

T H E MAYFIELD NEWSLETTER

A HAMLET IN THE HEART OF TOWN

2014 Issue 1

Mayfield's Spring Fling Committee Presents

"The Mayfield Prom"

Dinner - Live Entertainment -
Silent Auction - Prizes

Formal attire is not required, but we encourage you to wear your best throwback threads, puffy sleeves and prom pompadours!

when: Saturday, March 22nd, 7:00 pm

where: MSBC Hall, 3400 Norman Avenue

tickets: \$30 per person, ages 21 & over only (includes dinner, complimentary cocktail)

Seating is limited, please email mayfieldspringfling@gmail.com or call 443-255-0919 to reserve your tickets today!

**MAYFIELD
GENERAL
MEETING
MAY 15TH 7:15 PM
LOCATION TBD**

The President's Letter

Our family is lucky to be the owners of a beautiful painting done by Mayfield's own Linnea Sandkuhler. Linnea lives on Lake Avenue. The painting depicts a gorgeous rainy day scene of the median from Pelham and Norman Aves. facing south. Some of the trees in the painting no longer exist, having been done in by age, disease and a hurricane or two. As each tree was lost, I used to imagine how one day the painting would no longer bring me enjoyment, just sadness since the stately trees would no longer exist and grace our corner of Baltimore.

But enter Joann Trach-Tongson and her wonderful greening strategies! Not only are new median trees planted, healthy and growing quite well, but so are the daffodils and many more trees all over Mayfield. That tree-less median I dreaded didn't exist for long. Joann and her committee and volunteers were proactive. Similarly, a few years ago, our community playground didn't exist. The Mayfield board decided to acquire the Pre-school equipment at that site to preserve a playground. But a group of Mayfield parents with young children got together and brainstormed what could be done to build a better Mayfield community for young families. They proactively put into place not only the playground with new play equipment and fencing, but all kinds of activities for young families.

The Mayfield Improvement Association has used Mayfield Update/McGruff to put out emails advising residents to proactively take precautions to protect ourselves, our families and our homes.

How many times have you been asked the question, "Why is Mayfield still such a desirable place to live in Northeast Baltimore?" Well, there are lots of reasons, but being proactive definitely tops my list. Implementing the housing code walkthroughs, seeking to become a 501-C-3 organization, regularly having Board members attend dozens of meetings outside Mayfield to obtain information and make our point of view known to city officials about proposals that will directly affect Mayfield. Mayfield works cooperatively with and gets support from our partners St. Francis of Assisi Church & School, New Covenant Tabernacle and the Maryland State Boychoir.

There are other ways we are proactive. NECOP is a great example of a proactive initiative where the crime reducing results have been proven time and again all over NE Baltimore. What

(continued on pg. 2)

www.mayfieldassociation.org

The President's Letter

(continued from pg. 1)

else can we do to be "proactive"? It could be something as simple as picking up trash on our streets. It could be volunteering for a NECOP evening patrol, delivering Mayfield newsletters, restoring Mothers' Garden or being a Mayfield block captain or serving on a committee of the Mayfield Improvement Association. Our annual Volunteer Recognition and Thank You to the many dozens of volunteers that have helped with the many Mayfield projects and initiatives is included in this issue. In short, as you can see your neighbors have found dozens of ways to be proactive, and to ensure Mayfield stays a viable and desirable place to live.

2014 is upon us and in a few short months so will Mayfield's 50th Annual Block Party. Be sure to save the date (July 11th, 2014) for this wonderful community celebration and homecoming party. Read more about it in the weeks and months to come. There will be fun ways to help make the 50th event the special occasion it should be. We hope you'll say yes to volunteer opportunities, submit your 2014 dues payment, and provide your contact information, especially if it has changed or was not in the 2012-2014 directory. (If all your contact information is same, no need to complete the directory info in the dues form provided.)

I wish all of you a Happy and Healthy 2014!

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

Easter Bunny and Egg Hunt

April 12, 2014
Mayfield Playground



The Holidays in Mayfield

Santa again visited Mayfield. Arriving via his motorized Mustang Sleigh convertible in a gentle snow, our very own St. Nick (Nick Syropoulos) dazzled the children with his cheerful Ho-ho-ho and bell. One by one little ones were excited to see him in the convertible, sit on his lap and get a candy cane. Mayfield elves Paul Hertzberg (driver) and Sarah Koser helped Santa with his young visitors, while parents took photos. For a moment it seemed 3400 Norman Avenue was transformed into the North Pole. Families huddled in a cozy gathering place under the covered walkway in front of the building for homemade cookies, hot chocolate, making donations to BARCs and stacking gifts for Toys for Tots. The steady snow created a holiday ambience as only Mother Nature could. Mayfield's Little Free Library made its debut and became a decorating project with colorful 'bookworms' added to the exterior.

