



HISTORIC BELLE GROVE SQUARE NEIGHBORHOOD

VOLUME 2 ~ ISSUE 6 ~ 2009 JUNE



Waste Not... Want Not...

by Mitchell Edmondson

Buying an old historic house can be a very exciting adventure. When you buy an older home you often end up with a house filled not only with memories of bygone days, but also filled with a lot of left behind “treasures” of past owners. When Bruce and I bought our house a year ago, we bought a house with an attic stuffed full of all kinds of “treasures” and just plain old junk.

One of our first major remodeling tasks was to get the wiring brought up to date. Our electricians gasped when they saw all the stuff in the attic and quoted an additional \$5000.00 if they had to work around all the stuff in the attic. Because \$5000.00 is a lot of money and I knew I had to eventually clean out the attic anyway, I set about sorting through boxes and boxes and piles and piles of junk. I tried to save things that looked like they had some type of value and bagged the rest for the garbage. The volume was so large that I eventually started throwing the

bags of trash out the attic window to the backyard below. When all was said and done, I had over one hundred 55-gallon bags filled with junk.

Luckily for us, our city has a great waste management system and I was able to arrange for special pickup of all of the debris.

So, with the warmer weather and blue skies overhead now might just be the time to tackle some more old house cleaning and yard maintenance.

The city picks up tree limbs on Monday, metal stuff like dishwashers, stoves, and other appliances on Tuesday, yard waste which must be Kraft biodegradable paper lawn bags and weigh no more than 75 pounds on Wednesdays, and bulk trash like sofas, chairs, lumber, dirt, and rocks on Thursdays and Fridays. All items besides household collection need to be called in 24 hours before the scheduled collection day. Please call 410-848-9077 for more information on bulk pickup.

Art in the Park
Corbit's Charge
Union Bridge Depot Day
Neighborhood Picnic
Fountain Rejuvenated
St. Paul's Turns 140
Boys & Girls Club Event
June Gardening
Neighborhood Spotlight

Be sure to join us
for the

**Belle Grove Square
Neighborhood
Picnic / Potluck**

**Thursday
July 23rd, 2009**

**6:00pm - 8:00pm
in Belle Grove
Square Park**

See you There!



The Westminster Flower & Jazz Festival held downtown May 9, 2009 was well attended, and featured over 100 vendors.

Neighborhood News and Updates

Art in the Park

June 6, 2009

Art in the Park will be held June 6, 2009, from 10am-5pm on the City Hall Grounds (1838 Emerald Hill Lane) rain or shine.

This is a festival of visual and performing arts featuring dozens of the region's most talented painters, photographers, and fine craft artists. Continuous live music and free kids crafts.

Free admission and parking (no pets). For more information call 410.848.7272

146th Anniversary Commemoration of Corbit's Charge

June 26-28, 2009

Civil War Concert on Locust Lane by O' Be Joyful from 6:30-8:30pm and Historical Tours of Downtown



"Art in the Park" is an annual juried outdoor arts exhibition venue that provides local and regional artists and artisans a chance to exhibit and sell their work in a relaxed, festive atmosphere. The 2008 Art in the Park featured more than 70 artists.

Westminster on Friday, June 26th. Civil War encampment, infantry, canon, and medical demos will be held at the Carroll County Multi Service Center grounds (224 Center St) on Saturday, June 27th from 10am until dark.

Battle Memorial Dedication will be held at 1:00pm at the War Memorial Park (Court Place) followed by a Graveside ceremony

at the Ascension Episcopal Church (23 N. Court Street). Susquehanna Travellers concert will be held from 7:00-9:00pm. Opening on Sunday at 10am with a civil war church service.

Daily events include Civil War Era Music, Museum Exhibits, Relic & Uniform Displays Living History Notables, Sutlers, Guided Battle and Site Walking Tours will be held on Sunday June 28th from 12 noon-3pm on the Carroll County Multi Service Center Grounds.

Union Bridge Depot Day

June 20, 2009

As most of you probably already know, Union Bridge was originally known as Pipe Creek Settlement and later as Buttersburg. The town was renamed Union Bridge by the postal service in 1820 in honor of the bridge over Pipe Creek.

This month Union Bridge will celebrate "It's Depot Day 2009" on Saturday, June 20th. The event will feature large scale working steam engines, covered wagon rides, crafts, a huge train garden, and the dedication service for the Blue Ridge College Bell.

There will also be great food and live entertainment and a community wide yard sale. Activities for kids include scavenger hunts, fishing, and kids train rides and the opportunity to board a real MD Midland Railway diesel locomotive. Great fun for all is to be had at this annual Union Bridge event.

Belle Grove Square Neighborhood Picnic

Next month it will be time to make the potato salad, baked beans, or some tasty dessert and join your neighbors in the park for our first neighborhood picnic. On July 23rd the neighborhood association board members will be providing the meat and the fixings and everyone else is asked to bring a favorite side dish and join us for an evening of fun.

Fountain Rejuvenated

You know summer has officially arrived when the city turns on the fountain. This year the metal pool surround received a fresh coat paint. City crews clean and refill the fountain on Fridays.



