



SUMMER 2025

Town of Historic Sykesville NEWSLETTER

www.townofsykesville.org
town@sykesville.net

TOWN ADMINISTRATION

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Town Manager
410-795-6390

Jennifer Livesay
Town Treasurer
410-795-8959

Kerry Kavaloski
Town Clerk
410-795-8959

Kevin Rubenstein
Town Planner
410-795-8959

Drew Rittenhouse
Parks and Recreation Coordinator
410-795-8959

Michael Spaulding
Chief of Police
410-795-0757

Barbara Prawdzik
Admin. Assistant/Police
410-795-0757

Derek Shreves

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

Dear Sykesville Residents,

On May 6th, Sykesville made history with a record-breaking turnout at the polls – a clear signal that our community is engaged, invested, and determined to shape our alluring town's future. Your voices were heard, and your votes underscored a shared vision for Sykesville's continued growth that honors our unique character while being sensitive to its impact on services, traffic, roadways, and schools.

Moving forward, our commitment is rooted in delivering high-value services, enhancing accessibility, connectivity, and prioritizing safer routes to schools whenever possible. These are not just aspirations but active priorities.

This election season, though unnecessarily

contentious at times, revealed a need for more frequent and transparent updates about ongoing projects and public concerns. The Town Council, staff, and I have taken this feedback to heart. We're already exploring improved ways to share timely, accurate information and make fact-finding far less cumbersome for our residents.

Thank you for your continued trust and engagement. Together, we are setting a strong, inclusive course for Sykesville's future.

This summer, may the garden you tend be the one that feeds you.



Mayor Link



Leo Keenan
My wife and I moved to Sykesville in 1999 with our three sons. I am a graduate of the University of Maryland College Park, and University of Baltimore School of Law. 19 years ago I opened my own law practice and real



Alex Ries
Hello neighbors! I've lived in Sykesville for the past eight years and currently reside in the Parkside neighborhood with my fiancé. I hold a Master's in Professional Writing and Editing from West Virginia University



seven years, I served as Co-Chair of the Sykesville Parks and Recreation Commission (SPARC) and am now the Town Council Liaison for SPARC. I deeply value Sykesville's unique charm and small-town spirit and am committed to preserving it. This is where I plan to raise a family, retire, and grow as a long-term resident. I look forward to serving this community! Please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns at aries@sykesville.net.

Hours of
Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

TOWN MEETINGS

Mayor and Town Council
Second & fourth Mondays
of the month

Planning Commission
First Monday of the month

Historic District Commission
Fourth Wednesday of the month

Board of Zoning Appeals
Monthly as necessary

Parks &
Recreation Commission
Fourth Thursday of the month

Youth Service Bureau and I have been working in the mental health field for over 30 years. As a council member I focus on how our decisions impact our residents' mental health and promote wellbeing in our community. I have been the Council's liaison to Sykesville Parks and Recreation Commission for the past 4 years and am looking forward to my new role as the liaison to our Historic District Commission. Please feel free to email me with any questions at eguroff@sykesville.net.

and am looking forward to continuing to serve the Town for another four years. As the Downtown Sykesville Connection liaison, I have been thrilled to be a part of the growth and revitalization of Main Street and look forward to continuing to work together with business and property owners to continue to make this the "Coolest and Best Small Town in America". Thank you to everyone who came out to vote on May 6; it was an historic turnout in a Sykesville Town election, and it reflected the passion and enthusiasm that the residents have for our small town. Feel free to email me with questions/concerns at LKeenan@sykesville.net.

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Sykesville Police Department

7547 Main Street, Sykesville, Maryland 21784 | Tel 410-795-0757 Fax 410-795-8864

2025 Sykesville Police Department Junior CSI Academy

The Sykesville Police Department is proud to announce that the 16th Annual Junior CSI Academy will be returning this year on **Saturday, September 13, 2025**. Once again, this year's program will be held outdoors at the Millard Cooper Park here in town. The program starts at 9:30 am and concludes with graduation and a certificate ceremony at 2:30 pm. Parents are welcome to attend the graduation at 2:30, but we are asking that parents not stay for the entire day. We will have additional staff to monitor and supervise the students throughout the day. This program is geared toward middle school students, so we would ask that you only register those children who are within that age group. This program is once again generously supported by the Freedom District Lion's Club Youth Outreach program.

The academy will once again be led by Sykesville Chief of Police Michael Spaulding, with assistance from Sergeant Padraic Lacy, Sykesville Police Department, and CSI Supervisor Brittaney Soto of the Carroll County Sheriff's Office. Students will be exposed to the various aspects of crime scene investigations during the one-day course. They will have the opportunity to learn about collecting latent fingerprints, performing grid searches, the use of canine dogs in locating evidence, and the importance of properly marking, photographing and collecting evidence, as well as maintaining the integrity of a crime scene.

The instructors are from nearby agencies such as the Maryland State Police, the Carroll County Sheriff's Office, the Sykesville Police Department and the Baltimore City and County Police Departments, and all are experts in crime-scene investigations.

