



MOUNT WASHINGTON NEWSLETTER

MOUNT WASHINGTON IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Spring 2006

Annual Meeting – June 20, 2006

The Mt. Washington Improvement Association (MWIA) will hold its Annual Meeting on Tuesday, June 20, 2006, at 7:00 p.m. at the Johns Hopkins Mt. Washington Conference Center, room C-19 Amphitheater. The agenda will include the Design Awards, election of the board, and other Mt. Washington neighborhood business. Our 5th District City Councilwoman and District Senator and Delegates have been invited.

Nominating Committee Report for 2006/7

The Association's nominating committee consisted of chairperson Aaron Meisner, Rebecca Bainum, Clifford Mitchell, Lu Pierson, and Monika Springer Schnell. The committee recommends the following nominees:

Nominations for at-large directors for three-year terms

Stuart Caplan (incumbent)
David Conn (incumbent)
Jill Feinberg
Shea Lyda
Linda Panlilio
Trent Zivkovich (incumbent)

Nominations for Area Captains (1 year term)

Area 1	Brent Flickenger
Area 2	Liz Hopkins
Area 3	Ira Kolman
Area 4	Roberta Strickler
Area 5	Carol Berkower
Area 6	Eric Seaberg
Area 7	Rebecca Redett

The following individuals have completed their commitment, and we gratefully acknowledge their service to the community: - Missy Conway, Ralph Raphael, Kirk Kolodner, Eva Glasgow, Julie Salsbery

THIS NEWSLETTER SHALL SERVE AS NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL MEETING AND, IF NO ADDITIONAL NOMINATIONS ARE RECEIVED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BY-LAWS, THE OFFICIAL BALLOT TO BE VOTED ON AT THE ANNUAL MEETING.

Mt. Washington Improvement Association Annual Picnic

June 17th • 4:00-7:00 pm, rain or shine

Hamburgers, hotdogs, veggie burgers and drinks provided

Bring a dish to share

Live Music

For more information, contact
Cliff Mitchell at cmitchel99@verizon.net



Message From the President

As you walk or drive around Mt. Washington, you get a sense of simultaneous renewal and change. Spring is always a beautiful and optimistic time of year, and this year is no exception. However, as Mt. Washingtonians emerge from hibernation, they will notice many changes in our community - some good and some challenging.

The Baltimore Messenger's March "man bites dog" story described how our crime rate has decreased. While that is technically accurate, "decrease" actually meant going from a low number of incidents to a very, very low number of incidents. I found myself thinking about how perception often confounds reality. While I was tempted to write a letter to the editor, I thought it would be more useful to use this column as a means of correcting some of the perception while dealing with the very real issue of public safety, an issue in which perception is every bit as important as reality.

Over the past year the five neighborhoods that comprise the northwest Strategic Neighborhood Action Plan (SNAP) have spent considerable time discussing public safety issues. These conversations were prompted in part by concerns in the Park Heights corridor relating to harassment and attacks by teenagers. Several police and community initiatives resulted such as a large community gathering at Cross Country Elementary convened by Senator Lisa Gladden and the House delegation. After this meeting, changes were made to ensure timely police response and accuracy of calls. Also, community policing cameras were installed along the Park Heights corridor. Lastly, SNAP organized two committees to address various aspects of public safety: one on juvenile crime prevention through community involvement, the other on public awareness and preparedness.

Citizen's Patrol

Public safety is a perennial issue of concern, and the MWIA has been trying to renew our public safety committee and activity. I met recently with the police department's Northern District leadership to discuss our plans to revitalize the citizens' patrol (which has languished for several years) and public safety outreach. Look for notices on www.mwia.org concerning things you can do to improve safety around your home, and please consider taking a more active role by volunteering for the citizen's patrol. If community members devoted just one evening every few months to the patrol, we would all benefit. With summer approaching, and children walking to and from the pool, we all have a stake in keeping our streets and homes safe.

Recreational Opportunities

We need to have a community dialogue about our role in providing recreational opportunities for teenagers in the five neighborhoods. For example, Luckman Park has served as a recreational area with organized activities for children of various age groups. While the city has not seen fit thus far to make a commitment to the recreation building, we should think seriously about the potential benefits of a refurbished or rebuilt recreation building and facility that could be an asset to the entire community. While there may be legitimate concerns about how to assure that the park remains a safe and pleasant place for all, and after-hours activities do not

constitute either a nuisance or safety concern, we need to consider the dearth of recreational opportunities for teens and children today compared with previous years.

It has been an honor and privilege to serve as president of the MWIA these past two years. I have met some wonderful people, and I would encourage all of you who live in Mt. Washington to consider becoming active in the Mt. Washington Improvement Association (MWIA). This wonderful community is so much more so because of the talented, enthusiastic people who live here.