A few days later many Mayfield residents gathered at Lake & Norman for the Caroling Fest around a fire and enough goodies to feed everyone. The Maryland State Boy Choir and their families joined us too. The music was magical and provided the perfect holiday

mood for community, camaraderie and celebration. The Holidays are a special time for all families, and Mayfield ups the fun through several special activities at the holidays. Did you notice the wreaths on the street poles and Lake Montebello walls? We decided to 'decorate' the neighborhood green spaces to complement what individual homeowners did to bring cheer to the season.

The Holiday decoration judges chose some award winning efforts. They will be asked to name a charity of their choice to receive a donation in their name for their recognition. (See below with the 2013 accolades)

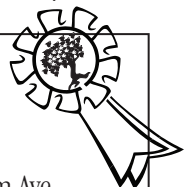
Thanks to Courtney & Jim Bartlett along with all wonderful volunteers for the Santa event along with our many cookie bakers; Laura Lee as well as Tom & Mary Rybczynski for the caroling event and for Stephanie Buttner, Janelle Cousino and Brian O'Day for decorating the neighborhood median light posts with wreaths. Mayfield displayed its holiday spirit.

You can see photos on all of these events on www.facebook.com/mayfield.update/ The Decisions of the Judges for Holiday Decoration are below.



Holiday Decorations

	<u>Best Door</u>	<u>Best House</u>	<u>Best Block</u>
First	2200 Lake Ave	2219-2221 Pelham Ave	2200 block Pelham Ave
Second	3411 Harford Road	2231 Chesterfield	2200 Block Kentucky Ave
Third		2208 Pelham Ave	



Playground Work Day this Spring

BethAnne Garcia announced that a Volunteers Work Session for the Playground will be held this spring, when the weather improves, "If it ever improves," she added.

Much needed fence repairs and some concrete work will be among the work needing volunteer help. The playground committee is aiming for April or May, when weather is more conducive to this outdoor project. Stay tuned for date and time to be determined. Committee members are looking for volunteers ready to help and will keep the little ones safe while in the playground.





Remembering Diane Jackson

The Mayfield community lost a wonderful resident last month. Diane Jackson lived on Pelham Ave. for more than 20 years and touched many with her kindness and friendship. Her 8 month battle fighting cancer was a challenging one and she did it with grace and courage. Diane was the beloved wife of Phil, devoted mom to Ryan, Jake, Martha and daughter-in-law Rachel Myers, and sister to her Foard family siblings.

Diane was always selflessly helping someone. She was a nurse at the Maryland School for the Blind, and also served in the volunteer position of parish nurse at St. Francis of Assisi. She sponsored blood pressure checks, held a health fair each year and also invited Mayfield

residents to come by for free screenings too. She personally dropped flyers at everyone's home in Mayfield to let them know. She volunteered in other ways for St. Francis of Assisi Church and the school too. She found the time to help coach her children's sports teams, and even hosted a foreign exchange student for a time. And somehow was an extraordinary devoted friend to so many.

Diane loved Halloween and was able to enjoy passing out candy alongside her Pelham Ave. neighbors last October even as she had more 'bad days' than good days by then. We will miss Diane. We will miss seeing her walking around Mayfield with her German Short-haired Pointer, Xander. We offer our sincerest sympathies to Phil and the entire Jackson family on the loss of Diane. She will never be forgotten by those of us in Mayfield that knew her. *May she rest in peace.*

Mayfield – History Corner

The bells ring reliably around 9:30 on Sunday. It has musically embraced Mayfield for many decades. The carillon tower stands guard of the building that was known as the Cathedral of St. Matthew United Church of Christ until the Maryland State Boychoir Center bought the building. Lucie Paulus interviewed in the spring for Mayfield News said "The bells would be one of the things I will truly miss most about Mayfield" as she prepared to move to an assisted living residence.

Turns out there is an interesting history of the church building and its carillon bells.

