



Memorial trees added to Northwest Park

By TOM FALKNER
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The development of Northwest Park, a decade-long project that has been a priority of the MWIA, recently received another important boost. The park is now the site of — in addition to the community gardens, athletic fields, new playground, and extension of the Jones Falls Trail — a memorial grove of trees.

On May 27, a group of volunteers from the Mount Washington Preservation Trust planted ten trees, the first phase of a grove that will adorn the sloping hillside between the playground and the playing fields. The MWPT has a 20-year history of planting trees in public and private areas in Mount Washington.

The tree planting was a collaborative effort and an idea hatched by David Nemerson of MWIA and Mike Sherlock of MWPT. Sherlock developed the plan and arranged for the necessary permissions and approvals from the Department of Recreation & Parks and TreeBaltimore.

The concept involved soliciting donors for the trees, with part of the cost identified as a tax-deductible donation. Donors were



Photo by Mike Sherlock

Mount Washington Preservation Trust members load trees at the Mt. Washington Arboretum to take them to Northwest Park.

also invited to designate a tree in memory or in honor of someone.

To date, a dozen donors have given money for an equivalent number of large, native shade trees, including oak, maple,

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Independence Day parade returns to its roots

By ELIZABETH GROVE, elg.grove@gmail.com
& MISSIE MACK, mackm@rpcs.org

The 19th annual Spirit of Mt. Washington Independence Parade will take place on Wednesday, July 4, at 2105 Carterdale Road. Gather at 10 a.m. and the ceremony will start at 10:30 a.m.

Because of ongoing construction at Springwell Senior Living, this year's parade will "return to its roots" at the home of Joan and Bob Wisner-Carlson — where the very first parade was held. Neighbors all along the block are pitching in to host the festivities.

The parade route is only slightly adjusted from recent years: The fire engine will be stationed at Carterdale and Wexford, so once the ceremonies are completed the bagpiper will lead the marchers west on South, south on Cross Country, east on W Rogers, and finally

north on Wexford, back to Carterdale. Other than that, look forward to all the favorite treats and activities as always.

There will be a table with lemonade and water (as well as separate water bowls and pools for patriotic pets). As for food, Mount Washington School Parent Teacher Organization volunteers will be grilling hot dogs donated by Whole Foods (so be sure to bring \$1 donations).

Other volunteers will be handing out fresh sliced watermelons as well as lemon sticks and pieces of specially decorated cake, also donated by Whole Foods. The snack smorgasbord includes Kind bars (even nut-free ones), popcorn, and candy.

Keep a lookout for ice pops. And, of course, the very best treats are cupcakes kindly donated by Mount Washingtonians

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Captains are liaisons between the seven community areas and the MWIA. Contact your area captain to raise and discuss issues you would like to see addressed by the MWIA, or to otherwise obtain information about the neighborhood and other assistance. A map of the seven areas can be found at mwia.org/about.html.

CONTACT THE MWIA NEWSLETTER

The newsletter of the Mount Washington Improvement Association is distributed six times a year to all residents of Mount Washington and includes information on the news, people, activities, and businesses of the neighborhood, as well as the actions of the Association's Board of Directors. The newsletter can be contacted at news@mwia.org with story ideas, calendar listings, volunteering interest, and other inquiries. Advertising in the newsletter generates revenue that is used to support the MWIA and community; interested advertisers should contact advertising@mwia.org for information on rates and publication.

— Chris Mincher, Editor

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Citizens' academy teaches the nitty gritty of policing

By KATHARINE LATROBE, kelatrobe@msn.com
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Last month, the Baltimore Police Department announced its fourth Citizens' Police Academy, to begin Tuesday, July 24. What is this all about?

Most people don't know the scope of the Department's responsibilities. This free, 12-week course to citizens of Baltimore City is one way to find out.

Attendees meet one night a week to gain insight into police operations and training. It is well worth the time; the subject matter is presented in a way that is never boring.

Each topic is presented by actual police instructors, officers from the specific units, and chiefs from the internal divisions. The materials and exercises used are taken directly from police training courses.

The history of policing and the Department are discussed to set the stage for today's policing in Baltimore. The Department now employs 3,000 people, both police officers and civilians, and has a budget of \$480 million.

Police equipment is brought to class, so participants can see and handle the items. Use and policies for all items are described and demonstrated as possible.

For example, the police officer's belt carries several items — radio, handgun and ammunition magazines, taser, expandable baton, pepper spray, handcuffs, flashlight, radio batteries, multi-purpose tool, and tourniquet. With all this, the belt weighs 38 pounds. Sound easy to carry that around all day?