As we get ready to select a new slate of board members and officers, I would urge all of you, particularly those of you who are new to the area, to come to the annual meeting on June 20 at the Mt. Washington Conference Center and see for yourself why you should be active in your community.

Cliff Mitchell

Events at the Mt. Washington Village

The Mt. Washington Merchants Association has been busy with upgrades and activities in the Village. Improvements include: a new Village Guide, an upgraded website (<http://mtwashingtonvillage.com>), cleaner streets and sidewalks and the possible repaving of some streets.

Please come out for these shows and festivals:

- Garden and Flower Show, April 29, from 11:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m. at the Baltimore Clayworks parking lot. There will be plants, flowers, and landscaping material, organic information and material, gardening tips, crafts, food, and entertainment. For information, please call 410-561-0065.
- Wine, Cheese, and Jazz Festival, October 1. The festival will feature local wineries, cheeses from around the world, great beads, arts and crafts, live jazz, food, and fun for people of all ages.

Updates at the Johns Hopkins Campus

The Johns Hopkins University (JHU) and the Mt. Washington Conference Center were pleased to partner with the Mt. Washington Improvement Association last winter for the annual holiday tree lighting. The campus continues to be occupied by information technology, telecommunications, and administrative departments. This spring, an additional 340 IT and telecommunications staff will arrive at the campus, producing a 90% occupancy rate. Continued landscaping improvements are also being made.

www.mwia.org

Board of Directors

Directors

President: Clifford Mitchell	410-466-0529
Vice President: Mac Nachlas	410-542-8766
Vice President: Rebecca Bainum	410-664-7159
Secretary: Maggie Kunz	410-664-9466
Treasurer: Leslie Sporn Symonds	410-542-1892

Board

Taliya Adelstein	410-367-4539
Stuart Caplan	410-367-4907
David Conn	410-466-8462
Denise Duval	410-664-7893
Eva Glasgow	410-542-4764
Chester Frazier	410-367-2932
Cindy Freeman	410-664-7774
Kirk Kolodner	410-367-3459
George Lewis	410-664-2760
Lu Pierson	410-664-0055
Ralph Raphael	410-664-4485
Salem Reiner	410-542-8766
Sally Staugitis	410-664-2212

Honorary Directors

Jan Franz	410-664-5254
John Mack	410-466-3824

Area Director

Aaron Meisner	410-664-0707
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Area Captains

1. Missy Conway	410-542-2694
1. Shea Lyda	410-664-6516
2. Julie Salsbery	410-664-0054
2. Liz Hopkins	410-542-0927
3. Ira Kolman	410-664-5078
4. Roberta Strickler	410-367-8666
5. Trent Zivkovich	410-542-5147
6. Eric Seaberg	410-466-1548
7. Rebecca Redett	410-542-3999



Taking Care of Our Trees

The wooded feel of Mt Washington is one of its great attractions. Our large, beautiful trees make the neighborhood cooler, provide fresh air, and give us a sense of peacefulness in the city.

However, a large number of trees are threatened by the out-of-control growth of invasive English ivy. Left unchecked, the ivy will kill the trees by growing up the trunk and out onto the limbs, smothering the growth of leaves. Ivy is very visible this time of year- drive along nearly any road and look into the woods (or in your own yard!) and note the number of trees infested with the vine.

Luckily, it's not complicated to kill the ivy. With clippers or loppers, cut through the ivy vine at the base of the tree, then cut the vine again a couple of feet above that. Remove that section, leaving a gap of open trunk. Be careful not to damage the bark when you remove the section of vine. Repeat this for all the vines growing up the tree. The City Parks Department advises not to try to pull the vines down from above your head because branches may then fall on you. The ivy above will die, but not immediately. It is then best to pull the ivy away from the base of the tree by simply pulling it out of the ground and disposing of it.

Residents are asked to de-ivy their trees and then to work together on the trees in public spaces. If you cannot take this on yourself, a landscaper can do the job. Or, join with your neighbors and work together to clear the trees on your street. To help out, or ask for help, call Bebe Verdery at 410-466-2221, or join neighbors on occasional Sundays by contacting Jeff Call at 410-664-4205



Save The Dates!

