



NORTHWOOD NEWS

PUBLISHED BIMONTHLY BY THE NORTHWOOD-FOUR CORNERS CIVIC ASSOCIATION ■ JUNE 2014

Fertilizing Your Lawn: New Restrictions in Effect

By Jacquie Bokow

Grass looks good and gives us a place to play outdoors, but it does more than that. The dense roots formed by grass anchors the soil, preventing soil erosion; filters pollutants from run-off; and slows excess water down, allowing it to sink into the ground.

But our lawn care practices can have a negative impact on the health of the Chesapeake Bay. To combat the negative effect of fertilizer on the Bay, the Fertilizer Use Act passed in 2011 went into full

effect 1 October 2013.

Homeowners and do-it-yourselfers are required to obey fertilizer application restrictions, observe fertilizer blackout dates, and follow University of Maryland recommendations when fertilizing lawns. Follow these best management practices for a healthy lawn and healthy waterways:

- Read and follow all label directions on the fertilizer bag.
- Mow the grass high to shade out weeds.
- Remove no more than one-third of the grass height at each mowing.
- Leave grass clippings on the lawn to provide free fertilizer.
- Sharpen lawnmower blades in the spring.
- Let established lawns go dormant during the hot, dry summer months.

Fertilizer Restrictions for Both Homeowners and Professionals

- Everyone must follow University of Maryland fertilizer recommendations.
- A single fertilizer application may not exceed 0.9 pound total nitrogen per 1,000 square feet and 0.7 pound of soluble nitrogen per 1,000 square feet except when

using enhanced-efficiency fertilizer.

■ Homeowners should visit extension.umd.edu/hgic for
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Next Meeting on Wed., 11th June

The next meeting of the Northwood-Four Corners Civic Association will be held on Wednesday, 11 June 2014, at 7:30 p.m. at Forest Knolls Elementary School. The school is located at 10830 Eastwood Avenue, just off Caddington Avenue (there's no access from other sections of Eastwood).

All residents of the Northwood-Four Corners-Forest Knolls area are invited to attend and express their views. Please note that only paid members of the NFCCA are eligible to vote. (Annual dues are \$10 per household and may be paid at the meeting.)■

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Co. Council District 5 Candidates Debate Issues Affecting 4C Area

By Jim Zepp

On 7 May, the Northwood-Four Corners Civic Association joined with Woodmoor-Pinecrest Citizens Association and South Four Corners Citizens Association in sponsoring a Candidates Forum for the five individuals who are running for the County Council District 5 seat, which Valerie Ervin resigned from last December. The Democratic Party candidates are:

- Christopher Barclay
- Evan Glass
- Tom Hucker
- Terrill North
- Jeffrey Thames

Since there are no candidates from other parties, the primary election winner will be unopposed in the final election in November.

Northwood resident Carole Barth moderated the forum, which was held at the Pine Crest Elementary School. More than 100 residents from the three neighborhoods attended.

A challenge of these events is having enough time for all of the candidates to express their positions on various

questions. The forum organizers' solution was to have "Lightning Round" questions, which were phrased to have simple "yes," "no," "maybe," or "don't know" responses. Each candidate had cards with these responses so they could simultaneously hold up their answers. This allowed more questions to be posed within the available time.

Even so, there were more questions than the time allowed. Consequently, the candidates were asked if they were willing to respond to the remaining questions later. These have been sent to all five candidates. Any answers received will be shared with residents via the associations' websites and listservs. The questions asked during the forum and the remaining questions have been posted on the NFCCA Website at www.nfcca.org.

Videos of the Forum can be viewed on YouTube:

Part 1: www.youtube.com/watch?v=voOY9mXkEK4

Part 2: www.youtube.com/watch?v=AFxM53ta7Do. ■

Join One or Both Of the NFCCA's Two List Serves

NFCCA General List Serve

- Subscribe: nfcca-subscribe@yahoogroups.com
- Post a Message (you must subscribe first): nfcca@yahoogroups.com

Northwood Parents List Serve

- Subscribe (send an email to): northwoodparents-subscribe@yahoogroups.com
- Post a Message (you must subscribe first): northwoodparents@yahoogroups.com ■

NORTHWOOD NEWS

Northwood News is published by the Northwood-Four Corners Civic Association. The NFCCA represents the ~1,485 households in the area bounded by Colesville Rd. (Rte. 29), University Blvd. (Rte. 193), Caddington Ave., and the Northwest Branch.

Any resident of this area is eligible to join the NFCCA. Annual dues are \$10 per household and may be paid at any Association meeting or mailed to the treasurer.

The *Northwood News* is published five times a year—in October, December, February, April, and June. To place an ad or discuss a story, please contact the editor.

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Visit Our Website
www.nfcca.org



NFCCA Moderator Barth asked tough questions of (from left): North, Glass, Hucker, Barclay, and Thames at the forum.

New Fertilizer Restrictions

(continued from page 1)
additional guidance; lawn care professionals should consult the Maryland Professional Lawn Care Management Manual at www.mda.maryland.gov/fertilizer for annual nitrogen recommendations.

- Phosphorus may only be applied to lawns when a soil test indicates that it is needed or when a lawn is being established, patched, or renovated.

- Fertilizer may not be used to de-ice walkways and driveways.

