



# T H E MAYFIELD NEWSLETTER

A HAMLET IN THE HEART OF TOWN

2015 Issue 2



To register to be included in directory of yard sales, and take advantage of the visibility and advertising work that will be done to support the Spring Sale, send an email, mark subject box: Spring Yard Sale – with your name/address and brief description of items for sale to [mayfieldupdate@gmail.com](mailto:mayfieldupdate@gmail.com)

To volunteer to help Carre Gibson, our Spring Yard Sale coordinator, with advertising, sign placement, balloons, flyers etc. contact her at [carre@bisonbison.com](mailto:carre@bisonbison.com)

## *The President's Letter*

Hello Neighbors!

What a joy it is to have the cold weather behind us. Much like the daffodils springing out of the ground so are our neighbors popping out of doors to spend more time outside. It is the time of year that we receive comments from neighbors regarding alley clean-ups, nearby park activities, and upcoming neighborhood events. There are many great activities that I encourage you to check out: Mayfield Spring Yard Sale (May 16th), St. Francis of Assisi Gong Show (May 22nd), the Friends of Mothers Garden annual Mothers Day celebration (May 9th), Maryland State Boychoir Festival concert (May 16th), and Herring Run guided hikes to name a few. There is definitely something for everyone! Details about these events, and many more, are shared in this newsletter and by email (Mayfield Update - [mayfieldupdate@gmail.com](mailto:mayfieldupdate@gmail.com)).

Looking ahead, please join us for the Mayfield General meeting to be held on Thursday May 21st at St. Francis of Assisi church hall. We will have guest speakers in attendance to discuss the Clifton Park Valve House project, the Harford Road bridge construction, and the 100th anniversary celebration of Lake Montebello's dedication service - complete with period costumes, live music, and even BOATS!!

My ambitious 7 year old daughter enjoys a challenging read before bed. This passage from her current selection is an appropriate closing: "Is the spring coming?" he said. "What is it like?" ... "It is the sun shining on the rain and the rain falling on the sunshine..." - Frances Hodgson Burnett, *The Secret Garden*

Stay well and spring on Mayfield!

*Courtney Bartlett*

*President, Mayfield Improvement Association*

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

**MAYFIELD GENERAL MEETING**  
**MAY 21ST 7:15 PM • ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH HALL**

Special Guests: Department of Transportation, Christopher Brown and Highlights of the 100th Anniversary of Montebello

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# 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

## MONTEBELLO WATER TREATMENT PLANT

### SAVE THE DATE 9/19/2015

*Baltimore residents came to Montebello to enjoy a day of celebration on September 13, 1915. Politicians, local residents and public health advocates recognized the accomplishments of scientists, city officials and engineers that masterminded the new modern Montebello Water Treatment Plant.*

A re-creation of that 1915 event for 100th anniversary of the Montebello Treatment plant #1 will be celebrated on September 19, 2015, but of course with many modern day twists added to the festivities. Most of the day's events will take place at Lake Montebello near the northwest gate building. There's lots of fun planned.

**1915 – Thousands came to the Montebello plant on September 13th.** They came to celebrate the healthy innovation, enjoy cups of fresh ice water and see the complex developed to provide clean water to Baltimore residents. Photos show that men wore

smart-looking straw 'boater' hats; women wore long skirts to the ankle and large sashes with bows in the back, fancy bonnets, and carried ruffled, parasols to block the sun. A time capsule was laid in the cornerstone. That time capsule will be opened and inspected. A new one for 2015 will be put in the structure.

#### **It was a very big day in 1915**

The Montebello Water Filtration Plant I in Baltimore is notable in several ways. Locally, as Baltimore's first water filtration plant, it was a significant accomplishment towards improving living conditions, and it was a cornerstone of Baltimore's modern water supply. With clean, treated water, it pretty much eliminated cholera in the Baltimore area. At the time of its completion, The Montebello Filtration Plant was the second largest of its type in the nation and the most modern. In addi-

tion, its attractive architectural design and landscaping was an ideal of the national "City Beautiful" movement, giving it national distinction. (Excerpted from the Historical Society of Baltimore County website)

