

Riverside Neighborhood Association

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

NEXT MEETING: Monday, December 14

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

Greetings of the Season! – John G. Paré Jr.

This has been a very exciting first year for me as the Riverside Neighborhood Association (RNA) president. On the heels of Thanksgiving, and keeping with the spirit of appreciation the holiday signifies, I sincerely thank the members of the RNA Board who serve with me and help create opportunities for greater enjoyment of our neighborhood. Thank you Vice President Jen McLaughlin, Secretary Sandy Asirvatham, Treasurer Joelle Woolston, and board members Ann Fiocco, Jackson Fisher, Shannon Sullivan and Rachel Wagner! I also want to thank each of you who work to make the blocks of row homes within the RNA a true neighborhood. Whether it is volunteering with the park beautification efforts, helping an elderly neighbor shovel snow, or keeping an eye out for unusual activity—every effort helps form the vibrant, caring, and safe neighborhood we all enjoy.

This month's holiday festivities are in full swing. I love the feeling of community which comes with the Gazebo lighting, and the individual expressions of the season that can be found in the festive decorations throughout our neighborhood. It seems this time of year, more than any other time, we express our joy and love for our family, friends, and each other, and I feel especially blessed to live in a community which is home to so many friends.

Looking forward to the New Year, I wish you a 2016 full of peace, love, and laughter, and look forward to working with you to make our neighborhood the best it can be!

While RNA provides some support, the **SOBO Halloween Bash** is a great neighborhood event that is put on by a group of volunteers who are spread throughout the South Baltimore area. Thank you to **Misty Keens** and **Cathy Strodel**, as well as the many other people who helped make this event possible. Many thanks go to **Little Havana, Wiley Gunter, and Murphy, Washo, & Gunsiorowski** for their donations of kegs and wine.

Upcoming Activities

December 12 – Riverside Garden Club - Boy Scout Cleanup

December 14 – RNA Holiday Meeting and Cookie Contest
6:30 pm at Salem Lutheran Church

January 2 – Riverside Garden Club

January 4 – COP Walk

January 8 – Riverside Garden Club - MANTS

February 11 - District 11 Candidate Debate - details to follow

3rd Annual Holiday Cookie Contest Mon, Dec 14th @ 6:30pm Salem Lutheran Church

Sponsored by



*** See pg. 6
for details***

Guest Judges:

Delegate Pete Hammen
Domino Sugar Representative
Zach Singer
Delegate Brooke Lierman

Careful With Your Packages

Do not leave packages on your steps. When ordering items online have them shipped to your workplace or a friend, relative, or neighbor who is home during the day. Leave a note on your door telling USPS, FedEx, or UPS not to leave packages and/or to deliver them to a specific neighbor who you know will be home.



Development – *Ann Fiocco* Rallo's Lot Development

The development companies involved with Anthem House are in the preliminary stages of development for the old Rallo's building and the adjacent parking lot. The parking lot will be developed into a mixed use project with retail/office on first floor and apartments above. The project is tentatively planned for 4 or 5 stories. There is no solid design plan as of yet with many presentations still to come for the Planning Dept and Planning Commission. RNA has been and will continue to be involved in the process with a presentation to the association to come in the New Year. Currently, the first step has been made with a rezoning request put into the City Council. The rezoning will most likely get on the docket for January. RNA will keep the community updated as this project, and its planning, continues. Questions may be sent to annfiocco@yahoo.com.

1400 Webster Street

For those living near the shell of a home on the 1400 block of Webster...The developer has decided not to move the BGE lines which is necessary to finish the home. He has decided to walk away from the project. RNA has been told that the partial structure on site will be removed and the lot will be fenced. This issue has been badly handled by the developers involved and the neighborhood is left with a hole in the ground and an extremely prohibitive cost for future development. RNA has reported all parties to the Planning Dept. and to Housing, asking them to take a closer look at any project involving these parties. We have also reached out to all developers that we consider reputable and trustworthy and asked them to look at the site and evaluate for any potential.

Recent RNA Activities

October/November

- Riverside Garden Club -
St Ignatius Tree Planting
- Garden club planting and
tree trimming
- Halloween bash

JUST LISTED – FEDERAL HILL

1145 Riverside Avenue 1800 sq feet, 3 bedr, 2 baths
Contemporary style, wood burning fireplace; sky lights;
built-in's galore, hardwood floors on all levels, cook's
kitchen, custom 244 bottle wine room & much more!

MLS BA9508604 Listed for **\$429,900**



1257 Riverside Avenue #D 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms
Bright townhouse with granite counter tops, hardwood
floors, & carpet. Gated greenspace & gazebo. Finished
basement, front deck, roof deck & off-street parking.

