

T H E MAYFIELD NEWSLETTER

A HAMLET IN THE HEART OF TOWN

2013 Issue 1

Easter Bunny and Egg Hunt



March 23 11 a.m.
Mayfield Playground

Rain Date: March 24 at 1 p.m.

The President's Letter

Driving down Norman Ave. a few weeks ago on an unseasonably warm day, I watched a dozen or so kids playing in the median, tossing a football, running around, enjoying the sunny day. It made me a bit wistful, remembering the years when it was my son and his friends who “owned” the median. I used to see kids older than mine playing ball on it and wonder when I would allow my own children to leave the confines of our backyard and venture down to the median. It’s become almost a rite of passage in Mayfield, groups of children growing up and another group taking their place, be it on the median, the playground or skateboarding down the streets. Thinking of these rituals of sorts put a smile on my face.

So many things change in Mayfield, but so much more remains the same. Mayfield residents have always enjoyed socializing as a community; our block party is still a big highlight of the summer, always drawing a big crowd. Knowing that the our residents enjoy a great get-together, in the past few years we have added a FallFest event and held two successful “Spring Fling” events. Our popular children’s activities have been around for decades, and the recently added Santa Visit event appears destined to become a regular part of our December calendar. We continue to do community outreach, welcome new residents and created an updated Mayfield brochure for potential new residents. We continue with informative general membership meetings, fundraisers, hold monthly board meetings, and enable residents to communicate with each other and the MIA Board via mayfieldupdate and mayfieldmcgruff and Mayfield’s Facebook page. Open and frequent communication has always been a priority in Mayfield and it amazes me that not so very long ago, it was all accomplished through monthly printed newsletters. No wonder why we published 8 pages of news each month!

The most important thing that has remained a constant in Mayfield is our residents caring about each other and our community, and the desire to have a safe, clean and beautiful place to call home. Our volunteers are the backbone of this neighborhood, taking on dozens of projects

(continued on pg. 2)

**MAYFIELD
GENERAL
MEETING
MAY 16TH 7:15 PM
LOCATION TBD
SPECIAL GUESTS INCLUDE:
43RD DISTRICT LEGISLATORS
CITY OFFICIALS
POLICE DEPARTMENT LEADERSHIP**

www.mayfieldassociation.org

The President's Letter (continued from pg. 1)

and events. As some of our residents grow older, they look to pass on some of their volunteer roles to some younger and newer residents. Parents of older children look to pass on some of the "younger kid" event and activity duties. New residents, new volunteers and new ideas don't change Mayfield . . . it only ensures the essence of our wonderful neighborhood never changes. Mayfield remains the special place it is, because the core of what our neighborhood is hasn't changed a bit.

Stephanie Buttner, President, Mayfield Improvement Association
mayfieldpresident@gmail.com

The Tree Project of Mayfield

Whatever happened to the tree planting on Crossland?

Best laid plans . . . as they say. The city arborist wasn't able to give us trees on our planting day and didn't give us warning. Thanks to the volunteers that did show up with shovels and ready to work. Some volunteers went to work on pruning the existing trees instead. Charles Murphy at Department of Recreation & Parks and working with Tree Baltimore promised us trees in the early spring. We'll add beauty to the neighborhood and help with clean air and tree canopy goals. Look for upcoming planting days and projects on the mayfieldupdate@gmail.com. For more information on the Tree Baltimore campaign go to www.treebaltimore.org

Trees give us beauty all year long. Some show off in spring with lush blooms, all have green leaves in summer and some become a blaze of color in fall. But in winter, they project majesty. As Adrian Higgins, garden specialist of the Washington Post wrote on January 2nd this year, "Even — especially — in its leafless



winter state, a tree can be a thing of surpassing splendor. But its beauty is the outward manifestation of a biological need to support its great mass, reach up and out, and unfurl the solar energy panels we call leaves." To better appreciate trees in all seasons, he added this suggestion: "One way to notice a tree is to take a picture of it.

