Home But Not Alone: Mt. Washington Meets the Quarantine Together

by KAREN DONLEY
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A community is the sum of its hearts. This fact makes Mt. Washington huge and vital always, but particularly during the Covid19 quarantine. We are following the rules: going out only for necessities or ordering those necessities delivered. We’re Zooming, Webexing, and Google meeting instead of attending work or community groups in person. We’re online learning and getting used to having our kids at home full time without losing our minds. We’re waving at a distance instead of hugging friends or meeting for coffee or wine or BBQ.

Through it all, we are using what we have to keep in touch and make life in isolation bearable for all. The community listserv allows neighbors to note donation opportunities and non-profit requests, alerts all of us to community problems and sidewalk chalk obstacle courses, and maintains the typical curb alerts, lost pet, bird sightings, and [virtual] garage sales. We’re learning all sorts of things can be done virtually (including the MWIA 2020 Annual Meeting!) without violating six feet of anyone’s space.

Still, some of us may be flummoxed by our current reality: where to shop, who to use for deliveries, where to order liquor or food when you’re sick of your own cooking are all part a new order to our lives.

See Quarantine, page 8

Pimlico Legislation Passes, Awaits Hogan’s Signature

By JIM JACOBS
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The Racing and Community Development Act of 2020 passed March 18 with overwhelming bipartisan support by both houses of the General Assembly and is awaiting Governor Hogan’s signature.

The Act assures the viability of horse racing in Maryland and--most important to Mt. Washington and neighboring communities--the retention of the Preakness at Pimlico and the donation of the Pimlico property to the Baltimore Development Corporation for the development of non-racing related activities.

Funding sources for the racing facility upgrades will come from approximately $348 million in state bonds, supported by revenue from the state’s Racing Facilities Renewal Account, the Racetrack Purse Account, and City/Park Heights Video Lottery funds. There will be no reliance on new taxes; only an extension of currently existing funding sources including lottery funds when the existing statutory commitment for slots money for racing and neighborhood purposes expires.

Delegate Sandy Rosenberg commented on the importance of the Act: “Saving the Preakness and redeveloping the Pimlico Race Course site will be economic stimuli for Mt. Washington, Pimlico, and Northwest Baltimore. My 41st District colleagues and I look forward to working with all of the affected neighborhoods to achieve this result.”

Assuming the act, embodied in Senate Bill 987, becomes law and even before any

See Pimlico, page 9
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

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Area 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.
School Spotlight

By NAOMI REETZ, President
The Mount Washington School PTO
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A time like no other...

Distance learning

The Mount Washington School continues to face this new and ever-evolving challenge of online learning with as much grace and diligence as possible. Our AWESOME teachers and staff jumped straight into action to get children and families engaged as quickly as possible through multiple online platforms, while also working with families to assess access to technology and resources to support distance learning. Once authorized, the school was then able to distribute almost 60 Chrome books purchased by the PTO this summer to children of families in need.

While the system is far from perfect, the teachers and administrators are working closely with students and families to make things work, while remaining physically distant - in the hopes that everyone can remain safe and healthy and return to the physical space of the school as soon as possible! Without the PTO the school would not have devices to distribute. As a result of your generous contributions to our school, we were able to have these devices ready and available to loan out to those without access at home. We just want to thank you for your continuous contributions to our school!

Cancelled

The Mount Washington School PTO has decided to cancel the Taste of Mount Washington, which was scheduled for May 2, 2020. This decision was not arrived at easily, but we believe that a cancellation is what best supports our families, sponsors, vendors, and the greater Mount Washington community at this time. This is our school’s largest annual fundraiser, and it will hit us hard next year when these funds are not available. If you are in a position to do so, we ask that you please consider visiting our school’s website and making a donation. Thank you in advance!

