



Wheaton & Kensington Chamber of Commerce - the voice

2401 Blueridge Avenue, Suite 101
Wheaton, Maryland 20902
301-949-0080
email: wkchamber@wkchamber.org

September-October 2006

Volume III-V

www.WKchamber.org / www.tok.md.gov

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, September 26
Lecture 7:30 p.m.

Curious about the history of your old house? Come to the Kensington Historical Society's special presentation, "If This Place Could Talk: Researching the History of an Old House," by historian Michael Dixon. At the Kensington Town Hall, 3710 Mitchell Street

Wednesday, September 27

Breakfast Mixer 7:30 a.m. with – Cristeta Comerford White House Executive Chef She is the first woman to serve in that position – Come Hear Her Remarkable Story!

At The First Baptist Church of Wheaton, 10914 Georgia Avenue, Fellowship Hall, Lower level – Parking in the rear of building \$5 in advance or \$10 at door

Sunday, October 1 and Sunday, October 15

Walking Tours Of Wheaton's Ethnic Markets, sponsored by the Smithsonian Resident Associates program from 10am to noon The cost is \$25 – LIMIT OF 25 ATTENDEES PER TOUR – so get your reservation in soon! ResidentAssociates.org for info or call 202-357-3030

Saturday, October 14

Fire and Safety Jamboree from 11-4 p.m. at the Firehouse corner of Conn. Ave./Plyers Mill Rd. downtown Kensington e-mail: dcontois@kvfd.org or call David Contois at 240-832-4031

Wednesday, October 25

Breakfast Mixer 7:30 a.m. Strategies for Marketing and Advertising, and a News Editor talks about How to Effectively Work with the Press. Location to be announced \$5 in advance or \$10 at door

Wheaton Health & Fitness Expo Offered Healing, Wellness Information

This new event was held Saturday and Sunday, September 9th & 10th in the parking lot of Westfield North and brought together physicians, hospitals, nonprofits, fitness experts, alternative healing specialists and other interested businesses.



Moshe Briel, who operates Wheaton Business and Management Consulting LLC, was looking for a way to tap into many businesses at one time and stimulate the economy. He got involved with health and fitness because

of its potential to bring many uncoordinated organizations and businesses together. The Expo hoped to promote the regional centrality of Wheaton in the DC area and focused attention on it as a market leader in shaping healthy lifestyles.

More than 50 organizations handed out information, samples of their products or services, and gave advice. Rhonda Pence, director and distributor for



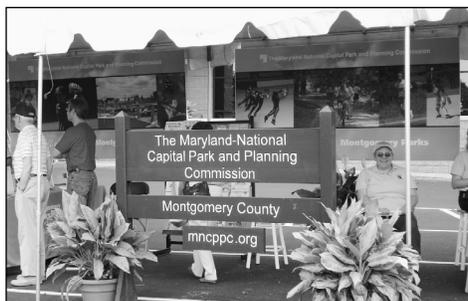
Via Vienté, introduced a product that is a combination of mineral water from the Andes Mountains and pureed fruit that Pence said helps the body function properly.



Ann Ramsaur, admissions liaison for the Kensington Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, said she thought it was important to attend the expo because her

facility was not well known to some residents. Briel wants to make this an annual event along with a sister event to be held during the weekend of Earth Day in April.

Sources include: *The Gazette*



39th Annual Kensington Labor Day Parade & Festival Has 'Hometown Feel'



Photo courtesy of Jim Hammack

Thousands of spectators gathered in the Town of Kensington on Monday, September 4th to take in the floats, performances and banners of about 75 groups, including four high school marching bands, a Brazilian dance troupe and a step team.

The "grand dame of Kensington," Lorraine Kennedy, who is 91 and has lived in town for nearly 60 years, lead the parade as grand marshal in a Ford Thunderbird. More than 1,000 people

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Wheaton & Kensington Chamber of Commerce

invites you to a *Breakfast Mixer*

with

Cristeta Comerford White House Executive Chef

She made history as the first woman to serve in that position... Come Hear Her Remarkable Story!