The body-worn camera that the Department now uses is demonstrated. Attendees learn how the videos are downloaded and reviewed, as well as how the Department envisions using citizen videos in the future.

This course also overviews the policies that govern everyday police work, including constitutional law, use-of-force, de-escalation, and protocols for taser use and vehicle stops. Acting through the actual training scenarios and interactive videos, participants must determine whether they are able to de-escalate a situation or must shoot a suspect.

The Department's units have specific duties. The homicide unit handles all murders, cold cases, overdoses, and nonfatal shootings. It has several challenges, including caseload, backup in the lab, staffing, and witnesses, but it has a good clearance rate.

Attendees meet the K-9 Unit dogs and their handlers, and the mounted police and their horses (very large, but gentle). There is an Inner Harbor Bike Unit that also works specifically with juveniles in the harbor area. Not many know there is also a Dive Team.

Other specialized units are the Sex Offender Unit and the Crisis Intervention Team, which responds to mental-health crises to divert the situation away from the use of force and criminal justice system — after the issue is identified, the person is directed to mental-health resources. The gang unit will show videos that the gangs use to recruit; these are the real thing. The number of local and national gangs in Baltimore is surprising.

An exciting evening is the talk from Special Weapons and Tactics, at which the weapons, tools, and vehicles used are exhibited. Very impressive.

All these units interact as necessary and coordinate their efforts depending on the situation. They are supported by the Crime

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NEIGHBORHOOD NOTEBOOK

Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital celebrates fifth-annual storybook gala

Monsters peeked out curiously from behind tropical trees as the large crowd gathered. The scene was right out of the children's tale "Where the Wild Things Are" for the guests at the fifth-annual "Storybook Gala" of Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital, and the "wild rumpus" that followed was a huge success.

In just five years, the Gala has raised \$1.25 million to support the important mission of the hospital. At this year's event, held May 12 at the Marriott Waterfront Hotel, the "fund-a-wish" portion helped provide outpatient medical support, therapy equipment, specialized car seats, and other items that strengthen MWPH's efforts in caregiving.

The Mount Washington neighborhood continues to back this endeavor. Community businesses, such as Armstrong Dixon and The Painted Palette, sponsor the gala or provide space for events.

Many residents attend the gala and support MWPH each year. The hospital benefits greatly from this strong neighborhood relationship.

MWPH's growth is fueled by the excellent care provided by its clinicians and by the region's continued need for a specialty pediatric hospital. This growth is also nurtured by the hospital's roots here in Mount Washington -- roots nearly 100 years old.

There are countless volunteering opportunities for neighbors, whether by helping provide care or at an event such as the "Holiday Toy Shop." Residents can also donate gifts, including clothes, books, or other items on our wish list. Additionally, golf fans can be a part of the 19th annual golf tournament on October 3; contact Paula Bragg at pbragg@mwph.org for more information.

MWPH is wild about Mount Washington and happy to be growing stronger together. Read more about the hospital and ways to get involved at mwph.org.

— Andy Wayne,
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THE STORY OF MOUNT WASHINGTON

LONGTIME NEIGHBORHOOD FEATURES INCLUDE TRANSIT, SCHOOLS, AND SHOPPING

By GLEN MENDELS
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My parents moved to Mount Washington from Windsor Hills in the early 1950s when I was 6 years old. The \$6,000 price tag for the rowhouse on Rockspring Road was a financial stretch for them but they really liked the house, neighborhood, and transportation options. In those days, most people still relied on mass transit and, although the tracks for the number 25 streetcar had been removed a few years before my parents' arrival, bus service was frequent and reliable.

My dad for several years had a one-and-a-half-hour trip by bus to his job in Highlandtown until he purchased his first car. My mother relied on the bus to get her downtown, where she was able to access the department and dime stores and do food shopping at Lexington Market.

Closer to home the Village supported a post office, drugstore with a soda fountain, small A&P food store, barbershop, and lumber company that my father frequented when he needed wood for home projects. There was also a small food store – Mr. Moore's – on Greenspring Avenue (at Oakshire) where we got great snowballs in the summer.

I attended Mount Washington Elementary School. I took public transit to school — bus fare at the time was six cents.

For second grade, because of the postwar baby boom, the school had to have several classes — including my own — housed at what is now Clayworks. I can remember sitting in my third-grade

classroom back in the old school building waiting to be called up to the third floor to the nurse's office to receive the Salk polio vaccine.

The school, which was known for its academic prowess, was blessed with strong principals and a stable cadre of excellent teachers, a few of whom were still teaching when my youngest sister, 11 years my junior, attended. Because of the severe overcrowding at the school, Cross Country Elementary School opened in 1955. Students living west of Pimlico Road, which served as the boundary line, were assigned to Cross Country.

