



SBNA Newsletter



A publication of the South Baltimore Neighborhood Association Feb/Mar 2012



LUV YOUR NEIGHBOR MONTH... HAPPY VALENTINES DAY !!!



PRESIDENTS CORNER:

Wishing all my neighbors a happy new year filled with health and prosperity for South Baltimore. The peninsula has experienced many positive changes in recent years including: a renovated Fort McHenry, new shopping center, apartment building construction, and free circulator to name a few. SBNA has a pro active board that is already looking forward to future projects impacting our community such as the casino along with beautification projects on Hanover Street, a gateway to Baltimore. You can read about these issues under the committee reports on our web page or in your newsletter throughout the year or better GET INVOLVED AND HELP US..

I want to focus on the bigger picture in this article. Yes the big picture is really about the smaller things in life that directly impact

your experience as a South Baltimore resident. That is why SBNA declared LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR as our theme for February. One may ask how can I accomplish this without knowing my neighbor? First introduce yourself and then see what your block needs to be safer, cleaner, more aesthetic. A few suggestions include: request a tree, leave your exterior light on at night, pick up trash on your block including the broken, mud filled pots, care for a tree or flowers, park your car properly allowing max space for another and use all off street spots, deliver newsletters, notify a neighbor if away or having a party, walk quietly home at 2am, use a toilet not a sidewalk, inspect street drains, call 311 or 911 even if you are not the victim, join SBNA! So you can see that there are many simple but important ways to LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR. See you at our February meeting.

Submitted by: Amy Mutch, SBNA President

February Social

Where: Blue Grass

When: February 23rd, 2012, 7-10pm

Charcuterie/Cheese for \$10, Selected Red and White Wine for \$4 a glass, Draft Beers \$4, Imports/Microbrews \$3, Domestic \$2 and specialty cocktails for \$7

The Charity for the month will also be the Ella Bailey Rec Center the best donations for them would be kids books, Art/ General School Supplies, and Balls of any type ie soccer, basket, or footballs. Again I will be putting together some awesome baskets to raffle off and make the center some cash as well!

Submitted by Danny Young, Social Chair.



Our Holiday Social was an awesome event! The women's shelter was thrilled with the carload of gifts and household items that SBNA delivered after our collection at our annual Holiday social in December. Our Social Chair Danny Young and Jason Sink of No Idea hosted a fantastic event with drink specials, holiday food and raffles. It was a great community building event. We met a ton of new neighbors and saw some familiar faces in the crowd. The turnout was the biggest social I can remember and the generosity of our neighbors was heartwarming. Thanks again to all that attended- we hope to see you again! Please come to the next meeting or to our February Social!

Submitted by: Lisa Wilde



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11th District

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Baltimore, Maryland 21202

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Cell: 410-960-6622
Fax: 410-545-7464
william.cole@baltimorecity.gov

Community Meetings:

February 7th, 2012

March 6th, 2012

7:00pm

Church of the Advent
1301 S. Charles Street
(enter on Patapsco)

SBNA is a monthly production of the South Baltimore Neighborhood Association 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

Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 6474

Baltimore, MD 21230

Newsletter@mysobo.org

We reserve the right to edit or reject submissions. Articles represent the opinions of the authors and not necessarily those of SoBolmCo. 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 SBNA. Just contact an SBNA officer for more information.

Meetings

Community meetings of SBNA are usually held on the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at the Church of the Advent located at the 1301 S. Charles Street.

Website

www.mysobo.org

The South Baltimore Improvement Committee is now operating as the South Baltimore Neighborhood Association.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

12/5/11

Current account status: General Fund=\$3,001.74

Heath St. Garden Fund	= \$2,955
Light St. Garden Fund	= \$ 2.13
Sitting Park Fund	= \$18.30
Teen Council Fund	= \$2,324.53
Tree Fund	= \$ 97
Total	= \$8,398.70

Committees will give brief Reports and talk about SBNA Goals for 2012

Minutes were approved from last meeting (Treasurer has no change)

Committee Reports

Liquor Advisory Committee – Justin Wilde - Focus on new casino. The Hill is trying to get their Live Entertainment License. SBNA has not received have any notification regarding this.

Clean & Green – Thomasina - Parks and People Letter of Intent for \$1000 Grant (transforming vacant lots and block transformation) due 12/22; redoing the mural on Bumper Globe (Shane Mitchell); adding banners to lamp posts – approaching area businesses to sponsor the banners; Welcome sign; starting a small separate committee just to focus on this project.