- **Annual Mt. Washington Improvement Association Meeting** – June 20 7:00 pm at the Johns Hopkins Mt. Washington Conference Center, room C-19 Amphitheater.
- **Annual Mt. Washington Improvement Association Picnic**
 - June 17th at 4:00 – 7:00 p.m., rain or shine
 - Luckman Park, intersection of Rockwood and Woodcrest
 - Hamburgers, hotdogs, veggie burgers and drinks provided; bring a dish to share
 - Live music
 - For more information contact Cliff Mitchell at
- For more information, contact Cliff Mitchell at cmitchel99@verizon.net
- **July 4th Parade and Community Swim**
 - Parade and children's activities begin at 10:00 a.m. at 5601 Wexford Rd.
 - Parade concludes at the Wesley
 - Open Swim 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. at the MW Swim Club

Calendar

APRIL

April 20, 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

"Coffee With The Principal" Shrine of the Sacred Heart School Mini Open House, 5800 Smith Ave., 410-542-7406

April 25th, 7 p.m.

Internet Safety for Parents, Shrine of the Sacred Heart, Taylor Hall, Smith Ave., 410-542-7406

April 27-29, noon – 9:00 p.m.; April 30 noon – 7 p.m.

Volvo Ocean Race Waterfront Festival, Baltimore Inner Harbor. The Volvo Ocean Race serves as the centerpiece of the Baltimore Waterfront Festival, and visitors can experience the excitement of this international competition. Live music, exhibitors, family fun and plenty of food. Dragon boat races, sailing lessons. www.baltimorewaterfrontfestival.com

April 29, 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Garden and Flower Show, Baltimore Clayworks parking lot, Smith Ave. and Newbury St.

Plants, flowers, and landscaping material for sale, organic information and material, gardening tips, crafts, food, and entertainment. 410-561-0065

April 29, 8:00 a.m. – noon

MWES Spring Yard Sale, School Parking Lot, 1801 Sulgrave Ave.

Come find great deals, crafts, food. Spaces available. Betty Bebe Daniels: 410-433-5214, bettybebe@verizon.com

April 29, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

St. John's Flea Market and Spring Fair, parking lot of St. John's, 1700 South Rd.

Spaces are \$10 (plus a donation of 10% of any proceeds over \$100) Joel at 410-367-7287

Maryland House and Garden Pilgrimage.

Talbot County April 29

St. Mary's County May 7

Anne Arundel County May 13

Baltimore County May 20

www.mhgp.org or 410-821-6933

MAY

May 4

First Thursday Concert in the Park, Mt. Vernon Park. Music: Brothers Past. www.towson.edu/wtmd

May 6, 6:30 p.m.

MWES Bid of Madness Auction

JHU Mt. Washington Conference Center, McAuley Hall, www.mtwashington.org

May 5 – 6, Fri., 11:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m., Sat., 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
89th Annual Flower Mart, Mt. Vernon Park at Washington Monument. www.flowermart.org or 410-323-0022

May 12, 7:05 p.m.

MWES Family Night at the Yard. Oriole Park Orioles vs. Royals. Upper Reserve seating along 1st base line. Tickets are \$13, (\$5 of which will support MWES). Kelly Meck: 410-542-3023 orkjmeck@terpalum.umd.edu

May 13, 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Cylburn Arboretum Market Day. 4915 Greenspring Ave. 410-367-2217

May 14, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Children's Crafts. Cylburn Arboretum, 410-367-2217

May 20

Preakness Pimlico Racetrack

Support neighborhood lemonade stands!

May 21, 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

CHAI's Senior Home Repair Day

Help seniors spruce up their homes for spring! Volunteers are needed to assist homeowners with safety improvements, spring household chores and yard work. No previous experience is required. Interested homeowners are urged to call 410-318-6600, ext 10, by April 24th for information on qualifications, registration or assistance with major repair needs. Volunteers can register online at <http://www.chaibaltimore.org>

May 21, 1:00 p.m. (obo), 5:00 p.m. (flutist)

Obo and Flute Recitals. St. John's Episcopal Church, 1700 South Road

Flutist Yong Clark, a Yale graduate, will be performing a free recital. Joel at 410-367-7287

May 21, 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Tulip Dig. Cylburn Arboretum, 4915 Greenspring Ave., 410-367-2217

JUNE

June 2, 6:00 p.m.

Spice It Up! Baltimore Clayworks, 5707 Smith Ave.

Serving up a red-hot combination of great food sponsored by some of Baltimore's best caterers and restaurants, up-beat Caribbean music by Mama Jama and affordable pottery at seconds sale prices 410-578-1919 or www.baltimoreclayworks.org

June 3, noon – 4:00 p.m.

