The Fourth of July promises to be a day-long celebration of community and patriotism including a neighborhood morning march, pre- and post-parade festivities, live music, evening picnic and, possibly, fireworks to commemorate the 20th annual Spirit of Mt. Washington Independence Parade.

In the summer of 2000, having averted the much-anticipated global Y2K crisis, our community came together for this first-of-its-kind event to celebrate the Fourth of July. At the inaugural parade, 200 or so neighbors gathered under the century-old oak tree that once graced the front yard of 5601 Wedford Road, then home to the Tufts family. We were led by former Green Beret Chris Tufts in the pledge of allegiance and the national anthem before we marched up Ken Oak Road and down South Road, ending on Carterdale Road for refreshments at the Wisner-Carlsons. A bagpiper, a fire truck, and a pickup truck loaded with kazoo-playing MWIA leaders were among the attractions.

In the two decades since, the event has grown to become a red, white and blue community tradition — attracting over 1500 people last year back to Carterdale Road.

This year, the Spirit of Mt. Washington Independence Parade will begin and end at longtime-sponsor Springwell Senior Living Community, 2211 W. Rogers Ave. Beginning at 10:00 am, there will be welcoming remarks by the parade master of ceremonies, the posting of the Color Guard by local Boy Scouts, a spirited reading of the Preamble to the Constitution by our favorite neighborhood judge, Pledge of Allegiance led by Girl Scouts as well as a reprise by bagpipe player Jared Denhard who will lead parade-goers on a four-block march down neighborhood streets — as he has done for most of the last 19 years -- followed by the Springwell parade centenarians. Food and fun follow during the post-parade festivities at 11:15 am at Springwell, which will end around 12:30 pm.

We tentatively plan to gather again at dusk on the lawn of Springwell for a community picnic, live music and fireworks, with city permit approval and the support of sponsors. In addition to Springwell, the Mt. Washington Improvement Association (MWIA) will hold a T-shirt Design Contest to celebrate the 20th year of the Parade!

The Parade Committee is seeking t-shirt design entries for the 20th annual Spirit of Mt. Washington Independence Parade. Amateur and professional artists alike are welcome to submit their graphic designs for consideration. Please submit your entry to Elizabeth Grove at elg.grove@gmail.com. (T-shirts will be for sale mid-June through July 4th!)

We Need Your Help!

The Parade Committee is now seeking sponsors, volunteers for set-up and clean-up, cupcake bakers, watermelon slicers, vintage car drivers, flag bearers, float enthusiasts, music makers, bike riders, patriotic pets and other spirited sorts to help make the 20th anniversary a particularly memorable one for our community.

If you are new to the neighborhood, this is the perfect opportunity to jump in and get involved. Please write to jwisnercarlson@gmail.com or mackm@rpcs.org to let us know how you can contribute.
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.

— Karen Donley
Editor

What matters to me is that everyone is safe, everyone is happy, and everyone’s included.

— Lucas, 2nd Grade

The Park School of Baltimore is an independent, coeducational, non-sectarian, progressive Pre-K through 12 school located on a 100-acre campus just minutes from the city. parkschool.net
Our Mount Washington School community is learning sustainability this spring. This year, our long winter hibernation breaks with the Spring Beauty Campaign. The Spring Beauty campaign is the MWS program to get kids and families outside to make the planet more sustainable.

As part of the campaign, students and families cleaned the MWS Learning Garden at the corner of Sulgrave Ave. and Lochlea Rd. and updated our rain garden with help from the Mount Washington Preservation Trust (MWPT). Students have cleaned, trimmed, and mulched to reestablish the Tiger Loop Trail and prepared our native plants for this year. These native plants feed insects that in turn feed Mt. Washington’s beautiful birds and provide flowers for local pollinators.

Celebrating Earth Day and Arbor Day

After Spring Break, the school celebrated Earth Day on April 26 in the outdoor playground. Together with T. Rowe Price, Clay Works, Lights Out Baltimore, MWPT, and more, student and their families learned about sustainable living as well as acting locally and thinking globally.

Entertainment included skits, presentations, and crafts exhibited by MWS’s Green Team Scholars. The MWS Green Committee and students celebrated Arbor Day on April 27 with a tree planting at the outdoor playground and in front of the school.

