



Spector to be honored in naming of playground

By DAVID CONN
news@mwia.org

In a move announced by the Mount Washington Improvement Association (MWIA) at its annual meeting last month, the new playground at Northwest Park would be named for the city councilwoman who helped both come into being.

The plan to name the playground for Rochelle “Rikki” Spector in honor of her 39 years of service to Mount Washington and neighboring communities was announced by outgoing MWIA President Bryce Butler at the June 14 meeting. Mr. Butler said City Council President Jack Young has agreed to submit legislation to formalize the naming, after which approval would come from the Department of Recreation and Parks.

“She always added her wisdom and

helped us channel the monies” needed for the Park and the playground,

Mr. Butler said of Ms. Spector, who will retire next year after 40 years in office.

“She was instrumental in the deal that preserved the [former University of Baltimore] ball fields and turned them into the Northwest Park,” he added. She also supported funding for a master plan for the park.

Ms. Spector was first appointed to the Council in 1977, replacing her husband, who was appointed to be a judge. She went on to become one of the longest-serving local officials in the nation, and is known as “the Dean” of the Council. (She was unable to attend the MWIA meeting

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Rochelle “Rikki” Spector

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Holiday parade has a home and will go fourth

By ELIZABETH GROVE
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Yes, the 17th annual Spirit of Mt. Washington Independence Parade will go on, so start making those cupcakes now! Not that there was ever really any concern... the parade has survived a derecho, heat spells, and rain last year, but what is clearly the best



community gathering in the neighborhood (and beyond) somehow still goes on.

The catch for 2016 was location, location, location, as Springwell was slated for construction. Fortunately (for the parade) that isn't happening yet, so by 10 a.m. on Monday, July 4, come decked out in your red, white, and blue, riding your colorful bikes, walking your patriotic canines, waving your flags, and ready to march in the best parade ever!

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Lindsey White

By LINDSEY WHITE
mwiapresident@gmail.com

Before I introduce myself to the community, I would like to thank Bryce Butler for his two years of service.

In the past two years, the MWIA has considered several controversial zoning and variance proposals, including the Springwell expansion, (subsequently withdrawn) plans for a drug treatment facility, and a townhome development at the bottom of South Road. In making these tough calls on whether to provide or withhold support, we have endeavored to recognize opportunities for growth while striving to ensure that such growth provides benefits to the larger community and maintains its character.

We've also enjoyed tremendous success in completing the long-awaited playground at Northwest Park — the first physical manifestation of the “local impact” funding to Mount Washington from casino slot-machine revenue. The new playground is filled with families each day, and is the result of many years of MWIA volunteers fighting to see that money spent in our neighborhood.

Following the June meeting, the new executive board was elected in an uncontested election. I am excited for my new role and the opportunity to further strengthen our beautiful community.

A Michigan native, I am a 2007 graduate of the University of Maryland School of Law and practice employment law. My husband Dave and I moved to Mount Washington in the summer of 2012 when I was six months' pregnant with our second daughter; we welcomed our son in September. My oldest daughter just completed second grade at the Mount Washington School, and you can find all of us at the Mt. Washington Swim Club in the summer months.

I joined the MWIA in 2013 to meet my neighbors and contribute to the community, and quickly, along with my new vice president, Emily Shaw, dove into planning the new playground with the Department of Parks and Recreation. It was a two-year process that took countless hours, culminating in a ribbon cutting ceremony with Councilwoman Rikki Spector and Delegate Sandy Rosenberg in May. That experience showed me what is possible when elected officials, city government, and neighborhood volunteers work together for the betterment of communities.

I hope you join me and the rest of the MWIA in improving our gem of a neighborhood, and I invite you to attend our meetings — open or closed — and join a committee.

Design entries social, sustainable – and surprising

By RALPH RAPHAEL
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Beginning in 1993, the Mount Washington Improvement Association has annually presented “Excellence in Design” awards to recognize architectural and landscape enhancements to the Mount Washington community. All projects, big and small, are eligible for consideration. Two kinds of awards are presented: honor awards (crystal trophies) and merit awards (certificates).

