



WINTER 2018

Town of Historic Sykesville

NEWSLETTER

www.townofsykesville.org
town@sykesville.net

TOWN OFFICE ADMINISTRATION

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410-795-6390

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Town Treasurer
410-795-8959

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410-795-8959

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Jana Antrobus

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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

Recycle Right!

Well, I wanted to start this off with Don't Recycle! But I did not want to get some people upset. Quick point being - Don't Recycle What's Not Recyclable! The contaminated recycling stream is causing problems for Countywide Recycling of which our Town is a participant. While I believe we can do a much better job recycling if we put our collective minds to it, we need to do it correctly. Unfortunately, people have been putting out items that are far outside of the scope of the acceptable items. Please, if you don't recycle now, start. If you do recycle, please review the list of acceptable items on the Town or County websites and carefully follow those rules. The contaminated recycling stream has the potential to start costing us significantly. I have reduced waste to 50% in my home or better. That is a very easily attainable goal for most families. That would save us enough annually to amount to close to \$30,000.00 in savings! So Recycle, but Recycle Right. The County has now begun with "when in doubt throw it out"! Knowing the rules and closely following them is our goal here in our Town. We all need to be good stewards of the environment and in order to keep trash disposal cost in check; smart recycling is an important component of these efforts. Please review the list on the Town or County websites, follow it as close as possible, and throw questionable items into the waste stream. If we all take these efforts seriously, we can avoid significant increases to both our cost and to the landfills. It is your money and your health and safety on the line. Recycle Right!

As the year ends, we have had another year of significant Town achievements. With the sale of Warfield closing, I now want to have in place a Strategic Plan that sets the framework for the Town's ongoing success and future. Without a plan and goals, the ship wanders aimlessly, often chasing mirages in the sunset. The Town is no different. We have many passionate people, with many different ideas all of which have merit. It will be our goal as the leadership and staff to create a vision for the Town's future based on ideas and visions that are actually attainable for our Town. While many plans discussed are grand, reality and reasonable attainable goals are needed as unrealistic goals set us up for disappointment and paralyze our efforts to make progress. I have set a bold timeline to have this in place - at least a framework to follow by January 2019. It is my goal that we as the Mayor and Town Council can put a plan together and mobilize staff and resources to achieve those goals in the future. We will do our best to share these goals with everyone as soon as we are able to come together on a Plan for our Town as well as get residents input on these plans. It is an exciting time and I look forward to new and exciting adventures as we guide the Town on its journey forward.

On behalf of myself, the entire Town Council, and the Town staff, we wish you a very Happy Holiday Season and Prosperous New Year!

Sincerely, Ian Shaw, Mayor



See upcoming EVENTS inside & on the back cover.



Trash, Recycling, and Yard Waste!

TRASH AND RECYCLING CHANGES

- ◆ The following holidays will affect the trash and recycling changes.
- ◆ 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.
- ◆ New Year's Day, January 1, 2019: 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.



Christmas Trees will be picked up on January 9 and 16.

Please have your tree by the curb the night before pickup.

Remove all ornaments, lights, tinsel, and other decorations before placing your tree at the curb.

A MESSAGE FROM PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR DEREK SHREVES

As winter approaches, please keep in mind that during inclement weather Sykesville Public Works may have to re-schedule trash and recycling pick-up while keeping the roads passable and safe. If necessary, delays will be posted on social media and the Public Works phone recordings.

Town Residents are required to clear the sidewalks abutting their property of snow and ice as soon as possible after the snow event.

Shoveling snow once after a storm is a tiring process, having to shovel a driveway a second time after the snowplow passes is just plain frustrating.

The Town of Sykesville Public Works Department offers a few simple guidelines to help people avoid that frustration.

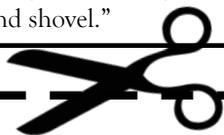
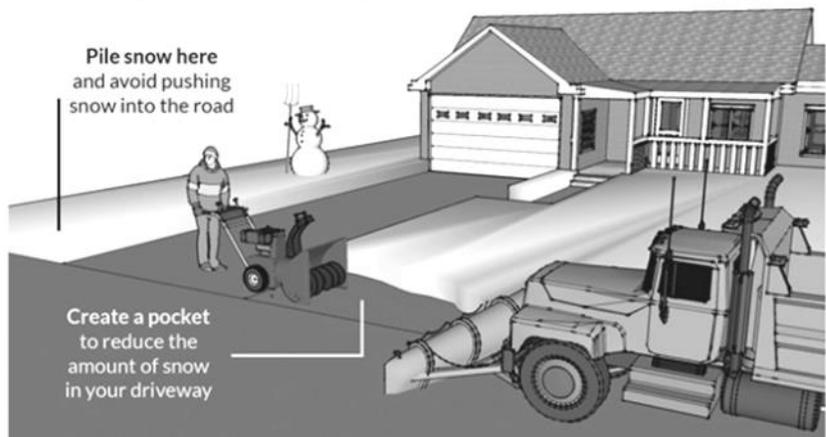
Obviously the best way is to wait until the plows have finished on your street. However, if you just can't wait, by clearing an area before your driveway large enough for the snow coming off the plow to be deposited (to the right as you face your home or business), you can reduce the amount of snow that accumulates at the end of your driveway and avoid the "second shovel."