National Walk/Bike to School Day

The Mount Washington School will participate in the National Walk/Bike to school day on Wednesday, May 8. Please be extra safe and careful on the roads for our walkers and bikers. Feel free to cheer on anyone you see walking or biking down the new bike trail to get to school. The school is proud help make the world more sustainable, and proud to be home in Mount Washington, where the MWS tigers roar!

Join us for more Spring Beauty

Those interested in volunteering for The Mount Washington School Beauty Campaign can participate in beautifying the triangle at Kelly Ave. and Sage James Way on Mother’s Day, May 12. Volunteers may sign up at https://www.mountwashington-school.org/volunteer-sign-up. The school’s Green Committee hopes to share fun times and bright smiles with everyone in the community.

The Green Committee at MWS is looking forward to working with volunteers from the MWPT and MWIA to further engage our children in nourishing and sustainable environmental practices that breed communion and pride. The students and committee are happy to roll up their sleeves and work side by side with the productive members of our community. For more information and to get involved, please contact Tavian Cardwell (Tavian.cardwell@gmail.com) at the MWS Green Committee.
The Sun Also Rises On Mount Washington

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

Sustainability means living on a renewable energy diet – using sun and wind power and avoiding far off oil gas and coal extraction to make our stuff and power our lifestyle. Actually, humans have survived one million years on local sun power. Nuts, berries, fruits, vegetables, and grains are stored solar energy as are wild game, cattle and fire wood. Only recently have we become addicted to burning 600 million years of dinosaurs and their solar powered habitats.

Can we live on our local solar budget? At this point, we seem to be dependent on those petrochemicals from far off and very deep places. We see the consequences: rising sea levels, melting glaciers, the Northwest Passage now open to shipping; daily species extinctions, and resource depletion. Catastrophic weather events have become daily news in just the past few years.

Solutions seem out of reach, too costly, or against the political tide. But in addition to voting and activism, state, nationally, and globally, it really counts to “walk the talk” on our home front. We can move from being part of the problem towards becoming part of the solution.

For instance, many consider installing solar panels to generate electricity for their homes, reducing utility bills and carbon footprints. But:

• roofs are shaded by our prized Mount Washington trees
• a roof is too oddly shaped or historic to accept solar panels
• a north facing roof will get very little sun
• aged roofs require full repair and/or replacement prior to installation
• living in an apartment or condo and with no control over the roof
• a complete solar power system on a new roof is unaffordable

Maryland Community Solar was created for residents who face these obstacles. This Public Service Commission of Maryland program now allows Marylanders to subscribe to a local Solar Farm. A subscriber’s BGE billed commodity is replaced 80% with Solar Credits that cost exactly 5% less than BGE kilowatt rate. Utility costs are lower every month for many years, all while reducing carbon footprint.

As an added benefit, subscribers can visit their Solar Farm. Take the family for a picnic and watch sunshine become household power. Don’t forget your sunglasses.

Neighborhood Sun is a proponent and agent for Community Solar subscriptions. We have subscribed for our home and very soon our Dogwood Solar Farm will break ground near Milford Mill. We cannot wait.

There is no cost to subscribe to Community Solar. Subscribers only commit to purchase Solar Credits from their solar farm at 5% discount into the future. If a user moves within BGE territory, their subscription moves with them. If a subscriber moves far away, another user can assume their Solar Credits. Users have ZERO up-front investment and no cost until the month they start buying Solar Credits. Total electricity cost is reduced, and a very local Solar Farm is supported just a short drive or long bike ride from home.

If you own or plan to buy an electric car, BGE’s very attractive EV Time Of Use (TOU) electric rate integrates with your Solar Credits. Become an Energy Superhero. Drive to your solar panels powered by that farm.