The St. Matthew's UCC congregation has served the spiritual and social needs of many Baltimore residents for over 150 years. The congregation was formed in Jonestown (near the Shot Tower in Baltimore) in 1852, breaking away from Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church to embrace both Lutheran and Reformed teachings. Following several moves, in 1928 the congregation bought a lot in the Mayfield neighborhood and hired Architects Riggins Buckler and G. Corner Fenhagen to prepare drawings for a new church. In 1929, due to financial constraints brought on by the Great Depression, the congregation decided to construct only the distinctive church tower, Sunday school building, and social hall. The carillon bell tower has a commanding presence that residents remember fondly. The joyous Easter music, the traditional Christmas hymns and an oft played "Morning Has Broken," all sound very special and solemn as the bells play the musical score. (An aside – The tune of *Morning Has Broken* and several other Christian hymns is a traditional Gaelic tune known as "Bunessan". Some of us probably remember Morning Has Broken as a Cat Steven's recording!)

The traditional church bells evoke the charm of the one-liner Mayfield uses to self-describe the neighborhood – "A Hamlet in the

Heart of Town." But it was surprising to learn that the bells in the carillon tower at 3400 Norman Avenue have an inscription in German, which says, "25 hundred weight of this metal is from captured French Cannons given by the German Kaiser Wilhelm to the St. Matthew Congregation, 1874," They had been relocated from an earlier church building in 1871 on Central Avenue and Fayette Street.

The congregation's Mayfield history of services began in the social hall on Christmas Day, 1929, and by 1951 the cornerstone of the newly constructed church was put in place. The sanctuary was completed with supervision from architect Harold Wagner of Philadelphia, who closely followed the original designs of Buckler & Fenhagen. The building of St. Matthew United Church of Christ contributes to Mayfield's Historic Neighborhood Designation on the National Register of Historic Neighborhoods. The sanctuary has a Tiffany Rose Window of stained glass that is also considered an historic landmark. Maryland State Boy Choir now owns the building and has invested over \$1M in maintenance, renovations and remodeling. The St. Matthew's Congregation uses the facility for their worship community.

Baltimore's Commission on Historic & Architectural Preservation (CHAP) lists the property at 3400 Norman Avenue/2320 Mayfield Avenue as an historic site as ST. MATTHEW UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST. 1929 Architects – Buckler & Fenhagen; 1951 Architect Harold Wagner. Established by Baltimore City Ordinance 07-403 on 03/19/2007.

Have you ever wondered why Baltimore City College building resembles St. Matthew's Cathedral, now known as the Maryland State BoyChoir Center for the Performing Arts?

The answer to this question will be in the last page of this issue of Mayfield News.

SALUTE TO MAYFIELD VOLUNTEERS 2013 THANK YOU

Mayfield Fall Fest 2013

Gary Rahman – event chair
Paul White, Laura Cohen
Stephanie & Dave Buttner
Janelle Cousino, J. Brian O'Day
Dave Henry, Betty Ciesla
Jan Shipley, Amy Kelly, Mindy Dingle
Heidi Knight, Claire Banks
Sarah Koser, Marisa Schleiter, ,
Sherry Insley, BethAnne Garcia & mom,
Laura & Jason Lee, Liz van Amerongen
Courtney & Jim Bartlett
Julia MacDonald, Paul Hertzberg
Tom Rybczynski, Deborah Mason
Shawn Dingle, JoAnn Trach Tongson, Lito Tongson,
Paul Ricciuti, Kimberleigh Eagleston
John Kovacevich –stage, tents, tables, sound

Newsletter Production and Distribution 2012

Marisa Schleiter – graphics and layout
Nina Tou – special projects graphics support
Janelle Cousino – Editor

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
Courtney Bartlett, The Voos Family

Block Party July 2013/Unblock party

Stephanie Buttner & Courtney Bartlett – co chairs
Dave Buttner, Betty Frech, Theo Karpovich, JoAnn Trach
Tongson, Lito Tongson, Kathryn Parke, Shawn Dingle &
Mindy Dingle, Deb Dalton, Angie Battaglia, Liz van
Amerongen, Vanessa Bennett, Emily Chalmers, Paul
Hertzberg & Julia McDonald, Cindy Henry,
BethAnne & Andy Garcia, Sherry Insley,
Janelle Cousino, Brian O'Day
And All Bake Sale contributors too numerous to list

