

Riverside Neighborhood Association

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

NEXT MEETING: Monday, December 11
6:30 pm at Salem Lutheran Church (corner of Randall & Battery)

RNA PUBLIC SAFETY CHAIR UPDATE

– *Shannon Sullican*

The events of the past few weeks have rattled us, yet they have also energized neighbors and businesses to work together in order to improve community engagement and public safety. The regularly scheduled crime walk in November attracted hundreds of people who were motivated to get involved after a string of violent robberies occurred on Halloween. After the tragic death of local resident Alex Wroblewski, there were even more calls to action.

Formally, Councilman Costello, in conjunction with the police, Team 46th (Delegates Lewis, Lierman, Clippinger and Sen. Ferguson), local school principals, and peninsula neighborhood presidents and public safety chairs, gathered to brainstorm ways to engage more residents and sustain meaningful public safety initiatives. Informally, I know of people who connected on Facebook, in the park, etc., who have also expressed a desire to get involved.

There are many ways you can make a positive impact and several of them only require an hour of your time:

1. Attend the next public safety walk, on December 4th at 7pm. The Rowhouse Grille has agreed to be our walk sponsor so while we will begin at the Riverside Park gazebo we will end at The Rowhouse Grille.
2. Attend the Southern District Police Community Relations Council meetings. These occur the third Thursday of the month at the Southern District (10 Cherry Hill Road) at 7pm and provide residents throughout South Baltimore crime information as well as crime prevention tips and direct access to Southern District command staff.
3. Write a Victim or Community Impact statement. These are used to inform the judge of how a crime impacted you or the community and can affect sentencing.

Additional information on these topics, as well as some new ones for consideration, will be discussed in more depth at the January meeting. In the meantime, if you have any questions about a crime that has occurred, please don't hesitate to reach out. If you see something that looks suspicious, then call 911.

Lastly, it's package theft season - utilize Amazon lockers, the UPS Store and the local businesses that have been kind enough to offer their space to collect packages that arrive while you aren't home. This is yet another example of our community coming together to deter crime.

RNA Calendar of Upcoming Events

DECEMBER

Dec 04 Community Safety Walk

Dec 11 RNA Monthly Meeting



JANUARY

Jan 06 RNA Garden Club

Jan 08 Community Safety Walk

Jan 29 RNA Monthly Meeting



RIVERSIDE PARKING UPDATE – *Jeff Brown*

In June of 2014, RNA submitted a proposal to the Parking Authority of Baltimore City (PACB) to implement Residential Permit Parking (RPP) program for our neighborhood. Action on our proposed plan was delayed as PACB wished to wait until a parking study for all of the neighborhoods in the South Baltimore peninsula had been completed. This study was part of the city's "Complete Streets" program, and was funded by community impact funds from Horseshoe Casino. The study was recently completed and published, and a presentation was made to the public on Monday, November 13th at Digital Harbor High School. John Pare, Jackson Fisher and Jeff Brown attended on behalf of RNA. The presentation kicked off a 30 day period during which area residents may review and make comments to PACB.

The RNA board and parking committee is also reviewing the findings and will evaluate what, if any, modifications would be made to our proposal from 2014. PACB has agreed to schedule a meeting with RNA after the public comment period is closed. We hope to have more information ready for January's RNA meeting and, with the study complete, we will hopefully see much more momentum on parking issues in the near future.

The parking study report and accompanying presentation can be found and downloaded here: <https://transportation.baltimorecity.gov/south-baltimore-gateway-complete-streets-plan>



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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!

