



THE MAYFIELD NEWSLETTER

Mayfield Block Party

July 14, 2017

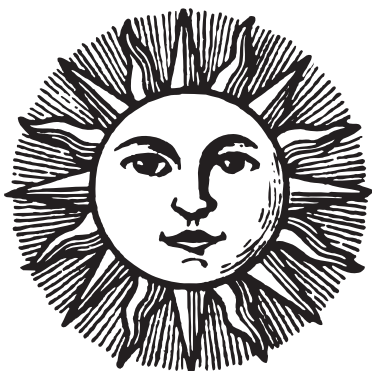
What: Fun for all, Laughs, Live music, food, drink, and other good things.

Where: Norman Avenue Green and grounds of 3400 Norman Avenue

When: July 14th; 6 – 10 p.m.
Kids: 6:30 Drain stencil/ chalk art; 7 p.m. performance.

Music til 10 p.m. Mayfield Best Cupcake Judging at 7:30; Bring cupcakes to the Baked Goods Table.

Want to volunteer? Name your preferred role by emailing:
mayfieldupdate@gmail.com



A Hamlet in the Heart of Town 2017 | Issue Two

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Neighbors,

Living at the corner of Erdman and Crossland Avenues, I have often contemplated the idea of purchasing a black and white checkered flag. It might help provide some semblance of order to the speed-filled free-for-all that makes our little community seem less a "hamlet in the heart of town" than "NASCAR on the Lake." This is not an exaggeration: a recent traffic study on Erdman confirmed that 95% of drivers on Erdman Avenue do not comply with the speed limit of 25 m.p.h. Let that sink in for a moment: 95% percent.

Residents on both Erdman and Crossland have been looking into solutions for the speeding on their streets. However, I think that it's important to have a comprehensive, Mayfield-wide response to the issue of our speeding for a variety of reasons. First, such a comprehensive plan is more likely to get a positive reception from the city than a piecemeal approach. Second, it allows the community to prevent solutions in one part of the neighborhood from becoming problems for other parts. Third, a Mayfield-wide committee would avoid duplication of effort. Fourth, a community committee would enable members from across the neighborhood to meet each other, exchange ideas, and strengthen the bonds that make Mayfield such a great place to live. Finally, it's possible that some of the traffic calming measures could be implemented before the bridge is closed, which could help prevent or soften some of the potential concerns raised by the community.

Happily, in 2010 the Board wrote a report on traffic calming. However, portions of the report have become out-of-date; for example, it does not reflect the plans currently in place for the bridge project. But it is a good starting point and an excellent resource to work with. Using this report, along with the excellent work already underway, we should be able to present

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www.mayfieldassociation.org



(continued from page 1)

reasonable, workable, and effective proposals.

If you are interested in taking part in the committee, please let me know. You can reach me through mayfieldupdate@gmail.com.

In the meantime, I have another proposition to help with the speed problem. A neighbor at the other end of Crossland put up signs admonishing people to "drive as if your kids live here." I think signs are a terrific idea, and I also think that we have quite a few witty people in Mayfield. I am therefore announcing the first-ever Mayfield "Slow the Heck Down" Sign Contest. Details will be published on the blog, list serve and Facebook, but the general idea is to submit slogans to a panel of judges by September 15; the best three slogans will be printed on signs that will be placed in strategic areas in the neighborhood. The winners will have "bragging rights" and recognition in a future newsletter and the next general meeting. Slogans must be respectful, with clean language, and directed at encouraging speed reduction (or, so intriguing that people slow down to read them!). Humor is always a plus!

Looking forward to the witty entries,

Deborah Mason,
President



BRIDGE OVER HERRING RUN

If you missed the Herring Run Bridge Replacement update meeting the DOT manager the project, Christopher Brown was informative and witty, honest and exasperated as needed. He attempted to answer the big question: **When is the bridge reconstruction going to start and why has it not already started?**

Chris Brown calmly provided the timeline of intervening events that have added time to the project start date. There are many factors that affect starting any project:

Chris pointed out that 11 of the many events required work before construction could begin:

- 1) Regulatory power of the State & Federal Highway Administrations have rules.
- 2) Decisions by private companies

like BGE to move a gas line and not to seek approval til a project reaches the 95% complete stage.

3) The negotiations with the city legal department on the cost of using a park easement for the gas line and price for BGE to get the right of way from Rec & Parks;

4) The time it takes for FHA/SHA approvals

5) Commission on Historic and Architectural Preservation (CHAP) requirement to keep the external view of the bridge resemble the original bridge. (The Harford Road Bridge is over 100 years old).

