



# MOUNT WASHINGTON NEWSLETTER

MOUNT WASHINGTON IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Spring 2004

## Annual Meeting – Tuesday, June 8, 2004

The Mount Washington Improvement Association will hold its Annual Meeting on Tuesday, June 8, 2004 from 7 PM to 9 PM at the Mt. Washington Elementary School, 1801 Sulgrave Ave. Our 5<sup>th</sup> District City Councilwomen and District Senator and Delegates have also been invited.

### Nominating Committee Report for 2004/5

The Association's Nominating Committee consisted of chairperson Deborah Kleiner, Jan Franz, Taliya Adelstein, Cliff Mitchell, Larry Kloze, Lu Pierson and Rebecca Saybolt Bainum. They have recommended the following nominees:

#### Nominations for at-large directors for three year terms

Neal Braman (incumbent)  
John Hammond  
Maggie Kunz  
George Lewis  
Lu Pierson (incumbent)  
Salem Reiner

#### Nominations for unexpired terms

Eileen Tishken (replacing Jim Slattery)

#### Nomination for Area Director

Taliya Adelstein

#### Nominations for Area Captains (1 year term)

Area 1 Craig Snyder  
Erika Outlaw  
Area 2 Aaron Meisner  
Julie Salsberry  
Area 3 Ira Kloman  
Area 4 Roberta Stickler  
Area 5 Rebecca Saybolt Bainum  
Area 6 Mac Nachlas  
Area 7 Becky Redett

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.

### 5th Annual Spirit of Mt. Washington Independence Parade • Sunday, July 4th

Join your neighbors for pre-parade festivities at 10:00 a.m. at the home of Chris and Caroline Tufts, 5601 Wexford Road. The parade will end at the home of Joan Wisner-Carlson, 2105 Carterdale Road.

**Prize categories include:** \* Best dressed bike

\* Most patriotic pet \* Most patriotic costume \* (under-30 and over -30 categories) and (of course) the most fabulous float.

Call Caroline Tufts at 410-664-3730, Missie Mack at 410-466-3824 or Joan Wisner-Carlson at 410-466-0488 to reserve a spot in the line up or to volunteer.

### MWIA Annual Summer Picnic

Sunday, June 27th, 4-7pm

Luckman Park - Merville & Rockwood

Live folk & blues music by Love Handle  
Hot dogs, Hamburgers and Beverages  
Compliments of MWIA  
Please bring a side dish or dessert to share

## President's Letter

Spring is upon us in Mt. Washington. It is time for a walk through our beautiful tree lined streets and our spectacular arboretum. This season also signals the end of my term as the President of the community. The past two years have been ones of personal growth for me as a community advocate and have allowed me to meet and work with many neighbors that make up our wonderful neighborhood.

Many of the issues that the MWIA has been involved in are still active and will continue to be in the coming months. The state legislature did not pass any laws this year to legalize slot machines in Maryland. The Planned Unit Development (PUD) for Pimlico Racetrack did pass City Council with several changes. Pimlico is required to complete the landscaping portion of the PUD by Preakness 2005, two parcels zoned residential are to remain undeveloped with only parking allowed for Preakness and major racing events on one, the other will be landscaped and both will be free of permanent structures. The track owners are required to complete 20% of Phase One construction within four years of obtaining building permits. The third reader of City Council Bill 03-1222 is available on our web site. The Pimlico committee will continue to be active as the slots issue will arise again next legislative session. The board welcomes your participation in this crucial issue.

The development of the Bonnie View Golf Course is at a stand still for the moment. The coalition of communities surrounding the property has filed several appeals in response to the county's approval of the single family home plan. The University of Baltimore appears to be in negotiations with a local university to lease use of the W. Rogers Ave. fields as a practice facility. The MWIA is continuing to be an active participant in these discussions in order to preserve the current nature of the property and insure that the Mt. Washington Soccer League remains located at the site.

The Annual Membership Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 8th at 7 PM at the Mt. Washington Elementary School. You will have the opportunity to elect new members of the Board and Area Captains. This group of people will continue to represent the diverse interests that comprise our neighborhood. Please plan to attend.

This year marks the 150th anniversary of our community. Two annual events will celebrate this auspicious occasion. The MWIA will host the annual picnic at Luckman Park on Sunday, June 27th from 4-7 PM. Come enjoy a fun-filled evening of music and community spirit. The following Sunday, July 4th we will celebrate our country's independence with the annual Independence Day Parade, a wonderful event to bring our community together. I hope to see you at both events. Check out our web site and this newsletter for times and locations of these two events and other special offerings scheduled for this spring and summer.

I would like to thank both my fellow board members and the many fine neighbors who have helped me during my tenure as President. Their support and encouragement has sustained me as I have tackled many controversial issues that have affected our community in the past two years. I am honored to have been asked to lead our organization and encourage all community members to become involved in the preservation and betterment of Mt. Washington. Be well, and I hope to see you around the neighborhood.

