

THE MAYFIELD NEWSLETTER

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT:

Tuesday, August 1

6:30pm

Lake Montebello Drive at
Erdman green space.

O'S GAME

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8

7:05pm Camden Yards

Use the link below to buy
tickets \$18

for the Mayfield Section.

<https://fevogn.com/Mayfield-neighborhood>

MAYFIELD 59TH ANNUAL BLOCK PARTY

Friday, September 8, 6-10pm
Median by 3400 Norman Ave

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Thursday, October 19th,
Location TBA

A Hamlet in the Heart of Town

2023 | Issue Three

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Neighbors,

One of my favorite cartoons has an elderly farmer couple looking excitedly at their orchard of cat-trees, with their crop of cats hanging from the branches. "It's gonna be a great year, Mother," exults the farmer to his wife. "Look at the whiskers on those cats!"

I know it's weird, but I kind of get that same vibe whenever I see the stork displayed outside a new (or new again) parent's home, with the name of Mayfield's newest resident proudly displayed. "It's gonna be a great year, John!"



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www.mayfieldassociation.org

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exults the President of the Mayfield Improvement Association to her husband. "Look at that lucky birthday!"

It is perhaps in dubious taste to compare babies to a crop of cats that are going to be harvested for heaven only knows what purpose. (I like to think that the kitties will end up in loving homes, especially since the cartoonist was a confirmed cat lover). But I share that farmer's optimism and hopefulness when I see so many children in Mayfield. It's such a cliché, and I'm almost embarrassed to type these next words, but they really are the future of community. I am proud that so many new families are choosing Mayfield to raise their family.

That's why I love how Mayfield cherishes its young. The stork is a many-years tradition, and its arrival is always accompanied by a welcoming letter written by Stephanie Buttner on behalf of the improvement association. For the past three years, thanks to Julia McDonald, Mayfield's own master of the crochet hook, the baby also receives a beautiful, hand-made blanket. We have many activities for these babies as they get older, from the young'uns meeting up with the Easter Bunny at the playground to the Mothers Garden fairy house event this past May. And for older kids, there's the opportunity to win the Youth Vision prize, where they have the opportunity to imagine how they would improve our neighborhood if they were the "mayor" of Mayfield. (Sadly, we didn't receive any en-

tries this year, but, like the farmer in the cartoon, I remain optimistic for next year!)

But most of all, I think it is the "unofficial activities" that make Mayfield such a great neighborhood for families. I know that many firm and lasting friendships are forged at the playground—not just between the kids, but also between the parents chatting with each other as they watch over their children. And I love how parents get together to plan different activities for the neighborhood kids. Or just get together on the spur of the moment to enjoy a warm summer's evening and an opportunity to get to know a new friend.

So, let's raise a metaphorical glass to Mayfield's children, their parents, their friends, and their families. It's gonna be a great year!

Best regards,

Best regards,

Deborah Mason

President

Mayfield Improvement Association

P.S., if a new baby has entered your life this year, but didn't get a visit from the stork, please drop a line to mayfieldupdate@gmail.com. We'd love to welcome your little one.

Make SAFETY a PRIORITY!

Walking alone at night may present a cause for concern. Following these personal safety tips will help keep you stay safe when walking alone. Always be aware of where you are and alert to suspicious activity. There are certain precautions you can take to reduce the chance of an incident. Best advice, find a walking buddy.

1) Plan Your Route

Make sure you plan your route ahead of time.

2) Make Sure Someone Else Knows Your Plans

Don't go out when it is dark without telling someone, even if you are just

taking the dogs out for a walk walking home from a friend's house nearby.

3) Always Carry Your Phone with You

Always carry your phone, but not for music or to make social calls. You want to be able to hear footsteps, cars and other sounds around you at all times. Your phone can be a lifeline. If you feel threatened or see something suspicious, call a friend or neighbor to come with you or look out for you leaving your car!

4) Avoid Suspicious People and Areas

Areas that are dark can be riskier than a well-lit area full of people.

Stick to busy, lighted paths, to minimize the risks. If you feel like a suspicious person is following you, knock on a neighbor's door. Avoid empty streets and walkways with thick shrubbery.

5) Keep Your Hands Free

Except for a flashlight and one of the items discussed below, keep your hands free. If you are carrying anything, put it all in one bag or backpack. This will make it easier for you to react if you notice someone following you.

6) Carry a Non-Violent Deterrent

In addition to a flashlight, carry a non-violent deterrent such as a

whistle. Make a lot of noise if needed. Use your car's key fob alarm button if you are nearby.