6) Then DOT has to issue the final approved plans for bids

7) The city needs to receive a qualified bid

8) That bid must be in the range of estimated costs.

IF all this occurred on a normal regular schedule,

9) BGE was to start gas line move in May and have it completed by November.

10) It may take only 8 weeks for final SHA/FHA approval, but it could be as long as 8 months.

11) And if a qualified bid is received and within the estimated cost range, the work could begin as early as fall of 2018. But that is quite a few "ifs" that have to all come true sequentially to clear the way for the bridge construction to begin..

Bottom line: Bridge reconstruction will happen, but there are many conditions that are not in any one agency's hands to determine when it will start.

Bike/Walk Path on 33rd Street Median



Should there be a bike and hike path in the middle of the 33rd street median?

Councilwoman Mary Pat Clarke brought up the subject of the median at the Mayfield General membership meeting on May 18, 2017. She hosted a session for residents and agency representatives to discuss their concerns or their jurisdiction on the proposal. It was held on May 24th at Abbottson Elementary School at 6 p.m.

Approximately 75 people came to the meeting at Abbottson school to hear from city agencies as to their regulatory role or interest in the Rails to Trails proposal for a bike/hike path along the Olmsted Brothers planned Baltimore “green necklace” of medians connecting major parks in Baltimore – Herring Run, Clifton, Wyman, Druid Hill, and Gwynn Falls. Advocates for historic preservation, bicyclists, neighbors along 33rd street and others connected to some of the neighborhoods and friends of parks in the vicinity participated in the meeting. Each agency outlined the role they would play in considering any proposal to alter the 33rd Street median, declared a historic landmark a few years ago. Department of Transportation would be responsible for safe travel of cars, bikes and pedestrians and how they would travel at intersections and cross streets; Baltimore City Recreation

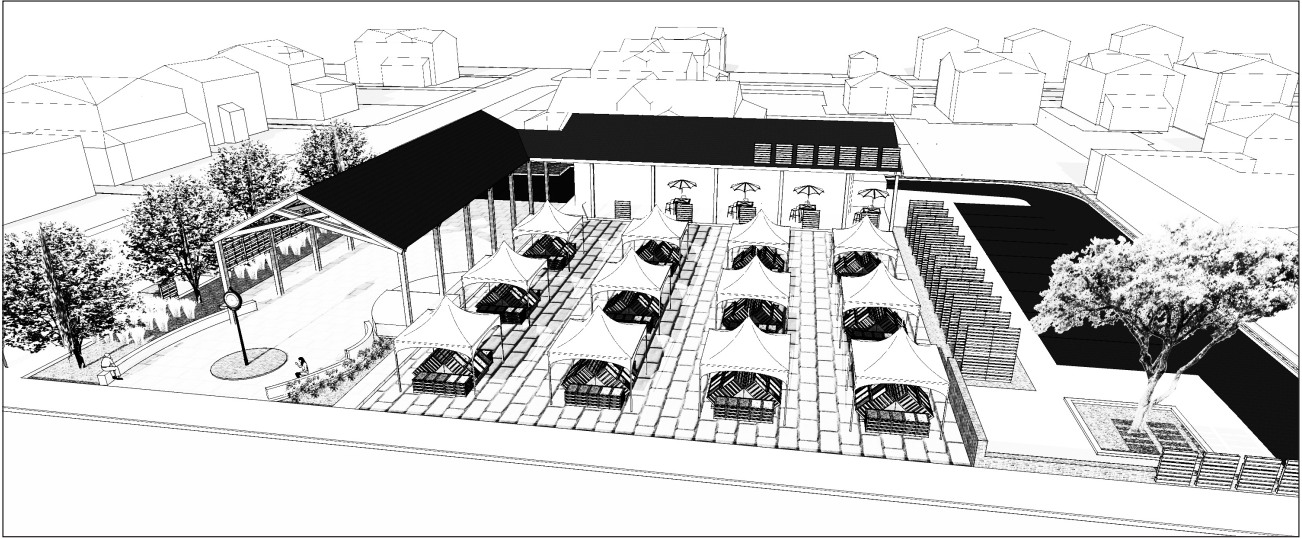
and Parks wasn't sure how they'd be involved, but Department of Forestry is part of BCRP and that connecting the parks to be more accessible to more citizens was a common good. Eric Diehl, the city Arborist committed to increasing the tree canopy and maintaining the trees in the city was clear about protecting trees first and foremost and giving advice about appropriate construction of a path and the value of a tree canopy for health and the environment. The Planning Department reviews the plans for the effort along 33rd street, and Commission on Historical and Architectural Preservation (CHAP) would do a thorough review for the Commission to make a decision on the proposal consistent with the Preservation lens

Citizen testimony had neighbors concerned about green space, child and pedestrian safety, bike safety, historic preservation, health concerns, healthy exercise opportunities, environmental concerns to the air we breathe and use of fossil fuels. Agency representatives answered questions and heard their concerns or reasons for support of the ideas.

