

Vol. 3  
Issue #1  
1st Qrt  
2025



The  
**Galena** post

January  
February  
March

Town Office Hours 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Monday-Friday 410-648-5151 [www.townofgalena.com](http://www.townofgalena.com)



**Ms. Dorothy Abel**  
**GALENA'S OLDEST LIVING RESIDENT**  
**Turns 100 on March 26, 2025**

# HAPPY RETIREMENT

The Town of Galena will be saying goodbye to 2 very valuable employees, Mr. Warren Walters our Maintenance Facilities Coordinator & Ms. Audrey Erschen, our Grant Coordinator/Technology Support

## Audrey M. Erschen

Audrey began her career as a Special Education teacher in 1984. She was employed for nine years in Illinois, nine years in Appoquinimink School District and seventeen years at Providence Creek Academy Charter School.



She retired as Principal of PCA in 2019. After 35 years in education, Audrey did a couple months of workamping and planned on continuing but COVID changed her plans. Luckily, the Town of Galena was looking for a clerk. Audrey started for the town July of 2020. While she committed to two years when hired, she has been a face at Town Hall for four and a half years, ending her time with us as the Grants Coordinator and Technology Support. She will miss the residents of Galena, her colleagues, and the members of Mayor and Council, but looks forward to doing some traveling in her RV and continuing to do crafty things.

## Warren Walters

After retiring from the MD Aviation Administration B.W.I. Airport Fire Rescue Service (26 years), Warren Walters was hired part time as the Maintenance worker for the Town of Galena in Jan. 2014. Warren was asked to keep all the town's property clean, cut and neat along with snow removal and salting the streets of Galena. In March 2020, Warren became Maintenance and Facilities Coordinator which increased his responsibilities.



Warren has always enjoyed working with the public, and making sure the residents of Galena had a clean, safe town to live in. Warren's goal when he first came to work for the Town of Galena was to leave it in better shape than what he found it. Warren would like to thank all the town's people he has interacted with over the years. Warren has served as a public servant for almost 40 years, including being a life member of the Millington Vol. Fire Co. It is now time for the next chapter in his life. So, he is not saying goodbye, he just kindly says until we see each other again.

# Galena, Days of Old

Kent News, Jan. 10. 1925

## TODAY! 1925

Everybody rides in automobiles, or; plays golf; shoots craps; plays the piano with their feet; goes to the movies nightly; smokes cigarettes; drinks Rukus Juice, and blames the H. C. of L. on their neighbors; never go to bed the same day they get up, and think they are having a big time.

These are the days of suffragetting profiteering, rent hogs, excess taxes, and prohibition. "But it's a pretty good old world after all, and we thank you for our share of the good of 1924. At the close of 1925 we hope you will have missed all of the bad, and had some of the good.

## Galena Census

1880	347	—
1890	266	—23.3%
1900	251	—5.6%
1910	262	4.4%
1920	298	13.7%
1930	265	—11.1%
1940	250	—5.7%
1950	259	3.6%
1960	299	15.4%
1970	361	20.7%
1980	374	3.6%
1990	324	—13.4%
2000	428	32.1%
2010	612	43.0%
2020	539	—11.9%

## U.S. Statistics

President: Calvin Coolidge

Vice President: Charles G. Dawes

Population: 115,829,000

## Economy in 1925

Federal spending: \$2.92 billion

Consumer Price Index: \$17.5

Unemployment: 3.2%

Cost of a first-class stamp: \$0.02

## Prices in 1925

Rent: \$60/mon. for an apartment in NY City

### Groceries:

3 lbs/macaroni for \$0.25,

½ gallon of milk for \$0.33,

a dozen eggs \$0.47

1 lb/round steak \$0.40

Manicure: \$0.25

New car average: \$525

5 lbs of flour: \$30.50

1 lb of bread: \$9.30

## Olivet Hill, Galena, MD

Just outside Galena Corporate limits sits a quiet community that began before the Civil War by landowning free blacks. The Town of Galena is searching for artifacts, photos, information of any kind on the history of this community. The M. E. Church that stood in this community is no longer standing and the adjoining cemetery is in need of lots of love. Currently there is a record of 156 burials in the cemetery with an estimated 200-300. Of the 156 there are 33 burials with unknown locations, only by obituaries.

**News** of the Church from 1925 in the Afro-American Newspaper in Baltimore.

GALENA, MD. Galena, Md., Jan. 9 .- Watch meeting services were well attended at Olivet Hill M. E. Church.