Applications can be obtained in person at the Police Department, Sykesville Middle School, or on-line at <https://www.sykesvillepolice.org/>. Class size is limited, and applications will be processed on a first come, first served basis. For more information, please feel free to contact the Sykesville Police Department at 410-795-0757.



16th Annual Sykesville National Night Out

Hosted by the Sykesville Police Department,
Sykesville Freedom District Fire Department, and the Freedom
District Lions Club

August 5, 2025

6:00 pm - 9:00 pm (rain or shine)

Sykesville Freedom District Fire Department Grounds

**Free food, drinks, snow cones,
face -painting, giveaways and much more!**

For more information, contact Paula Shiloh @ 443-375-6645 or pbuck@sykesvillefire.org



Gate House Museum

The Gate House continues to hold our regular hours with free admission to all this summer:
Tuesday: 10-4 | Friday: 10-4 | Sunday 12-5

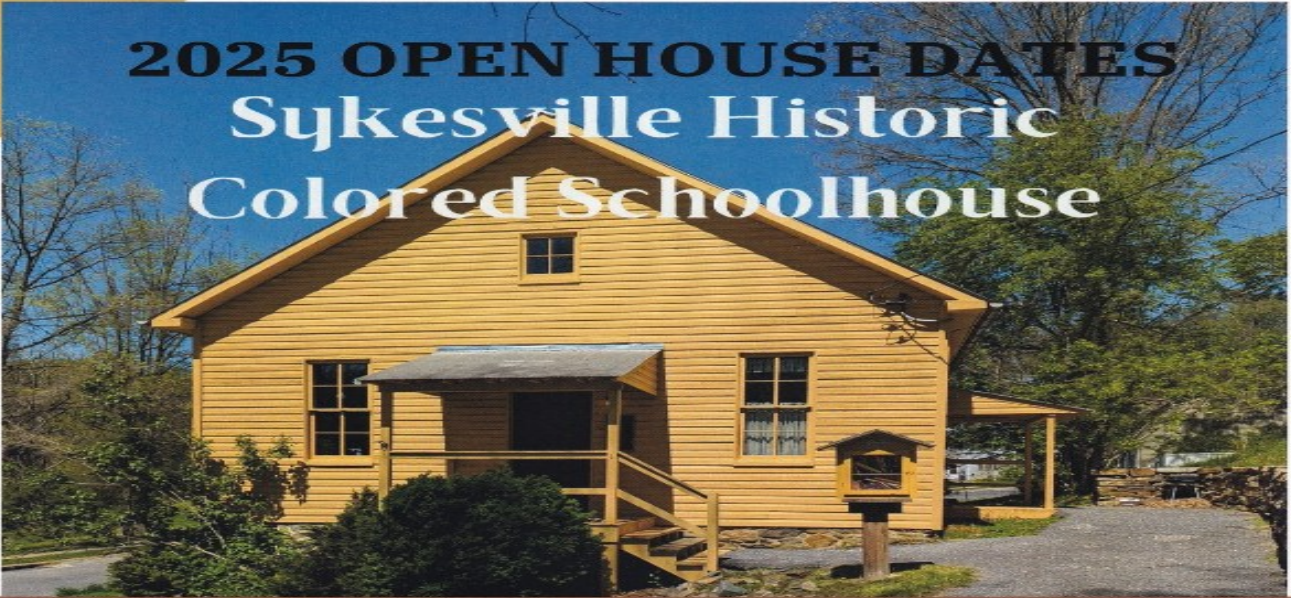
Friday, July 18, pop into the the Gate House for our Christmas in July open house! 1950s and early 1900s holiday displays will make an early appearance this year, and will be on view the entire month of July. Help us kickoff this celebration on Friday, July 11 with extended hours from 10-6.

You will see in this issue of the newsletter advertisements for a series of open houses at the Historic Colored Schoolhouse (518 Schoolhouse Road) on select Saturdays from 12-2. We held the first event on Juneteenth (observed) focusing on recent research undertaken in conjunction with the Downtown Sykesville Connection's JEDI committee to explore the history of the black community along Oklahoma Road. At this event, guests from the county genealogical society helped provide research, resources, and advice about exploring your past. There is no charge for these events, and event parking will be marked along Schoolhouse Road during event hours. The Schoolhouse site itself is accessible and has a modern bathroom.

These short open houses at the schoolhouse are designed to help evaluate post-COVID interest in the site and how we might be able to open the schoolhouse without appointments on a more regular basis. If you cannot attend these dates, please reach out to the Gate House to discuss your ideas for times, programming, guest speakers, etc. and stay tuned to our facebook events page for upcoming programs there (Spring 2026), as well as special Gate House hours and events.

2025 OPEN HOUSE DATES

Sykesville Historic Colored Schoolhouse



Free! Accessible! Open to the public! Parking on site!

