

Riverside Neighborhood Association

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

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, OCTOBER 28th 7 pm at Captain Larry's

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Riverside Neighborhood Association
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2012-2013 OFFICERS

President: Shane Laporte
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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: Rachel Wagner

Permit Parking Moves Forward - *Shane Laporte*

Greetings Neighbors. Here we are in October, which brings us Halloween, spooky ghosts, goblins and the most dreaded of horrors: the neighborhood parking meeting.

Since last year's meeting ended with a vote to move forward with the pursuit of permit parking, we will not be having the annual debate at this year's meeting. However, I did think it was an appropriate time to catch everyone up to speed as to where we are in the process.

To do so, it is best to start at the beginning. Last year's meeting differed a little from the meetings of past years. Those past meetings showed that there was a growing frustration with the parking situation but the consensus among the neighborhood was that the problem was not yet at the point where permits were desired. The majority opinion reached the tipping point in favor of permits last year. There were still voices that expressed disapproval, but they were now clearly minority voices. From there, a committee of volunteers was formed and set out to come up with a plan.

The committee was made up of several of our neighbors from different parts of the neighborhood. They spoke with their neighbors and brought several different viewpoints and concerns to the discussion. All of these concerns, in addition to the needs of businesses in our neighborhood shaped the discussion about what the hours should be. The businesses in our area range from small restaurants and bars, to large entities like the National Federation for the Blind, and Thomas Johnson Elementary/Middle School. We also had an active public park that has nearly two hundred parking spots along its borders to consider. All of this had to be considered, discussed with the parties involved (including the city itself), and consolidated into one plan that best serves the neighborhood.

That plan is ready to be presented to the city, and at that point the real process begins. A ten block 'Pilot Area' will be designated and signatures will be collected from the residents of the pilot area. Once the signatures are gathered, they are submitted to the city along with other paperwork. Some time later the city will conduct a study to measure the volume of out-of-neighborhood parking that occurs in that area. If the study passes the city's criteria, the city will move forward with establishing this area as a new parking zone.

Once the new parking zone is established, additional blocks can be annexed into the parking zone. To be annexed, a block must be immediately adjacent to the parking zone and gather the signatures of the residents of the block. That paperwork is then submitted to the city and, some time later will become part of the parking zone. This now creates opportunity for the block adjacent to them to become annexed into the parking zone, and so on, and so on until the entire neighborhood is finally incorporated into the zone. The city states that the annexing process is fairly quick, but cannot commit to an actual timeframe. I would imagine that the last blocks to be incorporated would see a lot of overflow parking until they are officially in the parking zone.

So there is the update, and a brief outline of the city's process. It will take some time, months, maybe years. I have refrained from discussing potential hours because we do not yet have feedback from the city. The final plan may change and I do not want to put out bad information that might confuse the issue. Please remember that nobody expects that permit parking is going to solve all of our parking ills, but the belief is that it will help.



Upcoming Activities

Saturday October 26

Mayor's Fall Cleanup, 9-1

Sunday October 27

Halloween Bash, 1-6 pm

Monday October 28

RNA Meeting, 7 pm
Captain Larry's

Saturday November 2

FORP Park Cleanup 9am

Monday November 4

Cop Walk, 7 pm

Nov./Dec. Meeting

TBD

Gazebo Lighting in Dec.

FYI #1- In the past, there have been neighborhoods that have shown overwhelming support and been able to have the city legislate the entire area as a permit zone at once and in a shorter timeframe. Riverside would need to come together to clearly show that overwhelming support for us to breach that subject with the city.

FYI #2- Currently Riverside and Locust Point are the only two neighborhoods in the peninsula without permit parking. Earlier in October, Locust Point discussed creating a committee to explore their own permit parking.

Development - Ann Fiocco

The Bozzuto Group and Solstice Partners presented their plans for the GE site to the Locust Point Neighborhood Association. This is the very large site on the corner of Fort and Lawrence which is within Locust Point's boundaries. The project is a mixed use plan with 270 apartments and retail on the first floor. The apartments will be a mix of studio, one, and two bedrooms. This plan meets the guidelines of the Key Highway South URP. The design creates significant step-backs to create less immense feeling to the structure. The design also has an open plan that will have a pedestrian friendly feeling, including retail/restaurants on the ground floor. The current plan will have 1.25 spaces per unit with added spaces for retail as well as accessory parking. For those who saw images of the design in the press, those were created solely to represent massing, setbacks, etc. and not materials that will be used on the project. Materials have not been finalized as of press time. The developer has taken steps that more than meet the URP. It is an enormous site that could have a much more massive and imposing presence on that corner. By putting step backs at 20 feet rather than the required 60 feet, the



A fun time was had by all at the Sept 15th neighborhood social!