Crime – Gilda – mentioned a Crime Abatement Grant – she is not sure about if it is still available.

Parking – Deb and Cynthia – 1130 Light Street is attempting to get an Area 30 Parking Permit to use for the apartment in that building – the building is a commercial building and is located in the commercial section on South Baltimore and is not technically in the SB neighborhood. They created a false address (52 East West Street) to try and gain access to our Area 30 Parking zone. This could potentially set a precedent for any business that has residents above businesses and are located in the business district of Federal Hill/South Baltimore. A vote was taken and was voted as opposed to allowing the use of Area 30 for this building.

Teen Council - Melissa Wooster – Video made by the teens at the Ella Bailey Rec Center was a big hit. Fox 45 came to the center to do a story about it potentially shutting down. Councilman Cole visited the rec center. Melissa and Danny took the Teens to a field trip to DC – it was a success!

Social - Danny Young – SBNA Holiday Party 12/14/11 No Idea 7pm -10pm, free drinks for the first two hours, don't forget to bring a donation for the Women's Shelter. The next Social will be in February and it will be themed "Love Thy Neighbor"

Design Review – Nothing to report

Casino – Justin Wilde (Bill Romani) – Caesar's Entertainment is looking to build a \$310 million establishment – casino/restaurants/entertainment complex. It will bring

1200 full time jobs to the city. The SBNA wants to create a separate small group to focus on this project particularly to make sure we have a voice and that we are not overlooked by their neighborhood development council. This council is a 14-member council, there are monthly meetings. They have a pot of money that is towards the impacted neighborhoods. This will go towards infrastructure changes. There is about \$1 millions dollars per year that will be used for this. Concerns expressed – impact on property values, traffic patterns, how late will the bars in the complex be open?

Presidents Report - Amy Mutch

- St. Ignatius Loyola Academy – School for boy with promise is relocating to Federal Hill

- Do it Now Day – 11/2/11- Established in remembrance of William Donald Schaffer. Do something to help your community.

- Zip Car and Charging stations – Same location, they are adding a charging station to a few spots in the West Street Garage.

- Events - Cookbook Tasting – Illusions Bar 11/19 from 7p -9p benefits Federal Hill Main Street, recipes from Fed Hill residents.

Festive Flavors of Federal Hill – 12/6/11 Restaurant Crawl, there are groups of 30

Moonlight Madness – shopping in Fed Hill until midnight 12/9/11

Christmas Tree Lighting in Federal Hill Park – 12/9/11

Neighbors request for the SBNA to focus on for 2012 – SBNA will discuss the goals for 2012 at the next meeting -

Peter - Parking issue – SBNA voted not to have the commercial area with residences to be allowed in Area 30

John Loudon – Traffic issue on Hanover – Speeding and Trucks – wants to address this – radar is necessary. Melanie will assist John with this. Set up a portable radar unit

Miranda – Bars and rowdiness – this behavior is coming from the residence. Put something in the newsletter regarding respecting your neighbors.

Peter – there is an abandoned building at 1128 Charles Street – there is constantly trash behind the building. Take the people there during the COP walks.

Old Mission at Charles and West – there is no word about this building.

Fort and Light Street development – starting to continue development.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melanie A. Ambridge, SBNA Secretary

SBNA Executive Board Members

President Amy Mutch 410.468.0118 President@mysobo.org	Vice President Jim Salvucci 410.837.1132 VicePresident@mysobo.org	Secretary Melanie Ambridge 410.935.0222 Secretary@mysobo.org	Treasurer Dennis Plouff 410.385.9969 Treasurer@mysobo.org
Clean & Green Thomasina Poirot CleanGreen@mysobo.org	Business Liaison/Newsletter Lisa Wilde Newsletter@mysobo.org	Social Danny Young Social@mysobo.org	
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Liquor License Advisory Justin Wilde LiquorAdvisory@mysobo.org	Police/Community Relations John Karabias PoliceRelations@mysobo.org	Blockmaster Captain Jaclyn Grigoli Blockmasters@mysobo.org	

Advertise with us, our little newsletter makes it around town! We love the local businesses. We only break-even with the advertising revenue; we just make enough to bring the neighborhood news to our neighbors every other month. Many thanks to the local businesses that support us!!! Contact Lisa : newsletter@mysobo.org for details.

BLOCKMASTERS!