**More... More... More**

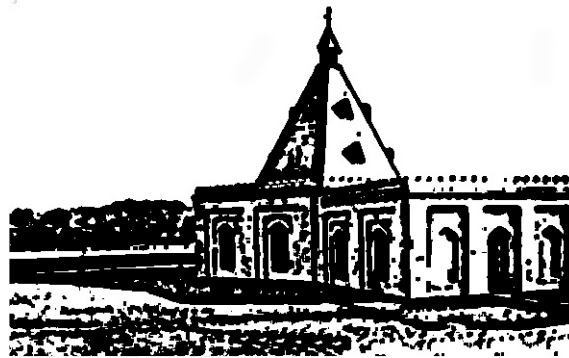
**2015 -- A Fun Day with Boats, Bikes, Food, Fun, History, Music and much more.**

The celebration on September 19th will highlight a fun mixture of live music, history, science and engineering, children's activities, family

recreation, music, and picnicking and community education. The story of clean water and how it happened in Baltimore along with contemporary relationship we have to Lake Montebello, the recreation lanes and the infrastructure for our dependable running water is all on tap for the celebration. Baltimore's Department of Public Works is working with a planning committee including all community groups near Lake Montebello, including Mayfield, CHM and

HARBEL, all city departments connected to Lake Montebello, Morgan State University, the Public Works Museum and the American Water Association, Baltimore City and Baltimore County Historical societies, The Fire Museum and the Gathering, the food truck rally and concert promotion organization. Fun for kids, bicycles for riding along the lake and for the first time ever – Kayaks and canoes for paddling on Lake Montebello. A very limited number of visitors will be able to sign up for a tour the treatment plant. Sept 19th at Lake Montebello will be the place to be!

(Mayfield's facebook page has photos from treatment plant tours given when we celebrated Lake Montebello's 130th birthday. [www.facebook.com/mayfield.update/](http://www.facebook.com/mayfield.update/) look under photos, then albums for Lake Montebello albums.)



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## FOMOPL – A new medicine?

No, FOMOPL stands for Friends of Maryland Olmsted Parks and Landscapes. They are sponsoring a tour of Clifton Park and Mothers' Garden, will be led by Eric Holcomb, Baltimore Commission on Historical and Architectural Preservation and author of THE book on History of Northeast Baltimore, as well as Jim Bartlett, President of Friends of Mothers' Garden. Join the tour. May 16, tickets \$15. Meet at Mothers' Garden at 9:45 am – 12:00 pm.

FOMOPL is also looking to preserve a design feature of Baltimore through city legislation, specifically Baltimore City Council Bill 14-0453 to designate the Olmsted Parkways—The Alameda, 33rd Street, and Gwynns Falls Parkway—as City Landmarks. For more than 100

years, these greenways connect the parks of Baltimore city, conceived by the Olmsted Brothers Landscape Architecture firm, have graced our urban landscape. Olmsted Brothers is the successor firm of the famed architect Frederick Law Olmsted, who designed New York's Central Park. 33rd Street, Alameda, and Norman Avenue were either specifically designed or inspired by the Olmsted firm's vision for Baltimore's park connections by ribbons of green and trees to beautify the city. Council members Mary Pat Clarke and Nick Mosby have introduced an ordinance to declare these greenways – City Landmarks.

Want more history on this topic? Check out:

<http://www.olmstedmaryland.org/history/the-olmsteds-and-baltimores-parkway-heritage/>

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# Did you know?

- Here's a fascinating aerial look at Mayfield from above in 1927. See what street had a different name! A few streets and important buildings didn't exist at all. Take a look! [http://mdhistory.net/bca\\_brg47\\_39/bca\\_brg47\\_39\\_1/pdf/brg47\\_39\\_1-0038.pdf](http://mdhistory.net/bca_brg47_39/bca_brg47_39_1/pdf/brg47_39_1-0038.pdf)

- Did you know that there used to be a golf putting green in Herring Run Park on the Mayfield side of the Herring Run?

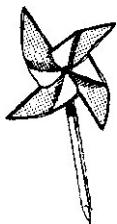
## Recollections from life-long Mayfield resident, Jack Frech.

