

CALENDAR

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

Under normal conditions Mayfield hosts a General Membership Meeting, New Resident Welcome Reception and Volunteer Thank You Dinner in the spring. These events are on hold due to current COVID 19 restrictions. Alternative date will be scheduled when that is possible.

April 24 — Mayor's Clean-up day

**Saturday, May 15th — 9am - 1 pm
Mayfield Community-wide Spring
YARD SALE**

**Thursday, May 20
May General Member Meeting — ;SFA
courtyard
Pre-mtg on traffic 6:30;
General Meeting 7:15**

Friday, May 21 — Shred it Day

Historic Tax Credits Workshop —TBD

**June 6 — Dumpster Day #2
2300 block of Mayfield Ave
approx. 8 a.m. til noon or earlier or
later. DPW decides.**

**June 20 — by 6 p.m.
Due Date for Youth Prize
submissions:
mayfieldassociation.org/news**

**Mayfield's 56th Block Party TBD Sept
2021**

**Saturday, June 5
2400 block of Chesterfield
Dumpster Day #2**

**Dates may change depending on
COVID 19 matters and public policy
requiring a change.**

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

Board Members

Mary Ann Dresler
Marie Lymon
Michelle McWhirter
Jan Shipley
Thomas Spring
Phaedra Stewart
Nina Tou
James Long

**Thanks, Jon Weiland for helping
Mayfield. Be sure to visit us!**

Committee & Project Leaders

Welcome Basket — Tom Rybczynski
Block Party — Stephanie Buttner and
Phaedra Stewart
Communications — Janelle Cousino
Webmaster — Brian Baughn
Newsletter Layout & Graphic Design
— Nina Tou
Greening Activities —
JoAnn Trach Tongson
Playground Upkeep Monitor — Dave
Hardy
**Youth Scholar Vision Prize
Committee** — Deborah Mason,
JoAnn Trach, Tongson Phaedra Stewart
& Nina Tou
Mayfield for All Ages — Deborah
Mason, Michelle McWhirter
Traffic Calming Committee —
Deborah Mason,
Children's Events —
Linn Thorburn & Caedmon Haas
Thomas Spring
Holiday Caroling Event — Tom & Mary
Rybczynski

**All committees are open to more volun-
teers. Send an email to
mayfieldupdate@gmail.com to let MIA
board know you want to help.**

Link to Mayfield Policy for Zoning Variance Requests and Mayfield Mem- orandum 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 codes can log onto this website for answers:

Zoning: <https://planning.baltimorecity.gov/programs/transform-baltimore>
and what needs a permit?
<http://www.baltimorehousing.org/permits>

Northeastern District Police
410-396-2444

**Mayfield Homes are eligible for the
Maryland Historic Tax credits.** Go to
[https://mht.maryland.gov/taxcredits_](https://mht.maryland.gov/taxcredits_homeowner.shtml)
[homeowner.shtml](https://mht.maryland.gov/taxcredits_homeowner.shtml)

To see the full range of details to apply. There is Info in the 2020 Mayfield Directory, (p. 15 Pink Cover edition) and Mayfield website: <http://www.mayfield-association.org>

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 2021 | Issue One

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Hope springs eternal in the human breast:
Man never is, but always to be blest:
The soul, uneasy and confin'd from home,
Rests and expatiates in a life to come.

— Alexander Pope

As signs of spring approach, I am hopeful that there are also signs of our turning the corner on the pandemic and allowing us to leave our uneasy confinements from family and friends. In anticipation of vaccines administered, warmer weather and the desire to be around people, the Mayfield Improvement Association Board members and committee members are planning a variety of events to welcome new neighbors, say good-bye to neighbors moving on and to care for each other and the environment. Allow me to expatiate on the events to come in Mayfield.

There are a number of **Green Up Events** being planned for this spring and early summer to care for the areas in and around Mayfield including Lake Montebello. There will be events to clean up our main streets and parks and plant street trees and perennials in our open spaces. We were so inspired by your victory gardens last year that we are expanding the neighborhood initiative to grow pollinator plants that were planted in our green spaces cared for by Mayfield. This year, we are asking neighbors to help grow perennials for pollinators and/or grow vegetable plants to distribute during our greening events.