Opportunities

The current state of affairs has shone a glaring light on a need that the PTO has been discussing since the beginning of this school year. In this day and age, it is undeniable that students have incorporated technology into their daily learning experience. The Mount Washington School PTO’s plan is to supply a computer to every student at the beginning of third grade, to be used through eighth grade. In order to get this plan off the ground, we need to start a capital campaign. If you would like to be a part of this capital campaign, please reach out to me: naomireetz@kw.com or 410.292.8767.

I look forward to reaching out in the near future with more news on our efforts to give every MWS child the education they deserve.

The Community Vegetable Garden: Growing Through it All

By Laura Melamed
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A garden can be a bright spot during difficult times. In the tenth anniversary of the Eric Waller Mount Washington Community Vegetable Garden in Northwest Park, that bright spot is growing strong.

The garden was named in memory of Eric Waller, a generous Mt. Washington resident who kept his neighbors supplied with vegetables from his own garden. He was a dear friend of Master Gardener Larry Kloze, who founded the community garden with fellow resident Naomi Goldstick Rosner. It was successfully established with the support and cooperation of the City Parks Department and the MWIA under the leadership of former president Ira Kolman. Twenty Mt. Washington households joined the first year – a tribute to the neighborhood listserv. Larry is now the garden mentor; Master Gardener Jane Berkow has taken the lead. Many local experts have contributed, including landscape architect Brent Figlestahler, who designed a deer proof fence and supervised installation in 2017. Its distinct structure is a landmark of the garden.

In 2018, to share the workload – and the joy -- of running the garden, members adapted the leadership process again, so as not to overburden any one person. The new system was so successful that it continues today. Every month, Garden Stewards rotate, allowing two members to

See Garden, page 11
Guy Dauncy, in his article “When Climate Met COVID”, uses the plot of “When Sally Met Harry” in an insightful and humorous way. In his version, Harry is the climate and biodiversity action movement and Sally is the COVID-19 community response movement. Dauncy shows that even though the two seem incompatible at first, they find they are truly interconnected crises and need connected responses. In effect, they have married (published in The Practical Utopian, April 7, 2020).

The two crises are certainly inextricably entangled. Decades of climate change (and science) denial has transferred over to delays responding to Covid-19. It’s clear that the disruption and danger of the pandemic is a rehearsal for the repercussions climate change.

And climate will definitely meet COVID this summer as the restrictions of life in the time of pandemic and seasonal flooding are set to collide in the US somewhere around July, if not before, along with the season for hurricanes and other storms. A double whammy is coming and is, in some places, already here. We can’t postpone addressing climate change. Destruction of ecosystems makes disease outbreaks, including pandemics, more likely. Prof. Dr. Vandana Shiva, founder of the Research Foundation for Science, Technology and Ecology, urges us to work together to withstand future disruptions of climate or diseases (Ecological Reflections on the Coronavirus).

John Cohen, award-winning journalist, who has reported on infectious diseases for 40 years, says that it is a new world due to COVID-19. We are grieving the old world, while at the same time building a new one. This applies to climate change as well. He uses a baseball analogy: players go into a game with a plan. After the first pitch, they have to adjust their plan, and so on with each inning. It’s really a game of adjustment moment by moment. He compares it to where we all are – in a time of constant major adjustments with future unknowns, requiring ultimate flexibility and creativity. He also talks about the common grief and loss that we feel about the many deaths due to COVID-19 and the loss of species and habitats with the ongoing conditions of climate change. We’re reinventing a new world – one that accepts that the virus is here, deals with it in ways we can, and acknowledges that climate change is real.

A current issue of magazine Vogue Italia has an all-white cover in acknowledgement of Covid-19’s ravishing of Italy and the number of people killed. “White is the uniforms of those who have saved lives while risking their own . . . White is for people who are filling this time and space with ideas, thoughts, stories, verses, music and kindness to others,” wrote Vogue Italia editor-in-chief Emanuele Farneti. “It’s a reminder that after the crisis in 1929, clothes turned white, a color chosen to express purity in the present and hope for the future. And above all, white is not surrender; it’s a blank page to be filled, the frontispiece of a new story about to begin.”

