Vol 32, No 2 Summer, 2023

The OLD CATONSVILLE Neighborhood Association, INC.

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BRING BACK THE BIRDS

This spring especially, I noticed the birds. What a joy! Birds and vaccines - early signs of hope. First I noticed just a few species, and then more - chickadees, swallows, cardinals, jay, woodpeckers, nuthatches. I noticed their calls - the familiar and sometimes something unexpected. Since I'm still working remotely as a result of the pandemic, I am noticing more of the life happening in my yard. Or is it really 'my' yard? This idea of ownership is rather vainglorious - as if we are the only species that matters, and that the animals are visitors. I think we might actually have it backwards. Before we claimed this land for our own, it had a much more diverse species mix - perhaps as forest,

meadow, or wetland - with hundreds or thousands of native plants supporting billions of insects. Then we came and tamed - first as agricultural land, and later as suburbs - taking the great complexity of species and reducing it to a few dominant cultivars - pavement and lawn - with some native or non-native 'accessory' plants and trees.

And so what does this have to do with birds? Well - for starters - according to an estimate published in the journal Science in 2019, North America has lost more than a quarter of our entire bird population - over 3 billion birds - since 1970¹. It's likely a result of a complex mix of factors - habitat degradation and loss, pesticide use, increasing light pollution (hint: dark skies are important for proper rest, breeding, migration and in some cases, predation, for birds!). But one clear need for bird survival is proper habitat and food. Sure, bird feeders are great, but did



Illustration by Pat Leonard from 3billionbirds.org

you know that almost all birds rely on insects, not seeds, to feed their young? And that native plants and trees support far more insects than most introduced species? It turns out, lawns are practically biological dead zones, especially when sprayed with pesticides.

Birds are part of the ecological foundation on which all life depends, and they function as environmental warning systems (reminder: we just lost 3 billion...). They interact with their environments in ways that aren't always immediately understood or appreciated and they can have a deep impact on human and natural resources. For example, birds

have important roles in pest control, plant pollination, animal carcass removal, seed dispersal, ecosystem maintenance, nutrient exchange, and even coral reef fertilization. They also provide a sense of place, heighten appreciation of nature, and of course, attract and inspire birdwatchers around the world. Native birds and pollinators increase the stability and productivity of our ecosystems; yet they cannot survive without connected corridors of habitat along their entire migratory range, and especially at their winter and summer endpoints. Refuges and parks cannot sustain many bird populations sufficiently – the entire system is dependent on the choices that we make in our own yards.

When I look out on my yard, I now realize I have some work to do! I don't want to 'own' my yard - I want it to sustain more than just my own pleasure - I want to become more of a conscious and conscientious steward for the nature that surrounds

me. I'm only beginning to realize what that means. But fortunately, there are small, simple steps we can all begin to take: Spraying and mowing less frequently (once every two weeks rather than once per week in the summer) better supports pollinators; adding just a few additional native plants, shrubs, or trees to your yard; minimizing nighttime lights; and, of course, providing fresh water and seed (pesticide-free, if possible!), especially during migration seasons (spring and fall) can all help. And there are even more opportunities to make consumer choices that can help. For more ideas on how to sustain bird and other life in your yard, check out https://www.3billionbirds.org/ or https://www.abillionbirds.org/ or https://www.abillion homegrownnationalpark.org/, or check out Doug Tallamy's excellent books Bringing Nature Home and Nature's Best Hope. ■

by Sarah Hines

Article first printed in Summer 2021 https://www.3billionbirds.org/



Infographic from 3billionbirds.org

BULK ITEM PICKUP JULY 17TH OR 19TH

All the addresses I looked up (from Sugar Ct/Smithwood Ave on the west end, to Melvin Ave on the east end) have bulk item pickup scheduled for July 17th (everything west of Osborne, including 1200 Summit Avenue) or July 19th (Osborne, Beaumont, and Melvin).

