



SPRING 2018

Town of Historic Sykesville NEWSLETTER

www.townofsykesville.org
town@sykesville.net

TOWN OFFICE ADMINISTRATION

Aretha L. Adams, MPA
Town Manager
410-795-6390

Evelyn M. Sweet
Town Treasurer
410-795-8959

Kerry Chaney
Town Clerk
410-795-8959

Mark Onheiser
Project 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

Derek Shreves
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

IAN SHAW, MAYOR

Great things on the Horizon

By the time you get this newsletter, I hope we are looking at winter in our rearview mirror. As spring fast approaches there is great excitement here in Town. As many of you know, much has happened over the past few years that look to ensure Sykesville's continued success.



The Warfield project finally has a pretty solid deadline of closing this year. While some important final details remain, it finally appears we may be close to the redevelopment beginning at the site. We all hope this will be the next phase of renewal for our Town and its ongoing success. All of our committees have been working hard and overtime to see it through to the next phase. It really has been a lot both for them and our staff, we are all truly grateful for the amount of time and hours dedicated to ensuring the best outcome possible for the Town's future.

I would like to take a moment to thank the outgoing Interim Town Manager David Deutsch for seeing us through our manager transition period. We had a very comprehensive process that involved citizens, business owners and local stakeholders. It went very well and I do want to thank David and all who participated to help chose the next Town Manager.

As a result, I would like to officially welcome to all of you our new Town Manager, Aretha Adams. Mrs. Adams brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the role as our manager and has already hit the ground running. Please take a moment to welcome her as you see her in and about Town. We are all very excited to have her and wish her many years of success here in Town!

Please take a moment to visit the Town House and see the new flag poles and patio installed. After sustaining serious damage, we took on the replacement and I could not be happier with the outcome. I wanted to thank our Project Coordinator, Mark Onheiser for his efforts in helping to reimagine the site as well as staff who assisted him! They are fantastic and we plan to add engraved bricks and marble to match the military memorial stay tuned to participate!

Finally, the Town is partnering with the Freedom Area and the Downtown Sykesville Connection to have both a Parade here in Town and Fireworks at the Firehouse on July 1, 2018. We are very excited to have both of these in South Carroll - Please help support the event and as you see the donation cans around the Town and the area Please Donate Generously to make it a great event!

See you all soon! Sincerely, Ian Shaw, Mayor



See upcoming EVENTS inside & on the back cover.

Trash, Recycling, and Yard Waste!

TRASH AND RECYCLING CHANGES 2018

- The following holidays will affect the trash and recycling changes.
- July 4, 2018: Trash normally picked up on July 4, 2018 will be picked up on July 6, 2018
- Thanksgiving, November 22, 2018: Recycling normally picked up on November 22, 2018 will be picked up on November 26, 2018. Recycling will be picked up normally on November 29, 2018
- Christmas Day, December 25, 2018: Trash and recycling pickup will be shifted by a day. Tuesday pickup will be on Wednesday, Wednesday pickup on Thursday, and recycling pickup on Friday.

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 10, 2018 and will end on December 12, 2018
- 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 28, 2018 – FREE BULK PICK-UP!

- On Friday night, place unwanted items curbside
- Appliances will be picked up on Monday, April 30, 2018
- Prohibited items include, but are not limited to: car parts, paint, chemicals, rocks, dirt, or rubble, tree stumps
- Nothing larger than a 4X4 pile of wood or other stackable material

VEGETATION AND TREE TRIMMING

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 vegetation ordinance is available at town-of-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

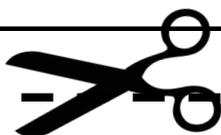


GRASS MOWING

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

STORM DRAINS

- Prevent grass clippings and leave 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



Sykesville Police Department

New Officer

The Sykesville Police Department is pleased to introduce our newest officer, Eric J. Almenas. Eric is a 7 year veteran of law enforcement, having previously worked for both the Baltimore Police Department and most recently the Westminster Police Department. He is also a veteran of the U.S. Navy, where he was a Field Medical Service Technician. Eric has obtained a Nursing Assistant Certificate from Carroll County Community College, and has attended other colleges as well. In addition to his military and medical background, Eric is a strong proponent of Community Policing. We are very fortunate to have someone with Eric's background and experience on our police force, and we are excited to see what he will accomplish in the near future. If you see Officer Almenas out on patrol, please take a moment to welcome him to our town.

Volunteer Positions Available

The Sykesville Police Department continues to seek mature adult volunteers for the following positions within our Police Department:

School Crossing Guard

The Sykesville Police Department is currently considering the re-establishment of a School Crossing Guard program. We are looking for adult volunteers who might be interested in participating in this worthwhile program. We will provide you with the training and necessary equipment to safely perform this duty. The crossing

detail will take less than one hour in the morning and afternoon, each day that school is in session. The hope is to train a cadre of trained crossing guards that can work the days and shifts most convenient to them.