A team of judges for the 2016 Mount Washington Improvement Association “Excellence in Design” awards toured the neighborhood on June 11. Clipboards in hand, they visited the half-dozen entries in this year’s contest. The judges balance several criteria in making their decisions: design concerns such as aesthetics and function (the things professionals are hired for advice about); passion, enthusiasm, and commitment (to the



Local lawn ornaments gaze upon architectural and landscape enhancements as they compete for annual design awards.



community or a personal vision); and “green” concerns (recycling, reusing original materials).

This year was a year of surprises. Various entries were connected in some interesting ways. The entries reflected themes of community and use of “green” material.

This year’s winners of the Excellence in Design awards... will be announced at the fall open board meeting. The presentation will be accompanied by a brief slideshow highlighting the entries. As a preview, check out these photos of some

native Mount Washington wildlife the judges encountered as they explored the gardens.

Did You Know?

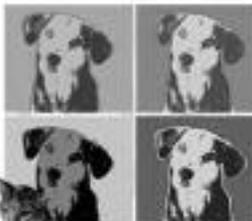
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Tax credits available for helping students get laptops

By TAMMY STINNETT,
President, Mount Washington School
Parent-Teacher Organization
pto@mountwashingtonschool.org

Have you ever wondered how to give more to your local school? Because the Mount Washington School is a proud participant in the Community Investment Tax Credit (CITC) program, those who give \$500 or more to MWS may be eligible for state tax credits worth 50 percent of your gift.

The CITC program supports nonprofit organizations such as MWS by granting state tax credits to nonprofits that are, in turn, used to encourage contributions from donors. CITC tax credits may be equal to 50 percent of the value of the donated money, goods, or real property and are in addition to federal and state charitable tax deductions. (To determine eligibility, consult a tax professional.)

During the past year, MWS has made multiple upgrades to its information

technology infrastructure. In the spring of 2015, the school upgraded an outdated computer lab by purchasing 22 processors (at a cost of about \$10,000). In the fall of 2015, the school acquired enough funds to pay for wireless connectivity (at a cost of about \$37,000).

The next goal is to purchase mobile Chromebook laptop carts (30 computers per cart), at a total cost of about \$65,000. The funds for this project will be raised through individual donations, grants, and fundraising events. To date, the school Parent-Teacher Organization has secured \$26,000 in funding for the laptop carts.

MWS is thankful to everyone who has supported it in the past, and hopes for support again with donations in 2016 so it can purchase the laptop carts as soon as possible.

CITC Basics:

- MWS has a limited number of state tax credits to distribute to its donors from now until the end of 2017.
- Eligible donors may receive state tax credits worth 50 percent of their donations of \$500 or more.

Eligible Donors:

- Individuals that reside in Maryland at least 183 days a year and pay Maryland taxes.
- Businesses in Maryland that have tax liability in the state.

Eligible Donations:

- A donation or cumulative donations totaling \$500 during the donor's tax year (calendar year for individuals, fiscal year for businesses).

CURB APPEAL By JOAN GOLDMAN — joan@cummingsrealtors.com



2016 Trends in Real Estate

The best way to prepare for the future is to see where today's trends are headed. So, looking at real estate, where is the market going?

Gen Y -- those born between 1980 and 2000, also called millennials -- are the largest group of new buyers. They represent 32 percent of all sales and 68 percent of first-time home buyers.

They were practically born with a laptop and smartphone, so are very tech savvy. Many Gen Y buyers don't have cars, and tend to like to ride-share or take public transportation.

Downtown areas are booming as many buyers want to live near where they work and play. "Eighteen hours" is the new buzz phrase for describing cities that generally provide food and entertainment for 18 hours of the day. (Places such as New York are 24-hours, but there are few cities that can handle that.)

Believe it or not, living close to Starbucks and Whole Foods increases value -- some say as much as 25 to 30 percent in 15 years!

