



SPRING 2017

# Town of Historic Sykesville

## NEWSLETTER

[www.townofsykesville.org](http://www.townofsykesville.org)  
[town@sykesville.net](mailto:town@sykesville.net)

### TOWN OFFICE ADMINISTRATION

Dawn M. Ashbacher  
Town Manager  
410-795-6390

Evelyn M. Sweet  
Town Treasurer  
410-795-8959

Kerry Chaney  
Town Clerk  
410-795-8959

Julie Della-Maria  
Interim Main Street Coordinator  
410-795-8959

Jana Antrobus  
Executive Assistant  
410-795-6390

Michael Spaulding  
Chief of Police  
410-795-0757

Barbara Prawdzik  
Admin. Assistant/Police  
410-795-0757

Ron Esworthy  
Public Works Director  
410-795-3186

The Town House  
Hours of Operation:  
Monday - Friday  
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

### COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Mayor and Town Council  
Second & fourth Mondays  
of the month

Planning Commission  
First Monday of the month

Historic Commission  
Fourth Tuesday of the month

Board of Zoning appeals  
Monthly as necessary

Parks &  
Recreation Committee  
Fourth Thursday of the month

### SIGNS OF SPRING FAST APPROACHING

Ian Shaw, Mayor

By the time this greeting arrives in your mailbox I hope it is without a major snow event in Sykesville this winter. After last year's massive snow amounts I welcome some much needed relief for our Town. Once again, it is time to welcome Spring to the Town of Sykesville. As I have stated in the past, Spring is my favorite season as it is the one to me of renewal and growth.

As we welcome the season, I would like to thank you all for all of your support over the past four years as your Mayor. I have learned so much and have been honored to represent the residents of Sykesville in every aspect of our local government. I hope we can continue to build on the progress the Town as a whole has made over the last four years.

Your support of our leadership and the Town has been very much appreciated by myself and the Town Council. As a Team with all of the people, residents, volunteers, business owners, committee members, Town staff, and local elected officials and County leaders from both Carroll and Howard Counties, who also represent our interest, we have achieved so much over these last four years. I am most proud of being the Mayor when so many people have come together to make the Town great. For the longest time it was one group or another trying to facilitate efforts. Often, these efforts would stall due to burn out and various challenges. With the new sense of passion, energy and commitment by such a wide breadth of people all

coming together, this success finally feels sustainable for the future. We continue to take steps to preserve the progress made for all generations and the future here in Sykesville.

Please continue to support the events that have really made the Town "The Coolest Small Town in America" as well as all of our local business owners who, without their support and success, would have made our efforts very hard to achieve and sustain. They really have stepped up, and your continued support of their efforts is crucial to our ongoing success. History has shown a thriving Main Street is critical to the fabric of our Town, which remains true today.

Remember, this year is an Election Year here in the Town of Sykesville. It is important that everyone exercises their right to vote. Your vote really does matter in local elections. Municipal Government really is where the rubber meets the road and where your voice is heard and matters! Please come out and vote on May 2! We look forward to a great turn out!

I hope to see you all soon and hope you all have a wonderful Spring here in Sykesville. Remember to mark your calendars for the return of the Farmers' Market on May 14!

Wishing you all the best, Ian Shaw, Mayor



On Tuesday, May 2, the Mayor and three Council Members will be elected to serve on the Town Council.

Nominations for candidacy will be accepted on Monday, March 27, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Mayor and Town Council Meeting. All involved in the nomination process must be a resident of the incorporated Town of Sykesville and registered to vote in Carroll County.

The deadline for voter registration is April 14, 2017. For more information see page 7.

See upcoming EVENTS inside & on the back cover.

# Trash, Recycling, and Yard Waste

## **YARD WASTE**

- ◆ The Town will pick up yard waste on your regular trash day. It will occur after trash pick up
- ◆ Carroll County prohibits yard waste from being mixed with standard household refuse
- ◆ Yard waste pick up will begin on April 11, 2017 and will end on December 13, 2017
- ◆ Please have your yard waste in the brown yard bags or bundle sticks together no more than 4 feet long

- ◆ Yard waste must be placed in paper lawn bags
- ◆ Plastic bags will not be picked up
- ◆ Dumping of yard waste in the parks and other wooded areas in the Town or along the Linear Trail is prohibited



## **ANNUAL SPRING CLEAN UP DAY IS APRIL 29, 2017 – FREE BULK PICK-UP!**

- ◆ On Friday night, place unwanted items curbside
- ◆ Appliances will be picked up on Monday, May 1, 2017