Auxiliary Police Officer

Members of the Auxiliary Unit assist the Town of Sykesville Police Department by performing a variety of tasks including traffic control, administrative duties, and community foot patrols. We are currently seeking interested residents to join our Auxiliary Unit.

The minimum qualifications for both of these volunteer civilian positions are:

- Must be at least 18 year of age,
- Be a graduate from an accredited high school or education equivalent to a high school diploma,
- Be a licensed driver in the State of Maryland,
- Must be able to pass a background investigation,
- Must be able to work under adverse weather conditions

If you feel that you meet this criteria and are interested in applying for either of these positions, go to our town website (www.townofsykesville.org) and download the Sykesville Police Auxiliary application (under Government, then Police Department), or you can stop by the Police Department and pick up an application. Please use the same application for either position, but indicate on the application which position you are applying for. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at 410-795-0757.

Gate House Museum

Did you know that Veterans Day used to be called Armistice Day? Armistice Day celebrates the end of the Great War (also known as World War I), the day that the warring parties agreed to stop fighting in Europe. This agreement is known as the Armistice. The very first Armistice Day was celebrated on November 11, 1919, exactly one year later.

Armistice Day was named a national holiday in 1938, and in 1954, President Eisenhower changed the name of the holiday to Veterans Day to also honor all those who had fought in the Second World War and Korea, in addition to World War I veterans. Of course, now Veterans Day honors all veterans from the Revolution to Afghanistan.

This November 11, 2018 will be the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Armistice that ended World War I. At the time, it was a massive historic event that affected most of the world.

We'll be celebrating this important event at the museum in several ways next fall, and if you have any ideas we'd love to hear them. Meanwhile watch us on Facebook, and our soon-to-be-improved web site for details.

7283 Cooper Drive
Sykesville, MD 21784

410-549-5150

[http://www.townofsykesville.org/2157/
Gate-House-Museum-of-History](http://www.townofsykesville.org/2157/Gate-House-Museum-of-History)



Old Main Line Visitor Center and Post Office

OLD MAIN LINE POST OFFICE AND VISITOR CENTER IS READY FOR SPRING!

The price of stamps increased to \$0.50. If you have Forever Stamps on hand, they are still good. The Post Office is excited for spring with new stamps including Flowers from the Garden, Love Flourishes, and the

Lunar New Year!

The Visitor Center is ready to greet all-comers, including our out-of-town friends. Stop by and pick up local brochures and maps.

The Tower Room is available for rent! It can be set up for a party, business meeting, exercise class, or almost anything else you can dream up! Stop by the Old Main Line Post Office and Visitor Center for more information or to view the room.

The friendly staff: Cel, Lori, Joyce, and Jenn



Sykesville Parks and Recreation Committee

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS!

The Sykesville Parks and Recreation Committee (SPARC) is always looking for additional members and volunteers who are interested in making a difference through park improvement, recreational activities, and events for our families and others. SPARC meets at the Town House on the 4th Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm. If interested, please come visit one of our meetings. For more information, please call 410-795-8959 or email parks@sykesville.net.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SPARC is hosting a number of events this spring and summer. Please mark your calendars for our exciting line up, including new and ongoing events. To stay up-to-date with new and exciting activities or to receive real time updates, be sure to like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Sykesvilleparksandrecreationcommittee.



Easter Egg Hunt

The SPARC annual Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for **Friday,**

March 30 at 10:00 am at Millard

Cooper Park for children 8 years old and younger.

There will be a separate area for children 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. Eggs go fast, so please arrive early.

Sykesville Cinema Returns for its 9th Season!

Come enjoy open-air movies with your neighbors and friends with our powerful audio and video system. We have an exciting line up of movies and thematic events this year. Come hungry and enjoy fresh popcorn and other delights from our Snack Shack.



Movies are on the **2nd Saturday of each month from May-October** at Millard Cooper Park (next to Sykesville Middle). Each show begins approximately 15 minutes after sundown – so come early to get a good seat (don't forget to bring your lawn chairs or blankets). General parking is available at Sykesville Middle. Millard Cooper Park includes easy access handicapped parking.

Sykesville Cinema 2018 Summer Series

May 12	<i>Sing</i>
June 9	<i>Secret Life of Pets</i>
July 14	<i>The Sandlot (age 8+ recommended)</i>
August 11	<i>Moana</i>
September 9	<i>Reserved Rain Date</i>
October 13	<i>Hocus Pocus</i>

Sykesville Cinema is free, but we request your donations of non-perishable food items for Carroll County Food Sunday. Collection bins are available onsite.

Yoga in the Park

Back by popular demand after a very successful first year, SPARC is sponsoring a Yoga in the Park Series. The series is offered on **Sunday mornings at 9 AM at the South Branch Park**. It is free and available to all ages. Bring your yoga mat, towel, and water.

