SoBoImCo

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South Baltimore Improvement Committee • April 2006

SPRING CLEANING

By Amy Mutch

SBIC is pleased to announce Dale Thompson, Assistant Chief of Sanitation, as guest speaker at our next community meeting. The SBIC survey listed trash/sanitation as one of the major neighborhood concerns. We are responding to YOU in having Dale come and address these issues.

For those that prefer action over talk we have 2 cleanups scheduled in April. The Mayor's "Super Spring Sweep Thing" is Saturday, April 22nd. We will be organizing at the corner of W. Fort and S. Charles between the hours of 8am and 1pm with all the necessary supplies. The following Saturday, April 29th our cleanup and dumpster will be located at the corner of Light and Heath Streets (Thomas Johnson Elementary) between 8am and 12 noon. Please join the effort!!

To those of you who DON'T LITTER or work individually by cleaning and maintaining your own property the sanitation committee salutes you. We love to walk by a house/block and say "move on, we aren't needed here"!!

Baltimore City offers a hazardous waste disposal program. The upcoming date is Saturday and Sunday April 29 & 30. The location for the drop-off is Polytechnic Institute at Cold Spring Lane and Falls Road. Examples of hazard waste are: tires, paint, propane, Freon (air conditioners, refrigerators), batteries.

REMINDER:

City offices will be closed on Friday, April 14th. No trash or recycling.

COMMUNITY MEETING

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 4th, 2006 7:30 p.m. at Olive Branch United Methodist Church (corner of Charles & Fort Ave. S.)

Guest Speaker:
Dale Thompson
Assistant Chief of Sanitation
Baltimore City

RECYCLING DAYS

Paper recycling is the 4th Friday, April 28th



Bottles, Cans & Jars are the 2nd & 4th Mondays, April 10th & 24th All recycling collected streetside

GET OUT!

Orioles Baseball Opening Day Tuesday, April 3rd 3:05p.m.

Oriole Park at Camden Yards
Home Opener of the 2006 season.
See page 7 for more info.

Inner Harbor Easter Celebration Sunday, April 16th 11:00a.m.-7:00p.m. Harborplace Amphitheatre

LOTTA ART Saturday, April 22nd 5:30p.m.

School 33 Art Center
1427 Light Street
A great way to add art to your life.
See page 1 for more info.

Neighborhood Cleanup Saturday, April 22nd

Corner of Fort Ave. & Charles St. Gloves, brooms and bags provided.

Baltimore Waterfront Festival Thur, April 27th—Sun, April 30th Inner Harbor

Neighborhood Cleanup Saturday, April 29th

Corner of Light & Heath Streets Gloves, brooms and bags provided.

Federal Hill Spring Block Party Sunday, May 7th 1100a.m.—7:00p.m.

East Cross Street, South Side of the Cross Street Market
Ring in Spring with ten live bands on two stages.



SoBoImCo

SoBoImCo is a monthly production of the South Baltimore Improvement Committee, Inc. whose mission is "to encourage, through regular meetings, the formal exchange of ideas; to work with local law enforcement in promoting safety; and to assist individuals and families in the continuing process of neighborhood renewal." We welcome articles, ads and photo submissions via mail or email:

South Baltimore Improvement Committee

P.O. Box 6364 Baltimore, MD 21230 eastenddesign@att.net

We reserve the right to edit or reject submissions. Articles represent the opinions of the authors and not necessarily those of SoBo-ImCo. We believe all sources of information are reliable, however, we do not guarantee completeness or accuracy.

Membership

Residents of South Baltimore are encouraged to become members of SBIC. Just contact an SBIC officer for more information.

Meetings

Community meetings of SBIC are usually held on the first Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Olive Branch United Methodist Church located at the corner of Charles Street and Fort Avenue.

Website

www.soboimco.org

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Shani Ahearn

Every year I anxiously look forward to the arrival of spring in South Baltimore and then, when it comes, I always kick myself for forgetting how truly remarkable it is. Fortunately, the neighborhood has many ways of forgiving me the crocuses and daffodils, the reappearance of joggers, the first stirrings of spring cleaning. All of these things tell me that the days of stoop (or step) sitting with ones' neighbors, barbecues, community block parties, and the return of the Sunday morning Farmer's Market are fast-approaching and I truly realize how much I missed them.