We may even have some plants available to share at the Mayfield General meeting in May. We are excited to have extended invitations to our two Coun-

(continued on page 2)

MAYFIELD GENERAL MEETING THURSDAY, MAY 20 7:15 PM - 9:15 PM

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
Patio between church hall
and school entrances.

3615 Harford Road.

• • • • •

AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS

6:30

Pre-meeting for specific
Traffic Calming proposals
from the Committee.

7:15

General Membership
Meeting

Confirmed Guests

Major Loeffler, NED Police
District, Councilwoman
Ramos for District 14
Councilman Dorsey
for District 3;
Community News



(continued from page 1)

cilpersons representing Mayfield in 21213 and 21218 and Northeast District's Major Loeffler. Depending on Baltimore City guidance will determine if this event will be in-person, virtual or both. I am hoping for an in-person event and it may be outdoors.

Plans are also in the works for our usually annual and usually in July Mayfield's Summer Block party where we socialize, have fun, raise some funds for our events and celebrate the contributions of neighbors. While I am excited for the potential, I am also feeling saddened by neighbors moving on from Mayfield, Taras & Maria Luckiaczuk and Courtney & Jim Bartlett. Maria was the Block Party chair for many years. Courtney & Jim Bartlett leave behind a legacy of organizing and creating the Friends of Mother's Garden and orchestrating playground fundraisers (Spring Flings). Courtney served as Mayfield President and both Bartletts were always willing to lend a hand with bulb and tree plantings, organizing book clubs, dinner parties and helping with children's activities. I and many other will miss them dearly and wish them all the best with their new lucky neighbors.

As we say goodbye to them, I look forward to meeting the new neighbors and am hopeful spring will also welcome more new neighbors into Mayfield.

Sincerely yours,

JoAnn Trach Tongson, President
Mayfield Improvement Association



EARLY SPRING GARDEN ADVICE FOR OUTDOORS

- Remove leaves, debris and winter mulch from garden beds so new growth can break through.
- Cut back perennials and prune shrubs that bloom on new growth or anything that has been damaged over the winter.
- Remove any weeds that have popped up since the fall.
- Test your soil for pH and nutrient levels.
- Add soil amendments to correct pH and nutrient levels.
- Prepare planting beds by adding soil conditioner and compost to amend the soil. Adding organic material promotes healthy plants.
- Add beneficial microbes to the soil.
- Start Spring lawn care by lawn fertilizer program around Easter. This will help prevent crabgrass and get your lawn off to a healthy start.
- De-thatch your lawn and fill in low spots with grass seed. Start with a dry to slightly damp lawn for best results.
- Re-edge your planting beds. This is a great way to freshen up your garden without even planting anything.
- Top dress all beds with spring mulch to reduce weeds, conserve moisture and give everything a fresh look

PROPAGATION PROJECT

Looking for volunteers to be involved in the Propagation Project — Phase 2.

We are expanding our efforts started last year in growing pollinator attracting plants that were planted in our green spaces. We were thrilled to have the 7 households that participated by starting pollinator plant seeds and growing and caring for them to a size suitable to for planting in the fall. We would like to expand efforts to support people, too. If you would like to help grow vegetables/herbs and/or pollinator plants from seed, we can provide you with seeds, pots, and potting soil, while supplies last. We will distribute the vegetables and herbs during our green up events during the late spring/early summer.



If you have, sun tolerant, non-invasive perennials and herbs in your garden that you would like to divide and pot, we will gladly accept these for planting in community greenspaces. Pots may also be available to you for your use.



Lake Montebello and Mayfield thank you for considering this request. Write to Mayfieldupdate@gmail.com to say you'll participate and use this subject line: People & Pollinator Project



OH DEAR!