Playground committee

BethAnne Garcia, Chair
Heidi Knight
Sarah McKenzie
Courtney & Jim Bartlett
Sherry Insley
Sarah and Jeremy Koser
Marisa Schleiter, Clare Banks
Jason Calder, Stephen Reichert

All Greening Activities, including

*Tree-mendous Mayfield & Lake Montebello median,
2013 Daffodils; Walls at Lake Montebello*
JoAnn Trach Tongson, Chair
Lito Tongson
Gazaway Family
Jim & Ben Bartlett,
Kathie Groenwald,
Stephanie Buttner,
Gerard Waldt
Julia McDonald & Paul Hertzberg
Jack Frech,
Tim Schneid
Betty Ciesla, Emily Chalmers
Tom Rybczynski, Paul Riccuiuti,
Janelle Cousino, Liz van Amerongen
Deborah and John Mason
Jan Shipley, Theodore Clarke,
Baltimore TreeKeepers – Debbie Veystyk & Doug MacLean.
Parks & People supported work on the
Lake Montebello median

Children's Holiday Parties -- Easter, Santa event

Courtney Bartlett & Jim Bartlett, Mindy Dingle, BethAnne
Garcia, Marisa Schleiter, Sherry Insley, Nick Syropoulos
(Santa); Sarah Koser, Paul Hertzberg

Mayfield Northeast Citizens On Patrol & Northeast Police Relations liaison meetings;

Shawn Dingle, Stephanie Buttner, Marichi Capino.
Dale Lee & Lester Adams, New Covenant Tabernacle

Website and Communications

Brian Baughn- Webmaster
Janelle Cousino – communications and content

Youth Community Service Committee

BethAnne Garcia, Courtney Bartlett, JoAnn Trach Tongson

New Resident Welcome Reception 2013

Julia McDonald & Paul Hertzberg – Hosts

Volunteer Thank you Dinner 2013

Gary & Callie Rahman – Hosts

Christmas Caroling Event

Laura Lee (chair)
Tom & Mary Rybczynski, Betty Ciesla
Maryland State Boy Choir
Courtney Bartlett, Stephanie Buttner, Jack Frech

Miscellaneous Roles

Legal advisors – Gerard Vetter, Stephen Reichert

Welcome Bags – Angie Battaglia

Little Free Library – Sherry Insley, curator

Harford Road Community Review Panel

JoAnn Trach Tongson, Janelle Cousino

Tree Stewards – Jack Frech; Vernon Jett

Friends of Clifton Park & Traffic Calming; Liaison Harford Road JoAnn Trach Tongson

Board and Officers May 2012 -2014

Stephanie Buttner – President

Courtney Bartlett – Vice President

Janelle Cousino – Secretary

Julia McDonald – Treasurer

Shawn Dingle

BethAnne Garcia

Sherry Insley

Laura Green Lee

Gary Rahman

Tim Schneid

JoAnn Trach Tongson

The Board of Mayfield wants to give special thanks to

St. Francis of Assisi Church and School and Principal

Rebecca Malone; Pastor – Msgr. William Burke,

New Covenant Tabernacle; Pastors – Tom & Rosalind Schwind.

Maryland State Boy Choir – Stephen Holmes & Frank

Cimino for their willingness to host meetings and events

And

Councilperson Mary Pat Clarke for her help on so many projects. Councilperson Robert Curran for his assistance as always. Major Richard Worley, Lt Chris Tserkis and the Community Relations team for Northeast Police District, HARBEL – Naomi Benyowitz, Sharon Crist, and special thanks to Mike Hilliard of HARBEL, Hamilton Lauraville Main Street’s Regina Lansinger.



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 2013. Thank you.

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

Block Captains

Co Chairs

Angie Battaglia &

Janelle Cousino

Dave Henry

David Lower & Leon Vanasse

Mary Anne Dresler

Vanessa Bennett

Kathy Vetter

Paul Ricciutti

Robert Pettis

Barbara Waldt

Kathryn Parke

Debbie Veystrk

Betty Robinson

Tanya Mehri

Andy Bukovitz

Betty Frech

Elaine Smith

And thanks to Ted Van Pelt; hosting security meeting for the lakeside of Mayfield



Thank You!

Calendar

Check www.mayfieldassociation.org and mayfieldupdate@gmail.com for updated calendar between scheduled newsletter distributions and other events worth noting.