There was a small store in the building that houses the Village Vet – I think it was called Crawmers – where ten cents bought a great deal of candy: fireballs, small wax bottles with colored sugar water, bubble gum, licorice, Mary Janes, etc. A visit there was often a treat for myself and classmates at the end of the week after the school day was over.

The Mount Washington branch of the Enoch Pratt Free Library closed in 1951 (currently the building houses Clayworks) and the property was given to the City school system. Even though a new Pimlico branch was opened the next year, a bookmobile served the needs of the community for several years.

The Parkton local provided commuter train service from northern Baltimore County to downtown via the Northern Central Railroad, a subsidiary of the Pennsylvania Railroad. I believe the Mount Washington stop was located close to where the light rail stop is today.

Service was discontinued in 1959, but for many years the Pennsylvania Railroad continued to run a train originating in

Washington, stopping in Baltimore, and then going up the Northern Central to Harrisburg to connect to the Broadway Limited coming from New York and going to Chicago. I took the Broadway when I went out to Ohio in 1969 to begin graduate school.

Except for living in Ohio for graduate school and in New York to complete an internship for my doctoral program in clinical psychology, I have always lived in Mount Washington. Although it has changed significantly through the passing years, it remains a wonderful and unique place to live.

Did You Know?

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The best bet to get rid of wet

By LIBBY BAKER, Libby.baker1@gmail.com
& FRANK LEE, techteacher@gmail.com

“Please go check the basement for—oh my goodness!” Sound familiar? Is there really any such thing as a waterproof basement?

Mount Washington is known for rolling hills and valleys, as well as trees, some ancient, looming, and massive. What is not always noticed by the casual visitor is that there are epic water flows down ravines and across lawns and slopes, sometimes even in modest rain.

There are networks of underground springs, some that were barely noticed by road and land developers and house builders. Likely many Mount Washington properties experience excessive flooding in yards and basements.

On our first visit to our current home five years ago, it was clear the basement flooded regularly—likely to 3 inches deep several times each year since constructed in 1942 with an evolving series of sump pump wells. We took the challenge to make it dry. Here’s how we are winning the battle.

This is not an exhaustive list of dry-basement strategies but likely will inform your efforts to control water on your property. There are many strategies out there, but these methods have worked very well for us in Mount Washington. They are relatively low-cost, but some are labor-intensive. Professionals can help.

The best way to keep a basement dry is to prevent water from reaching the house.

1. Drain roof away. Check annually where rainwater goes. All gutters must be secure, clear, and drain into downspouts.

Downspouts are best if they enter “rain leaders,” pipes in the ground that discharge downhill or at street curbs. Downspouts should never dump next to foundation walls. Continuously wet basement walls can soften supporting soils causing structural cracks, drafty rooms, and a wet basement.

2. Survey surface sources. Look uphill at the land, paving, and other roofs sending rainwater

your way. Don a rain suit and waders to walk these areas in moderate to hard rain. Print a map and outline your uphill rain field. Define your problem.

Our new home received rainwater from three properties, four roofs, and an alley. More than an acre of rainwater gushed straight toward one of our basement windows, causing flooding even in moderate rain. Solving required several strategies.

3. Divert water. Make rainwater diversion paths so water misses the house. We dug a continuous trench, “horseshoe” shape, on three sides of the house, minimum one foot deep, even-sloped bottom. The trench outflows safely into the front yard.

The trench picks up “Ys” from all downspouts and susceptible window wells and accepts the sump pump discharge. Soil removed was shoveled against the basement walls, and then compacted into low, even slopes down to the trench edge.

Plants and topsoil, if any, were removed first onto a tarp, and then replaced on the finished slope edge. Perforated plastic drain pipe was staked on the trench bottom and hose-tested for quick drainage from anywhere to the front yard.

Then the trench was filled with chip stone, no fines, allowing surface water to drain down fast. Gray chip stone path shows around the house, with some areas covered by pavers. This is truly a permeable walkway and perimeter defense.

4. Convert lawns to terrace gardens. Lawns let water flow fast, causing floods. Gardens slow and soak in water.

Digging a swale and mound across contours creates a green terrace that captures water, leading to lush gardens with little to no sprinkler use. As soil amendments add rich humus and microorganisms, and as perennial roots hold, water capacity increases dramatically.

We began converting lawn to terrace gardens by creating mounds parallel to slope contours. Now the volume of water approaching the house is reduced or eliminated.

To reduce street flooding, we constructed a rain garden in front with help from Bluewater Baltimore, our neighbors, and friends. Now our massive rainwater outflow is a green wildlife resource.