With the arrival of warmer weather comes renewed warmth in our neighborhood. Residents join together to work on outdoor projects, like sprucing up the sitting park at Light & Heath Streets and helping the Youth Council refinish the

ball fields at Riverside Park, and they take a few moments to join their neighbors on their front steps for an impromptu block gathering – a spring and summer ritual on my block for new arrivals and old timers alike.

SBIC looks forward to this time of year as a chance to do some spring cleaning of our own: we have two clean-ups scheduled for April and, thanks to the mild winter, we are already ahead of the game! Spring also signals the arrival of the festival season and SBIC has a number of ways to get out and meet some of your neighbors in a fun and meaningful environment. I hope that you will consider being "swept up" in the community spirit

and join us for a clean-up, an SBIC social, a meeting, or a youth council event.

Sadly, this will be my last spring in South Baltimore. My husband and I learned last week that we will be relocating to the West Coast so that he can begin his medical residency. We are still reeling from the announcement and, unfortunately, everything must happen very quickly. So quickly, in fact, that this will be my final President's Corner and the April General Meeting will be my last general meeting as president. I cannot pos-

sibly put into words how much I will miss my neighbors and our community. It has been such a privilege to be involved in SBIC and to get to know some of the amazing residents who make this area such a rich, vibrant, and thriving community.



South Baltimore, of course, is in wonderful hands and will blossom under the leadership of Lori Hardesty, SBIC's current vice president. Additionally, Lori and the other members of SBIC's board deserve all of the credit for the progress that we have made and they continue to work unbelievably hard on projects and causes that they feel passionately about. Although I am incredibly sad to be leaving this group and South Baltimore as a whole, I know that the work of creating opportunities for neighbors to come together for the betterment of South Baltimore and for each other will continue indefinitely. And so I say to all of you: thank you so very, very much and keep up the incredible work that you are doing!

YOUTH COUNCIL

By Marie Sennett

The teens are learning how to take on City Hall, and they are winning! Changes in the Department of Parks and Recreation have stalled their project for making the ball fields of Riverside Park usable for the community. Well they asked Councilman Reisinger for assistance and will be seeking support of the SBIC, Riverside Action Group, and the Friends of Riverside Park to have the New Director of Parks and Recreation meet the teens goal of working on the Fields April 22, 2006. Go Teens!!!!!!! We will see the adult volunteers for the field project at the Ella Bailey Rec Center, 100 E. Heath Street, at 10 am to help our teens make a difference!

Events for April 2006:

April 6, 2006 – Ella Bailey Rec Center – 7 to 8:30 p.m. Art with Ms. Sandy

April 13, 2006 – Bowling in Glen Burnie – we meet at the Rec Center at 6:30 and take on the Lanes.

April 20, 2006 – Ella Bailey Rec Center – 7 to 8:30 p.m. Final planning for our day of fixing the ball fields at Riverside Park.

April 22, 2006 – Ella Bailey Rec Center – 10 am to 4 pm – Teens and Community Service Learning Project, fixing the ball fields at Riverside Park so we can all use them!!!!!!!!

April 25, 2006 – A night at the Theater! We will be going to a local theater – hopefully Center Stage – to see a play and maybe the backstage scene. Meet a the Ella Bailey Rec Center at 6:00 p.m.

To volunteer to make a difference with our teens call Marie Sennett, 410-837-1132 or email at msennett@believewireless.net

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DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE

By Steve Zaleskiwicz

The Design Review Committee met with the Architect and Developer of a large number of projects at the South end of our neighborhood, including the following addresses: 1800 Block S. Hanover St. (Billy & Jeff's Auto Parts); 1800 Block of S. Charles (Maryland Glass & Mirror); 2 E. Wells St. (McCall's); and an infill at the vacant lot in the 1600 Block of Light St. There is a proposed mix of residential and retail spaces, and some of the projects would require zoning changes from industrial to residential and mixed use, which would require our Councilman to submit a bill to the City Council for the zoning changes.