"About 65 years ago there were spots where either a golf green or a tee once was active. I remember two. One was at Norman and Chesterfield, where the soft ball diamond was until recently. The other was more in the middle of the park. I think this one disappeared when the big eight foot diameter water tunnel was laid underground from near the Lake Montebello pump house to under the park, under the hill on the Crossland side to 'where' I don't know. That big pipe was put in about 60 some years ago. Construction took a huge chunk of trees off of the hill. Trees eventually filled the void. During construction several 'bad boy' friends and I ran through the pipe from near the pump house to who-knows-where....? It was a long, fun run." - John Frech

*Note the water tunnel runs all the way to the Susquebanna River as a back-up source of water for the Baltimore Water system.*

- **Hall Springs** – Harford Road Bridge construction work will leave Hall Springs not accessible for duration of construction. A meeting at Ray of Hope Church with Baltimore City Recreation and Parks planners had a variety of opinions at odds with the plan that had been approved by Planning Department. Representatives of some communities and Friends of Herring Run Park were not in favor of re-positioning the entry to *Hall Springs* picnic/playground area from Harford Road before the bridge work was started. With that leeway, BCRP's planner will revise the timetable for work at Hall Springs, but this will mean Hall Springs is not accessible to picnickers and playground goes for approximately 30 months once Bridge work commences. Documents on this are on the Friends of Herring Run Parks Website – www. <http://thefhrp.org>

- **The Windmills at 32nd Street** Just in case you were wondering the windmills at 32nd and Harford Road are not missing in action. They will be back soon and most will be fitted with a wind generator to make the windmills power a light. This 'gateway park' will be landscaped with native plants and managed by Civic Works, thanks to a grant received from the Chesapeake Bay Trust to support the project.



- Regina Lansinger, Director of Hamilton Lauraville Main Street, looks forward to the 2015 opening of the **Lauraville**

(Tuesday) **Farmers Market** at 4500 Harford Road. This Tuesday market returns to operation on **June 2nd from 4 – 8 p.m.** Get dinner at Chef Mac's or Green Onion or another food vendor and stay to eat it. And buy fresh food and baked goods, other prepared food for take-home. You might try the hula hoops or see an owl or hear a local band. Lots in store for Tuesdays in Northeast Baltimore. You will find handmade and interesting creations for sale as well. It's where to be on Tuesday evening!



- For keeping our stuff – **Engraving pen** – Baltimore City police offered to loan to residents an engraving pen in order to label items like lawn mowers, bicycles, snow blowers, and other items, motorized weed/lawn edge-trimmers that might get stolen. Use your Maryland Driver's License number and Police can find you to return the property, if the item is found during the police investigation. How do you reserve it? Write to Officer Joseph Banks, ([Joseph.banks@baltimorepolice.org](mailto:Joseph.banks@baltimorepolice.org)) at the Northeast District and borrow it for a day. Your Maryland ID is held as collateral and given back when the engraving pen is returned.

- **51st Annual Block Party 2015** - Friday, July 10th. Save the Fun, food & fabulous! Traditional summer fun, food and music along with excitement for kids, white elephant, plants, bake sale and cupcake contest. Have a suggestion for Block Party fun or want to volunteer to help set up, staff a booth or serve in some other capacity? Contact Stephanie Buttner – [sbuttner@yahoo.com](mailto:sbuttner@yahoo.com)

- **Announcing Spring Shred it Day!** May 15th Bring items to 2201 Mayfield Avenue by 12:30 to the carport area off the driveway. Shredding will be supervised by Mayfield volunteers. Cardboard boxes or Clear plastic bags only; No opaque trash bags, and no trash; no recycling should be mixed in. Check contents before you leave home to make sure it is only 'shredding' papers/cardboard.



- Dave Henry is going to be taking over **Welcome Basket/bag** role. He looks forward to meeting the new neighbors that move into our community. If you know of a new resident, please contact [mayfieldupdte@gmail.com](mailto:mayfieldupdte@gmail.com) so that the welcome gifts can be delivered to them and get them acclimated to all that the neighborhood has to offer.

- **50 years of St. Francis of Assisi School** – Sept 12, 1955 was the first day for SFA School. Is there anyone in Mayfield that was in that first day of class? Mayfield News wants to interview you for our next issue! Contact [mayfieldupdate@gmail.com](mailto:mayfieldupdate@gmail.com) or call 443-794-5596.





# Q&A

## Laura Cohen Inspires Mayfield Mosaic Project

Laura is a Mayfield resident who lives on Lake Montebello Terrace. She conceived of and received funding for the Mosaic Stepping Stone project. Community members were able to set tiles at Mayfield's Fall Fest 2013 and our Summer Block Party 2014.