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JUST LISTED



817 S Charles St
\$395,000
Stunning 3 BR, 2 BA home in the heart of Federal Hill! Features hardwood floors, exposed brick, wood burning fireplace in living room & gourmet kitchen w/ granite counters, SS appliances, built in wine rack & breakfast bar. Lower suite w/ BR full BA & custom cedar closet. Also w/ private rear patio, balcony off BR & top level family room w/ wet bar & large roof deck! Perfect for entertaining!

JUST LISTED



932 S Hanover St
\$349,900
Beautiful 3 BR home steps from everything Federal Hill has to offer! Hardwood floors throughout unique main level w/ living room, den/study area, dining room, kitchen & entrance to private rear patio. Stainless appliances & plenty of cabinet space in kitchen. Large BR's including 2 master suites w/ sitting rooms & full baths! Semi-detached w/ many windows flooding whole home with natural light!

building will be less intimidating. The unique curving of the building away from the sidewalk will further diminish the feeling of the large size of the building. Locust Point's design committee continues to work with the developers on the peninsula's continued concerns regarding parking and traffic flow. They will also be consulting on materials. RNA has expressed our traffic concerns to the developer and will support Locust Point in negotiations. If you have any questions please contact Ann at annfiocco@yahoo.com.

Yard Sale

As mentioned in the photo and caption, the yard sale was a big success with 25 vendors. We are grateful to everyone who donated items to the RNA table, we had some great sales. If you stopped by, you may have had to negotiate with my little helper, Paige. She drove some hard bargains that made us extra money. For all of the mommies and daddies out there, there were lots of children's clothes in terrific condition, and in all sizes. It will be a great place to shop for your little ones in the spring. We hope to have another yard sale in the spring and continue the sales every fall and spring. As with every activity we plan, we really need volunteer help. The yard sale committee ended up being the RNA board members, and we are already spread very thin. Hopefully, if you enjoyed the yard sale, you will volunteer to help us in the spring.



***The Community Yard Sale was a success,
and raised nearly \$400 for RNA!***

Parks & Recreation - Jackson Fisher

Civic Work's Day of Service

On Oct 5th, Civic Works held its annual Day of Service. This year's goal was to plant 10,000 bulbs in various areas around Baltimore City. Friends of Riverside Park hosted one of the sites and welcomed 15 volunteers to plant in the park. In 3 hours, the volunteers planted 400 bulbs in a strip along the Randall street side of the park. The ground was rock hard and bone dry so the planting was not as easy as anticipated. The Civic Work's volunteers completed one of the two areas that I had selected for the planting. We greatly appreciate their efforts and look forward to seeing the results in the spring. I am planning to complete the second part of the planting as part of the Mayor's cleanup effort on the 26th or on the first Saturday in November.

Crime - Shannon Sullivan

311 vs 911

A good reminder to all - do not use 311 if you want the police to respond. If DPW didn't pick-up your trash or if there is a pot hole in the road then call 311. If you need the police, even if it does not constitute an emergency, then dial 911. The 911 operator will prioritize the call before sending it to the dispatcher so don't worry about calling if you see suspicious behavior or for something you might consider minor. The police use 911 call volume, location and type of call to deploy resources, track crime trends and for other purposes such as their nuisance abatement program.

Larceny from Auto

And another reminder - part of the reason our area's most reported crime remains larceny-from-auto is because we continue to provide criminals with a rich hunting ground. Keeping car doors locked is great but everything must be removed from the vehicle's interior, which is often not the case. When there is an increase in theft-from-auto reports the police do look to see if any local criminals were recently released from jail. There is an entire section of mug shots at the Southern that deals with larceny-from-auto recidivist. It's a recurring problem, in part, because people still leave valuables and loose change in their cars. A "good" larceny-from-auto criminal can enter up to 80 cars in one night. It's up to us to keep our streets well lit and our cars empty in order to discourage this behavior.

1701 Light Street

The property was sold in an on-site auction for \$152,000. The new owner, who RNA has already spoken to, plans to gut, rehab and sell the home. This is incredible news and 10 years in the making. It also proves that with a lot of community involvement, drug nuisance laws do work.

COP WALKS

On another note, don't forget about our monthly crime walks. 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.