At this time, the Committee feels that these projects will greatly improve our neighborhood, but this was a design concept only meeting, and there will be more meetings with drawings and these projects progress.

Please be sure to be at the next General Meeting if you have any questions about these proiects.

POLICE/COMMUNITY RELATIONS

By Sharron McCulloch

STREET SMARTS -

Test Your "Street Smarts" IO

Do you ...

- Jog or walk by yourself early in the morning or late at night when the streets are quiet and deserted?
- Stuff your purse with cash, keys, credit cards, checkbook and then leave it wide open on a counter, your desk, or the floor?
- Put your wallet in a jacket, which you then hang up or throw over a chair?
- Let your mind wander thinking about your job, or all the things you have to do when walking or driving?
- Think it's a waste of time to lock your car when you'll be back in a few minutes?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, you need to change a few habits. Even if you answered "no" and made a perfect score, read on. Spend a few minutes now to prevent trouble later.

Basic Street Sense Wherever You Are:

- Whether on the street, in an office building or shopping mall, driving, waiting for a bus or subway, stay alert and tuned in to your surroundings. Send the message that you're calm, confident, and know where you're going.
- Trust your instincts. If something or someone makes you uneasy, avoid the person or leave.
- Know the neighborhoods where you live and work. Check out the locations of police and fire stations, public telephones, hospitals, and restaurants, or stores that are open late.
- When on foot, stick to well-traveled streets. Avoid shortcuts through wooded areas, parking lots, or alleys.
- Don't flash large amounts of cash or other tempting targets like expensive jewelry or clothing.
- Carry a purse close to your body, not dangling by the straps.
- Put a wallet in an inside coat or front pants pocket, not a back pocket.
- Try to use automated teller machines in the daytime. Have your card in hand and don't approach the machine if you're uneasy about people nearby.
- Have your car or house key in hand before you reach the door.
- Have to work late? Make sure there are others in the building, and ask someone - a colleague or security guard - to walk you to your car or transit stop.
- If you think someone is following you, switch direction or cross the street. Walk toward an open store, restaurant, or lighted house. If you're scared, yell for help.

And most importantly:

- If Someone tries to rob you, DO NOT RESIST. Give up your property, don't give up your life. Report the crime to the police and do your best to try and describe the attacker accurately. Your actions can help prevent others from becoming victims.

C.O.P. WALKS

Are you worried about crime in the neighborhood? You can change things by getting together with neighbors who share your worries. Anyone and everyone can take the most basic actions, like reporting suspicious behavior or crimes in progress to the police. Whatever the contribution of time, energy, talent, and resources you can make, small or large, it will help! Citizens on Patrol (COP) is just one way you can help in making our streets smarter and safer. Take a stand and help protect your neighborhood!

Current schedule is:

CHERRY HILL

Monday, April 3rd at 7pm

FEDERAL HILL SOUTH

Thursday, April 6th at 8pm Meet at Porter's Pub, corner of Cross St. & Riverside Ave.

RIVERSIDE/SBIC

Monday, April 10th at 7pm

Meet at the Riverside Park gazebo; 400
blk of Randall St.

S H A R P - L E A D E N H A L L / OTTERBEIN

Wednesday, April 12th at 7pm Meet at the corner of Sharp St. & Henrietta

CHERRY HILL

Monday, April 17th at 7pm

CARROLLTON RIDGE

Tuesday, April 18th at 7pm

Meet at the Samuel F.B. Morse Recreation Center, corner of the 400 blk of

South Pulaski/2100 block of Ashton

Streets

BROOKLYN

Thursday, April 27th at 7pm Meet at old Wendy's parking lot; 600 blk Patapsco Ave.

Please visit the Southern District Police Community Relations Council website for the latest COP scheduled updates. www.sdpcrc.org.

LOTS HAPPENINGS AT THE LIGHT STREET BRANCH LIBRARY

THE FROG PRINCE Tuesday, April 4, 3:30 pm

game to see if you can find the Frog Prince. Call 410-396-1096 to register.