The act of photographing focuses more than just the camera; it sharpens our minds and forces us to see trees and the space they inhabit." He mused, "So in the new year, I venture out to look at trees mindful that in spite of

January's chill, they are only a few weeks from bursting forth again. We tend to get carried away by spring, but we should also get carried away by winter. So, savor trees in winter and regard them as if you have a camera, even if you don't." See photos of Mayfield's Winter Majesty on www.Facebook.com/mayfield.update/ For the full article on The Magic of the Winter Tree, go to http://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/home/the-magic-of-the-winter-tree/2012/12/31/d6d7a970-4a1d-11e2-b6f0-e851e741d196_story.html



St. Francis of Assisi School is taking the challenge to raise \$10,000 in 10 weeks. All for safety improvements at the school. If you can help, or want more information, write to Courtney Bartlett, Mayfield's VP at Bartlett.courtney@gmail.com or call the school — 410-467-1683.

Monsignor William F. Burke was featured in a recent issue of the *Catholic Review* (January 16, 2013). With a big headline *Social Justice — As one generation ages, movement faces new challenges*, journalist George Matysek, Jr. chronicled the career and challenges that Msgr. Burke and other priests have faced in a city racked by poverty and problems such as a lack of job opportunities and quality education. "For the ensuing four-plus decades, Monsignor Burke put social justice at the center of his priesthood — raising money for community organizations as head of the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. He also promoted the annual Social Ministry Convocation and was active in numerous community and neighborhood groups." For the full remarkable story of his years as a priest, pastor and change agent, go to <http://catholicreview.org/article/news/local-news/as-one-generation-passes-social-justice-movement-faces-new-challenges>



Big News for the Police Department in Northeast Baltimore

Big changes! Major DeSousa is a now Lt. Colonel and is responsible for Area 1 (responsible for all police districts on the eastside, literally half the city). Major Rich Worley moves from the North District to be the Darryl DeSousa's successor. Charles Robinson is promoted, but stays with the NED in a higher operations capacity. Stephanie Buttner and Janelle Cousino attended the Northeast Community Relations Council meeting in January expressly to meet the new commander of the Northeast District and the other leaders.

Their resumes and service experience is quite impressive. Their roots in Baltimore are deep. NORTHEAST DISTRICT's new commander is Major Richard Worley, and was the highly-regarded 2nd in command at Northern District; and, Captain Osbourne "Moe" Robinson is Northeast's 2nd in command, having served as a lieutenant at Northeast under Lt. Colonel DeSousa. (Captain Robinson knows the area well. He was raised on 33rd Street in Ednor Gardens/ Lakeside. His mother Valarie was Mary Pat Clarke's chief of staff when she served as City Council President.) Major Worley found police work as a 'career change' after years of work in the private sector for more than a decade, before pursuing law enforcement as a career. He shared with us his experiences of going to college in Oklahoma at Oral Roberts University and how different it was from Baltimore.

Both Worley and Robinson were knowledgeable of events and problems in Northeast. They outlined new strategies they have for approaching some of the areas experiencing the most crime. They've added a new task force that will concentrate on the trouble spots allowing other officers to attend to the rest of the district. They shared some of the challenges they know they face and how they keep tabs

on persons they arrested and who were incarcerated who were leaving prison. There's a practice of engagement and information. Certain crimes are handled by specialized city-wide investigation units. Homicides are handled that way. The prosecutor's office now has assigned an assistant state's attorney to each district so that they are more familiar with work and priorities and challenges being addressed by the police district and see patterns of activity among arrested persons whether they get charged or not. When questions on status of crimes like a homicide the answers were deflected, since these cases are not handled by NED personnel. NECOP teams from other neighborhoods were well represented. They all pledged full support of the new leaders and look forward to close cooperation. Mayfield wishes them success with their mission, sufficient strength and resources in pursuit of their tasks and that all officers are safe in the face of danger.

Shawn Dingle, Mayfield board member and coordinator for Mayfield's NECOP effort is looking for volunteers to patrol one evening a month on a rotating basis. NECOP operates on Thursdays and Fridays and every other Saturday. This is an effective deterrent for crimes of opportunity in the evening. Keeping eyes on the street from vantage points helps the community be a safer place. Contact Shawn Dingle at Shawn.Dingle@gmail.com



P. S. Officer David Blumberg, Community Relations for the Northeast District attended the Mayfield Board meeting in January and mentioned to the board that the prime time for house break-ins is between 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Take precautions:

- Look at how your house looks when you're not there. Does your house look like someone is there?
- Are Newspapers picked up?
- Is a radio or TV on?
- At various hours of the day are lights on or on timers so they go off an on?
- People working at home in Mayfield – if you see something that doesn't look right, like the stolen gate incident on a Sunday morning reported recently, call 911. Even rusty old gates are not immune.
- If you're out walking for exercise or walking the dog, carry a cell phone and report suspicious cars/trucks.
- Get the 311 app for your smart phone for reporting dead trees, streetlights out, signs missing.
- Don't leave your handicap hangtag on your rearview mirror. Thieves have been breaking into cars in the Northern District, so take the hint and keep it out of view when it is parked at your home.
- One Mayfield home was broken into recently and homeowner believes that the tip-off that no one was home was the UPS notice of 'attempted delivery' on the front door.