Tips for Gardeners dealing with Deer From the American Humane Society

In the last printed newsletter there was an article about deer and their ubiquitous presence in the area and feasting on our bushes and foliage. This is another list of tips about deer in our area.

- Switch to deer-resistant plants, which will reduce food sources, especially in restoration and riparian areas. Wrap saplings shorter than 4 feet in corrugated plastic tubes or sleeves;
- Fence in gardens and heavily landscaped areas;
- Plant native species and avoid exotic plants, which attract deer, and cover any ornamental plants with netting or mesh;
- Employ scare tactics such as motion detector– triggered lights or sprinklers, models of coyotes, and outdoor radios;
- Strategically place bars of soap (and even human hair) to deter deer; and
- Spray pepper-based repellent on foliage

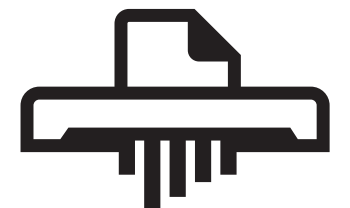
Shred it Day is Friday, May 21

Get things to 2201 Mayfield by 12 noon, place under the carport

Because the IRS changed the date for filing 2020 federal taxes to May 17, 2021, we changed Mayfield Shred it Day to Friday, May 21.

Plan ahead: Shred it Day in Mayfield and Important Information:

- Limit is **two (2) boxes** the size of a copy paper case or banker's box — no plastic.
- Shred it service is for dues paying residents. However, you can pay dues on the spot, on site or in advance — by check or by electronic transfer.
- This reminder will be repeated in April and May before the Federal and State tax filing deadline.
- Not sure what is safe to shred and what should be kept? FTC has help at this website: <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/blog/2015/05/pack-rats-guide-shredding>
- Material must be paper only — no trash whatsoever.
- Your items must arrive before 12 noon.
- Place items under the carport over driveway. Dropoff will be supervised.
- See the other article 'New Ways to Pay Dues' elsewhere in this issue (page 5).



— — — — Traffic Matters — — — —

QUESTIONS & CONCERNS SHARED WITH BCDOT

The new Harford Road Bridge is nearly completed, and is scheduled to be open for traffic in fall, 2021. Members of the Traffic Calming Committee met with Graham Young and Councilman Dorsey to discuss proposed changes to Harford Road between Erdman and the bridge. Additionally, Mr. Young presented that proposal in a public meeting. The following are the observations and concerns raised by the Traffic Calming Committee and the Board and communicated to DOT, as well as Councilpersons Ramos and Dorsey.

Pedestrian and Cyclist Safety

ONE: We understand that the current design for Harford Road between Erdman and the Herring Run Bridge calls for flush medians that will be delineated only with road markings and flex posts. Ideally, we would prefer there to be an actual median, which would both be consistent with how the road is designed south of 32nd Street and would be an opportunity to reduce the city's impermeable surfaces. There needs to be a sturdier impediment to impatient drivers wanting to use the middle as a passing or a left-turn lane, as well as provide a better buffer between a cyclist and a driver.

TWO: There are concerns that the cyclists' two-way traffic lane might pose dangers for cyclists arising from motorists turning off of Harford onto the intersecting roads. For example, a motorist on northbound Harford trying to make a right turn onto Lake Avenue might be aware of a cyclist heading southbound, but might not see a cyclist heading northbound. What steps with DOT take to ensure

the safety of both cyclists and motorists at these intersections?

THREE: What regular maintenance will the City undertake to ensure that refuse, snow, ice, and other impediments to cyclists are removed, both on a regular and an as-needed basis?

FOUR: We are very happy that there will be crosswalks at every intersection on Harford between Erdman and Curran-Lake Montebello Drive. However, we are concerned that the proposed flush median would not increase pedestrian safety, particularly during rush hour traffic, which is also when students would be crossing Harford for Lake Montebello Elementary and St. Francis of Assisi School. We would prefer raised refuges for pedestrians.

