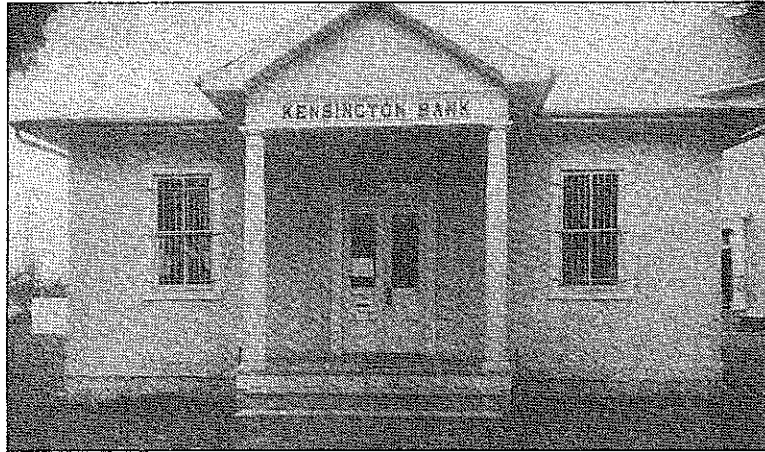


Your
Community
• Realtor •

Gary Ditto's Newsletter

JULY/AUGUST 1993

A KENSINGTON SCRAP BOOK



The old Kensington Bank on the site of the current First National Bank at 10420 Montgomery Avenue in Kensington. The bi-level lobby of the First National Bank results from a renovation that built on top of the old Kensington Bank building. As you go up the steps of the current lobby, you're walking up the steps of the original bank, Gordon Luckett notes. Photo from the collection of Gordon Luckett.

McKeever's Ice Cream. The trolley from Washington. Phil McCurdy's plumbing business. The DGS (District Grocery Store). Trowbridge's Drug Store. Farmers' Bank and Trust Co. The Kensington Bank.

For many long-time Kensington area residents, these words evoke images of a small town far from the hustle of big city Washington. For Gordon Luckett, now president of Equitable Federal Savings Bank, they bring back the time when he graduated from Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School and took his first job at the Kensington branch of Farmers' Bank and Trust in 1947.

Born in West Virginia, Mr. Luckett came to the Washington area as an infant, living first in the District near the Washington Cathedral and, later, moving to a house on the corner of Fawcett and Mitchell Streets in Kensington.

Continued on page 2.

(301) 949-0489



LONG & FOSTER
REALTORS®

(301) 907-7600

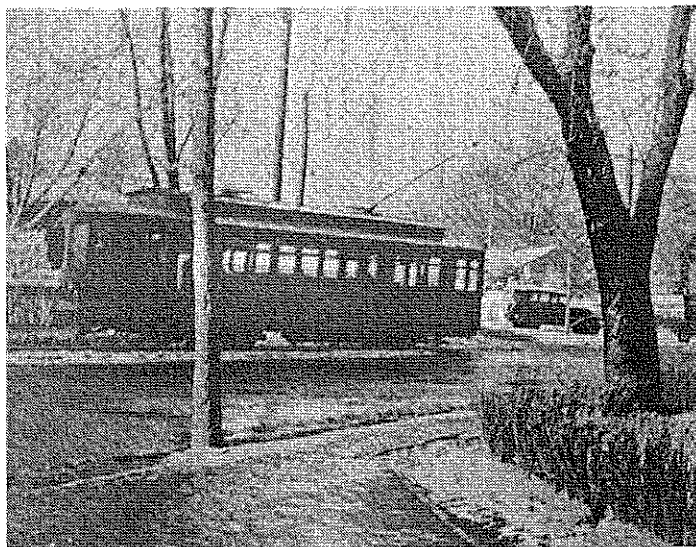
During high school Gordon Lockett worked as an usher at the old Avalon Theatre in Silver Spring, a popular spot with its "Air Cooled" climate and "hot" movies starring Gary Cooper, Clark Gable, Susan Hayward, and Humphrey Bogart. In those days, Lockett recalls, news serials and 7-minute short subjects were standard, feature movies were a lot shorter than they are today, double features were common -- and admission was 25 cents. A uniformed doorman adorned the entrance and the ushers (of which he was one) escorted customers to their plush velvet seats.