- It is against the law to apply fertilizer to sidewalks, driveways, or other impervious surfaces, including frozen ground. Any product that lands on these surfaces must be swept back onto lawns or cleaned up.

- Do not apply fertilizer if heavy rain is predicted.

- Do not apply fertilizer within 15 feet of waterways. This setback is reduced to 10 feet if a drop spreader, rotary spreader with deflector or targeted spray liquid is used to apply the fertilizer.

- No lawn fertilizer may be applied between December 1 and March 1. From November 16 through 1 December, only water-soluble nitrogen (no slow release) may be applied to lawns at a maximum rate of 1/2 pound per 1,000 sq.ft.

- Enhanced efficiency controlled-release products may be applied at no more than 2.5 pounds per year, with a maximum monthly release rate of 0.7 pound of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet.

- The type of grass that you have determines the best time of the year to fertilize. Cool season grasses, like tall fescue and Kentucky bluegrass, should be fertilized in the fall to help turf recover from summer stress and to promote a deeper, healthier root system. Warm season grasses like zoysia and bermudagrass should be fertilized in late-spring through early August.

For Professional Applicators

- Lawn care professionals hired to apply fertilizer to turf must be certified by the Maryland Department of agriculture or work under the direct supervision of an individual who is certified. The law applies to professionals for hire as well as individuals responsible for turf management at golf courses, public parks, airports, athletic fields, businesses, cemeteries, and other non-agricultural properties.

- Soil tests must be taken for each new customer and once every three years thereafter.

- Professional applicators may continue to apply natural organic or organic products containing phosphorus, but, since 1 October 2013, each application may not exceed 0.25 pounds of phosphorus per 1,000 square feet with an annual maximum of 0.5 pounds of phosphorus per 1,000 sq.ft.

See the University of Maryland Extension Service—online at <http://extension.umd.edu/hgic/lawns>—for further details.

NECCA BOARD

The Board of Directors for the Northwood-Four Corners Civic Association serves for one year and meets every month except July and August. Current officers (until October 2014) are:

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Woodridge Residents Open 'Urban Winery' in Olney

Northwood residents Joe McCall and Joey Ecker, next-door neighbors on Woodridge Avenue, decided to venture into relatively uncharted territory when they and three other partners decided to open an actual working winery right here in Montgomery County nearly two years ago. Their concept was rather a novel one as their "urban winery" was to be located in a shopping center in Olney, rather than the more rural setting of most wineries.

By sourcing their raw grape product from different vineyards all over the world, The Winery at Olney is able to ferment and bottle over 30 different varieties of wine, from dry, hearty reds to sweeter, fruit-infused wines. The winery uses grape product from such locations as California, Italy, France, Germany, South Africa, Australia, and New Zealand to make their wines. Customers can sample any of the wines at the winery's tasting bar and purchase wine by either the glass or bottle.

Eighteen of their wines recently medaled in the Maryland Wineries Association's Winemasters Choice Competition, with their Super Tuscan and Raspberry Chocolate Port both receiving gold. Five others took silver and 11 of their wines took bronze medals. At the Finger Lakes International Wine Competition in March, The Winery received 21 medals for its wines. (Finger Lakes is the largest international competition in the world. Last



Customer Skip Stewart makes a batch of his own wine.

year, more than 3,500 wines from 20 countries, four Canadian provinces, and all 50 United States were entered in the competition.)

A unique feature at The Winery at Olney is that customers can make their own personalized "batch" (28 bottles) of wine. The customer assists in the initial mixing of the ingredients and then in the bottling process 30 to 40 days later. The Winery's graphic artist works with each customer to create a custom label for his/her wine. Although the whole process only takes one or two months, many customers age their wine in the bottle for an additional two to three months before drinking.

In fact, the demand for the wines made by The Winery at Olney has been so great that they have just recently expanded by opening a dedicated 5,000-square-foot production facility in Beltsville. The Winery has also begun to

wholesale six of their Oasis Fruit Wines (Peach Chardonnay, Blackberry Merlot, Cranberry Shiraz, Black Cherry Pinot Noir, Green Apple Riesling, and Watermelon White Merlot) to beer and wine stores across Maryland. These wines are already being carried by over 50 retailers within Montgomery County (including the nearby 29 Convenience Mart).

"Our business model from the beginning was to present a high-quality product in a warm, welcoming atmosphere," says McCall. "For too long, wine has been seen as something pretentious and intimidating to many people. We are very serious about making great quality wine, we just try not to take ourselves too seriously."

For more information, visit the tasting room at 18127 Town Center Drive, Olney, MD 20832, or their website at www.thewineryatolney.com. ■



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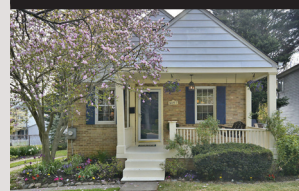
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Help send a kid to camp this summer!!

The Tamara Kucik Team has pledged to donate \$500 at closing to *Family Matters of Greater Washington* for each new listing we get during the month of June.

Since 1904, Family Matters has provided opportunities for less-fortunate children to attend Camp Moss Hollow, located in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. The camp features a pond for canoeing, swimming pool, ropes course, arts program, many hiking trails and first-class counselors. Every year, nearly 700 children from the DC area receive the opportunity to experience this life-changing program. Most of the campers lead troubled lives; many of them come from foster homes. None could afford a week at camp without this support. Let's help send some kids to camp!

