



# Town of Historic Sykesville NEWSLETTER

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

## TOWN OFFICE ADMINISTRATION

Joe Cosentini  
Town Manager  
410-795-6390

Craig Weaver  
Town Treasurer  
410-795-8959

Kerry Chaney  
Town Clerk  
410-795-8959

Jana Antrobus  
Executive Assistant  
410-795-6390

Kevin Rubenstein  
Town Planner  
410-795-8959

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  
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 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

## THE LATEST FROM MAYOR LINK

Stacy Link, Mayor



### Warfield

On January 24th, Warfield Investments, LLC formally submitted their petition for a text amendment to the Planned Employment Center (PEC) zoning district. That's a fancy way of saying that they have asked the Town to consider changing the existing rules that dictate what can be done on properties having this zoning designation including the property in Warfield and the historic buildings. The Town Council referred this petition to the Planning Commission (PC) and is currently awaiting their recommendation. Upon receipt of their recommendation, we will schedule a public hearing and advertise it accordingly.

We are being asked to approve an amendment to the PEC district that will increase the maximum residential density from 2 units per acre to 6.5 units per acre. The total property in Town zoned PEC is roughly 120 acres—inclusive of the Warfield property and an adjacent undeveloped property—meaning the allowable residential permitted in the PEC district would increase from 240 to 780 units with the estimated population increase climbing from 576 to 1,872 (based upon an accepted average of 2.4 persons per residential unit).

It is of utmost importance to me and the Town Council that we include public opinion in our decision making process so we know that we are acting in your best interest. The only way to do this is to hear from you—every single one of you. This is not the first time I've asked you to show up. I am depending on you to show up again. In 1981 some of the townspeople wanted to do away with Sykesville's Charter, thereby allowing her to be absorbed into the County. If not for a mayor and three town council members then, there'd be no mayor now imploring you to have your say. There'd be no town. Be a part of this decision. We're listening.

### Sykesville Police Department

I'm pleased to report that we are well on our way to a fully staffed police department. I am excited to report that on April 1st, our first female recruit graduates from the Carroll County Sheriff's Office police academy. She will fill the vacancy created when an officer resigned last year. Chief Spaulding has identified two new recruits who just late last month began their training at the Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commissions police academy with plans for them to fill two new positions. We are also looking to add a certified officer from another department, who would be available prior to the new cadets' graduation. If all goes well, we will soon boast a robust force of ten sworn officers and an unprecedented opportunity to offer 24/7 service. A fully staffed department assures two officers on shift at all times and offers not only improved safety for Sykesville residents, but also to the men and women serving our Department.

*(continued on page 2.)*

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## *Sykesville Police Department*

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**A**s warm weather approaches, please remember to obey the posted speed limit, buckle your seatbelt, and avoid distractions (like cell phones) while you are driving. As always, never operate a motor vehicle if you are under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Also, remember to lock your vehicle at all times and avoid leaving valuables in plain sight when parking overnight.

If you have a home security camera system, or you are thinking about purchasing one, please consider joining our Neighbors App so that you can share video with your neighbors and the police. We have had several success stories over the last few years involving crimes that were solved with the assistance of the Neighbors App. This app will also allow us to inform the community of real-time crime and safety events so that you can always stay informed. You do not need Ring devices to participate, anyone with any camera system can upload content to the Neighbors App! To download please text "staysafe" to 555888.

For any new residents, please consider joining our Nixle Emergency Alerting and Notification System. These may include public safety threats, dangerous weather conditions, and traffic advisories. Information is key, and we strongly encourage you to sign up to receive text message alerts directly from the Sykesville Police Department. Simply text your zip code (21784) to 888777 and you'll be informed and instructed when necessary.

We are currently seeking volunteers for our Police Auxiliary Unit and School Crossing Guard Unit. We are looking for mature adult volunteers who wish to contribute toward making our town safer for all to enjoy. Please contact us at 410-795-0757, or go to our website at [www.sykesvillepolice.org](http://www.sykesvillepolice.org) for more information. You can also check out our Auxiliary Unit on their Facebook page.