This page has the lowdown: https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/departments/public-works/solid-waste/bulk-items

And this page has the search form by address: https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/departments/public-works/solid-waste/collection-schedule.html

by Pat Drews

NEIGHBORHOOD SUMMER (& BEYOND) HELPERS

Check the print edition or the OCNA list for this info.





LURMAN THEATER 2023 SCHEDULE

Free, outdoor shows at Lurman Theater near Catonsville High Details at http://www.lurman.com/

Pets, alcohol, drugs and grills are NOT PERMITTED

Call 410 635-0991 for up-to-date concert information

JUNE

Sat June 24 6-8 PM The Switch Classic rock played by classic rockers

Sun June 25 6-8 PM Josh Christina Band Infectious blend of piano driven R&R from Jerry Lee to Elton https://www.joshchristinamusic.com/

JULY

Sat July 1 6-8 PM Soul Crackers Soul, Motown and 70s Funk https://www.soulcrackers.net/home

Sun July 2 6-8 PM Carey Ziegler's Expensive Hobby Rare, Classic Rock https://www.expensivehobby.com/cz.html

Sat July 8 NO CONCERT July 4th Rain Date

Sun July 9 6-8 PM The 1974 Big 70s hits by those little 70s artists https://www.the1974.org/band/

Sat July 15, 6-8 PM Reverend Smackmaster and the Congregation of Funk Motown, blues and funky hits from the 60s to today

https://www.smackmasterfunk.com/

Sun July 16 6-8 PM Magical Mystery Girls Female Beatles Tribute Band https://magicalmysterygirls.com/

Sat July 22 6-8 PM BellCurve Wayback-machine music from the 60s, 70s, and 80s https://www.bellcurveduo.com/

Sun July 23 6-8 PM Natty Beaux Classic Jump-Blues, Swing and Rockabilly http://www.nattybeaux.com/

Sat July 29 6-8 PM Crush High Energy Party Band https://www.crushbandrocks.com/

Sun July 30 6-8 PM Speakers of the House Old School Funk, Boogaloo & Rock https://www.danmcguiregroup.com/speakers-of-the-house-music

AUGUST

Sat August 5 6-8 PM

Arty Hill Modern Honky-Tonk & Country http://www.artyhill.com/v3/

Sun August 6 6-8 PM Deanna Bogart Soulful, funky, bluesy; Deanna does it all! https://www.deannabogart.com/

Sat August 12 6-8 PM Shades of Blue Greatest Area Big Band Music http://www.shades-of-blue.com/

Sun August 13 6-8 PM

The LP's Johnny Cash to Prince; Tom Petty to Thin Lizzy

https://www.watershedentertainment.com/

Sat August 19, 5-7 PM Different Sisters Classic Rock, R&B, Country http://www.differentsisters.rocks/

Sun August 20, 5-7 PM Junkyard Saints New Orleans Funk & Swing https://www.facebook.com/junkyard.saints

Sat August 26, 5-7 PM Old Man Mojo Classic blues, urban swing, and early funk https://www.oldmanmojo.com/

Sun August 27, 5-7 PM Technicolor Motor Home 10 pc Steely Dan Tribute Band https://www.technicolormotorhome.com/ Home.html

WRITE FOR OCNA'S NEWSLETTER!

Do you know how many writers yearn for readers, and how hard it is to get published? Now's your chance to be read by hundreds of neighbors who welcome your expertise.

Will you be our next columnist? Gardening, local events, history ... we're open to a wide range of interests. Please contact Ann at annandsteves@gmail.com to talk about possibilities.

