

# Riverside Neighborhood Association

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

## NEXT MEETING: August 31

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

### Why Property Maintenance Matters – *John G. Paré Jr.*

As president of the Riverside Neighborhood Association, I hear a lot from our neighbors. Sometimes it is something nice, like “had a great time at the concert last weekend, great job,” sometimes it is a comment on an area that needs improvement, like “we’ve got to do something about the parking.” Last week I received an email from a long-time resident who was extremely frustrated by the decline of property maintenance he has witnessed over the years, citing specific examples of weed and plant overgrowth. Some might say that if your biggest problem can be taken care of with a little Roundup, then you’re doing alright. But the sincere concern for our community and genuine hope for a solution written in the email got me to think about the issue in the context of “broken window theory.” This theory first came about in a 1982 Atlantic Monthly article by social scientists James Wilson and George Kelling and is usually applied in the criminal arena.

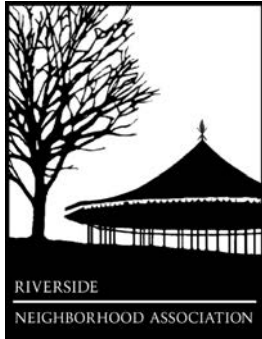
The article in part said, “Consider a building with a few broken windows. If the windows are not repaired, the tendency is for vandals to break a few more windows. Eventually, they may even break into the building, and if it’s unoccupied, perhaps become squatters or light fires inside. Or consider a sidewalk. Some litter accumulates. Soon, more litter accumulates. Eventually, people even start leaving bags of trash from take-out restaurants there or breaking into cars.”

The theory has been debated, but most feel the reasoning is sound—take care of the small problems and the big problems are less likely to occur. Cutting and killing weeds may seem like a small issue, but the neglect to do so sets the stage for bigger issues to develop. According to the Property Maintenance Code of Baltimore City, occupants (note: occupants, not owners/landlords) are required to “keep grass, weeds or plant growth below 8 inches and remove all noxious weeds.” Violators can be fined (\$50 for residences and \$100 for businesses), which can be increased for repeat offenders.

We highly recommend speaking to your neighbors personally about overgrown weeds before reporting them for a possible violation.

There may be a few people who do the right thing in order to avoid fines but most take care of their property because it is the

responsible and respectful thing to do. The broken window theory applies here because neglecting to cut the weeds signals a decline in individual responsibility, which is a concern because that impacts our entire neighborhood. It is much easier to fix problems when they are small. If you feel you do not have the time to attend to your property maintenance, talk to your neighbors, I’m sure you’ll find someone looking for a side job or a student who needs a little extra money. The reason our Riverside neighborhood is flourishing is because the vast majority of our neighbors take good care of their property. The best strategy to have a beautiful, thriving community is to take note of the broken window theory and address the smaller issues immediately. We are all in this together, so let’s pull together and make our neighborhood the pride of Baltimore.



