



The Westfield Times

A Publication of the Westfield Neighborhood Improvement Association

April 2005

Guest Spotlight

TWO IN ONE!

Lawrence Leaf from Leaf Nursery will be on hand to give us tips for getting our gardens set for the season. Jot down your questions bring pictures of your shrubs and get advice from an expert. Leaf Nursery is located at 4300 Hamilton Ave.

Mike Hilliard, the Director of Community Relations at HARBEL will be presenting an informational overview of the North East Citizens on Patrol Program (NECOP)

Bring a neighbor as this promises to be a very insightful meeting. Gardening books will be given away as door prizes.

Community News

NEW PLAYGROUND AT 3309 BAYONNE AVNUE

Fitness, Fun, and Games has been working with the Family League of Baltimore, the Baltimore Community Foundation, and the City of Baltimore to replace the playground equipment at 3309 Bayonne Ave. The new equipment will include 10 fun activities centered on a safe rubber surface. So far, \$27,500 has been raised for the new playground. Only \$5,600 is needed to cover the cost of installing the new playground. If you are interested in making a tax-deductible contribution to this effort, contact the Fitness Fun and Games Community Center at 3309 Bayonne Ave. at 410-444-5778.

GARDENING CLASSES Maryland Cooperative Extension has put together 6 classes for this spring. All classes will be held at Cylburn Arboretum 4915 Greenspring Ave Baltimore, MD 21209. They are free and open to the public: Urban Agriculture - Farming the City; Sat, March 5th (10am-12 noon) Garden Thugs; Sat, March 12th (10am-12 noon) Healthy Gardening; Sat, April 2 (10am-12 noon) The Bold & the Beautiful; Sat, April 9th (10am-12noon) Garden Pests; Sat, April 16th (10am-12noon) Ethnic Vegetables for Baltimore Gardens; Sat, April 16th (12:15pm-1:15pm) Cooking Ethnic Vegetables. To pre-register or for more information contact John Foerster of the MD Cooperative Extension at 410-396-1888 or foerster@umd.edu

TRUANCY ISSUES If you see any youngsters roaming neighborhood during school days and hours call the Truancy Assessment Center at 443-984-2822. An officer should come out that is trained in truancy assessment and perform the appropriate follow-up.

In and Around the House

We are fast approaching the time of year where yard and lawn maintenance take up a good portion of our time. While you are beautifying your home & yard, please be mindful of the following:

- Keep your garages and sheds locked.
 - Mark your lawn equipment i.e.: mowers, weed eaters, leaf blowers etc. with your driver's license identification number.
 - Do not leave your equipment unattended.
 - Thieves can quickly enter your home through open windows and doors while you are gardening in your yard.
 - Record the brand, model and serial number of all of your lawn equipment and bicycles.
 - Keep your shrubbery trimmed away from windows and doors to maintain clear visibility.
 - Ensure that your outdoor lighting is adequate and in good working order, and if you store gardening equipment in a shed outside the home, ensure it is adequately lit by exterior lighting. If you see anything suspicious, do not hesitate to call the police 911.
- Article courtesy of HARBEL

Good Neighbor Tips

- Bleach solutions need to be made fresh daily. Once diluted, bleach breaks down quickly-mainly into salt and water.
- To remove salt stains from leather shoes try rubbing them with a solution of 1 cup water and 1 tablespoon of vinegar.
- If you ever find yourself having to stop in the middle of a paint project with no time to clean the brush, just wrap your paint filled brush in plastic cling wrap and store it in the freezer. Freezing the brush keeps the paint from drying. When you are ready to continue, just let the brush thaw out and you're ready to continue painting.
- To get a red wine stain out of a garment soak it first in white wine then launder as usual.
- When you bake cookies and they come out too hard. Put the cookies in a bag with a piece of bread overnight. The cookies will absorb the moisture out of the bread.

Crime and Safety

Travel Safety Tips

Crimes against travelers are crimes of opportunity. To play it safe, here are some steps to follow:

CRIME PREVENTION

- Whenever possible, ensure that your hotel room has a peephole, a deadbolt lock, or a chain and slide bolt
- Consider leaving your valuables at home.
- Keep car doors locked and suitcases out of sight
- Minimize the amount of cash you carry. Opt instead for Travelers Checks, which once signed, are refundable if lost or stolen.

Here are some general suggestions to help you keep in top shape while traveling.

STAYING HEALTHY

- Pack an extra pair of eyeglasses or contact lenses, and take along a copy of your prescription, written in metric measurements.
- Wear a bracelet or other medical identification if you have diabetes, and allergy to penicillin, or any other condition that may require emergency care.
- Keep medicines in their original containers to avoid problems with customs duties.
- If you become ill out of town, the nearest American Embassy or consulate should have a list of English-speaking doctors.
- In some countries it is advisable to avoid raw vegetables, unpeeled fruit, meat, seafood, tap water, ice, and unpasteurized milk and dairy products.

NEXT MEETING

May 5, 2005 7:30 pm

The Holiday House 6427 Harford Rd

Baltimore, MD 21214

City Services

Children & Youth Services

BrightSTARTS workshops for Children	410 396-4575
To receive health services at <i>Healthy Teens Young Adults Center</i>	410 396-0353
To locate employment preparation programs for schools dropouts (Youth Opportunities)	410 396-JOBS
To become involved in City's Youth Council	410 396-5411
To find summer jobs and career preparation programs for in-school youth	410 396-JOBS
To find out about arts and cultural activities for children	410 396-4575
Daycare	410 396-7470
Head Start	410 396-7415
To receive a <i>Cultural Resource Guide</i>	410 396-4575

**2nd Annual WNIA
Community Yard Sale**

May 14, 2005 10:00 - 4:00

Rain date May 21

Those interested in participating please contact 410-254-WNIA or online @ www.wnia.com

Membership Dues: \$10 per year, per household

Mail to P.O. Box 28244 Baltimore, MD 21234 or pay online www.wnia.com

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Email _____