FEATURED HOMES FOR SALE

Jackie McGee, Realtor

JackieBaltimore.com jmcgee66@gmail.com



1272 Battery Avenue: Character in abundance! Custom built bookshelves, reclaimed mantel on working gas FP ready for the Holidays; refinished orig pine floors, high ceilings, beautiful new kitchen w apron sink, soapstone counters + sleek appliances. 16 Pella windows, 4 skylights, Large parking pad, roof deck & more. List for \$369,900 BA10084534



1257 Riverside Ave Unit C: Unique offering with 4 Th's plus a shared extra lot currently used as picnic gazebo area. Townhome C offers parking pad, new kitchen w soft close cabinets, granite & stainless appls, 2 bedrooms & remodeled bathroom upstairs plus finished basement w 2 rooms & full bathroom. Listed for \$329,900 BA10077594



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Eugenia F. Dickerson



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/



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NEWS FROM SALEM LUTHERAN

As the days have gotten colder I've noticed the community coming together in beautiful ways: in vigils held by candlelight, in new and renewed service and outreach to underrepresented folks and especially youth, in community walks. I've seen you caring for those among us who don't have warm homes for shelter, collecting coats at children's birthday parties in lieu of gifts. I've seen neighbors share food with the hungry and the lonely, I've seen neighbors making art, I've seen dogs playing in the park... I've seen you, community. It's pretty cool, and it's a joy to bear witness to the life that happens here in Riverside.

A few things for you to consider as life moves forward this month:

Thread, a local nonprofit working with underperforming high school students, is starting a new cohort group at Digital Harbor High. Relationship-building across diverse life experiences is the new social fabric and I personally encourage you to consider getting involved. For more info: thread.org.

Salem is once again teaming up with Captain Larry's for a Pay It Forward Night! Come hang out, eat, drink, and be merry at one of the best spots in the neighborhood on Thursday, Dec. 21st, from 4-7. Tips go to support Salem.

Finally, if you find you ever need a place to just be, or a listening ear, Salem's doors are open to you throughout the week, and always Sundays at 10am. Safe space. For you.

Peace,
Pastor Lauren

RIVERSIDE PARK ENTRANCE & BUMP OUT WORK - *Jackson Fisher*

DOT contractors have been actively working on the curb bump outs along Randall Street. While most of the work is going according to plan, there have been a few hiccups. RNA met with representatives of DOT, Rec and Parks, and Councilman Costello's office to discuss the brick removal at the northwest Riverside Park entrance (Johnson/Randall). The park entrance failed to meet some ADA compliance requirements, specifically ramp slope and ramp color. Since the park entrance had been part of the 2012 park renovations, RNA was under the impression that the entrance was compliant and did not need to be included in the bump out work. DOT did not realize that the brick entrance was a specific request of the community for the 2012 work. After the meeting, all sides seemed to be on the same page. We are looking forward to the bump out project moving to completion and the park entrance restored to ADA compliant brickwork.

RNA THANK YOUS! - SOBO HALLOWEEN BASH & ST IGNATIUS

It is well past October and another successful SOBO Halloween Bash, but it is never too late to thank to the volunteers that contributed to the event's success, especially the event chairs Erin Tallarico and Julie Carper. Volunteers on this and other committees are a large part of what makes Riverside such a great place to live! The committee would like to thank the following neighborhood establishments that also helped make the event a success:

Major Sponsors:

Riverside Neighborhood Association; The Jeff Washo Team; Sure Sales Group; Work Printing and Graphics; Fit 4 Mom Baltimore City; Jackie McGee- Cumming & Co. Realtors; Weichert Realtors; FHSNA; FHNA; LPCA; Federal Hill Prep PTO; FSK PTO; Thomas Johnson PTO; Bumper Globe Collision Center; Advanced Thermal Solutions; Carpet Works Inc.; Upper Chesapeake Insurance Agency; and DBFA

In-Kind/Prize Sponsors:

Jesus Our Redeemer Church- snacks; Shaw Orchards- apples; Waterfront Partnership of Baltimore- straw; and Starbucks- Coffee

Music: Roses N Rust

Food: InBloom; HarborQue; Miss Twist; and BaltiMarons

Beer/Wine: Riverside Neighborhood Association (Jackson, Ann, and Scott); Key Brewing; Wiley Gunters; Diamondback Brewing; Little Havana; and The Jeff Washo Team