*(From Mayor Link, continued from page 1.)*

### ***Infrastructure***

**J**ust a reminder about the projects planned for Main Street and Springfield Avenue. Before work commences this spring, the County is presenting to the Town Council on March 28th a summary of the scope of work, their expected timetable and their process for communicating with residents whose services will be temporarily impacted by the work. Feel free to attend the meeting in person or watch the live stream on the Town's FB page or Carroll Media Center's YouTube channel.

Unrelated to the aforementioned project, we are working with SHA to achieve a safe pedestrian walkway on the bridge and connecting South Branch Park to Main Street. Secretary Porter of the Maryland Department of Transportation has offered his endorsement of the project and has committed our SHA District Engineer and her staff to working with the Town to see it into fruition. We are currently in the conceptual engineering phase of the project. SHA will be improving West Friendship Road (the most southern portion of MD 851) and the Patapsco River Bridge in the anticipatable future. Upon completion, the State is to turn the road over to Howard County. Ideally, the Town, Howard County and SHA will coordinate our efforts and investments to create a welcoming and safe gateway to Sykesville—connecting downtown to current and future amenities in South Branch Park including the newly installed parking lot that will also serve as a trail head for ongoing establishment of the Patapsco Regional Greenway. Our overarching concept for bridge improvements includes partnering with Carroll County for the provision of water and sewer to the "Apple Butter Warehouse," in South Branch Park.



## *Sykesville Parks and Recreation Committee*

### **2022 SPARC EVENTS SCHEDULE**

Mark your calendar for these fun and family friendly events. All SPARC events are free! More details will be posted to SPARC's Facebook page and the Town website closer to each event.

<p><b>Easter EGGravaganza</b>          April 15          Millard Cooper Park          Easter Egg Hunt and Photos with the Easter Bunny: 10AM</p>	<p>The SPARC Easter Egg Hunt is back this year for children 8 and under. There will be a separate area for kids 3 years and younger. The Easter Bunny is scheduled to make an appearance so bring your camera as well as a basket!          ScavenEGGer Hunt: 10 eggs will be hidden in Sykesville's parks, and each egg will have a letter. Follow clues to find all the eggs and get the secret word. Send us the secret word to be entered in a drawing for prizes!</p>
<p><b>Park Cleanup</b>          Location TBD          Spring: April 23 (Rain Date: April 30)          Fall: September 17 (Rain Date: September 24)          9AM - Noon</p>	<p>Let's come together as a community to keep our parks beautiful for families to enjoy for years to come! The park and activities vary. This is a great opportunity for student service hours.</p>
<p><b>Sykesville Cinema</b>          Millard Cooper Park          Second Saturday of the month from June through October          Sunset</p>	<p>Come enjoy open-air movies with your neighbors and friends with our powerful audio and video system.          June 11 - Wall-E          July 9 - Christmas in July: The Muppet Christmas Carol          Aug 13 - Toy Story 4          Sept 10 - School of Rock          Oct 8 - Monsters, Inc</p>
<p><b>Music in the Park</b>          Millard Cooper Park          September 10 / 17 / 24          October 1          5PM - 7PM</p>	<p>Bring a chair and enjoy live music by great local artists. Bands will be announced closer to the event dates.</p>
<p><b>Santa's Arrival</b>          Downtown Sykesville          December 3          Time TBD</p>	<p>Santa is coming to Sykesville! Join us for a visit with Santa followed by the tree lighting.</p>

Like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/Sykesvilleparksandrecreation](http://www.facebook.com/Sykesvilleparksandrecreation) and get up-to-date information on events and projects.

### **OUR PARKS ARE ALWAYS IN SEASON**

Spring is a great time to explore the many parks in Sykesville. Look for flowers blooming along the Linear Trail. Shake off winter with a game of basketball at Burkett Park and scale the rock wall at Lexington Run Park. There's something for everyone! To learn more about Sykesville's parks, go to <https://www.townofsykesville.org/Facilities>.