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3. Within 1-2 days, on average, you will receive a professionally written proposal that will spell out a detailed scope of the work.
4. Our team will stay in touch to make sure you have received our detailed proposal and to answer any questions that you may have. We also encourage you to do your homework: research our company and call the references that we send along with our proposals.
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8. Once the project is complete, we will conduct a final walk through with your dedicated consultant to make sure we have met—and even exceeded—your expectations. Everything will be broom-cleaned and all construction debris will be removed from your premises.
9. The last thing left to do is to review our work at one of these links—Yahoo.com, Google.com, Angie's List—and refer us to your friends and family!

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AS SEEN ON NEWS CHANNEL 8



The Chiropractic Technique That Changed My Life

By Anna R. Pritchard

There is a relatively unknown, revolutionary, non-invasive, painless chiropractic treatment now being used that relieves or completely eliminates hundreds of different kinds of conditions via the correction of the position of the top vertebrae of the spinal column called the "atlas." This procedure is called "atlas orthogonal correction." Amazing results have been seen with hundreds of conditions, including multiple sclerosis (MS), chronic fatigue syndrome, fibromyalgia, migraines and other headaches, asthma, chronic pain or stress, athletic or auto accident injuries, neck and back pain, child development, ADD/ADHD, herniated discs, high blood pressure, scoliosis, seizures, certain forms of epilepsy and arthritis, leg and arm numbness, sinus problems, dizziness/vertigo, Bell's Palsy, Trigeminal neuralgia, sciatica, insomnia, and many more.

The atlas bone, or C1, is a two-ounce, doughnut-shaped bone that is the very first vertebrae of your spine. It is just under the back of your head and holds your head up, hence the name "Atlas," who in Greek mythology held up the world on his shoulders. The whole neck area is called the Cervical Spine and is composed of the first seven vertebrae below your head.

The atlas is called C1 and the next vertebra is called the "Axis" or C2. Part of the brain called the "brain stem" goes

down through the opening in the atlas and is completely encircled by it. The brain stem becomes the spinal cord that continues down through openings in the vertebrae.



The spinal cord carries the nerve impulses to the body and back to the brain from the body. Pairs of spinal nerves arise from the spinal cord from each vertebra (one on each side) and exit the vertebral column to serve all areas of the body. These spinal nerves deliver the energy from the brain to the organs and tissues of the body to allow them to do their work.

"If the atlas is tilted, rotated, or shifted even a micro degree out of its proper position, it can cause cord compression in the brain stem, reducing vital nerve flow from the brain to different parts of the body," says Dr. Leslie Windman (Greenbelt, Md.). "When the atlas is misaligned, it forces the entire spine and pelvis to twist."

This causes strain and tension on muscles from head to toe, and a shortened leg. Because the brain stem is surrounded by the opening in the atlas, if the atlas is out of position, there can be compression of the brain stem which reduces, delays, or distorts nerve messages sent from the brain to the body and back again. This "affects the entire central nervous system which governs the thousands of functions that keep the body operational," says Windman. The long-term results of this situation is degeneration of different areas of the body, mild to severe pain, lowered resistance to infection, organ dysfunction, loss of mobility in limbs, effects in brain function, etc.

For proper nerve flow, the atlas must be level and positioned exactly perpendicular to the spine. Therefore, three-dimensional x-rays are taken to determine the exact way that the atlas is out of position for each person. Correction can be done by hand or by a sophisticated instrument developed by Dr. Roy W. Sweat, D.C., which delivers a specific, precise sound wave to the side of the neck which "pushes" the atlas into the corrected position, allowing a free flow of nerve impulses to begin to flow down through the spinal cord.

Another reason why this procedure has dramatic improvement in many disorders is because, in addition to limiting nerve flow, the flow of both blood through the arteries and

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veins surrounding the atlas (which come from or go to the brain) along with cerebral spinal fluid can be impeded by the atlas being out of place. This can cause decreased circulation to the brain leading to “brain fog,” difficulty learning, etc. Precise adjustment of the atlas can restore free flow of these fluids.

Found Effective for MS

Recent research has found dramatic subsiding of multiple sclerosis (MS) symptoms following atlas position correction. Multiple sclerosis is a devastating disease in which there is progressive dysfunction of the body due to damage to the myelin sheath, which is a covering around the nerves that allows nerve transmission. As seen on an upright MRI, when the atlas is misaligned, there is a dysfunction of the cerebral spinal fluid flow—which looks like waves crashing in the brain—causing damage to brain tissue; it is thought that this may be the cause of multiple sclerosis. This is a huge medical diagnostic and treatment breakthrough.

Talk show host Montell Williams, who tells openly that he has MS, recently had atlas orthogonal correction and had dramatic improvement in his MS symptoms. He has made several videos showing his experience, one of which can be seen by going to www.globalao.com or searching on www.youtube.com. Additional videos of patients with various disabling conditions whose symptoms were relieved by AO

can also be seen there.

You can locate a chiropractor who is a Board-Certified Atlas Orthogonist (BCAO) anywhere in the U.S. or in certain countries by going to www.globalao.com and click on “Patients enter here,” then “Find a doctor,” and click on the state or country you want.

