

Riverside Neighborhood Association

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

NEXT MEETING: APRIL 28

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

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
841 E. Fort Ave., Suite 219
Baltimore, MD 21230

2013-2014 OFFICERS

President: Shane Laporte
Vice President: Jen McLaughlin
Secretary: Sandy Asirvatham
Treasurer: Joelle Woolston

2013-2014 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

Spring Projects Have Begun - *Shane Laporte*

The long cold winter is over and it finally looks and feels like Spring – plants are blooming, runners are running, kids are playing. It is a great time of year in Riverside.

However, some of the increased activity this year will add to the demands of city living. Those of us who have been living through the gas line repairs on our streets for the past few weeks have already had a chance to experience this. The inconvenience of blocked streets, increased noise, and construction grime are noticeable. However, please keep in mind that these are short-term issues that will lead to long-term benefits. There are also a few other street projects to keep an eye out for: the long awaited sidewalk adjacent to the Shopper's on Heath St. will be coming soon, as will some curb modifications around the park. Undoubtedly, these projects will also have some of the typical temporary construction inconveniences. Please be patient as the city and contractors work hard to improve the infrastructure in our neighborhood. For all items that go beyond being an inconvenience, please reach out to the city immediately.

Besides these special projects, we have the typically nice-weather increase in activity in the area as well. Sports leagues are back in session and road race season is starting up. We like that these races occur in our neighborhood. They help to raise money and awareness for good causes and bring people into the neighborhood to support our local businesses. However, some of the recent routes have been difficult for residents in certain parts of the neighborhood. RNA has worked with the city to help minimize the impact of these races in the neighborhood by using smarter routes that do not trap folks at (or away from) home for several hours.

With the return of nice weather, RNA was finally able to get out do some work at the park on the first Saturday of April. We were able to get some trees planted and moved, and perform a good general cleaning. We had a good turnout of volunteers, but can always use more. We have more projects lined up in the future and hope to see you there.

Development - *Ann Fiocco*

Development Committee Goals: RNA seeks to promote responsible development that will enhance life for everyone on the peninsula and within our neighborhood. We want to listen to our residents and balance resident concerns/wishes with the overall best interests of improving city life for everyone.

130/132 E. Barney has been purchased by a new developer. Demolition has begun on this property as it will become 2 homes, reverting back to its original status as two lots.

The property currently housing Matty's Diner on the corner of Fort and Lawrence has been purchased. This property includes the parking lot behind the diner. It also includes 832 E. Fort (Matty's is 834-838), which the developer purchased from the resident who had lived there. There have been many rumors flying around the neighborhood regarding this property, and I would like to share some facts. The home at 832 was purchased at fair market value, not some low-ball scamming of the resident. Matty's is moving into Southside Marketplace, in the corner by the Pet Valu. The developer has no definitive plans as of our newsletter deadline, but I will be meeting with the developing group at the end of April. We will keep everyone informed as plans develop.

(continued on p.2)

Upcoming Activities

Saturday, April 26

(Rain Date April 27) 9am-1pm
Community Yard Sale @
Riverside Park

Monday, April 28

7pm, Neighborhood Meeting @
Salem Lutheran

Saturday, May 3

9am-noon, Park Cleanup

Monday, May 5

7pm Citizens on Patrol Walk @
Riverside Park Gazebo

Monday, May 19

7pm, Neighborhood Meeting @
Salem Lutheran

Earlier due to Memorial Day

City-Wide Street Cleaning:

Vehicles cannot be parked on
Odd sides every 3rd Wednesday
Even sides every 4th Wednesday

Development can be a volatile issue on our peninsula which can create a lot of speculation, gossip, and rumors. If you have any questions or concerns, all residents are welcome to contact me at annfiocco@yahoo.com. Look for demolition to begin on the old funeral home on Fort Ave. This will be developed into 5 rowhomes. Demolition should also begin soon at 1701 Light. Please remember to refer to baltimorehousing.org for any permit questions or concerns.

Parks & Recreation - *Jackson Fisher*
Riverside Toolbank

Do you need a rake, a shovel, or pruners for a backyard or block project? Friends of Riverside Park and the Parks and People Foundation maintain a tool bank in Riverside Park. The tool bank is part of P&P's Community Greening Resource Network (CGRN), which is a group that helps to promote greening projects throughout Baltimore City. For more info on CGRN, see this website: <http://www.parksandpeople.org/greening/resource-network/>. If you have questions about the tools, contact me directly at jkf42@yahoo.com.