A few other tips:

- If you have a fire hydrant in your yard, take time to keep it visible from accumulated snow.
- Avoid parking on the street, if possible, when measurable snow is predicted.
- Cul-de-sacs generally have areas marked for snow to be pushed. Please follow the snow emergency rules and keep the marked area accessible.

How Can I Keep Snow Out of my Driveway?

Before your street has been plowed, we recommend the following:



Sykesville Police Department

Winter is right around the corner and with that comes the potential for significant snow. The Sykesville Police Department would like to remind you that when a snow emergency is declared, vehicles are not permitted to be parked in designated snow emergency routes. Plowing around vehicles is timely and can cause delays in clearing the rest of the streets. This could, in turn, delay our response to an emergency call. We would also encourage everyone to stay off the roads until the snow has been cleared, if at all possible. If you must drive, please use caution and be courteous to the plow operators!

Snow Emergency Routes

The Town of Sykesville does not determine when a snow emergency is in effect and will not publicize when a snow emergency is declared. You can find out whether a snow emergency is in effect by visiting the State Police website:

http://www.chart.state.md.us/Storm.../snow_emergency_plans.asp

When a snow emergency is declared for Carroll County, parking is prohibited within the Town limits at the locations listed below. The Sykesville Police Department may remove a violating vehicle at the owner's expense. A Town Citation will also be issued with fines ranging from a minimum of \$100 to \$500.

Cul-de-Sacs:

Autumn Sky Court	Dominique Court
Braemar Court	Patterson Court
Bunker Hill Court	Revere Court
Concord Lane	Shimmering Run Court
	Windswept Court

Roads:

Harlan Lane	Sandosky Road
Jennifer Way	Second Avenue
Kalorama Road	Spout Hill Road
Main Street	Springfield Avenue
Norris Avenue	Third Avenue
Obrecht Road	Willow Bottom Road
Oklahoma Avenue	

Remember, it is your responsibility to stay informed about declared snow emergencies and to remove your vehicles from designated snow emergency routes. Also, always remember to buckle-up, avoid distracted driving (texting), and never drink and drive. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and understanding, and have a safe and happy winter!

Old Main Line Visitor Center and Post Office

Old Main Line Post Office and Visitor Center is ready for all of your postal needs!

This year we will have plenty of Holiday Stamps for your mailing needs. They will include Birds In Winter, Sparkling Holidays (Santa Claus) and a new version of Madonna and Child!

Letters to Santa will be accepted until December 20. The mailbox is located in our lobby, and children will receive a letter back from Santa!

Ship your Holiday Packages early! The Priority mail cutoff date is December 20 and the Overnight Express cutoff date is December 22.

We have the new book "The Curse of the Snallygaster" by Jack White for sale at \$15.00.

Don't forget our room with a view suitable for holiday gatherings and all sorts of other parties!

Happy Holidays from your friendly postal staff,

Jenn, Lori, Cecelia, and Joyce



Sykesville Parks and Recreation Committee

The winter is normally a quiet time for Sykesville Parks and Recreation Committee (SPARC), so we'd like to reflect on how lucky we are to live in a town with great natural resources, outdoor activities for all, and a community full of people that want Sykesville to be the best it can be. SPARC would not be able to provide such great events without its dedicated volunteers. As we enter the holiday season, we are so thankful for those who dedicate their time and energy to support SPARC events and planning.

This spring we will be sponsoring another SPARC cleanup. Please stay tuned for more details, but mark your calendars for April 27. Come out, show your support, and help us clean our parks.

Looking for a volunteer opportunity or a way to participate in SPARC events? Well, we'd love to have you. If you have a few hours a month to spare, please call 410-795-8959 or email parks@sykesville.net. Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Sykesvilleparksandrecreationcommittee and get up-to-date information on events and projects. Happy Holidays and have a wonderful New Year!!!

SPARC meets at the Town House on the fourth Thursday of every month at 7pm. Please note there is no SPARC meeting for December 2018.