5. Seal the vessel. Basement walls sometimes get wet or allow water flow. We had one vertical concrete crack five years ago that seeped water.

We used an “epoxy injection kit” to prepare and seal this crack. After five years, we now have one very small void to inject again.

For damp walls and floors, use a product called RadonSeal. Wait for the driest season with the dehumidifier running. You can heat the surface to remove moisture, too.

RadonSeal goes on like clear water, soaking brick, concrete, and mortar joints and penetrating up to two inches deep. It fills the air voids left by water, then cures and seals permanently.

Two quick coats to be thorough and you may never need to apply again. By the way, RadonSeal reduces radon gas, too.

6. Dehumidify year-round. We have an EnergyStar dehumidifier model recommended by Consumer Reports. It is elevated to drain into the laundry tub.

We monitor and set the humidity level -- higher in summer, lower in winter. It cycles on year-round, keeping everything relatively dry.

Bonus: We line-dry laundry, saving dryer costs. Anything wet, from shoes to electronics, get quickly and thoroughly dried just by hanging above the dehumidifier.

Stay dry!

Frank Lee is an advisor with City of Baltimore’s Office of Sustainable Energy.

CURB APPEAL By JOAN GOLDMAN — joan@cummingsrealtors.com



To get a sale, know what fails

Everyone asks, "How can I sell my home quickly and for the best price?" Well, let's reverse that and see how not to sell your home.

1. Be unrealistic about its value. Tell me what you must get for your home. Tell me how much better it is than your neighbors' homes. Show me receipts for putting in the hot tub or finishing the basement.

All of that doesn't matter; your home will sell for what buyers perceive the value to be. Holding fast to a certain number will only keep you living there until you understand how the real-estate market works.

Just because you love the \$10,000 hot tub doesn't mean you will get one more dollar for the house if there is no interest in the house having a hot tub.

So what if your neighbors' home sold for \$50,000 more than yours is listed for; that was back in 2006 at the height of the market. It's 2018 now, and appraisers will only go back 90 days in determining value now, unless it is a unique property or there aren't decent comparables.

Buying a home isn't like buying a double-soy venti latte at Starbucks. The price isn't fixed; it's negotiable.

2. Make your home difficult to show. When you tell me you want me at all the showings, do you have any idea what that means to the buyers and their agents? It's much harder to plan for everyone.

Buyers want to speak freely with their agent about the house as they walk through it and don't want me there. There is a reason we have lockboxes — so the buyer's agent can securely let in the buyer.

I've heard sellers say, "Well, it's your job to sell it. How do you expect the buyer's agent to know about all the features?" No, no, no, my job is to make your home appeal to ready, willing, and able buyers so they will write an offer.

That's why I get professional photos, and write lovely remarks, and have a pretty flyer and possibly a sheet listing all your upgrades inside the home. Your home has to sell itself.

Another problem is when the seller has firm times when the house can't be shown — for example, if all showings must be after 5 p.m. Great; guess the buyers are not seeing this house as they are out viewing between noon to 2 p.m.

The seller's job is to make the home as available as possible. I never want to have to turn a buyer away. Rescheduling rarely happens.

3. Keep all blinds and curtains closed. Nothing is less welcoming to buyers than entering your home in the dark during the day. Think they will open all the blinds? Think again.

4. Make sure you leave out mouse traps. Do I even need to explain that?

5. Leave your beds unmade and your dishes in the sink. Buyers will not ignore these things. They will be turned off and hold it against your house.

That one day you were running late and didn't make your bed will be the one day buyers are in town looking for homes. Either you don't approve the showing, or you do and they see how you really live.

6. Keep smoking, and don't forget to keep the ashtrays nice and full. Many buyers will walk in a house of a smoker and walk right back out because of the smell. I feel the same way; I won't take a listing with a seller who smokes in the house because it is so difficult to sell.

If you are a smoker and a seller, then, at least six months before putting your house on the market, only smoke outside at least 15 feet away from the house. And repaint everything. And change out any carpet. And replace the curtains. Seriously.

7. Leave dirty diapers in a full trash can and make sure cat litter boxes are near the kitchen or at least the main level. You will know when buyers are coming. If you don't make the effort to make sure the house doesn't smell, well... not sure what to say except don't do that.

8. Cook fish for dinner. You may have loved your fish last night, but today we all still smell it, and it's not a pleasant association you want the buyer to have.

9. Have a front door lock that is so difficult to open the buyer never makes it inside. I can't tell you how many times I've run into the issue of a key not working because of an old lock, or there is a trick to it that the listing agent didn't pass along. If I can't reach the agent by phone, then we just leave without seeing the house.

