



Riverside Neighborhood Association

Encompassing Neighbors from Lawrence Street to Light Street and from Key Highway to the Railyard

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, July 29th

7 pm at Salem Lutheran Church (corner of Randall & Battery)

CONTACT US:

On the Web:

riversideneighborhoodassociation.com
or find us on Facebook.

Questions & Comments:

rnabaltimore@gmail.com

Newsletter:

RNA.Newsletter@comcast.net

Mail:

Riverside Neighborhood Association
841 E. Fort Ave., Suite 219
Baltimore, MD 21230

2012-2013 OFFICERS

President: Shane Laporte
Vice President: Dave Urbanek
Secretary: Heather Chiaro
Treasurer: Joelle Woolston

2012-2013 COMMITTEES

Newsletter: Brent Burgess
Crime: Shannon Sullivan
Friends of Riverside Park:
Jackson Fisher
Development: Ann Fiocco
Trash/Clean-up: Dave Urbanek
Historian: Paul Stysley
Forestry/Street Trees: Jackson Fisher
Communications: Adam Sandy &
Rachel Wagner



Greetings from our New President

I hope you all are enjoying the summer weather that is now upon us. Along with the change of seasons, you will find some changes among the Riverside Neighborhood Association's board members. My name is **Shane Laporte**, and, as president, I am among the new faces.

My wife, Megan, and I moved into our home on Johnson Street immediately after our wedding and have recently celebrated 5 years in the home. We chose to live in the Riverside Neighborhood for many reasons. Chief among them was park itself, as well as its walk-ability to everything that a person could want: restaurants, grocery stores, entertainment and recreation. However, it was the people that sealed the deal for us, a great blend of generations and backgrounds that truly make Riverside a 'Neighborhood'. During our time here, our family has grown to include two young daughters, and our appreciation of the city, the peninsula, and the neighborhood has grown more than we could have imagined. We have more playgroups and quality children's events within walking distance than we could ever have in the counties. At the same time, the schools, selection of restaurants, grocery stores and shopping has continued to improve and the park has had a face-lift. After ten-plus years in South Baltimore, I am still discovering, and loving what this neighborhood has to offer. Over the years, RNA and other caring residents have been among the folks working tirelessly to make our neighborhood a great place to live and raise a family. I am proud to lend my efforts to the cause and I hope you will join us as well.

It's Official

Congratulations to our new officers who were voted-in at our past meeting! **Shane Laporte** (President), **Joelle Woolston** (Treasurer), and **Heather Chiaro** (Secretary) are welcome additions to the RNA Board and we appreciate their time and commitment to the neighborhood. Please take a minute to thank them at the next meeting or if you see them around the 'hood!

Parks & Recreation - Jackson Fisher

Off the Wall Project

Riverside Park will become one of the new locations included in the Walters Art Gallery's Off the Wall project. The Off the Wall project is located at various locations around the city and features reproductions of different art pieces in the Walters collection. The staff at the Walters selected a piece that blends well with our park environment and will be a great addition. Keep your eye on the Heath and Covington entrance for its arrival in the next couple of months. For more info, go the Off the Wall website at <http://thewalters.org/offthewall/>

Star Spangled Banner Trail

Ever wonder what the cannons by the gazebo in Riverside Park represent? An explanation is coming. The National Park Service is installing a wayside (fancy name for sign) by the cannons in the park as part of the new Star Spangled Banner Trail. The trail is a new feature that the Park Service is forming to celebrate some of the historical sites from the War of 1812. The new sign should be up before the Defender's Day Celebration in September. (Next month I will have more details of the Defender's Day Celebration; this year, there will be musket firing from the park and marching reenactors.)

RNA July/August Calendar of Events

Sunday, July 21 – Concert in the Park! *Captain Jack*, 5 PM.

Monday, July 29 – Neighborhood Meeting, 7 PM at Salem Lutheran Church.

Saturday, August 3 – Friends of Riverside Park (FORP) park cleanup and planting, 9 AM at the Gazebo

Monday, August 5 – Citizens on Patrol (COP) Walk, 7 PM at Riverside Park Gazebo

Sunday, August 18 – Concert in the Park! *Mambo Combo*, 5 PM.