The Make Maryland Shine Campaign from Neighborhood Sun gives incentive for areas like Baltimore to compete for the most Solar Credit subscribers. If Baltimore wins, each solar subscriber’s 5% discount becomes 10% for one year. At the same time, more subscribers help build more Community Solar farms. Solar energy credits move the needle just a bit on global warming while saving money. To learn more, go to https://neighborhoodsun.solar/

Community Solar is a painless and easy way to live on your local solar budget, without tying up your roof.
Fighting Back Against Spring Allergies

By CHARLENE ABELN
charabeln@gmail.com

Spring is springing and seasonal pollen counts are soaring. These helpful prevention tips can help keep allergy symptoms such as runny noses, itchy eyes, and congestion to a minimum.

• Track pollen counts with a weather app or local news.

• Stay indoors on dry, windy days. The best time to go outside is after a good rain, which helps clear pollen from the air.

• Delegate lawn mowing, weed pulling, and other gardening chores that stir up allergens to another family member or professional.

• Remove clothes you’ve worn outside and shower to rinse pollen from your skin and hair.

• Don’t hang laundry outside — pollen can stick to sheets and towels.

• Wear a pollen mask if you do outside chores.

• Use a portable high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filter in your bedroom.

• Wash window screens on windows you keep open.

• Wipe down outdoor pets with a damp cloth when they re-enter the home.

• Clean floors often with a vacuum cleaner that has a HEPA filter.

• Close doors and windows at night or any other time when pollen counts are high.

• Avoid outdoor activity in the early morning when pollen counts are highest.

If you or a family member has a respiratory or pulmonary condition, please seek advice from your medical provider for the safe use of over the counter or prescription allergy medications or treatments.

Mount Washington Pediatric Hospital Offers Free Smoking Cessation Classes

By ANDY WAYNE
Director of Marketing and Communications
Andy.Wayne@MWPH.ORG

Cigarette smoking causes nearly 480,000 deaths per year in the United States. That is around 1 in 5 of all deaths in the U.S. annually. The good news is that tobacco use is the most common preventable cause of death.

Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital health educators have partnered with the Baltimore City Health Department to take on the challenge of helping patients, families, and the community tackle nicotine addiction. A series of classes will offer evidence-based coping strategies, education, resources, and even medications to help all who are ready to quit! The classes will start with informational sessions on the danger of smoking and include a series of free smoking cessation classes.

MWPH free smoking cessation classes are May 7 and 14, 1pm at Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital, 1708 W. Rogers Avenue. Lunch will be provided. Registration is required. Call (410)578-5065 to register.

MWIA brings back Community Picnic

The MWIA Social Committee is reviving the Mt. Washington Community Picnic. The event is scheduled for Saturday, June 15 from 5:00 – 8:00 pm in Luckman Park, located at Rockwood and Merville avenues. The picnic is a fun event for the entire family. Live music will be performed by neighborhood favorites, Sac Au Lait, who play Dixieland Jazz. The MWIA will be grilling hot dogs, veggie dogs, and burgers. Bring a dish to share and enjoy an evening in the park. For more information or to volunteer, contact your area captain.

— Deb Kleiner

Baltimore Clayworks Seconds Sale

Baltimore Clayworks’ annual Seconds Sale is right around the corner! Clayworks dedicates an entire weekend to the event, starting with a Preview Party Friday, May 31 from 6:00 pm-9:00 pm. The Preview Party is attendees’ first chance to preview and purchase hundreds of pieces of handmade pottery, sculpture, and ceramic objects made by local artists. All art will be sold at discounted prices. Tickets will be available to purchase for $45 prior to the event and $50 at the door. Beer, wine, and light fare will be included.

The Seconds Sale will continue on Saturday and Sunday, from 11:00am-4:00pm. On Sunday, from 3:00pm-4:00pm, there will be a last chance Box Sale featuring huge discounts on entire boxes of seconds. Additionally, a community-building Public Mosaic Project will be taking place on the lawn throughout the weekend. Admission on Saturday and Sunday is free and open to the public.

All proceeds support Baltimore Clayworks’ educational and artistic programming in Mount Washington and throughout Baltimore.

— Sara E. Morales-Morgan
Baltimore Clayworks
You may not be wild for bats, but the planet needs them to survive. Chiroptera (Greek for “hand wings”) is the second largest group of mammals on the planet. Just one bat can eat thousands of mosquitoes, beetles, moths, and flies in a single night. Vampire bat saliva has anti-clotting properties and is used for stroke and heart attack medications. Bat echolocation is being taught to the blind to help them navigate surroundings. Bat guano (droppings) is the best fertilizer known to man. More than 500 plant species rely on bat pollination for survival.