BLUESWORKS

Thursday, April 6, 6:30 pm

BluesWorks (Judy Luis-Watson & Paul WAND Watson) present the music, stories, & pic- Thursday, April 20, 3:30 pm tures of legendary blues artists in a multi- Ages 6-10. Listen to stories & design you media presentation accompanied by a live own magic wand. Call 410-396-1096 to performance of traditional songs & origi- register. nal compositions.

MAKE-N-BREAK CASCARONES Monday, April 10, 3-4 pm

Ages 10-17. Cascarones are decorated, confetti-filled eggs. Come experience this Mexican tradition which is said to bring little kittens. good luck or indicate an admirer when broken over one's head.

FRIENDS OF THE LIGHT STREET **BRANCH**

Thursday, April 13, 6:15 pm Monthly meeting of the Friends Group.

STITCHING B'S KNITTING CIRCLE MOTHER GOOSE ON THE LOOSE Saturday, April 15, 11 am

socialize, meet new people and trade tips & tricks.

FAIRY GODMOTHER NEEDS A

BROWN BAG FAIRY TALE CRAFT Friday, April 21, 12:30 pm

Ages 2-5 & their caregivers. Come to the library with your child, bring a brown bag lunch & share making mittens for the three

PUBLISHERS' PET PEEVES Monday, April 24, 6:30 pm

Rejection slips got you down? Join us as Austin Camacho, president of the Maryland Writers' Association, advises authors about the things that publishers look for to separate the pros from the amateurs.

Wednesdays in April, 10:30 am

Ages 5-12. Listen to frog stories & play a Join our group of experienced & amateur For children under the age of 3 and their knitting & needlework enthusiasts. Come caregivers. An interactive movement & music program. Singing, bouncing, rhyming, bells, scarves & books - you & your child will have a wonderful time.

THE WORLD OF ORIGAMI Wednesdays in April, 3:30 pm

Ages 10-17. Ann Howell will be presenting a series of classes on the basic folds of origami, a traditional Japanese art form. Increase your skills and create a masterpiece to take home.

Call 410-396-1096 to register for all programs

WOW - City living at it's finest

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1722 is a beautiful, high end luxury town home in Federal Hill. This brand new home has a 2 car garage, 2 BR's and 2 FB's. The first floor is complete with a gourmet kitchen containing stainless steel appliances, powder room, hardwood floors and a spacious living room and dining area. The second floor is all hardwood with 2 beautiful full bathrooms and a laundry area that can hold a full size stackable washer/dryer. The third floor is the penthouse and rooftop deck. All the counters are granite. The home is wired for sound and security. This is the place to be! \$5K closing cost help.



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IN YOUR OWN BACKYARD



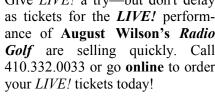
About the Play

Pulitzer Prize-winner August Wilson completes his monumental examination of the 20th-century African American experience, revisiting the terrain that he has woven into theatrical legend. It's Pittsburgh, 1997. Mayoral hopeful Harmond Wilks and business partner Roosevelt Hicks have a surefire plan to revitalize the decrepit Hill District of their youth. Standing in their way is the mythic house at 1839 Wylie Avenue and the man who claims it. Will commerce or culture overcome? This final chapter—depicting a fragile community wrestling with the temptations and the risks of paving over its heritage—shows that while the challenges change, the struggle endures.

Give LIVE! a try—but don't delay as tickets for the LIVE! performance of August Wilson's Radio Golf are selling quickly. Call 410.332.0033 or go **online** to order your *LIVE!* tickets today!

About the Prize Packages

- **→ Get Electric**—Wire up with a \$35 gift card from Best Buy, donated by the White Marsh location; and Get Pampered— Indulge yourself with a luscious \$75 Gift Set from The Body Shop at Harborplace's Pratt Street Pavillion.
- **→** Get Down Under—Travel to Australia without leaving Baltimore with two tickets to The National Aquarium: and Get Swank—Soak in the ambiance of one of Baltimore's hottest Mediterranean restaurants with a \$50 gift certificate from PAZO.
- **→ Get Satiated**—Engage four of your senses with 55 centuries of art at The Walter's Art Museum. Then let your sense of good taste experience the art of dining with a three-course dinner for two, valued at \$100, to **IXIA** in Mt. Vernon.