Financing mortgages has gotten more difficult since the housing bubble burst. Many people today have no idea of what their credit score is, or how and why it is so important. Often it is only when thinking of buying do people actually speak with a lender and understand credit.

Today there are niche lenders who are more nimble with their guidelines. For example, many lenders won't approve a loan for a condo because the default rate is so high, so if you don't have 100 percent cash, you may need to look outside the "regular" channels -- but that typically means a higher percentage down, and a higher percentage rate.

Joan Goldman is a Realtor whose website is www.outsidethebox.com

Bringing style to a half-century of shoppers, Elsie remains "Something Else"

By GWENDOLYN JACKSON
Gbj46@comcast.net

Elsie Fergusson, 87, the spunky owner of the Something Else shop in the Village and a Mount Washington resident since 1962, has watched children in the neighborhood grow up and move away (including her own son), endured the passing of neighbors and her husband of 20 years, and greeted new families that have moved in. Through those years, she's used her energy and love for the unique to delight generations of customers – and become a pillar in the community along the way.

Elsie was born with retail in her blood. As a young girl, she worked after school in her father's West Baltimore grocery store. As a teenager, she worked in the May Company department store. Fascinated with the window displays at the old downtown Hecht's, Elsie got as near as she could to the window designers and dressers by securing a position as a buyer at the store. Only when she was expecting her son did she stop working.

The young housewife and mother stretched her dollars by decorating her new home — a small cottage on Regent Road — with items from flea markets. With her leftover acquisitions she opened a shop on Falls Road. Forty years ago, she moved to her current location on Sulgrave Avenue. In the early years, the shop was chock full of fabrics from India, dress samples from designers such as Betsy Johnson, and jewelry. Elsie remembers kids cutting class just to come to the shop.

Today, "Something Else" focuses on sophisticated comfort that is manufactured in the United States. And it's still fun to shop there. Within its small quarters, the shop offers dresses and separates, jewelry, and accessories that can easily please any lady between 16 and 80 years of age (even though the target audience is 30- to 50-year-olds). Elsie has long-term customers who are mothers and daughters. The shop's new online service attracts customers as far away as Australia.

As a young child Elsie loved interior decorating, and she followed that passion by attending the Maryland Institute of Art. She has traveled extensively, especially to New York City on buying trips. She has been a voyager to and around Europe, with favorite stops in Florence, Italy, and the Amalfi Coast. Elsie's collections of art jackets and pieces resulted from frequent trips to Mexico. And she continues to appear in unexpected places: A couple of years ago, the collector was featured on Maryland Public Television's "Chesapeake Collectibles" to showcase an impressive collection of 1960s-era bangles.

These experiences give life to the interior of Elsie's eclectic home, which entertains the eye. The walls are covered with works by legendary artists such as Joan Erbe and Clementine Hunter, as well as other more fun pieces. A door frame is overlaid with numerous cultural masks. Her collection of puppets, dolls, and various figurative sculptures include work by Joyce Scott. The books filling the



shelves reflect her interests – art, architecture, textiles, fashion, and distant lands.

Elsie has welcomed new breaths of life to the neighborhood, and accepts the many changes that have occurred over the years, except one: She laments the lost sightline of the Octagon on the Mount Washington Conference Center's campus. The trees across the back of her property and along Smith Avenue have matured so her view of the 19th-century structure is obstructed.

Her outlook on life, however, hasn't changed. Yes, despite her continuing service as a Board member for the Mount Washington Merchants Association (she is also a former Board member for the Mount Washington Improvement Association), Elsie does claim that she's slowing down a bit, and notes that she does not spend as many hours at the shop these days. But she keeps busy elsewhere. Her steps are still swift and, when not walking, she's zipping around in her little red Fiat.

CANINE COACH By STEPHEN LEWIS — findingfidotraining@gmail.com



Fido's New Home: Setting Up for Success

We all find it hard when life changes: moving to new cities, gaining new employment, adding new family members, attending new schools, etc. Dogs, too, experience stress when they are subjected to change. Keep this in mind when you are considering adding a new dog to your family or fostering a dog for a shelter or rescue group. Your new furry friend needs all the help he can get to gradually acclimate to his new home.

