



Crofton Civic

Association, Inc

THE ADVOCATE

A Newsletter for Residents of the Crofton Special Community Benefit District

CCA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP AND BOARD MEETING

MONDAY MAY 8, 2023, 7:30 PM

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

1690 CROFTON PARKWAY

AGENDA

President's Message - Anna O'Kelly

Guest Speakers - Senator Dawn Gile and Delegate Stuart Schmidt

CCA Board Meeting

Other Business

Citizen Comments

CCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Anna O'Kelly
Vice President	Marsha Perry
Secretary	Brian Riley
Treasurer	Renee Speer
District 1 Director	Daria DeLizio
District 2 Director	Charles See
District 3 Director	Stephen Tull
District 4 Director	Robert Kendall
District 5 Director	Hal Sheldon

Crofton Town Hall 410-721-2301

Crofton Police/AACO Non-Emergency
410-222-8610

Website: www.croftoncommunity.org

Email: Info@CroftonTownHall.org

Inside this Edition

President's Message Anna O'Kelly	3
Town Manager's Report Martin H. Simon	3
Police Chief's Report Sergeant Jason Jett	4
Recreation Report Kathy Lavin	4
Mosquito Control	5
Social Media +	5
Parade	6
Crofton Pie Bake-Off	7



That Was Easy!

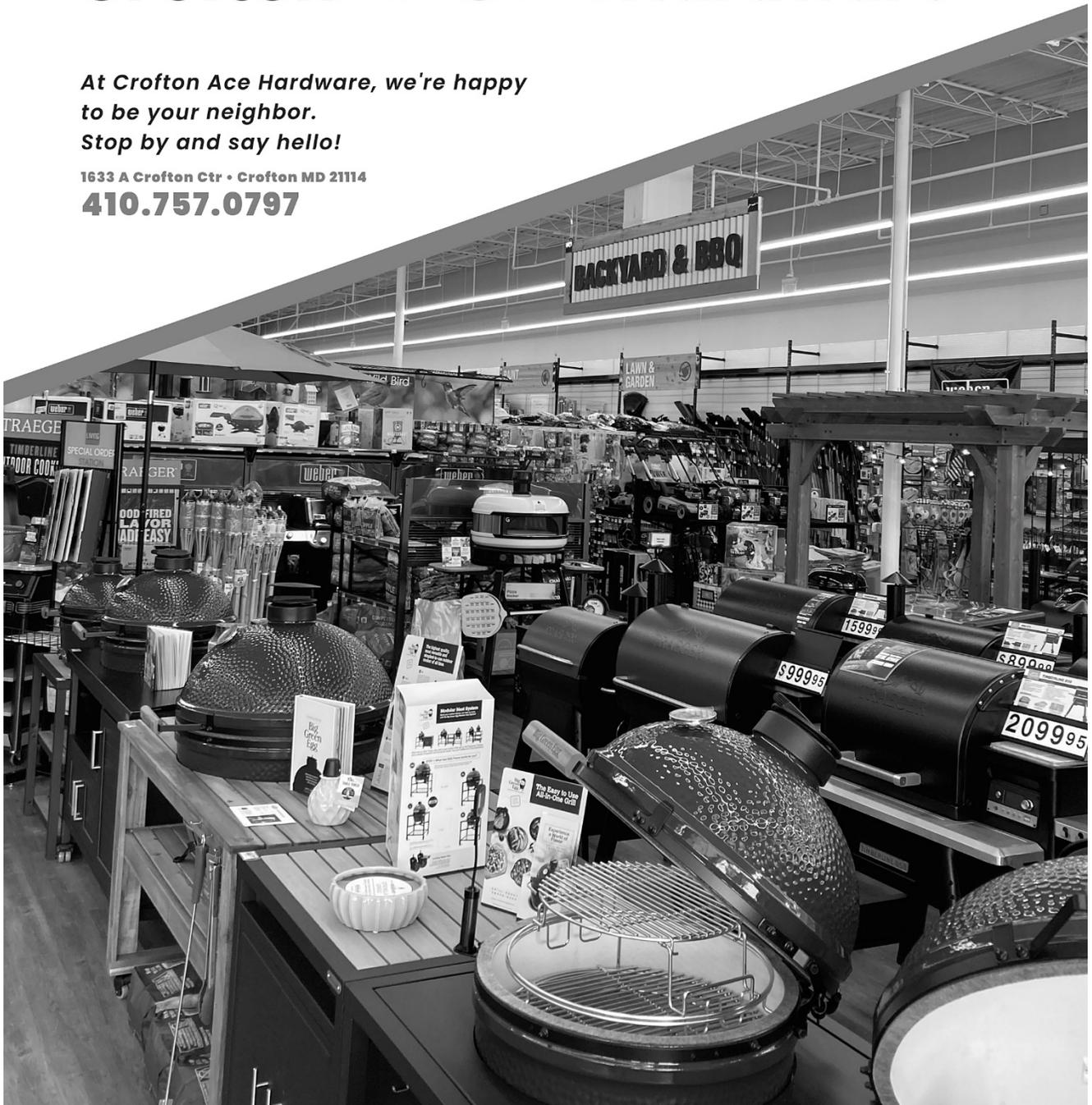
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

ANNA O'KELLY

Greetings and Happy Spring!