Maryland Rose Show. Cylburn Arboretum, 4915 Greenspring Ave., 410-367-2217

June 4

Race for Our Kids, Sinai Pediatric Oncology Center. Benefit Walk and Race through Mt. Washington, 10K, 5K, and 1 mile family walk. Registration begins at 6 a.m., the 5K starts at 8 a.m., the 10K and 1 mile walk begin at 8:30 a.m. Awards ceremony at 9:30 a.m. \$5,000 in cash prizes for the 10K. Categories, age groups and other information: www.raceforourkids.org

June 11, 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. June 11, 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Cylburn Perennial & Herb Day. Cylburn Arboretum, 4915 Greenspring Ave., 410-367-2217

June 17, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Mt. Washington Community Yard Sale at Luckman Park. Sell your old stuff for only \$10 a table, or we'll sell it for you. Or come shop! Proceeds help fund Luckman Park activities and plantings. To reserve a table at the yard sale, or to help: Maggie Kunz: 410-664-9466 or maggiekunz@gmail.com or www.mwia.org

June 17, 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Annual MWIA Picnic at Luckman Park, Rockwood and Woodcrest Aves. Hamburgers, hotdogs, veggie burgers, and drinks provided. Bring a dish to share. Live music. www.mwia.org

June 20, 7:00 p.m.

MWIA Annual Meeting. JHU Mt. Washington Conference Center, Community update, design awards www.mwia.org

June 21, 8:00 a.m.

Bus trip to Tyler and Jenkins Arboreta, Hagley Museum. Sponsored by Cylburn Arboretum, 410-367-2217

June 21 – 26, 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Summer Nights at the Cloisters. 10440 Falls Rd., evening performances vary from musical groups, theatre, puppet shows, magic acts, 410-752-8632

June 22, 7:00 p.m.

Garden Club of Greater Baltimore. Cylburn Arboretum, 4915 Greenspring Ave., 410-367-2217

June 23 – 24, 10:30 a.m.

Plant a Patio Container Workshop. Cylburn Arboretum, 4915 Greenspring Ave., 410-367-2217

JULY

July 4, 10:00 a.m.

Spirit of Mt. Washington 7th Annual Independence Parade. Starts at 5601 Wexford Rd. Pre-parade festivities include musical entertainment along with face painting and favors for the children. The parade will end at The Wesley (2211 W. Rogers) for refreshments and mingling with the residents. Prizes for patriotic costumes. Groups and floats welcome! Caroline Tufts: 410-664-3730 or Missie Mack: 410-466-3824

July 4, noon – 4:00 p.m.

Mt. Washington Swim Club Community Swim. 2300 Enslow Rd., 410-367-0110

July 9, noon -- 4 p.m.

Daylily Exhibit & Sale. Cylburn Arboretum, 4915 Greenspring Ave., 410-367-2217



July 4th Parade and Activities

The 7th Annual “Spirit of Mt. Washington Independence Day Parade” will begin at 10:00 a.m. on July 4th at the home of Chris and Caroline Tufts – 5601 Wesley Rd. Pre-parade activities will include face painting and favors for the children. The parade will end at The Wesley for refreshments and mingling with the residents. Prizes will be awarded for patriotic costumes. Groups and floats are welcome! Continue the celebration at the Mt. Washington Pool for open swim from 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. For more information, contact Caroline Tufts at 410-664-3730 or Missie Mack at 410-466-3824.

www.mwia.org

Preservation Trust Plans Tree Sale for Mt. Washington

Did you know that the Mt. Washington area is losing mature shade trees at the rate of 1-2% per year? It is in our long term interest to replace these trees now. The Mt. Washington Preservation Trust (MWPT) has arranged to buy trees and make them available for planting in the spring. Many 5-foot trees will be available for \$20 including: red maple, sweet gum, tulip poplar, black gum, river birch, and various oaks. Larger trees will be available for \$55 in 1-1/2" caliper trunks. Trees will be available for pick-up at the arboretum the first half of April; delivery can be arranged if necessary. For further information or to order, call Mike Sherlock at 410-367-2265 or Jeff Call at 410-664-4205 or visit the arboretum's web site: mini-arboretum.org.

You can find a list of trees with descriptions at:
<http://www.dnr.state.md.us/criticalarea/trees.html>.

Looking for something a bit different like disease resistant Dutch Elms or planting fruit trees, please check out the links below:

<http://www.elmpost.org/>
<http://www.fallenfruit.org/>

Lastly, please reference the link below to learn how to identify and remove the invasive Norway Maple. It's all over Mt. Washington.

<http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien/pubs/midatlantic/acpl.htm>

Call for Dues and Updated Information

What makes a community strong and vibrant over the decades? The biggest factor is neighbors who share a common concern and affection for their neighborhood. But it takes the commitment of people willing to devote their time, energy, effort, and experience to make it really work.

The Mt. Washington Improvement Association (MWIA) brings volunteers together to share their enthusiasm for the neighborhood so that the community can continue to thrive and grow while preserving its historic charm and beauty.