What will our new stories be? Will the coronavirus mark a turning point in how the public thinks about climate change? Steven Harrison, professor of Climate and Environmental Change at the University of Exeter in the United Kingdom, “sees evidence that COVID-19 is leading the public to see the value of science and listening to experts and to greater understanding about the fragility of our way of life. He thinks this sentiment is strong enough that some of it will last after this crisis is over, and will lead to changes in how the public views the danger of climate change.”

“People are recognizing that even highly complex societies like the United Kingdom and America are still very vulnerable to shocks from the natural world,” Harrison said. “It feels strange to say that this statement about our vulnerability, made in the middle of a global tragedy, is cause for optimism, but that’s where we are” (Inside Clean Energy, weekly bulletin of news and analysis about the energy transition). Let’s hope so; let’s move forward with both crises and “marry” them.
Notes From the Garden: An Arboretum for our time

By BRENT FIGLESTAHLER
brent.fig@cyburn.org

Where my imaginary line
Bends square in woods an iron spine
And pile of real rocks have been founded.
And off this corner in the wild,
Where these are driven in and piled,
One tree, by being deeply wounded,
Has been impressed as Witness Tree
And made commit to memory
My proof of being not unbounded.

Excerpted from The Beech
by Robert Frost

The term witness tree has recently made it into my vocabulary. The original meaning of this term has its roots in land surveying. Witness trees were used as a stand-in where property corners could not be staked. Notable trees were selected and coordinates given beyond their position as a stand in for a corner, say, over water. The meaning was later modified to include trees that bore witness to significant events in U.S. history like the battle at Gettysburg where a battered honey locust remains. In both cases, trees were selected for their permanence and stoic stature in the face of fluctuating and turbulent contexts.

While I have yet to alert the gardens that we are experiencing a pandemic, I think they know.

The use of Cylburn has been staggering as of late. I wonder what the trees of our communities, of Cylburn, are witnessing. My work places me daily among the trees and, uniquely now, among the growing crowds of solace seekers too. Many take photos of themselves, of blooming plants, or of themselves in front of said blooms.

These events bring to mind one of the greatest champions of public parks - a man depicted in very few photos, but a man that has shaped many Instagrammable scenes - Fredrick Law Olmsted.

With no social media presence to fawn over, we know Olmsted only by the parks he created and the legacy of publicly accessible nature he pioneered. As a champion of the need for nature in our daily lives, Olmsted said the “enjoyment of scenery employs the mind without fatigue and yet it exercises it, tranquillizes it and yet enlivens it, and thus, through the influence of the mind over the body gives the effect of refreshing rest and reinvigoration of the whole system.” He understood this connection well before contemporary studies proved the correlation between natural surroundings and wellbeing. Since the Olmsted firm was commissioned to work on the Cylburn Estate, many of Olmsted’s design principles are exemplified here.

According to the Olmsted scholar Charles E. Beveridge, the work of the Olmsted firm can be identified by several enduring qualities, especially the creation of landscape compositions in which “all the parts were subordinated to a single coherent effect.” Olmsted wove the many programmatic features in a given park together in a way that created a collective whole greater than the sum of all the individual parts such as buildings, gateways, or plazas. When combined with his pastoral style, Olmsted created iconic

and simple landscape gestures identifiable by name: the “Long Meadow” in Prospect Park, Central Park’s “Sheep Meadow,” or “Peter’s Hill” in the Arnold Arboretum. Here at Cylburn the East, West, and South Lawns allow the same pastoral experience for visitors while simultaneously showcasing collections of trees. These are the spaces that allow people to gather in an unprogrammed manner. This is the magic of Olmsted landscapes.

The fact that we must now be vigilant about social distancing while in public open space heightens our awareness of other peoples’ need to also spend time in greenspaces. Olmsted aptly forecasted our needs in asking “Who can measure the value generation after generation of such provision for recreation to the overwrought much confined people of the great town that is to be.”

