



Crofton Civic

Association, Inc

THE ADVOCATE

A Newsletter for Residents of the Crofton Special Community Benefit District

CCA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP AND BOARD MEETING

SEPTEMBER 11, 2023, 7:30 PM

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
1690 CROFTON PARKWAY

AGENDA

President's Announcements – Anna O'Kelly
Guest Speaker – James Kitchin, County Executive's Office
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/Crofton Police
Non-Emergency
410-721-2301

AA Co. Police Non-Emergency
410-222-8610

Website: CroftonCommunity.org

Email: Info@CroftonTownHall.org

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That Was Easy!

Remembering another tool, brush, or bolt isn't a 40 minute drive any more.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

ANNA O'KELLY

Hi Neighbors,

The lazy days of summer are behind us, and families are gearing up for the new school year. The Crofton Civic Association sponsored many activities this summer including a parade celebrating the first graduating class of Crofton High School, the Summer Concert Series, and National Night Out. The concert series is funded in part by a grant from Anne Arundel County, and our residents look forward to these weekly concerts every summer. Be sure to add **September 10th, from 2:00-4:00 PM** to your calendar for the Ice Cream Social at Town Hall. There will be activities for the children and lots of free ice cream!

The 60th Anniversary Committee has been meeting throughout the summer months. Polls were sent to the community to help select the slogan and logo that will be used to promote events. We expect to have several exciting opportunities to celebrate our great community. Be sure to follow the 'Crofton 60th Anniversary' Facebook page to stay informed of activities.

If you are a new resident in Crofton, or for some reason have not registered an email with Town Hall, I strongly encourage you to email: Info@CroftonTownHall.org and ask to be added to our email list of residents. This will ensure that you receive community announcements and notifications as well as the monthly E-Advocate. The print/mailed paper Advocate is published only three times a year, so the electronic notifications provide more timely notice of upcoming activities and events. Additionally, the CroftonCommunity.org website provides more in-depth information about the community. Finally, be sure to follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

Please note that we are seeking applications for the Crofton Citizen of the Year. More information may be found on the website, and applications are due no later than September 8th. Our next Board and General Membership meeting is **September 11th, 7:30 PM** at the First Baptist Church across from the Crofton Country Club. I hope to see you there!

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

MARTIN H. SIMON

When I took on this job just over a year ago, I knew that certain changes needed to be made that wouldn't happen overnight, but in time, would enable Town Hall's operation to run more smoothly and better serve our CCA members. Now, 15 months in, I'm proud to say that we have made most of those changes and are almost back to full staff, with room for just one more police officer. Please see page 4 for an introduction to our latest hires.

Sergeant Jett (who has been serving as Acting Chief since January) and Corporal Sims have done a fabulous job in keeping our police department running while readying it for the addition of highly qualified new members. And together with the administrative staff upstairs, we have all forged a much-improved dynamic within Town Hall where everyone comes to work each day wanting to do their very best in service to the people of Crofton. In other words, Town Hall is once again a happy place to work, I am pleased to report!

Coming up later this fall, our Crofton Special Community Benefit District (CSCBD) and Crofton Civic Association (CCA) FY25 budget meetings will be taking place on the following dates:

October 2: Public Safety and Recreation Budgets

October 9: Maintenance & Operations and Administration Budgets

October 16: CCA Board Meeting with Review and Approval of CCA Budget and Final Approval of CSCBD Budget

These meetings will be open to all CCA members. Stay tuned for time and location details...

Police Chief's Report

Sergeant Jason Jett

As summer draws slowly to an end, I hope everyone has had time to enjoy their planned vacations and had time to relax. The Crofton Police Department is pleased to announce that we have hired two new officers to join our ranks. Congratulations to Officer Eric Redding and Officer Kyle Gable. Welcome aboard, gentlemen!



Police Officers Kyle Gable (left) and Eric Redding

Officer Redding is a former Lieutenant with the Baltimore City Police Department and former Deputy with the Anne Arundel County Sheriff's Office. He brings thirty years of law enforcement experience with him.

Eric is a retired military veteran who was enlisted in the US Coast Guard for nine years and served 13 years in the Maryland Army National Guard.

Eric served 21 years with the Baltimore City Police Department where he achieved the rank of Lieutenant. Upon retiring from the Baltimore City Police Department, he joined the Anne Arundel County Sheriff's Office where he served on Court Security, the Warrant Squad, and in Civil Process. After eight years he retired from the Anne Arundel County Sheriff's Office. He was subsequently employed with Paragon Systems, Inc. where he was a Contractual District Manager for the Court Security Program of the Federal District Court of the District of Columbia (Washington, DC.) Eric joined the Crofton Police Department on July 21st.