- ◆ Prohibited items include, but are not limited to: car parts, paint, chemicals, rocks, dirt, rubble, or tree stumps
- ◆ Nothing larger than a 4X4 pile of wood or other stackable material



## **VEGETATION AND TREE TRIMMING**

On February 22, 2016, the Mayor and Town Council for the Town of Sykesville approved an ordinance providing for the regulation and control of trees and vegetation located on roadside property and elsewhere

within the Town. Property owners of roadside property shall maintain all vegetation growth by keeping the area trimmed so as to prevent obstruction of travel on roads and sidewalks. Property owners must keep trees which overhang a road at least 13.5 feet above the road and trees which overhang a sidewalk at least 10 feet above the sidewalk. A full copy of the ordinance is available at [townof-sykesville.org](http://townof-sykesville.org).

- ◆ Trim all vegetation and growth around stop signs
- ◆ Trim all trees overhanging a road to at least 13.5 feet
- ◆ Trim all trees overhanging a sidewalk to at least 10 feet

## **AND GRASS MOWING**

- ◆ Keep your grass trimmed to less than 12 inches
- ◆ Don't put grass trimmings in the street



## **STORM DRAINS**

- ◆ Prevent grass clippings and leaves from getting in the storm drains
- ◆ The clippings will break down in the storm drains and the nutrients released can be harmful to the water quality
- ◆ Clippings can also clog drains, causing flooding and storm drain failure



## **RECYCLING**

- ◆ A 32 gallon trash receptacle (maximum size) may be used to hold recycling
- ◆ Nothing heavier than 50 pounds

- ◆ Recycling is single stream which means all recycling can be put together. To find out what you can recycle, go to [www.townofsykesville.org/2170/Recycling](http://www.townofsykesville.org/2170/Recycling)
- ◆ Recycling in **clear** plastic bags will be picked up
- ◆ Need another recycling bin? Call 410-795-8959



# Sykesville Parks & Recreation



Sykesville Parks and Recreation Committee (SPARC) meets at the Town House on the fourth Thursday of the month, at 7:00 pm. For more information, please call 410-795-8959 or email [parks@sykesville.net](mailto:parks@sykesville.net).

## EASTER EGG HUNT

Please join us for our annual Easter Egg Hunt scheduled for Friday, April 14 at 10:00 am at Millard Cooper Park for children 8 years and under. There will be a separate area for kids 3 years old and younger. The Easter Bunny is scheduled to make an appearance so remember to bring your camera as well as your Easter basket. Save the date and don't be late!



**Sykesville**  
Concerts in the Park

## SYKESVILLE CONCERTS IN THE PARK

Sykesville Parks & Recreation Committee is planning a wonderful 2017 season! Dates and bands are currently being finalized. Concerts will be held at Millard Cooper Park.

Keep an eye out for more details on Facebook and [www.townofsykesville.org/](http://www.townofsykesville.org/)

## SYKESVILLE CINEMA RETURNS FOR ITS EIGHTH SEASON!

With a 12' inflatable movie screen and a powerful audio and video system, the Sykesville Parks and Recreation Committee will be returning with quality-run movie performances.



Movies will once again be shown the second Saturday of each month throughout the summer. This year's Summer Series will be held at **Millard Cooper Park**. Each show begins around dusk – so come early to get a good seat (don't forget to bring your lawn chairs). General parking is available at nearby Sykesville Middle School. Millard Cooper Park includes easy access handicapped parking. The **Snack Shack** will be serving delicious, freshly-popped popcorn, hot dogs, Hoffman's ice cream, candy, soda pop, bottled water, and glow sticks.

Get re-acquainted with our Town by spending the day visiting our many fine shops and restaurants; enjoying our parks and trails. Then enjoy a FREE movie under the stars at Millard Cooper Park.

## SYKESVILLE CINEMA 2017 SUMMER SERIES



Saturday, May 13  
*Finding Dory*

Saturday, June 10  
*Ferris Buller's Day Off*

Saturday, July 8  
*Hunger Games*

Saturday, August 12  
*Secret Life of Pets*

Reserved Rain Date: Saturday, September 9

New this year!!! In the spirit of Halloween, we are adding an October movie. On Saturday October 14, we will show *The Blair Witch Project*.

## SPARC COMMUNITY OUTREACH

With your help, Sykesville Parks and Recreation hopes to support various charities within our community. During the 2017 Sykesville Cinema Summer Series and Concerts in the Park, we'll be collecting donations of non-perishable food items for **Carroll County Food Sunday**. Please help us with this very worthy cause by placing your donated items in the marked plastic bins found as you enter the park during movie nights. Carroll County Food Sunday encourages donors to give the kind of nutritious, non-perishable food they would serve their own families. Listed below is their Wish List.