When Fido is first brought home, he will need plenty of time to sniff around and explore his new place. Dogs experience the world through their noses, so allow him as much time as he needs to explore and orient himself. Be sure to keep all the other pets and people away during this time so that he doesn't get overwhelmed.

When he is done exploring, it's time to begin teaching him that his new confinement area is a happy and peaceful place for him to relax. Take him into the area; if he seems unsure, you can coax him with those highly valued treats you have ready. When he is in the room or exercise pen, give him a stuffed kong or marrow bone to chew on while you read a book, surf the web, or just take a nap.

The goal is for him to learn that his new relaxation area is safe, happy, and quiet. Also, you are teaching him that going to this area does not mean being alone. Eventually as he acclimates to his new routine you can leave him alone for longer and longer periods of time, especially when he is well-exercised and has an enticing chew bone. If you want to really up the ante you can leave on relaxing classical music to help dampen any exciting sounds that could keep him from settling down for a doggie snooze. If you have children, this part is similar to preparing them for a nap.

Allowing Fido to adjust gradually to your home while he learns the rules and routine will set him and you up for success. Because, for many shelter dogs, it can take up to a week for stress hormones to break down in the body so that they can finally relax, it is important to be patient. Here are a few additional tips to get your canine companion accustomed to his new home:

1. Gather all necessary supplies before bringing the dog home (crate, leash, kong, collar, etc.).
2. Create a realistic routine for Fido's meals, exercise, and social time.
3. Establish a safe confinement area that is quiet and welcoming (bathroom or exercise pen for open floor plans).
4. The resident dog's resting places, feeding areas, and toys should all be kept separate from the new dog.
5. If possible, put up secure baby gates and other barriers between the new dog and the existing pets.
6. For cats, be sure they have hiding places, cat trees, and other rooms for a quick retreat if they feel uncomfortable. Do not force them to interact with the new dog.
7. Keep the resident dogs completely separate inside the house for at least three to four days.
8. If at any point the new dog growls, lunges, or attempts to bite any pets or people, please consult a trainer experienced in reward-based methods.

Mount Washington resident Stephen Lewis, a graduate of the Karen Pryor Academy for Animal Training and Behavior, is a dog trainer who blogs at findingfidotraining.com.

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School garden promotes nature and environmental awareness

By SHARICCA BOLDON and TAVIAN CARDWELL

Did you miss the recent garden tour in Mount Washington? No fear! There is still an opportunity to see one of the tour's gardens up close and personal. You can visit the hillside garden at the Mount Washington School all summer and take a look at an atypically configured rain garden. Instead of being structured like a bathtub, with an area that holds the water for thirsty plants to drink, this landscape diverts and distributes runoff to multiple absorption areas. Please come view, smell, touch, and enjoy the rain garden.

A variety of dry- and wet-footed plants are featured — including Joe Pye weed,

Aster flower, witch hazel, horsetail and butterfly weed — in the garden, which serves as a focal point for the environmental education programs at the school. Located behind the school at the intersection of Lochlea Road and Sulgrave Avenue, the garden has brought together students, teachers, parents, and volunteers to maintain a beautiful place for enjoying the outdoors while helping the environment.

During the past two years and with grant support from the Chesapeake Bay Trust, members of the community (including the school Parent Teacher Organization, master gardeners, and the Mount Washington Preservation Trust) have worked to ensure that good water conservation practices were being followed. As a result, the garden was awarded last summer with a “Bay-Wise” certification, a recognition by the University of Maryland of environmentally sound landscaping.

The establishment of the rain garden has led to further exploration of water conservation topics at the school. During Earth Week 2015, students kicked off a



school-wide investigation of the health of local waterways and how the school community could positively impact them. Students tested the water quality of the Western Run, worked with a ranger from Lake Roland Park to identify native plants and animals that depend on the stream, and stenciled storm drains to remind people to be careful of what enters the waterways.