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



Happy Holidays from the Downtown Sykesville Connection! This November we celebrate our first year operating independently of the Town of Sykesville's Municipal Government. We would like to pause and give thanks to the journey which brought us to where we are today.

Over 10 years ago, Ivy Wells started Sykesville on this journey. Ivy's love for Sykesville led her to inspire the creation of, then hold the position of, Main Street Manager, which transformed into Director of Economic Development, for Sykesville from 2007 - 2014. Ivy inspired local residents, business and property owners, and the local government to invest in the revitalization of Sykesville's Main Street community. She spearheaded a campaign to apply for National Main Street accreditation for Sykesville. In 2012, Sykesville was named a Maryland Main Street Community and in 2013, Sykesville was awarded National Main Street accreditation. Through her tenure, she helped add over a dozen businesses to Main Street; was awarded thousands of dollars in grant money for restoration and revitalization projects; was integral in the development of South Branch Park; and created many locally loved events which we still enjoy today such as the Apple Butter and Sykesville Farmers' Market, Concerts in the Park, the Ghost and Legends tours, Trick or Treat Main Street, Merry Main Street, and the Art & Wine and Craft Beer Festivals. In addition, Ivy pulled the Main Street merchant community together by showing them that the whole is always greater than the sum of its parts when it comes to small town success. By collaborating and supporting each other's businesses, the merchants of Main Street have seen tremendous economic growth downtown and are able to host events like Mimosas on Main Street, 12 Hours of Christmas, Cocoa Crawl, and Cider Crawl. Still, Ivy's most important contribution to Sykesville is the Sykesville Main Street Association, SMSA, the nonprofit she developed to administer the Main Street Program in Sykesville.

From 2015 - 2016, Steven Colella continued Ivy's work. Under Steven, Sykesville was named the Coolest Small Town in America in 2016. He revitalized the Sykesville Farmer's Market; received grant funding for Wayside exhibits at the Gatehouse Museum, Baldwin's Station, and the Town House; developed the Carroll Business Academy, a series of free workshops for local businesses; and, received grant funding used for downtown lighting projects.

By the end of 2016, an idea began to take root. The SMSA had become a self-sustaining entity with a large group of dedicated volunteers, a strong supportive merchant community and local government, and a successful annual fundraising campaign. Steven suggested that the SMSA become a stand-alone Economic Development partner of the Town of Sykesville rather than a department within the Town's Municipal Government. Not an easy task, but one Julie Della-Maria accepted upon Steven's departure. Julie is a strong leader and her dedication to Main Street matches that of the SMSA's founder, Ivy Wells. Under Julie's guidance, and with the support and sponsorship of the Town of Sykesville, in November 2017, the SMSA took its first steps towards becoming its own nonprofit organization.

Over the past year, Julie spearheaded the total rebranding of the SMSA into the Downtown Sykesville Connection, DSC, and began its application to become a 501(c)3. Since 2017, the DSC has completed several projects with the help of grant funding. Specifically, the Design Committee installed the new bike rack in the fountain park, developed the DSC Visitor Guide, Visitor map and the Snallygaster mural and book project (*The Curse of the Snallygaster* by Jack White); the Green Committee expanded the Community Garden and restored its sign on Main Street; and the DSC partnered with the Town of Sykesville to award matching funds to business and property owners for façade improvement projects. Also, the tremendous support of our event sponsors and community members who attended our events helped the DSC raise the funds to purchase and install an outdoor wireless sound system on Main Street. Looking ahead to 2019, we are encouraged by Julie's proven leadership and we are excited for the future.

The DSC is only as strong as its volunteers and we are always looking for people to join our committees or help at our events. Our momentum feeds on fresh energy and new ideas. Our only requirement for service is that you love our vibrant, small-town community as much as we do! Please consider making a lasting contribution to Sykesville by volunteering with the DSC. For more info, go to our website: www.DowntownSykesville.com. For more info on the National Main Street Center program, go to www.mainstreet.org. For more info on the Maryland Main Street program, go to www.mainstreetmaryland.org.

#getsyked

Rachael Beck, President Downtown
Sykesville Connection

The Historic Sykesville Colored Schoolhouse

Wherever I go, people hand me money! I make sure to wear pockets so I can quietly stow a twenty-dollar-bill I have just been handed. This usually comes with the comment, "Get something for the kids!" The kids in question are the Homework Club scholars. Each Monday and Wednesday, after 7.5 hours in school, they run into the Historic Sykesville Colored Schoolhouse to sit down with tutors to do their homework, work on skills, and enjoy enrichment activities. They also devour a healthy snack and play games of the board and card varieties, which are teaching them to strategize and collaborate. They work with puzzles, Legos, Lincoln Logs, and Play Dough. They celebrate their birthdays and holidays. They create crafts and plant and maintain a veggie garden. We have even taught them to crochet! All of this takes money and we are so grateful for our community support.