Maryland is home to ten of the world’s 1,300 species of bats, all in the Microchiroptera sub-species of insect eaters. Our most common species are the little brown and big brown bats. Of these, tree bats may winter in tree cavities, under loose tree bark, or even in unraked leaves. Cave bats will shelter in caves or tunnels year-round.

Any bat that finds natural housing in short supply will seek alternatives. Several types of female bats raising their young can infiltrate your home (males roost outdoors). Bats can squeeze through holes the size of a dime and tend to use a single entrance and exit. If you can find the portal, there’s a good chance closing it will motivate the tiny flying foxes to find a new hang out. Look for urine, guano, or oily fur stains on the outside of your house as clues. Chimney flues, porches, loose flashing, fascia boards, and gaps in window and door frames are common points of entry. Plug or tightly cover openings and watch out when you swing a rarely used shutter.

Bat-proofing should be done after September 1, but before hibernation begins in November. It is ill-advised to bat-proof during summer months because nursing pups may end up trapped. A trapped bat will look for a new exit and may find its way into occupied areas of the home. Though bats do not seek human interaction, they will protect themselves if frightened or engaged. Bat removal should only be done by a professional.

It is extremely rare for bats to transmit rabies to people, but never touch any bat with your bare hands. Should you be bitten or scratched, wash the area thoroughly with soap and warm water, contact wildlife officials, and go to an emergency room. Dried bat guano is toxic: air-borne guano dust can cause histoplasmosis, a potentially fatal infection of the lungs. Guano should be removed by a professional.

The 50 million year old bat is considered an indicator species: where bats do well, biodiversity is healthy; where bats fail to thrive, the environment is in trouble. Unfortunately, all ten species of Maryland bats are considered to be Species of Greatest Conservation Need by the U.S. Geological Survey. The main threat to bat populations is white-nose syndrome (WNS). WNS is a highly contagious fungus that has killed 7 million bats in the eastern United States since 2006. Happily, populations seem to be rebounding in some areas.

Bats save Marylanders an estimated three million dollars a year in pest control, but the use of pesticides and insecticides denies bats their primary source of food. Increased nighttime lighting wreaks havoc on bats’ ability to focus, making insect hunting difficult. Bats lose hunting and roosting ground with developers’ destruction of woodlands. Development on land with...
The African American Community of Kelly Avenue, Part I

By DANIELLE SHAPIRO
dannishapiro@gmail.com

19th century Mount Washington, was a costly summer retreat for wealthy families. African Americans who lived in Mt. Washington before the Civil War were often hired as domestic workers. A group of these domestic workers organized their own settlement on Kelly Avenue centered around St. Andrew’s United Methodist Church which moved there in 1885. Rev. Edward W. Scott led this church and hosted many big community events, including an 1895 grand feast with music by the band Harmony Circle to raise money for a mission.

A fire destroyed the original St. Andrew’s Church around 1918 causing the congregation to move to land owned by Mt. Washington resident Martha Townsend. Townsend deeded this land to St. Andrew’s which built a formidable stone church around 1926. The stunning building still stands at 2021 Kelly Avenue, set back a bit from the road surrounded by trees. When services were discontinued in the late 1960s, residents used the building as a recreation center. It became a private residence in 1979, according to local historian Linda Noll.

News from Mount Washington was a regular feature in The Baltimore Afro American newspaper and reflected the vibrant, close-knit Mt. Washington community. Items from the area covered a wide swath of activity including deaths, births, marriages, elections, health, visitors, travel, and more. On February 12, 1916, for example, the newspaper reported that Mrs. Emma Smith of Kelly Avenue entertained Mrs. Elizabeth Johnson of Cockeysville. Also that day, they noted Mr. T.F. Padmore of Washington, D.C. spent the day with his sister Mrs. Lenora E. Simms of 32 Kelly Avenue. Another day it was reported that Mr. Joseph Derricks of Glyndon and Miss. L.E. Gwynne of 14 Kelly Avenue spent Sunday at Ellicott City.