FIVE: Will the median at Chesterfield and Harford remain? It currently acts as a refuge for pedestrians using the crosswalk at that intersection. We believe that a physical structure such as this provides the greatest measure of safety for pedestrians possible; we have also spent considerable time, effort and money into maintaining the median (planting bulbs, other flowers), and would want to keep the median attractive because it is a major gateway to the community. We would therefore support keeping this median.

SIX: How will the timings for the traffic light at Chesterfield and Harford be changed to accommodate pedestrians (as well as bicyclists wishing to enter the lake area from that intersection)? Will the traffic

light at this intersection be coordinated with the pedestrian/bicyclist crosswalk at the intersection of Harford and Curran Drive – Lake Montebello Drive?

SEVEN: A speed camera system on both sides of Harford Road should be set up on the bridge and near St. Francis School to protect students walking and cycling to the school.

Curran Drive/ Lake Montebello Drive

It is unclear from the proposal whether Curran Drive/Lake Montebello Drive will be closed to vehicle traffic. If it is closed, there should be permanent curb modifications installed with the bridge consistent with safer pedestrian, cyclist, bus, and motorist use. If it remains open to traffic, the neighborhood, in its Traffic Calming Recommendations, has made specific suggestions to modify the intersection of Harford and Curran Avenue to increase pedestrian, cyclist, and motorist safety, as well as significantly reduce the impervious surface at that intersection. We hope that DOT takes this opportunity to implement them. We've appended the relevant pages to these comments.

Mayfield and Coldstream Homestead Montebello have also proposed improvements to the Harford and 32nd street intersection and will have a meeting regarding school construction, traffic and turn lanes and bus stops with DOT and Baltimore City School 21st Century School officials and Planning, Councilwoman Ramos in the coming weeks, as well as recommendations for some accommodations for mass transit safety.

Historic Tax Credits and Major Home Repairs



Since 2003 when our application to be designated an Historic Neighborhood and included in the National Directory of Historic Places was approved by the National Park Service, homes in Mayfield qualify for the Maryland Historic Tax Credits program.

There is information, lists of qualified repairs and information on how to apply, the importance of waiting for approval before the work is started and the timelines and limits of the tax credit. 20% of the expenses for the approved work is a given as a 'refundable tax credit.' This means if you don't owe the state the amount of your 20% credit, they will send you a check for the amount not refunded at tax time. There are minimums and maximums to understand. All the info you need to get started is on their website:

Here's the link to the State website:

https://mht.maryland.gov/taxcredits_homeowner.shtml

Here's a link to their fact sheet:

https://mht.maryland.gov/documents/PDF/taxcredits/Homeowner_FactSheet.pdf

Many Mayfield residents have used it for installation of central air conditioning, refinished floors, important internal systems, roof maintenance, chimney repair and more. Minimum dollar value of work to apply for is \$5,000 over a 2 year period of repairs. Mayfield has sponsored a workshop with Baltimore Heritage on how to complete the applications. We hope to sponsor one in 2021.

Neighbor to Neighbor (N2N) Consultation on Use of Historic Tax Credit available

Many have offered to advise someone considering it, the application process and sharing their experience with the state agency managing the tax credits program. Let us know if you would like to talk to someone who has used the tax credits and want advice. Send an email to mayfieldupdate@gmail.com and we'll connect you!

2021 Dues to Mayfield

Annual Dues: \$20/year (or \$10 for households headed by someone 62 or more).

Volunteers do the work of the neighborhood, but there are some supplies, expense and replacement costs that come up. Dues cover the many expenses that support the volunteer efforts — beautification — plants, tools, anything we could not get donated • Mulch, repair and upkeep of the children's playground • Printing of the newsletters, materials, signs for yard sales, meetings, events and banners as needed • Fees for participating in Live Baltimore events • Items needed for children's events • New resident reception and volunteer thank you events and block party and meetings that are held • Welcome basket supplies and gifts and anything needed to support projects that we undertake.