SALUTE TO MAYFIELD VOLUNTEERS 2012

Block Party & Homecoming July 2012

Stephanie Buttner – event co-chair
Courtney Bartlett – event co-chair
Rosine Tumminello
Betty Frech
Theo Karpovich
Robin Syropoulos
Brian and Mary Harryman
JoAnn Trach & Lito Tongson
Joe Dugan & Tom Jones
Jim Bartlett
Phil Jackson
Roxanna Mukai
Mary Ann Dressler
Sherry Insley & Mitch Maltese
Laura & Jason Lee
Lisa & Greg Bailey
Kathryn Parke
Shawn Dingle
Debbie Veystrik
Nancy Davis
Liz van Amerongen
Tom Rybczynski and White Elephant Sale contributors
Vanessa Bennett
Diane Williams
Patrick Andrzejewski
Emily Chalmers
Paul Hertzberg & Julia McDonald
Frank DeSimone
Cindy Henry
All Bake Sale contributors to numerous to list
Martha & Paul Anderson
Hilary & Byron King
BethAnne & Andy Garcia

Distribution of Newsletter

Paul Hertzberg
Andy Bukovitz
Tim Schnied & Family
Dan Buccino
Frank Williams
Tracy Labonte
Barb Waldt
Gerard Waldt
Jae Patton & Pat Mikos
Bill Newman
Stephanie Buttner & Family
Courtney Bartlett
Laura Voos and Family

Mayfield Fall Fest 2012

Gary Rahman – event chair
Julia MacDonald
JoAnn Trach Tongson
Paul White
Janelle Cousino
Stephanie Buttner
Greg & Lisa Bailey
Sarah Losso
Jason Calder
Robert & Vastina Brown
Tanya Mehri
Jim Bartlett
Paul Hertzberg
Carol and Mel Freeman
Angie Battaglia
Angie Larson
Shawn Dingle
Jan Shipley
Molly Tierney – and band
John Kovacevich – NOGLI- stage, tents, tables, sound

Spring Fling 2012

Courtney & Jim Bartlett – event chairs
Sarah & Jeremy Koser
Sherry Insley & Mitch Maltese
Marisa and Brian Schleiter
Laura and Jason Lee
Martha Anderson
Silent Auction recruiters and donors

Playground committee

Courtney & Jim Bartlett
Sherry Insley
Sarah and Jeremy Koser
Jennifer & Robert Pettis
Marisa Schleiter
Mindy & Shawn Dingle

Greening Activities

2012 Daffodils; Walls at Lake Montebello, Rally in the Alley, Tree-mendous Mayfield & Lake Montebello median

JoAnn Trach Tongson & Lito Tongson
Gerard Waldt
Emily Chalmers
Laura Lee
Julia McDonald & Paul Hertzberg
Jack Frech
Tim Schneid
Tom Rybczynski
Janelle Cousino
Liz van Amerongen

Neighbors of 2200 Block of Kentucky & Pelham
Angie Battaglia
Jan Shipley
Parks & People
Neighbors in CHM & Ednor Gardens-
Lakeside.

Children's Holiday Parties

Easter, Santa event & block party - 2012

Courtney Bartlett
Marisa Schleter
Sherry Insley
Mindy Dingle (bunny)
Stephanie Buttner
Nick Syropoulos (Santa)
Sarah Koser (elf)
Shawn Dingle (elf/driver)
Tom & Rosalind Schwind and NCT choir
Cookie Bakers – Refreshments for Santa event

Mayfield Northeast Citizens On Patrol

Shawn Dingle
Dale Lee & Lester Adams, New Covenant Tabernacle

Board and Officers May 2012 -2014

Stephanie Buttner – President
Courtney Bartlett – Vice President
Janelle Cousino – Secretary
Julia McDonald – Treasurer
Vastina Holland Brown
Shawn Dingle
BethAnne Garcia
Sherry Insley
Laura Green Lee
Gary Rahman
Tim Schneid
JoAnn Trach Tongson

