ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER IMPROVEMENT

www.MWIA.org

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2014



Northwest Park masterplan.

Communities Develop Plans For Slots-Funded Projects

Plus, Jones Falls Trail to Move Forward

By MAC NACHLAS macnac@gmail.com

Small project grants for community organizations and more money for the reconfiguration of Northwest Park are included in the recommended spending plan for slots money in fiscal 2016.

Up to \$20,000 in small grants will be available to community groups and individuals who want to take on neighborhood improvement projects. The money will be shared between the five neighborhoods that make up the Northwest Community Planning Forum – Glen, Cheswolde, Fallstaff, Cross Country and Mount Washington. They will be administered by the MWIA and the non-profit organization Healthy Neighborhoods, Inc. Details on the grant application process will be available soon at www.mwia.org.

Other recommendations include \$438,000 to improve parking at Northwest Park and over \$200,000 for new ball fields

See Projects, page 11

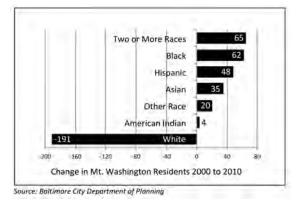
Census Data Show Mt. Washington Is More Diverse

By DAVID NEMERSON dnemerson@gmail.com

In the first installment of this article in the September/October newsletter, we looked at the demographics of age in Mount Washington. Now we turn to a view of race and ethnicity.

Recently, the Baltimore City Planning Department published a detailed analysis of census data from the City's neighborhoods, allowing a close look at how these trends have played out recently. The analysis of Mount Washington focuses primarily on changes between the 2000 and 2010 censuses.

Perhaps the primary finding of the report is just how remarkably stable Mount Washington was during the first decade of the



century. The census listed 3,880 residents in 2000 and 3,878 in 2010, for a grand total of two less souls residing in the 'hood by

Message from the President

By BRYCE BUTLER mwiapresident@gmail.com

A number of my friends think I'm crazy to be president of the MWIA. And I must say there are many days I agree with them.

There is little thanks for what the MWIA accomplishes but immediate and often vociferous criticism for any action we take that is disagreed with. I've even been accused on the listserv of taking bribes, when I was able to get some free tickets for the community for the Moonrise Festival at Pimlico in recompense for the time and noise of the festival itself. As the saying goes, "No good deed goes unpunished."

I'm sure I'm not alone, and that other volunteers face similar amounts of good and bad reaction to their efforts. So why do it? Why do all the volunteers of the MWIA or any other organization do it? Whatever the reasons, I'm convinced our communities would be much poorer without them.

As you will read in this issue we have secured \$431,500 of slots funds which will be used to grade and build a new, less precipitous parking lot for

Northwest Park, including demolition of the abandoned red house that sits above the present lot. Mac Nachlas, Ira Kolman



Bryce Butler

and I, as well as many others, have sat through countless hours of evening meetings with city planners and the presidents of the four other neighborhoods within one mile of Pimlico (also volunteers), to pressure the city to release these funds in a timely manner and to hammer out spending priorities. There will be real satisfaction seeing the fields of Northwest Park transform into a park with trails and a playground over the next few years.

I hope the above example, just one of many, of what we've accomplished so far this year will inspire you to join us. As a member of the MWIA you are a volunteer in this organization, sustaining our work with your dues and hopefully your efforts. Please join. You can do so easily online at www.mwia.org.

Leaves and Grass

The Baltimore City Bureau of Solid Waste takes yard waste. Please remember the following:

- Put your yard waste out on your trash collection day.
- Put it at the same place where you put out your trash.
- Put yard waste in plastic bags (preferably clear or labeled bags), paper bags, or bundle it.
- Do not put your bagged yard waste in the gutter or public right-of-way.
- They may not pick up all of your yard waste at one collection; please limit yard waste to 5 bags per collection.
- Do not put your yard waste too far into your yard; please put it at the end of your yard where crews can have access.
- A locked gate and/or animal will prevent BSW from collecting your yard waste; please confine your pets on collection day.
- BSW does not take tree branches larger than 4 inches in diameter or longer than 3 feet.
- You can also take your yard waste to any Citizen Drop-off Center.