Jan Franz, President

### *MWIA thanks*

Chad Vransy, Arborist Representative  
& Bartlett Tree Experts  
for invaluable assistance in caring for  
the trees that distinguish  
our neighborhood

2950C Industrial Park Drive  
Finksburg, MD 21048-2397  
ISA Certified Arborist

410-526-6655  
www.bartlett.com

images remember JENNIFER BECKER  
inspire SARA GLIK  
teach KRISTINE BULS  
May 1-30, La Terra Gallery, Falls Road, Hamden  
Opening May 6, 5pm-7pm

## Directors

### Officers

President: Jan Franz	664-5254
Vice President: Deb Kleiner	446-2069
Vice President: Cliff Mitchell	466-0529
Secretary: Jim Slattery	466-5267
Treasurer: Carrie Emerson	367-5113

### Board

Neal Braman	367-6607
David Brown	578-1922
David Conn	466-8462
Esther Fleishman	367-7377
Margy Gifford	664-2538
Eva Glasgow	542-4764
Ruth Kiselewich	466-1590
Kurt Kolodne	367-3459
Michael Moss	542-7455
Lu Pierson	664-0055
Ralph Raphael	664-4485
Salem Reiner	542-8766
Leslie Sporn-Symonds	542-1892

### Honorary Directors

Peter Z. Garver	542-0747
John Mack	466-3824

### Area Director

Taliya Adelstein	367-4539
------------------	----------

### Area Captains

1. Maggie Kunz	664-9644
1. Eileen Tishken	664-3656
2. Aaron Meisner	664-0707
2. Sheri Vizzi	578-9361
3. Susan Weis	367-2096
4. Matt Gallagher	367-4891
5. Rebecca Saybolt Bainum	664-7159
6. Mac Nachlas	542-8766
7. George Lewis	664-2760



## Mark Your Calendar

### May

7: Spring Bazaar, Luncheon and Flower Sale. The Wesley, 2211 W. Rogers Ave. 10:00 am to 2:30 pm. \$15.00 for lunch tickets. Call 410-664-4006 x3013 for more information.

16: Dedication of Founders Garden. 10:00 a.m. Mt. Washington Arboretum.

16: Coffee Hour, 2:30 p.m. – 4 p.m., Luckman Park recreation building.

20: “The Older the Better” Antique Show & Appraisal Day. The Wesley, 2211 W. Rogers Ave. 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. \$25.00. Call 410-664-4006 x3013.

29: Mt. Washington Pool Opens.

### June

2: Bazaar and Fine Jewelry Sale. The Wesley, 2211 W. Rogers Ave. Bazaar 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. Jewelry Sale 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.. Call 410-664-4006 x3013.

3: School Improvement Team meeting 3:30 – 5:00 Mt. Washington School, faculty lounge. Community members welcome.

4: Spice it Up! Baltimore Clayworks, 7 – 11 p.m. See newsletter article for ticket information.

5: Maryland Rose Society Show. 12 Noon until 4:00 p.m. Cylburn Arboretum. 410-367-7112.

6: Perennial and Herb Sale and Used Book Sale. 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Cylburn Arboretum. 410-367-7112.

**8: MWIA Annual Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Mt.**

**Washington School, 1801 Sulgrave Ave.**

13: Community Yard Sale, Luckman Park 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

20: Plant a patio container workshop. Begins at 2:15 p.m. Cylburn Arboretum; \$15.00 for members, \$17.00 for non members. 410-367-7112.

25: Last day of school, Mt. Washington School.

### July

4: Spirit of Mt. Washington Independence parade. See newsletter article for details.

## MWIA Crime Prevention

Join Citizen's Patrol or  
become a Block Watch Walker  
Call Eileen to volunteer

**(410)664-3656**

# *News from the Mount Washington Preservation Trust*

## Beautification News

Spring is in the air. The daffodils and tulips are blooming and everything is turning luscious green. The volunteers of the Mount Washington Preservation Trust have been busy cleaning up our many gardens, mulching and cutting back overgrowth from the sidewalk along Kelley Avenue leading to the village. Thanks to a grant from the Chesapeake Bay Trust, we are planting native plants along Cross Country Boulevard and Chilham Road. Our volunteers will also soon begin planting new flowers and bushes in the landscaped median along Ken Oak Road. That effort has been made possible thanks to a grant from the Racetrack Impact Committee of the Northwest Baltimore Corporation.

## Dedication of Founders Garden

On Sunday, May 16, at 10:00 AM we will dedicate a newly created garden to the founders of the Mount Washington Preservation Trust. This new garden, which was created late last fall, is located at Ridgedale Road and Arden Road. Please come and join us in honoring the people who started it all.