There will be three sessions:

<i>Spring</i>	April 29 – May 20
<i>Summer</i>	July 8 – August 5
<i>Fall</i>	September 23 – October 14

The Historic Sykesville Colored Schoolhouse

A HISTORY OF OUR SCHOOLHOUSE

Until 1904, children of color in the Sykesville area had no possibility of an education. Three men felt this was unfair and in June, 1903, travelled to Westminster to request a Schoolhouse. The Board of Commissioners agreed and purchased an acre of land from Asa Hepner, soon to be the second mayor of Sykesville. The cost: \$134.00! Construction of the simple building began. Used desks from the schoolhouse in Detail were delivered in October, 1903. A woman of color in Baltimore City agreed to teach at the new schoolhouse and on January 4, 1904, she rode the B&O out to Sykesville and rang the schoolbell for the very first time. And the children did come! Records show that very few missed days of school, so grateful were their families for this new opportunity. The "Sykesville Colored School," as it was called, taught grades one through seven, all subjects, in one room with one teacher! This started many people on the way to successful futures!

In the 1930's the older grades were moved to a two-room schoolhouse in Johnsville. No transportation was provided, but the determined Sykesville students walked 4.5 miles each way to keep on learning! On July 5, 1939, the schoolhouse was auctioned off for \$100.00. All Sykesville children of color then had to make the

long hike up to Johnsville. The Schoolhouse was divided into four rooms and served as a residence for a family. By the 1970's that family had grown up and moved away and the building stood derelict. Whenever the Town offered to demolish it, local residents said, "No! That building was the difference between ignorance and enlightenment. It has to stay!"

Finally, in 1992, the structure was protected in Sykesville's Historic District. Grants were used to stabilize the exterior. The White House Millennium Council listed the site as one of America's Treasures. The Maryland Commission of Celebration 2000 named the schoolhouse Treasure of the Month. Companies volunteered services and the Schoolhouse was rehabilitated, ringing its bell again on September 8, 2006.

Today it welcomes school classes, Scout troops, church youth groups, and adult organizations, as well as returning to its original purpose with a Homework Club two days a week for neighborhood kids! Come and experience Schoolhouse history for yourself! We have public Open Houses on April 29 and July 24, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. To bring a group, contact Pat Greenwald at patgreenwald@comcast.net. The Lessons of Yesteryear for the Learners of Today!



Sykesville Main Street

Julie Della-Maria, DSC Executive Director

www.DowntownSykesville.com | www.facebook.com/sykesville/
DowntownSykesvilleConnection@gmail.com
7307 Spout Hill Road, Sykesville, MD 21784
410-259-3515



Hello Sykesville!

The 5 DSC committees have been working hard to provide you with some big surprises in the upcoming months, and are crafting projects meant to bring us together. We hope to see some of you join us!

Our Design Committee is putting the final touches to a “Tiny Mural” project that will surely amaze small and big kids alike. If you don’t know the Sykesville Snallygaster, you are in for a treat!

Additionally, the hard working volunteers of the Economic Restructuring Committee are finalizing a guide that will provide you with information on everything there is to know about our little Town. Thanks to grant money and to the support of the Main Street businesses, this will be made available to you for free!

Not only that, but the Organization and Promotion Committees are busily planning all of the following events:

- Art & Wine Festival, May 6th, 12 pm to 5 pm
- Flower Festival, May 12th, 10 am to 4pm
- Sykesville Farmers’ Market, May 20th to October 28th, 10 am to 2 pm
- Summer Block parties, starts June 16th (dates for July and August available in the next newsletter).

Are you worried that you will forget the dates of all of the events? Our event fridge magnet will be available at the Visitor Center soon and the proceeds of its sale will also help the Green Committee volunteers with getting the community garden ready for you.

The DSC Board has been working closely with me to make sure that everything we do is in alignment with our mission statement, the Town, and Historic District Commission guidelines and will also blow your socks off.

Visit our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/sykesville/) for details about merchants sponsored events like Frist Fridays or Mimosas on Main Street (March 25th, 12 to 4pm).

Before I let you go, I wanted to share a quote that helps to inspire us in developing programs: “it takes a place to create a community and a community to create a place.”

See you on Main Street!



Town of Sykesville is recognized as the lead sponsor in all that we do and will assist our Board of Directors in conducting our group on the path of continued success, innovation, and commitment to serve our community. The DSC administers the Main Street program in Sykesville.



Sykesville **SPRING** Events

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

Main Street

Live Music – Sips & Snacks – Open Late

Easter Egg Hunt | March 30 (10am-12pm)

Millard Cooper Park

Kids Activities – Outdoor Fun – Easter Celebration

Pots of Posies | April 29 (2pm-4pm)

Historic Colored Schoolhouse

Open house – Children can paint flower pots and then plant them with annuals!

8th Annual Art & Wine Festival | May 5 (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 20 – October 28 (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.**



Little Sykes Railroad

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

Every Sunday starting May 20,
9am-1pm

S&P Railway

Model train displays & 20th
century train cars

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

Visit
facebook.com/sprailway
for details & special events

**No pets are allowed at events on Town property. Please refer to Town
Ordinance NO. 301, Chapter 51, Article II.**

For more information check out:
www.townofsykesville.org • www.downtownsykesville.com

Note: Events are subject to change. Please visit the websites listed above for the most up-to-date information.