Officer Kyle Gable joins Crofton PD after relocating back to his home state of Maryland after living in Hawaii the last two years. Prior to Hawaii, Officer Gable served 8 years as a Montgomery County Police Officer where he was passionate about DUIs and earned several specialized certifications, including becoming a Drug Recognition Expert (DRE).

Officer Gable was recognized by the state of MD, Montgomery County, and Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) for his DUI enforcement. Additionally, Officer Gable was trained to be a part of the Special Event Response Team (SERT) where he protected locals during civil disturbance and even served with several allied agencies to protect the Capitol on January 6, 2021. For his efforts on January 6, Officer Gable was awarded the Ribbon of Valor from the DC Metropolitan Police Department, a commendation from both the Montgomery County Police Department and the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce, a letter of appreciation from the Montgomery County Council, and the Congressional Gold Medal.

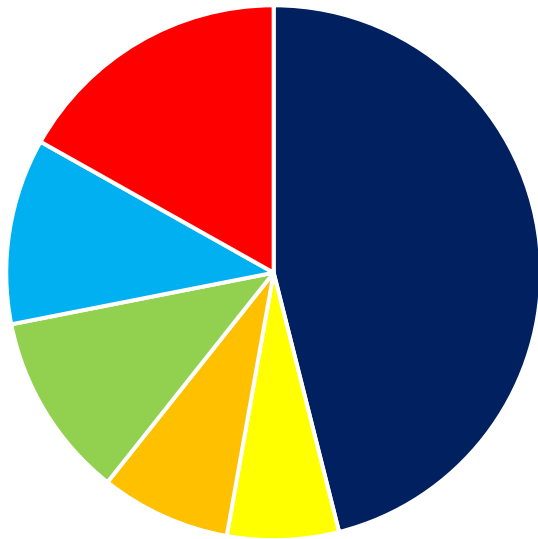
Currently, Officer Gable is working to join the United States Coast Guard (USCG) Reserves where he will be stationed at the Baltimore Yard serving as a USCG Police Officer. Officer Gable lives in the Crofton community (CSCBD) with his wife, Alyssa and 5-year-old son, Coleson.

We could not be happier to have our two newest officers on board serving the Crofton community. Please say hello if you happen to see them patrolling the neighborhood.

Crofton Police Department's rebuilding phase is well underway. This will leave us with only one vacancy to fill. We are still actively looking for one more qualified applicant in hopes of being fully staffed soon.

Thank you for your continued support of the Crofton Police Department!

July Statistics



■ Patrol Check
 ■ Theft from Auto
 ■ Shoplifting
■ Traffic/Parking
 ■ Wellness
 ■ Administration

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



RECREATION REPORT

Kathy Lavin

Shoplifting – Ace Hardware, located in the Crofton Center, has been the target of several shoplifting incidents. In some cases, it appears to be repeat offenders. Crofton Police Department has contacted Ace Hardware and plans to post pictures on our social media pages in hopes these offenders can be identified. Anyone with any information may call 410-721-2301.

Theft from Auto – Theft from Auto incidents are still occurring locally; Crofton Police Department has identified two suspects related to these incidents and has brought charges against them. We urge you to please lock your vehicles and remove any valuables.

Administration – We have been busy filling our open vacancies and a big portion of that is spent on a thorough background investigation and documentation. This explains the increase in administrative duties.

Social Media – Our Crofton Police Department Facebook page has reached three thousand followers! Thank you to everyone who clicked that follow button. We continue to pass on important community related information, safety tips, and happenings here within the police department. Please help spread the word and help our page grow.

The Annual CCA Ice Cream Social is scheduled for **Sunday, September 10th** (Grandparents Day!) from **2:00 PM to 4:00 PM**. The event is being held in the Town Hall backyard at 1576 Crofton Parkway. There will be face painting, a balloon artist, bounce houses, and music by Dust on the Bottle. Ok, and there's ice cream too! The event is free and it's a great chance to come out and meet the neighbors. So, grab the kids ... and the grandparents ... and plan to join us!

Annual Halloween Parade & Party – The Kiwanis Halloween Parade and Town Hall Party will take place on **Saturday, October 28th**. The parade will begin at Crofton Country Club at 11:00 AM and travel Crofton Parkway to Duke of Kent Drive. The CCA party at Town Hall's backyard will begin immediately after. Crofton Kiwanis will announce costume awards, and there will be light refreshments, a storytelling witch, and make and take crafts for the kids.