7) Wear Reflective Clothing to Prevent Accidents

Areas with low visibility can be prone to accidents. Reflective clothing allows bikers and cars to see you as you walk along. A flashlight or headlight can also help drivers see you in dark stretches of road.

8) Take a Self-Defense Class

If you regularly walk alone, take a self-defense class. The idea is to disable your attacker enough for you to get to safety, and a class focused on

self-defense will help give you those survival skills.

9) Remove Any Distractions

When walking alone at night for exercise, music can be motivating but also very distracting. Being able to hear someone driving or walking up behind you is important.

10) Trust Your Gut

When walking alone at night, trust your gut. If you feel like a situation may be dangerous, don't wait around to find out. Walk as quickly as you can to a well-lit public place and call a friend or walk to a nearby home in Mayfield.

NED Police Commanders Monthly Meeting

You are invited to attend the monthly Commanders Meeting. All meetings are on the 4th Thursday of every month at 7pm.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86713597447>

Meeting ID: 867 1359 7447
Passcode: BPDNED

By Phone

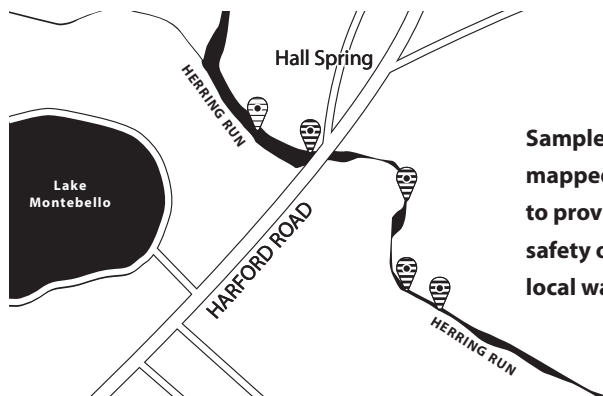
301-715-8592
Meeting ID: 86713597447

Or In-Person

Northeastern District,
1900 Argonne Drive,
Baltimore MD 21218,
(RollCall room)

Be PREPARED!

Water Quality Studies of Herring Run



Samples are taken regularly and mapped for documentation and to provide current data about the safety of recreational activity in local waterways.

Herring Run is part of the river and stream system that sends 51 BILLION gallons of water EVERY DAY into the Chesapeake Bay. **Just 1 Billion gallons of water will fill 12,500,000 bathtubs.**

Now times that by 51! The Chesapeake Bay Program tells us that almost three-quarters of the Chesapeake Bay's tidal waters are considered impaired by chemical contaminants. Blue Water Baltimore and Friends of Herring Run Parks collaborated on Blue Water Baltimore's Community Science Project to answer the question: What contaminants are in Herring Run? The study was under the direction of Barbara Johnson, BWB Water Quality Scientist.

The Results From the Herring Run Community Water Sampling Day —June 29, 2023 are tagged in the map you can view at the google map below:

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?mid=1mxlMHJwpENml87plqpgFbdVeGOVp1IM&ll=39.333394089509085%2C-76.57974048931587&z=17>

The results of the sampling day provide documentation and gives one data to make an informed decision about recreating in certain areas of local waterways. Of course, conditions change daily due to many factors including weather and local pollution discharges. Maryland also recommends that one should not come in contact with natural water bodies for 48 hours after a rainfall event.

For more information about the park system that surrounds Herring run visit:

www.friendsofherringrun.org/events.html
then look at June 7 for the full report.

IN AND AROUND MAYFIELD



Get Your O's tix for MAYFIELD NIGHT at Camden Yards

We have secured a group of seats for
the Orioles game on

**Tuesday, August 8th, 7:05pm
against the Houston Astros.**

\$18/ticket,

deadline to buy is August 7th.

**Use the link below to
purchase your seats:**

<https://fevogm.com/Mayfieldneighborhood>

Section: 334, upper deck, under cover
and right behind home plate.

If you would like to take advantage of
the Orioles' promotion "Kids Cheer
Free", (2 kids under the age of 9 are
free with a paying adult), call Manny,
an Orioles salesperson, at 410-547-
3427 directly.

This link can also be used by your
non-Mayfield friends and family! The

more the merrier! There's a lot of ex-
citement, energy and enthusiasm
with the young Orioles ballplayers.
Wear orange and black and come see
what this rebuilt team is all about!
Hoping you can make this family
friendly night out with neighbors!



