

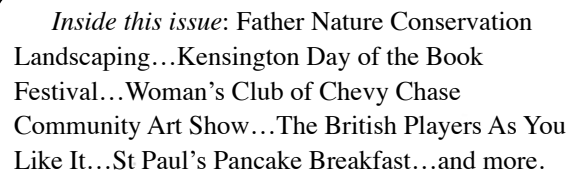
Gary & Diana Ditto's Newsletter

Temple Emanuel's New Rain Garden

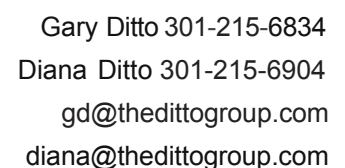
Rain gardens are a growing trend as homeowners look for environmentally friendly ways to deal with rainwater effectively and prevent soil erosion and pollution of downstream water sources.

Temple Emanuel has occupied a 5-acre site on Connecticut Avenue in Kensington just north of the Beltway for almost 65 years of its 70-year existence. Last November two dozen volunteers installed a 300 square foot rain garden adjoined by 400 square feet of conservation landscaping.

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THE DITTO GROUP
experience • knowledge • community



—Rain Garden continued

Trackman was part of the initial steps, which involved identifying potential sites and digging a two-foot-deep hole on the site to test if it would drain within 24 hours as required. Alison Trackman also prepared an initial design for the planting of flowers and planned to bring fellow students on board from the environmental club she started at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School.

The Temple board under now-Rabbi Emeritus Warren Stone endorsed the project to deal with flooding and icing on the front driveway in a way consistent with the congregation's longtime environmental commitment.

After Alison graduated, the idea was carried on by members of the Temple's Building and Grounds Committee and Luke Jessup, owner of Father Nature Restorative Landscaping in Wheaton.

Jessup is a rainscape veteran and has created many in the county. Temple Emanuel heard of him because of his work at the neighboring Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church.

Jessup's goal is to bring together the Temple community with the shared value of "continuing to make their religious home a space that improves the natural land it sits on." By reducing the erosive impact of rainwater runoff, and planting an integrated ecosystem filled with native plants, the garden will restore groundwater reserves and provide food and shelter for insects, birds, and other wildlife. And it will welcome visitors as they enter the synagogue!



The daylong planting took place on a blustery Sunday in November, the coldest day up to that date. Volunteers sported hats, heavy coats, and work gloves. Rabbi Emeritus Warren Stone and Rabbi Adam Rosenwasser gathered workers for prayers, with everyone singing a "Shehecheyanu" blessing, given when something is done for the first time.

The planting was made possible by a rebate offered by the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection RainScapes Rewards Rebate Program. Property owners can apply for a rebate to install rain gardens, rain barrels, conservation landscaping, and other approved projects that help control stormwater.

The Rainscape Program is open to properties in Montgomery County outside the municipalities of Rockville, Gaithersburg and Takoma Park. Check www.montgomerycountymd.gov/water/rainscapes/rebates for more information.

Caring for our planet and preserving and protecting it for future generations is one of the key traditions of Judaism, and the rain garden is a wonderful example of turning that into reality.

Now Temple Emanuel is looking forward excitedly to the garden's first blooming this spring! A ribbon-cutting ceremony is anticipated to be held on May 21.



Spotlight on:

Father Nature Restorative Landscaping

"Luke Jessup's problem solving skills, eye for design and stonework are exceptional" says a Kensington customer. Jessup started his restorative landscaping company to offer conservation landscaping services to create "healing natural spaces, for all walks of life, one yard at a time." He enhances the functionality and beauty of yards using sustainable practices that build ecological

habitat, solve water issues while protecting our local water systems, create 'Gardens of Eat'n', and create outdoor living spaces for both kids and adults.

www.father-nature.com
Luke@father-nature.com



The Kensington Car Show is Back!

Saturday, April 29, 10 a.m.— 4 p.m.

Howard Avenue

Classic and contemporary cars. Rain date Sunday, April 30.

The Gary & Diana Ditto's Newsletter is mailed to 10,000+ households in our community.

If you have an article or community event you would like to include in the summer issue, please let us know before May 15, 2023.

Rain or Shine, 16th Annual
Kensington Day of the Book Festival!

Sunday, April 23, 2023
11 a.m.- 4 p.m. Howard Avenue

After a three-year break the Kensington Day of the Book Festival is back with guest speakers, authors, illustrators, poetry readings, children's stage and activities, live music, great food and more.