\*Mrs. Emma Hackett is spending a few days with her daughter in Phili.

\* Mr. Richard Singler has been visiting friends of Wilmington, Del.

\* Mr. and Mrs. Pinkett and daughter, Alice, were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Verb, H. Peaker last week.

\* Mr. Howard Dorsey, of New York, and sisters were the guests of Mrs. Elizabeth Dorsey during the Christmas holidays.

\*Miss Anita V. Butler, Mr. Sylvester Harris, Mr. Orville Randall have returned to Chester-town High School after spending their Christmas holidays with their parents here.

\* Mrs. Mary F. Massey is visit-ing her mother and sister, of Wilmington, Del.

\* Mr. and Mrs. James Comas has returned home after spending a few days with friends in Philadelphia.

\* Miss Emma J. Harris spent her Christmas holidays with Mrs. Martin, of Delaware City.

\*The funeral of Mrs. Susie Johnson, of Wilmington, Del., was held on Thursday, January 1st, at John Wesley M. E. Church. Quite a few members of Olivet Hill M. E. Church attended the funeral.

## Kent News, Feb. 13, 1875

OLD MAIDS .- Shriveled and withered you say they are. Men and women grow old and gray, whether married or single; but many an old maid lingers to-day on this mundane sphere who would have died long ago, an unhappy, but popular, admired wife, had she consented to marry some man who she did not love, but did despise, and said "Yes," where conscience and God commanded her to say "No."-Long live old maids, and let no woman, for the fear of becoming one, wilfully and deliberately sacrifice herself. It is the next crime to suicide.

1875.



1875.

## What would you like to see in the Newsletter?

Is there something that you would like to see in the Newsletter?

Please email

aenglebach@townofgalena.com

your ideas. We would love to hear from you.

## Galena Seminary

THE efficiency of this thoroughly established institution has been well and favorably tested. Right in your midst you have every advantage of schools more remote, whilst your daughters are within a few hours' reach of their homes from all parts of the Peninsula.

**A Six Months' Term begins Jan. 1st, next.** Consider and enter your daughters and wards at once, and thereby encourage

**HOME INSTITUTIONS.**

Terms—cash in advance; or notes, well secured, will be accepted on short time.

For particulars address,  
MISS E. L. BENNY, Principal,  
45-47, Galena, Kent co., Md.



# Resolutions/Ordinances/Utility Billing/Town Projects

## RESOLUTION No. 2024-02

A Resolution of the Mayor & Council of the Town of Galena to set a fee schedule for outstanding balances of utility bills, monthly finance charges, and fire hydrant waterfilling charges.

WHEREAS, Section 1013 of the Charter of the Town of Galena authorizes the Mayor & Council to charge and collect any charges that are deemed necessary with respect to water service; and

WHEREAS, Section 173-3 of the Galena Code of Ordinance sets forth that all such charges shall be determined by the Mayor & Council from time to time by Resolution; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 2022-05 authorizes the Mayor & Council to charge a fee in the amount of One-Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) prior to the time water is shut off at a residence per property owner's request, and a fee in the amount of One-Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$150.00) if water is shut off at a residence due to customer nonpayment; and

WHEREAS, the Town incurs costs associated with outstanding balances on utility accounts that are not paid in a timely manner, and it is in the best interest to charge the property owner who does not comply with the terms of payment, rather than to spread those costs to all of the rate payers of the water system; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Town of Galena to adjust the fees for nonpayment and fire hydrant water filling charges as set forth in Resolution 2022-05.

NOW THEREFORE, be it Resolved by the Mayor & Council of the Town of Galena that effective January 1, 2025, in the event of an outstanding balance on a customer's account after 4:00 PM on the bill's due date, a late fee of Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00) shall be charged to the outstanding balance regardless of current water connection, and shall be due upon receipt; and

NOW THEREFORE, be it Resolved by the Mayor & Council of the Town of Galena that effective January 1, 2025, in the event of an outstanding balance on the customer's account past the due date, a monthly finance charge of an annual interest rate of Sixteen Point Seven Percent (16.7%) shall be charged to the outstanding account on the Sixteenth (16th) of each month; and

NOW THEREFORE, be it Resolved by the Mayor & Council of the Town of Galena that effective January 1, 2025, in the event of a request for collecting water from a fire hydrant that must be scheduled in advance with the staff of the Maintenance Department of the Town of Galena for commercial use, an effective rate of Forty-Five Dollars (\$45.00) per One-Thousand Gallons of Water (1,000) shall be paid before the collection of water.