Welcome to the expanded version of our spring Advocate newsletter. Traditionally, our non-election year May newsletter has just been a one-pager that comes to you in an envelope. We did this primarily to save money every other year but felt we weren't able to share enough community information in that limited product. So, after Comptroller Jim Harvey did a little digging into US Mail policies, we discovered that with a few minor changes we could produce this eight-page, folded version for just a bit more (and we offset that difference by including a few local ads in this edition – thank you sponsors!). We hope you like it...

If you are reading this before April 29, don't forget to come out for the Greater Crofton Chamber of Commerce's **Spring Festival on the Green** at Crofton Country Club's north parking lot. This always-popular event runs from 10:00AM to 4:00PM. Be sure to stop by our CCA tent and say hello!

Our combined **CCA General Membership and Board Meeting** will be held Monday, May 8, 7:30PM, at the First Baptist Church on Crofton Parkway. Our guest speakers will be State Senator Dawn Gile and Delegate Stuart Schmidt, our two "rookie" legislators, who will share experiences following their first session of service in Annapolis. Please join us for what we expect to be very informative presentations.

Coming up the following weekend is our **30th Anniversary Armed Forces & First Responders Parade** on Saturday, May 13, starting at 10:00AM. The parade will run along Crofton Parkway from Crofton Woods Elementary School to Crofton Elementary School. Please come out and support our heroes and then join us for some backyard fun at Town Hall. We'll have food available for purchase, free refreshments, and some activities for the kids, too!

On Saturday, June 3, we'll be partnering with the Crofton High School PTSO for what we hope becomes a new Crofton tradition with the first-ever **CHS Graduation Parade** honoring the inaugural graduating Class of '23. Details to follow, but please save the date to come out and support Crofton's graduates!

The very next Saturday, June 10, the **Crofton Kiwanis/Team Surlis 10k/5k** event kicks off on the Parkway at 8:00AM near Crofton Country Club. See www.CroftonKiwanis.org for more information and registration.

Finally, for those that have not already seen it, we are now producing an electronic supplement to our printed newsletter called the "**E-Advocate**". It will be sent out 10-12 times per year and contain all the latest news and information about what's happening in Crofton. If you haven't done so already, please add your name to our distribution list by contacting Town Hall at info@CroftonTownHall.org or calling 410-721-2301.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

MARTIN H. SIMON

If you are a regular reader of this newsletter or an attendee at our monthly CCA Board meetings, you'll know that for quite some time the Board and Town Hall staff have been working towards improving our playground facilities at both Swann and Willows Parks. Going back to 2019 when the Parks Rejuvenation Committee conducted a survey that showed replacing the aging equipment was a priority for residents, we have been seeking ways to make that happen. Since then, we have been putting certain funds aside each year but know that without additional outside resources it would be many years before we could afford to complete this project on our own. So, we reached out for help from the State of Maryland in 2021 but came up short. We tried again in 2022 and this time it worked!

I am thrilled to report that the State, via a Legislative Bond Initiative (LBI) sponsored by our District 33 legislators (with help from District 21, too), has fully funded our request to help rebuild the playgrounds! It was a team effort by our legislators, but I want to especially thank Senator Dawn Gile (D-33) for making this her top priority on the Senate side and ushering it through the highly competitive LBI process. These funds, along with what we have already saved, plus additional grant money still in the works, will enable us to fully realize the vision for our parks and improve not only the play experience, but the accessibility to these spaces. Thanks to ALL who had a hand in making this dream a reality!

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Sergeant Jason Jett (Acting Chief)

The Crofton Police Department recently promoted Officer John Sims to Corporal. John has been with our department since March 2022. Prior to working at Crofton, Cpl. Sims worked for the Anne Arundel County Sheriff's Department where he retired after 22 years.



Sgt. Jason Jett (left) presents Officer John Sims the Corporal's badge upon his promotion, March 8, 2023.

As a reminder to all residents, please keep your vehicles locked and remove your valuables in the evening. Our theft from auto problem has slowed but has not completely gone away. Thank you for doing your part to put an end to this.

Our thoughts and prayers are with those families affected by the Nashville school shooting. Thank you, Metropolitan Nashville Police Department, for such a quick response and putting an end to this terrifying incident.