A decision is a long way off, but the interest from the neighbors, park advocates, Friends of the Olmsted Landscapes and bike enthusiasts all had opinions worth consideration.

MAYFIELD GENERAL MEETING
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19
7:15 PM - 9:15 PM
LOCATION ~ TBD

Community Conversation



Mayfield had a conversation with Regina Lansinger, Director of the Hamilton Lauraville Main Street organization working toward a vibrant retail corridor. We first talked about the community kitchen in our Winter issue in Feb 2016. Mayfield News asked recently about progress of the Main Street Community Kitchen, the Mural that was installed for Light City 2017 and other developments.

<http://www.hamiltonlauravillemainstreet.org>

Mayfield News: What is the progress for the Community Kitchen at 4500 Harford Road?

Regina: There are no solid dates for anything. This is what I know for certain:

- To date, HLMS has consolidated the properties from 4500-4504 to one address -- 4500 Harford Road. The land survey has been completed. The architectural renderings have been created, but not finalized;
- HLMS is meeting with Jerry McCray Architect, and CRM Engineers later this week
- Morgan State University, via the Morgan Community Mile (MCM), is working with HLMS to look for programmatic grants for the future.

- A grant proposal has been submitted for operating funding from the State of Maryland. It will be several months before we know if it will be awarded.
- Enough money is available to start some parts of the project. We have an important meeting soon and this will be the main topic.

Mayfield: What is your prognosis for a timetable of work to be done?

Regina: If I was to go way out on a weak limb, I would say we could get a roof on this fall; begin the interior kitchen work in the spring 2018, and complete the building work by next fall. We see this as at least a 3 step project. 1) Roof; 2) interior; 3) exterior which would include the ground, as well as a pavilion along the south side of the property.

Mayfield: Describe the pavilion. This would make it a multipurpose space, not just the community commercial kitchen for food entrepreneurs, right?

Regina: The pavilion would provide shelter for people to eat at tables. There will also be a small stage built into the pavilion with electricity hookup for events.

Mayfield: Is this where the Farmers' Market will be?

Regina: There is room in the center area for market

tents during a farmers market events, as well as other community gathering activities, such as the annual beer gardens, holiday events, and volley ball perhaps.

Mayfield: A picture is worth a thousand words for something like this.

Regina. There is a rendering, but please emphasize that these are just renderings based on our descriptions to the architect. These are not finished official designs.

Mayfield. We saw the mural installed for the Light City event has been taken down. Is it gone forever or has it been moved?

Regina: It will have a permanent location on the side of the old Hamilton Fire Station at 3015 Hamilton Avenue. This is the building that HLMS owns & uses as a retail incubator. Hamiltone Music is currently the business that we are mentoring in that space.

Mayfield: Any challenges with this mural moving to its new location?

Regina: We have a lot of challenges to work out. Banks as a rule have exceptionally bright lights on the exterior. To see the mural well, the ambient light from nearby businesses need to be toned down or baffled in order for the UV paint/light to work at night. We are negotiating that now. BB&T awarded us a \$1000 grant to help move the mural. HMLS is hopeful that they will continue their partnership with us beyond this initial investment.

Mayfield News: Thank you, Regina. It will be a real asset to the Harford Road Corridor when it is completed. Thank you for your stewardship and excellent collaboration with neighborhood associations and the business community to move these projects along toward successful completion.

MAYFIELDER QUIZ:

Can you match the resident with their Professional role?
This is just a small sample of interesting people who live in Mayfield.

1	Phil Jackson	A	President, Friends of Herring Run Parks
2	Fuzz Roark	B	Elections Director, Baltimore City Board of Elections
3	Molly Tierney	C	Known as the best 5-string banjo player in US
4	Kamila Alexander	D	Your Real Estate Rock Star Radio host /advisor
5	Ryan Dorsey	E	Acclaimed Author, teacher, poet, Writer in Residence at Goucher College this year
6	Melody Simmons	F	Prof & Research JHU School of Nursing on health behaviors, intimate partner violence
7	Buddy Wachter	G	Baltimore City Circuit Court Judge
8	Gary Rahman	H	Artistic Director of Spotlighter Theatre
9	Katia Ulysses	I	Award winning Author, books & graphic novels, Playwright, Teacher, Speaker
10	Armistead Jones, Sr.	J	Director, Baltimore City Department of Social Services
11	Laura Gillis	K	Baltimore City Council Member District 3
12	J. Scott Fuqua	L	Reporter, Daily Record, Baltimore Brew

Find the answers on the back cover

IN AND AROUND MAYFIELD

*Good Bye
Rebecca,*



Hello, John!