Visit publicworks.baltimorecity.gov for more information.



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Northern District Commander Offers Crime Prevention Advice

By NORMA IGLEHART norma@iglehartsearch.com

The Mount Washington Improvement Association joined other neighborhood leaders for an emergency meeting to address crime – and the fear of it – at an October 8 meeting convened by City police. Despite the relatively low crime rate in Mount Washington, police officials urged residents to contact them directly, by calling 911, whenever they see anything suspicious.

The meeting, at the district headquarters, was called by commander Major Kimberly Burrus to inform neighborhood leaders about three major issues: recent "vigilante response to crime"; use of the local websites and listservs to spread crime news; and fear of racial profiling that makes some residents hesitant to report suspicious activity or crimes.

Regarding what she called threats by residents to "take matters in their own hands," Maj. Burrus said, "I cannot stress enough, just call us. I know it can be frustrating, and you may feel we don't get there fast enough," she said. But when residents try to confront suspects themselves, "I cannot protect you once you put yourself in that position."

Maj. Burrus also urged residents to call police if they see something suspicious, regardless of the suspect's race.

"We just need a description," she said.
"They might be black, they might be
white. . . . I don't want anyone to feel they
can't call police without being called a
racist." She also pointed out that
juveniles are supposed to be in school
during the week, which is another good
reason to call police about suspicious
activities by youths.

"If it's not reported, then I don't know [about it], and you don't get the [police] resources you need," Maj. Burrus explained, adding residents should always call 911 if they see something happening, not a non-emergency number and not merely discussing incidents on local listserys.

Make Mount Washington Safe During the Holidays

- · Check locks
- Keep lights on indoors and out
- Don't leave valuables in your cars, which should be locked
- Cut back shrubbery that could obscure your/neighbors' vision
- Work with neighbors to keep an eye on your block
- If you see something, report it to 911, not just the listserv.

Any evidence, including videos, should be sent to Sgt. Ronaldo Morales, at Ronaldo.moralesjr@baltimorepolice.org.

And finally, criminals celebrate the holidays, too, by stealing gifts from cars and homes, so Maj. Burrus had these warnings about the holidays: Check locks, keep lights on indoors and out, don't leave valuables in your cars, which should be locked, cut back shrubbery that could obscure your/neighbors' vision, work with neighbors to keep an eye on your block, and, most importantly, if you see something, say something - to the police, through 911, not just the listsery.

Christmas Tree Sale Will Benefit School

The Grove Family once again will offer freshly cut Christmas trees for sale, to benefit the Mount Washington School.

The sale will start Sunday November 30, from noon to dusk, and continue every Saturday and Sunday until the 21st – or all trees are sold. Pre-orders are encouraged. The location is 5528 Rusk Avenue, the black fenced yard at the corner of Ken Oak Road.

Prices are unchanged from the last sale:

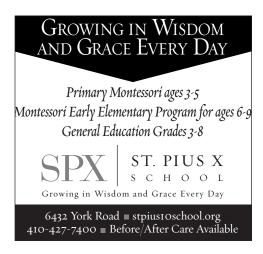
Douglas Fir – 3'-4' in mini stand (\$30); 5'-6' (\$45); 7'-8' (\$55)

Fraser Fir – 3'-4' in mini stand (\$30); 7'-8' (\$60); 9'-10' (\$70)

Canaan Fir – 7'-8' (\$65); 9'-10' (\$75)

Custom orders for special sizes are gladly accepted.

For information or to pre-order, email elg.grove@gmail.com, or call 410-664-0304 and leave a message.



Mount Washington History By LINDA NOLL — lindamnoll@yahoo.com

The Mount Washington Casino, 1883

This historic landmark was first known as the Mount Washington Hall and later was renamed the Casino. The building was designed by architects J.A. and W.T. Wilson and built by Henry A. Nagle in 1883 for a cost of \$5,500. It was located on South Avenue (now Sulgrave) near the current Kelly Avenue Bridge.