- Canned Fruit
- Hot or Cold Cereal
- Canned Vegetables
- Canned Tuna, Chicken, or Salmon
- Plain Rice
- Canned Soup
- Spaghetti in one pound boxes, Macaroni & Cheese
- Peanut Butter; Canned Beans
- Tomato Sauce

## VOLUNTEERS

The Parks and Recreation Committee is looking for additional members and volunteers who are interested in making a difference in our parks, recreational activities, and events for our families and others. If you have a few hours a month to spare and would like to join the team, please email [parks@sykesville.net](mailto:parks@sykesville.net) or call 410-795-8959. Please like us on Facebook for updates:

# Sykesville Police Department



*Michael Spaulding, Chief of Police*

**T**ips to Prevent Thefts from Motor Vehicles  
With the arrival of warmer weather also comes an increase in reported thefts, particularly thefts from motor vehicles. The SPD would like to share a few common sense tips to help you avoid becoming a victim of this crime.

Preventing theft from a motor vehicle is easier than you think. You just have to remove the desire, ability and the opportunity. The following are some tips to help remove the opportunity:

- Roll up your windows before parking – do not leave them cracked open even an inch!
- Keep the vehicle locked when unattended
- Keep packages, loose change, garage door openers and other valuables out of sight or in the trunk
- Look for parking spaces in well-lighted areas
- Install a motion activated spot light directed at your driveway
- Avoid parking near dumpsters, large vans, or trucks that would obstruct the public view of your vehicle
- Replace T-shaped door locks with straight locks
- Install and use a car alarm
- Use your garage, if you have one, and lock it
- Avoid parking your vehicle on the street, if possible
- Park in attended parking lots when available
- Record serial numbers for cell phones, GPS units, computer equipment, and other items frequently used in your vehicle
- If you see suspicious persons/vehicles in your neighborhood after dark, obtain descriptive information and notify the police

Remember, a thief already has the desire and the ability to take your stuff – the only thing lacking is the opportunity. Don't provide the opportunity! Lock your doors, keep your windows up, and remove all inviting items from plain view.

## JR. CSI

**T**he Sykesville Police Department will be hosting the 9th Annual Jr. CSI Academy this fall at Sykesville Middle School. The program, which is sponsored by the Freedom District Lions Club, is open to all middle-school aged children in our area. For more information, or to obtain an application, go to our website at [www.townofsykesville.org](http://www.townofsykesville.org), or call (410) 795-0757, or stop by the Police Department Monday through Friday from



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*Jean-Daniel Stanley  
Buckingham's Choice resident,  
underwater archaeologist and  
world traveler*



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[Integrace.org](http://Integrace.org)

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# Sykesville Main Street



[www.facebook.com/sykesville](http://www.facebook.com/sykesville)

[www.sykesvillemainstreet.com](http://www.sykesvillemainstreet.com)

## MAIN STREET HAPPENINGS

After a fantastic Ice Fest 2017, the Sykesville Main Street Association is thrilled to spring forward into 2017 and celebrate the opening and reopening of new businesses on Main Street. The Association is working hard to ensure that downtown Sykesville is a vibrant place to live, work, and play.

Coming up this spring are great activities and programs, including the return of the Sykesville Farmers' Market, the seventh Annual Fine Art & Wine Festival, and our series of summer block parties. The historic wayside exhibits will soon be installed, and our Design Committee has a wonderful program to expand our ever-growing list of downtown offerings.

As always, the Main Street Association is thrilled to welcome volunteers to assist with the coordination and implementation of these and other great events. Our planning committees meet regularly on the following dates:

Promotion & Organization – First Tuesday of the month, 7pm

Economic Development – First Thursday of the month, 7pm

Design – Second Tuesday of the month, 7pm

Green – Second Thursday of the month, 7pm

If you would like to volunteer to help out at an event or attend a committee meeting, please contact us at [mainstreet@sykesville.net](mailto:mainstreet@sykesville.net).



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## Old Main Line Visitor Center and Post Office

Thank you for making 2016 a successful year. This past holiday season was very positive and we would like to thank all our customers.

Old Main Line Visitors Center and Post Office is chugging along into Spring with new stamp designs and some new prices.

The forever stamps are now 49 cents. We also have new Post Card stamps featuring seashells and new forever stamps featuring loveable pets, Wonder Woman, Purple Hearts, and flags.