Upcoming Events in and Around the City

Grace Beauty Speed Organization USATF Club

Grace Beauty Speed Organization USA Track and Field Club—a middle-to long-distance running and long-jump club for girls ages 11 and up—is a great way to stay healthy and active. Beginning through advanced runners can participate in the Youth Indoor/Spring Series to stay healthy and active through running and community events. The \$100 registration cost includes membership, team uniform and t-shirt, and a number of race entries. For more information, visit www.gracebeautyspeed.org.

Free Fall Baltimore

October 1 – 31

Various Locations

The 8th annual Free Fall Baltimore features more than 200 fun, family-friendly and free events. Search for treasure, explore a museum, dance with friends and family, or see a show. Enjoy visual art exhibitions, concerts, dance and theater performances, workshops, lectures, tours and special events from more than 90 cultural organizations and attractions. Certain events may require advance reservation, and slots often fill quickly. For an up-to-date schedule of events or to register, visit www.freefallbaltimore.org.

Little Italy Fall Social

Thursday, October 24, 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Chiapparelli's Restaurant, 237 S. High Street

Come to Little Italy for the 2nd annual Fall Social! Enjoy complimentary appetizers and good company! And don't forget to bring some spare cash for the 50/50 raffle, cash bar, and Little Italy souvenirs available for purchase. The first 50 people will receive a free goody bag with promo items and product samples. Registration is \$10 donation before event or \$15 at door. For more information, visit www.promotioncenterforlittleitaly.org.

Fall Fling at West Shore Park

Friday, October 25, 5:00 pm – 8:30 pm

West Shore Park (Between the Baltimore Visitor Center and the Maryland Science Center)

The Waterfront Partnership of Baltimore's Fall Flings are back! The event is free and open to the public. Enjoy live music by Outbreak, food trucks, cold beverages, a Waterfront Kids Play Area, and The Walter Sondheim Interactive Fountain. For more information, visit www.waterfrontpartnership.org or email beth@waterfrontpartnership.org.

Recent RNA Activities

August

- Park Clean-Up
- COP Walk
- Concert in the Park

September

- Park Clean-Up
- COP Walk
- RNA Board Meeting
- Neighborhood Social
- Concert in the Park
- Meeting with Rec & Parks Aquatics

October

- Park Clean-Up
- COP Walk
- Community Yard Sale

Be Alert!

People consistently use the alley between Byrd and Light in the 1700 block for dumping furniture. It happens so frequently that residents should be on the look out for these “dumpers.”

It is illegal to dump and it absolutely is a 911 call. If you can get the license plate, or just the make and model of the vehicle dumping, it will help police locate them in the neighborhood. To quote Homeland Security...”If you see something, say something.”

Hallowmarine at National Aquarium

Saturday – Sunday, October 26 – 27, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

National Aquarium, 501 E. Pratt Street

Join the Backyardigans for crafts, creepy-crawly animal encounters, a SCAREvenger hunt and more during this Halloween celebration. Help judge a pumpkin-carving contest and learn more about ways to green your Halloween. Costumes are encouraged. Activities are free with the price of admission. For more information, visit aqua.org.

Wine Festival at the Baltimore Museum of Industry

Sunday, October 27, 2013 from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

The Baltimore Museum of Industry invites wine connoisseurs, enthusiasts and amateur sommeliers to an afternoon of tasting and swirling at the museum's Wine Festival fundraiser. Attendees will have the opportunity to take home bottles of their favorite wines at discounted prices. All of the proceeds from ticket sales and wine purchases will help the Baltimore Museum of Industry provide award-winning school programs to over 70,000 students a year and sustain its vast archival and artifacts collection. Museum admission will be complimentary to Wine Festival guests for the duration of the event with tour guides available. Tickets for the event are \$35 for members and \$45 for non-members and can be purchased at the event, or in advance by calling 410-727-4808 x 132 or by visiting www.thebmi.org

Greetings and peace, Riverside Neighbors.

Greetings and peace to you! I hope this letter finds you in good health and good spirits. There's much ground that I have to cover but I want to begin by thanking everyone who came out for our Francis of Assisi Pet Blessing on October 6th. It was a very fun time and I was so blessed to meet all of you and your pets. You can see pictures of it on our Facebook page (facebook.com/SalemBaltimore). I'm very thankful to Downtown Dog Resort and Spa for providing the dog cookies and fellowship. Salem is looking to do something with Pet Owners in the area besides just an annual blessing. I don't know if that means a Pastoral Dog Walk, some sort of social with Downtown Dog Resort or something but I know we want to do more in this regard because pets make up such an important part of our community. Stay tuned for more information on that and if you are interested in helping me develop it, please let me know (pastorjacob@salemsouthbaltimore.org).