The literary festival draws thousands of visitors as well as authors, book artists and illustrators, publishers and literary arts related businesses and organizations from across the Washington area. For updates check www.dayofthebook.com.

The fantastic "Sant Jordi" logo reflects the Catalan heritage of the International Day of the Book and of Elisenda Sola-Sole, Kensington Day of the Book founder and organizer and owner of Kensington Row Bookshop.

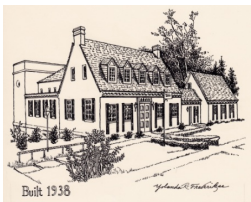
Volunteers are needed to help with all facets of planning and organizing program teams to help with logistics and scheduling. If you are interested in volunteering or sponsoring the event, please contact the festival organizer, Elisenda Sola-Sole, at 2023kensingtonbookfestival@gmail.com.



47th Annual Community Art Show and Sale

Woman's Club of Chevy Chase
Friday, March 24—Sunday, March 26

The Woman's Club of Chevy Chase Art Show and Sale features 375 works by more than 100 artists and is free and open to the public. This community service event supports art scholarships and provides a venue for local artists to show and sell their work.



Friday 2 —6 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday 11 a.m.—5 p.m.

For information see:
www.wccmaryland.org/art-show.

Conor Strong! at GIGS Courtyard

Saturday April 29th

Conor Kehoe's family is raising one million dollars for Children's National Hospital to fund research and medical trials for aggressive and refractory forms of Childhood Cancer. Tickets at GIGSCourtyard.com/conor-strong.

Tumbleweed

While the search is on for another Kensington storefront for Tumbleweed, you can shop for the rustic but elegant products online at shoptumbleweedrustic.square.site.

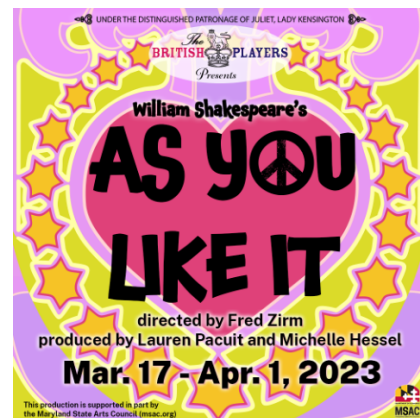
Coming up in Kensington:

Mar. 24-26 — WCCC Community Art Show and Sale
Apr. 23 — Kensington Day of the Book Street Festival
Apr. 29 — Conor Strong fundraiser at GIGS Courtyard
Apr. 29 — Kensington Car Show
Apr. 30 — Open Studio Art Event
May 13 — Kensington Dog Parade

Pancake Breakfast at St. Paul's

10401 Armory Avenue, Kensington
First Saturday, April, May & June
8:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Scrambled eggs, sausage, applesauce, fresh fruit, pancakes, and community, hosted by St Paul's United Methodist Men. The suggested donation for a family of four is \$20. Proceeds benefit St. Paul's and regional charities. www.stpaulsk.org.



Kensington Town Hall
3710 Mitchell Street, Kensington

Not your typical romcom! Shakespeare's comedy is transported to the Woodstock era as Rosalind decides to flee from her tyrannically uptight uncle to the Forest of Arden, where her free-spirited father has been banished, along with his band of hippie followers.. Folk and rock from the 60s and 70s will be performed in place of songs from Shakespeare's time.

Performances at 8 p.m.; matinees at 2 p.m.
Saturday, March 26 and Sunday, March 20 and 27.
Tickets at www.britishplayers.org.

The benefits of **Alexander Technique**? Relief from strain and stress, better balance, improved performance. Contact Antoinette Kranenburg at ak@KensingtonAlexander.com or 240-762-9755.



Correction:

The date for the closure of **Noyes Children's Library** to complete the renovation has not yet been determined.

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



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* = We represented the purchaser

The Ditto Group Real Estate Activity



2125 14th ST #816
Washington DC/Union Row
Coming Soon



9910 Old Spring Rd
Kensington/Rock Creek Hills
Sold - \$1,035,000



5507 Hoover st
Bethesda/Huntington Terrace
Sold - \$890,000



9719 Blandwood Way*
Frederick/Lake Linganore
Woodridge
Sold - \$767,000



3011 Homewood Pkwy
Kensington/Homewood
Sold - \$750,000



10207 Parkwood Dr
Kensington/Parkwood
Sold - \$700,000