MLS BA9526302 Listed for **\$324,900**



Jackie McGee, Realtor
410-370-1673 (Cell)
jmcgee66@gmail.com
jackiebaltimore.com
Selling? Buying? Contact

*Happy
Holidays*



UNDER CONTRACT

1703 Belt St:

*Listed & under contract
in just 10 days!*



2314 Boston Street
Baltimore, MD 21224
410-675-1550
410-370-1673 Cell

1418 Benjamin Street



Just listed in
Mchenry Pointe

Meticulously maintained 2 car garage luxury townhome featuring a large living room, gourmet kitchen with stainless steel appliances, tiled back splash & granite counters. Hardwood floors/stairs, large master suite with tray ceiling & walk in closet. Home office, 4th level wet bar area leads to the roof top deck.

Contact Jim Gunsiorowski to learn more
James.Gunsiorowski@PenFedRealty.com

**MURPHY
WASHO
GUNSIOROWSKI
& ASSOCIATES**

**BERKSHIRE
HATHAWAY
HomeServices
PenFed Realty**



office: 410-547-5710

www.live21230.com



• COMMITTED TO JUSTICE,
TRUTH & SAFETY •

Matthew S. Farr



Attorney at Law

- Worker's Compensation
- Personal Injury
- Car Accidents
- Criminal Law • DUI's

Cohen & Dwin, P.A.
CONSUMER JUSTICE ATTORNEYS

410-279-2348

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!



1312 Richardson St, Locust Point
\$459,000 3Bed/3.5Bath



1710 Belt St, Federal Hill
\$264,900 2Bed/2Bath



1618 Webster St, Federal Hill
\$340,000 3Bed/2.5Bath

**THE Eric
Figurelle
TEAM**
of
Long & Foster Real Estate, Inc.



**LONG &
FOSTER**
REALTORS®

Eric Figurelle
410-952-5099
EricFig@LNF.com

Jennifer Hansson
410-493-2635
JenniferH@LNF.com

Greg Morris
443-956-4171
Gregory.Morris@LNF.com

Traffic Calming Improvement Update – *Dave Urbanek*

As you may or may not know, at the request of RNA, the city Department of Transportation (DOT) has been pursuing a traffic calming project along the Randall Street and Johnson Street corridors for the past three years. Specifically, the project will provide "curb extensions" at existing and proposed crosswalk locations: Johnson Street/Barney Street, Johnson Street/Heath Street, Randall Street/Riverside Avenue, Randall Street/Jackson Street, Randall Street/Webster Street. Per the National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO), "curb extensions visually and physically narrow the roadway, creating safer and shorter crossings for pedestrians...curb extensions increase the overall visibility of pedestrians by aligning them with the parking lane and reducing the crossing distance for pedestrians." Curb extensions at intersections tighten curb radii and encourage slower turning speeds. Additionally, curb extensions physically prohibit illegal parking within a crosswalk, thus ensuring a safe and accessible pedestrian crossing.

Note that the curb extensions will be installed within existing and proposed crosswalks; thus, no legal parking spaces will be lost at four of the five locations. Although one to two parking spaces will be lost at the Randall Street/Webster Street intersection, DOT will restripe the crosswalk at the Randall Street/Covington Street intersection to create two additional angled parking spaces and result in a net zero parking impact.

The past three years has been a long and arduous road (pun intended) dealing with DOT. I searched through my emails and would like to share the following timeline, if only to illustrate the effort that RNA exerts for its neighbors. Note that this is only a summary and there was much, much more correspondence between many of the dates:

- Late 2012: project planning begins
- Summer 2013: concept design
- Spring 2014: told by DOT construction should begin in the fall
- September 2014: told by DOT there is no funding available
- October 2014: told by DOT funding is now available and the project will move forward
- December 2014: DOT cancels attendance for RNA monthly meeting, says construction scheduled for the spring
- January 2015: DOT cancels attendance for RNA monthly meeting due to snow; RNA discusses plans that were received from DOT
- February 2015: DOT presents plans to RNA at meeting
- April 2015: RNA requests revised plans from DOT
- July 2015: RNA/Councilman Costello request project schedule from DOT
- August 2015: RNA/Councilman Costello request project schedule from DOT
- September 2015: revised plans received from DOT, told that construction should begin sometime this fall
- November 20, 2015: Councilman Costello sent letter to DOT requesting a project schedule
- November 30, 2015: DOT is looking into the matter

RNA will continue to push DOT to get results. A thank you to Councilman Costello for his continued support and efforts to make this project a reality. Stay tuned to Facebook and future newsletters for further updates.



Example of curb extensions in Harbor East

Holly Jolly Trolley Lights Tour

Through January 3

Sit back and enjoy the splendor of Baltimore's holiday lights beginning in Harbor East then up to Hampden to see the world famous 34th Street annual Christmas Festival of Lights and back through Mount Vernon. The trolley runs **Thursday–Sunday at 6:00pm and 8:30pm**. Pick-up and drop-off are located at the Marriott Waterfront Hotel.