### Upcoming Activities

#### Wednesday, August 26

Street Sweeping - Even Sides

#### Saturday, August 29

SoBo Softball Classic  
Swann Park, 11am  
See pg 3 for details

#### Sunday, August 30

Back to School Celebration  
Riverside Pool, 1-3pm

#### Monday, August 31

Neighborhood Meeting  
Salem Lutheran, 7pm

#### Saturday, September 5

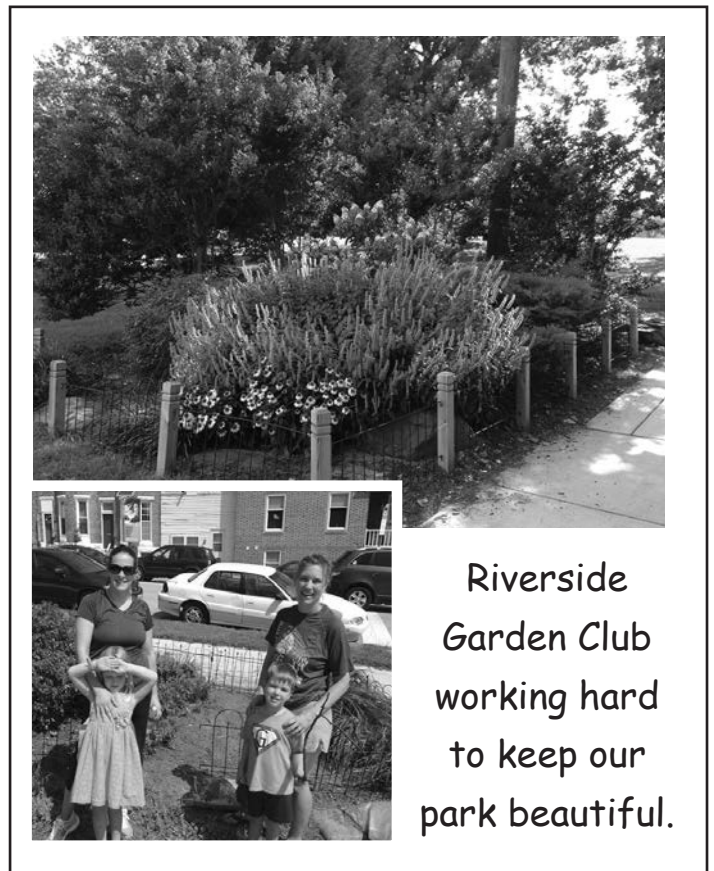
Riverside Garden Club, 9am  
See pg 2 for details

#### Monday, September 7

Last Day for a Swim  
at Riverside Pool

#### Sunday, September 13

Riverside Concert Series:  
*Rumba Club*, 5pm



Riverside  
Garden Club  
working hard  
to keep our  
park beautiful.

## Recreation & Parks – *Jackson Fisher* Riverside Garden Club

The garden club had a very productive August cleanup. We were able to clean up four of the gardens (two on Covington and two in the middle of the park). Volunteers helped with pruning, weeding, removing branches, and mulching. The gardens look great and we have plenty of plans for the fall. In September, we are planning to focus on the Johnson St side of the park and the Heath St gardens by Thomas Johnson. School will be back in session, and it is a good time to work on the high traffic areas as the kids go to and from the school. The next Riverside Park Garden Club event will be September 5th 9am-noon (meet near Johnson/Heath; look for green truck). All ages/abilities welcome; we will provide the tools. If you have gloves, please bring them. Hope to see you there!

### Upcoming Fall Events for Riverside Park Garden Club

September - Johnson/Heath Garden work

October - Daffodil planting

November - Tree planting

December - Gazebo Lighting/Holiday Event

### Basketball

Looking for some exercise on Wed evenings/Sunday mornings? I am looking for a few more basketball players to participate in an informal/regular pickup game near Loyola college. If you are interested, send Jackson an email (jfk42@yahoo.com) and I will provide the details.

### Pool Season

The Riverside Pool season is quickly coming to an end and I hope that everyone has had a chance to visit the pool and/or participate in one on the many events that have been held this season. This season has been very exciting and we have seen lots of new faces. As we enter the off-season and plan for next year, we would like some feedback on the pool experience, desired programming, and amenities. Please send us your suggestions/comments either through the website, facebook, or email me directly (jfk42@yahoo.com) RNA has been working hard with the Rec and Parks/Aquatics division to implement changes that the community desires and we have made some significant improvements based on past suggestions

### Dead Tomatoes? Replant and Enjoy!

September is the cool plant month. Onions, broccoli, cauliflower, and herbs do really well. The heat of the summer might be gone but there are still plenty of opportunities for your backyard/container gardens. If you have a grassy area, September is the best month to plant new seed. There is enough heat to start the seeds and you won't have to water them 4 times a day. So, get rid of the old tomatoes and the dying basil and replant those pots for the fall season.

### Riverside Park Summer Music Series

The summer music series is almost finished. The first three concerts are done, with just one more left in the season, on the second Sunday in September.

There are many people and organizations who helped to make it such a great event. Many thanks to:

-**Domino Sugars**, for once again providing funds to cover the entire summer music series

-The bands and **Shaun Wilson**, our sound guy, for turning their talents into sweet sounds for our ears

-**Murphy Washo Gunsiorowski & Associates**, for the cups and wine donations. Make sure you bring your cups back to the last concert!

-The many neighborhood volunteers who help make this possible.

-**Baba's Mediterranean Kitchen** and the food trucks for their donations of food for the bands

-**Union Craft, Cowboys and Rednecks, Little Havana**, and **Smalltimore**, for the keg donations.

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-Miss Twist for her donation of 10% of her profits from concert sales

Next time you visit these establishments, please remember to let them know how great it is that they're helping make our little concerts even better.