During this past Earth Week in April, students launched an effort to improve the school's “learning garden,” where teachers can take classes to conduct lessons. They worked with an artist to expand a mural on a nearby wall, added a bench for more seating, and planted seeds and goldenrod.

The Mount Washington Green Team, a PTO subcommittee that promotes environmental education, hopes to offer family programming at the garden throughout the summer to keep the learning going. Stay tuned for more details.



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To Your Health

In "To Your Health," Mount Washington's healthcare and wellness professionals offer counsel on caring for the body and mind.

The Gift Nobody Wants

By MARGARET WINTERS

No one welcomes a headache. Pain gets in the way of whatever we're doing, or thinking, or thinking about doing. So why consider it a gift? Because, unsurprisingly, pain gets our attention. It can be a friendly signal, alerting you that something is mildly amiss, or a screaming, about-to-go-over-the-cliff panic button. How to tell?

Here's a simple checklist to help you determine why you developed that pesky headache:

- Are you hungry?
- Are you thirsty?
- Are you sleepy?
- Are you unhappy or stressed?
- Are you over-working? Or spending lots of time at a computer?
- Have you had your vision checked lately?
- Are you taking any medication?
- Have you been overindulging with alcohol? Or some other mood-altering substance?
- Did you pull a muscle (especially in the neck) or over-strain during sports or another activity?
- Have you been in an accident, had any type of fall, or hit your head?
- Have you been exposed to any environmental irritants? Or to any known allergens?
- Did you wake up with it? Or did it come on during the day?
- Have you had this kind of headache before? Is there a pattern to it? Is it getting worse?
- Does it correspond to a change in barometric pressure? Or to any hormonal fluctuation?

- Did you experience anything unusual before it started, such as ringing in your ears, or sensitivity to light?
- Does anyone in your family have a similar experience with a headache?

Some of the answers give you an immediate target. Dehydration is easy to fix. Correcting ergonomics is usually pretty simple; I ask patients to bring me workstation pictures and we troubleshoot from there. Just knowing that your headaches are linked to changes in barometric pressure can help you manage.

Other answers may represent a trend you need to correct. Dietary and lifestyle changes are definitely do-able, but may require support. Other causes can be a little harder to tease out. If you answer "yes" to any of the above questions and need help figuring out or addressing the underlying cause, please contact your healthcare provider.

Headaches can be caused by hormonal shifts, and have been linked to products that cause disruptions in your endocrine system. Awareness of head injuries has definitely increased, but still not enough people know that headaches can be caused by increasing intracranial pressure. These are potentially serious situations you are going to need help with. Not to overstate worst-case scenarios, but I hope to convince you to take a headache seriously. Early warning is a gift worth having.

On a more positive note, I have seen many patients who, after identifying the problem and proactively addressing it, no longer have headaches. And that's a wonderful thing – much better than a gift from even the best store.

Dr. Margaret Winters is a Mount Washington resident with a chiropractic and restorative nutrition practice at Great River Chiropractic Clinic in Towson.



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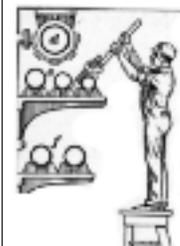
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When the Home Becomes a Hive

By DAVID NOBLE
daligrip@gmail.com

Last fall, just as cool weather was closing in, I noticed a preponderance of bees on the window screen in our master bath. I thought it odd, particularly as it was fully dark out, so the next day I looked around outside and saw thousands of bees right near where my stone chimney meets a wooden shingle joint, at the attic level. The weather changed, and I was busy and distracted, and I neither saw nor thought more of bees until mid-spring, when I saw bees on my screen again and determined that they were entering and leaving my house through a short, narrow opening in the aforementioned seam.