In 1883, leaders such as J. Harmanus Fisher, John M. Carter, Dr. Josiah S. Bowen, William Whitelock and Perley R. Lovejoy decided the neighborhood needed a community center. They organized the Mount Washington Hall Association and sold stock at \$50 per share for the construction of a building. The cornerstone of the proposed building was laid in 1883 and the Casino formally opened a year later.

The Casino was available for meetings of every sort – except, oddly enough, for gambling. The dances attracted residents from outlying neighborhoods, including the Cooks and Harrisons from

The Mount Washington Hall, later named the Casino, was the center of social life for nearly 50 years.

Pikesville, and the Cradocks, Rogers and Cockeys from Green Spring Valley.

Later a contingent from the city was attracted to these dances, which became formal and stately affairs with women dressed in evening gowns, and men attired in dress suits and white gloves. The dancers glided to the sound of waltzes and when the strains of "Home Sweet Home" sounded shortly after the stroke of midnight, they rushed to the station to catch the last train for Baltimore at 12:30 a.m.

However, despite its many social successes, the Mount Washington Hall Association found it difficult to maintain the Casino, and in 1896 the Lend-a Hand Club assumed responsibility. The club, formed in 1872, was a national women's organization that promoted art, music and literature. The first President of its Mount Washington Chapter, organized in 1888, was Mrs. John T. Graham. Several seasonal events attracted young artists from the Charcoal Club and Maryland Institute to submit sketches and compete for prizes. On another occasion its guests included two distinguished women, Clara Barton and Julia Ward Howe, and the latter read selections from her poems.

The Club controlled the Casino from 1896 to 1908, when they merged with a men's organization known mysteriously as F.F.F. (possibly for "Forty First Families"). The men arranged the dances and evening entertainments and the women conducted the seasonal celebrations until 1916.

After that, the community leased the Casino from the Mount Washington Company for 30 years and held dances and theatrical performances there. After World War II, club membership declined and the Casino was no longer the social hub it had been in its earlier days. The building fell into disrepair and was razed in 1958.







410-358-6300 or ivymount@comcast.net

Contact Us: 2223 1/2 Rogene Drive

Mt. Washington Mom Promotes Maryland's Star-Spangled Success

By SALLY STAUGAITIS sallykenyongrant@gmail.com

When the Inner Harbor skies lit up with the rockets' red – and white and blue – glare on September 13, few in the crowd or watching from across the nation knew the outsized part played by a Mount Washington mom.

Manhattan Avenue resident Jill Feinberg worked for three-and-a-half years to promote the events celebrating the 200th anniversary of our national anthem in her position as Director of Marketing and Communications for Star-Spangled 200, Inc.

Since 2011 Jill worked with multiple partners across the State to communicate Maryland's unique role during the War of 1812 and the bicentennial of our national anthem. Kicking off with Star-Spangled

Sailabration in 2012, events crescendoed in September 2014 during Star-Spangled Spectacular. Jill led the marketing and communications efforts including public relations, internal communications, social media, website, marketing collateral, customer service training and event management.

It was a spectacular week that included visits from the President and Vice President of the United States, former Secretary of State and four-star General Colin Powell, the Ambassadors from Great Britain and Canada, as well as tall ships, navy ships, the Blue Angels and the largest fireworks display we've seen in 200 years.

"This was a once-in-a-lifetime professional experience," said Jill. "And I am so proud to have played a part in the events."

Jill has lived in Mount Washington for 11 years, serving in several community

roles including the MWIA newsletter editor and the PTO president at the Mount Wash-



Jill Feinberg

ington School. Currently Jill serves as the Membership Secretary for the Mount Washington Swimming Club and on the boards of her synagogue, Baltimore Hebrew Congregation, and the Maryland Tourism Coalition.

Jill and her husband, David Fishkin, live in a 1923 Victorian home with their two daughters, Stephanie, 11, and Rebecca, 8. Said Stephanie, "I am so proud to live in Baltimore, and now everyone knows how special our State really is – being the home of the National Anthem."

MWIA Value Card To Return in 2015

By DAVID CONN news@mwia.org

The Mount Washington Improvement Association will once again offer its popular MWIA Member Value Card program to enrolled members in 2015, offering dozens of discounts from area merchants.