Welcome Back to the Neighborhood

Principal Rebecca Malone leaves St. Francis of Assisi School and heads to Toronto with her husband, where he takes the role of principal at a High School there. Rebecca leaves a long list of achievements and strong academic elements to St. Francis School. Accreditation and International Baccalaureate are just two of the prestigious undertakings under her leadership. Enrollment has greatly improved. Adding 7th and 8th grade has been a big success. The school is fully subscribed for the coming school year 2017-2018.

Rebecca hands off a wonderful school with a great faculty, strong parents and parish participation and support from the neighborhoods nearby to a new principal, John D'Adamo. John grew up nearby on Pelham a few blocks from Mayfield. He went to Little Flower for grade school, played in Herring Run and is excited to be coming back to his boyhood stomping grounds. He is very pleased to take the educator-leader

position at St. Francis of Assisi School. He created a video giving you a stronger understanding of his past work and associations with nearby catholic schools, his family and how Father Burke has figured in it as well. You can find his video on the www.sfa-school.org website or by going to this URL <http://sfa-school.org/meet-mr-john-dadamo>

Mayfield for All Ages

Jae Patton chaired the Mayfield for All Ages Committee looking into the needs of adults living here, especially single adults without family nearby. Mayfield wanted to be an inclusive community that allows for aging in place or easing the transition to independent or assisted living a bit longer with the help of neighborly help with some basic needs — trips to the doctor or grocery store, or pharmacy, simple chores, companionship, and looking out for them when snow accumulates or heat gets unbearable. The committee conducted a survey through the list-serve, the newsletter and at meetings and requested volunteers willing to help. The committee expects to have the Mayfield for all Ages support to be operational by fall 2017. It is anticipated that requests for assistance and volunteers willing to help can contact Mayfieldupdate@gmail.com to have their message forwarded to the right person. Such a simple concept for such a good reason that makes Mayfield a great place to live for young and old and in between.

Q & A

Q Paul Norwood asked at the May General membership meeting about the prospects that there would be dredging at Lake Montebello soon. He had heard someone who worked at the Montebello Treatment Plant Centennial say this needed to occur.

A Editor checked with Kurt Kocher, communications director at DPW on Paul's question. He put it to three different people with responsibility for the Montebello complex. All said that there were no plans for dredging Lake Montebello.

Q What happened to the Windmills at 32nd street across from the Montebello Elementary-Middle School? We miss them. They were fun to watch.

A Remember the high wind days in the spring? The windmills were spinning like crazy in the sustained 60 mph winds one day and one burned out its rotary mechanism and nearly detached. The metal construction and sharp edges made the windmills akin to a circular saw that would be dangerous to anyone nearby or cause considerable damage. The flaw uncovered the potential imminent danger to people and it was decided to remove the windmills. There's no decision yet on what will take their place on the remaining poles. We can bet that it won't be a spinning circular saw-like art piece.

The artists installed a wonderful design that brought whimsy to all who traveled by. We look forward to a replacement some day.

Who is Emmanuel Grant?

Hint: You see him twice a month, on the 3rd and 4th Wednesdays.

Emmanuel Grant was one of 5 Department of Public Works employees nominated as Employee of the Year! He is our mechanical street sweeper operator in Mayfield and other communities. When mayfieldupdate reminds you to help out Emmanuel by moving your car, he is trying to reduce refuse that goes to the Chesapeake Bay via our storm sewer system. When asked, he will quickly tell you how much he loves his job. It is a good thing, since Kurt Kocher, public Information officer for DPW, told Mayfield News that Emmanuel has been working for DPW for 50 years. His daughter worked for DPW too, but has spread her wings beyond her DPW role and works somewhere else now. Say hello to Emmanuel and do him a favor to move your car on the 3rd Wednesday for odd-side of the street and 4th Wednesday for the even-side of the street. Let's help him do a really good job for the Chesapeake Bay. Thank you, Emmanuel and Congratulations for the recogni-

tion by Baltimore City Department of Public Works.