From inside the house, there was no sign of the bees that I could see or hear, but I had visions of walls destroyed by honey, honey dripping from my ceiling, bees in hard hats opening tunnels into the house so swarms could attack my family... so I did what any confused and curious Mt. Washington resident would do: I consulted the oracle, Listserv. Within minutes, two people had sent links to the Maryland State Beekeepers Association, a third person sent a bee identification picture, and a fourth person wanted to come see. There was lots of on-list interest as well, including suggestions for making mead.

I searched the Beekeepers Association website and discovered two local removal specialists who I emailed immediately. The next day, one had replied that he was very busy and would get back to me, so I left a second message -- a text -- for the other. I was stressing. I still had no idea what was going on behind my walls. Not knowing what the bees were capable of was nerve wracking.

The next day, Judy Lombardi, an apiarist who volunteers at the Mt. Washington Arboretum, stopped by and identified my Italian honeybees, assessing them as very

healthy. She put me in touch with a removal guy. Although taking out the hive was an imperative, I was somewhat heartened, as he made the problem sound very common. If there was damage to the house, I could fix, or pay to have fixed, a little plaster and framing.

Still needing assistance, I looked a farther afield on the Beekeepers Association website -- the apiarists who move hives are listed by county and speciality (some will deal with structural removal, some will deal with wasps and hornets, etc.) -- and I found Kevin Vasquez from out in the county. Kevin was in my house with a flashlight that day. The coolest part of his visit was when he showed me (finally) a sign of bees that could be discerned from inside of the house.

When he pinpointed the hive by laying his hands on the wall, I expected he felt vibrations through the plaster. That wasn't it, though. Rather, the hive's location was easily ten degrees warmer than the surrounding area.

Kevin came back two weeks later with a bunch of tools, a few commercial hive frames, and a homemade vacuum cleaner. He cut into my wall, starting small where he had determined the center of the hive was, and assured me that the bees were very gentle. I could probably spend the whole time in the room with him; it was unlikely that we would be stung.

I thought this whole beehive removal was about the coolest thing, so I had invited a few people who had helped me out with information or were just curious. David Nemerson and I stood with camera phones out and jaws on our chests as Kevin revealed the hive. It was amazing.

The hive was stud to stud (about 18 inches wide), first seen through an opening only an inch high. It was every bit as cool as you might imagine. The bees need only about three-eighths of an inch to



maneuver, and they work almost wing-to-wing.

There was a solid field of bee-wings before us. Out comes the homemade vacuum, and Kevin starts sucking up bees. The vacuum was specially built to capture the bees without harming them, and, during the next five hours, Kevin captured about 35,000 bees.

It was quite incredible to see. As Kevin slowly cleared the surface of the comb, it became apparent that it was not a solid face, but a series of vertical lobes about three-eighths of an inch apart. Bees kept on coming.

The bees really had no idea what was going on around them; as bees were sucked up, others went on with their very important work. All the while, Kevin talked to them, as a doctor might reassure a patient. He showed us the difference between workers and drones, as well as the special node in the hive where a new queen was being formed. He pointed out when individual bees were getting agitated.

All the while, the hole in my wall got bigger and the vacuum became more full, as did the buckets and pots and tupperware collecting beeswax and honeycomb. Kevin had estimated that the removal would take from about 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. That was before we had determined the size of the

See Bees, page 11

Dunklebits

By NED DUNKLEBERGER — neddunkleberger@gmail.com



As you read this, I am on vacation. I am always on vacation! I learned long ago that work is for dogs. We cats just don't do the whole work thing, let alone that work-life balance hoo ha that employers try and get you to believe during the hiring process and then forget once you are enslave—err, hired. We have it alllll figured out. Feed me human! Bwaaaa ha ha! Uh oh — gotta go...

Sorry about that. I hate when the cats figure out my password.

So, as our newest cat, "Yitzy," just snuck in here and told you, cats are always on vacation and work is for dogs. It's true. "Seeing-eye" cats would be a disaster. Watch cats? I don't think so.