## Easement News

The easement committee is presently working on obtaining additional conservation easements. As of today, the Mount Washington Preservation Trust has 13 easements totaling 26+ acres. Donating a conservation easement is the act of giving up the right to further develop one's property (expansions of existing principal buildings and accessory

structures are permitted within limits). This action may result in significant tax benefits to the property owner, such as a reduction in income tax and property tax. The community at large benefits from preserving valuable green space and keeping Mt. Washington as a viable area to life. If you wish to learn more about donating easements, please contact Robert Feinstein at 410-367-3706 or Karin Brown at 410-664-3456.

## Board Members Needed

As you can see, the Mount Washington Preservation Trust is performing important work in your community. We are presently looking for new board members and committee members. If you are interested in helping keep Mt. Washington beautiful, please contact Karin Brown at 410-664-3456. We are also always looking for new volunteers to perform gardening work. The garden volunteers meet every Sunday morning at 9:00 am and work for about 1 hour. Volunteers are not expected to show up every Sunday. Even one hour of your time a month will be appreciated. If you are interested, please contact Mike Sherlock at 410-367-2265, or Jeff Call at 410-664-4205.

## Lecture Series Resumed

The teaching pavilion has been completed at the arboretum and we will resume our Saturday morning lectures. For a list of the topics and dates, see the special listing in the newsletter.

**Karin Brown**



## ***A hot, hot time at Baltimore Clayworks!!***

Baltimore Clayworks presents Spice It Up!, an evening of street dancing and international flavors, on **Friday, June 4, 2004 from 7 to 11pm** on the Clayworks' campus at 5707 Smith Avenue. Mama Jama, a favorite local band, will return with their popular Caribbean music. This year's ticket price includes all-you-can-eat spicy – and mild- international cuisine, provided by more than 20 restaurants – including the Mt. Washington Tavern, Brass Elephant, and Ethel and Ramone's. Soda, iced

tea, and moderately priced beer and wine will be available. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the gate for adults, and \$12 in advance and \$15 at the gate for children ages 5 to 12. Free admission for children under 5 years of age. Tickets for Spice It Up! are available in the Clayworks Gallery at 5707 Smith Avenue in Mt. Washington Village. They can also be purchased through Clayworks' website at [www.baltimoreclayworks.org](http://www.baltimoreclayworks.org), or by calling Clayworks at 410-578-1919, ext 10.

## ❖ ARBORETUM LECTURES - 2004 ❖

- May 1: Sara Fishman: Walking tour of historic Mt Washington  
MAY 8 : Bob Eldrich: Native Americans of central Maryland  
MAY 15: Mike Sherlock: Arboretum in flower over one year: a slide show  
MAY 22 Ed Snodgrass: Creating a green roof garden  
MAY 29: Dimitris Spiliadis: Green building techniques and the Black Olive Inn (2 pm)  
JUNE 5: Wolfgang Oehme: Sustainable gardens  
JUNE 12: Marion Beddingfield: The trees of Mt. Washington (2pm)  
JUNE 19: Rob Mardinay: Attracting birds to your garden  
JUNE 26: Muffin Evander: Container gardens with natives  
JULY 3: Jean Worthley: Wild flowers: a talk and walk  
JULY 10: Max Bloom: Gardening in the city  
JULY 17: Jack Wennerstrom: Wildflowers of Soldier's Delight  
JULY 24: Martha Simon-Pindale: Well-behaved natives for your garden

LOCATION: TKF/MEYERHOFF PAVILION, MT WASHINGTON ARBORETUM, Lochlea Road and Kelly Avenue  
TIME: 10 AM SATURDAYS, UNLESS OTHERWISE LISTED

### Happenings at Luckman Park

Finally spring has arrived and Luckman Park is the place to be! Take a look at all the daffodils and tulips that have come up in the last few weeks. Maybe your child was at the Family Fest last year and helped plant the daffodil bed. More buds and blooms are on the way.

Then take a look at our new bulletin board at the Rockwood entrance and find out what's going on in the park. Here are some upcoming events:

**Coffee Hour** Sunday May 16th, 2:30 p.m. – 4 p.m.  
Enjoy a cup of coffee and a pastry at the newly-cleaned recreation building while your children have fun at the playground. (Please check the bulletin board or the Mt. Washington website for the next coffee hour.)

**Community Yard Sale** Sunday June 13, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
Come sell all of the stuff you don't need anymore. A \$5 donation per table for the park will be greatly appreciated. Or just donate the stuff and we'll sell it for you, with proceeds going to Friends of Luckman Park. Or just come shop! We will plan activities to keep the kids busy while you sell/shop. Call Maggie Kunz at 664-9466 for more information or to help out.