Whether we go to parks because we can’t do anything else or because it is a fundamental human need for the restorative power of the natural, my hope is that we do not forget the reliable pleasure of a walk at the Arboretum. I hope that the underlying message during this pandemic is a message of hope for our city “that is to be.” Many jurisdictions have closed their parks, ceasing access to communal greenspaces. For now, Baltimore City has a panoply of parks still available to the community. Should access be denied, remember to get outside and appreciate the nature within median strips, within the tree pits, or even the cracks in pavement.

Be Well, Do Good Work, and Go Outside-

Your Friends in the Gardens at Cylburn Arboretum

Come Worship & Be a Part of Us!

St John’s
Mt Washington

www.stjohsmtwashington.org
In and Around Mt. Washington

We use this pictorial feature to highlight life in our leafy corner of Baltimore. Although we can’t guarantee we will have space to run this feature every issue or accept every submission, we’ll consider all reader photo contributions with credit, captions, and permission of identifiable individuals captured on film. Send any submissions to news@mwia.org.

Momma doe seems oblivious to the groundhog, but her fawns are aware the furry critter is not good at social distancing. Photo by David A. Fine.

The Maryland National Guard has set up a COVID-19 testing site across Hayward Avenue in the shadow of the Pimlico Race Course grandstand. Photo by K. Donley.

A group of intrepid sewers at The Homestead make protective masks for neighbors, friends, and family. Photo by S. Braverman.

Piano Lessons?

KubotaMusicStudio.com
Lifelong Skills & Joy of learning!
Any levels from age 4 to Adult.
KubotaMusicStudio@gmail.com
(410)542-1381
2907 Rockwood Ave, Baltimore, MD
Real Estate and Covid19

Though it’s been a while since I’ve had face-to-face conversations, many people have written and called me regarding what to expect in the real estate market with Covid19.

The truth is that every day brings new challenges. I have no idea what next week or next month will bring but I will try to guess with the knowledge our brokers and boards have given us.

As of the day this column is written, real estate is deemed an essential business. That means people can still buy and sell homes. But the way in which our transactions are now occurring is quite a bit different than, say, a few months ago. The biggest issue is that people want and need to see the inside of homes they are considering purchasing. Buyers want to see how the flow of the house works, the view from rooms, the sounds of the surrounding roads, which rooms have light in the morning vs. evening and more. Though we now have an unlimited amount of photos we can post online, some having drone shots, 3D renditions and of course videos, this is how we now show homes. Gone are open houses (good riddance, I’ve never been a fan). Some sellers will allow an actual showing, with restrictions as to how many people can be in attendance (3 total, one the agent and two for buyers, no children). Seller requests to wear face masks and gloves are common. However, most sellers are not allowing a real time showing, at least until we get further notifications from our governor.

The GBBR (Greater Baltimore Board of Realtors) and NAR (National Association of Realtors) are offering some guidelines as are many of our brokers. A few examples would be to work from home and not come into an office. Have deposits online vs. a check that someone needs to touch. Some sellers are asking that the buyer or agent not show up for certain inspections requiring them to rely on the report only. Since so few sellers are allowing people into their homes, we are encouraged to have buyers put offers on houses they have only seen remotely. They can do the actual pre-possession walk though right before settlement.

Call me cynical (as many do) but I think that is not an effective way to sell a house. I can’t think of one of my buyers who would feel comfortable writing an offer, having inspections done without them being there, having their funds wired, only to see the home just before the seller gets possession. I know I wouldn’t like that. At the earliest phase of COVID 19, I had sellers who requested buyers use hand sanitizer and wear booties and try not to touch anything in the house. But that was before schools were closed and kids and adults were all working from home.

It’s hard to tell a house full of people they need to leave for a showing, then disinfect everything prior to touching. And I’ve heard from colleagues who had showings where no one was following the rules, kids came to showings and were touching all kinds of seller personal items, no one wore masks, more than 3 people in and the agent did nothing to stop it. Oy. Some agents have started using Zoom to show the seller walking through the house, but this type of showing takes time and planning.

