

CALENDAR

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

August 7 — National Night Out & Fun in the neighborhood.

August 25 — Dam Jam at Lake Montebello –

Water Plant tours, Live music
Whitman Drive near Treatment plant.

Sept 15 — Dumpster Day #2 for Mayfield – 2400 block of Chesterfield

October 18 — General Membership Meeting – St. Francis of Assisi Church Hall, 7:15

Oct TBD — Children (& Adult Halloween Party at the playground.

October 26 — HARBEL BOO-Fest Shrimp Feast & Halloween fun, ticket event.

December 1 — Dumpster Day #3 for Mayfield – Mayfield Avenue at Kenly

December TBD — Santa visits Mayfield

December TBD — Holiday Caroling Event with Maryland State Boychoir

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

Mayfield Improvement Association Officers

President
Stephanie Buttner
Vice President
JoAnn Trach Tongson
Recording Secretary
Janelle Cousino
Corresponding Secretary
Deborah Mason
Treasurer
Julia McDonald

Board Members

Mary Ann Dresler
Mary Jo Schreven
Jan Shipley
Phaedra Stewart
Nina Tou
John Weiland

Committee & Project Leaders

Welcome Basket — Tom Rybczynski
Block Party — Stephanie Buttner
Communications — Janelle Cousino
Webmaster — Brian Baughn
Newsletter Layout & Graphic Design — Nina Tou
Greening Activities — JoAnn Trach Tongson
Montebello Elementary Middle School — Jill Warzer
Playground Upkeep Monitor — Mary Alice Yeskey
Youth Scholar Vision Prize Committee — JoAnn Trach, Tongson
Phaedra Stewart & Stephanie Buttner
Mayfield for All Ages — Jae Patton
Children's Events —
Volunteers needed to help Holiday Caroling Event — Tom & Mary Rbyczynski

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 and Mayfield Memorandum of Agreement

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.

www.Facebook.com/mayfield.update

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

Twice a week e-news via
mayfieldupdate@gmail.com

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



T H E MAYFIELD NEWSLETTER

A Hamlet in the Heart of Town 2018 | Issue Two

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

I am a keeper of random memorabilia and like many people my age, I've been attempting to go through and purge some of it. I recently came across a file of late 80's and early 90's Mayfield Newsletters and was completely fascinated by how we shared our news back then. Newsletters were written monthly, probably typed on a word processor, with articles about upcoming social events, reminders to pay your \$5 yearly dues, classified ads, birth and death announcements, and updates on city projects affecting Mayfield. We were kept up-to-date with Memorial Stadium redevelopment ideas, a potential new stop sign on Chesterfield and crime trends (e.g., a microwave and a compact disc player were both stolen in February 1993).

I read through a dozen of these newsletters which also contained Mayfield Improvement Association meeting minutes. Back then, this was our only way to communicate our news – and we did it monthly. Now, we utilize weekly emailed Mayfield Updates, frequent postings on Mayfield's Facebook page and Twitter account. There are also residents posting on Neighbor Nextdoor blog site. The monthly newsletter now gets into your mailboxes about 3 or 4 times per year.

Yet, the content in 1988 and 2018 is remarkably similar. Mayfield has long been and is still concerned with cleaning and greening. We debated zoning issues then as we do now (e.g., a wholesale gun shop was voted down in 1991). We advertised our many social activities, including those of the local churches. I read through many president's letters for inspiration and found that each one had a common theme. It went something like this, "This is a really great neighborhood and let's work hard to keep it that way." I went from thinking how much things have changed to realizing how much they had not – not at all changed. Our goals and concerns are the same now as they were then. We organized, planned, celebrated and worked hard. We had a goal of staying

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connected, being safe and having fun. We haven't really changed much, have we?

As I begin my 2-year term as your president, I plan to continue the hard work of the many presidents before me. The vision and goals from 30 years, 50 years ago, and 70 years ago remain mine today. To the new residents who may be reading this newsletter for the first time, and to the residents who have resided here for decades, know that this truly is "A Hamlet in the Heart of Town."

Happy Summer!

Stephanie Buttner

President,
Mayfield Improvement Association

~ TRAFFIC CALMING PROGRESS ~



Speed camera on Erdman has had a good effect on traffic going much slower. The speed trackers for the Crossland speed study are down, and the DOT will be sending the results to us soon. The Traffic Calming Committee is also working on having the speed camera on Harford Road reinstated. The full report presented by

the committee at the May 17, 2018 Mayfield general membership meeting and approved unanimously can be found on the Mayfield website —

<http://mayfieldassociation.org/news>

The Traffic committee created a presentation on the content, explaining how it envisioned the outcome of traffic calming for the entire neighborhood. It is important to remember that Mayfield can only advocate and provide advice to the Department of Transportation. We have had some successes in the past, we have had some requests denied. For example, we were told that our suggestion for a stop sign on Norman Avenue did not meet DOT criteria. As a result, the committee clarified in its report that its requests would have to meet DOT policies and criteria. Therefore, in order to enhance the possibility for DOT approval, committee considered effectiveness and cost primarily, knowing that DOT would take both into consideration for their decision.