It's not so easy to just come back another day. So there goes your opportunity.

10. Make sure all your religious artifacts are throughout the house. Listing your home is a business proposition. It is not your personal home anymore. If there is something that will make a buyer uncomfortable, then remove it prior to listing.

11. Don't mow the grass. Curb appeal is huge, and if your yard is a mess, many buyers will not even go inside, even with an appointment.

12. Leave the heat off. When sellers move out, they still need the house to feel comfortable — not only because it isn't good for a house to get too cold as pipes can freeze and break, but also because you want buyers to linger inside, not do a mad dash.

Listing agents do much of their work before the house even goes on the market. We make sure the positives are accentuated and the negatives minimized.

We also offer our knowledge of the current buyers' mindset so there can be a successful sale. If sellers won't listen to our recommendations, then they might as well try to sell it themselves.

Joan Goldman is a Realtor with Cummings & Co. and can be reached at 443-255-4858.



School Spotlight

Volunteering is flexible and rewarding

By AMALIE WARD
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The Mount Washington School is looking for volunteers to support school needs. When the school and community work together, we all benefit.

We have heard from volunteers who responded to our newsletter last year that they enjoyed volunteering, feel a great sense of being a part of the community, and really make a difference.

You don't have to be a parent of a MWS student; volunteers of all types are welcome. Whether you can volunteer once a month or once a week, and whether you prefer working in the classroom or in the front office or in the library, we want to make the volunteer experience work well with your comfort and availability. We are also seeking those with grant writing experience to help apply for grants to benefit the school.

For those at least 55 years of age who can spare 20 hours per week, there is also the Foster Grandparent Program. Information on the program can be found at <http://djs.maryland.gov/Pages/Foster-Grandparent.aspx>.

FGP volunteers provide individualized tutoring and mentoring to youth, and assist the educational staff in providing academic support. Clear individual assignment plans and job descriptions are developed for each Foster Grandparent.

It's a flexible program where we can match the Foster Grandparent's interest to the needs of the school. You would receive a stipend to thank you for your time.

Those interested in volunteering in any capacity can either complete the online form at <https://goo.gl/forms/M43owphoziyXeu6zz> or email Amalie Ward at

amalie.a.ward@gmail.com with your name; email address; phone number; street address; availability starting in September; ability and any preference for volunteering from home, doing office work, in the classroom, or escorting children; and any accommodations you require.

We have some summer dates for interested volunteers to have a brief orientation from our team and to ride with us to City Public Schools Headquarters to complete a background check. Those dates are Friday, June 29, at 1 p.m.; Friday, July 27, at 12 p.m.; and Friday, August 24, at 1 p.m. We can create additional times that work with your schedule — just contact us.

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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 health risks of loneliness and social isolation

By JOSHUA WIES
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We live in a paradoxical time when social connectedness is made easier by technological advances. Platforms such as Facebook allow people to keep in touch and find long lost friends; the near-ubiquity of smartphones and computers give everyone the opportunity to communicate in a range of media from email, images, video, and voice.

At the same time, however, people are reportedly feeling more socially isolated and lonely throughout their lifespans. There are apps for planning outings with friends, ride-sharing, messaging, and meeting new people, yet social isolation and loneliness are now considered serious public health issues, to the point that this year the United Kingdom government appointed a "minister for loneliness" tasked with tackling this problem.

Various studies have linked loneliness with increased risk for a range of health conditions including cognitive decline, high blood pressure, coronary heart disease and stroke, disability, and even mortality. According to the Telegraph newspaper, Vivek Murthy, a former U.S. surgeon general, has written that loneliness and social isolation are "associated with a reduction in lifespan similar to that caused by smoking 15 cigarettes a day and even greater than that associated with obesity." Research by University of Virginia sociologist Brad Wilcox showed a strong link between suicide and weakened social ties; suicide in this country is reportedly on the rise and loneliness may be a cause.

Loneliness is a result of many factors and it affects all age ranges. In fact, Generation Z (18- to 22-year-olds) has a particularly high level of loneliness and this may be due to some interesting phenomena. For one, social and

demographic trends worldwide have disrupted the traditional family structure with more geographic mobility, enabling younger people to move away from hometowns to university or for work.

A 2009 longitudinal study from Framingham, Massachusetts, demonstrated that loneliness is contagious. People in contact with a lonely person are 52 percent more likely to become lonely themselves.

This is thought to be because lonely people are less able to pick up on positive social cues, causing them to withdraw early from interactions. This in turn may make their social connections feel lonely too, an effect that has been shown to cascade through social networks.