Spring Planting
Now that the weather is warm, it's planting time. The University of Maryland Cooperative Extension has a wide range of information for beginners through advanced gardeners. Their website has quite a bit of information on topics related to the type of plantings (container/small plot/raised bed) that are typical in our area: <https://extension.umd.edu/hgic>.

Riverside Park Cleanup
Thank you to all who participated in the April cleanups. We planted/moved 14 trees, weeded and raked some of the flower beds, and mulched some of the small trees. For May, we are planning to prepare the Johnson/Heath entrance for a new garden. We have received funding for new plants and fencing materials from the Parks and People Foundation. The May cleanup is scheduled for May 3rd from 9am – noon, and refreshments will be sponsored by Shoppers. Please check the RNA website for additional dates in May; I would like to prepare and plant the garden before the summer heat begins.



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SOLD!

1313 TOWSON ST
Beautifully designed EOG home in prime Locust Point location! Unique floor plan with 3 full stories of living space. Hardwood floors throughout, gas fireplace in 2nd living room, large bedrooms, office space & roof deck w/ great city views! Gourmet kitchen recently renovated w/ granite, stainless steel appliances, breakfast bar, recessed lighting & tile backsplash! Large attached garage and private fenced in patio!



SOLD!

1423 HARPER ST
Luxury townhome in desirable McHenry Pointe! Enjoy the amenities of the city w/ the comfort of a 3 BR 2/2 BA 2200+sq ft house. 2 car garage, SS appliances, granite, hardwood floors, crown molding, large master suite w/ tray ceiling & walk in closet. Attached 2 car garage plus parking pad! Full walk out roof deck w/ wet bar & expansive water views! Minutes to I-95. Walk to parks, bars & restaurants.



SOLD!

1429 STEUART ST
Gorgeous home in sought after Locust Point neighborhood w/ 2 car garage! Large open main level floor plan with hardwood floors, tall tray ceilings, crown molding, office/ den space & detailed accents. Gourmet eat in kitchen with granite counters, ss appliances & breakfast bar! Master suite features large walk in closet & BA w/ Jacuzzi tub & separate shower. Don't miss the roof deck w/ city views!

Riverside Pool Update

Riverside Park Pool will open on weekends starting Memorial Day Weekend. The pool will open full time after school lets out (currently June 16th). This year, there will be kid's introductory swimming lessons 9am-10am (Saturday), Parent/Child (<6yr old) swim time 10am-11am (Saturday), several exercise class times (Saturday/weekday nights), and some special events (Family Fun Day, Evening Swim, Kids Kayak, etc.) Details on the schedule should be finalized by next month's newsletter.

Crime - Shannon Sullivan


Both State's Attorney Gregg Bernstein and Major Ian Dombroski will be at the April meeting. Gregg Bernstein is returning, as promised, to give us an update on how his office plans to tackle the list of repeat offenders who break into cars, houses, etc., in our neighborhood. The Major will be there to discuss the recent home B&Es, provide the crime stats for 2013 vs 2012, and what the police need to work on for 2014. Both will also be available to answer your questions.

If you can't make the meeting, then come to our monthly Citizens on Patrol (COP) crime walk, Monday, May 5th at 7pm. We meet at the Riverside Park gazebo and end at Homeslyce where all COP participants receive discounted drinks and sandwiches. Please check RNA's Facebook page for walk status if the weather is poor.

Lastly, don't forget to remove all items from your car before you lock it! And in the meantime, if anyone has any crime related questions or concerns please contact me at sullivansox@yahoo.com or Officer Vaught, aka Butterbean, at Kevin.vaught@baltimorepolice.org.

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 also available via email at Kevin.vaught@baltimorepolice.org.

**RIVERSIDE CONCERT SERIES
SECOND SUNDAYS**



June 8
July 13
August 10
September 14

Sac au Lait
Bumper Jacksons
Naked Blue
Speakers of the House

Presented by:
Domino Sugars

Join us at the Riverside Park gazebo from 5-8pm.
Food truck and beer sales at all concerts!



"Knock Knock"

"Who's there?"

"Opportunity!"