Please take the time to be a part of the community:

- * Pay the very reasonable \$25 dues
- * Update your contact information
- * Join the Mt. Washington listserv

Mail the dues form (on the back cover) to Mt. Washington Improvement Association, P.O. Box 10404, Baltimore, MD 21209 or go to the membership link at mwia.org.

*Spring is Here!
Remember to
Curb Your Dog!*



Crime Watch

Officer Doug Gibson of the Northern District reported the 2004-2005 crime statistics for Mt. Washington. Crime is down by approximately 1/3. There were 150 incidents in 2004, and only 106 in 2005. There were a couple of people "working the area" in 2004 to account for the higher numbers. Stolen automobiles were the same both years. There were 50 burglaries and 34 larcenies from auto in 2005.

Officer Gibson and his partner, Officer Jonathan Walter, are available in early evenings and on Saturdays to do Residential Security Surveys for community members. They will look at doors, locks, lighting, bushes, etc., and make suggestions for increasing security. They are happy to do groups of neighbors at the same time. They offer these general suggestions for reducing crime:

- Don't leave garage doors open, even when you are there (people may take something quickly or see something and come back later for it).
- Put everything in your trunk instead of in your car – people will smash the window and take almost anything, such as change, any CDs, etc.
- Use motion-sensor lights.
- Park near street lights and use anti-theft devices to avoid auto thefts.
- Sign up for the crime watch program. You can get an anonymous number to call and report crime without giving your information. (This program is primarily for people in high drug-use neighborhoods where neighbors might be dealing drugs, but anyone can use it.)
- If you see anyone suspicious hanging around, especially in an unusual place such as between houses or in another "non-traffic area," call it in as a "burglary in progress" to get a faster response time. If you see someone looking into the windows of parked cars, you can also call 911 and report a "crime in progress". Reporting a "suspicious person" will warrant a much slower response time.

We are looking for someone to organize the "Crime Watch." If you are interested and available, please contact Cliff Mitchell at cmitchel99@verizon.net

Call for content for the summer newsletter

The newsletter is published by the Mt. Washington Improvement Association (MWIA) and is mailed to the homes of residents four times a year. The newsletter informs the residents about people, activities, and services in Mt. Washington and the actions of the Board of Directors. The newsletter accepts news, information, and suggestions.

The deadline for the summer issue is June 15 (August publication). Contact Jill Feinberg, editor: jbfeinberg@comcast.net or 410-466-9225.

What's Happening At Luckman Park

Luckman Park is a wonderful space which includes a playground, tennis courts, and a park. It is located on Glen Avenue between Key and Merville. It is *the place* this spring and summer. Come see the bulbs and other new plants in bloom and join us for these activities.

Spring Clean-Up – Sunday, April 23, 9:00 a.m. – 12 noon
Come help get the park ready for spring by cleaning up leaves and trash.

Community Yard Sale – Saturday, June 17, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Sell your old stuff for only \$10 a table or we'll sell it for you. Or just shop! Proceeds help fund park activities and plantings.

Art in the Park Day – July, TBA
Our third annual art day – free arts and crafts activities for kids of all ages!

And plan to listen or play at the 2nd annual **Luckman Park Music Day** in September!

Watch the MWIA web site (www.mwia.org) and park signs for dates and details.

For more information, to reserve a table at the yard sale, or to help (we could really use some help!) with any of these events, contact Maggie Kunz at (410) 664-9466 or maggiekunz@gmail.com.

Join the Communications Committee

Do you want to improve the way we communicate?
Join the Mount Washington Communications Committee?

We are looking for neighbors to volunteer in these three areas:

GRAPHIC DESIGNER

- Design our brand, logo, look and feel for all communications pieces (web, newsletter, etc.)

WEB PROGRAMMER

- Someone to program our new website
- Experience in database management, ecommerce and programming

VOLUNTEERS

- To join the communications committee and brainstorm on content, look, feel and channels of communication

To learn more or to volunteer, please contact Jill Feinberg at jbfeinberg@comcast.net. Tell us a little bit about yourself – your relevant experience, your interest in volunteering and where you live. These opportunities are open to Mt. Washington residents only.

Neighborhood Listserv

Would you like to join the new Mt. Washington listserv? Carol Berkower has taken the initiative to create the list and outlines the benefits below:

- Keeping neighbors informed of community meetings, social gatherings, concerts, school events or other cultural events taking place in the area
- Matching neighbors and resources (babysitting, advice on home repair, stuff to buy, sell, borrow or give away)
- Arranging spontaneous and structured get-togethers
- General community building
- And much more...