In many ways, the current Traffic Calming Committee is carrying on the work started by others with a report in

2010. Additionally, the Board submitted to the Department of Transportation many suggestions regarding the impending Harford Road Bridge closing, including several recommendations on how to use the new bridge construction as an opportunity to address traffic calming issues.

The speed study revealed shocking facts about the traffic on Erdman: a 95% non-compliance rate, speeds clocked at over 70 mph, average speeds over 40 mph (the point at which a pedestrian's chance of surviving a collision with a car plummets), etc. As a result of their efforts, the City agreed to put in a speed camera, which is currently in operation and has already helped slow the traffic. Additional recommendations were developed including reducing the westbound traffic lanes on Erdman from two lanes to one starting at the intersection where 32nd Street Extended (which takes traffic through the golf course) to the intersection with Kenly. Traffic westbound would have 2 lanes from Kenly to Harford Road.

All members of the community were invited to join the committee. In an effort to get community-wide representation, the Mayfield President issued invitations in the July 2017 Newsletter and several issues of the Mayfield Update and at General Membership meetings. As a result, the Traffic Calming Committee had representatives from different areas in the community, including Chesterfield, Crossland, and Harford.

The purpose of the Mayfield Traffic Calming Committee is to develop a comprehensive, neighborhood-wide plan to promote traffic safety in and around Mayfield. It had to be comprehensive. Otherwise, the plan could easily result in

using these routes even after the bridge construction is completed. While the recent traffic calming report does not specifically address the bridge project, it should be pointed out that making Erdman and Harford slower should discourage people from using them during the construction period. For example, if Harford is slower because the parking restrictions have been lifted, drivers would be more likely to use the detour routes that will be publicized by the Department of Transportation.

It may take a short while for residents in Northeast Baltimore to find their best way to work and to home. Anyone north of Mayfield that works south of Mayfield will find their best way TO WORK and will likely go that same way home, by-passing Mayfield all together. Same for drivers living south of Mayfield, but working north of the bridge. They will find their way to work and follow it in the opposite direction for their way home. Non-residents only have to come to Mayfield if they are visiting a Mayfield resident, going to St. Francis of Assisi or the Boy choir or nearby residents in "Little Flower" or as some residents call it, "May-Bel." It will be much quicker for anyone living near Belair Road to pick up routes north at Gay or via Preston to Gay or via North Avenue. Families residing north of the bridge but closer to Harford Road should find the quickest route to their destination from downtown – via Gay-Ensor-Harford to Hillen and Perring Parkway. Or traffic headed north will find Loch Raven, The Alameda and Belair Road, the preferred detours, move more swiftly. They then would go with east-west flow on North Avenue, Argonne, Cold Spring Lane, Echodale and Northern Parkway.

Modifications to Erdman that we recommended are already in place to discourage Erdman as the way to Belair Road – left turn green arrow at Belair Road is gone; 3 lanes on Erdman from 32nd Extension to Belair are now reduced to 2 lanes and there is a left turn dedicated lane into Woodstock and Cardenas. These changes provide incentive to be on Belair Road much BEFORE Erdman than using Erdman to go from Harford to Belair Road. The speed camera on Erdman has already slowed down traffic on Erdman.

Sinclair Lane (accessed from East 25th Street and Wolfe St) provides better access to Erdman for those coming from midtown and those who want to travel east on US 40 or to reach the Harbor Tunnel Throughway southbound (I-895) entrance without the snarl of traffic at Belair and Erdman.

The Bridge Replacement Project has been in the works for more than a decade, almost two decades. It is over 100 years old, and inspections document its deterioration. The new Bridge will be safer for cyclists, pedestrians and vehicles.