There are no working breeds of cats. They don't retrieve; they don't sniff out bombs; they don't ride on top of fire trucks. They are just furry little Zen masters/terrorists who we cater to in exchange for the gift they bring to us: The gift of understanding that the best way to spend an afternoon is napping in the sun. Let us be wise enough to learn from these cosmic messengers.

I would ask the dog to contribute something here, but he can't — because he is at work!

Speaking of work, I am now hiring for my latest venture. As you are no doubt aware, yoga is a big deal these days and hot yoga, in which the room is heated up to about 105 degrees, is also very popular. Go figure. But leaving your air-conditioned home or office to drive in an air-conditioned car all the way to a room that smells like the water in the pan after you steam broccoli is not always convenient, therefore, I have just this very day launched The DunkleSweats HotBox mobile Hot Yoga studio.

I purchased a whole fleet of heavily used box trucks, padded the floor and walls, and painted them all gloss black. All summer long we will be in parking lots all across town soaking up the sun and raking in the dough. We pull into the parking lot at your office, you hop in the back of the truck (which the summer sun has now heated to about, oh, I dunno, more than 100 and less than 200 degrees), and then you can stretch and sweat with strangers until you achieve true enlightenment and a bitchin' beach body!

You might not want to right after the session, but, later that night, eat Roberto's Pizza.

Ned

"Parade," continued from page 1

This year's parade will be led by not one but three honorary centenarians from Springwell! Being welcomed back are beautiful stilt walker Jes Raschella and the happy, hip hula-hooper Spilly (G. Andreas Spiliadis).

The music of Paul Yutzy & the Giggmohr Brothers will entertain before and after the ceremony. Magic Eddie will be playing his tricks and making those amazing balloon creatures yet again.

Boy Scout Troop 161 will be on hand to help set up the tents and provide color guard. And when it's all over, folks are invited to take a dip at the Mount Washington Swimming Club (free!).

Come hungry and bring a few bucks to treat yourself to watermelon, lemon sticks, cake, or a hot dog with fixings (all courtesy of Whole Foods) served by Mount Washington School Parent-Teacher Organization and volunteers. In addition to hosting and helping,

Springwell is also springing for ice cream (look for the cart!). The parade "divas" will provide lemonade and tea as well as freezy pops. (Be sure your decorated doggies find the drinking pool provided for them as well.)

Oh, and about those cupcakes — they are needed! Please email Judy Davidoff at judy.davidoff@gmail.com and tell her what you can donate. Just bring them the morning of the parade (before 10 a.m. if possible), and thank you in advance for your part in the 17th Annual Spirit of Mt. Washington Independence Parade.

"Meeting," continued from page 1

because of a colleague's medical emergency.)

At the annual meeting, MWIA members also voted in a new Board of Directors, which then voted in a slate of officers (see sidebar, page 1). Attendees also heard remarks from state Comptroller Peter Franchot, who presented medallions of community service to Mr. Butler and Baltimore City Police Officer Doug Gibson.

Officer Gibson presented a crime update, noting that the overall crime rate for the City's Northern District is down from this time last year — about 20 percent for property crimes and 17 percent for overall crimes, though he pointed out that last year's totals were unusually high, partly because of the Freddie Gray unrest.

He urged anyone awaiting responses on crime victim reports to contact Sgt. Stephen Mays at (410) 367-3105 or stephen.mays@baltimorepolice.org.

“Bees,” continued from page 9
hive: floor to ceiling in the slope of my gable end, a bit more than 4 inches deep, and seven feet high! Once the hive was gone, we were able to see that the hive began from two cracks in the seam, each less than two inches long and about a half-inch wide.

At 6 p.m. we were packing his truck. In the end, replacing the plaster and cleaning

the floor and a radiator full of honey drippings was all I had to do. I had been lucky the hive was in a relatively accessible place.