Members could of course unsubscribe at will. For more information and to join the listserv, email Carol Berkower at cberkower@towson.edu

New Location for Voting

The Baltimore City Board of Elections recently changed polling locations from the Mt. Washington Elementary School to the Shrine of the Sacred Heart School. The federal Help America Vote Act of 2002 requires that all polling places be handicapped accessible, and the Elementary School is not. The Shrine of the Sacred Heart School is located at 5800 Smith Avenue.

New voter registration cards, reflecting this change, were mailed to all voters who previously voted at the Mt. Washington Elementary School. If for some reason you did not receive a new voter registration card in the mail recently, please call the Baltimore City Board of Elections at 410-396-5554 to inquire about the status of your registration.



*The 7th Annual
Spirit of Mount Washington
Independence Day Parade
July 4th, 10am*



Mt. Washington Swim Club

Summer officially begins on Saturday, May 27 at 11:00 a.m. when the gates to the Mt. Washington Swim Club (MWSC) swing open for a new year of fun and sun. This year the Swim Club, hidden in the woods off Enslow Road near Greenspring Avenue, is inviting new members from Mt. Washington and surrounding communities. The newly rebuilt pools have made the MWSC an even nicer place to get away from it all without leaving the neighborhood.

The “kiddie pool” features fountains, jets, and a waterfall for the little ones. The new, larger main pool has dedicated areas for diving and “shark and minnows” games leaving more room for swimming laps or just playing in the water. The pools are covered (rather than emptied) in the winter, so we should have nice, warm swimming water earlier than in the past.

For the brave of heart there is a “Penguin Club” forming. Members will have use of the pool for seven weeks each Monday/Wednesday/Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. Eight members are needed to create the club. For information or to sign up, send an email to swimmw@yahoo.com and put “Penguin” on the subject line.

As always non-member neighbors are invited to Community Swim each Tuesday between July 11 and August 15 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Swim instruction for all ages will be available by appointment. If interested, see the manager, Sam Nutall at the front desk.

For membership information, send an email to swimmw@yahoo.com or call the Membership Director, Amy Nogi at 410-542-8487.

The pool schedule for 2006 is:

Sat., May 27 – Sun., June 11

Weekends 11:00a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Weekdays 3:00p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Mon., June 12 – Sun., Aug. 20

All Days 10:00a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Mon., Aug. 21 – Sun., Aug 27

All Days 11:00a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Mon., Aug. 28 – Mon., Sept. 4

All Days 11:00a.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Clean Alleys, Sidewalks, and Street Gutters - Who Is Responsible?

Most Mt. Washington residents keep their yards well-tended and free of trash. But what about our alleys, sidewalks, and the curbside street gutter areas? Who is responsible for keeping them free of trash and other debris? We are. (The exception is for those in dwellings with two or more units and who do not have exclusive use of an outside property area. In this case, the owner and operator are responsible.)

Section 307.1 of the Baltimore City Property Maintenance Code provides that “An occupant of a single-unit building and an occupant of a unit with exclusive use of an exterior property area must maintain the exterior areas, including abutting sidewalks, gutters, and alleys, in compliance with Sections 304 and 305 of this Chapter.” Section 304.1 requires that “All lots and exterior premises, including abutting sidewalks, gutters, and alleys, must be maintained in a clean, safe, and sanitary condition.” Section 305.1 requires that “All premises, including abutting sidewalks, gutters, and alleys, as well as the interior of every structure, must be kept free of any accumulation of trash, garbage, and debris, including any animal waste, construction material, equipment, furniture, appliances, and similar objects and materials.”

If an owner or occupant receives a notice of violation and does not comply with the order to abate the violation, enforcement measures may include one or more of the following: injunctive or other equity proceedings, criminal prosecution, and administrative proceedings. In certain situations, enforcement does not require a violation notice: where there is a pattern or practice of noncompliance; for violations that remain unabated after a prior prosecution for that violation; where a prepayable criminal citation is authorized; and in an emergency.

(This is the first of a series of notes about Baltimore City Code provisions relating to neighborhood maintenance. Please send your requests for future notes to Joanne Nathans at Joanne@jotf.org)

BGE Outages

You may have noticed frequent outages in the neighborhood over the past year and a half. After Hurricane Isabel in 2004, our neighborhood suffered from an unusually large number of power outages. In early 2005, BGE put in new equipment called OVR reclosers, which open and then close when something blows a fuse. These worked well in early 2005, but later in the year they caused lots of blinking and the cards in the OVR reclosers had to be replaced due to a manufacturer’s defect.

In addition, the fuse on Rogers Avenue by South Bend caused many outages between June and December 2005. It was discovered that bamboo was getting into the wires. Another OVR recloser was put in and there has been some improvement.