Approximately 40% of the dues-paying residents add a voluntary extra amount for either general fund or to a special effort. Most popular are Beautification/Greening and Children's Playground and Activities. We greatly appreciate their generosity. Dues have provided the source of funds over the years to expand the size of the playground and repair the fencing; replacement of playground equipment that was broken or deemed unsafe; the purchase of the little library (however, all the work to assemble and maintain it was done by volunteers and the book donors), daffodils for the median project. **Your dues make good things happen in Mayfield.**

New ways to Pay Mayfield Dues

1. You may pay using the self-addressed envelope attached to the dues notice
2. You can pay via Venmo — @Mayfield-update (VENMO sends us a report)
3. Through Zelle — send dues to mayfieldupdate@gmail.com and it will be deposited at BBT

Be assured that we will get a report from the bank that you paid.

Thank You Volunteers of 2020!

Greening and Open Space and Propagation volunteers

(daffodils, median, gardens, trees, clean ups)

JoAnn Trach Tongson, Jan Shipley, Julia McDonald, Tom Rybczynski, Bill Hooper, Janelle Cousino, Meg Maynard, Charlie Kennedy, Ed Spada, Deborah Mason, Phaedra Stewart, James Long, John Mason, "Hawk" Maxwell, May & Sullivan Maxwell, Ben Brunelli, Debra Williams, Clint Kueneman, Jim Bartlett, Mina Brunyate, Emily Chalmers, Sara & Paul Rybczynski, Pauline Paluzzi, Susan Lauger, Stephanie and Dave Buttner.

Traffic Calming: Committee

Deborah Mason, chair; Gary Eddington, Brian Carey, Diane Novak, James Long, John Mason, Julia McDonald, Kamila Alexander, Lisa Dvorak, Lisa Sunday, Lisa Hansen, Mary Anne Dresler, Jan Shipley, Stephanie Buttner, JoAnn Trach Tongson

Mayfield For All Ages

Jan Shipley, Dave Henry, Kathryn Parke, Deborah Mason, Tom Rybczynski, Janie Gordon, Ellen Udovich, Robert Reynolds, Rob Jacobs, Lynda Mermell, Lloyd Pflug, Debbie Veystark, Carre Gibson, Phil Jackson, Roi Rhines, Paul Riciutti, Helen Atkinson, Jon Weiland, Nancy Assero, Duncan Parke, Sandy Robson, Loretta Spada, Andrew Clark, Patrick Terhune & Lynn Hansen

Special Thanks to Jared Earley and Marichi Capino for their assistance to the committee in response to the pandemic!
~ Remembering Paulette Schauder. ~
May she rest in peace.

Events EASTER

Mindy Dingle, Jack & Luke Dingle, Stephanie Buttner, Caedmon Haas, Lin Thorburn

YARD SALE, SNOW CONE/DIRECTORY EVENT

John Mason, Janelle Cousino, Julia McDonald, KC & Denis Doxy

HOLIDAY VOLUNTEERS

Wreaths, Tree lighting and Caroling, Santa visit and Holiday Decorations Judges

Tom & Mary Rybczynski, Phaedra & Harry Stewart, Mindy Dingle, Dingle Jack & Luke Dingle, Wyatt Koser, Nora Pflug, Charlie Grace & Adam Martin, Haakon Maxwell and Nick Syropoulos, Deborah Mason, Marie & George Lymon, Maria Rossman, Jessica Crum, Maggie Glass & Andrew Lane, Stephanie Buttner, Julia McDonald, Janelle Cousino, Brian O'Day, Jan Shipley, Thomas Spring, Michelle McWhirter & Ryan Thurber, Jami Dodson & Ivan Garcia,

Communications

DIRECTORY, NEWSLETTERS & WEBSITE

Brian Baughn, Nina Tou, Janelle Cousino, Julia McDonald,

NEWSLETTER DELIVERY VOLUNTEERS

Deborah Mason, Julia McDonald, Janelle Cousino, Jon Weiland, Voos Family, Pat Paluzzi, Deb Veystark, Carre Gibson, Jan Shipley, Charlie & Adam Martin, Stephanie Buttner, Tracy LaBonte & Rob Clark, Frank Williams, Gerard Waladt, Barb Waladt