Other Sponsors:

Grilled Cheese Co; Southside Diner ; Afters Cafe; Mothers; Race Pace; Abbey Burger; Wayward; Ryeleighs; Federal Hill Mainstreet; Bar Liquorice; Galley Foods; Barfly's; Shotti's; Reflex Functional Fitness; Aww Baby Organics; Katie Brown Cleaning; Das Bier Haus; and Iron Rooster



Student volunteers from Saint Ignatius Loyola Academy joined RNA volunteer Scott Huot to help with tree planting and leaf collection in November.

Community volunteers are always welcome at these activities. The RNA Garden Club meets on the first Saturday of each month for planting, pruning, weeding, and other general beautification efforts. Come join us - the next Garden Club date is January 6, 2018.

Just look for the Green Truck!



Open House

Beth El @Federal Hill

Wednesday, December 6, 2017 from
5:30-6:30 PM

**Come and meet our amazing staff of
dedicated teachers and learn about our
inquiry, play-based program for children 2
years of age to Pre-K.**

1530 Battery Avenue. 21230
Inside Salem Lutheran Church
RSVP llenev@bethelbalto.com

LEAVES, LIGHTS AND SNOW, OH MY!

LEAF COLLECTION

Baltimore City Department of Public Works began leaf collection Monday, October 30, 2017. Collection will continue through Monday, January 8, 2018. It is the responsibility of homeowners to remove leaves from their property including the street gutters. Leaves will be collected in two ways:

Weekly trash pick-up: Bagged leaves are collected on regularly scheduled trash collection days. DPW solid waste crews collect up to 5 bags of leaves from each address every week.

By Appointment: Bagged leaves, up to 20 bags, will be collected by appointment on Mondays, during the leaf collection season. Please call 311 before 6 p.m. on Sunday to arrange a leaf collection for the following Monday.

EXTERIOR LIGHTS

Now that it is getting dark early, it's a good time to remind everyone to turn on exterior lights both on the sidewalk and in the alleys. There are several options to help automate the process and keep the outside areas lit. Light sensing switches can turn lights on at dusk and off at dawn. The sensors are either parts of the light fixture or can be retrofitted. Local hardware stores have some sensor options as low as \$10. Another option is a timer switch. Timer switches replace a standard light switch and have calendar and clock options. These switches turn on and off based on the date and time. Timer switches are more expensive and require some basic electrical skill but they are good for many years. Finally, there are some smart switches that work through home wifi service or alarm systems. These switches are good on existing automated home systems but not very practical for a single location. Regardless, whether the lights come on automatically or manually, it's important for overall safety and security to turn the lights on.

SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL

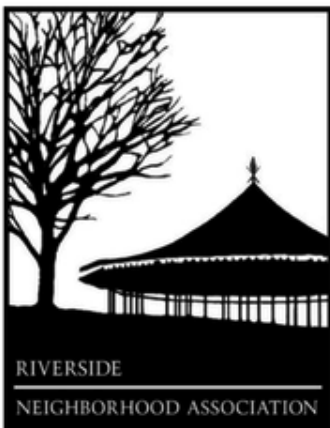
As soon as the leaves are removed, the snow will be upon us! And just as with leaves, removal of snow is the responsibility of homeowners. Please make sure to be considerate of all neighbors, especially those who may have mobility issues, by maintaining a clear path on all sidewalks along your property. This includes ice removal! If any water discharges from your property to the sidewalk please be ensure it is not creating hazardous walking conditions once temperatures begin to drop below freezing.

5th Annual RNA Cookie Contest

Monday, December 11th at 6:30pm at Salem Lutheran Church

Sponsored by Domino Sugar

How To Enter: On Monday, December 11th, bring no less than 3 dozen cookies to the church at 6:30pm, along with a \$5 entry fee and the cookie recipe (must include a Domino Sugar product). Cookies may be presented in any type of container, not to exceed the size of a standard baking sheet. At 6:45pm, special guest judges will begin to taste cookies and will choose three winners by the conclusion of the meeting.