While BGE can’t guarantee that there will be no more outages, but they are working hard to reduce the number of them. Community members are encouraged to contact BGE representative, Ervin McDaniel at Ervin.mcdaniel@bge.com about patterns of problems in the neighborhood.

The Wesley - Mt. Washington's Own Assisted Living and Skilled Nursing Residence

How many of you have attended a game at the University of Baltimore fields, walked your dogs across the expansive lawn, sledged down the slopes along the driveway, or just driven by the imposing Georgian brick structure on West Rogers Avenue and wondered... just what is that building? It is The Wesley, probably the largest assisted living residence in the metropolitan Baltimore area and it's right in our own backyard.

The Wesley was founded in 1867 by the Methodist Church to help the many women who were left desolate because of the loss of their husbands and sons from the Civil War. The Wesley has become an integral part of Baltimore's rich history. Today it is open to people ages 65 and older, of all faiths, races, and backgrounds, and has been successfully serving seniors since the 1930's.

It is licensed for 151 assisted living compartments (single room to suite) which include private baths. All residents receive three meals daily, laundry, housekeeping, and nursing services. The all-inclusive monthly fee also covers transportation to and from physician offices, and many activities both within and outside the community.

The Wesley is unique because, unlike most assisted living communities, which are either stand-alone facilities or are combined with independent living residences, it is licensed for



75 nursing beds and provides 24-hour skilled care. Recently, The Wesley has helped Mt. Washington care givers by providing a respite program. If you fall in that category and wish to plan a summer vacation, call now to reserve a room for your loved one. If your family member is already enrolled in a hospice-at-home program, he/she may come to The Wesley for five days each month and Medicare will cover the cost.

So next time you are zipping down West Rogers Avenue, please take time drop in and say hello to our residents, like Mrs. Swope. She will celebrate her 101st birthday on July 4th and will likely serve as Grand Marshal again at the Independence Day Parade. For additional information, please contact Anne Perry, Director of

2006 MWIA EXCELLENCE IN DESIGN AWARD

For the recognition of enhancements to the Mt. Washington Community.
No project is too small.

LANDSCAPE: Gardens and Residential landscaping

ARCHITECTURE: Renovations, Additions, and New Structures

Name:

Address:

Telephone: Day

Evening

Brief Description of your Entry:

Deadline is *May 13, 2006*. Send entry to Ralph Raphael, 6102 Iveydene Terrace, Baltimore, MD 21209, fax to 410-825-0310 or by e-mail to ralph-raphael@erols.com

Mt. Washington Elementary School Continues to Flourish

Playgrounds

The new upper playground at the Mt. Washington Elementary School (MWES) is open and is a big hit among the kids. Now the focus turns to the lower playground which will undergo a complete transformation into user-friendly recreational space. The Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) is playing an integral role in the process and is meeting with the lead architect to develop the site plan and address development issues. The next step will be a sizable fundraising campaign to implement these great ideas. If you'd like to help out, contact Rebecca Bainum at rsbainum@comcast.net

Capital Improvements

Dr. Thomas Shepley, MWES principal, secured funding for much needed capital improvements to the school. He has met with contractors and work will begin this spring. Necessary consideration will be taken for personal safety and education issues. Concurrently, Dr. Shepley is leading an effort to secure support from businesses and individuals to assist with other needed physical improvements to the school, including new windows, air conditioning, and interior lighting. If you are interested in participating, please call Dr. Shepley at 410-396-6354.

The school extends its appreciation to the MWIA for a generous grant of \$2,000 which was used to offset costs for a fabulous new mural in the school library. This year the library has seen a magnificent transformation, due in large part to the dedication of the existing MWES staff and the generous volunteer efforts of Sandra Dagdigian, a retired librarian who lives across from the school.

MWES Website

The MWES website has been upgraded - <http://www.mtwashingtonelementary.com/>. Check out the site to learn more and join a great group of people making a very important and real difference for our kids and community. Or contact PTO President, Monika Springer at monikaspringer@schnell.us or 410-585-1363, for additional information.



Interest Grows for MWES

Finally, there is great and growing interest in the school these days. If you have a child who is not yet in kindergarten and you'd like to meet other families who are considering MWES, or if you'd simply like to learn more about the school, please contact Rebecca Bainum at rsbainum@comcast.net. There are regular and very loosely structured get-togethers for such families going on throughout the year.

Pre-Kindergarten classes are coming to Mt. Washington Elementary starting school year 2006-2007 for students who will be 4 years old by September 1, 2006. Registration for morning and afternoon sessions for in-zone and out-of-zone students began April 3, 2006. For more information, please call Principal Thomas Shepley at 410-396-6354 or go to mtwashingtonelementary.com.

Events – Save these Dates!