Please check the bulletin board at the park entrance and the Mt. Washington web site for dates for our next Family Fest and Movie Nights some time in July and August. Please don't hesitate to call Maggie Kunz, 410-664-9466 or Barbara Halden, 410-367-5654, for more information.  
**Maggie Kunz**

### *Good Neighbor Tips*

If you don't have much luck at the track this spring, here are some sure "off the track" bets:

- Make sure you don't leave your yard tools out for someone else's easy reach. However, before you put them away, please take the rake and clean up last fall's leaves which may be lingering in the street in front of your house or clogging the nearby storm drain.
- Don't forget to trim back shrubbery that may be blocking the sidewalks.
- And remember to clean up after your pets!

### **Crime Patrol Position Available**

MWIA is looking for a Crime Patrol Coordinator. This is a paid position and will involve calling and scheduling Crime Patrol drivers and sending out information packets. If interested, please contact Eileen Tishken, Crime Prevention Chairperson, at 410-664-3656.

Updated community information 24/7

[www.mwia.org](http://www.mwia.org)

# Back in the day...

## ...When Al Capone was a neighbor

“Scarface” Al Capone, the best-known criminal of the Prohibition era, once sojourned in Mount Washington.

Capone lived at 5708 Pimlico Road for nine weeks in early 1940 after being released from Union Memorial Hospital, where he’d spent seven weeks undergoing treatment for advanced syphilis. His mother, his wife, and two brothers had rented and moved into the house earlier, when Capone arrived in Baltimore on November 16, 1939 following his parole from federal prison. The three-story, three-dormer structure still stands.

By the time Capone joined the neighborhood he was enfeebled in both mind and body. A decade earlier, however, he’d been the very archetype of the American gangster—daring, cruel, and crudely charismatic.

Capone ruled the bootleg liquor business in Chicago from 1925 until 1931. His reign began when he succeeded his severely wounded (and scared) mentor, Johnny Torrio. It ended when he was convicted of what a wire-service obituary called the “sissy charge of evasion of income taxes.”

Between those dates, he architected the infamous St. Valentine’s Day Massacre of 1929, in which eight people affiliated with the rival Bugs Moran gang were machine-gunned against a brick wall inside a Chicago garage. (Capone was conveniently out of town when this happened.) Three years earlier, his men shot and killed William McSwiggin, the state’s attorney for Cook County. They participated in Chicago politics using hand grenades—“pineapples,” in gangster lingo—to intimidate candidates they didn’t support. They moved millions of dollars of alcohol. Capone, whose education ended at the sixth grade, became a very rich man.

“I call myself a business man,” he once said. “When I sell liquor, it’s bootlegging. When my patrons serve it on a silver tray, on Lake Shore Drive, it’s called hospitality.”

Capone served seven years of an 11-year sentence, spending time at federal prisons in Atlanta, Los Angeles and, most famously, on Alcatraz Island in San Francisco Bay before being let out early because of good behavior and illness. He traveled across the country to the penitentiary in Lewisburg, Pa., where he was formally released the morning of the day he arrived in Baltimore.

Here, he was treated by Joseph Earle Moore, a physician and professor at Johns Hopkins Hospital who also practiced at Union Memorial. Moore was one of the country’s leading “syphilologists,” and a pioneer in treating the infection before the days of penicillin. A newspaper account on Capone’s arrival said he was reportedly “suffering from paresis, which produced mental aberrations.”

Paresis is a term for a form of neurosyphilis that occurs 15 to 20 years after initial infection. It produces a mélange of cognitive, emotional and physical symptoms that includes impairments in reasoning and memory, irritability, tremulousness, speech problems, and unsteady gait.

Although Dr. Moore gave no details of Capone’s therapy (and the latter’s medical records are still closed to the public), it’s likely Capone was prescribed compounds containing both arsenic

and mercury. Given by intravenous infusion or intramuscular injection, the therapy was painful, toxic, and protracted. Moore himself supposedly described the fate of syphilitics as “two minutes with Venus, two years with mercury.”

Capone had a suite of two rooms, with a bathroom, at the hospital. A family member was with him at all times. In an act of his—or someone else’s—wit, he registered as a “Mr. Martini.” In Mount Washington, he and his family went by the name “Rossi.” Martini & Rossi is a famous Italian maker of vermouth.

As it happens, this was not the first time he’d lived here. In 1920, married and with a baby to support, Capone worked as a bookkeeper for a Baltimore construction firm run by a man named Peter Aiello. In 1921, however, he left, summoned by a friend from his native Brooklyn to a life of crime.

During the second stint here, however, he kept an exceedingly low profile. A newspaper story on March 21, 1940, the day he departed, reported the ailing racketeer, “who was well enough when he left the hospital to take short walks, was said never to have gone outside the house during the day.” The article claims the family on the third-floor of the Pimlico Road house didn’t know the identity of the people downstairs.

He wasn’t entirely invisible, however.