Wednesday, September 27, 2006

From 7:30-9:00 am

at

First Baptist Church of Wheaton

10914 Georgia Avenue
Wheaton, MD 20902

301-949-6585

Fellowship Hall, Lower level
Parking in the rear of building

Expo photos courtesy of Vicky Surles

Executive Committee

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Administrative Assistant & Newsletter Editor

Vicky Surles (301) 949-0080

Wheaton & Kensington
Chamber of Commerce

the
voice
for
YOUR business! 301.949.0080

email: wkchamber@wkchamber.org

September 12, 2006

Dear Members of the Wheaton & Kensington Chamber of Commerce:

We are periodically approached by individuals or organizations wishing to purchase our mailing list of members. The information is of course already public in that our members and their addresses are listed on our web site and in our community guide. However, by purchasing our mailing list, either as labels or in an electronic form, it makes it much easier for organizations to use the list to do mailings. Organizations wishing to purchase the list might be individuals running for public office, organizations trying to market their business or products, or organizations promoting a particular event.

It is usual for Chambers to sell these lists. We have done some comparison of what other Chambers charge for their lists, and looking at our size in comparison to these other chambers the Board has decide to sell our mailing list to members for \$50 and to non-members for \$150.

We are aware that some members may not want their company to be part of a list that is sold. If you are one of those companies please contact Vicky Surles at the Chamber office and let her know to take your company's name off any list that would be sold.

Sincerely,



Tim Wiens
President

2401 Blueridge Avenue, Suite 101 • Wheaton, Maryland 20902

**SCORE Representative Volunteers
Counseling at Chamber Office**

SCORE is a 12,400 member volunteer association sponsored by the U.S. Small Business Association that provides business-management counselors to present and prospective business owners in need of expert advice. The Chamber offers consultations with volunteer Gene Rosen on Wednesdays to anyone who might need assistance in developing business plans, procuring business contracts or solving day-to-day operational problems. All consultations are provided free of charge and appointments are arranged by contacting the Chamber at 301-949-0080.

**2006 Kensington Fire and
Safety Jamboree**

Kensington Volunteer Fire Department will be hosting a Fire and Safety Jamboree on Saturday October 14, 2006 from 11-4pm at the Firehouse (corner of Conn. Ave. and Pliers Mill Rd.) in downtown Kensington, MD. If your organization would like to have an information table at this free community event please contact Kensington Volunteer Fire Department immediately. Please join your neighbors at this fun and informative event. For more information, call David Contois at 240-832-4031 or e-mail: dcontois@kvfd.org.

WELCOME THESE NEW MEMBERS!

Credit Union

Washington Telephone Federal Credit Union

Pat Tyser
3015 University Blvd. W
Kensington, MD 20895
301-933-9100
www.wtfcu.org

Insurance/Financial

Universal Benefits Insurance Agency, LLC

Theodore E. Robinson
2416 Blueridge Avenue, Suite 102
Wheaton, MD 20902
1-800-927-9061

Pest Control Services

Yugo Termite, Pest and Odor Control, LLC

Luzia Viera
2416 Blueridge Avenue, #102
Wheaton, MD 20902
1-800-901-1274

Residential Mortgages

Month-off.com

Maureen Carrington
10400 Eastwood Ave.
Silver Spring, MD 20901
301-651-3257
www.Month-off.com

THANK YOU TO THESE MEMBER RENEWALS!

Architects

Steven J. Karr, AIA Inc.

Steven J. Karr
301-610-5210
www.sjkaia.com

Automobile Dealers

Lindsay Ford of Wheaton

Mark Law
301-949-4060
www.elindsayfordofwheaton.com

Banks/Financial Institutions

BB&T Bank

Desta Gezahay
301-949-6500
www.bbandt.com

Employment Services/Workforce

Career Transition Center-

Montgomery Works

Joan Knight
301-929-6880
www.montgomeryworks.com

Garage Door Services

Garage Door Services

Ed Billhimer
301-608-9444
www.garagedoorservicesbyed.com

Insurance/Financial

Aflac

Julia Rivas
301-949-0747
www.aflac.com

Magic Shop

Barry's Magic Shop LTD

Barry Taylor
301-933-0373
www.barrysmagicshop.com

Nursing & Rehabilitation

Kensington Nursing & Rehabilitation Center

Dee Desai
301-933-0060
www.kensingtonnursing.com

Private Schools

Spring Bilingual Montessori Academy

Maraji Gwynallen
301-962-7262
www.spring-bilingual.org

Real Estate

Bennetts Real Estate, Inc.