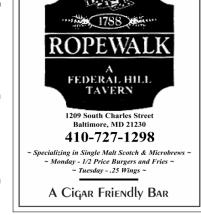


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REC EXPO 2006

Join us for these FREE events in Historic Druid Hill Park to support City Recreation Centers.

April 28th 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. Friday Night Jazz in the Park - The Cherry Hill Teen Steel Band will play as well as local Jazz Musicians.

April 29th, Noon to 7 p.m. Saturday Recreation Festival – Our Ella Bailey vouth will be demonstrating their jump rope skills and challenging audience members to jump with them. Live entertainment! Sports Clinics! Recreation Craft Village! Carnival Rides! Recreation Expo Parade! Camp Baltimore Information. Recreation History Display! Food and much More! For more information call (410) 396 - 7900.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Federal Hill's festival season kicks off on May 7th with Spring Block Party, and we need volunteers! If you're interested in working a four-hour shift, in exchange for free beer, free admission and a free t-shirt, please contact Historic Federal Hill Main Street at 410-727-4500 or volunteers@historicfederalhill.org.

PLAY BALL!

April 3rd is Opening Day for the 2006 baseball season. Please be mindful of the stadium event restrictions for Area A and Area 30 parking.

Upcoming home games for are as follows:

April 3, 5-6 vs. Tampa Bay

April 7-9 vs. Boston

April 14—17 vs. Los Angeles Angels

April 18—20 vs. Cleveland

April 28—30 vs. Seattle

May 1—2 vs. Toronto

BALTIMORE ROMAL REFCUE & CARE HELTER, INC.

Baltimore Animal Rescue and Care Shelter, Inc.

301 Stockholm Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21230

BaltimoreAnimalShelter.org



Lula, kennel #15

Mild-mannered Lula loves the training sessions that she attends at BARCS and is eager to learn new things. Already knows sit on command and she has been trained to heel on leash -- staying by your side on her walks! Good on car rides, loves playing with other dogs and good around dog-savvy children. Appears to be housetrained.

This one year old Shepherd mix lost her way home and she arrived at the shelter on February 7th. Stop by to meet this pleasant girl and get to sink your fingers into her super soft coat.

DC & Sneaky, kennel #117

Do you have space in your heart for these cuddly roommates? They love each other but have more than enough love to share with you!

DC is slender, 1-year old tortoiseshell cat with gorgeous long hair. She loves to be brushed and combed while stretched out on your lap-- very affectionate. Sneaky is an 8-



month old beautiful gray and white striped tabby with white eyeliner. Loves to curl up in small places up high and watch activities below. Affectionate as well! Brought to the shelter on February 4th because their family no longer wanted them. They can be adopted together or separately.

To learn how to adopt these orphans, stop by BARCS at 301 Stockholm St (near Ravens Stadium), phone 410-396-4688 or visit BaltimoreAnimalShelter.org

ADOPTION MEET & GREET!!!

Stop by Lucky Lucy's Canine Café at 1126 S. Charles St. to learn about the next adoption event and get to meet an adoptable dog from BARCS like those featured above. Call Lucky Lucy's for more info: (410) 837-2121

THANKS TO OUR POLICE OFFICERS!

The residents of the Heath Street Corridor wanted to take a moment to thank Major Eric Jordan for responding to our needs and specially assigning officers Sloan, Long, and Goldberg to us. The officers have been outstanding in their assistance to the neighborhood and have done so with a smile. We just wanted to thank them for a job well done, and thank them for the future work with us in the coming days.

THIRD THURSDAY

The Southern District Police Community Relations Council invites you to The Third Thursday. Join us on Thursday, April 20th, 2006 at 7:00p.m. for our monthly meeting. Our agenda includes:

District Update

Major Eric Jordan Deputy Major Michael McDonald

Guest Speaker:

The League of Women Voters and The Board of Elections will be talking about the upcoming elections and voter registration.

Join us after the meeting for our infamous buffet and talk with the officers that patrol your neighborhood! Meet the Major one-on-one! Talk to old friends and make some new ones!



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South Baltimore Improvement Committee, Inc. PO Box 6364 Baltimore, MD 21230



To Our Neighbors