Older people who are disabled are much more likely to become socially isolated, disconnected, and depressed. Physical and emotional barriers to engagement in normal activities of daily living and participation in the community compound isolation.

Older people are also highly likely to suffer falls, with one in three people 65 years and older falling yearly. One study last year found that those older than 40 who had a fall in the past 12 months perceived significantly higher levels of loneliness and social isolation.

In contrast, the general sense of a

meaningful or purposeful life is an extremely important construct as it is correlated with other measures of health and wellbeing across all ages, as well as longevity.

While there are no simple answers to these issues, loneliness, social isolation, and lack of purpose are not fixed traits but, rather, modifiable states. We know from social psychological studies that our attitudes are strongly influenced by our behaviors.

Engaging in meaningful and altruistic activities strengthens social bonds and the sense of purpose, and exposes us to the opportunity for social engagement. Being active has a further benefit of enhancing physical health, reducing the risk of adverse events such as falls.

Teaching children resilience strategies will help improve empathy and avoid some of the factors that lead to loneliness. Finding a reason to have regular interaction with a group of people — whether friends, family, or colleagues — and even fostering attachment to a place can all reduce social isolation and loneliness.

Joshua Wies is a physical therapist and Mount Washington resident who owns and operates Mount Washington Physical Therapy, www.mountwashingtonphysicaltherapy.com, 410-542-6878.



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“Trees,” continued from page 1

sycamore, black gum, river birch, yellow wood, Kentucky coffee, and hickory. These species represent many of those in the forests of Mid-Atlantic area, and some are long-lived: The black gum, for instance, has been known to live up to 600 years.

The planting of the grove during the Memorial Day weekend was a festive

event, with regular Sunday morning MWPT volunteers joined by Nemerson and what Sherlock dubbed the “mighty backhoe” of Ed Grove, who dug out holes to the right breadth and depth. By the next day, trees had been planted, staked, and mulched.

As the grove fills in, it will provide

beautiful foliage in the fall and generous shade for those using the playground and bike path. Plans are being made for a dedication ceremony soon. For information about donating a tree, contact Mike Sherlock (finnegan21@icloud.com).

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\$289,000



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416 CEDARCROFT RD
\$539,000



GREENSPRING EAST
2731 VALLEY PARK DR
\$318,000



MT WASHINGTON
2402 EVERTON RD
\$345,000



THE ORCHARDS
5804 STONY RUN DR
\$589,000



TUSCANY/CANTERBURY
3943 CANTERBURY RD
\$585,000



MT WASHINGTON
5905 BONNIE VIEW DR
\$525,000



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“Parade,” continued from page 1

everywhere!

Paul Yutzy and The Giggmohr Brothers will entertain with music, while Magic Eddie will entertain with tricks and balloons. Look up high for Jes the Stiltwalker, and be sure to take a spin with Spilly and his custom-decorated hula hoops.

Boy and girl scouts, vintage and specialty cars, and lots of games and activities further help celebrate the day. Don't forget: Come dressed in patriotic garb to win fun and fabulous prizes donated by local merchants.

Volunteers will also be handing out fans and favors. Notice the word “volunteer” mentioned quite a few times.

Community members are needed to help make this parade a success. Get involved: Run kids' games and crafts; bake cupcakes; help set up at 8 a.m. or clean up at 12:30 p.m. There is more than enough work to be shared, so get in the “Spirit” and RSVP to elg.grove@gmail.com. And the fun doesn't end after the parade — Mount Washington Swimming Club will welcome all residents that afternoon for free entry to the pool.

“Academy,” continued from page 3

Laboratory and Forensics unit, which walks participants through a mocked-up crime scene and shows what is looked for and collected to be processed for potential evidence.

The police are using some new programs to help with the drug crisis, an epidemic that affects anyone and everyone. The Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion program is being piloted; its objective is to get offenders into rehab before they commit more crimes.

The law enforcement naloxone program certifies officers to deal with overdoses and administer the drug. Attendees learn how they as citizens can help, and also the latest in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and how to use defibrillator.

Inside the Department are other groups and divisions that support the police on the street. Communication components such as 911 and police dispatchers are an integral part of the officers' jobs.

Today the hottest topic is the Consent Decree. Participants meet the chief in charge of compliance, who provides an excellent overview of the multiyear process of implementing and monitoring efforts to meet the requirements of the decree.

The new chief of the Office of Professional Responsibility and the major in charge of Internal Affairs overview their objectives and purposes. One of their focus items is looking at what came out of the trials of the Gun Trace Task Force officers and developing a mentorship program to prevent what was done wrong.