Annual Tree Lighting Event – The CCA Tree Lighting Event is scheduled for **Wednesday, November 29th** at the Crofton Country Club. We will keep you advised about these events as planning continues.

UPCOMING CCA EVENTS

CCA General Membership Meeting – Monday, September 11th, 7:30 - 9:00 PM at the First Baptist Church of Crofton, 1690 Crofton Parkway.

All residents of the Crofton Special Community Benefit District are invited to join the CCA BOD for a general membership meeting where you'll learn what is happening in Crofton. There will be staff and board reports on activities, and you are invited to raise any ideas or issues you have as well.

CCA Board Meetings for the rest of 2023, are at 7:00 PM, at the First Baptist Church, Crofton and scheduled for Monday, October 16th, Monday, November 13th, and Monday, December 11th.



Dog Show! - Crofton's 8th Annual Dog Show and Dog Pie Eating Contest sponsored by the Crofton Civic Association and Higgins and Friends Pet Sitting, LLC will be held in conjunction with the Higgins Pet Fair, which will take place at the Village Green in Crofton from **11:00 AM to 4:00 PM on Saturday, September 16th, 2023**. The 8th annual dog show starts at 1:30 pm. For complete details on award categories and free registration, visit <https://higginsandfriends.com/crofton-dog-show/>.

Vendors at the Higgins Pet Fair will include:

- AA County Animal Care & Control
- Crazy Pet People
- Crunchies Natural Pet Foods
- Delegate Heather Bagnall
- Dog Training Elite
- Echoes of Nature
- Just One More Kitty
- Leia's Treats
- Maker's Muddy Paws
- Miri's Haven Senior Dog Rescue

- Pam Booth
- Spay Spa & Neuter Nook
- TFC Lifesavers/CPR Institute



Calling All Chili Chefs – Crofton's 9th Annual Chili Cook-Off will be hosted by the Crofton Kiwanis, the Crofton Civic Association, and the Crofton Farmers' Market on **Saturday, October 21st, from 10:00 AM to Noon** at the Crofton Farmers' Market, located in the parking lot of the Crofton Library, 1681 Riedel Rd, Crofton, MD 21114. There are two awards that will be given:

- Crofton Chili Cook-Off Champion
- Crofton Chili Cook-Off People's Choice

There will also be a special prize for the hottest chili. The event will benefit the Crofton Christian Caring Council's Food Pantry, which provides food for families in need and the homeless. They provide thousands of bags of groceries to over 1,000 households in the Greater Crofton and Odenton area, and this year the need is greater than ever. Attendees can make a \$5 donation or donate a packaged food item (no perishables, please) and try each delicious chili and submit their ballot for the People's Choice Award.

Chili entries will be judged by our panel of gourmards at 10:30 AM to decide who wins the 2023 Crofton Chili Cook-Off Championship, and awards will be made at 11:45 AM. Participation in the contest is free for entrants. For additional details and registration, please visit:

<https://form.jotform.com/212055585800048>

Come and join the Crofton Kiwanis, Crofton Civic Association, and the Crofton Farmers' Market for its biggest event of the year and help make a difference for those who need a little help!



Subscribe to The E-Advocate – The CCA now has an electronic monthly newsletter! If you are not currently on our email list, you are missing out on information on news and local events from all of Crofton and surrounding areas.

Subscriptions are free and *The E-Advocate* is published in a cellphone-friendly e-book format. If you wish to subscribe, please write to Info@CroftonTownHall.org with your name, address, and phone number.

West Nile Virus Found in Mosquitos in Anne Arundel County –The Anne Arundel County Department of Health reminds residents to take

precautions after six mosquito pools tested positive for West Nile Virus. The pools were identified in various parts of the county on July 27, 2023. The areas include Little Patuxent Watershed (near Lake Louise, the Northwest section of the SCBD). At this time, no human cases have been reported in Anne Arundel County.

Most people exposed to the virus don't get sick, but about 20 percent develop symptoms like headache, fever, muscle and joint aches, nausea, and fatigue. The current warm weather and high humidity provides ideal conditions for mosquito activity and West Nile virus transmission.

Additional information can be found at the Anne Arundel County Department of Health at www.aahealth.org. For questions about spraying, call the Mosquito Control Program at 410-841-5870.



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