THE BAY-WISE & BEAUTIFUL GARDEN TOUR 2017

Featuring Northeast Baltimore Gardens

Saturday, July 8th from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Tickets: \$20. Tickets can be bought on line from <https://mgbay-wiseandbeautifultour2017.eventbrite.com/>

Mia Blom, resident of Hamilton Hills, is a Master Gardener and one of the organizers of the tour. She explained, "Most Maryland residents live within a half-mile of a storm drain, stream or river. Most of those waterways

eventually drain into the Chesapeake Bay. Ten of the homeowner gardens featured on this tour are Bay-Wise certified and their gardens adhere to bay friendly practices. This event is a fundraiser for the University of Maryland Extension Baltimore City Master Gardener Bay-Wise education program."

Tour at your own pace, on foot or by car – directions and descriptions provided at first garden, 5807 Harford Rd, Baltimore, MD 21214 – The Harbel Community Organization Pollinator Garden.

Janelle Cousino approved as Vice President of Mayfield

Laura Lee had been elected in May 2016 as Vice President then received a promotion at WMAR Channel 2, her employer that changed her work schedule. This meant she would no longer be able to attend any of the board meetings. Deborah Mason asked Janelle to fill in as an acting VP. The general membership made it official on May 18th to serve out the unexpired term. Janelle has been on the Mayfield board for many years and is a past president. Janelle has also been elected to serve as Chairperson of the HARBEL Board of Directors for 2017-2018.



It's that time to pay your dues

Make checks payable to Mayfield Improvement Association. Dues are \$20 a year per household or \$10/year for households headed by someone 62 and older. Dues are for the calendar year. **Use the envelope provided, mail or drop your payment by C/o MIA Treasurer, 2201 Mayfield Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21213.** Be sure to mark your name and address on the form below, especially if you are paying in cash, or we won't be able to mark you paid in our records.

2017 Dues \$ _____
Add'l contribution \$ _____
Designated for _____

You may designate for general fund, playground & children's activities, greening activities or youth scholarship award.

CALENDAR

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

June 30 — Youth Voice Submissions Community Improvement Award

**July 14 — Mayfield's 53rd Annual Community Wide Block Party
6 - 10 PM, 3400 Norman Avenue**

October 19 — Mayfield General Membership Meeting
7:15p.m.
(Location to be determined)

October – Children's Halloween at the Playground - TBD

December – Santa Event for Children - TBD

December - Caroling on the Green - TBD

Additional dates for Dumpster Day, family events, children's parties and volunteer opportunities will be announced by Mayfieldupdate@gmail.com or www.facebook.com/mayfieldupdate/ If you have not subscribed to either send an email to subscribe.

Mayfielder Quiz Answers:

1 G; 2 H; 3 J; 4 F; 5 K, 6 L; 7 C; 8 D; 9 E; 10 B; 11 A; 12 I;

Mayfield Improvement Association Officers

President — Deborah Mason,
mayfieldboard@gmail.com
Vice President — Janelle Cousino
Secretary — Mary Rybczynski
Treasurer — Julia McDonald

Board Members

Stephanie Buttner
Mary Anne Dresler
Mariglynn/Geoff Edlins
Jae Patton/Pat Mikos
Phaedra Stewart
JoAnn Trach Tongson

Committee & Project Leaders

Welcome Baskets — Dave Henry
Block Party — Stephanie Buttner
Communications — Janelle Cousino
Webmaster — Brian Baughn
Newsletter Layout & Graphic Design — Nina Tou
Greening Activities — JoAnn Trach Tongson
Mayfield & Montebello Elementary/Middle School — Jill Warzer
Playground Upkeep — Mary Alice Yeskey
Spring Yard Sale — Kari Miller
Community Vision Youth Prize committee — JoAnn Trach Tongson, Phaedra Stewart & Stephanie Buttner
Mayfield for All Ages — Jae Patton
Chair, Jan Shipley Vice Chair
New Resident Reception — Janelle Cousino, Host
Police Community Relations Council — Mary Ann Dresler, liaison
Children's Events — Phaedra Stewart, Chair
volunteers needed
Holiday Caroling Event — Mary Rybczynski, coordinator

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

Link to Mayfield Policy for Zoning Variance Requests

Residents that want a zoning variance from the city, be sure to read this Mayfield policy. You will find it on the website at <http://mayfieldassociation.org/news/zoningnews/>

Link to City Zoning Regulations

Residents who have questions about permits for 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

For an emergency dial: 911

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.

Want more frequent info about news and activities around Mayfield?

Sign up for the moderated listserve by sending a message to:

mayfieldupdate@gmail.com asking to subscribe.

Follow us on twitter
[@mayfieldupdate](https://twitter.com/mayfieldupdate)

Are you new to the neighborhood or know a new resident?

Our welcome gift committee would like to know. Please send an email to: mayfieldupdate@gmail.com