Here in Crofton, we have increased school patrols for both Crofton Woods Elementary School and Crofton Elementary School. We have reached out to the administration at both schools to provide our services in the most effective way possible. We want to ensure the children in the community we protect have a safe and positive learning experience!

WE'RE HIRING! The Crofton Police Department is actively seeking to fill open positions. For position requirements and any additional information contact Sgt. Jason Jett directly at Crofton Town Hall (410) 721-2301

Starting a Neighborhood Watch in Your Neighborhood

– There has been some interest in starting or restarting Neighborhood Watch programs around Crofton. National Neighborhood Watch is a national program organized by the National Sheriffs' Association, and the Crofton Police Department is a registered agent for the program, however, there are currently no active registered neighborhoods in Crofton.

The program requires the establishment of block Captains and a neighborhood committee, as well as establishing communications with the Crofton Police Department and establishing a neighborhood communication plan.

CCA board member Brian Riley is organizing a test case in the Willows neighborhood for launching the program in Crofton. The CCA will provide signage, decals, and program books to neighborhoods in the Crofton SCBD that meet criteria to be set through this test case. If you are interested in possibly taking the lead in your neighborhood, please write to CCA Comptroller Jim Harvey at Comptroller@croftontownhall.org with your contact information and the neighborhood you wish to represent. We will make a list of prospective neighborhoods from this information and will reach out to those who express an interest with more information once the test case is completed and up and running.

RECREATION REPORT

Kathy Lavin

The Summer Concert Series – The Summer Concert Series is scheduled to start on June 4. Concerts are held at the Crofton Country Club from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. Please bring chairs or blankets as no seating is provided on the grass.

June 4, 2023: **Pocket Change** ~ Easy Listening

June 11, 2022: **Goodfella's** ~ Beatles Revue

June 18, 2023: **Bay Jazz Project** ~ Jazz

June 25, 2023: **Wicked Olde** ~ Pop to Folk

July 2, 2023: **Sandra Dean Band** ~ Classic Rock

July 9, 2023: **Six Pack Rodeo** ~ Country w/ a Kick

July 16, 2023: **Moxie Blues** ~ Blues

July 23, 2023: **40 Dollar Fine** ~ Rock 'N' Soul

Other Events – We will host the Ice Cream Social at Town Hall on September 10th. The Kiwanis Halloween Parade and Town Hall Party will take place on October 28th. We will keep you advised about these events as planning continues.

Do You Like to Plan Parties? – The CCA is announcing the formation of the Crofton 60th Anniversary Planning Committee. Crofton turns 60 in 2024 and the CCA hopes to schedule a variety of events to celebrate this milestone all throughout the year.

The 60th Anniversary Planning Committee will inherit some funds left over from the 50TH Anniversary program but will be responsible for organizing new fund-raising events as well as the anniversary celebration events.

The committee will have access to Town Hall staff to help with some of the coordination and organizing, but the programming will be up to the 60th Anniversary Planning Committee. If you are interested in participating and sharing your ideas, please send a note to info@croftontownhall.org.

UPCOMING CCA MEETING

Combined CCA General Membership Meeting and Board Meeting, Monday May 8, 2023, 7:30 PM, at the First Baptist Church, Crofton. Guest Speakers include Senator Dawn Gile and Delegate Stuart Schmidt.

MOSQUITO CONTROL FOR 2023-24

This notice is to inform residents of the Crofton Special Community Benefit District of mosquito control services that are being provided by the Maryland Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with the Anne Arundel County Government, for the 2023 – 2024 period. Between April and October, a County-wide surveillance and control of larval mosquitoes will be conducted. Surveillance and control of adult mosquitoes will be conducted between May 31 and October 3.

Spraying for adult mosquitoes will be done only if an MDA employee determines it is necessary. The frequency of ULV spray treatments will be based on the level of mosquito infestation and the resources available. Spraying will not be conducted if it is raining, the winds exceed 12 MPH or the temperature exceeds 89 degrees. Please note that ULV spray treatment of adult tiger mosquitoes is most effective when conducted in

conjunction with community clean up efforts to remove standing water containers. Birdbaths and containers under potted plants should be flushed twice a week. Old tires should be properly disposed of and not stored in yards. Roof gutters and down spouts should be kept clean. Dripping outdoor faucets should be repaired. Collections of water in tarps or grill covers should be drained. If stored outside or under decks, items like pails, wading pools, wheelbarrows and such should be turned upside down.

Residents who would like their property to be exempt from adult mosquito control service must notify the MDA in writing, using the Department of Agriculture’s request form. The Request Form is available from the MDA’s website at <https://bit.ly/3MhZWdP>. Hardcopies are available at Crofton Town Hall for Special Community Benefit District residents.