Upcoming Events in and Around the City- *Dave Urbanek*

Artscape

July 19-21

Mount Royal Avenue, North Charles Street. Artscape, America's largest free arts festival features continuous musical performances by local, regional and national talent on multiple outdoor stages, indoor and outdoor visual arts exhibitions, film, theater, opera, dance, street theater and special activities geared towards children. www.artscape.com

Homebuyer Workshop 101: The Basics of Buying a Home

Saturday, July 20, 8:45 am- 2:00 pm

Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church, 2812 Reisterstown Rd. You must pre-register for this free event by calling 410-947-0084 x1 or visiting www.go-northwesthrc.org.

Mortgage Delinquency Workshop: The Road to Recovery

Monday, July 22, 5:30-7:30pm

Forest Park Library, 3023 Garrison Blvd. You must pre-register for this event by calling 410-947-0084 x1 or go online to www.go-northwesthrc.org

Baltimore Build Workshop: Proper Steps to Rehabbing a House in Baltimore

Wednesday, July 24, 6 pm - 7 pm

Oliver Community Center, 1400 E. Federal Street. Free Admission! Seating is limited and pre-registration is required. Register today. Call 410-396-4111 or email V2V@baltimorecity.gov. For more information, please visit the Vacants to Value page at www.baltimorehousing.org or find us on Facebook.

TreeBaltimore Working Group Annual Meeting

Thursday, July 25, 6:30-9:00pm

Cylburn Arboretum's Vollmer Center, 4915 Greenspring Avenue. TreeBaltimore is the umbrella organization for all groups and agencies promoting and planting trees throughout Baltimore. Join our partners in speaking with one



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voice to increase the Urban Tree Canopy. Talk with tree experts about how to get your community involved in the tree game and let us know what your neighborhood is already doing! Topics will include record keeping, planting and maintenance guidelines, 'comparable' programs in other cities, tree stewardship program, and much more! Refreshments will be served. We want more organizations and local groups to join us in Baltimore's united effort to 'speak for the trees. Please pass the word, and also RSVP to JKullgren@baltimorecity.gov. treebaltimore.org

Images and Ruins

June 7 – August 2, Wednesdays – Saturdays, 12:00 noon – 6:00 pm

School 33 Art Center, 1427 Light Street

In conjunction with its Studio Artist Biennial, School 33 Art Center hosts Images and Ruins, curated by Michelle Gomez. The exhibition's eight artists work with unique approaches to photographic imagery to both preserve and destruct memory. Participating artists include Twiggy Boyer, Chajana denHarder, Michael Koliner, Shannon LaRue, Erin Maywhoor, Joseph Parra, Nick Clifford Simko, and Heather Stratton. For more information, call 443-263-4350 or visit www.school33.org.

Stay Safe This Summer *Heather Chiaro*

We all would love to live in a crime-free, safe community. We all hope to live in a place where break-ins, thefts, and muggings do not occur. This is the goal we all strive to achieve for our communities. I was born and raised in Chicago and people often ask me to compare living in South Baltimore with my hometown. For the most part, the Riverside/Federal Hill/Locust Point neighborhoods are safe. However, being the daughter of a policeman, the importance of personal safety has been ingrained in my head since I was a child. I have general rules about my own well-being to which I adhere. So this month, I'm going to remind everyone of some simple tips that will hopefully aid in a safe and happy summer to come.

First, BE ALERT. It is summertime, so that means there are many people out and about in the neighborhood. People with bad intent always look for someone who is not paying attention. Keep your eyes on your belongings. When you're out to eat at a restaurant, especially one with outdoor seating, you should never put your purse or backpack on the chair behind you. In the blink of an eye, it could be stolen. If at all possible, try to hang it from your knee.

Second, pay attention to your surroundings. When walking home late at night, about every block or so, turn around and look over your shoulder. You should have a good idea of who is in your immediate vicinity. If possible, walk in pairs or take a cab. Also, consider your phone a distraction and could potentially make you a target. Your phone may be in your hand, but in no way should you be checking email, texting, or talking while walking home late at night.

Third, don't carry anything you would be devastated to lose or have stolen. If you're like me, you probably carry large wallets with every credit card, business card, and receipt you've ever received. Before going out, I recommend that you swap your large purse for a smaller one. Downsizing your wallet and its contents will also alleviate the pain of having your personal belongings lost or stolen – and don't forget identity theft is on the rise. If you do bring all of your credit cards out with you, remember to keep the credit card number and customer help number at home, should you need it.

Lastly, let someone know where you are and where you are going. When you and your friends part ways for the night, send them a text when you've reached your final destination. If there was a change of plans and you decided not to go home, when you reach your alternative destination, let someone know your whereabouts. It may seem like an extra step, but it's always better to be safe than sorry. Remember, you can never be TOO safe.