Finally, the Chief of Fiscal Services discusses the bottom line to all of this – the budget and process to develop the estimates to complete it, with insights about what funding resources support the Department. It has no money of its own; it is treated like a nonprofit organization. One funding source for the Department is the City's general funds.

The course provides the opportunity to ask hard questions of the police. It helps the Department's efforts to establish partnerships with the communities that it serves. As Sgt. Robert Corso of the Education and Training Academy says, “Partnerships like this are fundamental to the growth of our city and the safety of all who reside in it.”

Interested? To sign up for the next Citizens' Police Academy, send an email to communityengagementunit@baltimorepolice.org.

MWIA Committee Reports

Updates from the MWIA Committees: Communications, Community & Neighborhood Institutions, Finance, Governance, and Infrastructure

Communications - Chair: Chris Mincher

In May, the Communications Committee collaborated with the MWIA's liaison to the Mt. Washington Merchants Association to learn more about neighborhood businesses' knowledge of and potential interest in partnering with the MWIA's communications activities. Further and more involved discussions are planned for after the summer recess. Efforts have also been made to standardize the language and descriptions of newsletter advertising offerings so as to avoid confusion.

The Communications Committee is also pleased to add Paul McCoy as it launches some new initiatives; Paul is a new member of the MWIA and interested in website support. No decisions by the Board have been reached about the various submitted proposals to redesign the MWIA website but the issue will be discussed further in the fall.

Infrastructure - Chairs: Jere Morrel and David Nemerson

The Pimlico Redevelopment Task Force has been working to gather community input in regards to the future of the track. The task force hosted an open community meeting that was very well-attended.

An online survey was also created to enable people to provide feedback into

the types of uses they would like to see at Pimlico. The task force is in the process of summarizing that data so that it can be leveraged in future discussions. Other surrounding communities have also been reached out to and invited to engage in this process.

Pimlico hosted another Preakness on May 19 and for the most part the day was uneventful. Some residents did complain of excessive trash on the streets near the track, but that was eventually addressed by the City and neighbors.

The Moonrise Festival will be August 11 and 12. The full lineup has recently been released.

The Pimlico Subcommittee is working with the other surrounding communities and the promoter to improve this year's experience. Details are being finalized in regards to complimentary tickets, sound modifications, and cleanup efforts. Information will be posted on the listserv and the MWIA website as it becomes available.

Any member of the MWIA can join a committee. For a full list of committees and subcommittees, please visit mwia.org.

Community Calendar

TUESDAY, JULY 3

Dan Fesperman Book Launch: "Safe Houses"

7-8:30 p.m., The Ivy Bookshop, 6080 Falls Road
In Dan Fesperman's gripping new work of suspense, a young woman discovers a nefarious truth at the heart of the CIA's operations in postwar Berlin and goes on a run for her life; years later she's gruesomely murdered along with her husband, and her daughter begins to chase down these startling secrets from her past.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 4

Spirit of Mt. Washington Independence Parade

10 a.m., 2105 Carterdale Road
Come dressed in patriotic garb to participate in a street parade followed by food and beverages, games, crafts, music, magic, vintage and specialty cars, and other activities.

SATURDAY, JULY 7

Totally Thoroughbred Horse Show

Pimlico Race Course, 5201 Park Heights Avenue
Thoroughbreds compete for \$18,000 in prize money. Since 2012, the Show has raised more than \$67,000 to benefit thoroughbred aftercare organizations.

SUNDAY, JULY 8

Canter For The Cause

10 a.m.-3 p.m., Pimlico Race Course, 5201 Park Heights Avenue,
\$50 per trip around the track
Riders follow in the hoofprints of racing's greatest champions as they walk, trot, canter, and gallop the length of the track. Participants will also have their photos taken by the official track photographer in the winner's circle. Proceeds benefit Susan G. Komen Maryland and Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance.

SUNDAY, JULY 22

IvyKids Writing Workshop: Characters

10-11:30 a.m., The Ivy Bookshop, 6080 Falls Road
Creating compelling characters is key for any story. Whether an animal, a person, or an alien from outer space, every character has its own story to tell. In this workshop, young writers will explore techniques for bringing their characters to life.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11

SUNDAY, AUGUST 12

Moonrise Festival

11 a.m.-11 p.m., Pimlico Race Course, 5201 Park Heights Avenue, \$164.50-\$174.50
The Mid-Atlantic region's premier music event presents top acts including Diplo, Excision, Ganja White Night, Anna Lunoe, DJ Snake, Galantis, Rezz, Chris Lake, Kaskade, Griz, Snails, Lane 8, Marshmello, Illenium, G Jones, Mark Knight, Nightmre, A Boogie Wit Da Hoodie, Liquid Stranger, Mija, Zeds Dead, Cashmere Cat, Mustard, MK, Nav, Rusko, Phantogram, and Vince Staples.