There were many social events, too. For example, in December 1915 the Boy Scouts of Mount Washington offered literary entertainment and an oyster supper at St. Andrew’s A.U.M.C. “Come and spend a pleasant evening and you will see that our boys are wide awake,” a promotion for the event suggested. The entry fee was 15 cents.

The community had its own school at the end of Kelly Avenue run by a wealthy African American teacher, Louise Derricks. Cross Keys resident Anna Brown recalled walking the railroad tracks two and a half miles to the school as she was not allowed to attend the white Bare Hills School across the Falls Road from where she lived due to racial discrimination. Her memory is recorded in the book Baltimore’s Two Cross Keys: One Black, One White by James Holechek.

In Part II of The African American Community of Kelly Avenue, Danielle continues this Mt. Washington story of the church and the community.

*   *   *

Following up from last month’s article on Mount Washington’s commercial area, resident Daniel Wylie wrote to make a correction. The name of the record store was Chick’s not Chuck’s. He fondly recalled, “It was my second home.”
MWIA Committee Reports

Updates from the MWIA Committees: Architecture Review; Communications; Finance; Governance; Nominating; Parks, Trails, and Landscaping; Pimlico; Safety and Crime; Schools; Social; Transportation and Infrastructure; and Zoning and Land Use

Zoning and Land Use [chair: Danielle Shapiro]
The Mount Washington Tavern has applied for a variance to have live music at the Tavern which is not allowed under current zoning. The music would be acoustic, with amplified singing and be held on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturday nights from 6pm-11pm, according to the application to the city. The Mount Washington Improvement Association held a community meeting on April 23 at the Mount Washington School to discuss the matter with Robert Frisch, owner of the Tavern. Mr. Frisch answered questions from neighbors and explained that customers have been requesting live music. He said that it would complement existing operations and that amplification would be held under 100 decibels. The application will go the Baltimore City Board of Municipal and Zoning Appeals in the May for final evaluation. You can read a copy of the application on the MWIA website under the Zoning tab.

We have learned from the Baltimore City Department of Planning that the Village Vet will be adding a second story addition to its business at 1620 Sulgrave Avenue. This will allow them to extend their square footage vertically to be able to continue to serve the neighborhood. This project does not violate any codes, will not need a variance, and there are no additional public review procedures. A copy of the planned addition can be acquired from the city Planning Department.

Safety and Crime [chair: Louise Cornell]
The following information was distributed by the Baltimore City Police Department – Northern District at the March 2019 Community Resource Council meeting.

PROTECT YOUR VEHICLE!
How Hackers could use your key to steal your vehicle.
1. The first thief waves relay box at front door. It boosts car key signal in the house to another device held by a second thief next to the car.
2. The car is tricked into thinking the key is present and unlocks the doors.
3. Second thief climbs inside the car, presses the starter button and drives off.

Devices have been reported to detect key fobs up to 100 yards away. Car thieves use relay boxes to clone key fob signal and unlawfully access a vehicle. Protect your vehicle by placing your key fob in a tin box or purchasing an RFID pouch.

If you vehicle is broken into, contact police at 911 and file a report. Contact Neighborhood Coordination Unit at 443-934-7576 with any questions.

Ways to Prevent Crimes Involving Your Vehicle

Vehicle Break-ins:
• Lock the car.
• Put up the windows and close sunroofs.
• Keep your vehicle tidy because even a grocery bag you keep trash in may have them thinking that there is a chance that there are valuables in it.
• Have warning devices such as alarms, wheel etching, or decals, immobilizers, and even tracking systems.
• Do not leave ANYTHING of value where one can see it. This includes change.
• Start hiding valuables before you park, not during.
• If possible, pull the car under or inside a garage or car port. It is best if the garage locks because the garage door opener can be hacked into or fishes.
• Visibility is important. Do not park where the vehicle is concealed by bushes, a fence, etc. Thieves use that to their advantage.