### **SEEKING VOLUNTEERS!**

Enjoy our events? Help us continue to put on these fun free events by donating some of your time. SPARC is a 100% volunteer group, and we are 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 to one of our meetings. For more information, please call 410-795-8959 or email [parks@sykesville.net](mailto:parks@sykesville.net).



# DOWNTOWN SYKESVILLE CONNECTION

7307 Spout Hill Rd,  
Sykesville MD 21784  
(410) 216-4543

## 2022 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Art & Wine Festival  
Saturday, May 7, 2022- 12-4 pm

Farmer's Market  
Sundays, May 15 - October 30, 2022 - 9 am-1 pm

4th Let Freedom Ring Parade  
Saturday, July 2, 2022 - 10 am

Coollest Golf Tournament  
TBD, August 2022

Sippin' on Summer Festival  
Saturday, July 30, 2022 - 12-4 pm

Trick or Treat Main Street  
Saturday, October 29, 2022 - 5-7 pm

Sykesville Craft Beer Festival  
Saturday, November 12, 2022 - 12-4 pm

Coollest Mile on Main Street  
Saturday, November 19, 2022, 10 am

Merry Main Street (at the Townhouse)  
Saturday, December 3, 2022 - 12-4 pm

\*details and other shopping and community events to be announced on our Facebook page

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

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

@downtown\_Sykes



*Coollest & Best*  
IN AMERICA

## *Gate House Museum*



The Gate House recently welcomed the first of this year's student interns, Jolie Feltz of Liberty High School. Ms. Feltz's major project consists of creating a temporary exhibit on Jones Sisters' artwork. In order to interpret this art, her internship includes everything from public history to video editing to art theory. Expect to see the exhibit she creates sometime in April.

We are taking adult (all ages) and student (grade 7-12 and college) volunteers this spring for a variety of projects including

assisting at outreach events, leading informal tours of the house and nearby grounds, indexing The Sykesville Herald newspaper, and scanning and indexing our vertical files as we work to increase access to our collection.

This summer, the Gate House plans to host two sessions of history day camp featuring a Regency/War of 1812 general time period theme. Campers will learn about the history of Sykesville from Post-revolutionary times through just before the coming of the railroad (1831). Centering on the history of the Patterson Family, campers will engage in historical crafts, activities and trades, learn about local agriculture and foodways, and of course take advantage of our proximity to Millard Cooper Park and its new splash pad and playground. If you are interested in helping organize, donating snacks, prepping craft materials, hemming costumes, or demonstrating a historical skill or trade, please contact the curator at [gatehouse@sykesville.net](mailto:gatehouse@sykesville.net). Details and applications for camp can be picked up in person at the Gate House after March 15.

This spring, our volunteers switched out all the artifacts in the parlor room and placed new photographs on display. We expect installation of all new interpretive signage in the parlor before the end of spring. Our World War I era exhibit will be phased out through the course of this year, so be sure to come see it before you miss it!

Visit their website at

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

### **Spring 2022 Hours:**

**Monday: 4:30 - 6:30**

**Wednesday: 9:30 - 1:30**

**Friday: 4:30 - 6:30**

**Sunday 12 - 6**



### **NEW RECYCLING AND TRASH CARTS COMING SOON!**

The Town of Sykesville will be providing all our residential customers with new trash and recycling carts this Spring. Keep an eye out for additional information as we get closer to our distribution date.

### **ANNUAL SPRING CLEAN UP DAY IS ~~APRIL 10, 2022~~ – FREE BULK PICK-UP!**

On Friday night, place unwanted items curbside.

**APRIL 23, 2022**

#### **REGULATIONS:**

- Small items **MUST BE BOXED OR BAGGED**. Do not put loose trash at the curb.
- No more than 2 large items or mattresses per address.
- Appliances will be picked up on Monday, April 18, 2022
- Prohibited items include, but are not limited to: car parts, paint, chemicals, rocks, dirt, or rubble, tree stumps
- Construction debris is not accepted. Construction debris includes, but is not limited to sheetrock, concrete, wood, lumber, fencing, plywood.

If you have questions about what can be put out for pickup, please call or email the Town at 410-795-8959 or [town@sykesville.net](mailto:town@sykesville.net)