In 2014 nearly 600 households joined the MWIA and received offers of more than \$2,000 in discounted goods and services from local and locally-owned businesses.

Over 30 businesses – from Ethel's Creole Kitchen, the Desert Café, The Nickel Taphouse and the Mt. Washington Tavern, to the Mt. Washington Swimming Club and the Mt. Washington Cleaners – participated in this year's program to reward new and renewing neighborhood association members. The program is intended to encourage residents to support local and locally-owned businesses, and join the MWIA.

For the price of an annual MWIA membership – \$19 for new members and \$40 for renewals – residents will receive a value card that entitles them to both single- and repeated-use offers. In all, these offers will be worth well over \$2,000, and they will only be available to



2015 MWIA members. Go to mwia.org/membership to enroll now.

Most of the participating companies are in Mount Washington. Those merchants, and neighborhood residents who own a business elsewhere, are invited to join the program by sending an e-mail with the offer details to news@mwia.org by November 15.

MWIA WELCOME COCKTAIL PARTY FOR NEW NEIGHBORS SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2014 FROM 5:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.

ROB AND SALLY STAUGAITIS'S HOUSE 2500 WHITNEY AVENUE, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21215

ON BEHALF OF THE MOUNT WASHINGTON IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION, PLEASE JOIN US FOR A COCKTAIL RECEPTION TO MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS.

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NB PDF 1014-069-18422

MWS Report Card

By ASHLEY COOK, Principal The Mount Washington School acookoi@bcps.ki2.md.us

Greetings MWIA community,

The school year has gotten off to a fantastic start and we are eager to share some of the great things that are happening at The Mount Washington School. This summer we were excited to celebrate our authorization, after the required three years of candidacy, as an International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme World School.

Being an authorized IB World School adds to our tradition of Blue Ribbon excellence. It will also present vast opportunities for our students to leave MWS as empathetic globally-minded citizens who understand the impact of their individual and societal decisions on the larger international community. We are looking for any community partners or organizations who can share resources or opportunities that will allow students to see the global connections that their studies in the STEM areas, social studies, and even foreign languages have in our international community.

Last month we were also extremely pleased to celebrate our very own Blue Ribbon teacher, Mr. Matthew Day, on being named by ABC2 News as October's "Teachers are Heroes" recipient. "Teachers are Heroes" is a 10-month program highlighting one K-8 Maryland school teacher each month who has gone above and beyond his or her job descrip-

tion and instilled a lifelong love for learning in Maryland students. Mr. Day, who teaches physical education and health, was scheduled to be highlighted on ABC2 News on the morning of Friday October 31, and featured on abc2news.com throughout the school year. Mr. Day was honored and presented with his award by the ABC2 news crew at school on Wednesday October 22.

Lastly, we would like to extend our sincerest gratitude to the MWIA for your generous grant of \$1,500 to support the funding of three document cameras. As we strive to provide our students quality resources to support the 21st century classroom, additional technology resources help us reach that goal. On behalf of our teachers and students, we THANK YOU!

CANINE COACH By STEPHEN LEWIS — findingfidotraining@gmail.com



Fido, Stop Pulling!

As a professional dog trainer living in Mount Washington I cannot help but notice all the dogs being diligently walked by their owners. I love that so many dog parents make the effort to get outside with their dogs. Personally, there is nothing better than taking a stroll with my

furry friends.

But sometimes I can't help but notice the stressed and unhappy body language of neighborhood dogs being exercised by their well meaning guardians. In some cases the dogs are fearful of new sights, sounds and people. But in other cases the walking equipment being used just might be the primary culprit for their unhappy experience.

In my training business, many of my clients ask: "How do I stop my dog from pulling on walks?" As I begin to explain the process for training a dog to joyfully walk on a loose leash they often lay out all the "failed" equipment they have tried. I will see prong collars, choke chains, head halters and no-pull harnesses laid out like war metals. After listening and surveying the equipment I typically ask how they think each piece works. The answers I get are many and varied but in most cases totally wrong.

Every trainer, vet, shelter worker and self proclaimed dog expert has an opinion on what equipment you should use. Do not take their word for it; become educated on how each piece works and the pros and cons of using that particular kind of equipment for your dog.