Then, as now, Thelma Blair, 89, was a resident of Mount Washington. In the winter of 1940, she was working as a secretary, living at home, and worshipping at the Shrine of the Sacred Heart, whose school she had attended through eighth grade. Although she never personally saw Capone, she recalls that a young girl from one of the parish families did.

The girl knocked on the gangster’s door selling raffle tickets for a school event. Capone agreed to buy all the tickets the girl had, and told her that if she could get more he’d buy them, too. The girl returned with a second book. Capone put the money owed into an envelope and—out of decorousness, or possibly a misplaced fear of contagion, Mrs. Blair speculates—handed it to his mother, who presented it to the girl (who subsequently won the prize for selling the most tickets).

“I sometimes say, if you look hard enough you can find some good in everybody,” is one conclusion Mrs. Blair has always drawn from this story.

Capone’s treatment was not demonstrably successful. He spent the rest of his increasingly disabled life at a 14-room mansion on Palm Island in Florida that he’d bought during his Chicago heyday. The Spanish-style house, appropriately, had been built by beer magnate Clarence Busch. Capone died there on January 25, 1947 at the age of 48.

The house on Pimlico Road is not the only physical testament to Capone’s Baltimore sojourn. He gave a weeping cherry tree to Union Memorial, which stands with an increasingly gnarled trunk near the 33<sup>rd</sup> Street entrance to the hospital. It bloomed again this spring.

*Father Rick Cramblitt, of the Shrine of the Sacred Heart, assisted in the research for this article.*

**David Brown**

# *Mt. Washington School Prepares for Cicadas*

In preparation for the onslaught of the cicadas in May, our school will be involved in a variety of activities to both educate and entertain the children and parent community. Students will create three-dimensional models of cicadas and read and write a variety of poems about cicadas. In music, students will use elements of rhythm to create songs about cicadas. In addition, students will use the Internet to research cicadas in order to write reports about the process of metamorphosis that the cicadas take. In gym, students will play a variety of cicada-based games. Our school will be immersed in learning about the cicada. Information will also be shared with parents in an effort to educate everyone about this seventeen-year phenomenon.

Our school is in such a preparation mode, we even have our Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) helping in the screening of our windows in order to keep the cicadas out of our classrooms, so we may continue to learn without interruption.

## Other news:

\*Kindergarten enrollment begins the week of May 3 and continues throughout the summer months.

\*Our School Improvement Team (SIT) meets on May 6 and June 3 in the faculty lounge from 3:30-5PM. Community members are welcome.

\*Fifth Grade Graduation is June 24.

\*The last day of classes is June 25.

**Steve Beuttner, Principal**

## *Mount Washington Note Cards*

Favorite scenes from the Mount Washington area  
Beautiful watercolors by local artist Kris Tebay  
Soon available for purchase

Proceeds benefit the Friends of Luckman Park  
for planting, activities, and building  
improvements

For more information, call Maggie Kunz at 410-664-9466.

## **The Mt. Washington Swimming Club**

Summer is coming and soon we'll be swimming at the Mt. Washington Swimming Club, a delightful place to cool off in the summer, meet your neighbors, and entertain your kids! The Club is conveniently located at 2300 Enslow Road between Greenspring Ave. and Rogers Ave. and near Northern Parkway. Club membership is available to residents of Mount Washington and to a limited number of non-residents.

The Mt. Washington Swimming Club offers a large swimming pool with lap lanes and diving board, as well as a separate children's pool. Lifeguards are always on duty. The grounds are pleasantly shaded by mature trees, and the pools are surrounded by grassy hills. The Club also provides picnic tables, ping pong tables, a basketball court, volleyball net, shaded playground, and comfortable lounge chairs. The Club offers private swimming lessons for a fee. Members interested in getting their laps in early in the morning can join the Penguin Club for a nominal fee. Changing and shower facilities are available, as are ice cream and cold sodas. Many take-out restaurants in the area will deliver to the Club. There is ample onsite parking.

The Club opens for the 2004 season at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday May 29<sup>th</sup> and will close at the end of the day on Monday, September 6<sup>th</sup>. Weather permitting, the pool is open every day from 10:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., although the hours are shortened in the beginning of June and the week prior to Labor Day due to staffing limitations. The Club is also open to non-members for community swim time on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and on Tuesdays from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. beginning July 5<sup>th</sup> and ending on August 11<sup>th</sup>.

For further information about joining the Mt. Washington Swimming Club, please call Amy Noji, membership director, at 410-542-8487, or call the club directly during the season at 410-367-0110. Annual dues for a family are \$400 and for an individual member are \$200. Members may bring guests for a fee of \$5.00 per adult and \$3.00 per child on weekends, and \$3.00 per adult and \$2.00 per child on weekdays. At the time of joining, all members must also pay a one-time membership security deposit of \$600, of which \$500 will be returned when membership ends. We hope to see you there!