## Crime Update – *Shannon Sullivan*

From Major Brian Hance:

"In reference to the ongoing bicycle thefts that have been occurring in Fed Hill, Officer Williams made one arrest of a juvenile. This was accomplished by community calls to police and the recovery of several bikes a couple of weeks ago. The juvenile was charged on August 10, after his mother voluntarily transported him to the Southern District (front lobby area) where he was placed under arrest. Thanks for all the great team work."

There have been some police command staff changes that affect the Southern District. Major Dombroski was promoted to the rank of Lt. Col (acting) and he will oversee Area 2 - Western, Southwest, and Southern. Capt. Hance has been promoted to the Major of the Southern and Sean Mahoney is our new Capt. Both Major Hance and Capt. Mahoney are expected to come to future RNA meetings.

Lastly, our next community walk with the police won't be until October as the September date falls on Labor Day. In the meantime please contact me if you have any crime/safety questions or concerns at [sullivansox@yahoo.com](mailto:sullivansox@yahoo.com).

## Softball in Sobo

Cheer on defending champions  
Team Riverside at the  
2015 South  
Baltimore  
Softball  
Classic as they  
battle teams  
from around the  
peninsula!



**Saturday,  
August 29th at Swann Park.**  
Games begin at **11am.**

### JACKIE'S FEATURED LISTINGS

**517 E Clement St** (Federal Hill) BA \$349,900  
**Beautiful 2 bedroom 2 bath end unit home with  
Roof deck: Fabulous Domino views + Parking pad!**

**1138 Riverside Ave** (Federal Hill) BA8687169 - \$299,500  
**2 blocks to Federal Hill Park, 1/4 mile to downtown:  
3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and 2-car parking pad!**

**523 Ann St S** (Fell's Point) BA8641926 -\$299,500  
**Central Location! 2 separate apartments  
1st floor apt with 1 bedr, 1 bathr.  
2nd floor: 2 bedrs, 1 bathr**

### UNDER CONTRACT

1433 Olive Street (Federal Hill)

### JUST SOLD!

1117 Riverside Ave (Federal Hill)

1431 Riverside Ave (Federal Hill)

**Jackie McGee, Realtor**  
410-370-1673 (Cell)  
[jmcgee66@gmail.com](mailto:jmcgee66@gmail.com)  
[jackiebaltimore.com](http://jackiebaltimore.com)  
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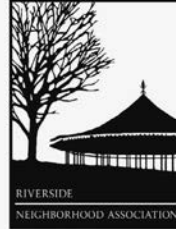
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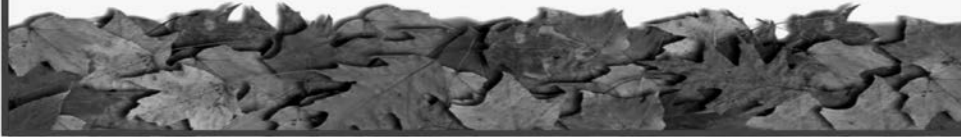


# COMMUNITY YARD SALE

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3**  
**9AM - 1PM**  
**RIVERSIDE PARK**



**BUY:** Swing by the park and score some new-to-you goods.  
**SELL:** Rent tables at \$10 each. Register & pay online [riversideneighborhoodassociation.com](http://riversideneighborhoodassociation.com);  
Or send your name, e-mail, phone number, and nonrefundable prepayment to RNA Yard Sale, 200 East Wells Street, Baltimore, MD 21230 by September 19th. Limited day-of tables may be available for \$15 each.  
**DONATE:** Want to get rid of things without the hassle of selling? Drop them off to the RNA table by 9:30am that morning. Proceeds from your donations will benefit RNA.



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CONSUMER JUSTICE ATTORNEYS

**410-279-2348**

[MatthewFarr@cohendwin.com](mailto: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!**

THE **Eric  
Figurelle**  
TEAM

of  
Long & Foster Real Estate, Inc.



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Baltimore, MD 21230  
(O) 410-727-4644



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1544 Galena Rd, Hyde Park  
\$425,000 3Bed/2Bath



534 S. Charles St, Otterbein  
\$229,900 2Bed/2Bath



1617 Clarkson St, Federal Hill  
\$329,900 3Bed/2.5Bath

Contact us:

410-952-5099 EricFig@LNF.com www.EricFig.com



Thank you to KIND bars for the delicious snacks, and to the following local businesses for making the last Twilight Swim of the season a success:

Captain Larry's, Little Havana, L.P. Steamers, City Limits, Shotti's, Snug and Evil, Sweet Caroline's, Kona Grill, OurHouse, Iron Works, In Like Flynn, Hull Street, Park Bench, and Hale's Homemade Salsa. Next time you are visiting one of these places, thank them for always supporting RNA!