My chiropractor says that the atlas being out of alignment also puts a person at risk for Alzheimer’s Disease, dementia, and cancer. Also, all babies should have their atlas checked as soon as possible after birth, especially if they were born breech, if forceps were used, or if they had a difficult birth. Babies with their atlas out of alignment have a lot of symptoms such as crying, not sleeping, colic, etc. My chiropractor tells of one of her patients, a little boy, who couldn’t do anything for himself. His mother had to do everything for him. After getting his atlas corrected, he became “normal” and is now excelling in school and athletic pursuits.

After the atlas is back in its proper position, many other problems further down the spine correct themselves. If not, some gentle spinal adjusting will usually correct any remaining symptoms. My own issues with fatigue, mental clarity and concentration, limb strength, and digestive function were cured by a local BCAO.

Prevent Atlas Misalignment

Some things that you can do to help prevent your atlas from becoming misaligned are, first, to sleep only on

your back or side, not on your stomach. Turning your head in such a severe angle when sleeping on your stomach can lead to the atlas becoming out of alignment. Another thing is to avoid holding a telephone receiver between your ear and shoulder. Hold the receiver with your hand or use a headset so that you can keep your neck and head straight. Be very careful to avoid falls and protect your head from bumps or impacts.

[Pritchard is a licensed massage therapist, certified Montessori teacher, nutritional counselor, R.N., and earned a Doctorate Degree in Naturopathy. She also is trained in reiki for animals. She lives on Ladson Road and can be reached at annarpritchard@aol.com.] ■

Election Dates, Voting Hours

Gubernatorial Primary

■ **Early Voting:** Thursday, 12 June 2014, through Thursday, 19 June. Polls open at 10:00 a.m., close at 8:00 p.m.

■ **Election Day:** Tuesday, **24 June 2014**. Polls open at 7:00 a.m., close at 8:00 p.m.

Gubernatorial General

■ **Early Voting:** Thursday, 23 October 2014, through Thursday, 30 October 2014. Polls will open at 10:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m.

■ **Election Day:** Tuesday, **4 November 2014**. Polls will open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m. ■

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Carole Ann Barth Awarded 'Star Cup' for Service to Community



County Executive Ike Leggett presents the 2014 "Star Cup" to Carole Ann Barth in recognition of her extraordinary service as President of the Montgomery County Civic Federation.

The Montgomery County Civic Federation (MCCF) each year bestows three awards on individuals and/or groups that have provided outstanding public service to the people of Montgomery County. One of these, the Star Cup, is awarded to an MCCF delegate or committee.

At the MCCF annual banquet on 9 May 2014, County Executive Isiah Leggett presented Carole Ann Barth, NFCCA Immediate Past President, with this year's Star Cup.

Barth, a MoCo native and environmental planner, is currently serving her second and final term as President of the MCCF. She also has served as Chair of its Parks and Recreation Committee and as Vice President. She also currently serves on the MoCo Forest Conservation Advisory Committee, lending her expertise in forestry policies and guide-

lines.

Said Leggett, "Carole has brought her considerable knowledge, passion, and expertise to help many communities improve their surrounding environments."

It was Barth who chaired a neighborhood stormwater committee that crafted a consensus solution to the Anacostia Watershed Restoration Plan which created our vernal pool. A Weed Warrior for 12 years, Carole has educated hundreds of citizens about invasive plants through walks, park clean-ups, articles, and classes taught at the Graduate School USA.

MCCF Immediate Past President Peggy Dennis wrote that Barth "carried out her duties for the federation with tact, grace, and equanimity in the face of sometimes irascible or openly hostile personalities."

Carole, we salute you! ■

2014 National Night Out on Tues., Aug. 5

The NFCCA National Night Out celebration includes swimming, music, a potluck dinner, and family fun. The County Police motorcade will also visit. All residents are welcome to attend and encouraged to meet your neighbors. We can always use help with this event, ideas for activities/performance, or contributions for raffles/prizes, please call 301.593.7863 if you would like to help.

Tuesday, 5 August 2014

7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

**Forest Knolls Pool
11105 Foxglove Lane**

Bring some food to share. If your last name begins with the letters A to H, please bring a dessert; letters I to P, bring a main dish; and Q to Z, bring a side dish. Please do not bring glass containers because of pool safety.

Come and meet your neighbors!



NFCCA Invited to Join PREZCO Group of CAs in DTSS

By Jim Zepp

The Presidents' Council of Silver Spring Civic Associations, also known as "PREZCO," has invited the NFCCA to become a member organization. PREZCO was originally formed in the late 1990s to oppose plans for a mega-mall and giant wave pool that were proposed for Downtown Silver Spring and included civic associations clustered around the Downtown area within the Beltway.

The organization has continued to meet following the

resolution of that issue to be able to respond to other matters affecting the Downtown Silver Spring area. Currently, the following CAs are members: Indian Spring, Linden, Long Branch, North Hills of Sligo, North Woodside/Montgomery Hills, Park Hills, South Silver Spring, Seven Oaks-Evanswood, Sligo Branch, Woodside, Woodside Forest, and Woodside Park.

No dues are charged. More information about PREZCO is available at <http://iscaonline.com/20.html>.

In recognition that issues of mutual interest may extend past the the Beltway, PREZCO had invited representatives from NFCCA—as well as the South Four Corners (SFCCA) and Woodmoor-Pinecrest Citizens Associations (WPCA)—to its April meeting. The NFCCA and WPCA did attend and PREZCO members voted to invite both associations to join. The WPCA membership have decided to accept.