Cons for real estate during COVID 19:
• Investment portfolios have dropped significantly, reducing buying power
• Can’t get much prelisting work done on your house if you can’t let people in
• Fear of recession in economy, will prices for homes decline? Fear that another wave of COVID19 will stop life again and whether a buyer or will have a job.
• Low inventory, so if you sell your home, can you find another one to move to?

Pros for real estate during COVID 19:
• Mortgage interest rates are very low
• Time to re-evaluate what you want in your home, maybe no living room if you have a nice family room and instead have more office space for working at home-
• Demand is building, when the market opens up there may be a frenzy for the best homes, which means less time on market and higher prices
• Buyers will not feel they can keep looking for that perfect house for months on end, who knows when the next wave will hit with us all going back to hibernation

Bad realtor joke: Can you see yourself being quarantined here?

As times change we are learning that many professions ruled by routine, ritual, and regulation must change to meet the challenge. Real estate is no different. But the profession has always been an early technology adapter, so watch for the innovations coming to make it through these trying times.

Correction from last newsletter article on radon. I have since learned of at least 3 homes in Mt Washington that have tested positive for radon. I always recommend buyers test, even if the area is not known for radon.
“Quarantine,” continued from page 1

quarantined lives. No worries: your MWIA newsletter has your back with the following list of food, booze, and consumer services available locally. We hope that this list helps feed and water you and yours while keeping some of our local merchants in business.

Here are the hours and scope of services for Mt. Washington restaurants. For delivery, call the restaurant or use your typical food delivery service:

**Abbey Burger:** 1604 Kelley Ave. (443) 449-5799. Carry out, food, beer, wine, crowlers. Mon.-Thurs. 5:00 -9:00 pm, Fri. –Sat. 1:00-9:30 pm, Sun. 4:00-9:00 pm. Check website abbeyburger.com for delivery schedule.

**Al Pacino Pizza:** 6080 Falls Rd. (410)377-4228. Carryout or delivery, regular menu. Mon.-Thurs. 4:00-8:00 pm, Fri. – Sat. 4:00-9:00 pm, Sun. 4:00-8:00 pm.

**Le Bistro du Village:** 1609 Sulgrave Ave. (410) 542-9000. Curb-side takeout hours to be announced mid-May. Check website, Facebook, and Instagram pages for hours.

**Chiyo Sushi:** 1619 Sulgrave Ave. (410)466-1000. Take out and delivery, regular menu. Tues.-Sun. 11:00 am-10:00 pm.

**The Corner Pantry:** 6080 Falls Rd. (667)308-2331. Curb-side pick-up and limited entry (10 people at a time) with limited menu and family dinners. Mon.-Sat. 9:00 am - 3:00 pm.

**The Curb Shoppe:** 6054 Falls Rd, (410) 433-8299. Take out only, regular menu, package goods (liquor) 4:00-8:00 pm, daily.

**Ethel’s Creole Kitchen:** 1615 Sulgrave Ave. (410) 664-2971. Curb-side pickup, family meal specials, most regular menu items and beer, wine, and cocktail specials. Tues.-Sun. 5:00 -8:30 pm.

**Jupiter’s Ice Cream:** 1405 Forge Ave. (410) 433-1673. Take out only regular menu.

**Mt. Washington Pizza and Subs:** 1620 Kelly Ave. (410) 664-1111. Delivery and curb-side pickup, regular menu. 11:00 am-9:00 pm daily.

**Pepe’s:** 6081 Falls Rd. (410)377-3287. Take out and curb-side only, regular menu. 6:30 – 9:00 pm daily except Friday open until 10:00 pm.

**Pizza Boli:** 5721 Falls Rd. (410)486-8400. Take out and delivery, regular menu, 10:30-9:00 pm, daily.

**Sushi Hana:** 6080 Falls Rd. (410)377-4228. Carry out, regular menu. Mon. – Thurs. 11:00 am – 10:00 pm, Fri. 11:00 am - 11:00 pm, Sat. noon- 11:00 pm, Sun. 1:00 pm – 10:00 pm.