New Email Addresses – In the past, all the staff at Town Hall used a variety of personal email addresses for official business. This can be confusing, hard to keep track of, and a nightmare when someone leaves or retires. So, we’ve updated our official email addresses to:

- Town Manager: TownManager@CroftonTownHall.org
- Police Chief: PoliceChief@CroftonPD.com
- Comptroller: Comptroller@CroftonTownHall.org
- Administrative Assistant: Info@CroftonTownHall.org



Facebook is Back – The Crofton Civic Association is back on Facebook! If Facebook is the way you like to communicate, follow us at Crofton Civic Association, Inc. @Facebook. Posts are moderated, but if you have something you or your community organization would like to share, please do!

The original “Crofton Civic Association page was hijacked, and we’ve asked Facebook/Meta to remove that page several times (it lists “Croftoncommunity.com” as a website, which is a phishing site registered in China ... don’t go there!) So, look for “Crofton Civic Association, Inc.” on Facebook and not just “Crofton Civic Association.”



30th Annual Armed Forces & First Responders

Parade – The CCA’s 30th Annual Armed Forces & First Responders Parade will be held on Saturday, May 13, from 10:00 AM until around 11:00 AM. The parade will move along Crofton Parkway from Urby Drive to Duke of Kent. The parade features an honor guard, police and fire vehicles, marching bands, local clubs, and much more. Refreshments will be served after the parade in the backyard of Town Hall.

This parade was initiated when Crofton was trying to become a WWII Commemorative Community.

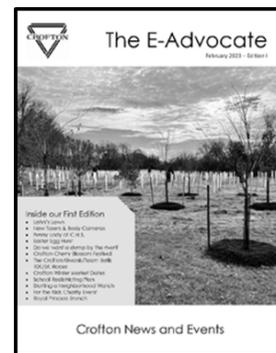
Mark your calendar and plan on coming out to honor those who serve. Bring some chairs, the family, and even the family dog!



Crofton Social Media Network – The CCA would like to collect the names and administrator/moderator contact information for private neighborhood Facebook pages in Crofton. The idea is that some information that needs to go out to everyone would benefit if we can share it through the many neighborhood pages. Likewise, there may be neighborhood topics that arise that should be shared with the broader Crofton community.

Unfortunately, some of the neighborhood Facebook pages have names that are not obvious or hard to find through searches. If you belong to a neighborhood Facebook page (e.g., The “Harcourt Harwell Roadies”), please send the name of your neighborhood Facebook page and the moderator’s contact details to Comptroller@croftontownhall.org.

Once established, we can help ensure new residents are aware of their neighborhood Facebook pages. The Crofton Police Department can also use the network to distribute alerts more effectively when the need arises.



A New Way to Stay In Touch With Crofton

When you get too many email messages from the same source, you tune out ... we all do it. We’re changing things up to be more informative and not as ... well, pesky. Instead of sending individual email messages for every event and news item, we are saving them up and periodically putting out an e-book formatted newsletter. We will reserve email otherwise to urgent matters only.

The new format is cellphone and tablet friendly, includes search and zoom functions, and allows you download the newsletter to your phone, if you want to keep it or share it.

We are also adding more content of interest, such as information on non-CCA events like the Crofton Kiwanis/Team Surlis 10K/5K race or the CHS Graduation Parade. There will also be articles on issues, or from Crofton organizations and the Crofton Police. And recurring information like a consolidated calendar of all events in Crofton and updates on home values in Crofton.

Check out our first two editions at <https://online.fliphtml5.com/bwoas/kbca/> and <https://online.fliphtml5.com/bwoas/fgif/>, which

are also available at www.croftoncommunity.org. If you didn't get these in email already, that means you are not on our distribution list. To get on the list, please send your name, email address, phone number, and street address to Info@croftontownhall.org.



Calling all Pie Bakers! The 2023 Crofton Pie Bake-Off, hosted by the Crofton Civic Association, Crofton Farmers Market, and the Crofton Kiwanis Club, will be held at the Crofton Farmers Market (which is now at the Crofton Public Library, 1681 Riedel Rd, Crofton, MD 21114) on **Saturday, June 24, from 10:00 AM to Noon.**

Slices of pies will be sold to the public during the event, and the proceeds will benefit the Crofton Christian Caring Council's Baby Pantry, which provides wipes, diapers, formula, and other necessities for families in need. All pies are judged and there are awards and prizes for:

- Best fruit-filled pie
- Best cream pie
- Best savory pie (ex. shepherd's pie)

Pie chefs who are interested in participating can visit <https://bit.ly/3zAwUP9> to learn more and to register. Registrations must be completed by 5:00 PM on June 22, 2023, to ensure that staff have time to prepare judging forms, labels, and name badges.

Great pie and a great cause; make sure to mark your calendar today!



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