The primary sponsor for the Homework Club is St. Paul's United Methodist Church, of which we are the August Mission Project each year. The parishioners have been most generous, with both monetary and tutoring help! The Sykesville-South Carroll Rotary gives a substantial check each year as well as ongoing "incidentals." The youth of Wesley Freedom United Methodist Church raised funds to purchase our two computers. And, of course, the Town of Sykesville provides our site, the Schoolhouse in which many of the children's great-great-grandparents learned their 3-R's. Then there are the specific donations. Richard Bagby of A.L. Howes Insurance had a crew out building the raised bed veggie garden 18 months ago, then enlarging it on November 4. The Landry family was behind Amy's Girl Scout troop's creation of our constantly-used Little Free Library, as well of helping fill backpacks and Christmas stockings and gifting the children books for their own libraries. Amy's company has given each child's family a large box of Thanksgiving food for the past three years. Main Street businesses, particularly Donna Larkin at Tri-Sport Junction, have added their support. And then there are the friends who quietly put the twenties into my pocket!

This year we have 22 children participating, and most come every session. We could use a few more tutors! We also need people with interesting careers to come at 5:00 p.m. to inspire the kids' dreams for the future! Contact patgreenwald@comcast.net if you want to get involved in making a difference in these children's lives!

Our next public event is "For the Birds!" At 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 13, we will have a presentation on our local feathered friends and their wintertime needs. Then participating children will make pinecone feeds (without peanut butter!) and cranberry rings to attract birds to a favorite tree in their own yards. Refreshments! No charge!



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davidwilliamselectric.com

Gate House Museum

Well, Veterans Day has come and gone, but it's not too late to stop by the museum and learn a little bit more about why it was such an important one! Just over one hundred years ago, at 11 a.m. on the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918, the warring powers signed an armistice that finally ended the First World War.

We celebrate this day every year. We call it Veterans Day, but originally it was Armistice Day in honor of the American soldiers who were so important in bringing about the final surrender of the German forces.

It was a truly terrible war with millions of young men from all over the world wounded and maimed and killed. America got in late, but in just 47 days in the autumn of 1918, America suffered more than 120,000 casualties and 26,000 dead.

Nearly a hundred men from Sykesville served, and many saw heavy combat.

We have a small exhibit commemorating the war and those from Sykesville who took part, including the names of all combatants from the town and brief stories of those who died.

We also have a canteen, mess kit, gas mask, bayonet, and helmet that were most likely carried into battle by American soldiers in France 100 years ago, as well as a brief display explaining the history of the war and a small video showing many of the countless propaganda posters created by all sides in the war.

It all fits well with the current overall theme of the rest of museum, which is 100 years ago in Sykesville. Stop by and learn about a forgotten war and different era in the history of your country and your town.

7283 Cooper Drive
Sykesville, MD 21784
410-549-5150
<http://www.townofsykesville.org/2157/Gate-House-Museum-of-History>

A huge thank you to Stafford's Produce for donating the Christmas Tree located in the Fountain Park! Stop by and see it during December!

Town Decorating Contest | December 18, Beginning at 6:30pm

The Mayor and Town Council will once again be driving around Town looking for the best decorated houses! Judging will take place on December 18, so get out there and decorate your houses!

Public Hearing on the use of the Sandosky Building | January 14, At the Mayor and Council Meeting | Starting at 7 pm

The Mayor and Town Council would like public input on ideas for the use of the building at 714 Sandosky Road. There will be a public hearing during the Mayor and Council Meeting. All are welcome to attend and comment. Comments will also be accepted at the January 28 Mayor and Council Meeting

Mimosas on Main Street by the Main Street Merchants | April 14 | 12 pm – 4 pm

Join the Main Street Merchants in shopping locally and enjoying mimosas while you do!

Historic Colored Schoolhouse

The Historic Colored Schoolhouse is available for private tours by appointment. Please contact Pat Greenwald at patgreenwald@comcast.net to schedule a tour.

For the Birds! | January 13, 2pm-4pm

Schoolhouse refreshments – crafts – tours, all reflecting the history of Sykesville's unique schoolhouse treasure

Gate House Museum of History

The Gate House Museum is open on Fridays and Sundays from 1pm to 5 pm. Stop in and learn about local history!

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.