**Friday, September 8
6-10pm**

The Annual Block Party will be a fun
evening as always! Expect to hear
great music, taste a variety of food
options, select delicious baked goods,
enjoy various beverages, find fun for
the kids, and get bargains at the
White Elephant Table.

We are working on a hybrid system to
allow for both cash and cashless pay-
ments for items that have a nominal
price tag on them. We hope to
be able to accommodate purchases
via cashless transactions in advance
of the date of the block party. (Of
course, 'cash transactions' are always
an option at each serving station).

The organizers will provide more de-
tails ahead of the event. Volunteers
will be needed to help out for an
hour. It is both a fun experience and
a great way to meet visiting former
residents, new residents and neigh-
bors from other blocks. We'll have
more details to share later in August.

Get up-to-date information by sub-
scribing to the weekly E-news. It is
easy. Send an email to mayfieldupdate@gmail.com and you will be on
the list. Or write to mayfieldupdate@gmail.com and ask for Block Party De-
tails. Issue to be sent on a one-time
basis. It will be released from August
31st through Sept 6th.

Mayfield For All Ages

How can we help you?

Mayfield has a group of volunteers
that have said they would help other
residents that may need help with a
task, a ride or some other matter. Ac-
cess to volunteer help is available to
all residents as we check with some
of the 2 dozen volunteers who have
joined this effort.

How can you ask for help? It starts
with an email to MayfieldUpdate@gmail.com with the Subject Line:
Mayfield For All Ages Request. In-
clude the support you need in the
email. You will receive a reply with in-
formation for next steps.

STAINED GLASS TALK AND WALK HOUSE TOUR

Linda Rabben, who is working on an advanced degree at Notre Dame University of Maryland, was interested in discovering the answers to WHY and WHO in Baltimore had stained glass in their houses. She found Mayfield to have many homes with unique stained-glass windows. Lisa Hansen Terhune met her and suggested she let Mayfield Update send a note to the community about her research project. Several homeowners responded. Linda shared her findings with the Renaissance Institute Summer in the City at Notre Dame University of Maryland. She is now preparing the publication of a her book entitled: "Through a Glass Darkly: The Social History of Stained Glass in Baltimore."

Here's what Linda wrote recently about her research and the upcoming book:

"A talented team, consisting of a MICA student photographer, a MICA student book designer, a copy editor, a printer and a publicist, is helping me produce a book called "Through a Glass Darkly". I plan to launch the book in November 2023, in conjunction with an exhibition of local stained-glass makers' work at The Peale community museum.

"Through a Glass Darkly" is based on two years' primary and secondary research in local libraries, archives and

neighborhoods on the social, political and economic contexts of the creation, installation and restoration of stained-glass windows in Baltimore homes, churches and public buildings from the 1850s to the present. "I've taken hundreds of photos and talked to scores of homeowners, glassmakers, local historians and experts," Linda said.

Expert readers who fact-checked the text commented, "Your manuscript is wonderful"; "Yours is a fascinating manuscript. I particularly like the way you describe how you fell in love with Baltimore stained glass"; and "It looks fantastic." – Linda Rabben

Mayfield has many homes that have stained-glass in prominent windows of their living room, skylight or in the stairwell landing. The result: we are planning a Stained Glass Talk & Walk House Tour to learn more and to see a few homes in Mayfield that have distinctive features.

Details are still to come — house locations especially. Ms. Rabben will share her findings on Saturday, August 19, at 11 am at The Maryland State Boychoir, 3400 Norman Avenue. Then there will be a guided walk to see a few homes or churches with stained glass, distinctive gardens or other beautiful features.

History is all around us.

Mayfield is surrounded by history.

Indigenous people of several tribes lived or had campgrounds near Herring Run. Friends of Herring Run's Heritage Trail puts a spotlight on that history.

Several large estates of early Maryland political leaders and prominent businessmen, such as Johns Hopkins and Robert Garrett, had estates nearby. Hall Spring was a popular destination for travelers and fetching natural spring water.

Sam Smith's estate named "Montebello," became the land for Lake Montebello, a reservoir, in 1871. The Montebello Plant #1 was one of the most modern water treatment plants in the US and was dedicated in 1915. It is connected by the underground tunnel to Loch Raven Reservoir as

its source of water. It was the 2nd largest treatment plant in the US at the time.