JUNE	21	
JULY	19	12-2PM
AUG	30	

Follow The Gate House Museum to learn more!



The Gate House Museum

QUESTIONS? (410) 549-5150
gatehouse@sykesville.net





SYKESVILLE PARKS

& REC. COMMISSION

Summer Breeze makes me feel fine...Oh, hi! We didn't see you there! We were just basking in the relaxing vibes of a Summer being done right. We've been enjoying it so far with our new Pickleball Rentals, visiting the weekly Farmer's Market and, of course, cooling off at The Splash Pad! While our SPARC Co-Chair, Alex Reis, has moved on to do great things as a Council Person we have welcomed Lauren Hanratty as a new Commissioner with us!

And don't fret if you haven't jumped in on the fun quite yet. There are still plenty of opportunities: we have a lot of great movies left for Sykesville Cinema, a music showcase and Open Houses at the Historic Colored Schoolhouse. We even put together a bucket list of everything you should do this Summer (see link below)!

All that info and more can be found here at www.townofsykesville.org or by following



this QR code:

SYKESVILLE CINEMA '25		
SCHEDULE		
14 JUNE	TOY STORY	
12 JULY	DESPICABLE ME	
09 AUG	THE SANDLOT	
13 SEP	THE CROODS	
11 OCT	BEETLEJUICE	

Are you planning a birthday party, meeting, or small event this year? Pavilion rentals at Millard Cooper and South Branch Park are available! To book your event call (410) 795-8959 or email parks@sykesville.net



Do you: **CALL for VOLUNTEERS**

- Enjoy being outside and enjoying nature?
- Like helping others?
- Want to be a bigger part of our community?

Then we would love to have you join SPARC! We are always looking for passionate and talented volunteers to help. We hold meetings every fourth Thursday of each month at 7pm at the Town House. Come to a meeting or email us at parks@sykesville.net to see how you can help to make our parks some of the best in Maryland!

☾ Moonshadow Collective – Now Open!

Tucked into Suite 2 at 7611 Main Street, Moonshadow Collective is already capturing hearts with its cozy, creative energy.



This unique hybrid of a gift shop, DIY studio, and wellness space is a place where people of all ages can explore creativity, unwind, and connect—no art experience required.

Pop in to browse beautifully curated art kits, hand-picked gifts, books, and materials that spark inspiration. From embroidery to hand lettering, paint-by-numbers to sound baths, Moonshadow is designed to help you reconnect—with yourself and your community.

● Parents will especially love the Kids Corner, a screen-free nook perfect for a hands-on break while exploring town.

■ Keep an eye out for workshops, mindful wellness events, and open creative hours.

■ Currently open during Friday & Saturday Sunset Concert Series and Sunday Farmers Market.

➦ Follow along so you don't miss updates:

📱 @moonshadow.co

🌐 www.moonshadowcollective.com



★ Uncle Joe's opening any minutes now!

Get ready, food lovers—Uncle Joe's is about to open right next door to Moonshadow Collective, at the beautiful blue DSC building, 7611 Main Street, bringing gourmet sandwiches, specialty snacks, and a one-of-a-kind local market experience to Main Street. Family-owned by siblings Joe and Colleen, and brother-in-law Tyler, Uncle Joe's is all about community, quality, and comfort. Whether you're grabbing a quick bite, filling your fridge with premium meats and cheeses, or looking for a charming gift, you'll love the warm and welcoming vibe.

📺 Stay tuned for their grand opening details—your new go-to lunch spot is just around the corner!

📞 (443) 602-2017

📱 [unclejoesdelisykesville](https://www.facebook.com/unclejoesdelisykesville)



☀️ Save the Date: Sippin' on Summer on August 16, 2025, from 12 to 4 pm on Main Street!

We're bringing back the vibes of our beloved Craft Beer Festival—with a sun-soaked twist! Sippin' on Summer celebrates local brews, unlimited tastings, good music, and good company.

🎉 The event is proudly presented by Solar Energy World and—drumroll, please... yes, you read that right—our newest Main Street partner: **Lib's Grill of Sykesville!** That's right—Lib's Grill is coming to Main Street Sykesville, and we couldn't be more excited! Owners Dante & Nick Liberatore have poured heart, hustle, and serious investment into making this long-awaited dream a reality. We know you've been waiting, and trust us—it's going to be worth every minute. From the vision to the vibe, this place is going to blow your socks off!

Behind the scenes, it's been a complex and bold journey, but the finish line is in sight—and we're celebrating!

More info: www.downtownsykesville.com/sippin-on-summer

Sippin' on Summer
Presented by:
SolarEnergyWorld
Because Tomorrow Matters

LIB'S GRILL
EST. 2013
of Sykesville

August 16, 2025, 12 to 4 pm on Main Street!
Join us for unlimited sampling of hard seltzers and summer beers!

powered by:

RENEWAL by ANDERSEN
State Farm
Carroll County CHAMBER of Commerce
MUELLER
TIDAL SALT

Big thank you to all other sponsors!

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