National Aquarium

Through January 3

Ring in the holiday season with the magic and wonder of The Polar Express in 4-D at the National Aquarium! Feel the gentle snowfall, smell hot cocoa in the air and see images leap from the screen on your way to the North Pole. Tickets to the Aquarium's 4-D films are just \$5 and can be purchased with general admission online at aqua.org.

AN EASIER WAY TO GET AROUND TOWN



Get access to cars near where you live, work, and play—without pesky car payments or maintenance. Zipcars are available by the hour or day, plus gas, insurance, and 180 miles a day are always included.

The best part? Riverside Neighborhood Association members can join for just **\$35** (we're friendly neighbors).

GET ALL THE INFO AT

ZIPCAR.COM/BALCOMMUNITYASSOC



PANDORA Ice Rink at Baltimore's Inner Harbor Harborplace Amphitheater

Through January 18

Break the ice at the PANDORA Ice Rink at Baltimore's Inner Harbor, complete with a skate shack, rentals, concessions and entertainment, as well as special events like SkateFest, a learn-to-skate program and more.

Monday thru Thursday - 3 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Friday - 3:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Saturday - 11:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Sunday - 11:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.



ENROLL NOW FOR PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN PREP AT BRIGHT HORIZONS



Bright Horizons at Tide Point is an exceptional place for children to thrive. Our comprehensive curriculum enriched with fitness, art, music, and STEM programs, prepares children for success in school and life.

- Curriculum focusing on math, science, literacy, and social responsibility
- Open and encouraged communication between parents and teachers
- Nurturing children ages 6 weeks to 5 years old

Bright Horizons at Tide Point

1030 Hull Street, Cascade Building

Baltimore, MD 21230 (on Under Armour campus)

(410) 727-1232 | www.brighthorizons.com/tidepoint





3rd Annual Holiday Cookie Contest

Please join us for our 3rd Annual Holiday Cookie Contest, sponsored by Domino Sugar, just before our final neighborhood meeting of the year on Monday, December 14th at 6:30pm at Salem Lutheran Church.

Sponsored by



How It Works:

1. Register and pay \$5 online at riversideneighborhoodassociation.com by Friday, December 11th.
 2. Bring no less than 3 dozen cookies to the church on December 14th at 6:30pm.
 3. At 6:45pm, a handful of special guest judges will taste all cookies and choose approximately 3 winners.
 4. While the meeting takes place, the remaining cookies may be enjoyed by all.
 5. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prizes will be awarded at the conclusion of the meeting. Winners must be present to receive prize baskets provided by Domino Sugars. Winners and winning recipe will be featured in the January newsletter.
 6. Goodie bags will be available for leftover cookies to be taken home by all.
- Rules & Guidelines: Contest open to Riverside residents only. Only one registrant per household. To be eligible, residents must: register and pay \$5 by December 11th; use at least one Domino Sugar product, specified in submitted recipe; produce a minimum of 3 dozen cookies. Brownies, bars, and candies are not acceptable. Cookies or payments that arrive later than 6:45pm on December 14th may not be considered for judging. By entering, all registrants give RNA permission to include their names, photos, and recipes in future publications. HAVE FUN!

Southern District Coat Drive

410-396-2499



Please help us keep families warm this winter by donating coats up until December 20th 2015!