Thomas A.E. Bennetts
301-942-0160
www.bennettsrealestate.com

Long & Foster

Angela Efantis
301-949-7070
www.longandfoster.com

Technology Consultant

Kensington Business Solutions

Robin H. Thieme, CTP.CPA
301-942-5989
www.kbsolve.com

Kensington Historical Society's September Lecture

Curious about the history of your old house? Kensington Historical Society's September meeting will feature a special presentation, "If This Place Could Talk: Researching the History of an Old House," by historian Michael Dixon.

The lecture will take place at 7:30 p.m. on September 26 at the Kensington Town Hall, 3710 Mitchell Street. The presentation, sponsored by the Kensington Historical Society and Maryland Humanities Council, will teach how to answer when structures were built, who lived in them, how they have changed over time and what are their stories.

The lecture will introduce participants to strategies of organizing a research process, finding available records and documents, and interpreting the findings.

Dixon is a historian at The Historical Society of Cecil County, president of The Historic Elk Landing Foundation, and an instructor at Cecil Community College. He has been chronicling and disseminating historical information in Maryland for more than 20 years. Dixon works to promote historic preservation and conservation of cultural resources, as well as to encourage others to understand, record, and study the past.

Calling all Wheaton/Kensington writers and historians: Arcadia Publishing of South Carolina seeks a Wheaton/Kensington resident to author a book for our 2007 program

Our company publishes a popular series of photographic histories called Images of America, which chronicles the histories of communities, towns, and neighborhoods throughout the country. Our Maryland titles in particular have been very successful.

I do want to emphasize that, unlike many local history publishers, we are not a vanity press. Rather, we finance the entire publication and pay royalties to the author, which makes it a great fundraiser for organizations.

If you have a vested interest in preserving the history and promoting the community of Wheaton/Kensington, and would like to receive more information about our titles, please feel free to contact me.

Lauren C. Bobier
Southern Publisher
Arcadia Publishing
420 Wando Park Blvd, Mount Pleasant, SC 29464

lbobier@arcadiapublishing.com
www.arcadiapublishing.com

Phone: (843) 853-2070 x128
Fax: (843) 853-0044

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Director

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TRAINING AND LEADS PROVIDED

Breakfast Mixer July 26, 2006 – Sharpening Your Networking Skills

The Crossway Community Center hosted the July breakfast mixer, featuring an interactive seminar on the topic *Networking*. Judy Smith, Director of the Center for Planned Change and Moshe Briel, President of Wheaton Business and Management Consulting LLC



facilitated the workshop.

Ms. Smith introduced the session by categorizing networking as a skill. She said “Skills can be learned, and the more you practice, the better your skills become.”

Ms. Smith encouraged participants to approach networking with a ‘giving’ mindset. “Find out about someone, and see if you can help them – with a suggestion, perhaps, or a referral, or some physical assistance, etc.” Smith reassured the audience, “If you help someone, when they can, they will help you back”. She summed up these views with the idea that networking is like making friends. “It’s all about building relationships, ...and that ...takes time.”

The next part of the workshop focused on development and practice

of the networking speech – sometimes referred to as *The Elevator Speech*.

Ms. Smith pointed out that this 30-second monologue should be clear, concise, spoken convincingly and with enthusiasm. She encouraged everyone to plan their speeches and rehearse them. Smith recommended that an *Elevator Speech* include a distinguishing feature of your business – one that will help the listener differentiate you from your competition. Finally, “close with a tag line, because it helps listeners remember you.”

Lively interaction followed the formal presentation, when each member tested their new skills by presenting an *Elevator Speech* to the audience.



Mixer photos courtesy of Vicky Surines

DOWNTOWN WHEATON SURVEY

Your assistance with the following brief survey would assist Downtown Wheaton in measuring the effectiveness of their Marketing and Event programs. Your response to the following questions would be appreciated.