Christmas Caroling Event

JoAnn Trach Tongson & Laura Lee (chairs)
Betty Ciesla,
Tom & Mary Rybczynski
Maryland State Boy Choir
Lito Tongson

Website and Communications

Brian Baughn- Webmaster
Janelle Cousino – communications and content

Newsletter Production

and Distribution 2012

Marisa Schleter - graphics and layout
Nina Tou – graphics support
Janelle Cousino – Editor/writer

Mayfield Scholarship Review committee

BethAnne Garcia
Courtney Bartlett
JoAnn Trach Tongson

New Resident Welcome Reception

BethAnne Garcia – Hostess

Volunteer Thank you event

Courtney & Jim Bartlett– Hosts

Miscellaneous Roles

Legal advisor - Gerard Vetter

Welcome Baskets & Fall Yard Sale – Angie Battaglia

Fall Yard Sale -- Angie Battaglia and Emily Chalmers

Harford Road Community Review Panel

JoAnn Trach Tongson, Janelle Cousino

Tree Stewards -- Jack Frech; Vernon Jett

Friends of Clifton Park Liaison & Traffic Calming

JoAnn Trach Tongson

Special thanks to

St. Francis of Assisi Church and School
New Covenant Tabernacle
Maryland State Boy Choir
For hosting meetings and Mayfield Events

Councilperson Mary Pat Clarke for her help on many projects; Councilman Robert Curran for his assistance.
HARBEL – Naomi Benyowitz, Mike Hilliard and Sharon Crist
HamiltonLauraville Main Street Project – Regina Lansing.



We tried to include everyone who volunteered, but we do make mistakes. If you have been missed, please let us know. We want to include all volunteers that have made Mayfield a great neighborhood in 2012. Thank you.

Please let mayfieldupdate@gmail.com know we missed including you and we will add your name to this list.



Thank You!

History Corner

Question: What near-by historic place is closed for a \$7Million renovation?

Answer: Clifton Mansion

Civic Works is conducting on a capital campaign to make much-needed repairs and renovations to Clifton Mansion. The capital campaign will preserve the treasure that is this historic building, and bring the Mansion up to modern day standards for use as both functional offices and a community gathering place.

With a plan to raise \$6.9 million, Civic Works will install HVAC systems, repair the deteriorating Italianate porch, restore the salon and make many interior and exterior improvements. The renovated Clifton Mansion will serve as an historic focal point for Northeast Baltimore communities and enable Civic Works to continue its work in community service and workforce development.



Clifton Mansion: Did you know?

The Clifton Mansion was originally built as a two-story Federal style farmhouse, between 1790 and 1801, by Baltimore merchant Henry Thompson, who served as captain of the Flying Artillery, 3rd Maryland Brigade in the War of 1812. The building was later purchased by famed philanthropist Johns Hopkins and expanded between 1841 and 1853 into a Victorian era Italianate villa that served as his summer estate.

Paradise on Earth and Royal Visitors

The historic preservation nonprofit organization, Baltimore Heritage, describes the mansion and the grounds. Johns Hopkins surrounded

his home, Clifton, with ornamental gardens and a lake — described as a “paradise on earth.” He presided there for more than two decades, entertaining visiting celebrities — including the Prince of Wales, future King Edward VII of Britain — in the splendor of the marble and mahogany interior. After Hopkins’ death in 1873, Clifton fell in to decline. The Chronicle of Higher Education featured Clifton Mansion in an article not long ago, and reported “Upon his [Hopkin’s] death

in 1873, Hopkins left the university trustees \$3.5-million and his 500-acre Clifton estate in what was then unincorporated countryside,” Greg Hanscom wrote. “Historical accounts suggest that Hopkins assumed the university would be located at Clifton, according to university archivist Jim Stimpert.” But the trustees turned instead to an area west of Clifton. The story has it that they made the switch because better housing and transportation were available at the other site, now

Homewood Campus. The trustees of Johns Hopkins University sold the Clifton estate to the City for a public park. Chris Wilson, a carpenter for Civic Works, who has been working restoring the house for a decade, guesses the decision had more to do with Clifton’s proximity to the city’s brewing district and watering holes unbecoming to its highbrow students.