LIVE BALTIMORE 2020

Julia McDonald, JoAnn Trach Tongson, Stephanie Buttner

WELCOME BASKETS

Tom Rybczynski;

LITTLE LIBRARY

Sherry Insley

MAYFIELD BOARD THROUGH 2020:

Stephanie Buttner, JoAnn Trach Tongson, Deborah Mason, Janelle Cousino, Julia McDonald, Mary Ann Dresler, Jan Shipley, Mary Jo Schreven, Phaedra Stewart, Nina Tou, Jon Weiland, Marie Lymon, Michelle McWhirter, Thomas Spring

We hope we have not missed anyone. If we missed you, please let us know and we correct the error.

BE IN THE KNOW:

Events, activities and opportunities in Mayfield

Where is my Mayfield Update Hiding?

Mayfield Update has a weekly e-newsletter, also known as Mayfield-Update E-news, that usually is sent on Thursdays. To subscribe simply email your name, address and interest to mayfieldupdate@gmail.com and put Subscribe in the subject line.

We occasionally hear from people that they haven't been receiving "MayfieldUpdate". If you know you have subscribed, send an email to mayfieldupdate@gmail.com to alert us. We will check our database. We transferred our list-serve from gmail.com to Mail Chimp for technical reasons, and sometimes the recipient's email treats the e-newsletter as advertising or not priority.

If you haven't seen it in your inbox, please check these other sections of your email programs:

1. For GMAIL, look into your Promotions Inbox, Spam or Junk.
2. If you use Outlook, check your Other inbox (vs Focused) or other inboxes that it may be in — spam, trash, etc. Check "trash" if you use AOL.
3. Not sure about yahoo, but there may be similar boxes that resemble those listed above for other programs.
4. **And:** Add MayfieldUpdate in your contacts list, you will show it is a 'trusted sender'. If you are using GMAIL, fill in the arrow at the beginning of the

email and the star. This marks it as a priority and it should be delivered regularly to your primary inbox, and not diverted a junk or promotions inbox. If you don't receive it by Friday at 6 p.m., write to the editor at mayfieldupdate@gmail.com and you'll receive it from the editor's personal address or as a link.

Mayfield welcomes student volunteers.

Mayfield is eligible to certify volunteer hours for students who want to meet a school credit or graduation requirement. We understand that eligible volunteer work must be approved by the school to qualify for the volunteer credit. If a student does not have an idea of what needs to be done, the student or a parent or guardian may contact MayfieldUpdate@gmail.com and learn of suggested or upcoming events that require volunteer efforts.

Contact MayfieldUpdate@gmail.com when the student has a form from the school to be signed.

An Important Volunteer Opportunity

Mayfield is looking for one Newsletter delivery volunteer. One of our newsletter volunteers is moving to Frederick to be closer to work. We would like someone to take on his role. What's involved? Printed newsletters are issued three to four times a year, and delivery is needed to about 25 houses on a few streets west of Harford Road. If interested,

contact Mayfieldupdate@gmail.com. It is easy exercise and you get to meet new people.

DUMPSTER DAYS – 2021

JUNE 5

2400 block Chesterfield;

SEPTEMBER 11

2400 block Mayfield

DECEMBER 4

2400 block Chesterfield.

Holiday Decorating Winners

Best Block:

2200 Kentucky

Best Yard or House:

2206 Kentucky
Nick & Robin Syropoulos

Best Entrance or Porch:

2215 Kentucky – Eric & Catherine D'Dio

We also have two honorable mentions:

Best Story:

2235 Lake — Sarah & Jeremy Koser
(A Christmas Carol)

Most Humorous:

2404 Erdman — Paul & Diane Novak
(Merry Midnight
Mannequin Madness)
Congratulations to the homeowners!

And 2200 block of Kentucky Avenue gets bragging rights for BEST BLOCK.

We will be asking the top honorees which non-profit should receive a donation in your name from Mayfield Improvement Association. Thank you for making our holiday season merry and bright!