This is also the destination to purchase the Coolest Small Town in America merchandise including coffee mugs and water bottles!

As a reminder, we have our “Room with a View” for rent above the Post Office. It is a great place to have a meeting, small party or gathering. Spread the word!



731 Oklahoma Ave. • 410-552-9975

Monday - Friday

9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

& 2:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Saturday

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

## At the Gate House

The Gate House is busy preparing to reopen this May. The latest focus will be on life in Sykesville 100 years ago. It will include artifacts from the era, as well as exhibits on lifestyle, work, WW1, the Great Flu Pandemic of 1918, and The Rise and Fall of Wade Warfield.

The Gate House will also be showing off its new color scheme and a beautifully redesigned entryway with new displays on Sykesville's history and the history of the Gate House. The Gate House is also collaborating with the Smithsonian Institution and the Carroll County Farm Museum on a traveling exhibit celebrating America's tradition of work.

For news and the exact opening date, please check our Facebook page or the Town website.

7283 Cooper Drive  
Sykesville, MD 21784

410-549-5150  
www.townofsykesville.org

## The Historic Sykesville Colored Schoolhouse



After a pause of eighty years, the Historic Sykesville Colored Schoolhouse is back to its original purpose! It is teaching children, first through seventh grade, their 3-R's. Every Monday and Wednesday during the academic year 15 young scholars file into the old walls after school. They are greeted with a healthy snack and then get down to work with volunteer tutors, primarily from St. Paul's United Methodist Church. Five teens from the community act as junior tutors. After an hour of homework and drills, they enjoy an enrichment activity: a craft, music, science, or social studies experience. The Homework Club celebrated its first anniversary on February 1. Last summer, *Wacky Wednesdays* in August tuned the kids up for the coming school year. We are grateful to St. Paul's, the Sykesville-South Carroll Rotary, and several private individuals for providing the monetary support needed to supply the program. And, thanks, too, to Girl Scout Troop #2946, the Landry family, and *A Likely Story Bookstore*, for donating books to get the kids reading for pleasure! The really good news: six of our scholars made the second quarter Honor Roll at their schools!

Of course, we continue to welcome school classes, Scout troops, youth groups, and adult organizations for visits to this unique piece of Sykesville history. Please contact [patgreenwald@comcast.net](mailto:patgreenwald@comcast.net) to set up your own Schoolhouse experience.

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Greg Fuchs  
(410) 781-7439

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7200 Third Avenue, Sykesville, MD 21784

## HOMEOWNERS & STORMWATER - PUBLIC WORKSHOP

Saturday, March 18, 2017

10 AM to 12 PM Drop-In/Open House

Great Hall at Carroll Community College - 1601 Washington Road, Westminster, MD

Learn what you can do to help minimize stormwater runoff and prevent stormwater pollution.

Talk to experts, ask individualized questions, and pick up some helpful materials!

### NO REGISTRATION NECESSARY

Visit <http://ccgovernment.carr.org/ccg/npdes/homeowner/> for more information and an agenda of 15-minute presentations on each of the topics or contact the Environmental Advisory Council or Carroll County storm water program staff at

## ELECTION DAY TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2017

On Tuesday, May 2, three Council Members and the Mayor will be elected to serve on the Town Council. Nominations for candidacy will be accepted on Monday, March 27, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at the Mayor and Town Council Meeting. There are three Council Member positions and the Mayor up for re-election. These are all four-year terms.

All nominees must be a resident of the incorporated Town of Sykesville for one year at the time of the election and be a registered voter in Carroll County.

Each nominee needs to be nominated and seconded by different people. Everyone participating must be a resident of the incorporated Town of Sykesville and registered to vote in Carroll County.

To accept the nomination, the nominee must fill out the acceptance form and return it by the end of the Mayor and Town Council Meeting on April 10.

Voter registration ends on April 14, 2017. Registration with the Carroll County Board of Elections by a qualified voter who has a domicile within the Town limits and has resided within the Town limits not less than 30 days preceding the next Town election shall be deemed registration for Town elections. To see if you are registered to vote or to register to vote please go to [voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/OnlineVoterRegistration/InstructionsStep1](http://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/OnlineVoterRegistration/InstructionsStep1)

Absentee Ballots may be obtained by contacting Kerry at 410-795-8959, [town@sykesville.net](mailto:town@sykesville.net) or at the Town House and requesting an absentee ballot application.

## PARK PAVILION RENTAL

Millard Cooper Park has two pavilions that are available to rent. Included in the rental fee are picnic tables, grill, electricity, and bathroom facilities.