**Carrie Emerson, President**

# 2004 MWIA Excellence in Design Awards

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 10, 2004*. Send entry to Ralph Raphael, 6102 Iveydene Terrace, Baltimore, MD 21209  
or fax to 410-825-0310.

## TWELFTH MWIA DESIGN COMPETITION

It's not too early to think about awarding neighbors' efforts to make our community more beautiful! For those new to the area, the MWIA Excellence in Design competition recognizes enhancements to the Mt. Washington community in two categories: Landscaping (gardens and residential landscaping) and Architecture (renovations, additions, and new structures). Ralph Raphael will supervise the judging; the panel is comprised of architects and design experts from outside the community.

Nominations are due by **May 10, 2004**, and may be submitted on the entry form in this newsletter or other format which includes name, address, and phone number of nominee and brief description of the entry. Send nominations to Ralph Raphael, 6102 Ivydene Terrace, 21209; telephone, 410-825-0042; fax to 410/825-0310; or e-mail [ralph-raphael@erols.com](mailto:ralph-raphael@erols.com). Self nominations are welcome, and in fact, are the primary method of entering the competition.

Judging will take place in mid to late May. Winners will be announced at the MWIA annual meeting in June.

## ATTENTION:

### YOUNG ARTISTS AND WRITERS!

What are 5 things that make Mt. Washington the best neighborhood in Baltimore?

Show or tell your neighbors using any medium or in a one-page essay.

Artwork and essays should be submitted to Joyce Duffy at The Wesley by June 21.

*All submissions should include a label with your name, age and address. Winners will be announced after the parade.*

## THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

*Our newsletter editor, Margy Gifford  
is hanging up her keyboard.*

Margy has been editor of our quarterly publication for the past four years. Many long hours of writing, corrections and kind words of urgency as we all attempt to get our articles in on time. Many thanks for job well done in keeping the community up to date on all the news.



# Happy 150th Mount Washington!

Picture pastoral rolling fields: some dedicated to vegetable growth, some for the grazing of farm animals. Trees only sprout up near the running waters of the nearby streams, while a few dot a property border, the top of a hill, or the scenic farmhouse or estate home of the farmstead. Almost all of the trees were cleared years earlier to make way for agricultural use, firewood, or builders from a nearby town. The town has grown, exhausting options for buildable land. A budding entrepreneur steps out of his vehicle to drive a sign into the arable soil of Baltimore County. Instead of proclaiming a new vegetable crop, this sign declares that this summer's crop will be of a new

---

## *The Wesley to Host Three Spring Events*

The Wesley Assisted Living Residence & Skilled Nursing Facility has been caring for seniors for 136 years. Some of our residents have outlived their resources and are currently receiving benevolent care. In order to continue this compassionate practice, fund raising events are held to raise support.

**May 7th** -Wesley Guild host Spring Bazaar, Luncheon and Flower Sale. Hours 10 am to 2:30 pm. Menu includes Broiled Crab Cake, sliced baked ham, potato salad, fresh fruit, rolls, butter and your choice of pie and beverage...all for \$15.00. Seatings are at 11am, 12 noon and 1 pm. Tickets are purchased the morning of the Bazaar.

**May 20th** - "The Older the Better" - Antique Show and Appraisal Day will be held at The Wesley from 4-7pm. Cost is \$25.00 per person, limit two items per person. Appraisals done "antique road show style" by Alex Cooper. Light refreshments on sale provided by Linwood's Due Catering. Bring china, porcelain, silver, jewelry, artwork, toys and small furniture and find out if your piece is just "old" or a valuable antique! Proceeds benefit Meals on Wheels and The Wesley.

**June 2nd** - Bazaar and Fine Jewelry Sale. Enjoy discounts of 30-70% off retail on gold, silver and precious gems while helping support the benevolent mission of the Wesley. Jewelry sale from 9:30am to 4pm. Bazaar from 9:30 to 11:00 am.

**Questions call:** Joyce Duffy, Director of Marketing - 410.664.4006 x3013

residences. This new community will have "the conveniences of the city with the advantages of the country." "The distance is sufficiently far to be free from the annoyance of city rowdies, and yet near enough to be ...pleasant as a drive by turnpike."

Does this sound familiar? This proclamation, lamentable to protectors of the pristine environment, welcome to prospective buyers of new fashionable homes, was made 150 years ago by George Gelbach Jr., the developer of Mount Washington Rural Retreat. He had spent the previous year purchasing and joining land for an ambitious real estate development. In the summer of 1853, he purchased the South / Sulgrave hill, then known as Samuel Boon's farm; in the winter, he purchased the Terraces/Octagon Hill and the Dixon Hill area, then known as Clover Hill, a vegetable farm for John Kelso (the owner of Washington Factory, the site which now houses Whole Foods and Starbucks, among others), and for a short time, Luke Brian. In 1854, building commenced, only to be interrupted by the Civil War. The village took some twenty years to be realized with some lots left for later construction. As time passed, other landholdings were purchased and developed as additions to Mount Washington.