**Tropicool:** 6083 Falls Rd. 11:00 am -8:00 pm daily. Full menu.

**Woodrow’s BBQ:** 1607 Sulgrave Ave. (667)212-4436. Curb-side delivery. Regular menu, Tues.-Sun. 11:00 am-7:00 pm. As importantly, Mt. Washington liquor stores:

**The Old Vine:** 6054 Falls Rd. (410) 377-9599. Curb-side and in store, Tues.-Sat. noon-6:00 pm.

**Wine Works:** 1340 Smith Ave. (410) 435-7410. Curb-side delivery, limited capacity in-store. Call or text Chris S. with order at (443)255-2913.

Should you want groceries delivered, you can, obviously call Instacart or Peapod, or – if you’re tired of waiting for delivery, organize your neighbors into a larger order at a restaurant supply store. This article discusses how to organize your neighbors to take advantage of group orders: https://bit.ly/350D22R One such supply service with local offices is happy to take group orders for pick up in their Woodlawn store:

The Restaurant Store 1620 Whitehead Court Woodlawn, MD 21207 https://www.therestaurantstore.com/

For those who prefer to shop for themselves, here are the rules and practices of our most frequently used grocery stores. Reusable bag policies vary at each store (and sometimes with each cashier), but you cannot err by NOT bringing reusable bags and by planning to bag your own groceries. Gov. Hogan issued an order requiring masks to be worn in all grocery stores as of April 18.

**Aldi:** 3601 W. Cold Spring Ln. Occupancy limits with one-in-one-out wait at 6 feet apart. One person per family, medical professionals are allowed to front of line. One-way aisles, cashier barriers in place, vulnerable shopper hours 8:30-9:30. Check website for hours.

**Giant:** 6620 Reisterstown Rd. & 1020 41st St. 6-10 pm daily, Occupancy limits with one-in-one-out wait at 6 feet apart. Senior hours 6:00 am – 7:00 am. Customers can use reusable bags, but they must pack reusable bags themselves. Cashier barriers in place. One-way aisles.

**Shopper’s:** 2801 Smith Ave. 6 a.m. – 10 p.m. Occupancy limits with one-in-one-out wait at 6 feet apart. Reusable bags okay.

**Trader Joe’s:** Woodholme Shopping Center. 9 a.m. – 7 pm daily, until 8:00 pm starting May 11. Vulnerable shopper hours 8:00 am - 9 am. Occupancy limits with one-in-one-out wait at 6 feet apart. Cashier barriers, no reusable bags.

**Whole Foods:** 1330 Smith Ave. 7am - 8pm daily. Occupancy limits with one-in-one-out wait at 6 feet apart. Shopping for people 60+ at 7:00 - 8:00 am. Cashier barriers, self-load reusable bags okay.

Of course, we apologize if we missed any restaurant in the Mt. Washington area and hope there is no need to mention them in the next issue. Until then, stay home, you’re not alone in Mt. Washington!
effects of COVID-19 on the economy are accounted for, there is an extended, several year timetable for when changes will be seen on the race course property. It is anticipated that there will be significant community input on the development that takes place on the property, both through the regular zoning and planning process and the other public processes that would be required by the Baltimore Development Corporation, which will have authority over the non-racing uses of the property.

As our community and state emerge from the COVID-19 crisis, more details will come into focus for the next steps. The MWIA will continue to participate in the development process with our neighboring communities. The MWIA will find the most effective way to continue to communicate with our neighbors about plans for the Pimlico Race Course property and how we can best assure that we have appropriate input into those plans.
MWPH Remains Mission-Driven During COVID-19 Challenges
By ANDY WAYNE
Director of Marketing and Communications

As all are aware, this global pandemic is a particular challenge to hospitals and healthcare workers on the front lines. Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital, right here in the neighborhood, has quickly responded to the situation, making changes to policies and protocol to protect its young patients, its staff, and the community.