1. If you attended any one of Downtown Wheaton’s events in the past year, were you pleased with the event? (Downtown Wheaton events include the Taste of Wheaton and the Summer Concerts) Yes or No
2. If you have visited Downtown Wheaton’s website (www.montgomerycountymd.gov/wheaton) are you pleased with the site? Yes or No
3. If you have seen Downtown Wheaton’s publications (Restaurant Guide or Business map) were you pleased with the publications? Yes or No

If you would like to receive a free 2006 restaurant guide and/or business map in the mail, please return this with your address noted, or call 240-777-8100 to request one.

If you have further questions or comments regarding Wheaton’s marketing and event programs, please let us know!

Please send your survey responses to:
Leslie Maxam
Marketing and Events Manager, Wheaton Urban District
tel 240-777-8106 • fax 240-777-8111
leslie.maxam@montgomerycountymd.gov



WTFCU WASHINGTON TELEPHONE FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

One of the Chamber's Newest Members

The idea to form a credit union began in 1945 when a small group of telephone workers desired to provide a safe place to save and borrow. Finally, the timing was right in the summer of 1947 for this same group of telephone employees to form a credit union for telephone workers in the Washington, D.C. area. On August 19, 1947 a hat was passed around the room, and the original share deposit of \$34.00 was collected. A Federal Charter was approved and on September 18, 1947, the Washington Telephone Federal Credit Union was officially insured by the Federal government.

For the first few months, the credit union was a basement operation at the home of its first treasurer. The first all-volunteer WTFCU Board was elected on September 24, 1947.

Since this modest beginning, WTFCU has grown to more than \$250 million in assets and greater than 34,000 members. With six full-time offices in the D.C. metropolitan area, WTFCU now serves the employees and families of more than 120 sponsor companies from a wide variety of industries.

Many companies are now offering their employees membership in a credit union. By sponsoring membership in a credit union you can enhance your employee benefit package and provide your employees with an excellent financial alternative. Credit unions are not-for-profit financial institutions that offer a wide variety of financial products to their members, often with better services and more competitive rates than other financial institutions.

WTFCU is a full-service financial institution. Visit their website www.wtfcu.org for a detailed listing of products and services.

During these times when many employers are seeking to trim costs, credit union membership is one benefit that you can provide to your employees at **NO COST** to them or your organization. In fact until **November 15, 2006** each new member will receive a **\$25 BONUS** when opening an account.

For more information call Pat Tyser at 301-933-9100 x 287 or e-mail ptyser@wtfcu.org.

Spotlight on New Member www.Month-off.com

Residential mortgage expert Maureen Carrington believes you deserve a great deal. And that you deserve the lowest rates and lowest closing costs possible. That is why you need Maureen!

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Wondering if refinancing your mortgage or replacing your home equity loan will save you money every month? Use Maureen's online mortgage tools and find out. Visit www.Month-off.com today and read how Maureen can help you. For a free quote, call 301-651-3257. All quotes and consultations come with free coffee.

Maureen was born and raised in Montgomery County, Maryland. She has 3 children and helps with the family rental business www.Antlerproperties.com. Maureen serves as Vice President on the Rock Creek Commons Board of Directors and is a Junior Troop leader with the Girl Scouts of America.

38-Year Wheaton Resident Doreen Feldman Serves Real Estate Market

With fifteen years of experience in Real Estate, Doreen Feldman, of WEICHERT REALTORS, has served a large part of the community covering Montgomery County. She helps first-time home buyers as well as those "sizing" up or down.

Ms. Feldman works with you every step of the way and strives to take the stress out of buying or selling Real Estate. She is very detail-oriented which helps to take you through to a smooth transaction. She acts with integrity and treats everyone with courtesy and respect.

Call for a no-obligation free consultation for all your Real Estate needs, 301-610-6339. You are always assured of Prompt, Professional, and Personal Service.

Doreen is married, with three adult children and two grandsons.

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39th Annual Kensington Labor Day Parade & Festival Has 'Hometown Feel'

Continued from page 1

from Boy Scouts to clowns to Old West re-enactors, complete with covered wagons and horses, marched in the parade, said organizer Linda O'Reilly.

Representing the Chamber in the parade were Richard Ehrenreich and co-pilot Kristin Orr (from Royal Mile Pub) in Richard's sporty convertible. Other members, including Acorn Self Storage, Evergreen School and asap graphics had their own entries in the parade.