Few buildings exist that predate this real estate development, some only as building foundations. Early pictures of historic Mount Washington show crisp new homes with newly planted trees, much like the new crops of suburban developments that sprout up in our rural areas. The greenscape of mature trees enveloping our homes today serve as a reminder that the new McMansion developments may achieve similar reverence if they survive the next 150 years. Some scoff at that notion and argue that the architecture and lot layout is not comparable. Like Lutherville, Mount Washington is seen as an archetype of suburban living, predating Roland Park by some 30 years. Freestanding houses on large treed lots, these homes were an easy commute to the city by train, differing from country estates that took a greater part of the day to travel to and from town.

As we celebrate 150 years of suburban living, say hello to those aggravated commuters from the outer beltway boroughs, and enjoy the commute "pleasant as a drive by turnpike".

**Matt Richardson**

## Show Your Spirit, Mt. Washington,

## At 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Independence Parade!

For most of my adult life, I tolerated parades as noisy and endlessly long processions of humanity at its most frivolous that usually took place on the hottest day of the summer.

But as a child, I thrilled at the prospect of donning a tutu or decorating my bike for June Day, the centerpiece of which was a parade through our leafy neighborhood in Rosedale Park in Detroit. The raw creativity of putting a costume together from odds and ends found around our house and the communal spirit of joining together with neighbors were particularly appealing to me as a young girl.

As the mother of three sons, I dutifully took my sons to Towson or Hampden on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July in an effort to recapture that excitement but soon found myself disappointed. The reasons, I believe, were

---

### Get in the Swing of Things

At UB's Mt. Washington Golf Driving Range

The University of Baltimore's Mt. Washington Golf Drive Range is open to the public, offering opportunity to practice your shots and even get some professional guidance. The range, located at 2101 West Rogers Avenue, Monday through Friday from 2 – 6 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. in April. In May, daily hours will be extended until 7:00 p.m., in June, July and August, daily hours will be extended until 8 p.m.; and starting in September, daily hours will revert back to a 7 p.m. closing. At the end of season, in October, the range will close at 6 p.m. Opening hours remain the same throughout the season.

The Mt. Washington ranges offers 18 available tee boxes and reasonable prices. Large buckets of balls (approximately 80) cost \$7, while smaller buckets of balls (approximately 40) cost \$5. Frequent Golfer Cards (cash or most major credit cards accepted) entitle golfers to a savings of \$14 (12 large buckets of balls for the price of 10).

For those people who “hit the trees” more than the “tees”, a golf pro is available for lessons by appointment only. Rates are reasonable.

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

these were mostly spectator events, at least for our family, and in someone else's neighborhoods.

That was the motivation five years ago for myself and other moms in the Mt Washington Babysitting Co-op, who reminisced about similar festivities in former neighborhoods they lived, to conceive of the Spirit of Mt. Washington Independence Parade. Last year, the parade was held on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July in deference to its growing popularity and lured more than 400 residents to the shade of an oak tree off Wexford Road from the Revolutionary War era. Jan Franz, president of the Mt. Washington Improvement Association, which sponsors the parade, welcomed Mayor Martin O'Malley, who passionately recounted how our Baltimore forebears had driven the most powerful navy in the world from its shores – without the benefit of a Department of Homeland Security. The victory was forever etched in our national conscience with the words of the Star Spangled Banner penned by Francis Scott Key, which we later sang together.

South Road resident Bill Gold, a veteran of World War II, read a tribute to the nation's soldiers and a trio of neighborhood girls garbed in red, white and blue led the crowd in the Pledge of Allegiance before color guards from Cub Scout Pack 388 led marchers down Ken Oak for a communal romp of funky individualism through the center of our neighborhood. The terminus was our home on Carterdale Road, where we crowned a king and queen (Griffin Quasebarth and Meg Van Deusen) and feasted on watermelon, hot dogs, pizza and cupcakes donated by local merchants and residents.

Hardly frivolous.

This July 4, we will mark the fifth year of the Spirit of Mt. Washington Independence Parade. So show your spirit and celebrate our community – or, at least, tolerate the noise, frivolity and heat – by joining your neighbors for pre-parade entertainment and oration at 10 a.m. at the home of Chris and Caroline Tufts, 5601 Wexford Road. Call Missie Mack at 410-466-3824, Caroline at 410-664-3730 or me at 410-466-0488 to volunteer to help on that day or enter your group or float on the Order of March. See you at the parade

**Joan Wisner-Carlson**

# Not Just Another Pipe Dream

Baltimore City will begin rehabilitating the water mains this summer. According to Tom Pompa of the City Engineering Department, the project will not begin before July and will take a year to complete. Approximate boundaries of the water main project are the Baltimore County line to the north, Rogers Avenue to the south, Pimlico Road to the west and Falls Road to the east.