Here are some changes and some ways that you can help:

- Patient and Staff Safety: The hospital implemented visitor screening in March and “universal masking” in early April. All visitors and staff are taking the utmost precautions at this time.

- Homemade Mask Donations: MWPH’s COVID-19 DIY Masks Initiative is a way for our community to assist during these unprecedented times. If you want to help, find more details at mwph.org/coronavirus/donate-masks.

- Online Auction: Due to COVID-19, the hospital has had to postpone its beloved Storybook Gala. However, you can still share in support through a special online auction, which will be held May 6-9. Find more details on MWPH’s Facebook page at facebook.com/MtWashingtonPediatricHospital.

- Other Support: MWPH is grateful for support during this pandemic. In-kind donations and other donations are truly appreciated. More information can be found at mwph.org/coronavirus/how-you-can-help.

MWPH provides long-term care for children with complex health problems and is a vital and active member of the Mt. Washington community. We know that, together, our best health outcomes come from strong neighborhood bonds and a shared desire to give children a healthy future.
“Garden,” continued from page 3

lead for one month only, obtaining
materials and organizing workday tasks.

Today, garden members meet on
alternating Saturdays and Sundays. They
grow a bounty of organic crops, including
tomatoes, spinach, kale, herbs and more.
Membership grows as well and is open to
all Baltimore City residents. Currently,
fifty-nine households are members of the
garden.

Rolling with the punches in the
following weeks, with the onset of the
pandemic in Maryland, Garden Stewards
Aaron Smith and George Mitchell and
other garden members acted quickly to
adapt the schedule to deal with social
distancing requirements. Suzy Fuqea
created an online signup and members
volunteered for separate shifts with fewer
than ten per shift. Members now wear
masks and their own garden gloves, and
bring their own tools.

The garden continues to thrive with the
new schedule. Beets, leeks, broccoli,
cabbage and lettuces are in the ground.
Spinach is still growing from last winter.
Garlic chives are abundant.

To celebrate the ten-year anniversary of
the garden, the stewards discussed
erecting a plaque acknowledging those
who made the garden possible. There were
plans for a celebration and dedication.
This too is on hold as a result of continued
efforts to contain the spread of the corona
virus.

Working in the garden each week is
celebration in itself. In the midst of
difficult news and challenging times, it’s
refreshing and rejuvenating to be out in the
sunlight, digging in the dirt and talking to
neighbors and friends, even if they are ten
feet away.

Garden member Emiko Ortega agrees.
“It’s life affirming.”

Anyone interested in more information
about the garden, or in joining the
gardening, contact Naomi at:
goldstickrosner@comcast.net.
MWIA Announces June 9 Virtual Annual Meeting

The Mt. Washington Improvement Association (MWIA) will hold its Annual Meeting on June 9, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be held remotely. Register in advance for the meeting which will be held using Zoom: https://bit.ly/2XJp2sX. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Nominating Committee Report for 2020/21

The MWIA Nominating Committee consisted of Chairperson Deb Kleiner, Peter Garver, Robin Truiett-Theodorson, Jere Morrel, and Benjamin James. The committee recommends the following nominees who represent the official slate of the 2020 Board to be elected at the annual meeting.

Nominations for new at-large directors:
Kimberly Brodie-Hopkins (2020-2023)*
Richard Chamberlin (2020-2021)
Paul Drutz-Hannahs (2020-2023)
Courtney Hill (2020-2023)
Benjamin James (2020-2023)*
Sue May (2020-2023)*
Joshua Weiss (2020-2023)*

Area Director
Deb Kleiner (2020-2022)*

Nominations for Area Captains (1 year term)
Area 1 Ari McCown-Fleagle*
Area 1 Larry Mangum*
Area 2 Esther Fleischmann*
Area 3 Marnion Phipps
Area 4 Joan Wisner-Carlson
Area 5 Lu Pierson*
Area 6 Greg Walsh*
Area 7 Betsy Royall*
*Incumbent in this position

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.