

T H E MAYFIELD NEWSLETTER

A HAMLET IN THE HEART OF TOWN

AUTUMN 2010

.....
**MAYFIELD
GENERAL
MEETING**
OCT 21ST 7:15 PM
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH HALL
.....

Please give a warm welcome to our Special Guests:

- Council President Jack Young
- Rebecca Malone, Principal at St. Francis of Assisi School

Come discuss issues facing Baltimore, Northeast neighborhoods and Mayfield

Updates on streets, signs, parks and community events



Mark your calendars! FALL FEST is OCTOBER 2 – Live Music will fill Lake Montebello and Mayfield on Saturday, Oct 2 from 3 – 7. Crafts vendors, variety of food and beverages, fun for the kids will be featured of our first Mayfield FALL FEST. Event chair, Gary Rahman and his team of volunteers have been

recruiting vendors and putting all this in motion. MAYFIELD HAS TALENT – LOTS of it! Music and artists from Mayfield along with others will be Fall Fest. Children’s activities will be offered from 3 – 5 p.m. Families will enjoy the interactive, creative fun planned. When was the last time you did a craft project?

Mayfield volunteers worked hard and tried to debut this wonderful event last year, but an unwelcome hurricane and a ferocious Nor’easter storm dumped a wallop of rain and cold on our Fall party on 2 consecutive weekends! That painful, disappointing experience made us resolve to 1) try this Fall Fest again in 2010 and 2) to set a rain date in advance ‘just in case.’ October 9 is the rain date for Fall Fest—same place, same time—just a week later. Mayfield is grateful to Harbel and to Baltimore Community Foundation for their financial support to help make this event possible.

Fall Fest will feature the baked good table with goodies made by Mayfield neighbors and will have a dessert contest. Make kind of dessert you’d like to enter, but the ingredients should be Fall Favorites either pumpkin or apples. To enter the dessert contest, bring your entry to the Mayfield table at Fall Fest by 3:30 p.m. and mark your name and phone number on the dessert entry. Baked good donors, make things that people will want to eat right away or take home for the family dinner. Just think of the possibilities: pies, cakes, brownies, cookies, muffins, tarts, gallettes, quick breads, candies, pastries. Enter your best dessert. Prize for the best in each category – Pumpkin or Apple. Be a part of the fun.

To volunteer or to get more information on Fall Fest, send an email to mayfieldupdate@gmail.com (We need people for many assignments, such as serve beverages, work the bake table, check IDs for adult beverages, and other assignments.)

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[www.mayfieldassociation.org](http://www.mayfieldassociation.org)

# ..... The President's Letter .....

Don't you just love Fall? It is my favorite time of year. Back to school excitement, hope for Ravens success, or a favorite college team; cool, crisp days and nights (lower utility bills for awhile) and tree foliage in spectacular red, yellow and orange, and this year we get an election season to keep us engaged besides.

Mayfield has a fun kickoff for the season with Mayfield Fall Fest by Lake Montebello. Put October 2 from 3 -7 p.m. on your calendars because it will be as fun as the block party, but with some distinct differences. We are recruiting vendors to sell food, crafts, art and other products. Several talented professional musicians in Mayfield have agreed to perform at this event. Some traditional Mayfield items like the beer/wine, baked good tables and children's activities will be run by Mayfield Association so that we make some income to cover the expenses of the event. PLEASE make some baked treats for the bake table. Enter the contest for either Apple or Pumpkin desserts. Any kind of dessert will do for the competition as long as apple or pumpkin is an ingredient. Of course we could use volunteer help for this event. It will be a fun day on the Lake Montebello side of Mayfield. Our huge thanks to Harbel and the Baltimore Community Foundation for supporting

the Fall Fest with a grant to cover some of the event's expenses.

The Mayfield General Membership meeting will be October 21 at St. Francis of Assisi church hall at 7:15. Our very special guests are Baltimore City Council President Jack Young and Rebecca Malone, the NEW principal at St. Francis of Assisi School. We have other business too – on Mayfield streets and signage, on use of the park, on the sign for Mayfield among others.

I've had various repairmen out to fix this or fix that appliance in the past few months. Each of them when leaving make a point of telling me what a nice neighborhood Mayfield is. I tell them "it's a great place to live and we are working hard to keep it the engaged community that it is." If you're being kind to your neighbors, vigilant for your block, supportive of the community and invested in Mayfield's future, then we have a sure fire recipe for community success. Let's do what we can to continue Mayfield's 'hamlet in the heart of town' character.