As a teller at Farmers' Bank and Trust's Kensington branch, Mr. Lockett had a boss named Douglas Birchby, the "Cashier" (now called a manager). Mr. Lockett didn't aspire to be a banker in those days, he just liked working for and with "nice people" in a community business. Lockett studied finance at Montgomery College while he worked and interrupted his early years at the bank for four years of military service.



Can you just about hear your impatient friends in the Model T honking the horn as they wait for you to finish your errands in town? A view of the Kensington Bank in the 1920's. The building to the right housed Trowbridge's Drug Store on the first floor and the Masonic Lodge on the second. Photo by Robert R. Humphreys. In the collection of Gordon Lockett.

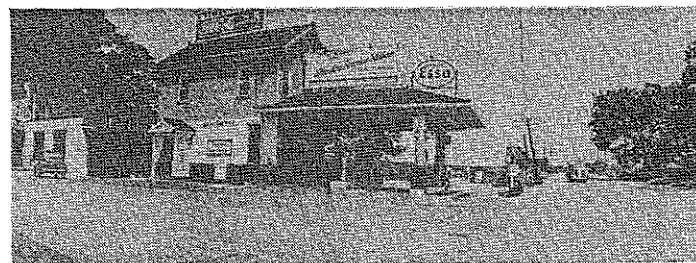
In 1951, Gordon Lockett and Jean Kirby married. They had met in high school when she ran the candy counter at the Apex Theater in Spring Valley. Mr. Lockett remembers how he and a friend at the bank looked forward to a far-off time when they would earn the princely sum of \$100 a week, the better to support their growing families and afford their own homes.



Clang, clang, clang went the trolley. The old trolley to Washington, photographed as it zipped by the Kensington Train Station. Photo by Robert R. Humphreys. In the collection of Gordon Lockett.

In his early banking days, Lockett recalls, bank loans were given to local residents of good character and sound plans for the money they borrowed. This simple process was only possible in a small community where everyone knew everyone else. Recognizing the important growth and change in financial institutions today, Lockett still works hard to maintain that sense of community he fondly remembers: he still prefers to think of his customers as individuals and he is proud that he has people on his staff fluent in many languages and knowledgeable about the needs of individuals from a variety of backgrounds.

Recently, Mr. Lockett shared his recollections and some of the photos he has collected of old Kensington and nearby areas.



Continue up the road to Wheaton in the 1940's and the intersection of University Boulevard and Veirs Mill Road. At the far left is Wiseman's, site of the current Anchor Inn. The Esso Station was torn down when Veirs Mill Road was widened. This photo appeared in The Montgomery Sentinel, Thursday, April 27, 1967. From the collection of Gordon Lockett.

Rose Gardening Tips



Here are some hints about roses from Gordon Lockett, President of Equitable FSB and an avid rose gardener in his leisure time.

Hybrid tea roses with the AARS (All-American Rose Selection) Award usually do better than most.

A good planting hole is the key ingredient. For each rose bush you plant: Dig a pit 18 inches deep and layer in 2 inches of small rocks and 6 inches of sand. Top off with 10 inches of a "light" soil mix of topsoil, peat moss, and sand for planting the rose bush.

Water and fertilize thoroughly and regularly.

Spray weekly with a commercial fungicide and with a solution to control aphids. Because of these critical weekly ministrings, one rose "garden" of a dozen roses is easier to manage than a few roses randomly planted around a whole yard.

In fall, cut back the canes a bit and add mulch for wind protection.

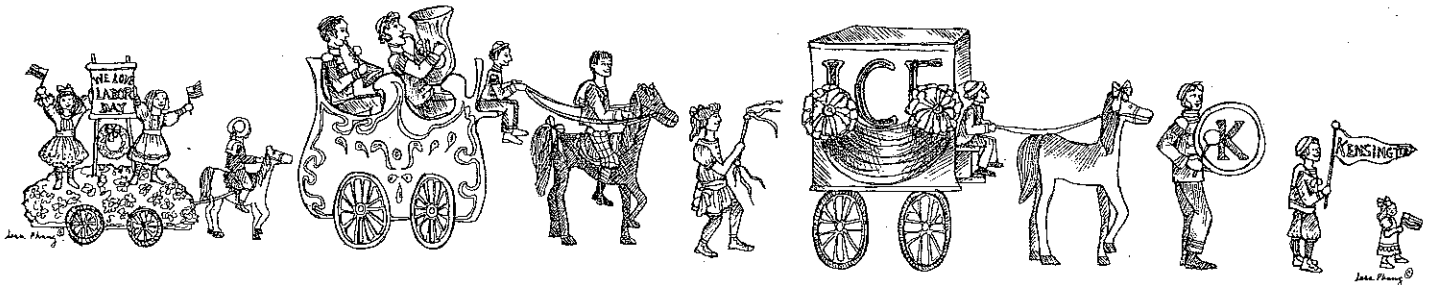
In spring, prune bush back to 7 to 12 inches high.