## Recent RNA Activities

### July

- Neighborhood Meeting
- Park Garden Grooming
- Park Tree Pruning
- Twilight Swim Promotion
- Riverside Concert Series
- Fall Yard Sale Planning



## Greetings and Peace, Riverside Neighbors

I hope and pray this letter finds you in good health and good spirits. I want to first begin by thanking everyone in the neighborhood whose kids participated in our Vacation Bible School. We had such a good time! We're always glad to put it on for families in the community as it allows parents/guardians down time during the weekend, while letting the kids burn off energy and share fellowship. To see the kids singing in church Sunday, adjusting even when the CD player would not play, was truly an amazing thing (you can check out a clip on Salem's twitter page: [twitter.com/SalemELCABmore](https://twitter.com/SalemELCABmore)). We were so blessed by them and again, are grateful to the families that participated.

Moving forward, it's going to be a very busy fall here at our congregation. Our closest event on the horizon is the brand new Revival service on Saturday, September 12 at 7pm! Why should you attend? Well first of all, it's church on a Saturday night so you don't have to set an alarm clock. Secondly, it'll be a different service than traditional worship, more spiritual and uplifting in a different way. A Pastor friend of mine, Reverend Leila Ortiz, will be preaching that evening. She describes herself as "Luther-costal," meaning that she holds to Lutheran teachings but expresses her faith similar to the way Pentecostals do. If you have been curious to get back to church or to try something new, this is as good of a place as any to start.

I'll also be bringing back our Love Thy Neighbor Gatherings on Wednesday, September 2 after a summer hiatus. They happen every Wednesday at 7:30 at Captain Larry's (601 E Fort Ave) and are a great place to get together to explore questions about religion and philosophy in a relaxed atmosphere. I'm looking forward to that. And please know that you can always find me on Sunday mornings at our 10am worship, around the neighborhood (when the weather is nice), or Starbucks off Fort Ave most Monday afternoons. I love talking with folks from the neighborhood and seeing how we can work together.

Blessings and peace, *Pastor Jake*

**CONTACT US:**

**On the Web:**

[riversideneighborhoodassociation.com](http://riversideneighborhoodassociation.com)  
[facebook.com/rnabaltimore](https://facebook.com/rnabaltimore)  
[twitter.com/rnabaltimore](https://twitter.com/rnabaltimore)

**Questions & Comments:**

[rnabaltimore@gmail.com](mailto:rnabaltimore@gmail.com)

**Newsletter:**

[RNA.Newsletter@comcast.net](mailto:RNA.Newsletter@comcast.net)

**Mail:**

Riverside Neighborhood Association  
 200 East Wells Street  
 Baltimore, MD 21230

**2014-2015 OFFICERS**

President: John G. Paré Jr.  
 Vice President: Jen McLaughlin  
 Secretary: Sandy Asirvatham  
 Treasurer: Joelle Woolston

**2014-2015 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



**Proud to be part of our community.**

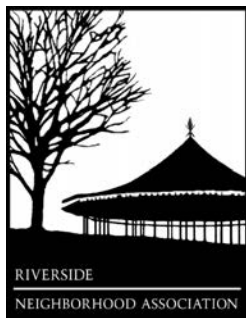
I'm pleased to support our local Riverside Neighborhood Association.

**Jim Craig**  
**(410) 752-1300**  
 912 Light Street  
 South Baltimore  
[jimcraig1@allstate.com](mailto:jimcraig1@allstate.com)  
[www.allstateagencies.com/jimcraig/welcome/](http://www.allstateagencies.com/jimcraig/welcome/)



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### 2015 Riverside Neighborhood Association Dues Payment Slip

**\$5 per person**

**Riverside Neighborhood Association**  
**200 East Wells Street**  
**Baltimore, MD 21230**

Please note: You can now pay dues and make donations on RNA's website: [riversideneighborhoodassociation.com](http://riversideneighborhoodassociation.com).

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email/Phone: \_\_\_\_\_