Carjacking:
• Keep your windows rolled up while in motion.
• Keep your doors locked while in motion.
• Utilize hands-free options.
• Do not count money or show valuables while seated in vehicle.
• Keep your gas tank on at least half of a tank and maintain tire pressure.
• Put valuables in the trunk or at least on the floor.
• Keep your garage or parking area well-lit and free of obstructions.
• Consider installing ground lights, solar lighting, hanging lights, or LED lighting along the length of your driveway, fence or foliage.
• Map out the route and plan ahead for your trips. Appearing lost, asking for directions, distracted by mapping on your phone can be a tip off to potential criminals.
• Avoid driving in unfamiliar places or areas known for trouble.
• Check your mirrors regularly for anyone that may be following you.
• When parking at a business, park as close to the entrance and where there is the most light; 25% of carjackings occur in parking lots. Do not engage in conversation on the phone or with other occupants in the vehicle while parked. Park, lock it, and go in.
• If in a parking garage, park as close as possible to the exit and back into the space.
• When warming your car, only use the auto start function where the doors lock. If someone steals your vehicle with the keys in the vehicle, you can be cited with a fine.
• Keep your cell phone or a GPS device on you at all times.

Before you drive:
• Do a basic check of your vehicle (i.e. ensure that fluids, tire wear and tread are sufficient, all lights are properly functioning, lug nuts are tightened, all debris such as snow, ice, dust or mud is off of all of the windows, etc.)
• Place valuables in the trunk or on the floor.
• Secure cups of coffee or other drinks.
• Make sure your phone or GPS device is charged and working properly.
• Have your route pre-planned and consider anything you may need (i.e. snacks, phone cord, external battery, etc.)

Any member of the MWIA can join a committee. For a full list of committees and subcommittees, please visit mwia.org.
Once again sponsor the 20th annual Fourth of July parade festivities (The Mt. Washington Babysitting Co-op was the original sponsor back in 2000).

Last year, as we festooned our porch with patriotic swags and flags, my new Carterdale Road neighbor Cassie Sundberg joyfully joined in the decorating effort, while sharing photos with her parents in New England. “I had no idea that Mt. Washington was really Mayberry R.F.D.,” she said. “Wow, what a cool community we have moved to!”

Please consider what role you and your family could play in the coming months and on July 4, 2019 to sustain this fun-filled, much beloved neighborhood tradition. The Parade Committee – including co-founder Missie Mack, along with Elizabeth Grove, Linda Conrad and Carla Hobson - is eager to find fresh talent and energy to keep the Spirit of Mt. Washington alive and vibrant for the next generation of community residents.

If you are new to the neighborhood, this is the perfect opportunity to jump in and get involved. Please write to jwisner.carlson@gmail.com or mackm@rpcs.org to let us know how you can contribute.

“Parade,” continued from page 1
“Bats,” continued from page 6

Caves and abandoned mines deprives bat colonies of warm, dark, protected environments.

What can you do to protect Maryland bat species? Fortunately, making your yard better for bats is neither difficult nor expensive. In fact, many Mount Washingtonians have already created some of the city’s most bat-friendly places.

• Leave dead trees on your property, if possible. The inside of dead trees and the underside of peeling bark is perfect for holding bats’ bodies safe and warm while they sleep and attract the insects bats need.

• Make a bat habitat by nailing roof shingles on a living tree. Start with the bottom layer (12+ feet off the ground) and nail shingles onto the sunny side of the trunk. Leave a one-half inch between each piece and overlap the layers, staggering them to create a mosaic of overhangs and pockets for roosting. Continue adding layers until your enhancement spans 3-4 feet vertically. Hammer a nail through each shingle prior to climbing the ladder and use aluminum nails so if the tree needs to be cut down later, saw blades won’t break.

• Keep your yard as natural as possible: avoid extreme pruning, shaping, and insect treatment. Let plants bloom and grass grow; they attract insects for bats to feed on. Don’t use chemicals! Many bats die from eating poisoned bugs. Natural oils deter insects really well and can be used as smoky coils or sprays.

• Keep your yard dark. Nighttime lighting deters criminals, but leaving nooks and crannies of your yard dark will allow bats ample hunting grounds. Lower wattage bulbs and motion-activated lights close to the house help keep bugs in the dark yard where bats can find them.