Join us at Fall Fest and enjoy Autumn's glory!

*-Janelle Cousino, President,  
Mayfield Improvement Association*

## SHRED IT

Got financial papers that need to be shredded for safe disposal? For the Mayor's Clean Up Day and everyone's concerns for security of our identity and finances, Mayfield will be making arrangements for a truck that does on-site shredding to take your sensitive documents and shred them right here in Mayfield. Not sure why to shred? Here is information on protecting against identity theft, go to: <http://www.ncpc.org/cms/cms-upload/prevent/files/IDtheftrev.pdf> Need to know what to keep and what to save? Here's advice from IRS on what documents should be kept and for how long at this web location <http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=215803,00.html>

**What:** Mayfield CLEAN UP and SHRED IT Day

**When:** Saturday, October 23rd, we'll announce the time of this through [mayfieldupdate@gmail.com](mailto:mayfieldupdate@gmail.com) and through community signs.

**Where:** Paul and Julia have offered that their driveway for the Shred It day activity – 2201 Mayfield Avenue. You will need to bring your materials to their home on that day before the truck gets there.

## Meeting with City Department of Transportation

In August Councilwoman Mary Pat Clarke hosted all the neighborhoods that are part of her district to meet with the Director of the Department of Transportation, Khalil A Zaied. He brought all of the department heads with him. We discussed neighborhood concerns of street repair, bridge, parking enforcement, planning, policy and snow removal. JoAnn Trach Tongson and Janelle Cousino represented Mayfield and discussed with several department representatives the problems and possible solutions Mayfield had for improving traffic calming, stopping cut-through traffic and the upcoming plans for the bridge on Harford Road rebuilding.

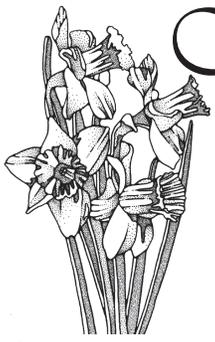
## Haunted Playground

Back by popular demand. The Haunted Playground designers are already at work developing a creative, fun use of the play lot for Halloween ghouls and goblins, angels and demons, superheroes and roes and storybook characters. Halloween is a Sunday this year. Jim Bartlett



and Lloyd Pflug need help with development and set up. Who will be the Halloween Helpers to make the 2010 version an even bigger SPOOKTACULAR. Contact Jim Bartlett at [jb@bartlett.bz](mailto:jb@bartlett.bz) to volunteer or get more information.

**Harbel Turns 40 this Year** Harbel, the neighborhood services organization that covers Mayfield, is celebrating an important anniversary and marking 10 years of Northeast Citizens On Patrol (NECOP). You can join in the celebration. This special party on Sunday, October 24th from 2 – 6 at Columbus Gardens 4301 Klosterman Avenue, Baltimore, 21236. The Honorable John Carroll Byrnes and Chairman Emeritus of the Baltimore Historical Society will be the special guest speaker. Tickets are \$40.00. Call 410-444-2100 for more information.



# Mothers' Garden

One of the perks of living in Mayfield is its close proximity to some of Baltimore's finest parks and recreation areas. Most of us are well aware of Herring Run Park, Lake Montebello and Clifton Golf Course, but have you heard of Mothers' Garden? Mothers' Garden is not just the backdrop for the number 22 bus stop. Mothers' Garden is an historic community garden located at the Northeast corner of Clifton Park. The park was originally a feature of Johns Hopkins 500 acre Clifton estate. In 1926, about 50 years after Hopkins' death, the nearly three acre site was established as a public park dedicated to the Mothers of Baltimore.

In its heyday, during the early part of the 20th century, the park was a meeting place for friends and family, a setting for formal photos, and a play site for children. At one time the Garden had a freshwater "stream" (actually a long curving koi pond) that ran under a foot bridge constructed of stone. Children and teens would pack their fishing poles (sticks tied with string) to "fish" off of the bridge at the Garden. Manicured garden beds and decorative bird baths were also placed throughout the park.

After years of decline, Mothers' Garden was rehabilitated in 1984 and rededicated by Gov-

ernor Donald Schaeffer to his mother, Tululu Irene Schaefer. Though many of those repairs and improvements remain, the march of time over the past 16 years has again taken its toll, and the park is in poor condition.