Harford Road Bridge Replacement: By the Numbers	
2-3	Years to complete the project.
3	Number of spans for the new bridge
4	Number of car lanes across the bridge; there will also be 2 bike lanes and 2 pedestrian walkways
8	Number of months for demolition of the existing bridge will take. It could be less, but depends on the weather.
24	Approximate number of months the bridge will likely be closed to traffic.
25	Millions of Dollars that will be spent by City, State and Federal Government to complete the project
39.6	% out of 100 for bridge condition rating. Bridges get inspected every 2 years. Any bridge with a rating below 50% is eligible for Federal and/or State Highway funds
107	The age of the current bridge in the year that the bridge will be demolished (Fall 2018 expected)
3212	BC3212 is the project number assigned to the Harford Road Bridge over Herring Run. TR03319 is another number assigned to this bridge project.
22,000	Number of vehicles that travel daily over the existing Harford Road Bridge, built in 1911 when there were many, fewer cars. If you were wondering, 1911 is one year BEFORE the Titanic was built.



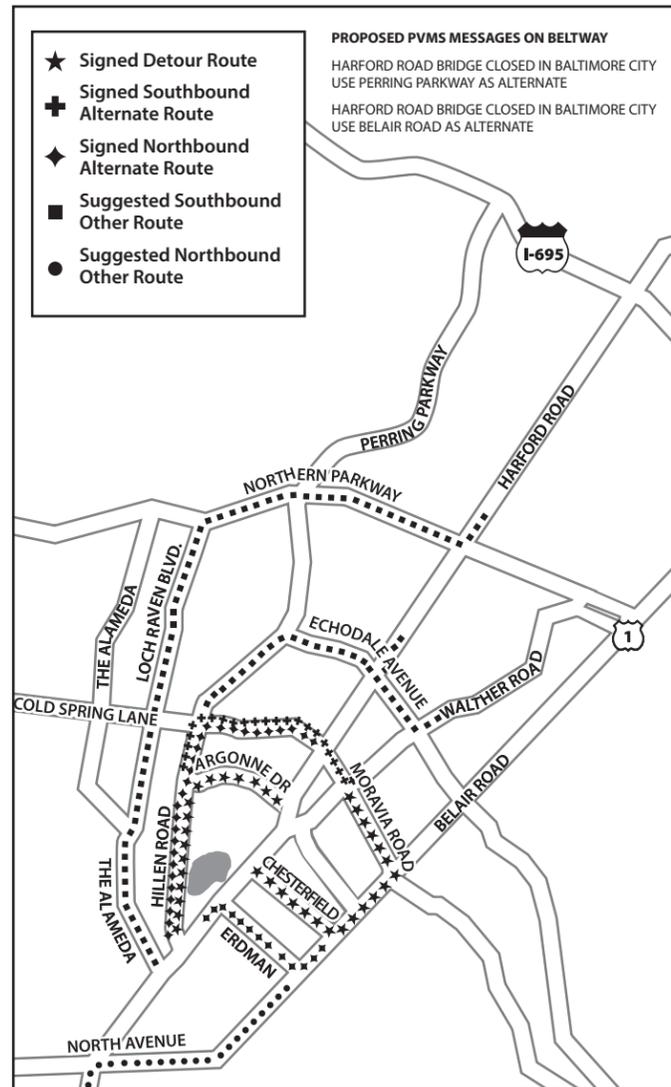
Here is the latest on the Harford Road Bridge over Herring Run

Mayfield has had many meetings with DOT officials on the bridge replacement regarding Mayfield specific concerns over the past 7 years. Our comprehensive analysis of needs for Mayfield have been delivered, discussed, debated, and confirmed over the many meetings. At our general membership meetings over the years, community input was given to DOT and a variety of questions were addressed by DOT officials.

What we were told by DOT officials includes:

- Signage on bridge detours will begin at the I-695 and I-95 Beltway and downtown at Gay Street and repeated constantly along the route. It will recommend exiting at Perring Parkway or Belair Road from the North I-695. Anyone remember the JFX detour campaign in the mid 80's? Mayfield advocated for a similar communications campaign about Harford Road starting ahead of the bridge closing.
- For the first week of bridge closing, traffic enforcement will be on hand in Mayfield to direct traffic at rush hour times, should it be necessary.
- At Erdman and Harford there is to be a "local traffic only" sign with Bridge Closed Ahead signs. Harford will be reduced to one lane in each direction by signage and parked cars.
- SFA parishioners and parents with students will be able to reach the church lot and to drop off and pick-up their children. People wanting to go to Wash the Wag or the Convenient Store will be able to park on Harford Road at all hours. Residents on Harford and any visitor can park in front of their home for a change.

Mayfield advocated for the loop drive around Lake Montebello to be closed off at Curran Drive/Harford Road, preventing it as a through street for access to Chesterfield for travel to Belair Road. The construction office and equipment will be stored primarily



D.O.T. DETOUR MAP

on the North end of the bridge at Heinz Park/Argonne-Parkside/Harford Road and Walther Avenue.