Here are the questions I ask to select the best equipment for an individual dog, whether they are lunging on leash or pulling like a truck: 1) Is this equipment necessary to help me physically manage the dog safely until I can change her behavior? 2) Could this equipment make the underlying problem worse? 3) Is this equipment physically aversive to the dog? 4) If so, will counterconditioning be needed to improve the dog's emotional response? 5) Is there a less aversive option or a change in the dog's training plan that would be just as effective in the long run?

Knowing why different pieces of equipment work is critical to the wellbeing of our canine family members. You can find a chart that shows detailed information about the most common types of dog walking aids at www.petexpertise.com (click on "No-Pull Solutions").

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

GARDENING By RICK KINGSBURY—land.arch@comcast.net



Common Garden Problems

In my work in the neighborhood I have noticed that while every design solution is different, certain issues frequently occur. I'll start with three common ones, and list a few more next time.

1. Poorly draining clay soil.

- Do not try to change the soil structure by adding sand. This usually makes the situation worse by creating a near concrete soil condition that is difficult to repair.
- Incorporate compost such as kitchen compost or Leafgro® in copious amounts over time. Remember that compost breaks down, and will have to be replenished.
- · Mound planting areas to improve drainage and soil aeration.
- In extensive areas of poorly draining soil, or standing water, improve drainage or choose plants that tolerate these conditions.

2. Sudden death of recently planted shrubs or trees.

- Don't plant too deeply. Trees and shrubs need to be planted so that the level of planting in the container or root ball is set one to two inches higher than the surrounding soil. Do not place any soil on top of the root ball.
- Address girdling roots/pot bound roots. Sadly most of the container grown material available from local garden centers is badly root bound. Take the time to spread the roots out in the planting hole, and remove circling roots before planting.

- Avoid existing problems. Inspect plants carefully before purchase. Do not plant material that does not look full, healthy and weed free. Check for mold or mildew on the soil surface, yellow or spotted leaves, and insects such as scale or spider mites. Look on the underside of leaves. Poorly pruned or severely pruned plants or plants with broken or damaged root balls should also be rejected.
- Dig a proper hole for planting. The hole should be two to three times as wide as the root ball or container. Do not backfill with topsoil; instead mix one part compost or Leafgro® with three parts existing soil. Tamp lightly, and water well. Mulch to a depth of two or three inches, and do not pile mulch by the stem or trunk.

3. Poorly performing perennials.

- Pick the right plant for the site conditions. Sunny perennials need a minimum of six hours of direct sunlight, for example.
- Check your plant's soil moisture requirements. Most perennials require adequate drainage, so don't ignore soil conditions in your garden.
- Resist planting perennials too close together; allow for adequate ventilation to combat fungal infections.
- Finally, be patient. Most newly planted perennials do almost nothing for the first three seasons.

Rick Kingsbury is a Licensed Landscape Architect whose practice emphasizes the creation of personalized outdoor living spaces as well as sustainable design and native plants. He is President of the Mount Washington Preservation Trust (mwpt.org).

"Census," continued from page 1

the end of the decade compared with the beginning. And despite a common belief that the neighborhood has gotten steadily younger, overall the age distribution has actually become a bit older over the 2000 to 2010 decade.

While we appear to have grayed a bit at the temples since 2000, we have also grown quite a bit more diverse. In 2000, 77.2 percent of Mount Washingtonians identified as "white." By the end of the decade that figure had dropped to 72.3 percent while all other race classifications

increased their representation in the neighborhood.

Echoing a trend across the nation, the largest gains occurred among those identifying as being of "two or more races," while "black," "Hispanic," "Asian," "Other," and "American Indian" all saw increases (Fig. 1). (Observant readers might notice that adding across the racial data unexplainably yields a different overall change in population than was reported in the total population data.)

The census data provide an interesting

window into our neighborhood. While overall a stable and predictable place to live, some of our younger residents decided to leave Mount Washington during the 2000s, replaced by a more racially diverse group of new neighbors. To what extent these changes were driven by the unusual economic circumstances accompanying the global financial crisis is unknown, and it will be fascinating to see what changes the current decade brings to Mount Washington.