The hive is relocated to Kevin’s home where, he tells me, the queen is settled in nicely and the workers are building lots of comb. He told me it was a very busy spring: at least a removal a week for two months, and some hives “swarming” (making a

new queen and splitting into two hives) early or even twice during the season. Apiarists are volunteers; there was no charge for removal -- these people are in it for the bees. But they also provide a pretty cool experience for homeowners and spectators. I hope that if any of you find yourselves in my situation, the outcome is as painless and the honey tastes as good.

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PIKESVILLE
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3908 CHARLES ST #1301
\$1,475,000



CROSS KEYS
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\$139,000



ROLAND PARK
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\$439,000



COPPER HILL
55 PENNY LN
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CROSS KEYS
200 CROSS KEYS RD #R68
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Community Calendar

Mt. Washington Community Yoga Class

Fridays, 8:45 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

St. Andrew's Elderslie Church, 5601 Pimlico Rd. Appropriate for most levels (not a gentle, seniors, or therapeutic class). Bring a yoga mat if you have one (some are available to borrow) and a water bottle. Cost is \$8 (cash or check). For more information, contact Mira at 410-370-6764 or wellspringhealingarts@gmail.com.

Yoga at Cylburn

Saturdays, 8:15 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Cylburn Arboretum, 4915 Greenspring Ave. Yoga on the lawn with instructors from Bare Hill Racquet and Fitness Club. Bring your mat and get your Zen on.

Food Systems Lab Open House

Wednesdays, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Cylburn Arboretum, 4915 Greenspring Ave. Drop-in sessions meant for individuals who would like to learn more about the Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future Food Systems Lab. Tours of the project will help answer your aquaponics questions. For more information, call 410-502-7578 or visit the Center for a Livable Future website.

Community Swim

Thursdays, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Mount Washington Swim Club, 2300 Enslow Avenue. The pool is open free of charge to all Mount Washington residents on Thursdays through August 18. Proof of address is required.

Luckman Park Cleanup

July 2, July 17, August 6, and August 21, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Join the Friends of Luckman Park on the first Saturday and third Sunday of every month - weather permitting - for trash pickup, leaf raking, gardening, and other general park cleaning. Come for all or part; RSVP (to luckman.park@gmail.com) helpful but not necessary.

"Feed My Sheep" Sandwich Making

July 11, August 8, September 12, 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

The Terrace Bistro, Springwell Senior Living, 2211 W. Rogers Ave. Join members of St. John's Mount Washington in making sandwiches for distribution to the homeless and hungry of Baltimore. Feed My Sheep is a vital ministry and participation is welcome from anyone to help the work. Making sandwiches together is also a great opportunity to meet new people and have fun while giving back to the community! For more information, or to be put on the email list for upcoming events, contact the Church office (admin@stjohnsmtwashington.org or 410-367-7287).

Spirit of Mount Washington Parade

July 4, 10 a.m.

Springwell Senior Living, 2211 W. Rogers Ave. Come celebrate, dance to live bands, and enjoy a magic show at the neighborhood's biggest and most popular event. Afterwards, enjoy a complimentary swim courtesy of the Mount Washington Swimming Club. Volunteers are wanted; contact Elizabeth (443-220-4284).

Totally Thoroughbred Horse Show

July 17

Pimlico Race Course, 5201 Park Heights Avenue. Thoroughbred horses from numerous jockey clubs compete for prizes. Proceeds to benefit the Foxie G Foundation and Mid Atlantic Horse Rescue.

Moonrise Festival

August 6 & 7

Saturday, 11 a.m.-11 p.m.; 11 a.m.-10:45 p.m. Sunday

This two-day music festival is at Pimlico Race Course, 5201 Park Heights Avenue. The event will feature more than 70 musical performers, as well as visual artists, a vendor village, and a Ferris wheel. Two-day passes start at \$110 and can be purchased at www.moonrisefestival.com.

Stuart/Rockwood Block Party

August 7, 2 p.m.-7 p.m.

Stuart Ave. & Rockwood Ave. Burgers and hot dogs served. Please bring your favorite covered dish. Enjoy music, moonbounce, face-painting, and games. Contact Linda at 410-664-1554 for more details.