It is in entirely predictable that construction-related traffic will some negative impact on the community in the short term. However, it is also likely that drivers coming north will use the detours highlighted by the DOT for their commute. Many of them might end up

the type of unintended consequence that the Mayfield Board hoped to avoid. For example, several years ago there was an effort to have 2200 Pelham one-way. While this change might have made traffic on that street better for some, many residents raised legitimate concerns that the proposal might also result in increased traffic on Lake or Kentucky. Consequently, when, in accordance with City requirements to have community support for calming measures, the community voted on the proposal, it was voted down.

Finally, if the committee did not operate with this approach, it would upend years of Mayfield's strong community practice. Mayfield has a communal spirit: we are not merely a collection of streets, but a neighborhood. Our decisions should reflect our commitment to our community by recognizing that each block is a part of a whole.

The purpose of the report is to:

- * Address the safety concerns of the residents of Mayfield and those who walk, cycle, and drive through Mayfield

Please remember to drive slow in the neighborhood and be a good example to other drivers.

Mayfield Trivia

How much do you know about Mayfield?

- Q1:** Who has announced special young arrivals to various families for the last 20 + years? What info was included?
- Q2:** Mayfield is listed on the National Register of _____ (two words) maintained by the U.S. National Park Service.
- Q3:** Mayfield has 2 zip-codes. Which side of Harford Road is 21218?
- Q4:** What is Mayfield's slogan or tag-line?
- Q5:** Clifton Park was purchased by the City in 1895. From whom? And what was the Clifton site supposed to be, if the owner had had his wishes honored?
- Q6:** There are no natural lakes in Maryland. Lake Montebello was created by a dam and is part of the drinking water system. It is a wonderful asset for Mayfield and others in Northeast Baltimore. In what year was construction of Lake Montebello completed?

(answers on page 5)

- * Promote solutions that will enhance the quality of life in Mayfield and its neighbors, as well as the natural environment in and around Mayfield
- * And ensure that Mayfield remains a welcoming neighborhood

The report has a comprehensive list of strategies and tactics to help it meet these objectives. The report will be a useful guide for improving the traffic situation in and around Mayfield. It will be incorporated into any request for traffic calming. (This would be in addition to any other documentation the City would require before approving a request). It would also be incorporated into any grant application as evidence of community support for the request.

You can join the traffic calming committee. Send an email with your interest to be on the committee to — Mayfieldupdate@gmail.com.

DAM JAM 2018

RETURNS TO LAKE MONTEBELLO

Saturday, August 25 from 9 am to 3 pm.
Northwest corner of Whitman at the Lake

Learn the intriguing story of our drinking water system and how it was the envy of other cities when it was built in 1915. Go behind the scenes and see interior of the plant and the treatment science at work.

Two Bands • Food Trucks
Tours of the Water Treatment Plant
Historic Photos of the Reservoir

Mayfield will sponsor an Exhibits and activities. Want to have an entry in the photo exhibit? Submit your best Lake Montebello photo to— mayfieldupdate@gmail.com for inclusion. Let's Make the Lake Look Great before August 25? Let mayfieldupdate@gmail.com know that you are available to help with median maintenance.

Mayfield resident Theo Labonte-Clark Has Been Appointed to the Baltimore City Youth Commission.

Congratulations, Theo!

The Baltimore City Youth Commission allows youth the opportunity to provide advice, recommendations, and information for the Mayor, the City Council, and municipal agencies on the development of community and government policies, programs, and services that support children, youth, and their families. Theo Labonte-Clark has been appointed by Mayor Pugh to be a Youth Commissioner. Theo is the youngest of three children of Tracy Labonte & Rob Clark, Crossland Avenue residents. Theo is a rising senior student at Boys Latin School. He was a student at St. Francis of Assisi School for the elementary grades. He is a member of Boy Scout Troop 87 and working to earn his Eagle Scout this year. He was selected to participate in a special program in Vermont for the fall semester of 2017. It entailed full academics and work on a farm. The selection process was highly competitive.

Mayfield News wanted to know more about the Youth Commission and asked Theo for an interview about his role on it. Here is how he answered.

Q: When did Mayor Pugh appoint you? What would you like Mayfield to know about the Youth Commission?

Theo: I was appointed on June 12th, 2017. The Youth Commission's Primary function is as an Advisory Board to the Mayor. It was designed to give a voice to the Baltimore's youth, who do not hold traditional sway in government. I want youth in

Mayfield and the rest of Baltimore's Third District to know they can come to the Commission with any issues they face, whether specific to youth or applicable to everyone in their community

Q: What has been the most interesting issue you've had to address as a commission member so far?