NFCCA members will be asked to vote on this at the June meeting. ■

Woodmoor Center Update: Righttime Opens This Month

By Sondra Katz

Righttime Medical Care is coming to the Woodmoor Shopping Center, taking over the former Tuesday Morning space (20 University Blvd., East) next to Hoover-Fisher Florist and across from SweetFrog. Their services cover common illness and minor injury, sports injuries and concussion care, laboratory and prescription services, and x-rays. They will be open from 7:00 a.m. to midnight every day, including holidays. The number for appointments is 888.808.6483 or one can just walk in.

Opening its first location in Annapolis in 1989 as Nighttime Pediatrics, the company became known for offering medical care for children in the evenings and on weekends. In 2010, it changed its name to Righttime Medical

Care, expanded its hours, and began treating patients of all ages.

HeadFirst Sports Injury and Concussion Care, a program by Righttime Medical Care, is also at this location. HeadFirst provides diagnosis, management, and treatment of Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBI) caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head.

As of press time, several employment opportunities were available at the Four Corners location, including Medical Assistant/Patient Care Technician, full-time RN or LPN, and part-time RN or LPN. Applicants can apply online at www.myrighttime.com.

The facility is ready to go; Righttime is just waiting for the occupancy permits and expects to open between June 6 and June 16. ■

Fight Crime While Walking Your Dog

The National Association of Town Watch (NATW) has introduced a new crime awareness program called "Dog Walker Watch" (DWW).

The concept is simple. Most communities have dozens, if not hundreds, of dog walkers who are often preoccupied with texting, chatting, emailing, and phone calls during their neighborhood walks.

Through Dog Walker Watch, local law enforcement officers train these individuals to assist as "extra eyes and ears" and how to effectively report suspicious activity to 9-1-1.

NATW claims the program can turn our area into a safer, more alert community.

Visit <http://natw.org/dog> to sign up for more information and bring Dog Walker Watch to our community. ■



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Call Today for My Free Market Analysis

I am a Silver Spring /Northwood Specialist

If you are thinking of selling your home in the Northwood/Forest Knolls/Kinsman Farm area, we need to talk well in advance of my listing the property for sale or rent, so we can discuss staging strategies.

I will help you decide on what to repair, renovate or simply leave alone for your buyer to handle.

We are Helping Lots of Sellers and Buyers

Our Spring Market is now seriously underway after a delayed start due to the bad winter.

My Exclusive Northwood Website:

My website provides real-time updates on Northwood Homes: For Sale and Recent Sales

www.ciment.com/northwood

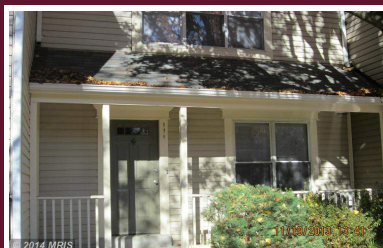
Northwood Settled Transactions: April - May 2014



5 BR Rambler
11109 Lombardy Rd
Sold Price: \$395,000



4 BR Rambler
10711 Glenwild Rd
Sold Price: \$379,900



3 BR Townhouse
111 Kinsman View Cir
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Sold Price: \$350,000



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Sold Price: \$329,000



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212 Hannes St
Sold Price: \$313,000

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HISTORY CORNER(S)

(continued from page 13)

store because of its wild beauty,” and the name also denoted one of the eighteenth-century land patents named in the deeds making him the owner. Henceforth, Bryant’s country estate in Four Corners was called “The Labyrinth.”

Over the next several years, Bryant transformed the Indian Spring farm into an estate of landscaped grounds, gardens, stables, conservatories, dairy, and what was soon described as “one of the finest country houses in the state of Maryland.” A large pair of stone piers enclosed an iron gateway on the old Bladensburg Road and a drive that curved for half a mile northward to the high ground near today’s Crestmoor Circle. There, in a dense growth of trees, Bryant set up a sawmill from which the lumber for

much of the house was cut.

He drew the plans for the house and personally supervised construction. “The designs are original and artistic,” wrote the *Washington Sunday Herald* in 1891, with a porte cochère [a covered entranceway large enough for a vehicle to drive through and shelter alighting passengers] and a third-story observatory that revolved, “from which a magnificent view of the surrounding country can be obtained.”

The house was heated with steam, the ceilings were pressed metal, and walls were made with dressed oak boards instead of plaster. It had 25 rooms, including a spacious hall, drawing, and music rooms, and covered about an acre of land. The cost of the house itself was estimated at \$40,000, but the great-

est value was doubtless in its decoration and furnishings. Many of its doors and woodwork Bryant rescued from old Broadway mansions that had been demolished in New York, and carried significant historical interest.

The interior was “a veritable art gallery,” with room enough for Bryant’s extensive collection of oil paintings and engravings, while his library was filled with rare old books, prints, and curios. For all this, however, Bryant never completed the house and he and his daughters lived in what was called “the cottage,” possibly the Beale’s old house, nearby. In the winter, they lived in a hotel in Washington.

Nonetheless, Bryant and his daughters Agnes and Amy made the Labyrinth a popular center of aesthetic, sporting, and political activities in late 1800s Montgomery County. Agnes and Amy, who were in their late teens and early twenties, oversaw the flower gardens and dairy, hosted their friends (such as the “Misses Stones of Brightwood”), dramatic plays, and several wedding receptions at the estate. But they also had a mischievous side: “The daughters were very fond of athletic sports,” recalled a writer a few years later, “and were noted for their fine and often reckless riding and driving.”