Hopefully these tips can help you. Let's all try to have a fun and safe summer in South Baltimore!

Come See Free Flicks on The Hill

Grab a blanket, picnic under the stars, and watch a great film selection inspired by AVAM's current exhibition *The Art of Storytelling: Lies, Enchantment, Humor & Truth!* Sit under the stars on Federal Hill and



watch movies on a 30-foot wide screen held from above by a Giant Golden Hand. And don't forget, the museum is open & free between 5pm and 9pm on flicks nights!

Showings are **FREE - Thursday nights at 9pm** throughout the summer.

- **July 18: Pee-Wee's Big Adventure (1985)**
- **July 25: Rear Window (1954)**
- **Aug 1: Raising Arizona (1987)**
- **Aug 8: Cry-Baby (1990) -- Members' Pick!**
- **Aug 15: Finding Forrester (2000)**
- **Aug 22: The NeverEnding Story (1984)**

Recent RNA Activities

May

- Park Clean-Up
- COP Walk
- Assisted with City inspections of various sites throughout the neighborhood
- Meeting with City and Rec & Parks for Residential Permit Parking (RPP)

June

- Park Clean-Up
- COP Walk
- Meeting for new Casino
- Meeting with Rec & Parks Aquatics staff about Pool programming and events

Crime - Shannon Sullivan

Since this topic has been in the news recently I thought it would be a good idea to provide some basic info on police deployment directly related to the bar area on Cross Street.

The Federal Hill Hospitality Association is supposed to regularly pay the City for 4 police officers to work over-time on Friday and Saturday nights from 11pm to 3am. The officers are directed to stay in the area of Charles and Light in-between Nobles Bar and Ropewalk.

The police recognize that many residents get frustrated by bar patrons who don't always treat our neighborhoods or each other with respect and are making some changes regarding deployment. In addition, within the next few weeks the police will be conducting a DUI/DWI stop (by law this will be advertised so I'm not giving anything away). The police will also be issuing more citations for things like public urination, etc., and they will continue to make arrests when warranted. One thing to keep in mind is that when the police make an arrest and the suspect is intoxicated or under the influence of drugs the police must bring the suspect to the hospital and stay with them until they are sober (usually 4 to 6 hrs) before the Central Booking Intake Facility will process them and the officer can return to patrol.

On another note, don't forget about our monthly crime walks. We had a really nice turn-out last month and Officers DeVincientz and Schwartz were happy to join us. The walks are the **first Monday of the month**, and begin at the Riverside Park gazebo at 7pm. If it is raining, 90 or above or 32 or below the walk will be canceled. But check RNA's Facebook page for any updates.

And as always, remember to remove all items from your car before locking it and remind any visitors to do the same. And, if you have concerns or would like input on crime/police related activity please remember that you can contact me at anytime by emailing sullivansox@yahoo.com or come speak to me after the meeting. Officer Vaught, aka Butterbean, is still recovering from the car accident so he is unavailable at this time.

“Four city police officers patrol the Cross Street bar area from 11 pm - 3 am on Friday and Saturday nights”

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Call Anytime!

Riverside Park Summer Music Series

Sweet!



Thanks to sponsorship by Domino Sugars, the Riverside Park Summer Music Series is back. The first concert had a great turnout and Baltimore's School of Rock....well....rocked. The next concert is with *Captain Jack*, on **Sunday, July 21**, at 5:00

pm, at the gazebo in Riverside Park. Bring a blanket and a picnic for this fun community event, join your friends, meet some new neighbors, and enjoy the music. Future concerts will be *Mambo Combo* on August 18 and *Sac au Lait* in September 8.

Presented by:

**Domino
Sugars**

Greetings and peace, Riverside Neighbors.

Greetings and peace! I hope and pray this letter finds you in good health and good spirits. In addition to our 10am Sunday worship, we here at Salem are gearing up for the summer months and there is a lot going on that we would love for you to be a part of. We have re-scheduled our Ice Cream Social for **Saturday, July 20th** at 2pm. This will give you the opportunity to meet our teachers for Vacation Bible School, which is happening **August 12-16th**. We are co-hosting it with the good folks of Christ Lutheran Church. It runs every evening from 6-8pm. There will be great teachers, fun activities and a water slide, as well as evening programs for parents led by myself. The whole thing is completely free. Thanks to the generosity of others, we are able to make this the best, most exciting and most cost effective (free!) program for you and your family. If you are interested in either of these events, please e-mail me pastorjacob@salemsouthbaltimore.org.