PICTURE THIS

The Arts Scene at Strathmore Hall

Strathmore Hall closes the year-long celebration of its tenth birthday by hosting a Retrospective Exhibition of works by artists who have exhibited there during the past 10 years. The exhibition features a wide variety of media, including paintings, prints, photos, fiber, collage, and sculpture. Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. through July 24.

The Montgomery County Juried Art Exhibit will be held at the Strathmore Hall Arts Center, Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. July 30 through August 28. 10701 Rockville Pike, N. Bethesda.



JOIN THE FUN

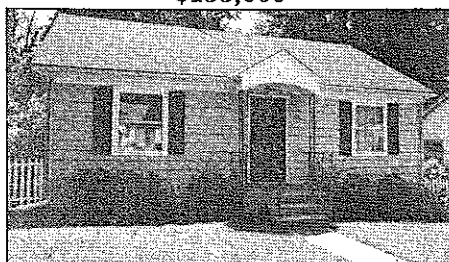
The 26th annual Kensington Labor Day Parade is scheduled for Monday, September 6. This Kensington tradition promises fun for all ages, bringing neighbors from near and far to enjoy both the old and the new of the Kensington community.

The parade at 10 a.m. is the start of the day-long festivities as it wends its way around town, featuring bands, floats, marching

groups, and local celebrities. For the rest of the day, Howard Avenue becomes the center of a fun fair of food booths, craft displays, and local color. Of course, there's plenty of browsing and shopping along "Antique Row."

Be sure to stop by for the fun -- and to get an early start on Kensington's Centennial Celebration coming up in 1994.

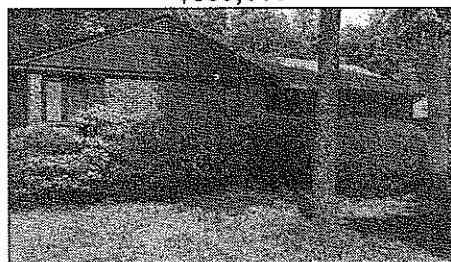
FOR SALE
\$155,000



4302 Warner Street
Kensington

Great starter home. Many improvements and upgrades. Modern TS Kit. Rec.Rm.

FOR SALE
\$359,000



9470 Seven Locks Road
Bethesda

Large Rambler on huge lot. Spectacular landscaping. 4 BR. 3 BA. Liv. Rm. w/ FP. Rec. Rm. w/ FP.

FOR SALE
\$149,900



10602 Edgewood Avenue
Silver Spring

Well-maintained home. New Rec.Rm. w/ BA. 3-4 BR. 1 1/2 BA. Liv. Rm. w/FP.

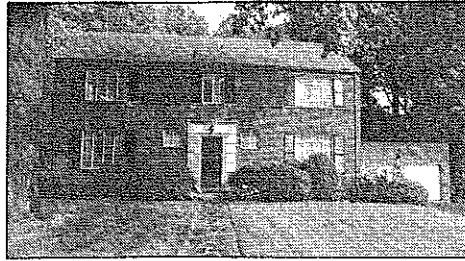
FOR SALE
\$236,000



10518 Pine Haven Terrace
Bethesda

Perfect Townhome. Professionally landscaped. Liv. Rm. Din. Rm. Rec. Rm. 4 BR, 2 1/2 BA.

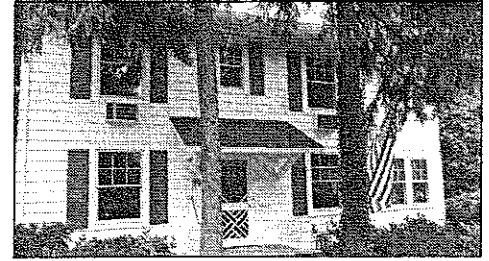
UNDER CONTRACT



9709 Connecticut Avenue
Kensington

Elegant Center Hall Colonial. Liv. Rm. Sep. Din. Rm. Den. 4 BR, 2 1/2 BA.