Want to take a big walk 6 times a year? Volunteer to be a blockmaster and help deliver the SBNA newsletter. 2000 newsletters are delivered 6 times a year and we can always use the help! Email: blockmasters@mysobo.org

CLEAN & GREEN REPORT- 1.17.12

Believe it or not, Spring is right around the corner!! The Clean & Green Committee has been working with the city to remove dead trees and stumps and replace them with new trees in our neighborhood. Trees make our blocks look more beautiful, provide shade, and filter the water that goes into our waterways.

We are looking for your help to start planning planting days in the spring and brainstorming ideas to help South Baltimore to increase the tree canopy and be as beautiful as it can be. If you are interested in being on the Clean & Green Committee, please contact me at cleangreen@mysobo.org.

Submitted by: Thomasina Poirot, Clean & Green Chair

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Angie's list



BALTIMORE CITY ANIMAL CONTROL LAWS- KEEPING OUR FURRY FRIENDS SAFE!

Fresh Water: Make sure your pets have access to fresh water at all times when kept indoors.

Avoid Rats: Pet food and animal waste attracts rats. Clean up after your pet often and don't leave food out overnight.

Shelter: The law requires pet owners to provide shelter (dog house) for dogs kept outdoors. The shelter must be elevated 2 inches off the ground with a flap on the door to help reduce drafts. Whenever the temp falls to 40, all dogs must be brought indoors.

Animals Waste: Must be picked up immediately. It is a violation to leave animal waste on your property, public property or parks without promptly removing it.

Proper restraint/Dogs on Tethers: Tethers must be at least 3.5 times the dogs body length and positioned to prevent tangling and choking.

Exercise: Dogs should be walked twice a day. Baltimore City requires dogs be leashed at all times. **Violators can receive a \$100 citation.** The City provides two dogs parks for unleashed play: Canton Dog park, Locust Point Park



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BRIAN K. McHALE
ECONOMIC MATTERS COMMITTEE

Annapolis Office
6 Bladen Street, Room 350
Annapolis, MD 21401
410-841-3319

Baltimore Office
801 Light Street, 2nd Floor
Baltimore, Maryland 21230
410-244-8404

Brian.McHale@house.state.md.us



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PETER A. HAMMEN

Annapolis Office
6 Bladen Street, Room 241
Annapolis, MD 21401
410-841-3772

District Office
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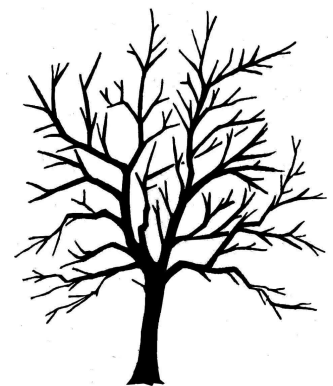
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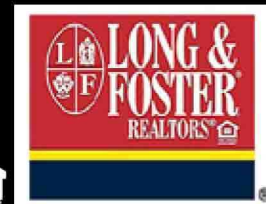


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TEEN COUNCIL UPDATE

This fall, the Teen Council of South Baltimore focused on the preservation of their recreation center, Ella-Bailey. This is the place where they spend much of their free time with friends, playing games, and planning Teen Council projects. Since many of the recreation centers in Baltimore were being threatened to close, the teens raised awareness to their community by creating a short video. The video was uploaded to several media sites, including youtube.com, and got the attention of their community and news stations.

Furthermore, the teens arranged a meeting with Councilman William Cole to raise their concerns for the Ella-Bailey Recreation. The meeting with Councilman Cole answered many of the questions and concerns the teens had about the future of Ella-Bailey. Fortunately, the Ella-Bailey center is not proposed to close and the teens learned more information regarding the proposed plans for new recreation centers.

This spring, the teens will hold a "Clean and Green" poster contest for the neighboring recreation centers. Judging will take place at the Ella-Bailey Recreation Center on Thursday, March 15 @ 7pm. We are currently looking for community members wishing to judge. The teens also wish to have a Job Shadowing day in April. We are also looking for community members who would be willing to bring a teen to work for a day.

Submitted by: Melissa Wooster, Teen Council Chair.

Luv Thy Neighbor Suggestions- submitted by fellow neighbors...

- Keep the front of your house clean... just takes a few minutes to make a world of difference for the neighbors
- Tend to the snarly weeds
- Take care of your elderly or overworked neighbors- pull the weeds or clear the snow- its always cool to be a kind neighbor.
- Park smart. We all know what this means. It is tough out there fighting for a space so lets work together.
- Be courteous smokers.. No butts please.
- Luv your neighborhood.