Bryant himself cut a unique figure in the rural area: “He usually wore his hair very long, and in later

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Gateway of the Indian Spring farm, looking northeast across Old Bladensburg Road (University Blvd.) near today’s Woodmoor Center. Photograph circa 1913 by J. Harry Shannon, “The Rambler.” (Courtesy Keller Realty).

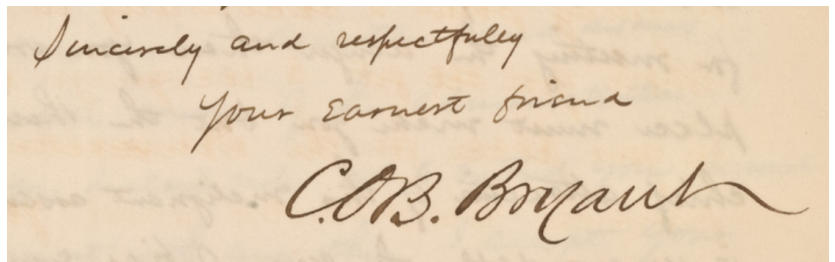
HISTORY CORNER(S)

(continued from page 14)
years it fell in profuse folds
about his shoulders.”

For several years in the mid-1890s, the family opened the grounds to the public for picnics, brass bands, baseball, and fireworks on Decoration Day and the Fourth of July. Hundreds of families took electric cars to the Sligo station (in today's downtown Silver Spring) and wagons and carriages conveyed them to the “Cascades of the Labyrinth owned by Mr. C.O. Bryant.” There they enjoyed “these delightful grounds for their amusement, and the result of the day proved the wisdom of throwing open this romantic spot to those who enjoy a day's outing in the country upon holidays when relieved from their daily toil.” On one such occasion, probably in 1893, the visitors had the opportunity to hear a Fourth of July oration from Bryant's personal friend (who summured there), Representative William Jennings Bryan (D-Nebraska).

In late 1896, Carolan O'Brien Bryant announced the wedding of his eldest daughter, Agnes, to Frederick Simpson, at the Epiphany Church in Washington. The newlyweds moved to a large estate (the Empire Farm) in western New York, famed for its equestrian achievements. Bryant remained in Four Corners.

“Although some men said harsh and unpleasant things about him,” the *New York Times* recalled later, “the relations between father and



The signature of Carolan O'Brien Bryant, 1880. No photographs of Bryant, his daughters, or The Labyrinth have been found yet. The family is buried at Rock Creek Cemetery in Washington, D.C. (Courtesy Samuel J. Tilden Collection, New York Public Library)

daughters always appeared to be of the most tender nature.” Perhaps Bryant associated the property with the youth of his now-grown daughters, but, within a few months, he sold the Labyrinth to a pair of investors from Washington for \$70,000 and a large hotel at Third and G Streets, N.W., called Tavistock Flats. He moved there with his younger daughter, Amy, and died there suddenly on September 8, 1897. As if to erase the memory of the Labyrinth—or perhaps to realize profits on a level meaner than it signified to those who cherished it and may yet remember it—arsonists burned the magnificent house to the ground on the evening of September 13, 1897. The house and its contents were a total loss.

Workmen employed by the new buyers were resting for dinner when they saw flames leaping from the top story of the mansion. “The glare from the burning structure could be seen for miles, and brought the residents of the country in large numbers to the rescue.” A lengthy intrigue of accusations, arrests,

and indictments ensued, lasting into the early years of the 20th century, but no trial ever took place, and the property became derelict and overgrown. The daughters held on to one or two small lots on the northwest portion of the Corners, but lived out their lives in western New York.

In the end, Ramblers like J. Harry Shannon and the Wanderbirds were the only ones to record the impressions—in the years leading up to when the Labyrinth was subdivided for a development called Woodmoor—of those who remembered the New Yorker and his daughters. They “were beloved throughout the neighborhood.” Now we know, and can remember, too. ■

National Night Out

Tuesday, 5 August 2014

7:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

Forest Knolls Pool

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Call 301.593.7863 to help.
See page 10 for details.

Pondering on Lombardy Road

By Michele Foerst

Our pond story begins last summer, when we purchased our new home on Lombardy Road. My old home had a small, preshaped plastic pond dug into the ground; I wasn't the one who installed it originally, but I enjoyed it so much over the years that you can bet we took it—and our 12 goldfish—with us when we moved!

At the new house, I was on a time-crunch to get the fishies into the ground so they would have a place to spend the winter. For the months of June, July, and August, they were hanging out in a waterproof whiskey barrel on the back patio while we plotted, planned, and built their new home.

You see, goldfish are a cold water species. During the winter, they go into a hibernation of sorts and hang out at the bottom of the pond (that means no feeding them during this time!). The pond itself can ice over, but so long as it doesn't freeze solid and you keep a hole open somewhere in the ice so the water can breathe, the goldfish will usually survive. Since I knew the temporary whiskey barrel would freeze solid over winter, we had to get something more permanent into the ground before winter settled in.

To use the backyard slope to our advantage, the design we settled on was a series of smaller pools connected by waterfalls. The top portion is a bog filter—about 12 inches deep—filled with pea gravel and water-loving plants, whose roots act as a filter to clean the water as it passes through.