Civil war re-enactors march past Church of the Ascension near downtown Westminster on their way to the cemetery in 2008. During the American Civil War, the population of Carroll County was sharply divided between supporters of the Union and the Confederacy. In 1863, there were significant troop movements through the county as part of the Gettysburg campaign. On June 29, 1863, the cavalry skirmish known as Corbit's Charge was fought in the streets of Westminster, when two companies of Delaware cavalry attacked a much larger Confederate force under General J.E.B. Stuart.



The Western Maryland Railroad came to Union Bridge in 1875. This was apparently the first station. In 1902, a new station, designed by John C. Gott, was constructed. It was of brick and featured a red tile roof. There were men and women. The last passenger train arrived in 1957. (Photo courtesy of Angelo I.)

St. Paul's Church Celebrates 140 Years

Starting in June, St Paul's United Church of Christ will kick off a yearlong celebration of the 140th anniversary of the church. According to church historian Thom Ballantine, the cornerstone for the church was laid on August 30, 1868 and on June 13, 1869 the first worship service was held following the completion of the present lecture room. The construction of the sanctuary was completed the following year.

On Sunday, June 14th. St Paul's

United Church of Christ will be having a special historical worship service at 9:30a.m. There will also be an archival project presentation, gallery of photographs recognizing the church's history, a luncheon, and dedications.

The luncheon will be held following worship at 11a.m. in Fellowship Hall. A light-fare meal will be served for a suggested donation of \$5/plate.

The church will be celebrating its 140th year throughout the coming year and the celebration will culminate in May 2010 when the church will celebrate the anniversary of the sanctuary.



A fundraiser was held at the Tevis family home on Belle Grove Square May 16, 2009 to benefit Westminster Boys and Girls Club.



constructed a passenger station in apparently a simple frame building. Baltimore architect Jackson, trimmed with limestone, were separate waiting rooms for train stopped in Union Bridge (Monteleone.)

Westminster Boys and Girls Club Holds Fundraiser

On May 16, 2009 Beth and Jack Tevis hosted a fundraiser for the Westminster Boys and Girls Club.

Because most of the schools in Carroll County are eliminating after-school programs, the group will become even more important. The mission of the Boys and Girls club is to enable all young people to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens.

If you are interested in donating time or money to help, please contact the group at 410 803-1460.



The German Reformed Church on what is now Belle Grove Square is sketched here in 1869, shortly after its completion. The original church spire was destroyed by a tornado shortly thereafter was rebuilt with the simpler steeple sketched below. The education wing was added to St. Paul's church with groundbreaking services on June 19, 1949.



June Gardening

by Mitchell Edmondson

If you have looked around our square lately, the park and many yards are coming alive with bright annuals and perennials. According to the Maryland Cooperative Extension, annuals and perennials help attract beneficial insects to

your landscape. Good choices are plants in the following families: daisy (marigolds, daises, asters, mums), carrot (dill, fennel, anise, yarrow, parsley) and mint (all mints and thymes).

Along with the pretty flowers come the nasty weeds. Many garden



weeds, like dock and sheep sorrel, have seed heads that are beginning to ripen. Pulling weeds out of your garden beds at this time will help minimize weed problems. Tear-thumb, also known as mile-a-minute vine, germinates in early spring and can be seen growing now. The triangular shaped leaves have stems with curved spines. This invasive weed can quickly take over a garden bed. Control by hand-pulling or with an application of a glyphosate herbicide. Weaken and kill invasive plants, like Japanese honeysuckle, by cutting them to the ground now and throughout the growing season. Cut Iris flower stalks down to the crown when they are finished blooming. Leave the foliage alone.

Let spring bulb foliage die back naturally. Don't fold over or braid foliage. At this time the bulb absorbs nutrients it requires for growth the following year. Flower beds should be mulched after plants are growing vigorously. Shredded pine bark mulch or chopped leaves make good mulches. The depth should be no more than 1-3". Avoid placing mulch against the plant stems.

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A victorian era newspaper ad is pictured above for John Beaver, who carved the commemorative marker in Belle Grove Square Park for the celebration in 1876.

Neighborhood Spotlight

This month we are featuring the Warner-Engleman House located at 18 Bond Street. The house dates back to around 1875 and currently houses several apartments.

the recess are enriched; the door is surrounded by glass on three sides, i.e. by sidelights and a transom. This is all surrounded by smooth white painted pilasters

topped by a two-story denticulated entablature. Very finely carved brackets enlivened by rosettes and appliqué at their bases support the entablature.

As mentioned in *The Building of Westminster in Maryland* by Christopher Weeks, the two-sectioned house rests on high roughly coursed fieldstone foundations and on a site that slopes northward down to Main Street. It has two perpendicular, gabled-roofed sections that form an L open to the southwest.



The central ground story bay in the five-bay principal facade of stretcher bond brick consists of a fine late-Victorian elliptical paneled door in an elaborate enframing. The door is recessed and the panels within

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