• Plant a tree! Trees keep our houses cooler in the summer and warmer in the winter (they block the winds), so you save money instead of spending it on energy costs. Trees filter the air which is especially important in our area surrounded by highways, an incinerator, and much more - and this helps to keep you and your children from getting sick. Trees also increase our property values up to 10%. So if you have a \$200,000 house on a street with mature trees, your property assessment might owe as much as \$20,000 of its value due to the trees.

Submitted by: Anthony, Alvie, Bonnie, Katie & Blake



Salem Lutheran Church is having a PANCAKE & WAFFLE DINNER on February 21 from 4 PM - 7 PM. Price is \$8.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children under 6. Includes choice of pancakes or waffles with fruit toppings, sausage and beverage. Carry out available for \$8.25.

Visit our website at salemsouthbaltimore.org or call church office, 410-576-0487. Salem Lutheran Church is located at 1530 Battery Avenue at E. Randall on Riverside Park.

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2011-2012 DUES ARE DUE!!

Want to be a member of SBNA? \$5 a Year- what a steal!

Please send your check to : SBNA, PO Box 6474, Baltimore MD 21230



Our dues run from Nov-Oct so it is time to renew! Include your name, address and email so we can officially count you in!!! We have 2000 residences in SBNA and only 56 households paid dues in 2011. We depend on neighborhood support so please remember to send in your check so that we can do some good around the

**KEEP OUR LOCAL
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EAT AND DRINK IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD!



Love Your Neighbor and improve the daily experience of life in South Baltimore!

Ways to keep the community a wonderful place to live:

- Keep the area around your home clean and avoid city fines!
 - ◇ Please use **garbage cans** for all of the trash you put outside. Poor garbage storage like overflowing cans, or not using them at all, causes a stink, makes SoBo look unattractive (even if it is in the alleys), and attracts rats that spread disease, such as Hantavirus pulmonary syndrome (HPS) and Eosinophilic meningitis. Big words, because they are big problems! (<http://www.aanimalcontrol.com/ratdiseases.htm>).
 - ◇ Feeding birds can seem thoughtful, but food & bread on our sidewalks, streets, and around your neighbor's homes also spreads disease due to the fungus in bird droppings (e.g., histoplasmosis, cryptococcosis; <http://www.nyc.gov/html/doh/html/epi/epi-pigeon.shtml>). This also attracts rats. Remember, birds shouldn't be eating sausages and meatballs anyway!
 - **Avoid shouting in the streets during all times of the day.** When neighbors hear others arguing or shouting, they fear for the safety of their families and those involved in the disturbance. It is also traumatizing for kids to be screamed at, or in tense environments. Reducing your noise level reduces unnecessary calls to the police.
 - ◇ Please keep music in your homes and cars at a reasonable volume. Pumping up the volume too much interrupts others trying to work from home, sleep soundly, and doesn't allow them to enjoy their own
- music or television shows.
- Keep your pets and the community safe!
 - ◇ Keep dogs on leashes for their protection and as veterinarians recommend. An accident can happen at any time and dogs, no matter how well trained, could decide to run into the streets without warning (even if they usually do not) or harm other pets or people. There are "leash free" areas in parks in the city, such as the Canton Dog Park: <http://www.cantondogpark.org/info.html>
 - ◇ Veterinarians recommend keeping your cats indoors. This will ensure long life and health. Keep a collar on them, with your contact information, so if they escape, they can be safely returned to you.
 - ◇ Baltimore City **requires** the use of leashes and keeping your cats indoors. If pet owners are seen breaking these laws, fines will apply. Check out this link for tips and laws about pet ownership: http://www.baltimorehealth.org/info/healthy_pets_brochure_webview.pdf.
 - Educate youth about how to live safely in the city. Ask that they ride bikes and hang out in appropriate places like the parks. Remember, riding bikes and motorized scooters, etc., require following the rules of the road to keep drivers and pedestrians safe. Explain that hanging out on the property of others, such as on parking pads and stoops, isn't okay.
 - Remember to pick up: pets' messes (not doing so makes you subject to fines), cigarette butts, and trash you drop. Work together to keep SoBo beautiful by picking up litter you see (use gloves!).

Best wishes for a safe and healthy 2012

Submitted by: Miranda G. Kofeldt, Ph.D.