Recurring Events

Food System Lab

Sundays, 1 p.m.-3 p.m. Wednesdays, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
Cylburn Arboretum, Food System Lab, 4915 Greenspring Avenue
Stop by to see what's growing at the Food System Lab, learn about aquaponics, and take a tour of the small-scale urban farm. For more information contact Jesse at jblom3@jhu.edu.

Burger & Beer

Tuesdays, 4-11 p.m.
The Nickel Taphouse, 1604 Kelly Avenue, \$12
This special pairs a "purist burger" featuring beef from Roseda Farm in Monkton with an Evolution craft beer from Salisbury.

Community Swim

Tuesdays, 5-8 p.m. (through August 14)
July 4 (following the Spirit of Mt. Washington Independence Parade)
Thursdays, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. (through August 16)
Mount Washington Swimming Club, 2300 Enslow Ave.
The pool is open free of charge to all Mount Washington residents. Proof of address is required.

Citizens Police Academy

Tuesdays, 5:30-9 p.m. (beginning July 24)
Baltimore Police Training Academy, 3500 W Northern Pky
Interested in learning about the Baltimore City Police Department? Join the Citizens Police Academy and learn about aviation, weapons, tactics, police dogs, media relations, investigations, procedures, ethics, decision-making and judgment application, forensics, establishing community partnerships, traffic enforcement, and much more. Participants must be 18 years of age or older and reside within Baltimore City.

Hometown Brew Night

Wednesdays, 7 p.m.-2 a.m.
The Mount Washington Tavern, 5700 Newbury Street
All Maryland brews are half price.

Mount Washington Community Yoga Class

Fridays, 8:45-10 a.m., St. Andrew's Elderslie Church, 5601 Pimlico Road, \$8-\$10
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. Pay with cash or check. For more information, contact Mira at 410-370-6764 or wellspringhealingarts@gmail.com.

Shuckin' Sundays

5-10 p.m., The Nickel Taphouse, 1604 Kelly Avenue, \$20
This special features a dozen oysters and two Evolution craft beers.

Luckman Park Cleanup

July 7 & 22, Aug. 4 & 19, Luckman Park, 2809 Glen Ave., 10 a.m.-12 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.

Limited Time Offer for Mt. Washington Residents!



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Hello neighbors! While I am excited to introduce myself to the community, I would be remiss to do so before acknowledging the exemplary work of my predecessor, Lindsey White, throughout her two years as president of the MWIA and service to the Board prior to that.

During her tenure, the MIWA spearheaded important initiatives with lasting impacts, including a new and comprehensive process by which to review zoning proposals, more open and transparent communications, and stronger relationships with our neighboring communities — as demonstrated with the Pimlico Redevelopment Task Force's recent work with nearby organizations. Thank you, Lindsey, for all your hard work and commitment to furthering our wonderful community! Thank you, also, to the outgoing Board members who have committed countless hours during their tenure.

A D.C. native, I moved to Baltimore in 2006 with hazy plans and knowing no one here but my sister. However, I threw myself into the Patterson Park community association, quickly joining the board and getting involved in myriad projects and initiatives, working collaboratively with active residents committed to redevelopment. I'm looking forward to bringing this same spirit of cooperation to my new role as we build on previous work and identify new ways to continue to strengthen this beautiful community.

When MWIA announced the newly formed Pimlico Redevelopment Task Force, I jumped at the opportunity to contribute for this important

issue. With a background in real estate, degree in public policy, and career in planning, I have synthesized my interests and passions on the Task Force.

I am proud of the work we have done with our own community as well as those that surround Mount Washington. I look forward to the continued good work yet to come from this important endeavor.

I believe that we have the opportunity — and obligation — to shape our communities through inclusive planning, responsible stewardship, and, above all, kindness. While we will not always agree on the most urgent issue or best solution, I challenge Mount Washington residents to be patient, generous, and compassionate with each other as we balance the potential for growth with preserving our neighborhood's character.

I hope that you join me and the rest of the MWIA in striving for the continual betterment and improvement of this amazing place. We all have something to offer, whether it's by joining a committee (which I hope you'll do!) or getting to know your neighbors better over a lemonade on the porch, instead of the online listserv.

When you see me walking around the neighborhood with my newborn son or at the pool with my 2-year-old daughter, please come introduce yourself. I look forward to learning from and working with you. Be well, have fun, and enjoy these long summer days!

Kimiya Darrell
mwiapresident@gmail.com