Winners will receive prize baskets provided by Domino Sugar. Winners and winning recipe will be shared on our website and social media.

Not a baker? COME EAT COOKIES! Goodie bags will be available for you to take home leftover favorites!

Rules & Guidelines: Contest open to Riverside residents only. Only one registrant per household. By entering, all registrants give RNA permission to include their names, photos, and recipes in future publications. **HAVE FUN!**



TAKING ACTION: SAFETY CONCERNS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

– *Christie Getman & Rachel Wagner*

The #SOBOSAFE initiative was recently created by a group of neighbors as part of a safety sub-committee of Riverside Neighborhood Association, to take action as a result of increasing crime in the neighborhood. SoboSafe is a peninsula-wide effort, designed to empower neighbors against crime- by helping them **“Be Informed, Be Proactive, Be Visible.”**

SoboSafe is an awareness campaign. We’ve set up www.sobosafe.com as a resource page for safety information and recommendations in the neighborhood, linked to each neighborhood association and HOA. Daily or weekly tips will be shared via social media, and we’re printing window signs for residents to show our strength as neighbors, refer people to the website, and help deter crime.

Contact Us:

On the Web:

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

Questions & Comments:

rnabaltimore@gmail.com

Newsletter:

rna.newsletter.21230@gmail.com

Mail:

Riverside Neighborhood Association
 200 East Wells Street
 Baltimore, MD 21230

2017-2018 Officers

President: John G. Paré Jr.
 Vice President: Jen McLaughlin
 Secretary: Rebecca Celotto
 Treasurer: Joelle Woolston

2017-2018 Committees

Newsletter: Stefanie McKenzie
 Crime: Shannon Sullivan
 Friends of Riverside Park:
 Jackson Fisher
 Development: Ann Fiocco
 Trash/Clean-up: Vacant
 Historian: Paul Stysley
 Forestry/Street Trees: Jackson Fisher
 Communications: Rachel Wagner

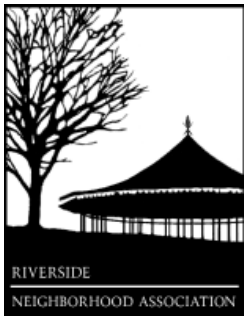
Other activities include exploring the establishment of a Neighborhood Watch Patrol; compiling a “Security Camera 411” detailed resource; and organizing around writing Community Impact Statements for hearings of crime perpetrators.

What can YOU do? Volunteer! We still need some extra pair of hands on the safety committee to help with some small tasks. If you are interested in a short-term, low- to medium - effort way to contribute, let us know. We also welcome anyone to the safety committee who would love to play a larger leadership role. Email besobosafe@gmail.com

Practice These Top 6 Safety Tips:

1. Install front and rear porch/stoop lights- keep them on all night! Light sensitive bulbs are ideal. Motion-sensored flood lights for alleys are also recommended.
2. Install exterior security cameras and link them to CitiWatch. <https://citiwatch.baltimorecity.gov>
3. After dark, walk in groups, pay attention around you, put away devices and headphones. Try organizing small group dog walks. When in doubt, use ride share programs.
4. If you see something even slightly suspicious, report it immediately to 911 (911 always first! Then, if relevant, post on social media).
5. Organize an evening “Stoop Sit” on your block - hot beverages are great to share on a cold evening! Visibility is key.
6. Practice smart holiday safety planning while away: don’t have packages delivered, use lamp timers, have neighbors get your mail.

Check out www.sobosafe.com for more info or email besobosafe@gmail.com to get involved! #SOBOSAFE - **We NEED you!**



2017 Riverside Neighborhood Association Dues Payment Slip

\$5 per person

Riverside Neighborhood Association
 200 East Wells Street
 Baltimore, MD 21230

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Email/Phone: _____

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