A second treatment plant was built nearby in 1928. Along with the Ashburton filtration plant, these facilities provide drinking water to most of the Metropolitan Region. Before the treatment plants, water came from a series of reservoirs and cholera was a common illness. After the treatment plants began filtration, cholera incidence plunged and was no longer a common health problem in Baltimore.

An historical marker was placed at Lake Montebello near the cone-shaped water gate building in August 2015 — marking its 100th year of service and contributing to better health of the entire region.

CALENDAR

Check www.mayfieldassociation.org
mayfieldupdate@gmail.com or
[www.Facebook.com/mayfield.update](https://www.facebook.com/mayfield.update) for
updated calendar and other events
worth noting between newsletter
deliveries.

**Summer Social or Short notice Pop up
events – see signs in medians and
E-news or Facebook**

**Summer TBD – Volunteer Thank You
and New Resident Party**

**Tuesday, August 1st 6:30pm
National Night Out
Tuesday, August 1st
Lake Montebello Drive Area**

**Wednesday, August 8, 7:05pm
Mayfield Night at the Orioles at
Camden Yards,
Ticket info in this issue**

**Friday, September 8, 6 – 10pm
Mayfield's 59th Annual Block Party
3400 Norman Avenue median**

**Saturday, September 23 –
Dumpster Day 3
2201 Mayfield Avenue, morning**

**Thursday, October 19, 7:15pm
Mayfield General Membership
Meeting – Location TBD
Halloween events – Late October TBD**

**Saturday, December 2 – Mayfield
Dumpster Day #4 2300 block of
Mayfield Ave, morning**

**Holiday Events TBD - Santa Visit,
Caroling Event, Holiday Decoration
Judging**

Mayfield Improvement Association Officers

President
Deborah Mason
Vice President
Phaedra Stewart
Recording Secretary
Janelle Cousino
Corresponding Secretary
Stephanie Buttner
Treasurer
Julia McDonald

Board Members

Mary Anne Dresler
James Long
Marie Lymon
Jan Shipley
Lisa Hansen Terhune
JoAnn Trach Tongson
Nina Tou
Michael Wilson

Committee & Project Leaders

Welcome Basket — Stephanie Buttner,
Julia McDonald, Nina Tou
Block Party — Stephanie Buttner and
Phaedra Stewart
Communications — Janelle Cousino
Webmaster — Brian Baughn
Newsletter Layout & Graphic Design
Nina Tou
Greening Activities —
JoAnn Trach Tongson
Children Activities — Parent Committee
Playground Maintenance —
Dave Hardy, JoAnn Trach Tongson
Youth Scholar Vision Prize
Committee — Deborah Mason
JoAnn Trach Tongson Phaedra Stewart &
Nina Tou
Mayfield for All Ages — Deborah Mason
Social Activities - Phaedra Stewart,
Marie Lymon & Jami Dodson
Newsletter Distribution —
Julia McDonald
Traffic Calming Committee —
Chairperson role open

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 commit-
tee? Email mayfieldupdate@gmail.com to
let us know. There are many ways to
volunteer for Mayfield.

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/](http://mayfieldassociation.org/news/zoningnews/)

Link to City Zoning Regulations

Residents who have questions about
permits for fencing, signs, home im-
provements or other issues regulated by
city codes can log onto this website for
answers:

Zoning: [https://planning.baltimorecity.
gov/programs/transform-baltimore](https://planning.baltimorecity.gov/programs/transform-baltimore)
and what needs a permit?
[http://www.baltimorehousing.org/
permits](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_
homeowner.shtml](https://mht.maryland.gov/taxcredits_homeowner.shtml) or Mayfield website:
<http://www.mayfieldassociation.org>

For an emergency dial: 911

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

Our welcome committee would like to
know. Please send an email to:
mayfieldupdate@gmail.com
Mayfield News is created by volunteers,
printed and then distributed by volun-
teers 3 or 4 times a year.

Mayfield has a Weekly E News too.

If you are not receiving MayfieldUpdate
E-newsletter — a weekly news update
distributed by email, you can subscribe.
Send an email with your name and
address to mayfieldupdate@gmail.com
and say 'Subscribe to E-news.'

Do you have a question about May- field, or want something placed in the weekly Neighbor to Neighbor section of the E-news?

To share an opportunity, help solve a
problem, request a referral or find a
service—if you need help from Mayfield
for All Ages, want to sign up for the
E-news or just about anything else —
send a note to [Mayfieldupdate@gmail.
com](mailto:Mayfieldupdate@gmail.com) —It will get to the right person.

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times a year.**