Q. *What inspired you to initiate the Mosaic Stepping Stone project?*

A. I have been a community artist, organizer and educator in Baltimore for the past eight years and love using art as a vehicle for community building, self-expression and social change. As the Community Arts Director at Baltimore Clayworks, a ceramics-based non-profit in Baltimore, I have helped to bring high quality ceramics programming and projects to communities all over Baltimore city and county for over seven years. [www.baltimore-clayworks.org](http://www.baltimore-clayworks.org)

It was my pleasure and privilege to bring the work that I do to my own community. Mayfield, Lake Montebello and Northeast Baltimore is a vibrant, welcoming, active and creative community. In living on Lake Montebello Terrace, I see dozens upon dozens of people walk by my porch every day, walking from Harford Road to the lake loop. The area where the sidewalk ends to the street's edge is more often than not, muddy and sometimes tricky to walk on. Mosaic stepping stones were a great solution to making the path more stable, beautiful and to engage community.

Through Baltimore Clayworks we received a grant from PNC to create and install the stepping stones. I am thrilled to finally get them in the ground so folks can see them every day on their way to the lake (and those that worked on them can see the fruit of their labor and creativity).

Q. *Have you done something like this before?*

A. Over the past years through my work with Baltimore Clayworks and other entities, I have collaborated on, facilitated and led numerous public community arts projects, from stepping stones and mosaic murals to painted murals and community engagement projects.

Q. *Where are some of the public art projects around Baltimore?*

A. This summer, we'll be installing a 36'x3' mosaic mural in west Baltimore in Sandtown/Winchester/Upton on the corner of Pennsylvania and Presstman on the Harris-Marcus Center as well as a mosaic installation on the fountain on the opposite corner in collaboration with Jubilee Arts Center, a community arts center

offering arts to community [www.jubileeartsbaltimore.org](http://www.jubileeartsbaltimore.org) When all is said and done, over 200 people will have had their hands in these mosaic murals. Very exciting!

Q. *What is your academic and art background?*

A. I have my BS in Art Education from the University of Vermont and my MA in Community Arts from the Maryland Institute College of Art. I am an idea oriented artist and maker, working mostly in ceramics and love using art making as a vehicle for connection, overcoming intolerance, social change, community building and relationship development.

Q. *Have you always wanted to work as and with artists?*

A. I believe everyone has the capacity to make, get their hands dirty, be brave and try new things. I love the term maker rather than artist as I believe we all have capacity to make and create. Although I love creating, exploring, reflecting and connecting through art, my primary passion is relationship building, connection and striving for social change- art making is an amazing liaison for this. No matter who you are, your background, age, gender, race, etc- all of the things



that define and also can divide us, clay (and other arts) respond the same- we touch it, it moves. It's grounding, humbling and human.

Q. *Is there something about clay and tile that particularly attracted your interest?*

A. Absolutely. As I mentioned prior, clay is humbling, grounding and human. As a material from the earth with deep roots on human history throughout the world in so many different cultures, it connects us to our past, present and future. What we create and fire can and will outlive us. It captures and time and experience that we can reflect on our entire lives.

Clay is also a forgiving and tangible material which not only encourages us to be present but also keeps us accountable. We touch it, it moves. We let it dry too quickly and it cracks, we can add water, mix it up again and start over. I feel working with clay parallels working with people.

*continued*

## Q&A With Lauren Cohen, Mayfield Mosaic Project, continued

Q. *You were able to take a sabbatical last year. What was your purpose/focus of study and has it changed any of your thoughts on community art education and engagement?*

A. I had the privilege of taking 2.5 months last fall to explore ten cities and area of the country, researching how communities, organizations and people use the arts as a vehicle for social change in their communities. The experience reinforced and reenergized my practice and inspired me to take risks, try new things and rebuild a personal studio practice. I have an exhibition of my personal ceramic work in the Community Arts Gallery at Baltimore Clayworks opening May 15 from 6-8PM <http://baltimoreclayworks.org/exhibition/future.html#> and I kept and keep a blog of my findings and work, elsewhere and in Baltimore: <http://creativitycraftcommunitychange.tumblr.com/> I have a gallery talk of my sabbatical and personal work of my exhibition, Creativity, Craft, Community & Change on Tuesday, June 9 from 7-9PM at Baltimore Clayworks in Mt. Washington.