• Make water available. A small bubbling fountain or pond can go a long way in helping bats meet their fresh water needs. You can build your own or find relatively inexpensive ones at your local nursery to support all manner of wildlife, be it winged, hoofed, or footed.

• Build a bat box. Bat houses are narrow rectangular boxes lined with rough surfaces. Hang them high up in a dry, sunny spot near fresh water. You can find some great patterns online for a DIY or order one from the Department of Natural Resources and support a wonderful organization working hard to keep bat populations healthy in Maryland.

Bats have been mythologized, vilified, and feared for hundreds of years, but these ancient creatures have a vital place in the ecosystem. They are integral to our survival. Without bat pollination and pest control, the world’s food supply is in grave danger. Making a safe bat environment in your yard is a great way to help out the planet and all who live on it.
Community Calendar

TUESDAY, MAY 7 & 14
MWPW Smoking Cessation Classes
1:00 pm
Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital, 1708 W. Rogers Ave.
Free smoking cessation classes at the hospital. Lunch provided, registration is required. Call (410)578-5065 to register.

FRIDAY, MAY 10
Party on the Porch: A Market Day Preview
5:30-8:00 pm, Cyburn Mansion

SATURDAY, MAY 11
Cyburn Arboretum Market Day
8:00 am – 2:00 pm
Cyburn Arboretum
Learn about and enjoy the outdoors, and to purchase flowers and garden-related gifts. Family friendly food trucks, pollinator activities, live animals, face painting, and more. Rain or shine. Admission free, parking $10.

FRIDAY, MAY 17
Book signing with Cal Ripken, Jr., “Just Show Up”
12:00 pm
The Ivy Bookshop, 6080 Falls Rd.
The Ivy welcomes Cal Ripken Jr. for a signing of his new book Just Show Up.

THURSDAY, MAY 23
7:00 pm
The Ivy Bookshop, 6080 Falls Rd.
The Ivy welcomes Josh S. Cutler to discuss his new book Mobtown Massacre: Alexander Hanson and the Baltimore Newspaper War of 1812. Presented by the Baltimore City Historical Society

SATURDAY, MAY 26
Mt. Washington Swim Club
11:00 am
2300 Enslow Ave.
First day of summer swimming at Mt. Washington’s membership-only swim club.

FRIDAY, MAY 31
Baltimore Clayworks Second Sale Preview Party
6:00-9:00 pm
Baltimore Clayworks, 5707 Smith Ave.
Preview and buy the best of the Second Sale pots. $45 in advance, $60 at the door.

SATURDAY, JUNE 1
Mt. Washington Garden Group Plant Swap
10:00 am-noon
1807 South Road
Call Deb with questions – (443)704-5162

SATURDAY-SUNDAY, JUNE 1-2
Baltimore Clayworks Second Sale and Community Mosaic
11:00 am – 4:00 pm
Baltimore Clayworks, 5707 Smith Ave.
Clayworks’ annual Second Sale and community mosaic project. Free and open to the public. Box Sale, Sunday, 3:00-4:00 pm.

SUNDAY, JUNE 2
Dan Rodricks Launch, “Father’s Day Creek: On Fly Fishing, Fatherhood & the Last Best Place on Earth”
5:00 pm
The Ivy Bookshop, 6080 Falls Rd.
The Ivy Bookshop welcomes long-time Baltimore Sun columnist Dan Rodricks for the launch of his new book.

SATURDAY, JUNE 15
MWIA Annual BBQ and Picnic
5:00-8:00 pm
Luckman Park, Merville & Rockwood avenues
MWIA will provide burgers and dogs. Please bring a dish to share.

Recurring Events

Luckman Park Clean-Up
May 4 & 10, June 1 & 16
10 a.m.–12 p.m.
Luckman Park, 2809 Glen Avenue
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.

Karma Dogs
Tuesdays, May 7 & June 4
5:30-7:30 p.m.
Macks Center for Jewish Education, 5708 Park Heights Avenue
Shy or reluctant 5- to 12-year-olds can read with friendly, non-judgmental, and attentive dogs. Adult supervision is required.