In August 2010, volunteers from Mayfield met with representatives of the Baltimore City Recreation and Parks (BCRP) Department to discuss a new partnership between the City and the neighborhood to repair, restore and conserve Mothers' Garden. A small group of volunteers has started work to clear the flagstone steps and walkways, and plans have been made to coordinate ongoing restoration with the BCRP stone mason, arborist, horticulturist and maintenance manager.

I encourage all Mayfield neighbors to take a stroll through Mothers' Garden and see its historic beauty and imagine its future potential. Mayfield featured Mothers' Garden in its 2007 House & Garden Tour. It is a beautiful hidden gem. If you have old pictures or recollections of the garden, or are interested in how you can help, we would love to hear from you. Please visit the Friends Of Mothers' Garden table at the upcoming Fall Fest. You may also visit the new Friends of Mothers' Garden Facebook page online, or contact Jim Bartlett (jb@bartlett.bz) for more information.

## The Maryland State Boychoir

What a privilege it is to share the wonderful neighborhood of Mayfield with you! As you may know, the primary goal of The Maryland State Boychoir's program of musical education is to instill and foster in each boy a love of music by training him in the demanding art of choral singing. We are now holding auditions for boys ages 7 to 17. If you know a boy who loves to sing, we invite you to call us for more information. In the meantime, we look forward to seeing our neighbors at one (or all!) of our upcoming events.

- **Sunday, Oct. 3, 2010 – 2:30 P.M.**  
Fall Concert and Spaghetti Supper  
MSB Center for the Arts  
Tickets: \$15 for both concert and dinner
- **Saturday, Nov. 13, 2010 – 7:00 P.M.**  
MSB Gala  
MSB Center for the Arts  
Come celebrate with us as we toast our Founder, Frank Cimino.  
Tickets: \$75.00 per person
- **Sunday, Dec. 12, 2010 – 4:00 P.M.**
- **Saturday, Dec. 18, 2010 – 7:00 P.M.**
- **Sunday, Dec. 19, 2010 – 4:00 P.M.**  
Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols  
MSB Center for the Arts

# LOOK WHO'S 25!

One of Mayfield's neighborhood restaurants, Koco's Pub (4301 Harford Road) just celebrated their 25th anniversary! It's hard to believe they used to be a dark, smokey



bar with great crab cakes and burgers. They've come a long way since their inception. Don't worry, they still have great crab cakes and burgers, but they've also been recognized for their fish 'n chips, wings, and ribs. The pool tables have been replaced with a kid's corner and more seating in their bright dining room. And tuna/salmon filets and vegetables are making a regular appearance on their special board. Just like when they opened, Joanna Kocovinos is still adding love to every crab cake she makes, and her daughter Marcella Knight is still the smiling face behind the bar. But the plastic silverware has been replaced with "real" metal silverware, and the styrofoam plates and carry-out containers clogging the landfills won't come from Koco's. They are now using compostable materials. Their green efforts actually started several years ago when they began recycling all of their bottles, cans, plastic and cardboard.

One of my favorite things about living in Mayfield is the close availability of great quality, family-owned restaurants. Koco's definitely falls into that category. And they give back to their neighbors by supporting fundraisers at St. Francis, entering a pack in the SPCA Animal Walk, and participating in the Moveable Feast and in the Herring Run Park Clean-up days, among other things. And they are going to share their 25th year celebration with the community by offering their crab cake platter for \$19.85 (the year they were founded) for an entire week. The date has not yet been determined, so keep checking their website (www.kocopub.com). I hope Koco's is around for another 25 years!

- Deb Barrow, 3623 Crossland Ave

# Calendar

You can check the calendar on  
[www.mayfieldassociation.org](http://www.mayfieldassociation.org)

Sept 25th Yard Sale, 9a.m.-1p.m. ; Rain date  
 Sept 26th, 1p.m.-5p.m.