Jackie McGee, Realtor

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**** Investor Alert ****

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1513 (3BR/1BA) Bush St.
\$89,900/EACH

**1532 William Street
\$207,000
SOLD**

**1429 Battery Avenue
\$2000
RENTED**

**1826 Byrd Street
\$295,000
SOLD**

**Lake Roland Sales
410-377-2270
6080 Falls Road
Baltimore, MD 21209**



Neighborhood Events

The **South Baltimore Little League Parade** will be **May 3**. It starts at Federal Hill Park at 11am, travels south on Riverside Ave then east on Fort Ave to the Little League fields.

www.facebook.com/SouthBaltimoreLittleLeague

This is the same day as the **Kinetic Sculpture Race**, which starts (about 8am) and ends (about 3-4pm) at the AVAM, with part of the route going on Key Hwy and Jackson and Covington Streets, at least in past years. This year's course hasn't been published yet. www.kineticbaltimore.com/

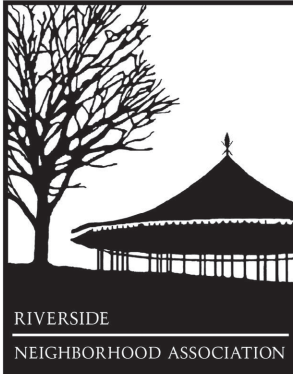


Your Riverside neighbors planting in the park. Next park clean-up is Saturday, May 3, 9am-noon.



COMMUNITY YARD SALE

Saturday, April 26th
9am-1pm @ Riverside Park
Rain Date: Sunday, April 27th



RIVERSIDE
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION



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Greetings and Peace, Riverside Neighbors

It want to thank everyone who walked the Holy Week journey with us on April 13-20. It was a blessing to have you in our congregation. While Christmas is obviously a special time for everyone, Holy Week is unique in how it is observed. During the week, one journeys from the road to Jerusalem to the empty tomb, with much happening in between. We were very grateful that you shared that journey with us.

If you've ever been interested in coming to Salem but are kind of worried about the whole "church" thing, we have started a First Tuesday Night Service of Healing and Sacred Music just for you. The Tuesday Night Services are a time of meditation, contemplation and prayer. Backed by the music of our wonderful organist Marie Lacy, they provide an intimate space for you and God, as well as a time to bring your deepest prayer needs individually to receive anointing prayers for healing. We will be taking the month of May off as I'll be out of town but will resume on Tuesday, June 3rd at 7pm.

I know many of you received the cards we delivered advertising our Love Thy Neighbor Gatherings. They are a fun, festive time to get together and discuss subjects on theology, philosophy, sociology, etc. No subject is too risqué, all that we ask is that everyone's opinion is respected. We'd love to have you anytime, as well as to our Sunday morning worship at 10am. May you be well and blessed this spring season!

All the best,

Pastor Jacob Simpson

Street Sweepers are Coming!

We're going to need to work as a neighborhood to ensure that our cars are not parked on the sides of the streets to be cleaned. Our streets' **odd sides** will be swept on the **3rd Wednesday** of the month, and **even sides** on the **4th Wednesday**. The city will not be posting signs, so it really is up to us to make the most of this resource.



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

Proud to be part of our community.

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



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Upcoming Guest Speakers:

The following candidates will be joining us at these upcoming neighborhood meetings:

April 28th:

Bill Ferguson,
Incumbent running for re-election as State Senator

Liam Davis, *Candidate for State Delegate*

May 19th (earlier meeting date due to Memorial Day):

Peter Hammen & Luke Clippinger, *both Incumbents running for re-election as State Delegates*



Federal Hill's annual **Spring Block Party** is on **Sunday, April 27, 11 am to 7 pm**. Come celebrate spring and kick off the festival season with great live music, food & drink, and arts & crafts! Bands will entertain crowds all day on two stages.

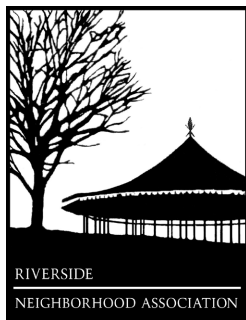
Spring Block Party will take place on East Cross Street, on the south side of Cross Street Market. Admission is \$5 in advance, \$10 at the door.

New this year is the advance ticket purchase option. Avoid the lines at the gate by visiting www.historicfederalhill.org or www.missiontix.com to purchase your tickets early, at a discount.



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.



2014 Riverside Neighborhood Association Dues Payment Slip

\$5 per person

Riverside Neighborhood Association
841 East Fort Avenue
Suite 219
Baltimore, MD 21230

Please note: You can now pay dues and make donations on RNA's website: riversideneighborhoodassociation.com.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Email/Phone: _____