I don't know if this edition of the RNA Newsletter will get out before October 19. If it does, we are having our Oktoberfest at our church (1530 Battery Avenue) on Saturday, the 19th from 12-4pm. Awesome German food will be available for consumption, as well as good ol' fashion dogs and burgers. Beer and wine will be available (in a limited manner) and there will be a cornhole tournament. This event is being sponsored by the wonderful folks at Captain Larry's. Come out for a good fall time! Any questions, please feel free to e-mail me.

We are also beginning a once-a-month evening service starting Tuesday, November 5th at 7pm and continuing the first Tuesday of every month. This is not a typical worship service, rather an opportunity for reflection, as well as a chance to hear special music from our very talented organist, Marie Maclin Lacy. There will not be Communion or other things that you may associate with "church," rather it is a unique opportunity for you to see how God's word connects with you as the individual and with the world at large. We hope you will join us on the 5th.

I continue to walk the neighborhood with the collar on. Feel free to stop me anytime. Would always love to get to know the folks I serve in the community. And you're always welcome to our Love Thy Neighbor Gatherings on Wednesdays at Captain Larry's (7:30pm). It's always great to see new faces. But until then, be well and be blessed.

Peace and blessings,

Pastor Jacob Simpson



Join your SOBO neighbors of all ages for a day filled with Spooky fun!

2nd Annual
South Baltimore Halloween Bash

Riverside Park

Sunday, October 27th
1-6 pm rain or shine

Food
Crafts
Games
Prizes
Moonbounce
Parade
and more!

NEW Costume Contest for kids AND adults!
Plus... LIVE MUSIC - BYO Blankets & Beverages

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*At participating locations.



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Sat 10-4pm

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MatthewFarr@cohendwin.com
Please call for a
FREE CONSULTATION!

As a South Baltimore resident, I would be happy to meet at a location convenient to you.
Call Anytime!

Trash Tips - *Heather Chiaro*

Recently I noticed that the garbage men and women of Baltimore City don't physically pick up our garbage cans and toss the contents into the back of their trucks. Instead, they take the bags out individually and either put everyone's trash in one large pile to be tossed into the truck, or throw the bags directly into their trucks. I already knew that this was their practice, but it wasn't until my dog took an interest in devouring an unfinished Chipotle burrito strewn all over the alley that I took particular notice.

If you have some last minute items that you want tossed out before the garbage men come to pick up your weekly trash -- think leftovers, rotten bananas, that cheese you let get moldy, etc... -- instead of throwing out random loose items directly into your garbage cans, think about saving a few of your plastic bags from the grocery store and use them for those items. This is an easy fix that helps us all out, our dogs won't attempt to eat disgusting food off the ground and we won't be feeding the rats.

A Neighborly Halloween - *Rachel Wagner*

A few years ago, one of my neighbors delivered handwritten invitations to nearby neighbors, including me, inviting us to a block party of sorts. Thanks to her big idea and a simple gesture, these block parties allowed for us all to get to know one another on a more personal level. While we don't have these parties as often as we would like, we always make sure to get together on Halloween! We set up a few folding tables along the side walk, and then everyone brings a camp chair, a dish to share, and a bowl full of candy for trick-or-treaters. As the sun goes down, we enjoy one another's company, fill our bellies with food, and hand out candy to neighborhood children. I don't think I'm alone when I say that we all look forward to our annual Halloween gathering!



If you'd like to get this started on your block, here's what I'd suggest: First, create an invitation that includes a time and place for this gathering (think about who has the most sidewalk space), as well as what people should bring (food, drink, paper goods). Then, deliver the invitations to neighbors on your block, or even around the corner. As you see your neighbors out and about, spread the word! Make sure they've seen the invite, and ask them if they're coming. Finally, set up a table and chair, and get the party started! Someone needs to be the first one outside- don't be afraid to let it be you! Before you wrap up, try to get everyone's email addresses so that you can create and share a neighborhood email list to avoid paper communication in the future. The trees will thank you. Have a happy Halloween everyone!

RNA Membership

Become a member of the Riverside Neighborhood Association and help support the community. The \$5 per person membership fee helps to support RNA's efforts in the community, which include park maintenance, the Summer Concert Series, socials, and this newsletter. Each paid membership runs from January 1st to December 31st of each year, and you must be a paid member to cast votes for elections or other topics. Because RNA is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Public Charity, all donations, including membership dues, are tax deductible.

2013 Riverside Neighborhood Association Dues Payment Slip

\$5 per person

**Riverside Neighborhood Association
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Baltimore, MD 21230**

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Address: _____

Email/Phone: _____