Salem has also continued our *Love Thy Neighbor Gatherings* through the summer with a fun series on other religions. While we have someone covering Buddhism, I am actively looking for folks who celebrate a faith other than Christianity or Judaism, so if you're interested in sharing about your religious tradition, please let me know. We're so grateful that the folks from Captain Larry's continue to have us **every Wednesday** at 7:30pm. Please feel welcome to stop by. Our social ministry has also set a date (**Sat., 8/24**) and time (1-3pm) for our conversation on sexual violence against women and how we respond as a community. Registration can be found on our Facebook page (facebook.com/SalemBaltimore) or by e-mailing me. We know that to address this problem, it truly does take a village.

I hope to be making it out more in the coming weeks (as we all yearn for more consistent weather). Feel free to stop me anytime. I love meeting folks from the neighborhood. I hope to see you all sometime soon!

Blessings,

Pastor Jacob Simpson



Market Update



Inventory is low & buyers are actively looking for homes. Interest rates remain historically low. If you have been waiting to list your home, please call me today to schedule an in home consultation.

My Listings:

<p><u>1425 Riverside Ave.</u> Large, semi detached, fenced side yard, fabulous Harbor/Domino views</p> <p><u>1532 William St.</u> \$219,900 Parking Pad</p>	<p><u>104 W. Fort Ave.</u> Spacious, open floor plan, 2/3 bedrooms, 2 baths, conveniently located</p> <p><u>1342 Cedarcroft Rd.</u> 2BR / 1BA 2 Car Parking</p>
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Development - *Ann Fiocco*

Demolition is happening at 2 East Wells. This project will be apartments with some retail on the first floor. Construction continues at the Walgreens site on the corner of Lawrence and Key Highway. No other new construction to report at this time. Please remember to go to baltimorehousing.org for all permitting questions and guidelines.

Family Fun Day!

The Riverside Pool will have **Family Fun Day** on **Sunday, July 28th** from 1:00pm-3:30pm. RNA will be supporting the pool staff with a cookout in the gazebo for attendees. RNA is sponsoring the food and drink. These Family Fun Days have already happened at other park pools and all reports are fun was had by all. Hope to see you there!

Regarding Pool Parties at Riverside Park...

Some area residents voiced concerns about the pool party at the Riverside Pool on July 6.

All city pools are open to private parties on Saturday nights. The permit costs \$1,125 for an evening party from 7-11pm. The group hired security guards and RNA was glad they were there. The police came by throughout the night and made sure people left the neighborhood as soon as the party ended. While there were some noise complaints, it is important to note that noise limits in the city start after 11pm and the music at this party was turned off at 10:45pm. Also, alcohol is not allowed inside the pool area. Any group can rent the pool on a Saturday night but currently no other permits have been pulled for Riverside Pool.

Be Sure to Keep Dogs on Leashes

The law states that dogs must be on a leash no longer than six feet. However, as we regularly receive complaints of dogs running up to people walking through the park with no controls or discipline from their owners, I feel that too many people are not respecting the rights and personal space of others.

If your dog breaches etiquette, a simple reprimand to the dog and a sincere apology to the other person will usually diffuse the situation. (Saying "he won't hurt you" only makes people angry)

The only way for everyone to enjoy the park is to respect the personal space of others. You wouldn't run up to a stranger in the park and jump on them (hopefully), and neither should your dog. We are fortunate to have a large, wonderful park in which to exercise our dogs, and following these simple suggestions will help to continue everyone's enjoyment of the park.

Dues are Due

RNA is now officially a Non-Profit Public Charity and is exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to us are now deductible, and we are qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts. This also means we must start 2013 dues collection. Now that we are non-profit, you cannot vote on any issue without paying dues. They are a very-affordable \$5 a year and can be paid at a neighborhood meeting or by using the tear-off slip below.

2013 Riverside Neighborhood Association Dues Payment Slip

\$5

Riverside Neighborhood Association

841 East Fort Avenue

Suite 219

Baltimore, MD 21230

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email/Phone: _____

September Meeting

to be held at the Gazebo

In lieu of our normal monthly meeting in September at Salem Lutheran Church we are planning to hold an association social at the Riverside Gazebo on **September 15** to discuss business and get to know each other. Put it on your calendar and stay tuned for details in next month's newsletter.