BY AUTHORITY OF THE MAYOR & COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GALENA, MARYLAND

Approved on the 4th of November, 2024

Effective the 1st of January 2025

Signed Resolution available on [thetownofgalena.com](http://thetownofgalena.com); Ordinances/Res

## DATES UTILITY BILLS WILL BE SENT. 2025

In an effort to help with on time utility bill payments, below are the dates this year that they will be mailed/emailed and when they are due.

**January 15- Due by February 14**

**April 15 - Due by May 15**

**July 15 - Due by August 14**

**October 15 - Due by November 14**



We were informed on December 6, that the application to renew the Sustainable Communities designation for Galena has been approved by the Sustainable Growth Subcabinet. The designation lasts five years and will expire on March 27, 2029. Galena will remain eligible to apply for and receive funds from several state agencies to revitalize its Sustainable Community, including the following programs from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development:

**Community Legacy Program (Façade Grant):** This program provides local governments and community development organizations with funding for essential projects aimed at strengthening communities through activities such as business retention and attraction, home rehabilitation, and streetscape improvements.

**Strategic Demolition Fund:** This program catalyzes activities that accelerate economic development, job production, and smart growth in existing Maryland communities. Funds can be used for capital pre-development activities including property acquisition, site development, demolition, and construction-level architectural engineering designs.

There are other state programs and incentives available to Sustainable

## DATES TO REMEMBER

The Town hall will be closed on the following days in observance of these federal holidays

**Jan. 20**

**Feb. 17**

**Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

**Presidents' Birthday**

## TOWN MEETINGS

- Mayor & Council meets the first Monday of each month at 7pm Meetings are open to the public.
  - The Planning & Zoning Committee meets on the last Monday of each month at 7pm as needed.
  - The Park and Tree Committee meets monthly on the third Tuesday at 6pm.
  - The town parks and restroom are open from dawn until dusk.
  - The pavilion at the community park is available for rental at a reasonable fee. If you are interested in renting it, a rental form can be found on our website at [townofgalena.com](http://townofgalena.com) under the "Forms and Permits" page or call the town office.
- Help keep our parks and town clean, deposit all litter in trash containers.

**Trash and Recycling containers are provided at the park for park patrons only, please no disposal of trash from businesses.**



# Join us at the Dogwood Festival

## 2nd Saturday in May Details to come!!!

It's that time of year when  
planning begins for our  
annual Dogwood Festival.

If you or someone you  
know is interested in  
helping organize and  
volunteer for this event  
please email  
[Info@townofgalena.com](mailto:Info@townofgalena.com)

## DIVISION ST. REPAVING

On 11/7/24, the Town of Galena started the Division Street Rehabilitation Project. The scope of work was to identify the Town Property in which this roadway is located. Once this was done, we milled the existing blacktop in the roadway out. We made every effort to keep any storm water from encroaching onto any of the neighboring properties. We then installed conduits from the well house across to the communications cabinet at Tower # 3. We also identified the need to replace 7 valve risers that are set in the roadway. This will keep us from needing to cut and dig up the roadway at a later date. Gutter pans were placed on both sides of the roadway to help move the storm water out to North Main as well as Phelps Ave. New blacktop was laid from N. Main Street to Phelps Ave. Project was completed on 11/30/24. The Town used the Highway User Revenue funds for this project.



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Council Member Sarah E. Merrell [smerrrell@townofgalena.com](mailto:smerrrell@townofgalena.com)

Council Member Tyler J. Carpenter [tcarpenter@townofgalena.com](mailto:tcarpenter@townofgalena.com)

Finance Clerk Marisa Pisapia [mpisapia@townofgalena.com](mailto:mpisapia@townofgalena.com)

Council Member Justinian M. Dispenza [jdispenza@townofgalena.com](mailto:jdispenza@townofgalena.com)

Council Member Cheryl Richwine [crichwine@townofgalena.com](mailto:crichwine@townofgalena.com)

Zoning & Historic Resource Coordinator Amber Englebach [aenglebach@townofgalena.com](mailto:aenglebach@townofgalena.com)

Maintenance & Facilities Coordinator Chuck Woodall [cwoodall@townofgalena.com](mailto:cwoodall@townofgalena.com)