Q. *I understand you have another past-time. You brew your own home-made beer. How did you get into that?*

A. I have been brewing beer for over five years – I run a women's home brewing club called Lady Brew Baltimore, where women get together every other month a different members' houses and design recipes, brew beer, create labels and connect. For me, it's

another form of community arts and has cultivated a great group of women in Baltimore who love to make, connect and support a vibrant community. I started brewing beer after I finished graduate school years back – I felt the need to discover a new craft. [www.ladybrewbaltimore.com](http://www.ladybrewbaltimore.com)

Q. *What would you recommend to someone considering such a hobby?*

A. Give it a shot! Try it out and be brave – there are so many resources in the city for home brewing (especially over the last couple of years). Nepenthe Homebrew is a homebrew shop in Woodberry and they're accessible, welcoming and know a lot about beer. I am also happy to split a pint and talk about brewing any time.

Q. *Anything you would want your Mayfield neighbors to especially know about your work and/or the calendar of events at Baltimore Clay Works for 2015 and/or 2016?*

A. Check out the Baltimore Clayworks website, facebook page and sign up for our mailing list to hear of all of the great events, exhibitions and programs going on! Below are some upcoming events!

Clayworks' annual Gala Clay Bash is on May 2nd at Maryland Art Place <http://baltimoreclayworks.org/event/clayball.html>

Our next round of exhibitions opens Friday, May 15 from 6-8PM at Baltimore Clayworks in Mt. Washington <http://baltimoreclayworks.org/exhibition/future.html#>

## It is time to pay your 2015 dues!

Dues in Mayfield are only \$20 a year for households (or \$10 for households headed by someone 62 or older).

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Dues: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Voluntary Add'l: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Designated to\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make your check payable to: **Mayfield Improvement Association or M. I. A.**

Pre-Addressed Envelopes provided. Bring to any Mayfield meeting or sponsored event. OR Mail to Mayfield Treasurer, 2201 Mayfield Avenue, Baltimore 21213. Voluntary additional amounts for community project also accepted. If you are submitting cash, be sure to include the form above or include the info requested.

\*You may designate additional amounts to special efforts in Mayfield:

- Children's Programming and Playground Maintenance, and/or
- Youth Scholar Award, and/or
- Greening and Beautification efforts
- General Support

### Mayfield Directory

If you paid your dues, you receive the Mayfield Directory. If you're paying 2015 dues and don't have a directory yet, you can still get one. Pick one up at the May 21st general membership meeting at St. Francis of Assisi Church hall, or pick one up at the Summer Block Party on July 10th or make arrangements to get one at 2201 Mayfield Avenue. Write to [mayfieldupdate@gmail.com](mailto:mayfieldupdate@gmail.com) if you have a question on this.



Check [www.mayfieldassociation.org](http://www.mayfieldassociation.org) and [mayfieldupdate@gmail.com](mailto:mayfieldupdate@gmail.com) for updated calendar between scheduled newsletter distributions and other events worth noting.

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|----------|---|
| May 15   | Shred It Day  |
| May 16   | Mayfield Spring Yard Sale<br>(rain date 5/17)   |
| May 21   | Mayfield General Membership<br>Meeting, 7:15 p.m. at St. Francis<br>of Assis Church Hall      |
| June 22  | Mayfield Youth Scholar –<br>Community Vision Prize Entries<br>Due                             |
| July 10  | Mayfield Summer Block Party   |
| Sept TBD | Mayfield Fall Fest  |
| Septe 19 | Montebello Treatment Plant<br>100th Anniversary Event at Lake<br>Montebello, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. |
| Oct 15   | Mayfield General Membership<br>Meeting  |
| Oct TBD  | Halloween Children's Party  |
| Dec TBD  | Santa Event   |
| Dec TBD  | Caroling Event  |

Send an email of interest to [mayfieldupdate@gmail.com](mailto:mayfieldupdate@gmail.com) to let board know you are interested in helping.

410-889-6449 (Non-emergency number)

drive to: 2218 Lake Avenue or emailed to: mariglynn@gmail.com. File size limitations apply. See details on entry form for more instructions. Mark your subject line Mayfield Youth Prize.