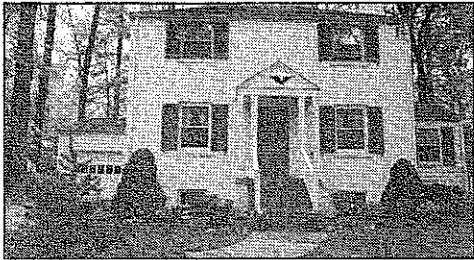
FOR SALE
\$399,000



3941 Baltimore Street
Kensington

Modern Old World Home. Great Condition. Liv. Rm. w/FP. Din. Rm. Fam. Rm. 4 BR, 2 1/2 BA.

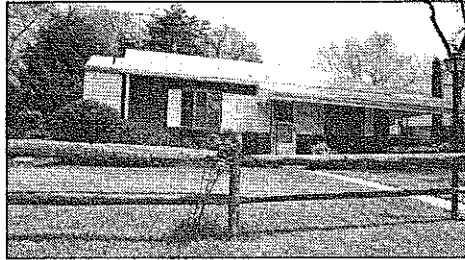
UNDER CONTRACT



4518 Roxbury Drive
Bethesda

Outstanding Colonial. Liv. Rm. w/FP. Din. Rm. T.S. Kit. Den, New Rec. Rm. 3 BR, 2 BA.

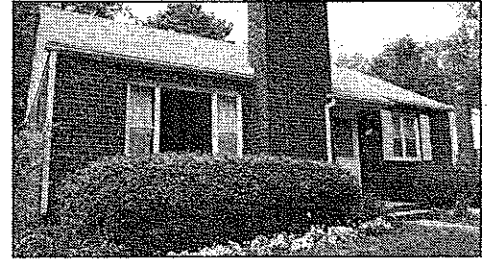
UNDER CONTRACT



4509 Puller Drive
Kensington

Lovely Ranch with first floor Family Room w/FP. 2 BR, 2 BA.

UNDER CONTRACT



4512 Everett Street
Kensington

Screened Porch overlooks lush yard. Liv. Rm. w/FP. New Rec. Rm. 3 BR, 1 1/2 BA.

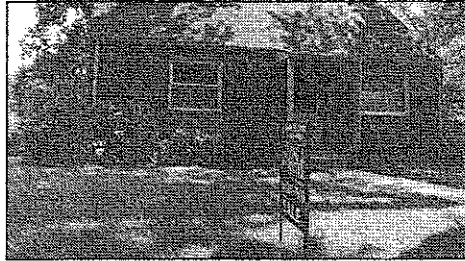
UNDER CONTRACT



4104 Dewmar Court
Kensington

Well-kept Split Level w/ spectacular glass/cedar addition. 4 BR, 3 BA.

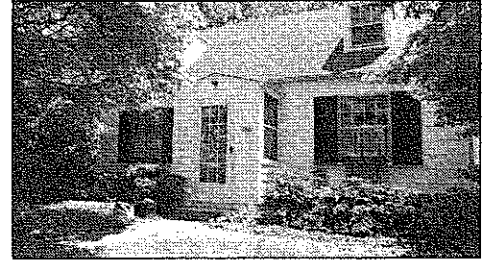
UNDER CONTRACT



10148 Crestwood Road
Kensington

Lovely Cape with screened porch. Great Kitchen. 3 BR. Liv. Rm. Din. Rm. Rec. Rm.

UNDER CONTRACT



10607 Wheatley Street
Kensington

Unusual and outstanding Cape Cod. Superb condition. Liv. Rm. w/FP. 2 BR, 2 BA. Porch. Decks.

Each home pictured in this newsletter is a Gary Ditto listing.

GARY H. DITTO, G.R.I.
4800 Montgomery Lane
Suite 150
Bethesda, MD 20814
H (301)949-0489
W (301)907-7600

Bulk Rate
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Long & Foster

Our Neighbors At
10113 PARKWOOD TERRACE
BETHESDA MD 20814