Some upcoming MWES events include:

- Spring Yard Sale, April 29, from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon, at the playground.
- Bid of Madness Auction and Dinner, May 6 at 6:30 p.m., at the Mt. Washington Conference Center, McAuley Hall.

For more information about these events, please contact Monika Springer at monikaspringer@schnell.us.



Photos— Above: Children enjoying the new upper playground. Bottom Left: Looking forward to improvements at the lower playground.

Recycling Calendar:

All recyclables will be picked up on the **second and fourth** Mondays and Tuesdays of each month, regardless of your regular trash collection days.

- Blue bag recyclables (glass, plastic, and cans) will be collected on the second and fourth Mondays of the month.
- Paper will be picked up on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.
- Holidays: There will be no pick-up until the next scheduled recycling day.

Monday, April 24	plastic/metal/glass
Tuesday, April 25	paper
Monday, May 8	plastic/metal/glass
Tuesday, May 9	paper
Monday, May 22	plastic/metal/glass
Tuesday, May 23	paper
Monday, June 12	plastic/metal/glass
Tuesday, June 13	paper
Monday, June 26	plastic/metal/glass
Tuesday, June 27	paper
Monday, July 10	plastic/metal/glass
Tuesday, July 11	paper
Monday, July 24	plastic/metal/glass
Tuesday, July 25	paper

Mixed Paper: Place paper in paper bags, cardboard boxes, or tie bundles with string. Can include newspaper, magazines, phone books, ad mail, and cardboard.

Plastic/Metal/Glass: Rinse bottles and cans and discard caps. Place in blue plastic bags. Can include: glass jars and bottles (all colors), aluminum cans, tin cans, steel cans, plastic small mouth containers with #1 or #2, and empty aerosol cans. Styrofoam is not recyclable.

Bulk Pick Up: Call 311 or email DPW (www.baltimorecity.gov, click on 311 services) three working days before scheduled pick up date. You may leave three items at your regular trash pick-up site. Bulk items include appliances, furniture, and up to four tires with rims removed. Do not leave building materials such as sheet rock, siding, wood pieces, or roofing.

Call 410-396-4515 for questions about solid waste. Call 410-396-4707 for concerns about illegal dumping.

Make a Difference!
Join the
Mt. Washington
Improvement Association today!
Dues form on back of newsletter.

Tennis Season Begins at Luckman Park

The tennis courts at Luckman Park are maintained by the City of Baltimore and the Friends of Luckman Park. Access to the courts is open to all. The combination to the main courts is: Right 2 (two complete spins past 0), Left 8 (go past the 2 once), Right 26 (then push the button on the lock). For the inside (backboard) court, the combination is Right 1, Left 31, Right 9.

The summer tennis program for ages 6 – 15 years will run for six weeks – June 19 – August 10 from 4:00-6:00 p.m. Check mwia.org for additional information and application or call 410-358-5570 for further information.

Note: Please keep the courts clean and free of litter. If you are so inclined, sweeping the courts after you are finished will help those who follow you.

Getting Back in Swing

Golf season is fast approaching and the University of Baltimore's Mt. Washington Golf Drive Range is ready to get golfers in the swing of things: The range opens to the public for the 2006 golf season on Friday, March 31, 2006. The range will be open Monday through Friday from 1 – 7 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m. – 7 p.m. in May. Hours will extend to 8 p.m. in June, July, and August.

The Mt. Washington ranges offers 18 tee boxes and reasonable prices. Large buckets of balls cost \$7, while smaller buckets of balls cost \$5. Frequent Golfer Cards are available.

For more information, call the Mt. Washington Golf Driving Range at 410-664-2824 or visit the website at www.ubalt.edu/auxservDrivingrange.html.

Bus Route Changes

Changes to the city bus routes will affect those who work and live in Mt. Washington. Local resident and bus rider Cecilia Davoli of Western Run Drive is working with other neighbors to a response to the changes. She writes:

“Our basic concerns are 1) there is no longer a continuous bus route through our neighborhood, and 2) there is no longer easy, direct access to the Metro. This means that if you get on the bus at one end of the neighborhood or the other, you will need to switch to another bus just to get out of the neighborhood. The only people who are unaffected are those who can easily walk the bus loop.”

Cecilia and the MWIA have contacted the MTA and are working to find a solution to the problem. Anyone wishing to express opinions or volunteer to work on this issue should send an email to mwtransit@yahoo.com. Please include your address and phone number.

The Mt. Washington Improvement Association dues are only \$25. Please join today.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email address _____

- I am interested in volunteering with MWIA
- I am interested in joining the Mt. Washington listserv

Mail dues to:
Mt. Washington Improvement Association
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Baltimore, MD 21209

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