Pediatric Hospital Plans Expansion To Parking Lot, Utilities Building

By DAVID CONN news@mwia.org

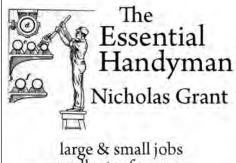
The Mount Washington Pediatric Hospital expects that nearby residents will see fewer if any hospital employees parking on West Rogers Avenue after the hospital completes an expansion of its front parking lot that will add 45 to 50 new spaces.

The new spaces will be added mostly to the west and a bit to the south of the existing lot in front of the main hospital building, as part of a \$10 million project that will also renovate the central utilities building, on the north side of the facility, according to Tom Paullin, Vice President of Development and External Affairs. He announced the project at the Mount Washington Improvement Association's community meeting on October 14.

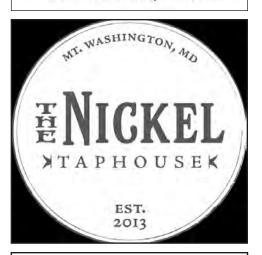
The two-month construction project, expected to start in the spring pending

City approval, would require the land west of the existing parking lot to be built up and regraded. About 30 small or failing trees would have to be removed, according to lead architect Jim Albert, a principal of Baltimore firm hord | coplan macht. But he said the hospital will plant about 65 new trees, most about six to 10 feet tall, and will protect several large trees from the project. The expanded lot will come no closer than 20 to 30 feet from the planned Jones Falls Trail, which also may start construction in the spring.

The work to upgrade the hospital's central utilities building will entail a new addition in the back, or north side of the building, that will add two new generators and three new air conditioning units, Mr. Paullin said. It will also create a turnaround so that trucks will no longer have to back up to exit the facility. "There will be no more annoying beeping," he added.



excellent references 410.207.0077 theEssentialHandyman.com



Opportunity is everywhere.

I know this because I go to Park.



Park Get to know a Park student at our fall admission events. parkschool.net



Magruder & Khan Group

Bill Magruder 410-456-2490 Cell

Azam Khan 410-375-7748 Cell

Long and Foster Lake Roland

410-377-2270 Office









DUMA COITS By NED DUNKLEBERGER — neddunkleberger@gmail.com



Well, this AskDunkleberger thing was another mind-bending work of staggering genius.

Questions have been pouring in to me and the demand for my special brand of wisdom has been so overwhelming that I have been forced to launch www.askdunkleberger.com! Subscribe to

the mailing list by clicking HERE.

Oh crap, did that hyper-link break? Now I have to call MWIA Newsletter tech support.

"Hello, this is Bob. Have you tried re-booting the newsletter?" Sigh. Yes...

"OK. Try ripping your mailbox off the wall and holding it over your head for 60 seconds, then rebolting it to your house. That should fix it."

Oh forget it, just like me on Facebook.

Now about those questions:

Dear Ned.

I hate crime as much as the next guy. Is it appropriate to post videos on ChatTube, or YouTwit, or whatever, of lesser crimes I may have observed around Mount Washington, such as dropping doggy bags in a neighbor's trashcan? If I don't have any of these videos, should I film myself in the act?

Signed,

Perplexed In The 'Hood

Membership Levels:

Dear Perp,

As everyone knows, the only videos worth watching are cat videos. So if you want to post video of yourself emptying a litter box into your neighbor's trash, that is acceptable.

Dear Ned.

Mount Washington is the hot brand right now. People from all over town claim they live here even though they really live in Cheswolde or on Smith Avenue or as far out as Quarry Lake or Topeka. Now, I don't want to be a snob, and I don't blame them for wanting to live in one of the best neighborhoods in town. But what's the etiquette here? Should I correct these people? Turn the other cheek? Snort derisively?

Yours truly,

Proud in Mt. Washington

Dear Snob.

I feel your pain. So I took some of your Advil. Now I feel better.

Ahhh yes, wannabes. It is important to remember that we were all once MW aspirers and now we live here and they don't. Nanny nanny boo boo. Never mind that they are in a modern 3,200 square foot palace and you live in a van down by the Jones Falls. That van is in Mount Washington! I would choose snorting.