The City of Baltimore purchased Clifton Mansion and its grounds in 1895 from Johns Hopkins University. It has been put to many uses ever since, including a headquarters for the Department of Recreation and Parks, and for decades the mansion served as clubhouse for the municipal golf course, golfers’ spikes gradually destroying the walnut floors.



Mothers' Garden Easter Egg Hunt & Picnic

March 30 at 11 a.m. ~ No rain date



Honoring the Legacy

When Civic Works moved in, the building showed decades of neglect. To preserve this historic gem, Civic Works partnered with the families of both Henry Thompson and Johns Hopkins, as well as the City of Baltimore, investing over \$1 million to improve parts of the Mansion most in need of restoration. The building is now being carefully restored by Civic Works and the Friends of Clifton Mansion. Much work is still to be done. When the Mansion reopens, visitors will be able to again visit its main hall with an exhibit celebrating the role Baltimore's wealthiest citizens played in creating the City's most celebrated institutions. Clifton Mansion features an eighty-foot tower with a commanding view of Baltimore, an extensive arcade which spans the entire length of the South side and wraps around the East and West ends, a massive black walnut Grand Staircase with marble floor in its entrance hall, ornate hand painted walls and ceilings, and intricate plasterwork and woodwork. Some tours held in 2012 gave residents a chance to see the spectacular view from the tower. Betty & Jack Frech climbed the tower and found the view breathtaking and fondly remembered the park from decades before. Jack Frech recently told Mayfield News, "I was up there [in the tower] about 60 years ago. At that time I was struck by the view of the brewery. Trees hid much of other buildings. I could imagine people looking at the beautiful uncluttered site many years earlier. At that time there was a jail cell in the mansion. I can't remember where but I think it might have been somewhere in the tower. Our docent in 2012 Sue Brooks did not know of the cell when we took the most recent tour." He added, "Fifty years ago the gardener's cottage was clearly visible from Harford Road. I have vivid memories of it. I also have fond memories of the sizeable lily pond by the old hot house (later the location of park police). Clifton Lake had a really great iron fence around it. Clifton Park has some neat trees that are no longer there. There was a pond on the golf course at Belair Road. I still enjoy the Indian statue. For 2012 photos by Jack of the view from the tower of Clifton Mansion, go to www.facebook.com/mayfield.update/ Look under photos (and albums). Here's a direct link: <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.4466600748692.2144456.1400007987&type=3#!/media/set/?set=a.4466600748692.2144456.1400007987&type=3>

Today in Clifton Park: Inside the 'paradise on earth' green space of Clifton Park now is the popular public golf course, city farms for urban gardeners and historic Mothers' Garden. More recently Real Food Farm, a 6-acre urban sustainable farm managed by Civic Works, Inc. that was started in 2009. The farm aims to increase food access in the neighborhoods around the park, demonstrate the economic potential of urban farming, and provides experiential education opportunities to the students from Heritage, REACH! and other city public schools.

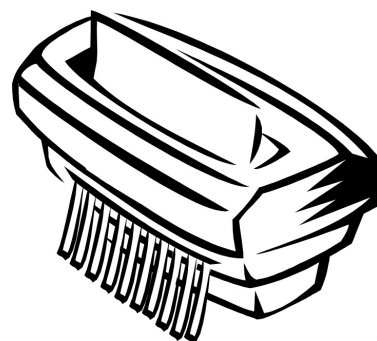


Morgan Community Mile

Morgan State University is asking the communities nearby for input on how MSU can be a VERY good neighbor and work with communities on issues, development priorities and community improvements that serve the campus and the surrounding communities. For more than three months, community reps worked in committees and task forces developing goals within the vision of Morgan State University as a major institution influencing North-east development, Northeast living and community relations. Kicked off on October 27th, Morgan State is hosting a broad-based group of stakeholders -- community, business, public officials, serving Hamilton, Coldstream Homestead Montebello, HARBEL, Belair Edison, Hamilton-Lauraville Main Street, Mayfield and more. A grant from the University of Maryland supports this development process. Mayfield board members are keeping in touch with the project and shaping it as appropriate for Mayfield.

Mayfield's 3rd Shred It Day – April 12

Bring the materials you want to shred to 2201 Mayfield Avenue by 12 noon on April 12th and they will be shredded by a mobile shredding operation for all the documents left there.



Tax season is coming up...

Look at IRS publication 552 for tax record keeping advice. Read more: <http://www.bankrate.com/finance/money-guides/how-long-should-you-keep-tax-records.aspx>