Board Meetings – 3rd Thursday of the month

Greening days for Spring – when weather breaks. TBD.

Mar 22 – **Spring Fling**, 7 p.m.

Apr 12 – **Easter Bunny & Egg Hunt**

Apr 22 – **Earth Day Tree Planting**

Apr TBD – **Shred It Day**

May 10 – **Friends of Mothers’ Garden, Mother’s Day Event**

May 15 – **Mayfield General Membership Meeting, Location TBD**

Jun 9 – **Directory Contact info and directory advertising for inclusion in 2014 directory**

Jun 16 – **Youth Community Service Essay Deadline, 6 p.m.**

July 11 – **Mayfield’s 50th Annual Summer Block Party and Homecoming**, 3400 Norman Avenue median and around the Maryland State Boychoir Center

Answer to the Question in the Carillon article:
The Baltimore City College and St. Matthew’s Cathedral had the same architects.

Mayfield Improvement Association

Officers

President – Stephanie Buttner
mayfieldpresident@gmail.com

Vice President – Courtney Bartlett

Secretary – Janelle Cousino

Treasurer – Julia McDonald

Board Members

Shawn Dingle

BethAnne Garcia

Sherry Insley

Laura G Lee

Gary Rahman

Tim Schneid

JoAnn Trach Tongson

Committee & Project Leaders

Fall Fest – Gary Rahman

Welcome Baskets – Angie Battaglia

Communications [Newsletter, Listserve, etc] – Janelle Cousino

Webmaster – Brian Baughn

Newsletter layout/design – Marisa Schleiter

Traffic, Harford Road, Greening and Beautification – JoAnn Trach Tongson

Housing – Gary Rahman

Children’s Activities – BethAnne Garcia

Spring Fling – Courtney Bartlett & committee

Youth Community Service Award, – Courtney Bartlett, BethAnne Garcia, JoAnn Trach Tongson

Graphic Design Special Projects – Nina Tou

Directory – Julia McDonald (data), Marisa Schleiter (design/layout)

All committees are open to more volunteers. Send an email of interest to mayfieldupdate@gmail.com to let board know you are interested in helping.

All board meetings are open. If you’d like to attend, we ask you let the President know so that the host of the meeting can make adequate arrangements. Interested in volunteering for a committee? Email mayfieldupdate@gmail.com to let us know. There are many ways to volunteer for Mayfield.

Have a question or want to be on the mayfield listserves? Send an email to Mayfieldupdate@gmail.com



Link to Mayfield Policy for Zoning

Variance Requests

www.mayfieldassociation.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=2&Itemid=7

Link to City Zoning Regulations

Residents who have questions about fencing, signs, home improvements or other issues regulated by city zoning codes can log onto this website for answers:

www.ci.baltimore.md.us/government/legislature/zoning

Northeastern District Police

410-396-2444

Northeastern District Police Community Relations

410-889-6449 (Non-emergency number)

When to call 911: When to call 311

Mayfieldupdate has had a few questions over the past several months about ‘when should we call 311 or call 911?’ Rule of thumb: If you’re afraid or see a dangerous situation or suspicious group, and want the police to come, call 911. Police have asked us to make a mental note of distinctive clothing, especially shoes, that anyone you believe is out to make trouble or steal, and note the direction they were going when you report it on 911.

Call 911 when...

- You have an emergency
- You want police to respond
- You see a situation that makes you concerned for a person or property.
- When a group of individuals seem to be looking for trouble: trying car door handles, garage doors, in people’s yards that aren’t theirs.
- Moving inexplicable, suspicious items (copper pipes, downspouts, to name just a few).
- When a group of 2 or more are acting like they are looking for trouble (a victim to rob, acting indecisive and/or changing direction for no apparent reason and looking for ‘something’.
- A suspicious car ‘waiting’ for someone, but no one is seen.

Call 311 when...

- You want to report and request a city service
- Graffiti removal
- Pothole
- Street light out or broken
- Damaged sidewalk
- Downed tree or limb.
- Register a new tree planting
- Flooded Street
- Storm Drain or inlet blocked
- Water leak - exterior
- Sign missing or damaged
- Abandoned vehicle
- Aggressive animal
- Dead animal pickup
- And more.....

You can get the Baltimore 311 app for your smart phone from either Apple App Store or Google Play Store. It is a free app. It will make reporting your 311 request very easy.