Parent-Teacher Organization Open Meeting
Tuesdays, May 14 & June 11
6:00-7:30 p.m.
Mount Washington School, Lower Building library, 5800 Smith Avenue
Meeting of the Mount Washington School Parent-Teacher Organization to encourage community and volunteerism, organize fundraising, and distribute money to benefit students.

School Family Council Meeting
Wednesdays, May 13 & June 12
6:00-7:30 p.m.
The Mount Washington School, Upper Building library, 1801 Sulgrave Avenue
The Mount Washington School Family Council meets to work on improving student achievement, ensuring quality programs, enriching family and community engagement, and helping the school achieve its greatest potential.

Wellspring Yoga
Fridays, 8:45-10:00 a.m.
Elderslie-St. Andrews Church, 5601 Pimlico Road
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. $8-$10

EAT LIKE A KING.
PAY LIKE A PAUPER.

WEEKLY SPECIALS

MON » RIB NIGHT
Full Rack of Slow Roasted Pork Spare Ribs with Choice of House Made St. Louis Style or Spicy Honey Barbeque Sauce. Served with Tavern Fries and Slaw. $16

TUES » FISHMARKET
Choice of Salmon, Halibut, Tuna, Featured Catch
Choice of preparation: Picatta, Blackened, Cilantro Lime Butter, or Dijon and Herb Crusted, Choice of two sides $18

AND T-BONE
Caesar Salad Followed by 16 oz. Aged T-Bone with Fingerling Potatoes. $16

WED » PRIME RIB
Tavern Salad Followed by 12 oz. Slow Roasted Prime Rib and Fingerling Potatoes. $16

THE HEART OF MT. WASHINGTON VILLAGE
5700 Newbury Street, Baltimore, MD 21209 | 410.367.6903 | mtwashingtontavern.com
Hello, Mt. Washingtonians! Spring has arrived and brings outdoor chores, neighborhood sports, and family outings across our streets.

The MWIA and its Board continue work on neighborhood road issues: coordinating resurfacing of Kelly Avenue and South Roads with completion of the Jones Falls Trail and, with councilmember Schleifer, working to get the lower Kelly Avenue portion of the trail restored to the original design to provide a safer space for buses and traffic. The completion date is the end of May/June.

Jones Falls Trail construction is moving forward: the new pedestrian/biking bridge over Northern Parkway is in place, the trail down Rogers Avenue from NW Park is near completion, and the trail from the pediatric hospital to the Village is under construction. Trail completion date should be late fall of 2019. When complete, several impacted streets will be repaved (including Kelly Ave. and South Road).

Construction at the Rosenberg Outpatient Facility at Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital starts in late May/June. This expansion involves a 7,000 square foot, two-story addition to the existing pavilion. The hospital reports they will not be closing the street during this work. The hours of construction will be from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily through spring 2020. Jill Feinberg, MWPJ Vice President of Development and Community Outreach, will be the point of contact for any questions.

The Village merchants will soon be welcoming Abbey Burgers in the space of the shuttered Nickel Taphouse (opening date TBA). The Mt Washington Tavern will soon feature “soft acoustic musical acts” for its patrons to enjoy. Our little hamlet of shops continues to bring excellent offerings for all to enjoy and visit.

The MWIA and neighboring communities are monitoring the on-going Pimlico Racetrack redevelopment discussions between Stronach Group, Baltimore City, and the State. The MWIA has reaffirmed the community’s support of keeping live horse racing and new mixed-use retail/commercial development at the site. We are not sure how this chapter in the history of “old Hilltop” will unfold, but we are following with great interest.

Look for announcements and details from the MWIA Social Committee on MWIA’s Annual Neighborhood Picnic, June 15 at Luckman Park. This event will be followed by the Mt Washington Independence Day Parade! This is the 20th anniversary of this celebration under the planning and direction of our own Parade Divas! What a terrific way to celebrate July 4th and summertime in Mt. Washington.

The Annual MWIA Meeting of the Membership is being held on June 4th at the JHU Mt. Washington Conference Center. Please join us. The MWIA is a strong advocate for all our neighbors’ voices to make us stronger in preserving the unique quality of life in Mt. Washington.

Here’s wishing you all a wonderful start to the summer season. I hope to see you around the neighborhood.

John W. Mack
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