The finished pond last year (above) and this year (below).



From the bog, there is a short waterfall into the “middle pond,” which is about 500 gallons. Right now, the middle pond holds some plants around the edges, a few water lilies, and some snails (nature's vacuum cleaners!), but we plan on adding more goldfish this year. From there, a second waterfall carries water into the lower pond, the preshaped shell I brought over from the old house. It is around 125 gallons and holds the fish and the pump that recirculates the water. The pump carries the water via some tubing, deposits it into the bog, and the water cycles through the pond series over and over.

For the initial build, we tried to use a lot of what we already had on hand and it was a complete DIY project.

We already had a sizable collection of rocks, all that was needed was a rubber liner (for the bog and middle pond) and a pump to circulate the water between the three ponds. And of course, lots of plants! To minimize digging in our Maryland clay, we chose to build up the edges around the bog and middle pond, which allowed for some raised flower beds all around. Since my yard has a slope away from the house, raising up the whole thing allowed us to keep it level while still looking nice. When working with water, keeping it level counts because water will flow down to the lowest point and spill out if you don't properly level the edges.

For the most part, the pond takes care of itself. You
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Pondering

(continued from page 16)

don't have to feed the fish (this way, they eat mosquito larva and algae in the pond) but they certainly appreciate a treat every now and again! In the fall, we use a pool net to scoop out any leaves that may otherwise sink to the bottom, rot over the winter, and poison the water. In the winter, the pump and tubing are removed and replaced with a tiny heater whose only purpose is to keep a hole open in the ice to keep bad gases from building up.

In the spring, the pump and tubing are put back in, and we occasionally have had to scoop out any string algae that forms along the sides while the pond plants are just waking up. Once the bog and

pond plants are fully growing, they will absorb the excess nutrients from the water and starve the algae out. We also have to keep the pond topped off. Water evaporates due to the waterfalls and the warmer temperatures, but it is maybe 10 gallons a week if there is no rainfall. I also occasionally test the water to make sure it remains safe for the fish and, to date, we haven't had any problems (knock on driftwood!).

Our fish all survived this positively horrible and long winter! As I write this, I have a resident toad serenading me and, during the day, the birds love to drink and bathe in the bog and waterfalls. Living on the edge of the forest, predators are a concern. Until we make the lower pond larger next year, we have it covered with wire netting to deter any

predators (raccoons, foxes, etc.). It is definitely not predator-proof but, so far, we have had minimal losses.

The thing about ponding is, you always want to tweak and improve it! This year, we plan on redoing the edges of the bog and middle pond to make it more natural. This will involve buying a few pallets of flat rocks and is why, in this year's photo at left, you can see the liner around the bog and middle pond has been pulled out and sticks up, in preparation for the upgrade). Next year, we will expand the lower pond to make it larger and more predator-proof.

If you are interested in putting in a pond and want some advice, or you have a pond and want to trade stories or plants, please feel free to reach me at michey1st@gmail.com. ■



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Build Community by Holding Your Own Block Party

By Jacquie Bokow

What better way to get to meet and know the neighbors and build neighborhood unity on your street than an old-fashioned block party? Block off the street, bring food and beverages, supply music—good times guaranteed!

Here are some suggestions for your own block party.

Planning

- Form a committee and meet to organize. Make assignments: main contact person, permits/insurance procurer, food and refreshments organizer, activity coordinator, clean-up committee head.

- Survey your neighbors to select the date for the party. Schedule the event approximately four to six weeks in advance. Determine if you want to have a “theme” or not. And what’s your rain plan?

- Apply for a permit from the County. This must be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event. The online form is at www.montgomery-countymd.gov/DOT-Traffic/

[Resources/Files/PDF/block-party_application.pdf](#) and includes rules for signage, etc. They do not supply traffic cones, but you can rent them.

- Decide if you’ll have a day or evening block party, or one that spans across both. Limiting your event to a three- to four-hour time span will probably mean more attendees.

- If your block is long, the party may only span part of it. The middle of the block is usually the best place to have a block party, unless you have a cul de sac, like Glenwild (below), which means only one barrier and less disruption to cross-through traffic.

- Set a time limit for the party to prevent it from getting out of hand or from becoming a nuisance to neighbors trying to sleep or otherwise ignore the festivities. (Not everyone may choose to attend.)

- Decide if pets will be allowed.

- Consider having everyone sign a waiver to protect homeowners and reduce potential

neighborhood tension.

Food and Beverages

The planning committee should decide how to organize the party food. Some ideas:

- The committee purchases food and beverages and charges attendees a flat fee.

- The committee plans a menu and assign households to handle specific categories—such as fruit salads, veggie crudités, other appetizers, side dishes, fruity desserts, chocolate desserts. (Plates, utensils, napkins, and drinks should all be categories.)

- Ask everyone to bring a main course and beverages for their own family, and a side dish to share with others.

- Have the meal catered.

- Hold a chili or barbeque cook-off, having folks vote for their favorites.

- One or more homes provide grills, on which meat for all or individual families’ purchases are cooked.

- Ask every family to donate a set amount to offset the

(continued on page 19)



Block parties have been held on Glenwild Road for several years, organized by Roxanne Beltran (who started the first one), Rebecca Adams, and Anna Mizani. Statistics for the block are gathered in a unique way. Neighbors write on posters, answering questions like “How long have you lived on the street?” or “Where are you originally from?” Those answers—along with pictures and the invitation—get put in an album displayed at the subsequent block party.