Theo: The Youth Commission testified before the Kirwan Commission for funding for Baltimore City Schools. The Kirwan Commission is a state-wide commission responsible for the ten-year allocation of funds to Public School systems in Maryland. The Youth Commission spent hours on surveys, research and debate prioritizing where funds should go, and we worked hard to get resources into City Schools.

Q: You are the Treasurer and on the 3-Year Plan Committee. What are your duties for those roles?

Theo: As the Treasurer, I keep track of all funds going into and out of the Commission. I approve expenses and ensure we make the most of the resources we have. Because I am Treasurer, I also Chair the Finance Committee and am a member of the Executive Board. The 3-Year Plan Committee designed the long-term goals of the commission and created the committees responsible for reaching these goals. Of those committees, I am on the Access to Resources Committee, which focusses on extracurricular opportunities and

youth employment.

Q: What would you like to accomplish with this role?

Theo: I hope to connect the youth of the city with the city government. Right now, citizens under 18 are not allowed to vote, and they are rarely represented in policy-making or implementation. The Youth Commission is only an advisory board, but it is one of the only parts of government that gives youth the opportunity to advocate for youth.

Q: You will head to college soon. Will you remain a youth commissioner while in college?

Theo: I plan to go out of state for college, and when I do, I will resign from the Commission. The Third District will have an open position on the Commission, and I highly encourage anyone who is eligible and interested to apply.

Q: Do you think you'll be interested in running for office or having an appointed role in government someday? Which office do you think you'd be interested in pursuing?

Theo: I don't know what my path will be. I may run for office or make my way up the bureaucracy, or I may go into advocacy. I am not set on any particular path right now. Civil rights matter. Health matters. Opportunity matters. I will likely work for these causes after college, but I am not yet sure how.

Some Details About the Baltimore City Youth Commission

The Youth Commission is comprised of 17 voting members and 14 non-voting members. The 17 voting members include one young person from each of the 14 Council districts and 3 at-large seats. The young people representing the 14 Council districts will be appointed by the Mayor. The young people in the 3 at-large positions will be recommended by the City Council President. Each voting member MUST be a resident of Baltimore City. The Youth Commission will also be comprised of 14 non-voting members. These non-voting members will represent various community and city agencies including the Baltimore City School System, the Department of Recreation and Parks, the Health Department, Police Department, Department of Social Services, State's Attorney's Office, Enoch Pratt Free Library, Mayor's Office of Employment Development, the Housing Authority of Baltimore City, the State Department of Juvenile Services, the Family League of Baltimore City, and Baltimore City Community College

Clean Up! Paint Up! Fix Up Season!



Summer is a great time for crab feasts, trips to the shore or swimming pool, music and art festivals. It is also a great time to do home repair, maintenance and fix-up projects on our homes. Some work, including fences, requires a permit from the city. Most housing code violations are related to yard maintenance, broken windows/doors, gutters and downspouts, peeling paint, crumbling walks/steps and dilapidated out buildings/porches/decks. The housing code can be found at http://www.baltimorehousing.org/code_responsibilities

Here are some reminders from the Housing Agency:

Owner must arrange for a sufficient number of storage receptacles to receive and store trash, garbage, and between days of collection. Owners of a single-unit building must maintain their lots and exterior premises, including abutting sidewalks, gutters, and alleys in a clean, safe and sanitary condition.

While all responsibilities are noted in the Property Maintenance Code of Baltimore City here are several examples:

- Keep grass, weeds or plant growth below 8 inches and remove all noxious weeds. Prune or remove all trees and shrubbery if they are: 1) dangerous to life and property; 2) create a fire or traffic hazard; 3) encroach on adjacent property.
- Prohibit the accumulation of trash, debris, and bulk trash, including the following discarded items: Animal waste, Furniture, Equipment, Appliances, Construction Material, Similar Objects & Materials,
- Please keep in mind the following when discarding trash, garbage, and debris: Receptacles are not to be placed out for collection on a sidewalk or along an alley earlier than the day of collection. Receptacles must be returned promptly to the premises after collections.
- If discarded or abandoned articles are too large for disposal in the required receptacles, they must be transported to a landfill or approved disposal site.

Answers to Mayfield Trivia

1. Mayfield Stork, with name of baby, gender, weight and date of birth. After 20 years of service, the Mayfield Stork was rebuilt and is awaiting new paint in order to welcome new young residents of proud Mayfield parents.
2. National Registry of Historic Places maintained by the U. S. National Park Service
3. Both sides of Harford Road for homes with addresses facing the street.
4. Hamlet in the Heart of Town
5. Purchased from the Trustees of Johns Hopkins University; To have been the main campus of Johns Hopkins University
6. 1881