After the parade, the festival continued into the afternoon, featuring food vendors, face painting, arts and crafts and live performances on two stages. The goal of this year's parade and festival was to "bring it back to the hometown feel of the small town of Kensington," said co-organizer Suzanne Pasternak. "I think we've accomplished that."

Sources include: *The Gazette*

Photo courtesy of asap graphics



Laura-Leigh Palmer with her winning picture from the Kensington Paint the Town Show. Photo courtesy of asap graphics



Except where noted, all



Labor Day photographs courtesy of James Hammack 301-652-5752



Wheaton & Kensington Chamber of Commerce

Breakfast Mixer

with

Cristeta Comerford

White House Executive Chef

*Come
Hear
Her
Remarkable
Story!*



Wednesday, September 27
from 7:30 – 9:00 AM

at the

First Baptist Church of Wheaton

10914 Georgia Avenue, Wheaton, MD 20902



Fellowship Hall • Lower level • Parking in the rear of the building • 301-949-6585

Continental Breakfast • Mix & Network with Other Businesses & Organizations

Cristeta “Cris” Comerford is the Executive Chef at the White House. She made history in August, 2005 as the first woman to serve in that position, and is responsible for designing and executing menus for state dinners, social events, receptions and holiday functions hosted by President and Mrs. Bush.

Trained in French classical techniques and specializing in ethnic and American cuisine, she had worked as an Assistant Chef in the White House kitchen since 1995 and helped develop inventive menus that showcased American foods and wines. Ms. Comerford, who came to the United States from the Philippines when she was 23, lives in Columbia, MD, with her husband and daughter.

Cost is \$5 in advance (for members only) & \$10 at the door

**Wheaton & Kensington
Chamber of Commerce**

**the
voice
for
YOUR business!**

For registration information
call: 301-949-0080

fax: 301-949-0081 or email:
wkchamber@wkchamber.org

_____ (Company Name)

_____ (Attendee)

_____ (Street Address)

_____ (Attendee)

_____ (City State Zip)

_____ (Attendee)

Return reservations and payment to: Wheaton & Kensington Chamber of Commerce
2401 Blueridge Avenue, Suite 101 • Wheaton, MD 20902

Our Chamber
Breakfast Mixers
are on the fourth
Wednesday of
each month.

Check Cash Total Amount \$ _____ for _____ Reservations

Cost is \$5 in advance (for members only) & \$10 at the door



Run an Ad in the VOICE

Business card-size Ad is just \$25*

or

Insert a Flyer for \$50*

**Member rates*

Walking Tours Of Wheaton's Ethnic Markets

Sunday, October 1 and Sunday, October 15

The Smithsonian Resident Associates program is sponsoring two walking tours of Wheaton's ethnic markets, from 10am to noon.

The tour will be led by Gail Furman, freelance food writer.

Participants will visit three to four markets specializing in the foods of varying countries, and there will be recipe ideas and tastes along the way.

The cost is \$25 – LIMIT OF 25 ATTENDEES PER TOUR – so get your reservation in soon!

For tour info: go to ResidentAssociates.org or call 202-357-3030

County Offers Consumer Tip Line

Montgomery County's Division of Consumer Affairs has a 24-hour consumer tip line to receive anonymous tips, suggestions, comments and/or feedback on any consumer protection issue. Call 240-777-3681.

DCA investigates thousands of complaints each year involving automotive sales and repairs, new home purchases, home improvements, credit issues, retail sales, Internet services and most other consumer transactions. It provides pre-purchase information and advice.

The office also issues licenses for auto repair facilities, new-home builders, radio and TV repair shops, landlords, and common ownership communities. It also operates a child safety seat program that educates consumers and trains technicians to protect children by properly installing car seats.

Call 240-777-3636 or check the Web site at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/consumer, or e-mail DHCA_consumer@montgomerycountymd.gov

The 2006 Wheaton & Kensington Community Guide and Chamber of Commerce Membership Directories have been published, and are being delivered to our members, libraries, financial institutions, Brookside Gardens, local government centers, and distributed in new home-owner packages. The Community Guides are also available to residents and visitors requesting copies throughout the year. Contact the Chamber office at 301-949-0080.

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Chamber of Commerce

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