Block Party

(continued from page 18)

cost of the meat, prizes for the kids, and entertainment.

- County regulations permit the consumption of alcoholic beverages at block parties during the times on the permit.

One Month Before

- Send out invitation flyers. Include contact names and phone numbers for RSVPs and for signing up to bring food or coordinate activities.

- Make arrangements to get barricades to block off the streets surrounding the party.

- Purchase any necessary insurance to cover the event.

- Make arrangements for toilet facilities, if necessary.

- Reserve equipment you will need to rent, such as tables, tents, sound system, etc. Ask everyone to bring their own chairs.

One Week Before

- Publicize the party by posting signs on either end of your block; DOT's permit has specific sign requirements.

- Confirm all arrangements that have been made with emergency, police, and fire departments.

- Confirm arrangements for barricades, entertainment, food, refreshments, tents, tables, and any other equipment that will be rented or borrowed.

Activity Ideas

- Invite the local police and fire departments to visit and give safety demonstrations and tours of their vehicles. Ask the police department to set up a table for free chil-

dren's fingerprinting.

- Organize on-going activities to keep younger children busy, such as chalk drawing on the sidewalks, finger painting, kite flying, etc.

- Encourage older kids to help organize games for younger children.

- Organize activities that involve teams/groups of people, such as sack races, egg toss, the orange pass, tug of war, relays, water balloon tosses, three-legged races, or watermelon-eating contests. What about basketball-shooting contests, volleyball tournament, or bicycle decorating contests? How about a parade of floats for the little children and a dressed-up bike parade for the older ones, or a pet parade? Encourage the kids to bring their bikes, skateboards, scooters, or roller blades. Organize a volleyball, kickball, or street hockey game. Designate an area for playing cards or chess. Ask a few teens or adults to take turns painting faces. There are plenty of other ideas online. You can do a bunch of these, or none!

- Host a talent show, using someone's porch as a stage.

- If you have musicians on your block, ask them to perform.

- Don't over-plan. Give folks the opportunity to relax and talk as well.

- Be courteous to all neighbors by not blocking driveways and by turning down music and lights after 9:00 p.m.

Neighborhood Pride

- Find out who's lived in your neighborhood the longest and ask them to speak for a few minutes about it.

- If you set up a table to hand out name tags, collect donations to offset the cost, and provide a sign-in sheet for contact info, afterwards you can email everyone a neighborhood directory to help keep connections going.

- Ask everyone to include where they're originally from in their RSVP comment, then display a map with names pinned to their hometowns.

- Research your neighborhood's history and create a display board including old photos and interesting facts.

- Plant trees, flowers, or a garden, or clean up your block as part of the party.

Don't Forget...

- Nametags. The idea is to get to know each other!

- Before the party, residents in the party area check their front yard for any trash, doggie debris, etc.

- Station trash and recycling bins throughout the party area.

- Have bug repellent and sunblock on hand. Keep your cell phone handy throughout the party for emergencies. Have a first aid kit somewhere outside that easily accessible.

- Use a bullhorn if there will be organized contests and activities.

- Have tubs with ice for chilling beverages.

- Coolers are a must for storing perishable foods.

- Store meats separately from other food to protect against contamination.

- Make certain that at least a few people will stay after the event to help clean up!

Remember, it doesn't take tons of people to have a successful event. Have fun! ■



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As of 5/15/2014**

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308 Belton Road	\$349,900	Colonial	3	1	1
1000 Caddington Ave***	\$309,900	Rambler	3	2	0
418 Kerwin Rd	\$430,000	Cape Cod	5	2	0
317 Ladson Rd*	\$269,900	Cape Cod	4	1	0
201 Marvin Rd	\$439,000	Cape Cod	4	2	1
10404 Mountain Quail Rd	\$559,000	Colonial	4	4	0
119 Snowy Owl Dr	\$549,000	Colonial	5	3	1
101 Southwood Ave	\$488,888	Colonial	4	2	0
10157 Sutherland Rd	\$425,000	Cape Cod	3	1	0
211 Thistle Dr	\$499,900	Colonial	4	3	0
219 University Blvd W	\$575,000	Colonial	4	6	0

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507 Dennis Ave	\$825,000	Colonial	6	4	0
10609 Edgewood Ave	\$369,900	Rambler	4	2	0
10703 Glenwild Rd	\$417,000	Raised Rambler	4	2	0
63 Kinsman View Cir	\$350,000	Townhouse	4	3	1
515 Kerwin Ct	\$365,000	Rambler	3	1	0
10308 Lorain Ave	\$545,000	Colonial (new home)	4	2	1
11006 Lombardy Rd***	\$339,000	Rambler	3	2	0
11203 Lombardy Rd	\$384,999	Rambler	3	2	0
1125 Loxford Ter	\$400,000	Split Level	3	2	1
10804 Margate Rd	\$399,000	Rambler	4	3	0
10809 Margate Rd	\$429,900	Split Level	4	2	1
501 Royalton Rd	\$369,000	Rambler	3	2	0
108 Southwood Ave	\$489,000	Cape Cod	4	2	0
110 Southwood Ave	\$399,000	Colonial	3	1	1

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