A temporary system will be installed above ground to provide water service while the mains are being repaired.

The project will be done incrementally – that is, small areas served by each water main will be worked on one or two at a time as opposed to undertaking the entire Mt. Washington community.

Mr. Pompa says the above ground system is identical to the underground system; therefore residents and businesses should not experience any loss of service. The project will be shut down during the winter time, however, when freezing temperatures may damage service from the above-ground pipes.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> SNAP TOWN MEETING

**WHO** Northwest Community Planning Forum

**WHAT** Draft recommendations, resulting from one year of monthly meetings developing strategies and action steps for crucial issues in our neighborhoods:

- Major Corridors
- Housing & Zoning
- Environment & Infrastructure
- Education
- Recreation & School facilities
- Public Safety
- Community Relations

**WHEN** Monday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2004, 7:00 p.m.

**WHERE** Cross Country Elementary School  
6100 Cross Country Boulevard

SNAP (Strategic Neighborhood Action Plan) includes:

CHAI, Glen, Fallstaff, Cross Country, Cheswolde, and Mt. Washington

All Residents, business and places of worship are encouraged to attend

*Refreshments will be served – we hope to see you there!*  
Sponsored by: Northwest Presidents Forum, CHAI, and Strategic Neighborhood Action Plans

## Tennis Program Returns!

Once again, children ages 6 – 15 are invited to participate in a tennis program at Luckman Park. There will be two seven-week sessions; June 14 – July 31, meeting from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. on Monday through Thursday and September 6 – October 23, meeting from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. The charge for the first seven-week session will be \$40.00 for one child and \$15.00 for each additional sibling.

Lili Rivera, last year's instructor, will return to teach novice and intermediate tennis students.

### APPLICATION

Name:

Date of birth:

Age as of June 14:

Parent's name:

Address:

Home telephone:

E-mail:

Tennis experience: (Please note if you are a beginner or if you have participated in another class or tennis clinic):

Mail this application to:  
Luckman Park Tennis Program  
3000 W. Strathmore Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21209

Questions? Call Madeline Forrest at 410-358-5570.

# 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.

**Note: June recycling dates are skewed**

- 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 four Tuesday of each month
- **Holidays:** There will be no pick-up until the next scheduled recycling day.

May 10	Monday	<b>Plastic/metal/glass*</b>
May 11	Tuesday	paper
May 24	Monday	plastic/metal/glass
May 25	Tuesday	paper
June 8	Tuesday	paper
June 14	Monday	plastic/metal/glass
June 22	Tuesday	paper
June 28	Monday	plastic/metal/glass
July 12	Monday	plastic/metal/glass
July 13	Tuesday	paper
July 26	Monday	plastic/metal/glass
July 27	Tuesday	paper
Aug 9	Monday	plastic/metal/glass
Aug 10	Tuesday	paper
Aug 23	Monday	plastic/metal/glass
Aug 24	Tuesday	paper
Sept 13	Monday	plastic/metal/glass
Sept 14	Tuesday	paper

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

\* **Blue Bag:** 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 e-mail\* DPW three working days before scheduled pick-up date.

May 26	notify DPW by May 21
June 23	notify DPW by June 18
July 28	notify DPW by July 23
Aug 25	notify DPW by Aug 20

\*To e-mail DPW:

You may e-mail your request on the City's 311 CitiStat webpage. Log on to [www.baltimorecity.gov](http://www.baltimorecity.gov), click on "311 Services." A box will ask you to select the type of service you want - select "bulk trash," then a page will appear with "request this service" in blue hypertext; click it. At the prompt, you should type your street address and click "continue". A new page will appear asking for a description of what you want picked up, where it is located (on the curb or in the alley). Then click "submit." You will get an e-mail confirmation from DPW.

**Reminders:**

You may leave three items at your regular trash pick-up site. Bulk items include appliances, furniture, and up to 4 tires with the rims removed. Do not leave building materials such as sheet rock, siding, wood pieces, or roofing out for bulk pick-up.

Questions? Call (410) 396-4515 for questions about solid waste; (410) 396-4707 if you have concerns about illegal dumping.

## Check Out Our Website!

[www.mwia.org](http://www.mwia.org)

The Mount Washington Newsletter is published by the Mount Washington Improvement Association, Inc., P.O. Box 10404, Baltimore, MD 21209



**Mount Washington Improvement Association**  
**P.O. Box 10404**  
**Baltimore, MD 21209**

Bulk Rate  
 U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
 Baltimore, MD  
 Permit No. 5621

*Dated Material-Please Deliver Promptly*