Try to get your ideas in by August 15th for the Fall issue. ■



Frederick Road Fridays

15 Mellor Avenue, every Friday from June 2 to August 25, 2023, from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm.

https://www.catonsville.org/frederick-road-fridays/

JUNE

June 2 Foreplay https://foreplayrocks.com/

June 9
Ghost Town Radio
https://www.facebook.com/ghosttownradioband/

June 16 Shake The Room https://www.shaketheroomband.com/

June 23 Controlled Chaos https://www.gigsalad.com/controlled_chaos_severna_park June 30 Soul Magnets https://thesoulmagnets.com/

JULY

July 7 Crush https://www.crushbandrocks.com/

July 14 Mia Samone Band https://www.facebook.com/MiaSamone

July 21
Tony Don't Play That
https://www.facebook.com/TDPT21228/

July 28 The Players Band https://theplayersband.com/

AUGUST

August 4
Radio Free Baltimore
https://www.radiofreebaltimore.com/

August 11 Fantasm https://www.fantasmband.com/

August 18 Mac Heat https://www.macheatmusic.com/

August 25 Marquis Soul https://www.facebook.com/people/Marquis-Soul/100052700838578/



We seek to find and share God's calling for this community of faith through worship, fellowship and service.

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410-

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SUPPORT THE CATONSVILLE PARADE & FIREWORKS

See the schedule of events here http://www.catonsvillecelebrations.org/schedule-of-events/

Volunteers are going door-to-door in the Catonsville area to collect donations. Give generously!

Parade Collectors with buckets will be walking down the parade route just ahead of the parade. Bring your cash/checks and deposit them into their buckets.

Fireworks Collectors will be traversing the high school grounds at the pre-fireworks fun fest. Give generously!

Write a check payable to the Catonsville 4th of July Committee and mail to P.O. Box 21202 Catonsville, MD 21228. Donations are tax-deductible.

Make a donation online using your credit card through the security of PayPal at http://www.catonsvillecelebrations.org/sup-port-us/ Give generously!

PAY YOUR OCNA DUES WITH PAYPAL

Eager to pay your dues as part of this great community but unused to writing checks? Send your \$20 with the click of a button to oldcatonsville@gmail.com

Cash and checks still gladly accepted—payable to OCNA Membership, 16 Osborne Ave., Catonsville MD 21228 with 2023 on the memo line.



803 oella avenue ellicott city, md 21043
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We'd like to congratulate the Old Catonsville Neighborhood Association for their valuable contribution to our community!



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Be sure to check out our website for homeowner tips, market updates, and local community resources!

www.tbhteam.com

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Space available in the next issue. \$150 / year, 4 issues Contact Allison Dietz, allisonnoz@hotmail.com for more information.

> **Deadlines for articles and ads** to get into the next issue (usually flexible):

> > Fall issue -August 15

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ADVERTISE IN THE OCNA NEWSLETTER

Space Available in the Next Issue at Only \$150 Per Year (4 Issues)

- Review this issue to see the types of ads that we run for local businesses.
- Choose ad size.
- Supply artwork in black and white. Please supply high resolution artwork for your ad. If you need help creating your ad contact us. Ads have to be reviewed before they're approved.
- You must have permission to use any images in your ads.
- Proofread your ad for errors.
- Payment accepted via check or Paypal. Ad must be paid in full before it can run.
- You can start advertising at any time of the year. Updated artwork can be provided for current ads by the next issue deadline.

Contact Allison Dietz, allisonnoz@hotmail.com for information.

Deadlines to submit newsletter articles and ads to get into the next issue (usually flexible):

Spring issue - Feb 15 Summer issue - May 15 Fall Issue - August 15 Winter - Nov 15

Archived copies of the OCNA Newsletter are now available on https://www.oldcatonsville.org/connect

Do you want free advertising?

Volunteer to write for the newsletter regularly and live in Old Catonsville, get a free 1/8 page ad in each issue.

1/8 page ad size: 3.75" wide x 2.375" high \$150 / year, 4 issues

1/4 page ad size: 3.75" wide x 4.75" high \$200 / year, 4 issues

1/3 page ad (not shown) \$200 / year 7.5" wide x 3.25" high

ENJOY THE SUMMER!

Support the OCNA Newsletter, buy advertising space for your business. Contact Allison Dietz, allisonnoz@hotmail.com for information.

Please submit articles or ideas, events & news for the Fall issue by August 15th to Ann by email: annandsteves@gmail.com