We are accepting NEW or Gently used coats of any size that are clean! ☺

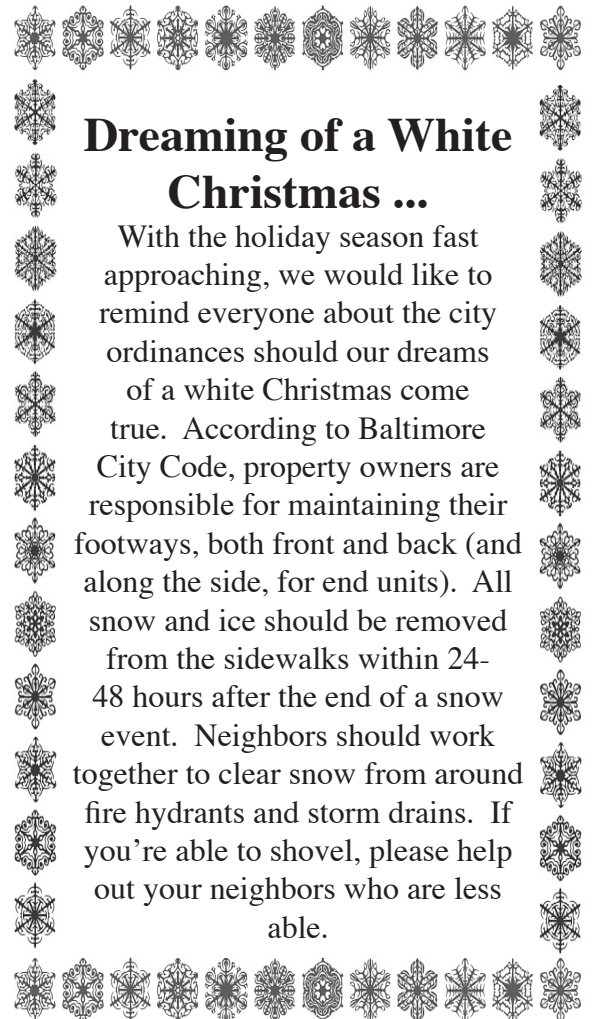
Event Date: December 22nd, 2015

Time: 5:00 a.m. - Clear

Location: Southern District

10 Cherry Hill Road

Baltimore, Maryland 21225



Dreaming of a White Christmas ...

With the holiday season fast approaching, we would like to remind everyone about the city ordinances should our dreams of a white Christmas come true. According to Baltimore City Code, property owners are responsible for maintaining their footways, both front and back (and along the side, for end units). All snow and ice should be removed from the sidewalks within 24-48 hours after the end of a snow event. Neighbors should work together to clear snow from around fire hydrants and storm drains. If you're able to shovel, please help out your neighbors who are less able.

Recreation & Parks – *Jackson Fisher* Riverside Tree Planting

Special thanks to the 7th graders from St. Ignatius who came out to Riverside Park on November 10th to plant trees. Despite the rain and drizzle, the students planted and mulched 16 new trees. The variety of shade trees, provided by TreeBaltimore, look great in their new locations. From the photos, it should be evident that there were lots of smiles, mud, and wet clothes. We look forward to having St Ignatius back in the spring for another park project.



Moonlight Madness in Federal Hill

MOONLIGHT MADNESS, is **Friday, Dec. 11, 8 pm to midnight**. Visit the many participating shops and galleries that offer discounts, specials & treats. Stop by Federal Hill Main Street at 42 E. Cross for **FREE GIFT WRAPPING**, light refreshments and your event map.

For more info: visit www.historicfederalhill.org or call 410-727-4500.



Happy
Holidays

Greetings and Peace, Riverside Neighbors

I hope and pray this letter finds you in good health and good spirits. I want to begin by thanking everyone who turned out for our Holiday Kickoff. It was a good event and we had a great time. The kids in particular loved the Children's area and time with Santa (played capably by my father). We raised money that will help to continue to fund our various ministries, and it is needed in a time when we are facing a costly boiler replacement. Thank you to all who contributed and know that you still can. We will still be selling tickets for our baskets during the Riverside Stage "SoBo Solstice Celebration" on December 12 and 13, as well as the RNA meeting at Salem on December 14. The final drawing will be after the meeting, so you still have a chance to win a basket. Good luck!

In addition to our Advent worship every Sunday at 10am, we will be bringing back our Vespers service this year but with a twist. Instead of me, Diakonal Minister Sara Jane Baublitz and our young adult group will be leading it. The format will still be contemplative, with a different theme every week, but it will be accompanied with great seasonal music from Marie, plus home made bread for Communion. If you have never been to Salem on a Sunday, or are leery of worship in general, this might be a good gateway for you. Vespers will be every Wednesday at 7pm with a party after the final service on December 23rd. Our Christmas Eve Service for the Family will be the following night at 7pm. Details of everything can be found on our website (salemsouthbaltimore.com), twitter page (Twitter.com/SalemELCABmore) or Facebook page (Facebook.com/SalemBaltimore).

To conclude on a personal note, I want you to know that I am praying for many of you. While holiday revelry may abound, I know this time of year is difficult for folks who are grieving or are depressed. It can feel like a season of loss. This does not escape me and I pray for those of you who feel that difficulty. May the month be short, may your spirits high, and may you have a better day tomorrow.

Blessings,

Pastor Jake

CONTACT US:

On the Web:

riversideneighborhoodassociation.com
 facebook.com/rnabaltimore
 twitter.com/rnabaltimore

Questions & Comments:

rnabaltimore@gmail.com

Newsletter:

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.

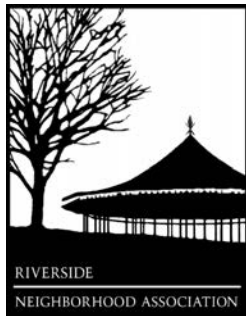
I'm pleased to support our local Riverside Neighborhood Association.

Jim Craig
(410) 752-1300
 912 Light Street
 South Baltimore
 jimcraig1@allstate.com
 www.allstateagencies.com/jimcraig/welcome/



© 2014 Allstate Insurance Co.

753004



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.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Email/Phone: _____