding activity at vp@paw-rescue.org. View our available dogs and cats at paw-rescue.org.

If you can't foster, please consider a tax-deductible donation to PAW. We spend over \$1,500 to prepare a dog for adoption, so every dollar matters!

Anniversary MET Train Excursion

&

Kensington Train Station Party

Monday, May 29, 10:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

3701 Howard Avenue



The celebration at Kensington's historic station starts at 10:30 a.m. with live music from the Capital Accord Singers, #strikeapose with a train cut-out designed by Kensington artist Jason Swain, a Metropolitan Line History display, all overseen by our honorary Station Master.

A special 150th anniversary train will take riders past historic stations and railroad communities along the Metropolitan Branch! The route is from Silver Spring to Brunswick and return. Ticketed passengers may board at Silver Spring, Kensington, Garrett Park, Rockville, Gaithersburg, or Germantown.

After a two-hour lay-over in Brunswick to walk, visit the museum, restaurants and food-trucks, the train will return to Silver Spring disembarking at the six stops.

This one-time event is expected to sell out, so purchase your tickets in advance. Tickets are available for purchase online. For ticket prices, train schedule, and other details visit www.montgomerypreservation.org.

Model Train Displays

Kensington Park Library & Kensington Town Hall

The Kensington Park Library display, created by *Chris Hyland of the National Capital Trackers*, exhibits railway cars of the B&O, Chessie System and Marc railroads, china used in B&O dining cars, and other railway artifacts.

The Kensington Historical Society displays other model trains and B&O railroad china in Kensington Town Hall in the second-floor lobby.

Open during normal operating hours all May.

The Gary & Diana Ditto's Newsletter is mailed to 10,000+ households in our community. **If you have an article or event you would like included in the next issue, please let us know by August 1 2023.**

We are grateful to artist Debra Halprin. The editor is Antoinette Kranenburg of Kensington.

From Corn to Commuters:

A History of the Metropolitan Branch
Speaker Susan Cooke Soderberg
Tuesday, May 23, 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Join the Kensington Historical Society and Susan Cooke Soderberg of the Germantown Historical Society, who will take us through time and explain how the coming of the railroad changed the face of Montgomery County.

The talk features the railroad stations designed by Francis Baldwin (including Kensington's) and feats of engineering like the curving trestle over Little Seneca Creek and the Bollman Truss viaduct over the Monocacy.

The B&O Railroad's Metropolitan Branch propelled the County into the Industrial Age, generating new suburban and agricultural towns. The "Met" became the mainstay of the B&O Railroad Company, evolving into the commuter and freight line it is today.

Soderberg served with the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission, where she planned for historic preservation and history in the parks, and has published several books on the history of Germantown and the Met Line.

Attend in the classroom of the Kensington Town Hall, 3710 Mitchell St, Kensington, or online with the zoom link posted to www.kensingtonhistory.org. (No pre-registration required) This event is free of charge.

Memorial Day Weekend Events:

Plein Air Paint-Out: Montgomery Art Association artists will be painting outdoors around town, capturing the sights and celebrations of our vibrant community. Check out their works in progress.

Scavenger Hunt at Kensington retailers with a chance to win a prize

Carte Blanche group show, Adah Rose Gallery, 3766 Howard Ave., noon - 5 p.m.

Love the Music Record Show

Sunday, June 25, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Rosensteel Hall,

9707 Rosensteel Avenue, Silver Spring

Vinyl collectors and music lovers can buy, sell and trade with local record stores and independent dealers in all genres of music. Over 20,000 new and used vinyl records, LPs, 45s, Eps, CDs, cassettes, imports, rare pressings, picture discs, memorabilia, collectables, and vintage clothing. Admission and parking are free.

Contact Rick Mulvihill at: 202-285-0831 or rpmulvihill@msn.com.



QUESTION: Would you like to receive the Ditto Group's newsletter by email? Please email your request to gary@thedittogroup.com.

Coming up in Kensington:

Tue May 23 — KHS talk "From Corn to Commuters"
Sun May 28 — Toasting the Met at BabyCat Brewery
Mon May 29 — Anniversary Train Excursion on The Met
Mon May 29 — Kensington Train Station Party
Sun Jun 17 — 2nd Annual Juneteenth Celebration
Sun Jun 25 — Love the Music Record Show



Blood Brothers

by Willy Russell

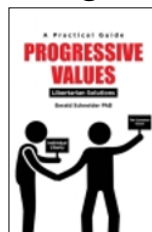
June 9 -24, 2023

Kensington Town Hall
3710 Mitchell Street, Kensington

"Tell me it's not true, say it's just a story..." so begins one of the most popular British musicals ever, the show that thrilled audiences in the West End for 24 years – over 10,000 performances. A noirish tale of twin brothers separated at birth, raised on opposite sides of the tracks, and doomed to follow their destiny... a spirited satire of working-class life... a haunting folk opera filled with love and desire... This is Blood Brothers.

Schedule and tickets at www.britishplayers.org.

Progressive Values: Libertarian Solutions



Congratulations to Gerald Schneider on his just published book! *Progressive Values: Libertarian Solutions*, by Gerald Schneider PhD, Page Publishing, Inc. is described as original, thoughtful, lucid, concise, reasoned, and provocative.

Schneider is an environmental educational consultant and served as the first executive director of the Audubon Naturalist Society in Chevy Chase. His book explores American politics and systemic worldwide concerns and invites dialogue across the American political divide.

Schneider offers a compelling practical guide to address worldwide problems, aiming to secure rights for all peoples, and to protect individual liberties as well as the environment.

Help Save a Life!

The NIH Blood Bank is in URGENT need of African American blood donors to support Clinical Center patients with Sickle Cell Disease. Please call 301-496-1048 to schedule an appointment to donate.

Help Save a Life, Donate Blood Today!!!

May is ATT's **Alexander Technique Awareness Month**. Schedule a free sample session: ak@KensingtonAlexander.com or 240-762-9755.



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* = We represented the purchaser

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The Ditto Group Real Estate Activity



2125 14th ST #816
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14 Bitterroot Ct
Rockville, MD/Flower Valley
Closed - \$880,000 *



11407 Soward Dr
Kensington, MD/Kensington Knolls
Closed - \$618,000 *



3504 Nimitz Rd
Kensington, MD/ N. Kensington
Under Contract - \$595,000