Dear Ned.

Is it OK to liberate veggies that have grown into public spaces, like alleys? It's hard to watch all that potential die on the vine knowing I could make a mean ratatouille. But I know some people can be territorial...

Signed.

Penny Pincher

Dear PP,

In the alley means in the belly! We call this activity "Night Gardening" and it also applies to various indigenous perennials. And some smaller pets. Just be cool and pass the gazpacho.

Well friends, as you can see I was born to do this. Can't wait for John Prine to write a song about me:

"Dear Neddy, Dear Neddy, seems I'm at a loss, my column is ending and I've forgotten to floss."

And don't forget to send me your questions for next time.

Ned

Join the MWIA Today!

And receive a 2015 MEMBER VALUE CARD

Local merchants provide almost \$2000 in benefits for all members

\$40 – Renewing member

Local merchants provide aimost \$2000 in benefits for an members

\$19 – First-time member

\$100 – Sponsoring member

(a leadership donation, and designated on the MWIA website)

"Projects," continued from page 1

at the Pimlico Training Academy. Other funded projects include an after school recreation program for Northwest High School and beautification of the medians along Northern Parkway.

The recommendations will be considered by the Pimlico Community
Development Authority (PCDA) before submission to the Mayor for her approval. If approved, the money will be available starting in July of 2015. In total, the five communities expect to receive approximately \$787,000 in slots revenues for fiscal 2016.

The extension of the Jones Falls Trail to Mount Washington, to be funded separately, is moving forward and will be coordinated with improvements to the Northwest Park.

Final approval of the water management plan is all that remains before contracting can begin on Phase V of the Trail. The Baltimore Department of

Recreation and Parks is planning to integrate construction of the trail with reconstruction of the "upper plateau" of the Park to create a "front door" to the park and build a playground.

MWIA Board Members Lindsey White and Emily Shaw have been working with a group of parents and neighbors to finalize the design of the playground, which will include equipment for both tots and older kids and will be positioned with a view overlooking the playing fields.

In order to minimize disruption to the community and reduce costs, those projects, as well as demolition of the abandoned red house and reconstruction of the parking lot, will all be taken on together.

Assuming state approval of the final plans this fall, the trail project could begin in late winter or spring and is projected to take 18 months to complete.







Community Calendar

Nov. 1, Nov. 16, Dec. 6 and Dec. 21 Luckman Park Cleanup 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

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

Wednesday mornings Mt. Washington Community T'ai Chi Class 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Springwell Senior Living, 2211 W. Rogers Ave. Appropriate for all levels. Taught by Master Greg Hatza. Cost is \$70 per month. Visitors are welcome to observe or participate in one class. For more information contact Linda at 410-664-1554 or lindalitofsky@comcast.net.

Friday mornings Mt. Washington Community Yoga Class 8:45 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

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

November 12 and December 10 Ivy Bookshop Benefit for Mt. Washington School

Shop at the Ivy Bookshop on the second Wednesday of every month, mention The Mount Washington School at the cash register, and 15% of your purchase will be donated to the Mount Washington School. The Ivy is located at 6080 Falls Road.

November 23 Community Holiday Tree Lighting 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

The entire community is invited to the annual holiday tree lighting at the Johns Hopkins Mt. Washington Conference Center, at the Octagon Building. The event is generously hosted by the Conference Center and by Aramark Food, warm drinks, song and good company ... and the actual tree-lighting, too.

Starting November 30 Annual Neighborhood Christmas Tree Sale Noon to dusk

Buy your Freshly-Cut Local Christmas Tree right in the neighborhood. Location: the Grove house, 5528 Rusk Avenue, black fenced yard at the corner of Ken Oak Road, 2nd on left from N. Pkwy. Sale continues December 6 and 7, 13 and 14, and 20 and 21 (or until sold out, whichever comes first). Other times accommodated by request. All Profits Benefit the Mount Washington School.

December 9 MWIA open Board meeting 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Springwell Senior Living Community, 2211 W. Rogers Ave., All community members are welcome.