Oct 2nd — **Mayfield's Fall Fest**, 3p.m.-7p.m. at  
 Lake Montello Drive between Erdman and Lake  
 Avenue in view of the Lake; Rain date Oct 9th

Oct 21st — General Membership Meeting,  
 7:15 p.m. St. Francis of Assisi Church Hall

Oct 23rd — Mayor's CLEAN UP & Mayfield SHRED  
 IT Day - Mayfield projects to be announced via  
 listserve

Nov 18th — Mayfield Board meeting, Location to  
 be announced

Dec 20th — Holiday Decorating Judging

Dec 20th — Tentatively Scheduled - Hot Sounds:  
 Carolling and hot beverages "on the median" at  
 Norman and Lake Avenue

Jan 20th — Mayfield Board meeting, Location to  
 be announced



## Mayfield Improvement Association

### Officers

President — Janelle Cousino  
[mayfieldboard@gmail.com](mailto:mayfieldboard@gmail.com)  
 Vice President — Stephanie Buttner  
 Secretary — JoAnn Trach Tongson  
 Treasurer — Julia McDonald

### Board Members

Gary Rahman  
 Tim Schneid  
 George Frazier  
 Emily Chalmers  
 Courtney & Jim Bartlett (share)

### Committee & Project Leaders

Housing — Gary Rahman  
 Greening — JoAnn Trach Tongson  
 Welcome Baskets & Yard Sale — Stephanie Buttner  
 Kids Parties & Haunted Playground —  
 Courtney & Jim Bartlett  
 Playground Committee — Martha Anderson  
 Block Party — Maria Lukianczuk  
 Fall Fest - Gary Rahman  
 Herring Run Master Plan and Harford  
 Road Bridge liaison — George Frazier  
 Communications (Mayfield listserves;  
 newsletter copy) — Janelle Cousino  
 Newsletter graphics and layout — Marisa Schleiter  
 Webmaster — Brian Baughn

### Mayfield needs:

- House & Garden Tour coordinators;
- NOGLI Board representative;
- Editor - Mayfield News (and/or contribu-  
 tors) ideally starting with the Winter issue  
 of Mayfield News. Attendance at board  
 meetings is desirable;
- Newsletter Delivery Team - two more  
 volunteers needed;

All board meetings are open. If you'd like to at-  
 tend, 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](mailto: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](mailto:Mayfieldupdate@gmail.com)



### Link to City Zoning Regulations

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

[www.ci.baltimore.md.us/government/legisla-  
 ture/zoning](http://www.ci.baltimore.md.us/government/legisla-<br/>
  ture/zoning)

### Northeastern District Police

410-396-2444

### Northeastern District Police Community Relations

410-889-6449 (Non-emergency number)

## Crime Statistics

Technology has made access to some  
 information much easier in recent years.  
 The Baltimore City Police Department has  
 a searchable map program that will display  
 crime in a neighborhood. It has information  
 stored for the past 90 days and can give you 2  
 weeks of data. Visit the website at [http://www.  
 baltimorepolice.org](http://www.baltimorepolice.org). First select - your com-  
 munity, then crime map from the links and  
 selections provided. The screen will change  
 and allow you to select Mayfield from a pull  
 down screen. It then allows you to put in a  
 date and it will go up to 14 days forward. For  
 the search that was done for this newsletter,  
 data was available through Sept 4. A map  
 with symbols for the type of crimes reported

for the community will be indicated on the  
 map. Any search will only be for 14 days. You  
 can do your own search, but here's what Bal-  
 timore City police indicate:

### From August 9 to Sept 4, 2010

|   | Crime                | Streets                                  |
|---|----------------------|------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Burglary             | Burglary In Herring Run Park             |
| 2 | Stolen Vehicle       | Kenly Avenue                             |
| 3 | Larceny from vehicle | Mayfield Avenue                          |
| 4 | Larceny from vehicle | Crossland and Erdman                     |
| 5 | Larceny from vehicle | Harford Rd and LM entry/<br>Curran Drive |

Of course subscribers to [mayfieldm-  
 cgruff@gmail.com](mailto:mayfieldm-<br/>
  cgruff@gmail.com) - one of Mayfield list

serves, know about a daytime break in on  
 Chesterfield. Intruders entered from a cellar  
 access door and used brute force to break door  
 jamb and locks. Another home was burgled  
 along the same alley and entered from a rear  
 entrance. Check all entries, windows and eval-  
 uate for how they would withstand a heavy  
 push or heavy tool that would allow someone  
 to enter doors. Also consider removing shrubs  
 or other obstacles that give cover to intruders  
 to work on their illegal entry unseen. Mayfield  
 is a safe neighborhood, but we must protect  
 ourselves from the urban crime that may  
 come looking for something to pawn for cash.  
 It is just a fact. Let's make it harder to disrupt  
 life in our 'hamlet in the heart of town.'