### Rental Fee

Resident \$75 - must reside within the incorporated Town limits of Sykesville

Non Resident \$100

South Branch Park has a big pavilion that is available to rent. Included in the rental fee are picnic tables and a bathroom facility.

### Rental Fee

Resident \$150 - must reside within the incorporated Town limits of Sykesville or be a Howard County resident.

A driver's license will be required for proof of address.

A rental permit application can be found at [www.townofsykesville.org](http://www.townofsykesville.org). Submit the application to the Town House at 7547 Main Street. Call 410-795-8959 with any questions.

## MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR TOWN

And help guide the development at the Warfield Commerce and Cultural Center!

Letters of interest and resumes for the following positions can be sent to [town@sykesville.net](mailto:town@sykesville.net)

- Planning and Zoning Commission member - five-year term and meets on the first Monday of every month. Principal functions include developing plans for future developments, preparing recommended zoning, and subdivision regulations, approving site plans, and subdivision record plats. This Commission is also involved with the planning of the Warfield Complex!

- Historic District Commission member - 3 year term and meets on the fourth Tuesday of every month. Principal functions are to approve any exterior alterations, new construction, or changes to important landscape features prior to beginning work within the Town's Historical District, including the Historic District in the Warfield Complex! Members should possess interest in architecture, historic preservation, urban design, construction, or related disciplines.
- Board of Zoning Appeals alternate - 3 year term meets on an as needed base. Principal functions are to review applications for variances and special permits in accordance with Town Zoning Ordinance.

For more information, contact the Town at 410-795-8959.

## DID YOU KNOW THAT SPEEDING IN TOWN IS A BIG ISSUE?

Only two roads in the entire Town have a speed limit over 25 MPH. The Sykesville Police Department has conducted an increasing number of Traffic Enforcement Initiatives and has recently acquired a speed monitoring trailer. If you have concerns about speeding, please report them to the Sykesville Police Department at (410) 795-0757 and include the date, time, and location, and a description of the vehicle and driver. Please drive the speed limit, be aware of school buses which can indicate children crossing the road, and be aware of pedestrians. Together, we can make our roadways safer for all of our residents and visitors!

# Sykesville **SPRING** Events

## **First Fridays | Every First Friday (6pm-9pm)**

Main Street

Live Music – Sips & Snacks – Open Late

## **Let's Go Fly a Kite | March 19 (2pm-4pm)**

*Historic Colored Schoolhouse*

Old-fashioned kite construction for kids – Kite flying (weather-permitting)

## **Mimosas on Main Street | April 9 (12pm-5pm)**

Main Street

Shop & Sip – Special Offers – Refreshments

## **Easter Egg Hunt | April 14 (10am-12pm)**

Millard Cooper Park

Kids Activities – Outdoor Fun – Easter Celebration

## **It's May Day! | April 30 (2pm-4pm)**

*Historic Colored Schoolhouse*

Open house – Children can create May baskets of flowers to celebrate the first day of May!

## **7th Annual Art & Wine Festival | May 7 (12pm-5pm)\***

Main Street

Unlimited Wine Sampling – Food Vendors – Local Art – Live Art Demos  
FREE Entry | Sampling Bracelets + Collectible Glass: \$25/person

## **Sykesville Farmers' Market | Every Sunday, May 14 – October 29 (9am-1pm)**

Downtown Sykesville

Live Music – Locally sourced produce, meat and more  
Artisanal cheeses – Baked goods – Body products  
Nonprofit showcase – Junior Farmers' Market

## **Please see the Parks and Recreation page for the Sykesville Cinema schedule!**

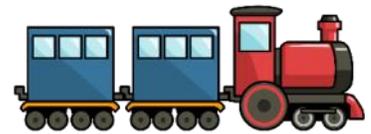
The Historic Colored Schoolhouse is available for private tours by appointment. Tours are also offered during seasonal events.

**\*No Pets Allowed**

For more information check out:

[www.townofsykesville.org](http://www.townofsykesville.org) • [www.sykesvillemainstreet.com](http://www.sykesvillemainstreet.com)

Events are subject to change. Please visit the websites listed above for the most up-to-date information about all Sykesville events.



### **Little Sykes Railroad**

Free rides for kids on a 1949  
12-gauge B&O model train

Every Sunday starting May 21,  
9am-1pm

### **S&P Railway**

Model train displays &  
20<sup>th</sup> century train cars

Open & free to the public:  
1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays | 10am-2pm

Visit [facebook.com/sprailway](https://facebook.com/sprailway)  
for details & special events